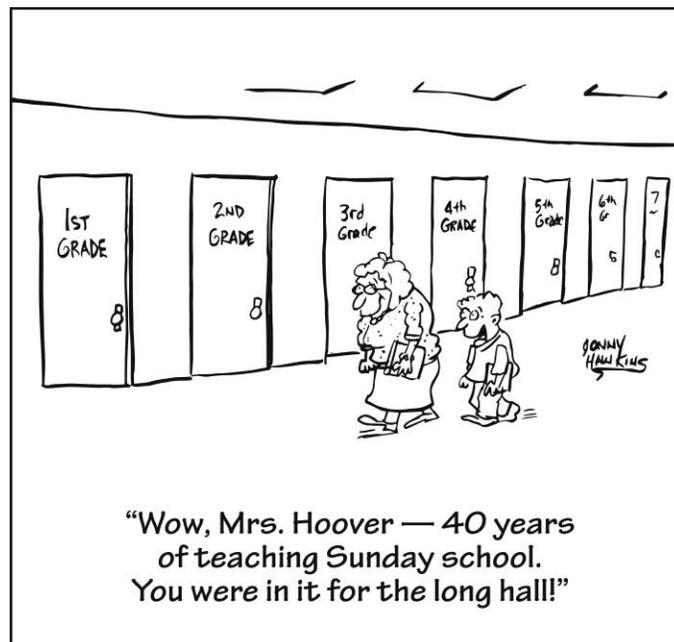


Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish
PO Box 426
Bristol, SD 57219



Pastor Chris Strohm
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Hello Everyone,

Where did summer go? It seems as if just last week school got out and now they are already in session. Every year time seems to go by faster and faster. This summer was a busy summer especially August but it was a good summer. As I look forward to September I am excited for the new year of Christian Education in all its forms.



First, for a number of reasons we are moving Sunday School to Wednesday School, they will meet from 5:45- 6:30 pm. There will be a small meal offered each week for both the Wednesday School children and the confirmation students. The meal is from 5:30-5:45 and will be hosted by both parents of Wednesday School students and Confirmation students. I am excited for the curriculum chosen by Darcie and Angela and the opportunity to engage with the kids.

Second, Confirmation will again be from 4:30-5:30 pm on Wednesdays. We will be using new(old) material from Augsburg called Re:Form. It will be an exciting year as we explore the Bible and what it tells us about God and our faith. I look forward to seeing the kids grow in faith as they learn and struggle with questions about our faith.

Third, Bible study this year will begin with a study about Peter, after which we will have an advent study, then after the new year we will take a look at the History and the story of Israel and Palestine as we prepare for a trip to the Holy Land.

I will be leading a trip to the Holy Land along with my wife, Pastor Rhia, about this time next year. We will be having a meeting in September to gauge the interest and provide information. I took a trip there when I was in Seminary and it is something special and brings the Bible to life as you walk in the places where Jesus walked.

A lot of things to be excited about, I hope and pray you will join me for some of these exciting studies.

*God's peace be with you all,
Pastor Chris*



September 1

Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 15

Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

September 22

Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

September 29

Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31



Rally Sunday

Rally Sunday is September 15th. We will be blessing backpacks and receiving prayer cards with the name of the child we will be praying for this year.

Sunday School has been moved to Wednesday School and begins on Sept. 18 at 5:30 with a meal. Class time runs from 5:45 to 6:30.



Confirmation begins Wednesday September 11th from 4:30-5:30



Bible Study will resume beginning September 12th at Bethesda at 9am Thursday mornings.



The Andover Threshing Show will run from Sept. 5th – 8th this year. The ice cream shack will be open Friday - Sunday.

The money collected from the ice cream shack goes to the Luther League to help offset the costs of attending the National Youth Gathering. In 2021 the gathering will be held in Minneapolis and all students entering 9th grade to those who just graduated will be eligible to attend.

I am asking the students and families of confirmation students and high schoolers to sign up for a shift. Sign up sheet will be posted soon.

Anniversary Celebration

Open House Anniversary Celebration for Muriel & Burdell Bohn at the Capitol in Bristol on Friday, September 6th from 5 – 8 p.m.

No gifts please.



Holy Land Excursion

Have you ever thought about taking a trip to the Holy Land? To walk on the streets and in the land that Jesus walked? To see the places that are mentioned in the Bible? If you have come and join me for a short meeting on September 22th at 12:30 at Bethesda. My wife, Pastor Rhia, and I will be leading a trip to the Holy Land in 2020 and this meeting is for exchanging information, answering questions, and to see how many people might be interested in a trip like this. It is open to the community so bring a friend!



Bethesda will be resealing the time capsule in October. They are looking for ideas and items to be included. If you have suggestions please contact Kyle Hubsch or Pastor Chris.



Blessing of the Quilts and Kits

Sunday, September 22nd at Butler and Sunday September 29th at Bethesda we will be blessing the quilts and kits before they are sent. Thank you to all for their time and talent put into each item. Monetary donations will be taken to help cover the shipping costs.



Bethesda WELCA

Bethesda WELCA met on August 14 2019 at 7:30 p.m. Eight members were present.

Kathryn Bury gave a most interesting program on Excuses, Excuses. She read from the 1st chapter of James for devotion. There are many reasons for an excuse. An excuse is a false reason to cover up the real reason. God didn't accept excuses from Adam and Eve, King Saul, King David with the ark, the one talent man. Never give an excuse that you would not be willing to accept. God's invitation is the most important in life, no excuses. A musical humorous look at excuses and meeting an entertaining group of WELCA members was given by Kathryn and Alice Jean Peterson.

Bonnie Dolney and Jane Goehring presided over the meeting. We opened with the Purpose Statement read by the group. Correspondence and the secretary's report were read and approved as well as the treasurer's report. The luncheon was discussed and the date was set for July 22nd with Tea Time as the theme.

Reminders: October is soap month, November and December are food pantry months. Bethesda will host the Thanksgiving service.

We prayed the Lord's Prayer and sang the table prayer after which Jill Hansmeier served a delicious dessert, lemonade and tea. Prayer concerns are: Carol and Jerry Raap who will be celebrating their 50th anniversary this week, Ryan Horter, Richard Espeland, George Dolney, Alice Stevens.

September meeting will be the 11th at 7:30. Sharon Johnson will present the program and Jane Goehring will be the hostess.

Secretary, Alice Jean Peterson

Butler WELCA

The Butler WELCA met at the church on August 5, 2019 at 6:30 pm with 7 members present.

The Bible Study was "*Dealing with Demons*" with the Bible basis from Mark 5: 1-20. Carol had the Offering Meditation. The WELCA Purpose Statement was read. The Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's report: July Offering - \$133.00, General Fund - \$601.95, Altar Fund - \$243.32. Mission Action Report: We are working on Personal Care Kits and collecting large bars of soap. Kathy Buhler has fabric from Janet Coyne for quilts. We will have a quilting day on Saturday, August 24th to work on quilts.

Kathy Nolte spoke on the bus tour to Minnesota to tour the Global Health and Lutheran World Relief warehouses.

We discussed our quilt fund raiser. We will sell tickets at the Andover Threshing Show.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:30 pm at the church. Kathy Nolte will be hostess and Julie Flattum will have the Offering Meditation. We closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Carol Flattum, Secretary



2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Summary of Actions

The first week of August saw me in Milwaukee, Wisconsin attending the Churchwide Assembly as a voting member from the South Dakota Synod. It was a week full of excitement, amazing worship, and long days sitting in session as we debated, argued, agreed on, and voted on many issues. By the end of the week I was exhausted. Here is a summary of that week.

Gathering under the theme "*We are Church*", voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) made a number of key decisions to further the mission and ministry of this church. The assembly, the chief legislative authority of the church, met Aug. 5-10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee.

More than 900 voting members:

- Reelected on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop.
- Elected Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Rothmeyer, currently serving as executive for administration with the Office of the Secretary, was installed during the assembly's closing worship on Aug. 10 and will begin her term Nov. 1.
- Approved the social statement "*Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action*" and its implementing resolutions. The social statement, in part, names patriarchy and sexism as sins and calls the church to action on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
- Adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. The policy statement was adopted with the witness of 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests in attendance.
- Approved the triennium budget for 2020-2022, which includes a current fund spending authorization of \$68,378,325 for 2020, a current fund income proposal of \$68,442,034 for 2021 and \$68,507,018 for 2022; and an ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$21.5 million 2020, and an income proposal of \$21.5 million for 2021 and for 2022.
- Adopted the "Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity in the ELCA," which consists of a report and recommendations on how the ELCA exhibits authentic diversity and formulates goals for racial diversity and inclusion.
- Witnessed the presentation of the "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent," which was accepted by the Rev. Lamont A. Wells, president of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA), and members of ADLA.

- Adopted 26 memorials en bloc, ranging in topics from gun violence to engagement in the Holy Land and gender identity to seminary tuition.
- Adopted a memorial that affirms the ELCA's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
- Adopted a memorial that calls for the development of a social statement and social message on the relationship of church and state.
- Adopted a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA's ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in same-gender relationships.
- Adopted a memorial to support the vision and goals of the Poor People's Campaign that align with the ELCA's social teachings.
- Adopted a series of amendments to the "Constitutions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America," including one that makes ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service, and an amendment to no longer count deacons as laypeople for representational principles.
- Adopted a resolution that committed the ELCA to support the World Council of Church's "Thursdays in Black" campaign toward a world without rape and violence.
- Adopted a resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance in the ELCA for the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people who were shot and killed June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.
- Adopted a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling all ELCA congregations to engage in a "study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God."
- Celebrated the end of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, which concluded June 30 with nearly \$250 million raised in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gift commitments. At the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members approved the \$198 million campaign to help sustain and grow ministries of the church.
- Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards, including Portico Benefit Services, the Mission Investment Fund and 1517 Media.

SEPTEMBER BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Organist</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
9/1		Alice Jean P.	Gail	Robin A.	John H.
9/8	At Butler	-----	-----	Theresa H.	
9/15	Fran and Sue	Kathryn B.	Kathryn		
9/22	At Butler	-----	-----		
9/29	Kyle Hubsch Family	Gail H.	Gail		

SEPTEMBER BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Reader</u>
9/1	At Bethesda	-----
9/8	Deb Schiley	Tammie H.
9/15	At Bethesda	-----
9/22	Deb Schiley	Julaine B.
9/29	At Bethesda	-----



September 1	Caleb Whitmyre
September 2	Fran Morehouse
September 3	Kayla Olsen
September 4	Sherry Raap
September 7	Jack Carlson
September 8	Bob Whitmyre
September 11	Eric Moody
September 14	Amy Peckham
September 14	Burnell Huwe
September 15	Christa Sieben
September 17	Arlyus Vanatta
September 20	Bonnie Dolney
September 21	Taylor Huwe
September 22	Diane Hoines
September 22	Kolton Antonsen
September 23	Deb Peckham
September 24	Wayne Nolte
September 26	Lori Ash
September 28	CharliRae Sieben
September 29	Dennis Buhler



Bethesda Financial Report

Needed weekly to meet the budget: \$1,379.77

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFERINGS</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
7/21	\$ 915.05	\$153.89
7/28	\$ 200.00	
8/04	\$1,417.00	
8/11	\$ 125.00	
8/18	\$1,343.00	

As of August 20, 2019

Total 2019 yearly receipts:	\$37,299.66
Total 2019 yearly disbursements:	\$46,488.03

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!



SEPTEMBER 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>12th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 1</p> <p>9am Communion Worship at Bethesda</p>	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 Butler WELCA</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Pastor's Office Day</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>Threshing Show Andover Threshing Show</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Bohn 70th Anniversary Open House at the Capitol 5-8</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Andover Threshing Show</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>Threshing Show And over Threshing Show</p>
<p>13th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 8</p> <p>9am Communion Worship at Butler with Nolte Baptism</p>  <p>Threshing Show Andover Threshing Show</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>Pastor's Office Day 4:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bethesda Council 7:30pm Bethesda WELCA</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am Bible Study at Bethesda 2pm Pastor Chris at Sun Dial</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>14th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 15</p> <p>9am Worship at Bethesda with Prayer Cards and Blessing of Backpacks</p> 	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pastor's Office Day 4:30 Confirmation 5:30 Meal 5:45-6:30 Wednesday School</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am Bible Study at Bethesda October Newsletter Items Due</p>	<p>20</p> 	<p>21</p>
<p>15th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 22</p> <p>9am Worship at Butler with Schiley Baptism and Blessing of Quilts & Kits</p> <p>12:30 Holy Land Trip Info Meeting at Bethesda</p>	<p>23</p> <p>First Day of Fall</p> 	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>No Office Hours No Confirmation 5:30 Meal 5:45-6:30 Wednesday School Pastor Chris gone-----</p>	<p>26</p> <p>No Bible Study</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>27</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>28</p> <p>-----</p>
<p>16th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 29</p> <p>9am Worship at Bethesda with Diane Runner's Club Noisy Can Offering and Blessing of Quilts & Kits</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				