

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish  
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Pastor Chris Strohm

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**South Dakota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

August 24th, 2020

Dear South Dakota Synod congregations,

South Dakota is a wonderful place to be on synod staff. I get to see the incredible ways all of our different communities come together to do incredible ministry as a team. In the last quarter, it has been a blessing to see congregations, including yours, continue to financially support the ministries of the synod.

Even in the midst of the pandemic, your congregation has made sure that ministries like the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center and Church on the Street have funding to care for the most vulnerable in our state. The dollars you sent have helped communities like Woyatan, Pueblo de Dios, and First Lutheran African Ministry continue to proclaim God's Good News to people who are hungry to hear it. Your contributions help make sure that the synod staff continues to do good work, as we connect ministries, support leaders, and do so much more.

We plan to do big things with and for our ministries, as we journey together through this pandemic. Your generosity makes that happen! Thank you as a community of faith. Please thank your members for being partners in ministry. Peace and blessings to you all.

Rev. Jonathan Steiner  
Director for Evangelical Mission  
Associate to the Bishop for Stewardship and Outreach



## BETHESDA WELCA

After a 5 month absence due to the corona virus, Bethesda WELCA met on September 9, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. 8 members and guest, Marcia Morehouse attended.

Linda Anderson presented the program titled, "Busyness and Laziness." She offered devotion and prayer. Members sang two hymns, Blest Be the Tide that Binds and What a Friend We have in Jesus. A skit on being too busy and lazy was presented by Linda, Bonnie Anderson, Kathryn Bury, and Alice Jean Peterson. Our guest, Marcia, sang When the Roll is Called up Yonder.

Jane Goehring and Bonnie Dolney conducted the meeting and the purpose statement was read by all.

The secretary's report and the treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Kathryn Bury reported on the school kits and she is still short on pens, notebooks, and pencil sharpeners.

The quilts and kits will be picked up on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the blessings of these gifts will be September 20<sup>th</sup>.

New Business: A motion was made and seconded to pay \$500.00 for the shipping of the quilts. Members were encouraged to use their Choice Dollars for church needs.

October will be a month to collect needs for women at Safe Harbor and November and December will be months to collect items for the Food Pantry.

Prayer Concerns: Al Goehring, George Dolney, Jim Peterson, Gene Ausland, Kris Knutson, Bruce Anderson, Gary Anderson, Mike McCarlson, students, teachers, and essential workers in health care and education.

Our October meeting will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> Of October at 1:30 p.m. Kathryn Bury will present the program on "Goldilocks and the Three Prayers" and Kay Espeland will be the hostess.

We prayed the Lord's Prayer and sang the table prayer and Geneva Iverson served some delicious treats.

Secretary,

Alice Jean Peterson





#### **October 4**

Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80:7-15  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

#### **October 11**

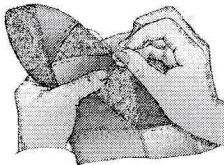
Isaiah 25:1-9  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

#### **October 18**

Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

#### **October 25**

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 46  
Romans 3:19-28  
John 8:31-36



### **LWR MISSION QUILTS & KITS**

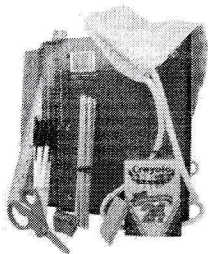
#### **2020 Bethesda LWR Quilts and Kits**

141 Quilts  
50 School Kits  
95 Personal Care Kits

There is a cost to ship the quilts and kits to the people who need them and if you would like to help defray this cost donations may be mailed or left at the church. Please indicate that it is for Bethesda WELCA for quilts or kit shipping.

The costs are as follows: \$2.25/quilt,  
\$1.40/school kit, Q\$2.65/personal care kit.

Thank you for your gift.



### **Safe Harbor Project**

Bethesda is collecting items for Safe Harbor. Safe Harbor is a domestic abuse shelter. It is an emergency shelter for those who need to leave an unsafe relationship and have nowhere else to go. It also provides support and advocacy for men, women, and children who are in or have been in an abusive situation. Their ministry is much needed in North-East South Dakota. Many people come to Safe Harbor with just the clothes on their back so they are in need of basic items. Here is the list of items they are in need of:

Money or gift cards are always helpful

Lysol

Razors

Deodorant and other bathroom items

Feminine Products

Kids/Baby body wash

Baby Formula

New Bath Towels

Canned Tuna

Canned Chicken

Canned Fruit or Fruit cups

Thank you for your support. Items can be dropped off at the church on Wednesdays or contact Jill Hansmeier arrange to drop off items at her house. Jill has also applied for a Thrivent Action Team Project which if approved will be used to purchase additional items from the wish list. Cash donations can be given to the church for this mission project.

## OCTOBER BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Usher	Reader	Organist	Worship Helper
10/4		Gayle H	Gail H	
10/11	At Butler			
10/18		Alice Jean	Kathryn	
10/25	At Butler			
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Jill Hansmeier & Alice Jean Peterson				
<b>Deacon:</b> Kris H.				

## OCTOBER BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Readers	Worship Helper
10/4	At Bethesda		
10/11	Steve W.		
10/18	At Bethesda		
10/25	Steve W.		

### Bethesda Financial Report

**Needed weekly to meet the budget: \$1,207.18**

DATE	RECEIPTS	
8/30/2020	\$0.00	<b>short \$1,207.18</b>
9/6/2020	\$495	<b>short \$712.18</b>
9/13/2020	\$140.00	<b>short \$1,067.18</b>
9/20/2020	\$1,827.00	<b>long \$620.70</b>

As of September 20, 2020

Total 2020 yearly receipts: \$53,647.23

Total 2020 yearly disbursements: \$40,612.02

**(Note: receipts include a \$8,100 PPP loan)**

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October newsletter postage is given in honor of Jesse &  
Donna Peckham's 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

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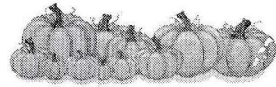


Oct 1	Nadine Sauer	Oct 21	Joshua Lone
Oct 3	Bonnie Horter	Oct 23	Joel Shoemaker
Oct 6	Jaxon Ash	Oct 25	Tamara Lone
Oct 6	Bob Raap	Oct 26	Gene Williamson
Oct 15	Mavis McKane	Oct 26	Preston Hansmeier
Oct 19	Chayse Shoemaker	Oct 30	Janet Lardy
Oct 19	Dennis Peckham	Oct 31	Kathryn Bury
Oct 20	Jessica Schnaible	Oct 31	Darron Iverson

**We apologize if we missed your birthday. Please let us  
know and we will include it on our list for next year.**

**Birthday Blessing to you!**





# OCTOBER 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 9:30am Butler WELCA Meeting
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b> 4 9am Worship at Bethesda and on Facebook BethesdaButler Page and website	5	6	7 Pastor's Office Day 4:30-5:50 pm Confirmation	8	9	10 
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (green)</b> 11 9am Worship at Butler and on Facebook BethesdaButler Page and website	12	13 	14 Pastor's Office Day 1:30pm Bethesda WELCA 4:30-5:50pm Confirmation 6pm Bethesda Council Meeting	15 2pm Pastor Chris at Sun Dial	16	17
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (green)</b> 18 9am Worship at Bethesda and on Facebook BethesdaButler Page and Website with Runner's Club Noisy Can Offering  <b>November Newsletter Items Due</b>	19	20	21 Pastor's Office Day 4:30-5:50pm Confirmation	22 	23	24
<b>Reformation Sunday (red)</b> 25 9am Worship at Butler and on Facebook BethesdaButler Page and website  Kaden Stoks Confirmation	26 	27	28 Pastor's Office Day 4:30-5:50pm Confirmation	29	30	31 



Hello Everybody,

As I am writing this I am sitting in a camp chair outside of our camper at Camp NeSoDak on Enemy Swim Lake. This is a camp that has always been connected to our churches through the synod. A place where many kids have come to strengthen or begin a relationship with Jesus. A camp where many pastors first heard the call to ministry. For many years this place during the summer has been filled with the sounds of children and young adults playing and learning. This year it has been filled with silence. It is in that silence that I am sitting and relaxing, enjoying the quiet time with my wife. NeSoDak and the other camps have always offered their space to pastors as a place of retreat, a place to come and relax, recharge their batteries.

In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

I am exhausted, this has been a tough year for me, for you, for everyone. You have shown me much grace as I struggle with bringing a message to you on-line. It has not been easy and you have put up with me trying and discarding different things. Thank you for your grace.

It is times like these that this verse really speaks to me, "come to me, all who are weary." Bringing our worries and problems to Jesus really does lighten our loads. My time here at camp is not just time to get away but also time to sit quietly and pray. Time to read and dwell in the word. Time to listen and hear what God is saying. Time to just be with Jesus. We can do this anytime and any place but camp just seems like a special place. A holy place. A place where Jesus is just sitting and waiting for me.

Where is your special place? Where do find Jesus just waiting for you? Take time to be there. In those times of your life where everything just seems to bring extra stress, extra worry, extra work, remember these words of Jesus and set your burden at his feet. He will be easy to find, just look for the cross. It is on the cross where he carries all your burdens and it is because of the cross that they are lightened.

God's Peace be with you all,

Pastor Chris

## **Special Congregational Meeting**

Your councils are calling a special congregational meeting to be held on November 1 at 10:00 for Bethesda, and November 8 at 10:00 for Butler. This meeting will convene in the sanctuary after worship.

Reminder that when a special congregational meeting is called the only topic up for discussion is the topic that is published as the reason for the meeting. All other business will be out of order and will either need to be addressed to your particular council or at the annual meeting. Thus this should be a short meeting.

The reason for this meeting is to discuss and amend our constitutions by inserting the following resolution:

### **Resolution**

Be it resolved that (*insert congregation name*) amend the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions by addition of C10.08 of the Model Constitution for Congregations, stating:

**C10.08.** This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

What this allows us to do is to hold our annual meeting online if we need to. If we have to postpone our meeting because of weather which we have done in the past we will postpone it. We are adding this in the chance that Covid or some other disaster happens that keeps us from gathering in person for weeks on end, then we can still hold our meeting and get our business done.

If you have any concerns or questions don't hesitate to call or text me. 605-218-0852

Thank you,

Pastor Chris