

Bethesda Life-Line

Worship Services*

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00

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.



Nov. 5..Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

Nov. 12 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM

Nov. 19 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

Nov. 26 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 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

Nov. 5 Daylight Savings time ends and fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child



Nov. 22- Thanksgiving Eve Service

Dec. 2 Bethesda Christmas Party!

Dec. 3 First Sunday of Advent

Dec. 17 Christmas Cantata



2017



Saturday, November 11th Veteran' Day
7am to 11am.

\$5 per plate

Veterans and kids 5 & under eat free. Located at Bethesda Church Malmo, by the Malmo Lions with proceeds going towards community projects. Bake Sale also.



All are invited to join in the celebration as we gather to thank our heavenly Father for the many blessings He has shed upon us this past year. We will gather as a church family on Wednesday, for a pot luck at 5:30 and service at 6:30 on November 22nd for the Service of Thanksgiving everyone is invited Please join our church family as we gather for this important celebration.



November 5th



Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo

Minutes of October 9, 2017

Special Council Meeting

In attendance: Mary Braun, Ron Mehlhop, Ron Haglund, George Smith, Jenny Schuett

The meeting was called to order by council member Ron Mehlhop.

Oct. 9th Meeting Topics:

Council president election, new pastor compensation benefits offer.

New Business:

George Smith made a motion to elect Ron Mehlhop as Council President and the motion was seconded by Mary Braun. A motion was made to elect George Smith as Council Vice President and was seconded by Ron Haglund. Both were accepted with a unanimous vote.

Mary Braun explained the two options for the compensation benefit package for Pastor James Muske which was presented to him at 1:00 pm, Monday, October 09, 2017.

The next regular meeting of the Council will be Friday, October 13, 2017 at 9:30 am. We will plan on voting for the committee member positions to be held by the council members.

Motion was made to adjourn by Mary, seconded by Jenny, and passed.

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Schuett, for Judie Birk, secretary

**Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
Minutes of October 13, 2017 Council Meeting**

In attendance: Mary Braun, Ron Mehlhop, Judie Birk, Kathy Berland, Ron Haglund, George Smith and Jenny Schuett.

Council member Ron Mehlhop called the meeting to order. George Smith gave opening Devotions.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the September meeting by George Smith, seconded by Kathy Berland, and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial review and current month activity for September was presented by Mary Braun. Expenses are up, income is down and attendance is down. Motion was made by Judie Birk to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by George Smith and passed.

Old Business:

Parsonage Construction Update — Parsonage is ready for a pastor to be moved in. Down sprouts, skirting, window treatments to be done by Nov. 1.
Call Committee Status — Hopefully done. Council has contract submitted.

New Business:

Select and Vote on Officers:

President: Ron Mehlhop
Vice President: George Smith

New Committee representative assignments are:

Faith, Health, Wellness: Kathy Berland
Mission and Evangelism: Judie Birk
Personnel: Melody Lackner
Property: Ron Mehlhop
Stewardship and Finance: Mary Braun
Strategic Planning: George Smith
Worship & Music: Ron Haglund

A copy of each committee's job responsibility descriptions were handed out to the council reps. they are to review the job description with their designated committee and submit any changes.

We discussed a few areas of duties at Bethesda that need to be allocated to a committee:

- 1) **Veggie Stand** — we need to develop a system or committee to organize groups to work the stand. Mary Braun will put something in the November Life-Line to ask for a volunteer to coordinate workers. It was suggested that possibly we could assign one Saturday per committees/groups at Bethesda to work the stand. We will discuss more at council.
- 2) **Benevolence Recipients** — Mission and Evangelism has agreed to take a lead in regard to Benevolence.

3) Visitation Plan — Council asked if Faith, Health and Wellness could add this to its responsibilities.

Authority Signatures

Mary Braun will get the paperwork for the signature authority on the bank accounts, safety deposit box and Edward Jones for the council president and vice president to sign.

Pending Major Tasks to Accomplish

- Install and On Board New Pastor —waiting for a signed contract from Pastor James Muske. Starting date for new pastor is hopefully mid-November.
- Meet with Insurance Agent in April to review coverage. Assign a council member to do this.
- Revise & Adopt New Constitution – George Smith agreed to look at the constitution.
- Senior transportation need was discussed. Needs a committee or a concern. We will wait and get input from new pastor.
- Multi-generational engagement, youth, loneliness, Synod Mississippi planning will be focused on more once we get a pastor.
- Shared Ministry with local churches is ongoing. Reformation service is Saturday is tomorrow. Several of our members are singing at the service.
- Mary Vukelich is working on the time and talent updates.
- Work with Pastor & Congregation on Church Vision/Mission Statement
- Consider launching Mutual Ministry Committees — wait until new pastor comes

Committee Reports:

Mission & Evangelism:

1. Mission and Evangelism will organize Temple Talks sharing information about the organizations that are receiving benevolence dollars. Since November is World Hunger Awareness, Sandy will present some updated information on World Hunger the last Sunday in October. Then in

November Sandy will explain the Christmas Caring and Sharing outreach.

We plan to inform Music /Worship and Pastor when we will be asking for scheduled times for presentations.

Perhaps the same month a Temple Talk is scheduled an article with similar information should go into the newsletter.

2. Our group has studied the value of a Visitation Plan and realizes we have not had a team at Bethesda. We would like to suggest that council and committee leaders take a look at job descriptions and decide how a Visitation Team could be trained and implemented. Judie Birk has made copies of job descriptions and will bring this concern to council.

3. Cross/Generation Education programs seem to be the current trend in Christian Education. Having grandparents as mentors, companions and teachers may have some possibilities with our limited number of youth.

Our new Pastor is sure to have suggestions. One recommendation from our group is to have an adult and child team up to go to Feed My Starving Children events.

4. Our two confirmation students will be given Student Bibles on Oct 8. Joanne and Sandy will meet with them on Wednesdays until the Pastor is here.

5. Barb Macioch did an excellent job of getting photos of our beach cleanup in all the papers... thanks Barb.

6. Advertising will be on going.... The rest of our current post cards will be given out at bazaar. We will create new advertising with Pastor Information soon. Also, we realize that new directory will be a high priority.

7. We always welcome ideas for events that make us visible in the neighborhood. Barb Macioch suggested we consider a "Bless the Lake Ceremony" inviting others to a lakeshore service. Something to think about?

Submitted by Joanne Stueven

Worship & Music:

Members Present: Randy Tofteland, Carol Bakken, Paula Spetz, Jim Christensen, Sharon Whipple and Julie Swaggert via phone.

The meeting was held on October 5 and begins with an opening prayer by Randy. The committee discussed the recent Jamboree and the positive 1

feedback that was heard by all committee members. Randy thanked all the committee members for helping make the jamboree a success and expressed a special thank you to Paula Spetz for all her time and planning. The committee was updated on the status of adding one contemporary song to each worship service and discussed the remaining implementation details. Pulpit coverage for the first two Sunday's in November was discussed including a desire to have two of our benevolence partner's lead those services if available. The committee discussed the church's balance of dedicated funds for the worship and music program and agreed that how those could be used should be considered once our full time Pastor is called and we better understand the Pastor's interest in technology, worship style, etc. Lastly the committee discussed the disposition of the old speakers that were recently removed from the sanctuary. Jim Christensen expressed an interest in putting together a mobile sound system that could be used for events outside the sanctuary and asked that the church retain those speakers until that can be further researched. The committee agreed the speakers should be retained for a period of time for that, but if that idea falters that those speakers should be either sold, donated to another organization, or given away. The November committee meeting will be held on November 6 due to a conflict with the committee's normal date. Following a discussion of meeting topics for that meeting, and the reciting of the Lord's Prayer, the meeting was adjourned.

The next council meeting will be November 17 at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.

September Treasurer's Report

General Fund	Month End	Year to Date
Actual Income	\$16,726	\$16,726
Budgeted	\$17,021	\$17,021
Actual Expense	\$18,394	\$18,394
Budgeted	\$16,369	\$16,369
Over / (Short)	(\$1,668)	(\$1,668)

The Vote is in! We have a new Pastor!

The Rev. James Andrew Muske

Formal Education:

Master of Divinity from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. Minister of Word and Sacrament since 09/01/2012

Bachelor of Arts, History from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, graduated 2003

Work History:

- St. Matthew Lutheran Church. Pastor Full Time. Bethlehem, PA (medium sized inner city). 2012-2017.
- Pine Ridge Retreat Center. Seminary Intern, Pine Ridge, SD. 2010-2011
- Luther Seminary, Grounds Crew. St. Paul, MN. 2008-2010
- Lutheran Music Program. Development Coordinator. Minneapolis, MN 2004-2008
- Student Conservation Association/National Park Service-Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS. Conservation Intern (responsible for historical research and web design). Gallitzin, PA. 2003-2004
- Paleontological Research Institution. Development and Marketing Intern. Ithaca, NY. 2002-2003

Experience:

Current call at St. Matthew's was as a solo pastor that preached, lead, and helped plan worship every week. Served as chaplain one summer for the NE Pennsylvania Synod's Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly. Prior to and during seminary, he was an active member of a congregation at Grace University Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. While there, he had the experience to preach at both regular Sunday morning worship services, as well as preach at some of the student services and healing services.

Internship at Pine Ridge Retreat Center was a multicultural ministry that provided for many unique opportunities for worship and preaching. The center focused on building connections between the local community and outside groups and the worship experiences reflected by those connections. Worked with groups and individuals from churches, nursing schools, seminaries, and other configuration that came for cross-cultural education.

Stewardship & Finance Meeting

October 4

Discussion on the Time and Talent: An article will be placed in the Lifeline along with a Time and Talent form in hopes of getting more returns. Forms will be due by Thanksgiving. Mary V is compiling information. The basket will be placed in the Narthex along with forms. The November and December meetings will focus on Time and Talent.

Budget discussion was focused on the parsonage mortgage. Mary Braun said the council would probably discuss mortgage in November and someone from stewardship will attend.

An announcement will be placed in the bulletin the last Sunday of each month reminding people that the Blessing Box will be passed the first Sunday. Gifts will go to local benevolence. A poster will also be placed in narthex the first Sunday. The bulletin will also report how much was received. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 9 at 1:00 Pat Becker, chairperson

All members are requested

To fill out time & talent form

Enclosed is a Time and Talent form. If you have not returned one within the last month, Please fill out and return by Thanksgiving. If you are unable to share your gift of service this year, we ask that you still return the form with your name. Return to the church or mail to Bethesda Lutheran 21590 State Highway 47, Isle MN. 56342 Sharing of your time and talents is a way of using the gifts God has given to each of us.

It is also important to Bethesda as together we can share with one another in being a witness for Christ.



We're thankful for you!

NEED VOLUNTEER to assume the job duties of the ditch clean up that is done twice a year. Please speak with Jerry Morris if interested.

Blessing Box Used for Local Benevolence

The first Sunday of each month is designated Blessing Box Sunday. Members are encouraged to save up coins during the month and put them in the box during the offering. Local benevolence this year will go to Christmas Joy, Bethesda Emergency Fund, Camp Onomia, Aitkin County Human Services and True Friends Camp of McGregor.

Update from Feed My Starving Children

Feed My Starving Children provided 284,362,320 meals last year. Over one million volunteers across the United States packed meals at stations like the one located in Coon Rapids. Over 99 percent of these meals reached their intended locations. It only cost \$80 to feed a child for a year. Feed My Starving Children is one of the Global programs that Bethesda will support during the coming year.



From the Parish Nurses:

We are restarting the Soup and Cookie Ministry. This will allow anyone who visits members/friends who are homebound, have had surgery or recently been hospitalized to bring a gift of soup and cookies. If you make a pot of soup or a batch of cookies save a container or a half dozen cookies. These can be put in the door of the freezer in the kitchen pantry in the area marked "Soup and Cookie" Ministry. Anyone is welcome to use these items

Free Piano – Just need to pick it up in Malmo, near Clear Lake. Sandy Elwood, louiskay2005@yahoo.com or 320-684-2707.

Please get your new lists (greeters, ushers etc.) for 2018 in the office, by the 20th of November! Email them to the Newsline, blnews@juno.com or put in the office box.

Watch the Sunday bulletin for Poinsettia sign up



NOVEMBER SERVICES

You have the opportunity to learn more about two of our 2017/18 Global Benevolence Partners at our November 5 & 12 worship services. Pastor Suzi Orlopp (Assistant Pastor at Zion Lutheran in Buffalo, MN) and a team from Village of Hope will be leading our services on Sunday November 5 and Pastor Dan Ruth the Executive Director of Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry will be preaching on November 12. Please come and learn more about these wonderful organizations that are part of Bethesda's Global Benevolence Mission

“Thank you for the welcoming Spirit of Bethesda and the blessing of worshipping with you.”

Pastor Jeff Macejkovic – Pulpit Supply.

Stewardship wishes to thank Wally Swenson for his years of service on the Stewardship / Finance committee. He served over 15 years. Thank You!

**Happy
Thanksgiving**



Every wonder why we have the **Attendance Registry Book** at the end of each pew for you to fill out each week? This information is gathered for annual reports to the Synod including weekly attendance and number of people who receive communion. It is also used to determine the accurate number of “Active Members” in the church. An Active Member is someone who attends, donates and communions at least once a year. Please fill out the Attendance Registry Book each time you attend services. Thank you.



An update as to what is happening with the choir until the end of the year. We have just started working on the Cantata, so if anyone wants to join us for the Cantata all are welcome. Choir starts their practice at 6:00 pm on Wed. nights, and we will practice the music for church services from 6:00 to 6:30, and then start working on the Cantata at 6:30 to 7:00. The practice dates will be Wed. Oct. 26th, Nov. 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th, Dec. 6th, 13th, and dress rehearsal on Sat. Dec 16th at 8:30 am. We will not be practicing on Wed., Nov. 22nd so everyone can get ready for Thanksgiving. A **Christmas Cantata will be Sunday, Dec. 17th at 9:00 am service.** I wanted to invite anyone who would love to sing with the choir, to please come and practice with us on Wed. nights. A It is a great bunch of people, we do work hard, but also have a lot of fun and laughs too. We hope to see you at Choir Practice!!



SNOWBIRDS Before you leave to head to **Warmer climates** please let Mary in the office know your forwarding address and the dates you will be gone (Telephone No./e-mail too?) so that we may get your newsletters and any other information to you. If you can't find Mary, just leave a note on the secretary's desk with the pertinent information.



• *“Look forward and be hopeful, look backward and be thankful, look down and be helpful, look up and be humble.”*
—Unknown

From the office of the Bishop Gun Violence

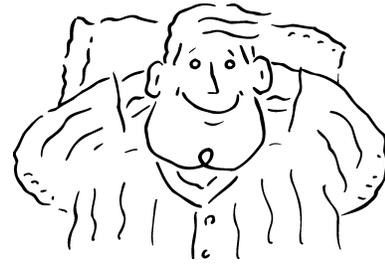
I'm overwhelmed with heartsickness for the beautiful people made in God's image that were killed ruthlessly – once again in this country – by gun violence. I'm angry, too. Angry that we continue to be a nation that has bought into the narrative that asserts guns are necessary for people and for a nation to be safe. That narrative has made its way into the DNA of so many, here and around the world. When we consistently allow the madness of producing and encouraging the selling of guns made to kill massive numbers of people we should not be surprised that people who can't imagine any other way of dealing with their problems will turn to this kind of "solution."

And one more thing: I am moved to the depths of my soul by the powerful acts of love, grace and courage by those who worked to save life, acted selflessly, and modeled for us the opposite of killing others by putting their own lives on the line to save others. At its core, this shooting spree reminds us that until our policies, convictions and legislation reflect the deeper spirituality of cherishing people as precious, and standing up for the innate dignity of every person, we will continue to fall into the same darkness. God help us to use our brains and hearts. : *Bishop Thomas M. Aitken, Duluth*

The Whole Pie

How easy it is to miss the point of living. ... It is too easy to become an algebra pie with [one slice for each part — work, family, school, recreation — and only one slice for God. [But] God is the whole pie!

Perhaps God's presence among us is brighter and more extravagant than we have imagined. Perhaps the very idea of life is to experience and discover God *in* it. Maybe we are meant to journey not only *toward* God or even *for* God, but *with* God.



The sweet old man always seemed to be in good humor. One day, a curious younger man asked why he was always so happy.

"Well," the kindly man replied, "it is because I know when I get up in the morning, I have two choices. I can choose to be happy or I can choose to be unhappy. I try to choose happiness each day. Hopefully that is reflected on my face and in my actions."

What did you choose this morning?



Help! We need Coffee Servers for November



Double Pinochle has started at 1:00 p.m. at church on Monday's. It is great fun! If you want to learn how to play, we'll be happy to teach you how.

Join us on Thursdays at 12:30 to play 500 or dominoes! Join in on the fun and potluck!

Fun Timers WELCOME All!

The Fun Timers extend a welcome to all to come and join in playing cards or games on Thursday at church. If participating in pot luck is NOT FOR YOU then join others who come at 12:30 PM just to play games. So, come and try out the Fun Timers. Come at 12:00 if you want to make a dish and enjoy pot luck with others. Or come at 12:30 PM for cards and games and enjoy and afternoon of fellowship.



Like to take pictures?

Please submit your photos of church activities to the Newslite, help show everyone what is happening at Bethesda.

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

NON PROFIT ORG
Paid
Permit No. 25
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	blcmalmo@frontiernet.net	(320) 684-2123
Fax		(320)-684-2836
Toll Free		(877) 684-2123
Church Web site		blcmalmo.org
Facebook page		Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmö
Pastor		(320) 684-2123
Council President	Ron Mehlhop	(320) 537-4948
Vice President	George Smith	(320) 537-1020
Parish Nurse	Darlene Christensen	(320) 684-2846
Parish Nurse	Kathy Berland	(218) 838-6181

To share articles and/or information, mail to:
Sue Stebbins, *Lifeline* Editor
c/o Bethesda Lutheran Church

Activities & Events

November 2017

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

<u>Ushers</u>	by Skip & Lynn Hansen	
	8:30	10:00
Nov. 5 & 12	Ron & Joanie Hehlhop	Ron Haglunds
Nov. 19 & 26	Skip & Lynne Hansen	Marilyn Anderson
Dec. 3 & 10	Don & Donna Myhre	Dick & Sue Stebbins
Dec. 17	George & Kathy Larson	Barry & Donna Ansell
Dec. 24	Early: Skip, Lynn H.	Late: Forresters
Dec. 25	Skip & Lynn Hansen	
Dec. 31	George & Kathy Larson	Darrell Kelly

Check list in office for when to light the Christ Candle
 Don't forget the blessing boxes the first Sunday of every month!! If anyone is interested in ushering please contact Skip or Lynn

<u>Lectors</u>	8:30 (Paula Spetz)	10:00
Nov. 5	Char Berg	Kathy Carlson
Nov. 12	Val Benton	Val Benton
Nov. 19	Lynn Hanson	Myra Honl
Nov. 26	Steve Lackner	Laury Nyberg

Altar Care by Dianne Jones
 November Shirley Gosselin, Dianne Jones
 December is Lynne and Dennis Meidlinger



<u>Coffee Servers</u>	by WELCA	
Nov. 5	The Stitchers	
Nov. 12		
Nov. 19		
Nov. 26		

<u>Greeters</u>	 Lynne Meidlinger	
Nov. 5	Keith & Dawn Kellen	
Nov. 12	George & Patty Smith	
Nov. 19	Bruce G. & Carol S.	
Nov. 26	Dick & Sandy Pullen	



ANNIVERSARIES

Del & Dianne Jones	11/12
Dick & Judy Wozney	11/12
Doug & Nancy Hansen	11/19
Rollie & Joan Halvorson	11/26



November

Steve Long	11/1
JoAnn Haglund	11/2
Melissa Turner	11/2
Beverly Ferdelman	11/4
Tom Forester	11/5
Jenny Schuett	11/5
Marvin Berry	11/6
David Tousignant	11/6
Phillip Bray	11/7
Dick Pullen	11/8
Sylvia Tapelt	11/8
Jon Knudsen	11/10
Drake Thole	11/14
Judy Wozney	11/14
Kathy Berland	11/15
Joan Petersen	11/16
Karen Miller	11/18
Carol Schlottman	11/18
Dawn Dressely	11/21
Glenda Berry	11/22
Barb Macioch	11/22
Ron Mehlhop	11/24
Evelyn Richter	11/26
Doris Reinhard	11/27
Mary Swanson	11/27
Michael Macioch	11/28
Susan Samuelson	11/28
Laurie Simonson	11/29
Donald Calverley	11/30



November 2017

Bethesda Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 6:00 Choir 7:00 Praise team	2 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	3 10:00 Bones 10:00 4H	4 Foot care 1-4
5 8:30 & 10:00 Worship	6 10:30 W & Music 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	7 Election Day	8 8:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 6:00 Choir 7:00 Praise Team	9 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers 1:00 Stewardship	10 10:00 Bones	11 Malmo Lions Pancake Breakfast 7:00-1:00
12 8:30 & 10:00 Worship & Communion	13 9:00 Womens Devotions 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	14 9:00 Quilters	15 8-12 WIC 8:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 WELCA & Stitchers 6:00 Choir	16 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	17 9:30 Council 10:00 Bones	18
19 8:30 & 10:00 Worship	20 1:00 Pinochle Newsline Deadline	21	22 8:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Stitchers 5:30 Pot Luck 6:30 Thanksgiving	23  Happy Thanksgiving	24 10:00 Bones 1:00 Aitkin Fish house	25
26 8:30 & 10:00 Worship	27 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	28 9:00 Quilters	29 8:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 WELCA & Stitchers 6:00 Choir 7:00 Praise Team	30 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 12:30 Fun Timers	1 10:00 Bones	