

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish
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Pastor Chris Strohm

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Faith in Christ Jesus is not neutral, Jesus calls us to follow him with our whole lives and that call is dangerous. Dietrich Bonhoeffer says it this way, "When Christ calls any of us he calls us to die." Following Jesus is not neutral, life and death is not neutral. Following Jesus is not just about being a friendly, church goer neighbor that everyone walks over because their nice. No its actually living into Jesus command to come follow him, to use your lives and your gifts to follow him.

Psalms 150 says "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!" Praise is our response to God's work in our life. God's love for us is never neutral. God does what we would never do, God sends his only Son into the world for us and our salvation to demonstrate how to live your life with intention and purpose. So, following Jesus means laying down your life, your money, and your time, for the sake of the vulnerable, and the addicted, and the broken, like you and me, and like our neighbors.



Again, I remind you that praise is our response to God's work in our lives. God's work in our lives is love, is grace. In 1 John 4:9-10 we read that "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins." If praise is our response to what God has done for us then we will use whatever instrument God has given us to praise God. So I ask you, with what in your everyday life can you use to praise God? Can you lift others up? Can you add some goodness to the culture at your work? Do you have the gift with working with your hands in service to others? Do you have a skill with numbers? Do you have the gift of time to listen to someone and give comfort? Can you dance? Can you sing? Can you play music? Can you learn? Can you teach? What is the gift that you bring? Because there is nothing in neutral in Jesus's call to follow me.



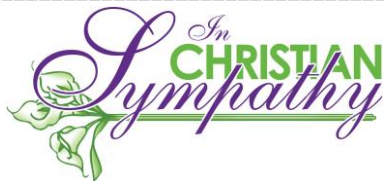
We believe in a God who saw the pain and the brokenness of all of creation and sent the most powerful force that he had and that force was love. Love and grace and mercy. If praise is what we do in response to God what does that look like for you? Is it stepping forward to volunteer to help teach your child and others the story of God's love in Sunday School? You don't have to commit for the whole year but what about one month, or team teach with another? Is it expanding your own learning and attending the Thursday morning learning time? Is it sharing your knowledge and leading your own small group? Do you love to bake and can bring items for Sunday morning fellowship or funerals? Is your gift working with your hands, helping to clean the church or keeping the building in good repair? Are you a leader who is willing to join our council? Are you a person of vision who can see the needs of the community and how we can help those needs? Let your voice be heard! Let our praise be a joyful noise to the Lord!

God's peace be with you all,

Pastor Chris

Confirmation Meeting

Confirmation Meeting for parents and students on August 26th at 11am at Bethesda. We will be discussing expectations, curriculum and schedule.



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Luverne Sauer who passed away July 5th.



Watch for Back-to-School sales to stock up on items for the school kits. All items must be new. Items may be left in the basket at the church.

- 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2"; no loose leaf paper
- Ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- pencil sharpener
- pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink);
- box of 16 or 24 crayons

Wedding Shower

Sunday, August 26th following worship at Butler Wedding Shower for Sierra Davies and Brandon Whitmyre. Sierra and Brandon are registered at Target, Zola.com and Bed, Bath & Beyond.



4th Annual Bergen Threshing Bee

Sunday August 5th at Bergen Church

7:30 am to 9:00 am Breakfast

11:00 am Church Service

12:00 Dinner with Klub and Ham, Salads,

Rommegrot, and homemade Spritz

\$10 tickets sold at door

Afternoon: threshing, stacking, shredding, bundling, float stand, cotton candy making, potato picking, covered wagon rides and more! Ladies feel free to wear your old fashioned Sunday Best - Gents feel free to wear threshing duds and a straw hat.



Congratulations to Sandra (Vehe) and Jerod Shepherd who were married July 21st at Bethesda.



There will be a Sunday School meeting on Wednesday August 1st at 6:30pm located in the basement at Bethesda Lutheran Church. All parents and anyone interested in helping with the Sunday School program are encouraged to attend. Questions email Becky at becky.hubsch@k12.sd.us



Ready - Set - Balance

Better Balance Exercise Class starting August 1st from 9:30 - 10:00

at the Bristol Community Center

Better Balance Exercise Programs can:

- Prevent Falls
- Improve Stability
- Increase Confidence and Independence
- Improve Strength and Balance
- Prevent Injury

For questions or pre-registration contact Amanda at 605-588-3186



The family of Landry Eschenbaum would like to thank the community of Bristol for all of their love, prayers and support during Landry's recent heart surgery. Landry's surgery was successful and she is recovering and healing. Many thanks for all of the cards, gifts and care packages. An additional thank you to Bethesda WELCA for the prayer shawl. It is very special and will be a keepsake for years to come! God is Good!!

~ Courtney & Sterling Eschenbaum Family



Lifelight Festival
August 25th in Milbank
1pm - 10pm

Free Outdoor Christian Music Festival. Includes Motocross, Inflatables, BMX and Bigfoot trucks. Many Bands including Headliner Colton Dixon.



Bible Readings and Message 'Signs' for each Sunday in August.

August 5

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15, Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16

Sign: **BIBLE** stands for **Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth**

August 12

1 Kings 19:4-8, Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25--5:2

Sign: A Church is a Hospital for Sinners, Not a Museum for Saints

August 19

Proverbs 9:1-6, Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20

Sign: Walmart is Not the Only Savings Place

August 26

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18, Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20

Sign: What Would You Do Today if You Knew Christ was Coming Tomorrow?

These little platitudes have appeared on church signs as a way to catch people's attention and entice them into worship to hear more. In the month of August we will be looking at these 4 "signs of the church" and see how they match up to our Lutheran way of thought. Come with us on this little road trip to study the "signs of the church".



Women's Faith Journey *Christian Retreat*

Saturday, August 4th from 9am-3pm
Midwest Bible Camp - 1500 N. Hwy 20, Watertown

Tickets are available at HyVee and Blessings Big & Small in the Watertown Mall. \$50 in advance, \$65 at the door. Includes lunch.

Speakers: Jo Vitek, Melanie Brown, Joy Nelson, Robbyn Gauger-Givens and Audrey Jo Rider.
Vendors, Live Worship & Praise Music.



Bethesda WELCA

Bethesda WELCA met on June 13, 2018 at 7:30 at the church. Nine members attended. Several members gathered at 5:30 to do some cleaning in the church basement.

The program *"Who? Me? Women of Faith Making a Difference"* was presented by Bonnie Anderson with Sharon Johnson assisting. Bonnie read from Hebrews 11:1 and offered prayer. In our Bible 400 women of faith are mentioned, 200 by name and 200 not named. The faithful women we learned about were Mary, Elizabeth, Esther, Ruth, Mary Magdalene, and Eve. Bonnie and Sharon presented a skit, *"Kids say the Funniest Things"*. Bonnie read a meaningful poem, *"When I say I am a Christian"*.

Members read the Purpose Statement and Bonnie Dolney and Jane Goehring chaired the meeting. The secretary's report and the treasurer's report were read and approved.

Old Business:

*The quilt squares made by Glenda Bakken for the quilt of Valor will be mailed to the synod treasurer Darlene Breeson. Jane will mail them.

New Business:

*Our August and September meetings will begin at 7:30. We will meet before that at 5:30 to continue our church cleaning.

*A reminder to Bethesda women to bring items for the Silent Auction and Door Prizes for our luncheon on July 18th. Mark your items for either the Silent Auction or for a Door Prize.

*Bethesda WELCA is in charge of furnishing 4 dozen bars/cookies for the synod convention to be held June 28-30 at Abbey of the Hills. We will take ours to Abbey of the Hills on June 14 when several members will be touring the Abbey.

Our August meeting will be August 8th. Jane Goehring is program chairman and Theresa Hansmeier is the hostess.

Prayers concerns: Maddy Daam, Kris Knutson, Landry Eschenbaum, Jasmine Strohm, Bruce Anderson, and Richard Espeland.

Meeting closed by praying the Lord's Prayer and singing the table prayer. Pam Dylla served a delicious lunch.

Secretary, Alice Jean Peterson

Butler WELCA

The Butler WELCA met at the church on Monday, July 2, 2018 at 6:30 pm with 9 present. Carol Flattum was hostess. The Bible Study lesson was *"Evangelism"* from Acts chapter 17. Julaine Busch had the Offering Meditation. The group recited the WELCA Purpose Statement.

Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurers report: June Offering - \$55.00, General Fund: - \$814.23, Altar Fund - \$278.79. Mission Action Report: 70 Personal Care Kits are done and packed. Working on Baby Care Kits. Need 4-6 hand towels and soap. Church cleaning continues. Bristol WELCA Luncheon is July 18.

Our next meeting will be August 6 at 6:30 pm at the church. Hostess will be Janet Coyne and Kathy Buhler will have the Offering Meditation. We closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Carol Flattum, Secretary

2018 Bethesda Ladies' Luncheon


"Believe in the Journey"

Approximately 130 attended the Bethesda WELCA Ladies' Luncheon, *Believe in the Journey*. Karin Bartell catered the luncheon, assisted by Jane Goehring and Bonnie Anderson. The theme was carried out by the decorating committee in table and window decorations. A silent auction was held. Bonnie Dolney welcomed the group and the table prayer was sung before the meal. Many door prizes were given during the afternoon. The program began with devotions and a prayer by Alice Jean Peterson. Special music was provided by Sharon Busch. Carol Raap introduced guest speaker DeeDee Raap, Sioux Falls, who reminded us to celebrate some of our greatest blessings – the values that make our journey great. A hymn, *Jesus Walked by Lonesome Valley*, was sung by the group and Jane Goehring gave closing remarks. Monetary gifts were presented to DeeDee, Sharon and Karin.

*Thanks,
Everyone!*

Thank you to all who helped with the "Believe in the Journey" luncheon at Bethesda. It takes most everyone to make this happen and it was a great success. We greatly thank Karin Bartell for making the delicious food and thank you to DeeDee Raap for her inspiring talk.

~ Bethesda WELCA



PUZZLE


GOD'S amazzzing BEES

God created bees to pollinate flowers and make honey. Psalm 119:103 says God gives us something that's even sweeter than honey.

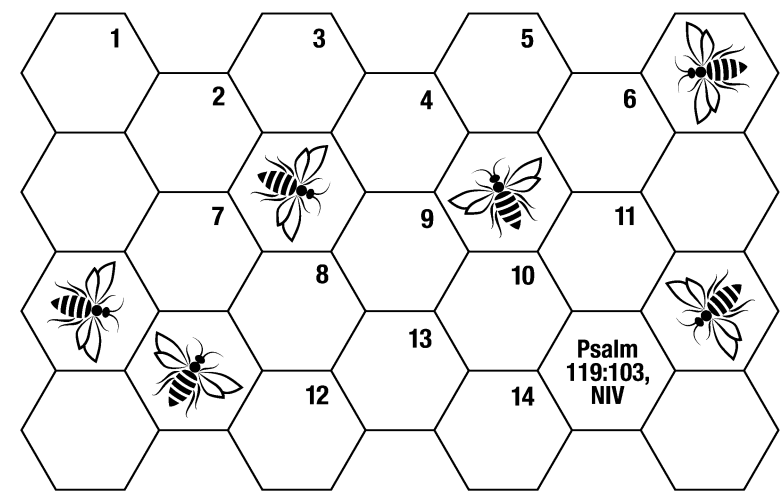
Directions: Find the word that fits each clue. Then write the answers in the correct numbered honeycomb shape to complete Psalm 119:103, NIV.

CLUES

1. rhymes with cow
2. opposite of sour
3. pronounced "R"
4. rhymes with four
5. Letters create _____.
6. not too or two
7. rhymes with by
8. the tongue's job
9. more sweet
10. rhymes with pan
11. golden liquid
12. Pleased __ meet you.
13. rhymes with fly
14. body part



WORD BANK
than your to are
sweet sweeter How
my honey mouth
words to taste, my



Psalm 119:103, NIV

AUGUST BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Organist</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
8/05	Jim & Mavis McKane	Mark Anderson	Kathryn	Fran Morehouse	Janel Lone
8/12	At Butler	-----	-----	Muriel Bohn	
8/19	Danny & Janel Lone	Gail Huwe	Gail		
8/26	At Butler	-----	-----		

AUGUST BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Reader</u>
8/05	At Bethesda	-----
8/12	Wes and Wayne	Lorraine
8/19	At Bethesda	-----
8/26	Wes and Wayne	Michael



Bethesda Financial Report

Needed weekly to meet the budget: \$1,350.79

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFERINGS</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
5/20	\$ 500.00	\$239.40
5/27	\$1,193.00	
6/03	\$ 0.00	
6/10	\$1,398.00	
6/17	\$ 125.00	\$ 10.00
6/24	\$1,192.00	\$183.10
7/01	\$ 500.00	
7/08	\$1,269.00	\$120.00
7/15	\$ 275.00	\$ 10.00

As of July 19, 2018

Total 2018 yearly receipts: \$31,398.99

Total 2018 yearly disbursements: \$40,601.00








Thank you for sharing your time, talent and financial offerings for the glory of God.

August 3	Sarah Lesnar
August 3	Scott Schiley
August 5	Carrie Rumpza
August 6	Thad Duerre
August 6	Mark Wattier
August 9	Al Goehring
August 9	Caroline Bahr
August 11	Julie Flattum
August 14	Kinsley Ash
August 17	Clinton Huwe
August 19	Lane Stern
August 20	Gailand Henrichsen
August 22	Sharon Johnson
August 26	Lucas Dauwen
August 27	Heather Lone
August 29	Robin Anderson

We apologize if we missed your birthday. Please let us know and we will include it on our list for next year. Birthday blessings to you!



AUGUST 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Pastor's Office Day 1 9:30-10:00 Better Balance Exercise Class at the Comm.Center 6:30 Sunday School Meeting at Bethesda			4 9:00-3:00 Women's Faith Journey Christian Retreat at Midwest Bible Camp, Watertown
11 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 5 9am Communion Worship at Bethesda Bergen Threshing Bee 7:30-9 breakfast, 11am Worship, Noon Dinner, Afternoon Threshing and Activities	6 6:30 Butler WELCA	7	8 Pastor's Office Day 6:30 Bethesda Council Meeting 7:30 Bethesda WELCA	9 Pastor Chris at Sun Dial	10	11 
12 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 12 9am Communion Worship at Butler	13 	14	15 Pastor's Office Day	16 Pastor at Synod Council Retreat at NeSoDak	17 -----	18 -----
13 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 19 9am Worship at Bethesda with Runner's Club Noisy Can Offering	20  September Newsletter Items Due	21	22 Pastor's Office Day	23	24	25  1:00-10:00 LifeLight Festival in Milbank
14 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 26 9am Worship at Butler Wedding Shower following Worship for Sierra Davies and Brandon Whitmyre 11am Confirmation meeting at Bethesda for all Confirmation Students & Parents	27	28 	29 Pastor's Office Day	30	31 