

Bethesda Life-Line

Worship Services*

Sunday 9:00AM

Service of Holy Communion is celebrated on the First and Third Sundays of each month.

Coffee fellowship is held in the fellowship room following the Sunday Worship service. All are invited to share in conversation and warm fellowship.



March 5 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

March 12 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

March 19 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

March 26 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

Bethesda Mission Statement:

We will **LIVE** and **SERVE** through **FAITH**
we will **ACT** with **LOVE** and **KINDNESS**
we will **GIVE** hope and **SUPPORT** to all

Upcoming Events

March 1: 5:30pm Pot Luck – 6:30pm Service

Save the date for Vacation Bible School
June 19 - 23, 2017



Snow Birds have fun in the sun!



Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the Lenten Season, begins on March 1. We will invite everyone to our Pot Luck at 5:30pm and worship will be held at 6:30pm. This is an opportune time to practice those Christian disciplines like prayer, Bible Study, meditation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Please join us!

Parsonage Fund Drive

March greetings to all my Bethesda family. I am the Chair and information liaison for the new parsonage Fund Drive. By now you all should have received an introductory letter explaining our project, followed by a form for making a Special/Advance Gift and customized 3-year pledge. Please consider your participation prayerfully and respond as you are led by the Spirit. Soon you will be able to track our progress on a thermometer index display in the parish hall. Here's hoping we heat it up enough to "raise the roof" and maybe even melt some snow! I thank each of you for your support and wish you peace, joy and warm spring winds! Val Benton

COFFEE DAY

Two times a year—when Daylight Savings Time begins and ends—we will receive containers of coffee. Right now we are in need of decaf coffee. On March 12, bring a container of coffee, or make an offering. Then come for coffee fellowship. Offer to host. Invite a friend! Thanks for your participation!



Watch for Easter Lily
Signup sheet!



From the Interim Pastor

Our Lenten Journey – 2017

The Groom and His Brides!

It's a bit strange to think of Jesus, the Groom, and the Roman Catholic Church as His Bride. John the Baptist signals this relationship in the Gospel

of John(3:29) when he said, “The bridegroom (Jesus) is the one to whom the bride (the church) belongs”

The Roman Catholic Church has affirmed this feminine nature of its relationship to Jesus as a logical expression of the intimacy between Christ, the head of the Body and the church as a bride “betrothed” to Christ the Lord. The early disciples and Jesus, himself, never considered the possibility of more than one bride, one church. But, low and behold, God’s unexpected servant, the miner’s son, a would be lawyer turned Monk, Father and Professor Martin Luther on October 31, 1517 posted 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church that upset the apple cart! His separation from the Roman Catholic Church resulted in many brides (churches) married to the one Lord, Jesus Christ, the bridegroom! The Groom and His Brides!

The Reformation changed a lot of things! Today, 500 years later we still struggle with our “denominationalism” contrasted with Jesus’ prayer that “they all may be one” (John 17:21) Yet, in the rich diversity of theological expressions we are closer now to “unity in diversity” than we have ever been. This century holds out the promise of a visible unity among Christians thought to be only a vain hope because of the chaotic, but freeing, 16th Century Reformation. During our Lenten Journey this year, you are invited to worship (using Marty Haugen’s beautiful “Holden Evening Prayer Service” and to conversation (using Martin Luther’s Small Catechism). We will explore the dynamic relevance of the fundamentals of our faith around the table of conversation (Pot Luck at 5:30 PM) and in the quietude of worship (6:30 PM in the Sanctuary). Come and grow together as brothers and sisters in Christ and as Christians seeking to once more unite the Body of Christ to His only Bride, the church!

CALL COMMITTEE FOR NEW PASTOR

Inside this newsletter you will find a two page insert that describes the formation of a Call Committee, and an application, that will lead the search for our next Pastor. Please prayerfully consider applying for this important Committee and help our church identify our next Pastor.

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo

Minutes of February 20, 2017

In attendance: Mary Braun, Melody Lackner, Ron Mehlhop, and Judie Birk. Lee Forrester, Craig Kullberg, Randy Tofteland, Pastor Terry Frovik, Tom Christenson joined us remotely.

The meeting was called to order by council president, Randy Tofteland.

Opening Devotions were given by Pastor Terry Frovik.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the January meeting by Lee, seconded by Melody, and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial view and current month activity for January was presented by Mary Braun. Motion was made by Judie Birk to accept the treasurer’s report, seconded by Ron Mehlhop and passed.

Pastor's Report:

Worship Services: Sundays 5, Sermons 5, Holy Communion 3 (Administered Privately 9), Funerals 1.

Meetings: 13, Consultations 2

Visitations: Home visits 5, Hospital 2, Health Care Centers 4

Consultations: 3

Classes Taught: Bible Study 10,

Special Events: Bishop’s Convocation, First Lutheran, Aitkin Interim Pastor’s Meeting, Synod Office, Duluth Meeting with our Confirmation Parents and Students

Heartland Conference Assembly, Camp Onamia Viewing of Rick Steves’, Reformation 500 DVD

Old Business:

Review and Approve Remaining Parsonage Bids

Lee presented one bid for recommendation. There is a possibility that additional bids for concrete and carpentry may still come in. We discussed the site building plans. Craig made a motion to accept the recommendation from the building committee of

\$198,608 including appliances with two possible adds-on — one going with a 9-foot concrete wall and the other to add a dormer to the front door, if we can keep it under \$200,000. Melody seconded the motion.

Randy asked if anyone on the building committee has thought of a project manager for this project. Lee said he would check with some people.

Review and Discuss Financing Options – Craig sent out three parsonage financing options with summaries. He had asked for a loan on \$170,000 from Neighboring National Bank, Security State Bank and Bremer Bank. When the home arrives in Grand Rapids, approximately mid-April, we will need to write a check. Neighborhood National Bank was recommended from the options given and Craig said he would complete any of the paper work, along with Mary Braun. He will get the documents together. An electronic motion will be made among the council members, when approval is needed.

Update on Capital Appeal Planning – Val Benton, Parish House Fund Drive chairperson, has sent out an introductory letter to the congregation explaining the fund drive to purchase a new prebuilt parish house. A follow-up letter with a form will be sent out next week. A notice will also be in the newsletter. It was brought up that the letter was sent out in bulk and are not forwarded to the snowbirds was a concern. Snowbirds should give the church secretary their winter address. A suggestion of enlarging the floor plan and displaying it at church, for others to visually see, was made. The council extends its thanks to Val for all her work and leadership.

Call Committee Update – Ron reported that we have one name for the Call Committee so far. It was suggested to run the call application in the March newsletter. Pastor Terry is also mentioning it on Sundays when he gives his announcements. Deadline is April.

Website Update – Mary and Judie went over content in a little more detail. We have picked a theme and color scheme. Getting closer to going live.

Present House Removal — It will be late March or early April.

New Business:

2017 Insurance Renewal — Property insurance needs to be renewed in April. Our insurance needs to be updated with new parsonage addition. We

need to meet with Oberfeld Insurance and Randy suggested to include one or two more council member to attend insurance meeting. Meeting is Thursday, April 6.

March Newsletter Article Items from Council — Call Committee information and Capital Appeal.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee:

New sweep put on kitchen door; faucets in kitchen were repaired; water softener was fixed.

Motion was made to adjourn by Ron Mehlhop, seconded by Mary Braun, and passed.

The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.

Excerpt from Monthly Treasurer's Report
JANUARY 2017

	Month	YTD
Income Actual	\$22,927	\$146,839
Income Budgeted	\$16,333	\$ 81,667
Expense Actual	\$29,824	\$ 73,477
Expense Budgeted	\$13,793	\$68,965
Over/(Short)	(\$6,897)	\$73,362



Thank you

Thank you to Sharon Whipple for her help in keeping the church kitchen spotless after cards! We appreciate all your hard work.



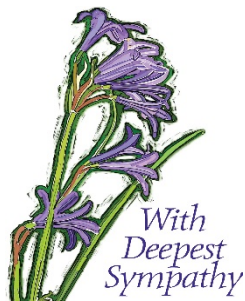
Each Wednesday our staff begins our meeting with devotions and prayer. We will read five family names from our membership directory and pray for them. Each staff meeting we will pray for five individuals or families in our congregation.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

In November forty eight shoeboxes were packed and sent to be distributed to needy kids around the world. Thanks to all who helped pack the boxes, brought gifts for the boxes and donated money for postage. There will be a collection box in the Fellowship Hall so gifts can be brought all year. Those of you who are bargain/thrift shoppers can keep your eyes open for the following items and bring them to church. When you are at the Dollar Store, grab an extra item or two for the shoeboxes. Larger sized shoe boxes or plastic shoeboxes with covers are also being collected. Items needed: School supplies (crayons, markers, colored pencils, sharpeners, scissors, solar calculators, erasers, notebooks, coloring books); Toiletry items (bar soap in a plastic bag, toothbrushes, washcloth, combs/brushes, jewelry, hair accessories); Toys (small cars/trucks, balls, dolls with extra clothes, yoyo's, jump ropes, Legos); T-shirts, stockings, water bottles, bowls, flashlights with extra batteries, sewing kits/embroidery kits, puzzles. If you have any questions or want to help with this project contact Darlene Christensen.

PLEASE PICK UP your yearend statements and envelopes if you have not done so. They are in the Fellowship Hall.

Condolences to the families of



Arden Westerlund 12/22/2016

Irene Long 1/7/2017

Dean Newman 1/18/2017

Lloyd Lilienthal 2/12/2017



Church choir practice starts on Saturday, April 1 @ 9 am and Sat. April 8 @ 9 am. Then on Wed., April 12 at 7 pm. If we need additional practice for the Easter Cantata we will do it on Sat. April 15, 9 am. After Easter the choir will return to Wed. practice at 6 pm. All voices are welcome to join in!

The Praise team will be practicing after the Lenten services on Wed nights starting March 8. After Easter they will practice at 7 pm after choir. Please join us.



Dear Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo,

This is to notify you that Bethesda Lutheran Church has been issued a \$39.03 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2016. The donation was deposited to our bank account on or around February 6, 2017.

Please tell your family & friends to support Bethesda through amazonsmile today!!! How do I shop at AmazonSmile? Simply go to the website www.smile.amazon.com on your computer or mobile device. If you already have an account with Amazon you can use the same one for AmazonSmile, if not simply register for a new account and then select **Bethesda Lutheran of Isle, MN** as your charitable organization. The site will remember your Bethesda selection automatically for every future eligible purchase and will result in a donation to our church. There is also a listing for Bethesda Lutheran Church of Aitkin, so choose the one with the **Isle, MN** address. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of each eligible purchase price, which equates to \$1.00 per every \$200 purchased.



**VETS AND FRIENDS (V&F)
COMMUNITY NETWORK
RETREAT**
*Retreat Theme: Post-traumatic
Growth*

WHEN: Wednesday evening, March 8 –
Sunday noon, March 12, 2017
WHERE: Luther Point Camp, Grantsburg, WI.
WHO: Veterans, Family, Friends, Community
Team Leaders
No cost for veterans, family members, friends and
past retreat participants. If Vets and Friends retreats
prove helpful to you, consider a contribution to our
V&F sponsor Welcome Them Home – Help Them
Heal, 1715 E. 2nd St. Duluth, MN 55812

**Cost for first time Community Leader Team
Attendees:** Individual - \$250; Team of 2 - \$400;
each additional team member-\$150. Stipends
available.

For more information on stipends or the retreat
contact Retreat Hospitality Coordinator, Cindy
Macaulay at riskhc@gmail.com **TO REGISTER
GO TO:** <http://tinyurl.com/vetsandfriends>

**LENTEN
SCHEDULE**



March 1	
Ash Wednesday	
5:30pm Potluck (Communion)	6:30pm Service
March 8	
5:30pm Potluck	6:30pm Service
March 15	
5:30pm Potluck	6:30pm Service
March 22	
5:30pm Potluck	6:30pm Service
March 29	
5:30pm Potluck	6:30pm Service
April 5	
5:30pm Potluck	6:30pm Service
April 13	
Maundy Thursday (Communion)	6:30pm Service
April 14	
Good Friday	9:00am Service
April 16	
Easter Sunday (Communion)	8:30am & 10:00am Service



**March 12th
Daylight savings time
begins**

Stop, look and listen

Lent, the season of the church year that's associated with
repentance, begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year).
While some people deny themselves by giving up
something for Lent, others prepare for Easter through
special Bible studies or devotions.

Christians observe Lent for these reasons:

- It causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest
awhile," as well as "Stop doing wrong."
- It tells us to LOOK. Look inward for an honest
self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ
offering healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the
Resurrection.
- It tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of
Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of
the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words aren't only
important for our safety in travel; they're also helpful
for our journey through the 40 days of Lent.

Spring renewal

By reading the Scriptures I am so renewed that all nature
seems renewed around me and with me. The sky seems to
be a pure, a cooler blue, the trees a deeper green. The
whole world is charged with the glory of God and I feel fire
and music under my feet.
—Thomas Merton

Care of Creation Summit

**A Watershed Moment: Reformation for the Next
500 Years**

When: Saturday March 25, 2017 9:30 am-2:30 pm

Where: St. Andrews Lutheran Church,
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Cost: \$10 free will offering; collected at the door.

Register Online

at: <https://nemnecofaith2017.eventbrite.com>

Questions: call Paula West at 218-838-5010 or
email ecofaith@nemnsynod.org

Activities & Events

March 2017

If anyone is unable to fulfill an assignment below, please find your own substitute or notify the coordinator

Ushers

by Skip & Lynn Hansen

Mar 5 & 12 Ron & Joanie Mehlhop
 Mar 19 & 26 Wally & Bev Swenson
 Apr 2 & 9 Dennis & Audrey Bisdadeau
 Apr 16 8:30 Skip & Lynn Hansen
 10:00 Chuck & Elsa Carlson
 Apr 22 & 29 8:30 George Kathy Larson
 10:00 Darrel Kelly

Check list in office for when to Light the Christ Candle

Lectors 9:00 Carol Bakken

Mar 5 Char Berg
 Mar 12 Val Benton
 Mar 19 Winnie Z
 Mar 26 Jeannine B
 Apr 2 Julie Swaggert
 Apr 9 Sheila Penoyer
 Apr 16 8:30 Kathy Berland
 Apr 23 8:30 JoAnn Haglund
 Apr 30 8:30 Winnie Z

Altar Care by Dianne Jones

MarchDianne Jones
 AprilDianne Jones and helper



Coffee Servers by WELCA

Mar 5
 Mar 12 Val Benton
 Mar 19
 Mar 26



Greeters Lynne Meidlinger

Mar 5 Wayne, Janice Olson
 Mar 12 George, Kathy Larsen
 Mar 19 Bev Wedig, Darrel Kelly
 Mar 26 Winnie Z, Char Berg



March

March 3 Marlyn and Shirley Eklund
 March 15 Craig and Pat Kullberg
 March 23 Brian and Laurie Simonson
 March 26 Dick and Sandy Pullen



March 2	Marie	Hammer
March 2	Ken	Sjoquist
March 4	James	Lange
March 9	Andrew	Nyberg
March 10	Robert	Carlson
March 11	Arty	Heins
March 11	Norman	Westerlund
March 14	Troy	Nyberg
March 15	Theodore	Mickelson
March 17	Holly	Grap
March 20	Mary	Braun
March 22	Donna	Westerlund
March 25	Carolyn	Morris
March 26	Nicole	Berry
March 26	Katy	Goldman
March 26	Jack	Spetz
March 27	Richard	Carron
March 28	Douglas	Hansen
March 29	Donna	Fox
March 29	Linda	Hansen
March 29	Emma	Miles
March 29	Scott	Nyberg
March 29	Dale	Peterson
March 29	Donette	Root
March 30	Jean	Berens
March 30	Merrill	Honnold
March 30	Tom	Petersen
March 30	Ronald	Richter



March 2017

Bethesda Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 5:30 Potluck 6:30 Lent Worship 7:30 Praise Team	2 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	3 10:00 Bones	4 Foot care 1-4
5 9:00 Worship & Communion	6 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	7 10-12 Pastor text study	8 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 5:30 Potluck 6:30 Lent Worship 7:30 Praise Team	9 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 10:30 Worship & Music 12:30 Fun Timers	10 10:00 Bones	11
12 9:00 Worship Day Light Savings time begins	13 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	14 9:00 Quilters 10-12 Pastor text study	15 8-12 WIC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 5:30 Potluck 6:30 Lent Worship 7:30 Praise Team	16 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	17 10:00 Bones	18
19 9:00 Worship & Communion	20 1:00 Pinochle Newsline Deadline 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg First Day of Spring	21 10-12 Pastor text study 1:30 4H 5:30 Council	22 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 5:30 Potluck 6:30 Lent Worship 7:30 Praise Team	23 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	24 10:00 Bones	25
26 9:00 Worship	27 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	28 9:00 Quilters 10-12 Pastor text study	29 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 5:30 Potluck 6:30 Lent Worship 7:30 Praise Team	30 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	31 10:00 Bones	

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
21590 State Highway 47
Isle, MN 56342

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Aitkin, MN 56431

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Lifeline Mission

We will **LIVE** and **SERVE** through **FAITH**
we will **ACT** with **LOVE** and **KINDNESS**
we will **GIVE** hope and **SUPPORT** to all
Bethesda Telephone Directory



Church	bicmalmo@frontiernet.net	(320) 684-2123
Fax		(320)-684-2836
Toll Free		(877) 684-2123
Church Web site		bicmalmo.org
Pastor	Terry Frovik	(320) 684-2123
Council President	Randy Tofteland	(612) 501-6777
Vice President	Tom Christensen	(218)-251-4894
Parish Nurse	Darlene Christensen	(320) 684-2846
Parish Nurse	Patti Honnold	

To share articles and/or information, mail to:

Sue Stebbins, *Lifeline Editor*
c/o Bethesda Lutheran Church
Email address: blnews@juno.com

All articles due on or before the 20th of the month