

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish
PO Box 426
Bristol, SD 57219

AUGUST 2021

Christ
hath
made
us
free.



Galatians 5:1

Bristol Church Office 605-492-3123
Parish Email bethesdabutler@nvc.net Parish Website www.bethesdabutler.com



August 1

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

August 8

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25--5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 15

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 22

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

August 29

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Bethesda is collecting items for School Kits

- 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper (4 per kits)
- Ruler with centimeters
- Pencil sharpener
- Pair of blunt scissors
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 ½" eraser

Donated items may be left at the church, or you may make a monetary gift so we can purchase needed items. Please contact Kathryn, Jane, or Kay if you would like to help. Thanks for helping us help others.

Emergency Pastoral Contacts

Rev. Michael DeKraai

St. John's Lutheran Church

Webster, SD

605-265-1937

deka50@gmail.com

Pastor Allie Smith

American Lutheran Church

Webster, SD

605-265-0880

alexandrahjerpe@gmail.com

Help wanted

Bethesda Butler Parish Secretary

- Computer skills needed with knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel
- Compile and print weekly bulletin, monthly newsletter, annual reports
- Update Facebook and the website
- Keep records of baptisms, weddings, funerals
- Order and pick up supplies
- Miscellaneous duties as needed
- Approximately 10 hours/week which can be done part at home and part at the churches
- Communication skills are required

Complete list of duties available at the church

Contact Robin Anderson or Travis Antonsen or sent your resume to Bethesda Lutheran Church PO Box 426 Bristol, SD 57219 if interested



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

August 2021 Newsletter Inserts

From the Bishop's Desk

Dear SD Synod,

Grace and peace to you!

Is your tank full or empty these days? Many among us had thought that the Covid vaccine and summer would bring relief to our chronic state of exhaustion. But as I listen to folks across the state and across the church, I frequently hear that that is not the case. Exhaustion is still lingering in our bones. Going back to normal doesn't seem to come as readily as we had hoped. You have heard me say it many times, but I'll say it again, while we may return to normal by what meets the eye, no mask-wearing, and social events, etc, COVID has altered who we are as individuals and as communities. We all ran a mental, emotional, and physical marathon, and we need to understand that we need to recover.

I am a runner, and I know that after each long run I have to allow my body to rest. Rest is essential for my tired bones and overworked muscles to rejuvenate so that I am able to run again. Resting doesn't mean vegging out on the couch doing nothing, in fact, that kind of behavior would be counterproductive to restoring my energy and running capacity. Resting means to slow down and gently begin moving forward through mindful stretches and movement.

As we plan for fall activities with the hope that we will return to normal and go at full speed, please be mindful that your "church muscles" just emerged from running a marathon and will need gentle but disciplined movement in order to recover. I recommend that you utilize the revitalization tools we offer to slowly ease into fall. If you would like to know more, please contact Pastor Jonathan Steiner at jsteiner@sdsynod.org. Be gracious with each, readiness to restart ministry is different for everyone.

Please, always remember that this is God's Church, that it is not through our own works that we are saved and beloved, but solemnly by and through the grace and mercy of God. Be patient with yourself and your neighbor and begin everything you do with some deep breaths and prayer.

Journeying together in Christ,

Bishop Constanze

The Cornerstone

Rev. Jonathan Steiner

In one of our readings last month, Ephesians 2, we were told that Jesus is the cornerstone. This strikes me as a particularly important message, especially as we continue to wrestle with division in our communities. The cornerstone is placed where the sides of a building meet, where walls going in different directions end up leaning on one another for support. Jesus pulls us together, even when we have trouble getting along.

In your community, how is Christ the cornerstone where people who disagree are brought together? How is the dividing wall brought down, so that the new building that God is raising rests on Jesus? These are not easy questions to ask, but we are invited to dream with this image.

The Communion of Saints

Rev. Dr. Aaron Matson

Whenever we say the Apostle's Creed, one of the things that we say that we believe in is "the communion of saints." Growing up, every Sunday in worship, I would say these words along with the adults, but like many "churchy" words and phrases, I wasn't quite sure what it meant.

As I got older, I learned more about what it meant, including that an aspect of what that means is that we are united as the body of Christ with all other Christians around the globe. We are church together not just with our brothers and sisters in Christ across the South Dakota Synod, but with our brothers and sisters in Christ across the world, including our companion synods in Nicaragua and Cameroon.

Since becoming your Companion Synod Coordinator, I have been struck by just how deep our relationships with our companion synods are, and how enriched my own walk of faith has been by being more intentional about learning more about these relationships and what it means to be church together – even when we are prevented from visiting one another as we have been this past year. If you'd like to learn more about these relationships, you can find out more at sdsynod.org/companion-synods, or you can always email me at companion-synod@sdsynod.org.

Generosity: What it IS--What it ISN'T

Kathy McHenry, Executive Director, Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota

There have been many changes in the post-pandemic world of the church and God's mission and ministry. But one constant remains – the need for resources of all kinds, the anxiety that often accompanies those needs, and the truths (Biblical and scientific) that generosity can be the solution.

All the answers can't be contained in a few paragraphs, but here are some thoughts¹ to spark discussion and motivate change in your faith community and your home:

1. Generosity is "the virtue of giving good things to others freely and abundantly."

2. "Good things" is more than cash. We're not talking about a prosperity gospel that takes one verse out of context and expects overflowing bank accounts in response to a gift.

Instead, the generosity Jesus teaches says, ".....Love your enemies.....Do good.....Lend expecting nothing in return.....Be merciful..... Forgive and you will be forgiven; Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Luke 6:27-38

3. Science has proven this paradox of generosity – people actually grow by giving themselves away. By caring for other people, those who give generously with the right motive end up increasing the quality of their own lives.

4. Learning comes by doing. It's not automatic – we don't put generosity coins in a machine and a beautiful life drops out the bottom. But a virtue can be learned. We set into motion new behaviors and generous attitudes, reflect on their meaning and consequences, and God joins the journey.

Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota is a ministry sponsored by the Synod and our ELCA ministry partners as a gift to individuals and congregations across the state. For more information about including generosity in your own legacy plan, contact Kathy McHenry at (605) 274-5030 or kmchenry@sdsynod.org. More information is available on our website, www.lpgsd.org, or our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LPGSD>.

¹ Excerpts from Smith, Christian and Davidson, Hilary; *The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose*; 1st ed.; Oxford University Press (2014).

2022 ELCA Youth Gathering

Dear 2022 Gathering adult leaders,

Congratulations on your role to bring a group from your congregation to the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering. This is an incredible opportunity for you and all who will be involved. Perhaps you feel excited and/or overwhelmed, wondering where to start, especially if you have never been to the Gathering before.

Be assured, you can do this! You can't and shouldn't try to do it alone. Under your leadership, adults, parents, and youth in your congregation can work together to intentionally prepare. The Gathering staff and teams will share valuable information and resources now and through the Gathering that will equip groups for a thoughtful experience.

To begin, remember that you don't need to know all the details right now, just the basic ones. Gathering leadership can be trusted to be on top of all the details and considerations that go into planning for a Gathering. Don't get stuck on the questions that can't be answered yet. They will get answered eventually. Share an attitude of possibility and openness and graciously calm expressions of anxiety or fear. You can engage your congregation's group in learning together.

Schedule info meetings in person, on Zoom or the way that works best for your congregation. Make personal contact as much as possible with youth and families, inviting them to be part of this "once-in-a-lifetime experience," perhaps starting with "We want you to be a part of the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN next July!"



Your synod, along with the other 64 synods, has a Gathering Synod Coordinator (GSC) who will be an invaluable resource for your questions along with the Gathering website. You can contact South Dakota's Gathering Synod Coordinator at gathering@sdsynod.org.

May you remember God's boundless love for you as you start to prepare your group. Peace.

Learn more at elca.org/youthgathering.

(Source: Deacon Kathy Hunstad, <https://blogs.elca.org/youthgathering/a-letter-to-adult-leaders/>)

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 9 am Worship at Butler with Sally Pies	2 1 PM Quilting at Bethesda 6:30 Butler WELCA	3	4	5	6 	7
8 11 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 9 am Worship at Bethesda with Rev. Michael Jacobson	9 1 PM Quilting at Bethesda	10	11 6 PM Bethesda Church Council 7:30 Bethesda WELCA	12	13	14
15 12 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 9 am Worship at Butler with Sally Pies	16 1 PM Quilting at Bethesda	17	18	19	20	21
22 13 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 9 am Worship at Bethesda with Kristi Anderson Noisy Can Offering	23 1 PM Quilting at Bethesda	24 September Newsletter Items Due	25	26 	27	28
29 14 th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 9 am Communion Worship at Butler with Diane Hoines	30 1 PM Quilting at Bethesda	31				Sept. 10-12 Luther League Ice Cream Shack at the James Valley Threshing Show

AUGUST BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Usher	Reader	Organist
8/1	At Butler		
8/8		Carol	Kathryn B
8/15	At Butler		
8/22		Alice Jean	Gail Huwe
8/29	At Butler		

Altar Guild: Fran Morehouse and Larissa Hansmeier

Deacon: John Horter

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Bethesda Financial Report

Needed weekly to meet the budget: \$1,218.80

<u>DATE</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	
6/27/2021	\$959.00	short \$259.80
7/4/2021	\$0.00	short \$1,218.80
7/11/2021	\$1,495.00	long \$276.20
7/18/2021	\$822.53	short \$396.27

As of July 20, 2021

Total 2021 yearly receipts: \$37,079.81

Total 2021 yearly disbursements: \$36,845.76

Ways to Give to Bethesda Lutheran Church

at the church service

mail to PO Box 426 Bristol, SD 57219

mail to the church treasurer

Tithe.ly app

AUGUST BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Readers
8/1	Wes N. & Wayne N.	Michael Herr
8/8	At Bethesda	
8/15	Wes N. & Wayne N.	Tammie Herr
8/22	At Bethesda	
8/29	Wes N. & Wayne N.	Wayne N



August 3	Alex McKane	August 14	Kinsley Ash
August 3	Sarah Lesnar	August 17	Clinton Huwe
August 3	Scott Schiley	August 19	Keenan Moody
August 5	Carrie Rumpza	August 19	Lane Stern
August 6	Thad Duerre	August 20	Gailand Henrichsen
August 6	Mark Wattier	August 22	Sharon Johnson
August 8	Karter Moody	August 26	Lucas Dauwen
August 9	Al Goehring	August 27	Heather Lone
August 9	Caroline Bahr	August 28	Henry Witt
August 11	Julie Flattum	August 29	Robin Anderson

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

**August Newsletter postage is sponsored by
Paul and Shirley Halvorsen**



*Our Prayers are with the
Family of Daniel Lone
who passed away July 9, 2021*

Volunteers needed:

Fall is fast approaching and with that it is time to plan for Wednesday School, the Ice Cream Shack and the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering. If you would be able to help with any of these events please contact your church president.

- **Wednesday School Coordinator, teachers, music**
- **Ice Cream Shack coordinator/workers**
- **2022 ELCA Youth Gathering coordinator**

Call Committee Report

Thank you to everyone who attended the Ministry Site Study with the Synod representative. The Parish is now accepting names of candidates for the position of Pastor.



Butler WELCA

The Butler WELCA met at the Church on July 5, 2021 at 6:30 pm with 9 present.

Bible Study was "What We Know as Christians" from 1 John 5:13-21.

Kathy Buehler had the Offering Meditation "Live, Pray and Love."

The WELCA Purpose Statement was read.

The Secretary's report was read and approved. Correspondence was read.

Treasurer Report:

June Offering: \$120.00

General Fund: \$2,324.95

Altar Fund: \$85.46

Mission Action Report: We will work on School Kits. Kathy Nolte applied for \$250.00 for School Kits. We will work on September 6th to put together the kits.

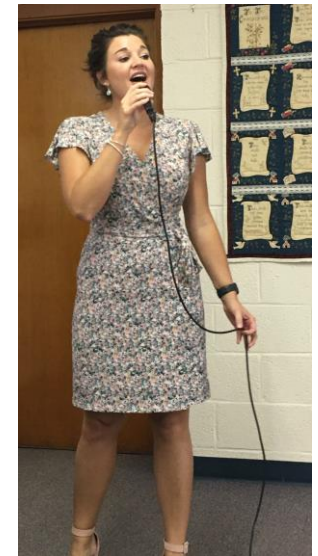
Carol Flattum will have offering Meditation.

Our next meeting will be Monday, August 2nd at 6:30 PM at the church.

We closed with praying The Lord's Prayer

Carol Flattum, Secretary

Thank you to all Bethesda members for making our luncheon a big success. We appreciate all the hard work and effort in selling tickets, advertising, setting up, bringing door prizes, silent auction items, all the beautiful tables and windows. Hats off to the kitchen workers, as always a great job. It takes everyone to get involved, to the wonderful program, seating, etc. Thank you, Bethesda WELCA Officers.



Kathryn Bury, **The Everlasting teapot**; Karen Bonte, **Miss Waterford Connecticut teacup**;
Sharon Johnson, **Miss Las Vegas teacup**; Kay Espeland, **Miss Plano Texas teacup**;
Alice Jean Peterson, **Miss Dixie Alabama teacup**; Gayle Horter, **Tombstone Arizona teacup**;
Bonnie Anderson, **Miss Boulder Colorado teacup**; Linda Anderson, **Miss China teacup**

Josey Heupel entertained
the guests with her
musical selections: **Tea
for Two, Fill My Cup Lord
& In His Time**

