










MAY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2  <small>OUR PASTOR'S BIRTHDAY</small>
4th Sunday of Easter (white) 3 9am Online Worship on Facebook BethesdaButler Page	4 	5	6 Pastor's Office Day	7	8	9
5th Sunday of Easter (white) 10 9am Online Worship on Facebook BethesdaButler Page 	11	12	13 Pastor's Office Day	14	15	16 
6th Sunday of Easter (white) 17 9am Online Worship on Facebook BethesdaButler Page June Newsletter Items Due	18	19	20 Pastor's Office Day	21 Ascension of Our Lord	22	23
7th Sunday of Easter (white) 24 9am Online Worship on Facebook BethesdaButler Page	25  <small>MEMORIAL DAY</small>	26	27 Pastor's Office Day	28	29	30
Day of Pentecost (red) 31 9am Online Worship on Facebook BethesdaButler Page						

MAY BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Usher	Reader	Organist	Worship Helper
5/3		Gayle H.	Kathryn	
5/10	At Butler	-----	-----	-----
5/17		Carol	Gail	
5/24	At Butler	-----	-----	-----
5/31		Kay	Kathryn	
Altar Guild: Kay Espeland & Lisa Anderson				
Deacon: Pam D.				

Bethesda Financial Report

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

DATE	RECEIPTS	
03/28/2020	\$1,149.00	short \$58.00
04/05/2020	\$2,449.00	long \$1,242.82
Thrivent	\$2,776.00	
04/12/2020	\$1,765.00	long \$557.82

As of April 18, 2020

Total 2020 yearly receipts: \$22,975.07

Total 2020 yearly disbursements: \$18,849.90

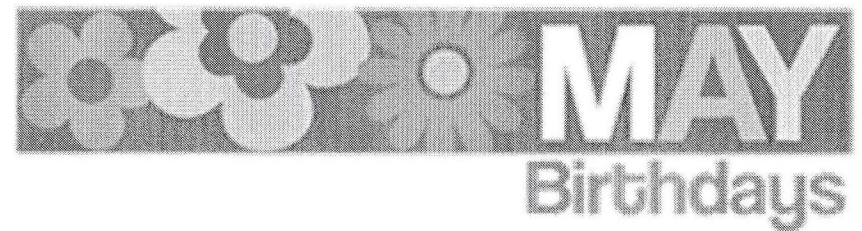
A great big hug to everyone who is remembering the church during this pandemic with your offerings. Thank you for dropping them off at church or mailing them to either the church or to me at my house. I appreciate not having to worry about how I am going to pay the church bills. Thank you also to everyone who directed their Thrivent Choice dollars to Bethesda.

Jill Hansmeier, treasurer

Children's Collection gauge collected \$60.95 for the Groton and Langford backpack programs.

MAY BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Readers	Worship Helper
5/3	At Bethesda	-----	-----
5/10		Lorraine A.	
5/17	At Bethesda	-----	-----
5/24		Gerry A.	
5/31	At Bethesda	-----	-----



May 1	Jessica Rodacker	May 19	Gayle Horter
May 2	Pastor Chris	May 21	Steve Horter
May 3	Shirley Halvorsen	May 22	Judy Herr
May 5	Robert Ash	May 22	Kim Danielson-Huwe
May 5	LaRon Herr	May 23	Lois Carlson
May 6	Russell Johnson	May 23	Cole Hodson
May 8	Carla Clark	May 23	Jerry Raap
May 8	Samantha Stern	May 24	Elaine Chamberlin
May 9	Dawson Clark	May 24	Diana McKane
May 11	Rowen Strohm	May 25	Lisa Anderson
May 14	Bethany Hanson	May 26	Burdell Bohn
May 17	Venona Ash	May 28	Pam Dylla

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!

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Song: On Insert

On-Line Worship Service Bulletin

Welcome and Announcements

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Song: On Insert

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, you teach us in your holy word that you do not willingly inflict or grieve your children. Look with pity on us in our time of isolation. Remember us in your mercy. Strengthen us in patience, comfort us with the memory of your goodness, let your presence shine on us, and give us peace, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL: Printed on Insert

SERMON

Hymn Of The Day: On Insert

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Almighty God, holy and righteous, stir up our will to act with mercy and compassion. Break down our pride and self-assurance, and transform us by your gentle mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Provide all living things with sufficient food and clean water. Make us ever mindful of the farmers and workers who supply us with food, and open our hands to share what we have received. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Exercise and establish your true justice in courtrooms, in prisons, and in neighborhoods. Guide those who manage great wealth to do so with generosity and compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen and encourage those in public health services and in the medical profession: care-givers, nurses, attendants, doctors, all who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families. Bring healing and peace to those we name a loud and in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bind us together with the saints of every time and place until we join them around your throne. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.



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

May 2020 Congregation Newsletter Inserts

Congregations of the South Dakota Synod are invited to use any of the following newsletter inserts for their regular newsletter schedules. These short articles are written by members of the staff and our partners in ministry.

From the Bishop's Desk

Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the risen one, the Christ! – Thank you for your faithfulness to Christ's call to love God and neighbor. During this time of pandemic your synod staff faithfully journeys alongside your congregation's ministry. The "Hour of Hope Endowment", for example, has provided the synod with a generous gift, which we quickly converted into micro grants for congregations. These grants allowed your congregation to either buy or update your recording equipment to better share the Gospel in times of physical distancing. The synod staff continues to host weekly Zoom briefings with rostered and lay leaders, where we share best practices, answer questions and pass along information, all so that ministry in your congregation can go on. These are just two of many examples of how my staff and I live out the promise to journey together in Christ.

As we look into the future, we are ready to come and "visit" your congregation through a virtual visit, or by recording or transcribing a sermon for your congregation to use. We are working closely with the synod and churchwide's general counsel to assure that congregations and leaders in transition have what is needed to issue a call in times when congregations cannot gather to vote on issuing a call. A task force has been established that will look at best practices and the future direction of how we live out our faith in worship and fellowship, giving special consideration to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We are developing an online resource platform to assist you with congregational ministry when how you do ministry has changed overnight.

Thank you for your continued mission support. Your congregation's financial support is essential to providing strong resources to your congregation's ministry. Thank you!

Journeying with you in Christ,
 Bishop Constanze

Rejoice!

Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Phil 4.4-7

"Rejoice!" Paul's invitation to rejoice can be met with weary hearts this Easter season with weeks of isolation under our belts, with no guarantee when we all may be allowed to return to any sense of "normal." And yet, the invitation remains: "Rejoice!" What does it mean in our daily life that Jesus was raised from the dead? Do we live and hope in such a way that we actually believe this to be true? Even in the midst of COVID 19 and all of the other realities of life?

The Lord IS near. This is what he promises each of us; that Christ is with us until the end of the age. Therefore, we lift up our worries and anxieties to the One who can bear them with us. Jesus, the one who gave up his life and was raised from the dead for you, guards and holds your hearts and your minds with tender care.

So rejoice! Rejoice in your loved ones. Rejoice in the provision of food and shelter. Rejoice in the gift of forgiveness and reconciliation. Rejoice in the resurrection. Rejoice in the first crocus that pops up out of the soil. For what else do you rejoice? ...

General Ministry Housekeeping

Crystal McCormick

Here to Serve – ELCA Churchwide has reorganized to become project-based in the pandemic and is refocusing on what is needed right now by congregations and Synods. The Here to Serve Campaign has been created as a place to share any concerns or needs. Please watch for information to be rolled out by Churchwide soon.

We are Church Together – You can share photos of how we are church together at listen@sdsynod.org. Our Companion Synods are also being affected by COVID-19. Please keep our missionaries and YAGM's in your prayers who had to either come home or stay as there's no travel allowed. Thank you for reaching out to them to send a message of hope and encouragement. Please

continue to support our siblings in Christ around the world.

Subscribe to the Synod News – a good way to stay informed and updated is to subscribe to the Synod news. This can be done by visiting sdsynod.org/ and inserting your email address into the box at the bottom of the home screen where it says "sign-up for Synod news" and hit the yellow subscribe button. We will keep you informed as postponed events get rescheduled as well as continue to share reliable information and resources regarding COVID-19 and how our ministries are moving forward amidst these times.

Telling your story

Rev. Jonathan Steiner

"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you." - Matthew 7:7

While Jesus is teaching about how to pray to God, this is also a model for how to approach stewardship. When our ministry needs some resource - time, talent, or treasure - it is our duty as Christians to ask. Imagine having a great gift, and not knowing what to do with it. I find great joy as a leader when I match the right person to the right job.

When I was a camp counselor in Pennsylvania, our camp always had an under-the-radar project, something that was important but didn't get a lot of attention. The director would set the goal, and invite everyone to give what they could - often the rest of the money on their store card, or spare change out of their car. But one evening, in worship during the offering, he asked people to give what they could, and then jokingly said "if you have \$5,000 and want to support this entirely, see me in my office."

We all laughed.

And then he had multiple people stop in his office that evening, some to match his request, and some to give even more. Everyone gave what they could, but by asking to finish the project, it got done.

How do you invite people to dream big about what they can offer? How can you tell the story of your ministry in a way that asks people to be part of the work? Blessings to you, and I trust the Holy Spirit will surprise you with generosity in people's hearts.

Stepping Out

*Kathy McHenry, Executive Director
Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota*

One of my favorite daily devotions from Bob Goff reminds us that God is like a parent watching their child's first steps, always a few steps ahead of you with outstretched arms, waiting to see if you'll be as courageous as God thinks you are. No surprise when you stumble; no anger when you fall; just delight in your every move, every brave step. And all the while, "Heaven is leaning over the rails, wondering if you'll be as courageous [and generous] as God thinks you are."

Each of us has felt the loss of social interaction and support. For some, the immediate effects of the pandemic have also been financially devastating. But for others, the economic impact has been much less, or non-existent. If you fall into that category, I'd like to offer some bold encouragement: Have you thought about using your coronavirus stimulus check to support the ongoing ministries of **Bethesda and Butler?** Maybe it's a portion; maybe a tithe; maybe the entire amount and then some. Your church is ministering in new and exciting ways and needs your support. What steps can you take in faith today?

Contact:

605.274.5030 OR kmchenry@sdsynod.org



Hello Everyone,

These are different times we are in, no doubt about it, as we self isolate and sit in our houses it is good to connect with other people even if it is through a window or over the internet. It is good to know that we are not alone in this time and everyone is weathering through the same storm. Just the other night my wife and I connected with some of our seminary classmates who are scattered throughout our country. Some in big cities others in or near reservations. One in a city known for entertainment, another in a small community in Minnesota. Another couple co-pastoring a five point parish, my wife in her big church, others in mission development churches ministering to the homeless. We are here and there, North to South, and scattered throughout the Midwest all of us doing the same thing, trying to figure out how to do church on-line. Even the one who has a degree in media production and worked in that field agrees with the rest of us that this is exhausting. What we miss most is you, the people, the small talk before and after worship that lets us know how we are all doing and what is going on in our lives. The smiles, the interaction with the kids during the children's sermon, the laughter when I pick on the Vikings, looking you in the eye saying, "The body of Christ, given for you, the blood of Christ, shed for you." So, if you haven't heard it in a while, "I love you, Jesus loves you, God loves you."

Like you, I can't wait until we can once again safely worship together in person. Until then we will continue to gather on Sunday at 9:00 via Facebook live or through the recording posted on our website, www.bethesdabutler.com. We will use the bulletin posted on the website, you can download it and either print it off or display it on your screen if you downsize your windows, There is a copy included in this newsletter that you can save. Each week there will be a document with the gospel reading and songs posted on the website for that weeks service. We will get through this, we will survive, and when it's over we will come together to worship the one who gives us life, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

One thing that I have noticed and am thankful for is that we seem to be reaching more people on a weekly basis than we get on a normal Sunday. People have been tuning in from all over the country. Most of all I am thankful for you. I promise once I figure out this music thing you won't have to be tortured by my singing 😊

The peace of the Lord be with you all,

Pastor Chris



May 3

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

May 17

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 31

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

The Burdell and Muriel Bohn auction sale has been postponed until a later date this fall. Please watch newsletter for updates. Also, if anyone would be interested in donating hamburger for this church fundraiser we would be appreciative. To date we have received a donation of 25 pounds. Please let Robin Anderson know if interested and thank you.



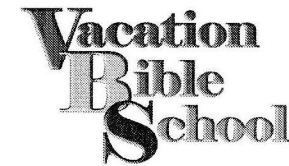
Bethesda's May Newsletter postage is sponsored by George and Bonnie Dolney



Congratulations to our 2020 graduates:

Chloe Lone
Mason Peckham

We wish you the very best!



The 2020 Vacation Bible Study has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ??

While 70 Israelite men were commissioned as prophets at the tent of meeting, two others, Eldad and Medad, were reported to have prophesied in the camp — not following “proper” protocols. Who defended them?

- A. Moses
- B. Joshua
- C. Jethro
- D. The Lord

Answer: A (See Numbers 11:24-29.)

Sanford Webster Bridging Health and Home Program

Bridging the Gap

April 2019

April 16th is Nation Healthcare Decision Day

- Advanced care planning (ACP) is a voluntary discussion on future health personal care

What advanced care planning includes

- Understanding and reflecting on your values and beliefs, health condition and quality of life
- Having a say in your healthcare preferences
- Appointing a power of attorney for healthcare decisions
- Talking about your care preferences and wishes with your loved ones and doctor

Advanced care planning quick Fact's

- ACP is for everyone, not only for the elderly and the sick
- A completed ACP will help the healthcare team understand your values and goals of care
- ACP can be changed as your health status or life situations change
- It allows you to reduce your loved ones' burden of decision making during a medical crisis
- ACP is more than an end-of-life conversation
- ACP preferences will be recorded with the hospital and a copy will be given to you

YourLife  YourWishes

It starts with a conversation.

For more information or to start an advanced care plan, visit the bridging center located in the Day County Art Center Wednesday from 9:30-11:30am
Call Lori and Vanessa at 605-588-3197

A Prayer During Times of a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced,
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors,
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home,
Remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children
when their schools close,

Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips,
Remember those who have no place to go.

May we who are losing our marginal income
in the tumult of the economic market,

Remember those who have no margin at all.

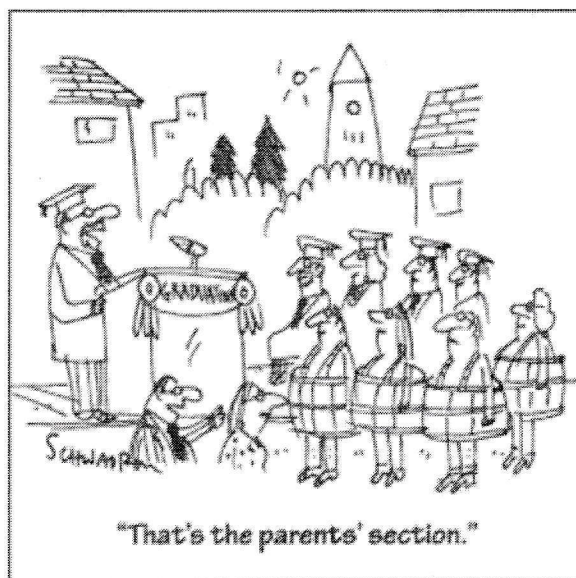
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home,
Remember those who have no home.

During this time when we cannot physically
wrap our arms around each other,

Let us yet find ways to be
the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

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Pastor Chris Strohm

Bristol Church Office 605-492-3123

Pastor's Cell 605-218-0852

Parish Email bethesdabutler@nvc.net

Parish Website www.bethesdabutler.com