

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish
PO Box 426
Bristol, SD 57219



Pastor Chris Strohm

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Hello Everyone,

Recently my brother purchased one of those DNA kits, the ones that will tell you where your ancestors are from, and he received the results which he then sent to me and my other brother and sisters, and my mom and dad through a text message. Well, this began a back and forth that lasted pretty much all day with responses that were informative and some that were just normal give and take (read, teasing) between siblings. The most amazing thing about all of this is that my 83 yr old dad joined in on this string of texts. The results showed we were pretty much from everywhere beginning in Africa and eventually ending up in the USA through various ports; some through Ellis Island, some through New Orleans, some via other routes. Those that left their homeland always looking for a place to call home. A place of hope, a place of opportunity and safety, where their family could grow and have a better life than what they left behind.

The other weekend, my wife and I went to the Aberdeen University/Civic Symphony's presentation of American Visions. It was awesome! The most striking part of the program was when the memories of seven different people who immigrated to America were retold by actors. Everyone's story was different, unique to their time, their country of origin, and their age but they all had one thing in common, they were seeking a place that offered hope, that offered safety, and that offered opportunity.



America has always been such a place. At one time it was a matter of national pride that we were a land of immigrants, a melting pot of people from all over the world, of every nationality and every religion. It didn't matter if you were rich or poor, educated or not, where you were from, or what religion you practiced, all were welcomed. It doesn't seem as if that is the case anymore. It seems like we want to pick and choose who we allow in to our great nation, as if we want to tear down the Statue of Liberty and all that it stands for.

On Ash Wednesday we heard in Paul's letter to the Hebrews that Abraham also left home seeking a new land, one promised by God, one that also would be a land where his family could grow and prosper, a land of hope, of safety. "But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one." (Hebrews 11:16) Hebrews reminds us that once again we seek a country where we can be safe, where sickness and death are no more, one where we are accepted and welcomed, a heavenly country where we can immigrate to. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus we have gained acceptance into the Kingdom of Heaven. A place filled with immigrants like us because we are not native to this kingdom but through our baptism we are adopted heirs and welcomed with open arms.



God's peace be with you,

Pastor Chris



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Thursday March 29th - 6pm Maundy Thursday Communion Worship at Butler

Friday March 30th - 6pm Good Friday Worship at Bethesda

Easter Sunday April 1

8am Communion Worship at Butler with potluck brunch following

9:30am Communion Worship at Bethesda with rolls and coffee being served at 8:30am



Don't forget to be adding to your Lenten coin folders! Each folder holds \$10 in quarters – you may also enclose a check made out to your church or include cash.

Butler's donations will be split between the Webster PACH program, Groton BAGS program and Needs Anonymous. Bethesda's donations will be split between the Webster PACH program and Groton BAGS program. Thank You!



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 11th. Move your clocks ahead 1 hour.



Bethesda Usher List for March

March 11 – Kay Espeland, Glenda Bakken, Rylee H.

March 25 – Riley Ash and Jack Carlson

If you are unable to serve, it is your responsibility to find a replacement.



Bible Readings for each Sunday in March

March 4

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

March 11

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

March 18

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

March 25

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1--15:47

Bethesda Members

Please let the office know how you would like to receive the monthly newsletter.

- By Mail
- By Email
- On the Website
- Pick up at church



Thank you to those who donated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to the church!

Donations received in 2017:

Bethesda: \$3,291

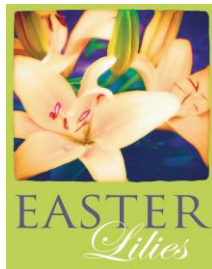
Butler: \$1,468



March 2nd at 2:00pm at Sun Dial Manor

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

- It is a movement initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.
- It is a movement symbolized by an annual day of celebration – the first Friday of March – to which all people are welcome.
- It is a movement which brings together women of various races, cultures and traditions in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.



If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor or memory of someone there are order forms available at the church or you may call or email the office at 492-3123 or bethesdabutler@nvc.net Cost is \$14 - due with order form. Please note on form if you are providing your own and don't need one ordered. Orders due March 20th.



Connecting faith & finances for good.®

Don't forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® - March 31st Deadline

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let designated Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2018**, to direct any remaining 2017 Choice Dollars.

Help support Bethesda or Butler Lutheran Church. Go to

Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



Lenten Supper Servers

February 28 - Confirmation

March 7 – Butler

March 14 – Bethesda Council

March 22 – Bergen



The Banquet in Sioux Falls is in its 33rd year of being a volunteer feeding ministry. Each week they serve 13 meals which are prepared by, paid for, and served by volunteers. Over 1,200 volunteer groups are committed to serving at The Banquet. They also distributed over 5,900 school backpacks. In 2017 The Banquet served just under 200,000 meals, over 24,000 of these meals were served to children 12 or younger and approximately 18,000 gallons of milk were served.



Butler WELCA

The Butler WELCA met at the church on Saturday February 10, 2018 at 9 am with 10 present. Noon lunch was a potluck with quilting in the afternoon. The Bible Study was from Revelatin 1:8,22: 12-16 titled "I AM the Alpha and Omega: Confidence." Julie Flattum had the Offering Meditation. The group recited the WELCA Purpose Statement. Secretary's report was read and approved. Correspondence was reviewed. Treasurer's report: January Offering - \$95.00, General Fund - \$934.23, Altar Fund - \$344.07.

Mission Action Report: 15 quilts are completed and quilting will continue in February and March. Serving a Lenten Supper was discussed. Butler will serve on March 7. We will have soup, garlic bread, and bars. Ash Wednesday services will be February 14 at Butler.

Synod WELCA Convention will be June 28-29 at The Abbey in the Hills. Theme is "Discovering Gods Peace." A bus trip to MN to tour the LWR warehouse and Global Health will be July 26-27. Discussion was held on the quilt auction.

Our next meeting will be March 3,2018 at 9 am at the church with potluck lunch and quilting in the afternoon. Kathy Nolte will have the Offering Meditation.

We closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Carol Flattum, Secretary

The Prairie Coteau Conference Assembly

Sunday March 4, 2018 at 3:00 PM at NeSoDak

Call for Volunteers and Nominations

We are in need of representation for our conference. These are the positions that must be filled by the March 4 Assembly:

Discipline Committee – 1 year (Lay Female) Meets only if needed.

Luther Social Services (LLS) Board thru Dec 2019 (meet quarterly)

Resolutions Committee – 1 year (Clergy or Lay) First meeting is April 12th - 10 AM. Then during assembly May 31-June 2

Conference President – 1 year term (Must be one of our Synod Council Members)

Conference Secretary – 2 year term (Lay or Clergy)

Synod Council – to finish a term ending 2019 – (Lay Female will be eligible to run for a full term) Next meeting March 9

Evangelical Outreach Committee – 3 year term (Clergy)

Nominating Committee - 1 year term (3 positions either Clergy or Lay)

Augustana Association – 1 year term (2 Clergy & 4 Lay) This is usually the first Friday of December.

2019 Churchwide Assembly – 1 lay Female and alternate 1 Clergy and Alternate Churchwide Assembly 2019 - August 5-10, Milwaukee

If you are interested in serving, or wish to nominate someone for these positions please call, text or email Pastor Mindy Ehrke at 605 261 9032 or at mehrke@yahoo.com or Pastor Cheryl Rondeau at 605 237 1501 or at crondeau@tnics.com as soon as possible:

Position _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Congregation _____

Please consider serving!

March BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Organist</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
3/04	At Butler	-----	-----	Kathryn Bury Janet Lardy	Pam Dylla	-----
3/11	Kay E., Glenda B., Rylee H.	Lila	Gail			-----
3/18	At Butler	-----	-----			-----
3/25	Riley Ash & Jack Carlson	Linda A.	Kathryn			

March BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
3/04	Michael & Tammie	Gerald	
3/11	-----	-----	-----
3/18	Michael & Tammie	Lorraine	Kaleb A.
3/25	-----	-----	-----



March 1	Dan Lone
March 2	Vicki Zimmerman
March 4	Rebecca Hubsch
March 6	Devon Huwe
March 15	Darrick Lone
March 15	Corey Lone
March 16	Emma Bahr
March 19	Jamie Anderson
March 19	John Horter
March 21	Lydia Johnson
March 22	Gail Huwe
March 22	Wyatt Lone
March 22	James R. McKane III
March 28	Kristi Bonn
March 30	Mark Anderson
March 30	Jon Anderson
March 30	Justin McKane
March 31	Mason Peckham



Bethesda Financial Report

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

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFERINGS</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
1/21	\$ 485.00	\$378.41
1/28	\$1,950.00	\$110.00
2/04	\$ 25.00	
Thrivent		\$928.00
2/11	\$ 778.00	
2/18	\$ 600.00	

As of February 20, 2018

Total 2018 yearly receipts: \$ 7,117.41

Total 2018 yearly disbursements: \$12,292.00












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

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!



MARCH 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				9am Bible Study 1 at Bethesda  NeSoDak Spring Quilting	2pm World 2 Day of Prayer at Sun Dial -----	9am Butler 3 WELCA with Potluck lunch and Quilting -----
3 rd Sunday in Lent (purple) 4 9am Communion Worship at Butler 10:15 Sunday School at Bethesda 3pm Prairie Coteau Conference Annual Meeting at NeSoDak		6	7 Pastor's Office Day 4:30-5:30 Adult Education Hour at Bethesda 6pm Lenten Worship at Bethesda – Supper following served by Butler Confirmation meets during supper	8 9am Bible Study at Bethesda 2pm Pastor at Sun Dial 6:30 Bethesda Council Mtg.	9 Pastor Chris in Sioux Falls for Synod Council Meeting	10
4 th Sunday in Lent (purple) 11 Daylight Savings Time Begins 9am Communion Worship at Bethesda 10:15 Sunday School at Bethesda	12	13	14 Pastor's Office Day 1:30 Bethesda WELCA 4:30-5:30 Adult Education Hour at Bethesda 6pm Lenten Worship at Bethesda – Supper served by Bethesda Council. Confirmation during supper	15 9am Bible Study at Bethesda	16	
5 th Sunday in Lent (purple) 18 9am Worship at Butler 10:15 Sunday School at Bethesda	 April Newsletter items due	20 Easter Lily Orders due 	21 Pastor's Office Day 4:30-5:30 Adult Education Hour at Bethesda 6pm Lenten Worship at Bethesda – Supper served by Bergen. Confirmation meets during supper.	22 9am Bible Study at Bethesda  NeSoDak Our Common Thread	23 -----	24 -----
Palm Sunday (purple) 25 9am Worship at Bethesda with Sieben Baptism 10:15 Sunday School at Bethesda NeSoDak Our Common Thread 	26	27	28 Pastor's Office Day No Confirmation	29 No Bible Study  6pm Maundy Thursday Communion Worship at Butler	30  6pm Good Friday Worship at Bethesda	 31 Deadline to designate 2017 Thrivent Choice Dollars

