

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish  
PO Box 426  
Bristol, SD 57219



**2023**

LET OUR LIVES BE FULL OF BOTH  
**THANKS & GIVING**



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PO Box 426, Bristol, SD 57219



### **November 5**

Revelation 7:9-17  
Psalm 34:1-10  
I John 3:1-13  
Matthew 5:1-12

### **November 12**

Amos 5:18-24  
Psalm 70  
1 Thessalonians  
4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

### **November 19**

Zephaniah 1:7,  
12-18  
Psalm 90:1-12  
I Thessalonians  
5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

### **November 26**

Ezekiel 34:11-16,  
20-24  
Psalm 95:1-7a  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

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### **THRIVENT MEMBERS**

If you have completed a Thrivent Action Team Project in 2023 and would be willing to share what organization benefited, please give that information to Jill Hansmeier. She is compiling a list to share with the congregations at the end of the year showing the impact those \$250 Thrivent cards have made. Thank you!

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Please let Kristi know if you are willing to make a crockpot of soup and/or a pie for the Community Thanksgiving Service on November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Westside Wesleyan Church at 7:00 PM.

**Bethesda WELCA is collecting  
4 oz. bars of soap.**

## **Confirmation Class**

There are ten confirmation students this year grades 6-8. We are continuing the I Send You curriculum, written by Greg Johnson of Beaver Valley Lutheran Church in Valley, Springs, SD. Our first five lessons center on Holy Communion, and then we will move onto the topic of Worship. Confirmation students are expected to be readers in church, usher and take sermon notes as well as attend and participate in class activities. Students packed snack kits for Church on the Street recently. We have the opportunity to attend Faith Fest in Sioux Falls in February, so please watch for details; it looks like a great day full of a variety of activities!

Thank you for your gifts of food that enabled the Confirmation Class to pack over 100 snack kits for Church on the Street!

**The Wednesday School Christmas Program will be held December 17<sup>th</sup> during worship at Bethesda.**

### **QUILTING MONDAYS**

Please join the quilting ladies on Mondays from 1:00-3:00 if you are interested in assembling quilts.

If Church is cancelled due to bad weather, it will be listed on the website, [www.bethesdabutler.com](http://www.bethesdabutler.com), Facebook, and the calling trees will be initiated. If in question, contact your council president. Let Kristi know if you need to be added to the calling tree.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our recent visit to worship with the St. Dysmas congregation at the State Penitentiary evoked a cornucopia of blessings.

**\*Music** – St. Dysmas has a four-piece band that plays along with the hymns and an 8-to-10-member choir that provided special music. Joran Olson, Bonnie Anderson's sister-in-law, , has been the choir director for 14 years. Joran has a special relationship with the inmates, and it is obvious the trust they have in her. Church and choir are the only times an inmate is called by his first name.

**\*Worship** – One thing I miss at times is sitting in the pew for church. I had that opportunity at the prison service. It was an emotional experience for me to help Pastor Jeff Backer dispense Communion and to look into each pair of eyes, knowing no matter their crime, this is Christ's body and blood given for you and you and you and me.

**\*Freedom** – The slamming of the doors behind us is something that has stayed with me. The first door finds you in a holding area where you submit your driver's license in exchange for a visitor badge and a panic button device. The device is for you to pull if you ever feel uncomfortable or threatened for any reason. Pastor Jeff emphasized that things happen if you pull it, but no one has ever needed to pull it yet during a visit. However, one or two have pulled it by accident! The slamming of the second door means you are in the prison area. We were encouraged to look down the hallways before we headed up to the chapel. It was uncharacteristically quiet as "count" had just been performed. This is done five times a day. Pastor Jeff said prison is a noisy place – 24 hours a day.

**\*Choices** – Fifty-two inmates joined us for worship. They had three choices for how to spend this time: church, a shower, or recreation time outside. It was a beautiful fall day, and I couldn't help but think with winter coming, how difficult it must be to give up fresh air and sunshine.

**\*Family and friends** – A large percentage of the inmates have no outside world contact with anyone. This means no visits, no mail, no money for the smallest of luxuries like toothpaste or extra socks. You can see why visitors attending worship is such a treat for them. They knew the area we were from, and some shared ties they have to our area of the state. A few wanted to tell their story, but for the most part, they simply thanked us profusely for making the trip.

**\*Church** – Many of the inmates have not had any experience with church. They have never heard the hymns that fall so easily from our lips because we've sang them since we were children.

From arrival to leaving, we spent close to three hours at the prison. You need to arrive by 1:15 for the 2:00 service. If it is a good day, the service starts on time. The week before church had been delayed one hour due to a fight during chow time. Paperwork must be submitted for a background check and approved three weeks before a scheduled visit. Susan, the office manager for 9 years, makes it all as smooth as possible. Our next visit will be in May or June. We would greatly encourage you to join us!      Peace~ Kristi



# NOVEMBER 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10-4 Office Hours 5:10-6:30 Wednesday School & Confirmation	2  Kristi to Synod Council in SF	3  	4 <b>Butler WELCA</b> 9:00 AM Set clocks back one hour
All Saints Sunday (green) 5 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  9 am Communion Worship at Bethesda	6	7 	8 10-4 Office Hours 1:30 pm -Bethesda WELCA 5:10-6:30 Wed. School & Confirmation 6:30 Bethesda Council	9	10	11 Veterans' Day 
24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 12 9 am Communion Worship at Butler World Kindness Day	13	14	15 10-4 Office Hours 5:10-6:30 Wednesday School & Confirmation 6:30- Luther League	16 Community BINGO at Capitol 7:00 PM	17	18 
25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 19 9 am Worship at Bethesda	20	21 Thanksgiving Service 7:00 PM Westside Wesleyan	22 10-4 Office Hours No Wednesday School or Confirmation	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	24 	25
Christ the King Sunday 26 9 am Worship at Butler	27 	28 GIVING TUESDAY	29 10-4 Office Hours 5:10-6:30 Wednesday School & Confirmation	30	So much to be grateful for!	

"Kumbayah My Lord" was the theme chosen for the Prairie Coteau Fall Gathering at Ne-So-Dak on Thursday, October 12. The morning began with an enthusiastic singing of "Hallelujah, Praise Ye the Lord."

The following devotion gave a deeper meaning to the song," Kumbayah."

**All sing:** *Someone's crying Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's crying Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's crying Lord, Kumbayah. Oh, Lord, Kumbayah.*

**Leader:** Someone's crying Lord, somewhere. Some is really millions. Somewhere is many places. They are crying tears of suffering, and of empty stomachs. Tears of weakness and disappointment, tears of strength and resistance, tears of the rich and the poor.

**Ladies:** Someone's crying Lord. Redeem the times and bring us to a new beginning.

**All sing:** *Someone's dying Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's dying Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's dying Lord, Kumbayah. Oh, Lord, Kumbayah.*

**Leader:** Some are dying of hunger or thirst. Some are dying because others are enjoying too many unnecessary, extra things. Some are dying because people go on exploiting one another. Some are dying because structures and systems crush the poor and alienate the rich. Some are dying because we are still not willing to make a choice, to witness, to act.

**Ladies:** Someone's dying Lord. Redeem the times and bring us to a new beginning.

**All sing:** *Someone's shouting Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's shouting Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's shouting Lord, Kumbayah. Oh, Lord, Kumbayah.*

**Leader:** Someone's shouting loud and clear. Some have made a choice. Some are taking a stand, offering their very existence in love, to fight death surrounding us, to wrestle with the evils which we use to crucify each other.

**Ladies:** Someone's shouting Lord. Redeem the times and bring us to a new beginning.

**All sing:** *Someone's praying Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's praying Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's praying Lord, Kumbayah. Oh, Lord, Kumbayah.*



**Submitted by Carol Raap**

**Leader:** Someone's praying Lord. We are praying in tears and anguish, in frustration and weakness, in confusion and longing. We are praying in strength and endurance. We are shouting and wrestling, as Jacob wrestled with the angel. He was touched, was marked, became a blessing.

**Ladies:** We are praying Lord, spur our imagination, sharpen our will to serve. Through Jesus Christ, you have let us know where you want us to be. Help us to be there now, be with us, touch us, mark us. Let us be a blessing let your power to present in our weakness. Someone's praying Lord, Redeem the times and bring us to a new beginning.

**All sing:** *Someone's singing Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's singing Lord, Kumbayah. Someone's singing Lord, Kumbayah. Oh, Lord, Kumbayah.*

Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" was the verse used as the basis for the guest speaker, Pastor Erika Lehman. She shared experiences from her 2012 Cameroon trip. Vicar Pat Schubert explained in the Bible study that all of us carry burdens whether it is broken or stressed relationships with family or friends, health issues, financial insecurities, or work-related stress, to name a few. Each of us was given a paper to write three burdens that we are currently carrying. None of these need to be a burden we carry alone, but rather should be given to Jesus to carry for us. We were then instructed to come forward to place our piece of paper on a nail attached to a cross. Vicar Pat then burned those burdens attached to the cross; the remaining ashes resembled a black rose. She reiterated that Jesus bore the cross for us and he will bear these burdens for us. A lot of weight was lifted up in that moment.

A humorous skit, "Camp Woe-Be-Gone" took us all back to our Bible Camp experiences. Many of the excuses used for not attending were: pride, anger, rebellion, anxiety and impatience.

The afternoon closed with singing, "Bind Us Together" and "Pass It On."

## NOVEMBER BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Organist</b>
11/5	Horter Family	Dane	Gail
11/12	Butler		
11/19	<b>Williamson Family</b>	<b>Colt</b>	<b>Kathryn</b>
11/26	Butler		
<b>Altar Guild: Marcia Orr &amp; Jane Goehring</b>			
<b>Deacon: Jon Anderson</b>			

### **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**

## WELCA PROJECTS FOR THIS YEAR

\*Lutheran World Relief – 93 quilts, 109 personal care kits, and 76 school kits

**Thankoffering will be gathered at the Bethesda November WELCA meeting.**

**November 2023 newsletter postage is sponsored by Glenda Bakken.**

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If you would like to sponsor newsletter postage in 2024, contact Jill Hansmeier. The cost is \$66.00.

## NOVEMBER BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Readers</b>
11/5	Bethesda	
11/12	<b>Michael &amp; Tammie</b>	<b>Kolton</b>
11/19	Bethesda	
11/26	<b>Michael and Tammie</b>	<b>Michael</b>

### **Ways to Give to Butler Lutheran Church**

at the church service  
 mail to the church treasurer

## November Birthdays

Nov. 2 – Kris Hubsch, Bonnie Schimmel  
 Nov. 6 – Brittany Horter  
 Nov. 7 – Lorraine Anderson,  
 Nov. 8 – Vicki Duerre, Jon Raap, Jennifer Johnson  
 Nov. 13 – Mary Jo Raap, Rhiley Zimmerman  
 Nov. 14 – Jack Shoemaker, Karlie McKane  
 Nov. 16 – Oliver Schnaible  
 Nov. 18 – Taylen Salter  
 Nov. 22 – Erin Snaza  
 Nov. 23 – Jennifer Wickre, Harper Steen  
 Nov. 28 – Tammie Herr



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

## BETHESDA CHRISTMAS SWEET SALE

### Bethesda Basement

Saturday, December 2, 2023

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Bethesda women members are asked to bring 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	6 per bag		
Donuts	12 per bag		
Lefse	5 rounds		
Sweet breads	individually		
Kringla	6 per bag	or	12 per bag

You may leave your sweets at Bethesda's basement on Friday, December 1 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Pricing will be done by the officers of WELCA.

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



For anyone who is unable to bake, monetary donations are very much appreciated.

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## WELCA Conference Reports

**Runner's Club** – This is where our noisy can offering is sent. This supports missionaries, Willie & Ann Langdji. The 2022 amount pledged was \$5,000 for our region; \$6,000 has been contracted for 2023.

**Missions** – 2,157 quilts – 671 personal care kits - \$9,081 for shipping (\$900 to truck driver)

**NeSoDak** – They hosted almost 500 campers and are continuing to grow numbers since COVID. Four communities hosted day camps this year. NeSoDak's goals are to build leaders, welcome all, explore faith, care for all creation, and connect at the water.

**Bread for the World** – 1 out of 9 adult South Dakotans and 1 out of 6 children are food insecure.



Food  
Collection

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

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**2026 Women of the ELCA  
Triennial Gathering will be  
held in Des Moines, Iowa.**



## **BIBLE CAMP**

It is never too early to start thinking about church camp for next summer! Early Bird Registration opens November 13th. The cost should not be a factor! For students Grade 5 and up, the church will pay half of your registration, and the Luther League will pay half. There are also scholarships available that Kristi will gladly help you complete. That means zero cost to families for this uplifting, enriching experience! NeSoDak just released the 2024 schedule at [losd.org](http://losd.org).

**And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you. ~Psalm 9:10 (ESV)**

## **NOVEMBER WEDNESDAY MEAL SERVERS**

**Nov. 1 – Kyle and Becky Hubsch**

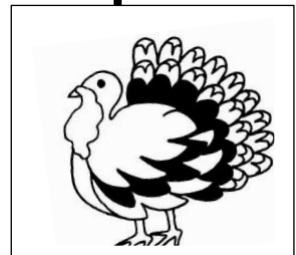
**Nov. 8 – Jake and Karli Zimmerman**

**Nov. 15 – Rob and Amy Ash**

**Nov. 22 – No class**

**Nov. 29 – Aaron and Sara Johnson**

Please plan for at least 40. Thank you!



## **LUTHER LEAGUE**

**All students grade 6-12 are invited to attend our youth group on Wednesday, November 15th 6:30 PM at Bethesda.**

**We will be talking about prayer, and Lorinda Towe will demonstrate how to make sleeping mats out of shopping bags. And then we will try our hand at it!**

## **KIDS' OFFERING**

Students decided offering for July – December would go to Kids' Time at the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center.

Offering for January – June 2024 will go to Ronald McDonald House.

Every gift, no matter the size, adds up to help those in need! You can also bring offering to Wed. School.