

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish
PO Box 426
Bristol, SD 57219



2021



Bethesda-Butler Church Office 605-492-3123
Parish Email bethesdabutler@nvc.net Parish Website www.bethesdabutler.com
PO Box 426 Bristol, SD 57219



November 7

Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 24
Revelations 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44

November 14

Daniel 12:1-3
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-14[15-18]19-25
Mark 13:1-8

November 21

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14
Psalm 93
Revelations 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

November 28

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

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



Our prayers are with the family of Shirley Huwe who passed away October 17, 2021



Bethesda WELCA will be collecting non-perishable food and paper products for the local food pantry in November. There will be a box in the narthex for donations.

Help wanted

Bethesda Butler Parish Secretary

Approximately 10 hours/week which can be done part at home and part at the churches.

Complete list of duties is available at Bethesda.

Contact Robin Anderson or Travis Antonsen or send your resume to Bethesda Lutheran Church PO Box 426 Bristol, SD 57219.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have been filling in.

Bergen Church Klub Dinner

Sunday November 14

11:30 Dinner

1:30 Pie Auction

Silent Auction throughout the day

Take Out Orders Available

Call Karen @ 237-0310



Wednesday School News

November 28th – the children will sing during the Bethesda church service

December 12th – Christmas program during the Bethesda church service

November meal serving schedule

November 3 – Paxton and Jess Steen

November 10 – Corey & Teresa Lone

November 17 – John & Jaclyn Horter

November 24 – no class

December 1 – Cullen & Taylor Salter



Prairie Coteau Youth Mini-Gathering

November 12, 2021

Grace Lutheran Church

Watertown, South Dakota

Youth grades 7-12

5pm - midnight



If Church is cancelled due to bad weather it will be listed on the website www.bethesdabutler.com

Facebook and the calling trees will be initiated. If in question, contact your council president.

Bethesda members - if you would like to be added to last year's calling list please email the office or let Jill know by November 15th.



Scandinavian Smorgasbord

All are welcome for a delicious meal of Scandinavian favorites in support of the ministry of Camp NeSoDak!

November 12 & 13 at 6:00pm

November 14 at 12:30pm

Please call 605-947-4440 or email

nesodak@losd.org for more details.

BRISTOL BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, November 1, 2021

Bristol Community Center

2:15-6:00 pm

Contact Mary Anne Bartell to make an appointment

November 7th – All Saints Sunday

During worship at Butler we will be honoring the Saints that have joined the Kingdom of Heaven this past year by lighting a candle for each one. We will also be honoring our new brothers and sisters.

The **Parish Contact Card** that you received in your October Newsletter should be returned to the church as soon as possible. These will be a good resource to have in the church office since most people don't have landline phones anymore.

Thank you!!!



Bethesda WELCA

Bethesda WELCA met on October 13th at 1:30. Nine members were present. Alice Jean Peterson presented the program "Walking Shoes". Psalm 119:105 was chosen for devotions. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." We need spiritual illumination for our walk through life and God has provided that. The Bible is our official map for our daily travels to show us the right way. Jane Goehring, Carol Raap, and Alice Jean presented a skit called "Walking Shoes." The hymn, Listen, God is Calling, was sung by the members.

Bonnie Dolney and Jane Goehring presided over the meeting. The Purpose Statement was read, the secretary's report was read and corrected, and the treasurer's report was approved.

Kathryn Bury reported that 123 quilts, 108 personal care kits, and 57 school kits were sent to Lutheran World Relief. 66 plastic mats for the homeless were sent – 46 to Orphan Grain Train in Milbank and 20 to Sioux Falls. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to order 4 boxes of bags for school kits.

Thank you to Carol and Jerry Raap for the new coffee maker for the kitchen.

Prayer concerns are Shirley Huwe, Al Goehring, Bruce Anderson, Marian Grode, a secretary and pastor for Bethesda Butler congregations.

The meeting was closed by praying the Lord's Prayer and singing the table prayer. Theresa Hansmeier provided a delicious lunch. Our November meeting will be on November 10 at 1:30. Jill Hansmeier will give the program "America the Beautiful" and Rachel Bahr will be the hostess.

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Butler WELCA Thank Offering service will be Sunday, November 21st. Thank Offering envelopes will not be distributed to members, instead please use the envelopes in the basket in the narthex, or mail your offering before November 30th to:

Delores Whitmyre
14523 431st Avenue
Webster, SD 57274

Bethesda WELCA Thank offerings can be given to Kay Espeland.

The tradition of giving our Thank offerings dates back to at least the 1800's, when Christian women formed "mite" or "cent" societies to support the mission of the church. When others said there was not enough money to carry out the church's work, the women believed otherwise and acted together. In these societies, each woman collected offerings at home. On occasion, they would gather as we do today to worship and make their offerings with thanks and praise. When the Women of the ELCA was formed over 30 years ago, they committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thank offerings are given to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart. In gratitude for all God has given to us and with hope for all that is to come let us give our Thanks Offerings.

BETHESDA WELCA CHRISTMAS SWEET SALE

Bethesda Lutheran Church basement
Saturday, December 4th
10 am – 3 pm



Bethesda members are asked to bring at least 2 dozen sweets to be sold.

All treats must be pre-packaged in zip lock bags. The guidelines for packaging are:

Cookies/Bars	6 per bag	or	12 per bag
Candy	3 pieces per bag	or	6 per bag
Donuts	12 per bag		
Lefse	5 rounds		
Sweet breads	individually		

Please leave your sweets in Bethesda's kitchen on Friday, December 3 between 8 am and 4 pm.
Pricing will be done by the WELCA officers.

This fund raiser is an important source of income used for missions not only locally but internationally; it also contributes to the expenses of the church. This is an opportunity for you to support not only our purpose but to purchase Christmas goodies for you or others.

For anyone who does not or cannot bake, monetary donations are very much appreciated. Stay tuned for further announcements and the worker schedule.



Westside Wesleyan Church
Tuesday, November 23rd
Soup and Pie Supper 5:30-6:30pm.
The Thanksgiving Eve of Eve Service will follow the supper at 7:00.

Children's Activity Bags are now available in the narthex at Bethesda.

- Take a bag to use during the church service.
- Take the color sheet/Bible Story home with you.
- Leave everything else inside the bag.
- Hang the bag on the children's coat rack before leaving the church.
- Do **NOT** take the bag home with you



Youth Gathering Registration and Webinars

Early-bird registration is now open for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering. Early-bird registration closes on Nov. 21; during regular registration, prices go up \$40 per participant.

A series of informational webinars about the Gathering are available to help you prepare to attend. If you have any questions on the Youth Gathering, be sure to contact Tami, our Synod's Youth Gathering Coordinator at gathering@sdsynod.org.



Save the date! Summer 2022 registration opens on November 15th, 2021. We are so excited to continue planning another wonderful summer at the camps of Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota.

This summer our Bible Study theme is *Boundless*. Our boundless God is our anchor in life and our springboard too. God made us and will never let us go. Yet God also propels us out into God's beautiful world to care for and prosper creation, gifting us with abilities and creativity to do "far more than we dare ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:21 CEV)

We cannot wait to welcome you to camp this summer to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation.

With excitement, Lutherans Outdoors Year-round Staff



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

November 2021 Newsletter Inserts

From the Bishop's Desk

Dear South Dakota Synod,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Many among us use the month of November to practice gratefulness as we prepare for Thanksgiving at the end of the month. A few years ago, long before COVID was a thing, I invited people to join me for a Facebook Live Bible study during the season of Lent. Together we journeyed through Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians, using James Harnish's book *Easter Earthquake* as our guide. While many parts of the study have since then left my memory, what still resonates with me is that Paul wrote his letter from prison, but instead of making it about how he has become a victim of someone else's exercise of unjust power, he writes: "Now, I want you to know, ..., that what has happened to me had really served to advance the Gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly." (Phil 1:12-14)

When I visit congregations I hear lament over how communities of faith are no longer what they were in 2020. That is true, but let me ask you, would we be the same even if COVID had not changed how we are a community that we were in 2019? My answer is no. You know how the saying goes, the only constant is change. Life is in constant motion, and our lives change from one moment to the next, which in turn also changes how we are living in community. Usually, change happens more gradually, but COVID has propelled us forward in warp speed. It's a challenge to catch up with the pace. And it can easily feel as if we are prisoners of something that holds power over us. I take comfort from the Apostle Paul's words, who was imprisoned for his faith, but instead of taking on the victim role, he understands and uses it as an opportunity to proclaim the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. How would our communities change, if we look at our current situations as an opportunity to proclaim God's good news?

Journeying in Christ with you,

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier

Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

Some Updates from Our Companion Synods

Rev. Dr. Aaron Matson

After spending the last couple of months discussing how we can continue to feel connected with our brothers and sisters in our companion synods of Cameroon and Nicaragua, I wanted to pass on a couple of updates from those countries.

First, Cameroon recently elected a new Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Jean Baiguele. Bishop Hagmaier has sent him a letter of greetings, and she and I both look forward to getting to know him and continuing to strengthen our relationship as companion synods. COVID is a problem, and the church is doing what it can to support people and share God's love.

As for Nicaragua, things are unfortunately quite bad at this time. I recently received an update from Pastor Soliette, our missionary there, and she described how the situation in the country is deteriorating due to COVID and the political situation. Three people close to the Lutheran office in Nicaragua have died from COVID, as well as many members of the church.

Unfortunately, Nicaragua's President, Daniel Ortega, refuses to take any mitigation measures. Some vaccines have been getting to the country from the COVAX program, but the vaccination rate continues to be quite low (barely 3%). Hospitals are collapsing, and critical resources such as oxygen are scarce.

The Lutheran Church does the best it can to help, by distributing food (thanks to our help through the Seeds of Hope program), and health materials like masks they have been able to purchase through funds from Action by Churches Together.

The social-political situation is tense as the election draws near. President Ortega has imprisoned many political opponents, and the government is conducting audits of non-profits, such as the Lutheran Church, to make sure that their funds are not being used to oppose the government. Their audit took place about six weeks ago, and they are still awaiting results.

Please continue to keep our brothers and sisters in Christ in our companion synods in your prayers, and please pray for peace and health in both countries.

What keeps you up at night?

Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

“For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.” - Galatians 5.14-15

In October of 2019, the synod staff visited every conference, asking folks 3 questions:

1. What gives you joy?
2. What keeps you up at night?
3. What do you hope for from your synod staff?

One of the most common answers given to the question, “What keeps you up at night?” was, ‘Polarization’. Keep in mind, this answer was given pre-pandemic.

In November, the first call ministers serving in the SD Synod will gather for retreat and first call education. The book we are all reading together right now and will discuss in November is: *Polarization and the Healthier Church* by Ronald W. Richardson. Here is a brief insight from Richardson about polarization and the danger of it:

It is normal for human communities to hold a range of opinions along a continuum on nearly any topic. Normally, people in groups do not all think the same. Life would be dull if that were the case. In polarization, as an electrified atmosphere of opposing forces, people begin to regard those who do not think like they do as the enemy. As the intensity of feelings increases, they seek to defeat and even humiliate or destroy one another. Respect for others is lost. The ethic of love gives way to the ethic of hate. I have heard good Christians speak of how much they hate the people on the other side of an issue (p. 2).

More than ever, this world needs Christ followers who commit to the hard and fruitful work of loving the neighbor as oneself. Perhaps we can begin within our own congregations. Part of what I appreciate about the ELCA is that we commit to being the body of Christ together, even though individuals may not feel the same on certain issues.

We hold tight to our baptismal promises and our oneness in Christ, giving thanks to God for the diversity of human beings and creation. And we give thanks to God for our Lord Jesus, “for he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us ... In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in

the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God (Eph. 2.14, 21).”

How much is enough?

It’s November – the month of giving thanks and counting blessings. Thinking about all our stuff. What we have; why we have it; how we got it; and thanking God for it. The first one and the last one are the easy parts. We know our bank account balance and the value of our assets. We might be forgetful or hurried and don’t say it often enough, but we’ve been saying “Thank You, God” from the time our parents dropped us at the door of the pre-K Sunday School room.

The thinking becomes more difficult with the middle two considerations. Why DO I have this stuff? Why does my family enjoy a lifestyle of comfort and ease while others struggle and sleep on an empty stomach without a bed or pillow, or even a roof? And how have we accumulated these things? Was it simply because of “hard work and dedication” and “pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps?” Or were we provided unseen opportunities and advantages that offered a head start that aren’t available to everyone?

Is it possible that during this Thanksgiving season, God wants us to recognize the answers to these questions and to an even more difficult one: How much is ENOUGH? What meets my needs? Do I always need more/newer/bigger? What have I been entrusted by God to do with the abundant excess?

As you gather together during the coming holiday season and express gratitude, stretch the conversation farther. Talk about your own “ENOUGH.” Imagine God’s plans for the extra and where you can join God to make a difference. That’s stewardship. And that’s a reason to celebrate!

If you’d like to know more about how to create your own generosity plan, visit www.lpgsd.org or contact Kathy McHenry, Executive Director of Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD at (605) 274-5030 or kmchenry@sdsynod.org.

Stay Connected to the South Dakota Synod!

Sign-up for the weekly newsletter from the South Dakota Synod at sdsynod.org.

Connect with us on Facebook at facebook.com/sdsynod, follow us on Instagram and Twitter @SDSynod.

NOVEMBER 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Blood Drive 1 2:15-6:00pm Bristol Community Center 1pm quilting at Bethesda	2	3 5:15 -6:30 Wednesday meal and School	4	5	6 9am Butler WELCA Set clocks back
<i>All Saints Sunday (white)</i> 7 9 am Worship at Butler Diane Hoines Veteran/Military Dinner 12pm Aberdeen 1 st Methodist Church Daylight Saving Time Ends	8 1pm quilting at Bethesda	9	10 1:30 Bethesda WELCA 5:15 -6:30 Wednesday meal and School 6:00 Bethesda Council	11 	Scandinavian 12 Smorgasbord Ne-So-Dak 6PM Youth Gathering Grace Lutheran Watertown 5 pm - midnight	13 Scandinavian Smorgasbord Ne-So-Dak 6PM
<i>25th Sunday after Pentecost (green)</i> 14 9 am Communion Worship at Bethesda with Diane Hoines Wednesday School Bank Bergen Klub Dinner 11:30 Scandinavian Smorgasbord 12:30 Ne-So-Dak	15 1pm quilting at Bethesda	16	17 5:15 -6:30 Wednesday meal and School	18	19 December newsletter items due	20
<i>26th Sunday after Pentecost (green)</i> 21 9 am Communion Worship at Butler with Rev. Jacobson Butler WELCA Thank Offering Service	22 1pm quilting at Bethesda	23 Westside Wesleyan Church 5:30-6:30 Soup/pie Supper 7:00 Bristol Thanksgiving Eve of Eve Service	24 No Wednesday Meal & School	25 	26	27
<i>1st Sunday of Advent (blue)</i> 28 9 am Worship at Bethesda with Diane Hoines Noisy Can offering Wednesday School Sings	29 1pm quilting at Bethesda	30				December 4 th Christmas Sweet Sale at Bethesda (watch for more details)

NOVEMBER BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Usher	Reader	Organist
11/7	At Butler		
11/14		Bonnie D	Gail
11/21	At Butler		
11/28		Carol R	Kathryn
Altar Guild: Marcia Orr & Jane Goehring			
Deacon: John Horter			

NOVEMBER BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Readers
11/1	At Bethesda	
11/8		Kathy B.
11/15	At Bethesda	
11/22		Julaine B
11/29	At Bethesda	

Bethesda Financial Report

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

<u>DATE</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	
9/26/2021	\$332.46	short \$886.34
10/3/2021	\$2,471.00	long \$1,252.20
10/10/2021	\$1,030.00	short \$188.80
10/17/2021	\$1,952.50	long \$733.70
10/24/2021	\$226.49	short \$992.31

As of October 24, 2021

Total 2021 yearly receipts:	\$51,903.44
Total 2021 yearly disbursements:	\$43,245.54

**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**



November 2 Kris Hubsch
November 3 Robert Buehler
November 6 Brittany Horter
November 7 Lorraine Anderson
November 7 Liam Dauwen
November 8 Liana Horter
November 8 Vicki Duerre
November 8 Jon Raap
November 8 Jennifer Johnson
November 13 Rhiley Zimmerman
November 13 Mary Jo Raap
November 14 Jack Shoemaker
November 14 Karlie McKane
November 16 Oliver Schnaible
November 18 Taylen Salter
November 22 Erin Snaza
November 23 Harper Steen
November 23 Jennifer Wickre
November 24 Arabella Clark
November 28 Tammie Herr

November newsletter postage is sponsored Kathryn Bury

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