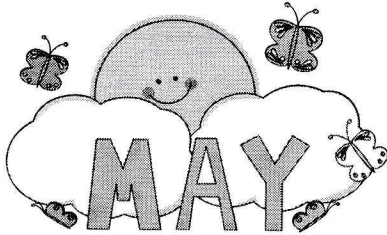


Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish  
PO Box 426  
Bristol, SD 57219



Bristol Church Office 605-492-3123  
Parish Email [bethesdabutler@nvc.net](mailto:bethesdabutler@nvc.net) Parish Website [www.bethesdabutler.com](http://www.bethesdabutler.com)



# 2021 Graduates

Senior Recognition Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 9am at Bethesda

**Brianna Duerre**



**Parents:** Thad and Vicki Duerre

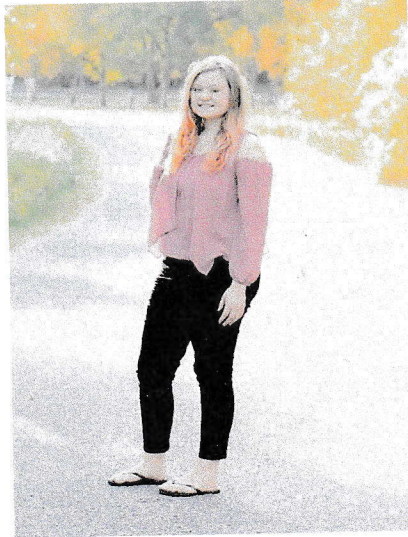
**School Attended:** Webster Area High School

**Graduation Date:** May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm with Reception May 22<sup>nd</sup> 5-9pm at Webster Izaak Walton League

**HS Activities:** National Honor Society, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Track, FFA, FCCLA, Student Council, Choir, KEY Club, 4-H, SD 4-H Ambassadors

**Future Plans:** Brianna will be attending Dakota Wesleyan University, where she will be majoring in Secondary Education and Biology. Brianna will also be playing volleyball for the DWU Tigers!

**Briana Kvernevig**



**Parents:** Aaron and Sara Johnson and Matt Kvernevig

**School Attended:** Webster Area High School

**Graduation Date:** May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm

**HS Activities:** Volleyball, Basketball, Certified Nursing Assistant, Prom Committee, and Homecoming Committee

**Future Plans:** Briana will be attending Southeast Technical College in Sioux Falls, in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program.

**Lane Stern**



**Parents:** Steve and Carrie Rumpza and the late James Stern

**School Attended:** Waubay High School

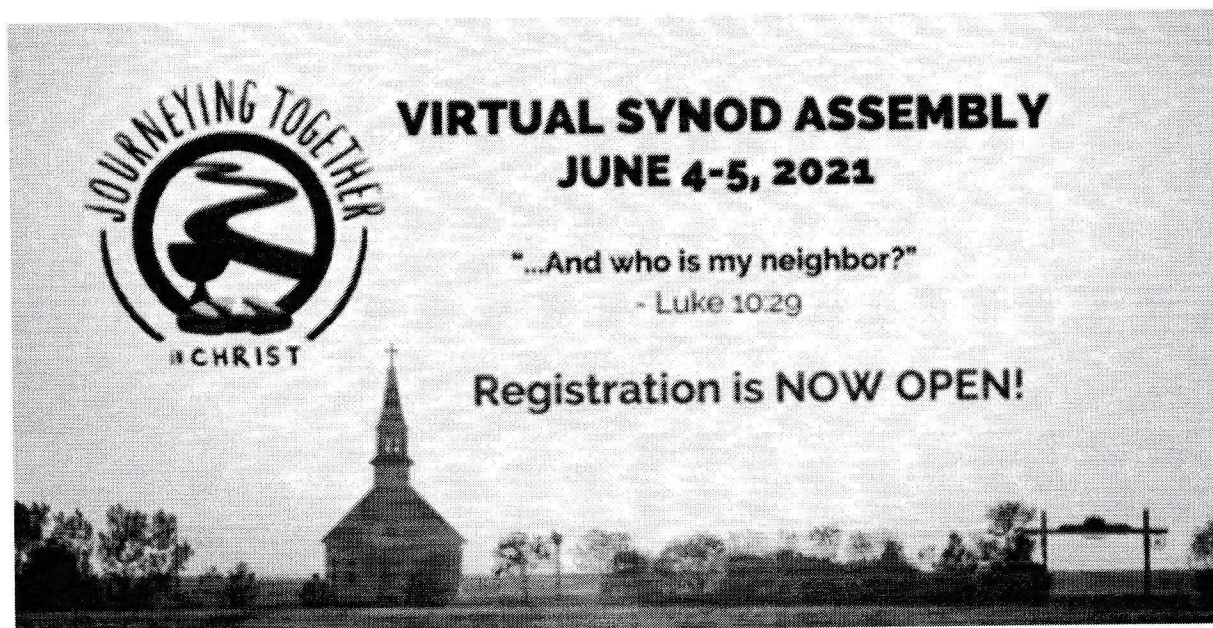
**Graduation Date:** May 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm

**HS Activities:** Sunday School Helper, 4-H Archery, 4-H Rodeo, Wrestling, Football, Band, Choir, FFA officer/member, Firefighter, and National Honor Society

**Future Plans:** Lane will be attending Lake Area College and majoring in Diesel Mechanics.



I hope your dreams take you...  
to the corners of your smiles,  
to the highest of your hopes,  
to the windows of your opportunities,  
and to the most special places  
your heart has ever known."



## Synod Assembly - Register by May 10!

As we continue to live into the realities of COVID-19, Synod Assembly this year will be hosted virtually on Zoom. This decision was determined by the Synod Council in January. All business, plenary, and worship will take place virtually beginning the morning of **Friday, June 4**. Assembly will close on **Saturday, June 5** around 1 PM CT.

At this year's Synod Assembly we are ***Journeying Together in Christ with our Neighbors in Solidarity***. In the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke's Gospel we hear the question posed by the lawyer, "and who is my neighbor?" As a participant in God's mission here in South Dakota, you will learn of who our neighbors are and what we can do to accompany them on the journey.

**Details on this year's assembly can be found at [sdsynod.org/assembly](https://sdsynod.org/assembly) as well as important instructions on how to register voting members and dates for virtual assembly orientation sessions.**

Synod Assembly will be live-streamed for guests and visitors to watch at no additional charge.

**Registration for voting members closes on May 10 at 11:55 PM CT.** This is a hard deadline and no late registrations will be allowed.



## BETHESDA WELCA

Bethesda WELCA met at 10:00 on April 14, 2021.

Because of sickness in her family, Sharon Johnson was unable to be there to present the program. Alice Jean Peterson read a few short messages from her devotional books.

Bonnie Dolney and Jane Goehring presided over the business meeting. The Purpose Statement was read by the members. The secretary's report and the treasurer's reports were read and approved.

\*The Bohn auction was discussed. This will be May 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*A thank you to Bonnie Anderson for all the prayer shawls she has made since the last meeting.

\*Kathryn Bury will present the seniors their quilts on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are Briana Kvernevig, Brianna Duerre, and Lane Stern.

Prayer concerns are George Dolney, Bruce Anderson, Gail Sjurson Formanack, Danny Lone, Al Goehring, Jo Lutz, Erik House, and Shirley Huwe.

Our May meeting will NOT be at Sun Dial Manor. It will be at Bethesda. Members will still bring bars to the home that day. They do not need to be wrapped.

The meeting closed by praying the Lords Prayer and singing the table prayer.

Bonnie Dolney served fresh caramel rolls, treats, and coffee.

Secretary,

Alice Jean Peterson

## BUTLER WELCA

The Butler WELCA met at the church on April 4, 2021 at 6:30 pm with 5 members present.

Bible Study was "Discernment and Devotion" from 1 John 4: 1-12.

Secretary's report was read and approved. Correspondence was a thank you note from St DYSmas for our monetary gift.

Treasurers report:

March Offering: \$160.00

General Fund: \$2,122.95

Altar Fund: \$187.70

Mission Action Report: We are in need of nail clippers for our Personal Care Kits. Next project will be doing School Kits for the fall.

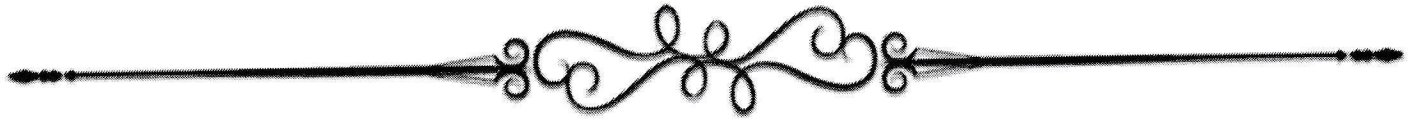
Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the church.

We closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Carol Flattum, Secretary

## **Bethesda Church Council News: Bats**

Over the past several years and probably a lot longer than any of us even know Bethesda has been having problems with bats in the church. In February Olson Pest Technicians from Yankton did an inspection. They discovered multiple access points in flashing/facia boards that are separating from the brick that allow the bats access into the church interior. After reviewing options the council voted April 7<sup>th</sup> to hire Olson Pest Technicians. They will seal the space between the facia board and brick using expandable black foam, leave the bats an exit and do multiple inspections to insure all the bats are out of the church building. They include a 2 year guarantee on the sealant work. Their services come at a cost of \$6,850 plus tax. If you would like to give a donation towards this project you may mail it to the church (PO Box 426 Bristol, SD) or place it in the offering plate on Sunday with BATS in the memo line of your check. If you have any questions contact a council member.



## **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**

  
Bible  
Readings *for the Month*

**May 2**

Acts 8:26-40  
Psalm 22:25-31  
1 John 4:7-21  
John 15:1-8

**May 16**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

**May 9**

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

**May 23**

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-34,35b  
Romans 8:22-27  
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

**May 30**

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17

  
*Congratulations*

Congratulations to Amy Hansmeier & William Warf III as they join their lives in marriage on May 1<sup>st</sup> in Boise, Idaho. God's blessings and prayers as they begin this journey together.

**Vacation Bible School**

Westside Wesleyan Church has selected either June 14-19 or July 26- 31 as tentative dates for Vacation Bible School. If there is a major conflict with these dates, please let Liz know, so we can pass the message onto Westside Wesleyan Church.

Thank you.



**Wednesday School Parents**

The Wednesday School students will be singing on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Bethesda. More information will be coming to the parents.



The Bethesda Butler Parish honored Pastor Chris at a Sunday morning brunch on March 28<sup>th</sup>. A gift was presented to him as a token of our appreciation for his service to our congregation the past six years. Blessings to him and his family on his next journey of service at New Hope Lutheran in Wisconsin.



*Thank  
you* 

Bethesda and Butler,

Thank you for the wonderful gifts you have given me: the cross and bible verses and the quilted cross hanging. It turns out the local high school colors are green and yellow and they are called the Vikings. I really loved and enjoyed my time with you. I continue to hold you in my prayers as you begin your search for a new pastor. You are a kind, gracious, and loving community, a blessing to all.

Thank you and God Bless you,

Pastor Chris



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

## May 2021 Newsletter Inserts

Siblings in Christ,

Grace and Peace in the name of the RISEN CHRIST! - As I am writing my May greetings to you I am looking outside the window, watching the rain fall. And, I give thanks for God's nourishing waters unto the parched land. Thanks be to God! Every year this time I pray for those who are called to steward the land and livestock that will bring nourishment to our tables. How long has it been that you gathered with those you love around a table for an in person meal? Many of us long to be together in person, especially in worship and fellowship. The CDC released new guidelines, which allow for small group gatherings, but caution us yet to gather in large groups especially without any safety measures or protection. I have released new recommendations concerning in person gatherings.

While you have heard me say it many times, I will say it again, I cannot tell you what to do; BUT I appeal to you to continue to use caution when gathering for worship and fellowship for the sake of protecting your neighbor. We are currently seeing an increase, not as steep as before, but nevertheless an increase in new infections, and this time around it affects young adults and children worse than before. Please, be good stewards of each other and wear masks, continue to physically distance, refrain from singing and gathering in large groups over coffee in your fellowship areas and continue to practice good hand-washing.

I fully recognize and acknowledge that living with COVID 19 remains a challenge as it robs us of what we hold dear, gathering in person, but if we are all disciplined, we will soon be able to gather in person. Until that day comes, be good stewards of each other by loving God and loving neighbor above self.

Journeying in Christ with you,  
 Rev. Constanze Hagmaier  
 Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

### Post-Pandemic Planning

*Rev. Jonathan Steiner*

So many things were put on pause because of COVID-19. Life milestones like weddings were postponed. Families have not gathered together for a year. And church life sometimes was adapted, and sometimes put on hold.

As we receive the blessings of vaccination, many of our churches are wondering, "what now?" I have heard again and again a desire to "go back to normal." Yet that isn't our call. Our call is to enter into the new life, to see the new thing that God is working in and through us.

Keep an eye out for resources from the synod for your congregation as you have these discussions. We will provide some conversation suggestions for working on community grief, discernment, and other places we need to pay attention to our ministry. We are planning a retreat for lay leaders and rostered leaders to ask tough questions and reflect on where they are, and where God hopes them to be. We are putting together relationships so that you don't do this work alone.

If this work of finding a new way of being the church is exciting for you, please be in touch with me, and keep your eyes and ears (and email inboxes!) open for the next steps to take. Know that the Holy Spirit is at work, and God is up to incredible things through your church.

### Seek the Welfare

*Rev. Renee Splichal Larson*

*"But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." (Jeremiah 29.7)*

These words from Scripture were lifted up by the Rev. Dr. Rolf Jacobson at the Spring Theological Event in April. The theme for the 3-day, on-line event was: Prophetic Words of Hope. God's people are always in need of hearing prophetic words of hope, which often come to us through poetry and song. Think of the Psalms and the Word of God spoken through the prophets!

People are wondering what ministry and worship look and feel like post-pandemic. For many, the last year has felt like the wilderness or even exile. I just saw a Facebook post of a friend who wrote: "Last night I hugged my first human in over thirteen months."

The words of Jeremiah come to the people of God who are in exile. They long for what was, and do not know what the future holds. It is in this state of grief and uncertainty that God asks the people to not fight their way home, or huddle together in fear, but rather to seek the welfare of the city. Keep in mind, this is the city of the ones who conquered Jerusalem. Not only are God's people to seek the welfare of the new city in which they didn't ask to be in, but they are to also "pray to the Lord on its behalf." What?!

The prophet then adds: "for in its welfare you will find your welfare."

This hopeful way of being made me wonder about all of our churches and cities throughout the SD Synod. What if

in all circumstances we find ourselves, we seek the welfare of where we live? This requires us to think about abundance rather than scarcity, to go out into our communities rather than who we can get into our pews, and to trust that God is bringing new life and healing to all circumstances.

Pr. Jacobson planted seeds for thought at the Spring Theological Event. He said:

"Invite people to write poetry on hopes and hurts in the community so people can join them in ministry and blessing."

"How would you bestow hope as a congregation to your community and the world through your generosity and a proclamation of hope?"

And here are some additional questions to ponder in all of our communities of faith as we live into this Easter season: What is the nature of where God has planted your congregation? How is God blessing your community? What are the hopes and hurts of the people in and around your community? How does your mission and ministry connect with these hopes and hurts? What possibilities are out there that haven't yet been tried?

*"But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." (Jeremiah 29.7)*

## Uncomplicated Generosity

We sometimes discuss unfamiliar terms and tools at Lutheran Planned Generosity that might seem intimidating—charitable remainder unitrusts, gift annuities, donor advised funds. However, each of them is a great strategy to accomplish tax savings, increase income, and/or make generous gifts that might very well be something for you to consider.

There are ways to honor your faith and make a planned gift that are less complicated, too. Whether it's a retirement/investment account, you have the ability to name beneficiaries to receive those funds at your death. Simply request a beneficiary change form from your investment or life insurance company. Complete it with the percentages of the funds that you'd like to go to family and specific ministries, sign and return.<sup>1</sup>

Perhaps you'd like to divide your gift amongst several different ministries, but your insurance company doesn't allow multiple beneficiaries. Lutheran Planned Generosity can work with you to create a distribution agreement that permits up to ten (10) charitable organizations to benefit from your generosity or establish an endowment in honor of your family, all while meeting the company requirements.

If you'd like to know more about beneficiary designations, contact Kathy McHenry at (605) 274-5030 or [kmchenry@sdsynod.org](mailto:kmchenry@sdsynod.org). You can also find information on our website, [www.lpgsd.org](http://www.lpgsd.org), or our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LPGSD>.

<sup>1</sup> *It is important to coordinate your beneficiary designations with estate planning documents to accomplish your wishes. Always consult your legal and tax professionals for advice specific to your financial situation.*

## Registration now open for Domestic Hunger Grants:

Registration for 2022 ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grants is now open through May 5th! Visit [ELCA.org/domestichungergrants](http://ELCA.org/domestichungergrants) to learn more about the grants and how to apply.

Organizations applying for an ELCA grant for the first time must register by setting up an account in ELCA GrantMaker in order to access the Domestic Hunger Grant application once it opens on April 19, 2021. Has your organization already registered in ELCA GrantMaker? Now is a great time to log back in and confirm that the contact information in your account is up to date.

### Application Timeline

**Registration open: March 17–May 5, 2021**

NOTE: Applicants must be registered in ELCA GrantMaker to access the application. Allow up to two weeks for registration approval. If you have not registered by May 5, you will not be able to start a new application. If you have already registered in ELCA GrantMaker, you do not need to register again.

**Application open: April 19–May 21, 2021**

**Application review: June 2021–October 2021**

Awards recommendations shared with applicants and synods: November 2021

**Final awards approved and announced: February 2022**

*Thank you for all you do to work creatively and courageously toward a just world where all are fed — neighbor to neighbor, community to community. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact us at [Hunger@ELCA.org](mailto:Hunger@ELCA.org). With gratitude for the ministry and mission we share,*

## MAY BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Usher	Reader	Organist	Worship Helper
5/2		Kay	Gail	
5/9	At Butler	-----	-----	-----
5/16		Carol	Kathryn	
5/23	At Butler	-----	-----	-----
5/30			Gail	
Altar Guild: Kay Espeland and Lisa Anderson				
Deacon: John Horter				

## Bethesda Financial Report

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

DATE	RECEIPTS	
03/28/2021	\$ 533.91	short \$ 684.89
04/04/2021	\$4,139.00	long \$2,920.20
04/11/2021	\$ 180.00	short \$1,038.80
04/18/2021	\$2,100.00	long \$ 882.08

### As of April 20, 2021

Total 2021 yearly receipts: \$24,851.04

Total 2021 yearly disbursements: \$19,981.65

## 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

## MAY BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Readers	Worship Helper
5/2	At Bethesda	-----	-----
5/9			
5/16	At Bethesda	-----	-----
5/23			
5/30			



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 28 Pam Dylla
May 17 Venona Ash	

**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!**

May newsletter postage is sponsored by  
Steve and Gayle Horter.

Newsletter postage sponsors needed July – December. The cost is \$50.00. If interested contact Jill Hansmeier or the church office.



# May 2021

SUNDAY

MONDAY

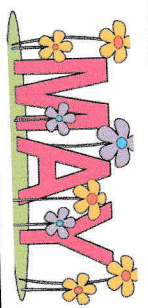
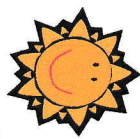
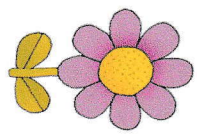


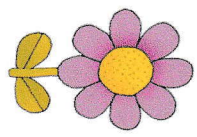


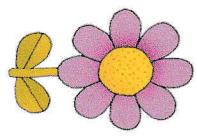


TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

25	26	27	28	29	30	1
 2 5th Sunday of Easter (white) *9am Communion Worship at Bethesda with Rev. Michael Jacobson and online *Senior Recognition Sunday	3 *6:30pm Butler WELCA meeting	4	5  *5:20pm Meal and Wednesday School	6	7 	8 Burdell & Muriel Bohn's Auction Sale
9 6th Sunday of Easter (white) *9am Worship at Butler and online 	10	11 	12 *1:30pm Bethesda WELCA meeting *5:20pm Meal and Wednesday School *6pm Bethesda Council Meeting	13	14 	15 
16 7th Sunday of Easter (white) *9am Worship at Bethesda with Rev. Michael Jacobson and online	17	18 	19	20	21 	22
23 Pentecost (red) *9am Communion Worship at Butler with Diane Hoines and online	24 	25	26	27 	28	29
*June Newsletter Items Due 30 Holy Trinity (white) *9am Worship at Bethesda and online	31	NOTES				