

Bethesda Life-Line

Worship Services*

Sunday 8:30 & 10 AM

Service of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday of each month.

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



July 1 Sunday 8:30 & 10 AM
Communion

July 8 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 AM
Communion

July 15 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 AM
Communion

July 22 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 AM
Communion

July 29 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 AM
Communion

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

July 7 Music of Dakota Road 7:00pm

July 7 Veggie stand opens 7:30am

July 27 Beef & Corn Feed

2018



Veggie Stand Opens

July 7 welcomes the return of the “Veggie Stand” at Bethesda. Our success greatly relies on help we receive from the generous Bethesda family. We will have our jellies, syrup. Corn, cook books and baked treats. We need your help in the bakery department. Anything you can share is appreciated by our customers. Also, come join us on Saturdays to help out and meet great people.



Beef and Corn Feed

Our yearly corn feed is set for Saturday, July 28th. 4:30 – 7:00 the corn will be the sweetest of the season. Adult’s \$10 kids, under 10 are \$5. We need your help to make this successful. Would you please sign up to help serve and clean up if you are available on this day? As they say, “Many hands make a light load.” Invite your friends and relatives, and let’s make this a successful venture.

LIFETOUCH PHOTOGRAPHY will be here August 15-18 to take pictures for our new church directory. Schedules will be available as we come near to those dates.



From the Pastor

“Jesus told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground where they did not have much soil. They sprang up quickly because the soil was not deep. But when the sun came up, they were scorched, and because they did not have sufficient root, they withered. Other seeds fell among the thorns, and they grew up and choked them. But other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundred times as much, some sixty, and some thirty. The one who has ears had better listen!” (Matthew 13:3-9)

Working in a true garden for the first time in years, the agricultural imagery in the Bible has found a renewed resonance with me this summer. Though we live in a world where we are blessed with a wide variety of grocery stores, farmers’ markets, and even Bethesda’s own veggie stand, some of us still put ourselves through the mental and physical anguish of trying to grow our own fresh food. Supposedly for the fun of it.

But Jesus, of course, isn’t just talking about the struggle to grow tomatoes in the face of all that nature throws at it, he is talking about how we hear the word of God. If we hear the Word and the trials and temptations of the world crowd it out or if we do not take it deep into our heart, it will struggle to flourish, if not be lost entirely. But if we hear the word and understand, if we let it take root in our heart, then it will blossom and grow and produce fruit beyond our imagining.

I have been thinking about this passage again because, as I write this note, we are in the midst of our VBS week here at Bethesda. All these wonderful kids, hearing the word of God thanks to all the wonderful helpers who have volunteered their time and considerable energy in helping prepare good soil for the children. Working hard so that God’s word may take root inside them and God’s love may burst forth from them – not just for the rest of the summer, but hopefully the rest

of their lives. Check out our Facebook for a couple videos and photos of the kids singing and dancing. They also donated to help kids in India get an education and wrote letters to them to help brighten their day.

And yet we also continue to hear disturbing news of children in very different circumstances, right here in our own country. It is heart-breaking to think of what kind of soil we have prepared for them, and what lessons they might learn. What will these experiences teach them about our world and how we are to treat one another? Is it the love of God that will take root, or will anger and pain grow like thorns and threaten to choke out the good seed? I pray and trust, as Paul preached in Romans, that nothing will separate us from the love of God. Yet we are also taught that our sins have consequences, and that sometimes even the most innocent suffer. As Christians, we are called to live a different kind of life, to teach the revolutionary, almost illogical love of God. To not just love God, but to take the great risk of loving our neighbors as ourselves.

The children at VBS have been so quick to make friends and show love to people, both their fellow students and the adult helpers. Everyday this week has been a constant reminder that when you have good soil, when we treat each other with kindness, when we talk and dance and sing and have fun with one another in a hundred different ways, love grows, blossoms, and springs forth in an even greater multitude. So, this summer, let us enjoy all the wonderful fruits and veggies and flowers that are springing to life all around us. Let us pray and give thanks when love springs to life in our midst. And may God work in us to do the hard work of farmers and gardeners to prepare good, healthy soil so that God’s love may blossom in the lives of all our neighbors, near and far.
Yours in Christ, Pastor James Muske

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund	MAY	YTD
Income Actual	\$16,913	\$182,117
Income Budgeted	\$17,021	\$153,188
Expense Actual	\$18,349	\$172,661
Expense Budgeted	\$16,369	\$147,322
Over/(Short)	(\$1,436)	\$9,457



Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
Minutes of June 15, 2018, Council Meeting

In attendance: Ron Mehlhop, Kathy Berland, Ron Haglund, Pastor James and Judie Birk. Guest is Pat Becker.

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

Pastor James gave opening Devotions.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the May meeting by Ron Mehlhop, seconded by Kathy Berland, and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial view and current month activity for May was reviewed. Motion was made by Judie Birk to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Ron Haglund and passed.

Pastor's Report: May to June 15, 2018

Another busy month, as summer starts to move into full swing:

Preparations for VBS – I will be leading a storytelling portion

Helped with the garden cleanup (Many thanks to all the folks that helped clean up my garden!)

Continued work on some ongoing worship projects

Technology discussions

Narrative lectionary (music selection takes a bit more time)

Considering adding some additional sung liturgy to worship

Baptism of Mason Matthew Wehrmann (parents live in Duluth, but are around more in the summer;

previous child was baptized here)

Funeral of Owen Heins; preparing for funeral of Rose Pedersen, working with Rev. Dale Clifton, chaplain at Elim in Milaca

New member welcome – Gina Rosa, Skows, Walrods (to be announced in church this coming Sunday);

Dennis Hennessy would like to become a member (married Julie Swaggert a month or two ago);

Mission and Evangelism discussed idea of formal sponsors for new members, M&E also discussed "mission/service wall" around exit door
Ongoing work with men's and women's bible study, choir, praise band, etc

Old Business:

WELCA has donated over \$5,000 that can be used for building a deck at the parsonage. We need to hire or request a volunteer for a contractor to head up this project. We will look at our Time & Talent volunteers.

Landscaping done (1/2 charged to Parsonage Maintenance and 1/2 charged to Facilities/Property). This bill is done and paid for.

The Scholarship Application form recommendation to include part-time students was brought back to the Stewardship committee. Mary made a motion to accept the revised Scholarship form, seconded by Ron Haglund and passed.

New Business:

Stewardship Committee - Pat Becker presented the Stewardship and Finance report to explain some budget concerns. The 2018-19 Budget worksheets for every committee were due June 15th.

Council did discuss concerns regarding Worship & Music's request for the multimedia technology proposal. More research is needed before going ahead with this project.

Church's 100th Anniversary Celebration 2019 — Judie Birk will pursue forming a committee and creating a suggested budget for next year's celebration. It was suggested to put a survey in an upcoming bulletin to get parishioner's input on the celebration.

It was suggested that the secretaries email the ushers reminding them of their scheduled Sundays like they do for the lectors for upcoming services.

Council discussed the recommended and required constitution updates. Since George wasn't at council this month, we will bring it to the council for a motion to accept next month.

Committee Reports:

Mission & Evangelism:

Members present: Pastor James, Sandy Pullen, Barb Macioch, Judie Birk, Sue Samuelson, and Joanne Stueven

1. Reviewed a procedure for new members Sunday June 3. Larsons have the names and will make new name buttons. Between services Pastor will sit with the new members at coffee while presenting them with a New Member Folder and a gift bag. Our committee will take the role of sponsors introducing ourselves and answering any questions they might have Sunday or at a later date.
2. We went over our budget for 2019 keeping most amounts the same but adding estimated cost of 100th year celebration.
3. We are planning to advertise our church and upcoming events by placing a flier in the News Hopper 4 times per year. Up dated post cards will be shared at Veggie Stand and other events. Fliers advertising the Veggie Stand will be posted at campgrounds and businesses in the area. (The new signs for the Veggie Stand are great.... also tee shirts for the workers! Thank You Judie Birk for the design and the Thrivent application!)
4. The church directory photo dates are Aug 15-18. It was suggested that this directory will include Members, Friends, and Family of Bethesda. Lifetouch or our committee will be communicating with people's numbers and / or emails on our present mailing list to see who wants to set up photo dates. It was suggested that we put a notice in July Newsletter reminding people that they may be getting a phone call or email from Lifetouch Photography.
5. Vacation Bible School plans are on track. Volunteers are invited to a June 5 planning session. Donation boards will be up 2 weeks before VBS. By Joanne Stueven

Stewardship & Finance:

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE REPORT JUNE 14, 2018

Approved the recommendations made by the council regarding the Scholarship Application form.

Recommend that scholarship expenses reflected in pass thru account expenses be charged to fund 109 scholarship fund in the Statement of Financial Position by August 1 of each year.

Discussion was held regarding expenses for food, music services, and Pastors compensation for funerals / weddings. It was recommended that a bill be given for music services. (Mary Braun reported that only one funeral paid for music services even though it is listed on the sheet given to families.) WELCA bills for food served. Income #413 will be reworded Funeral/wedding music services. Income Fund 416 Worship/Music income will include concerts such as Dakota Road, CD sales or other fundraisers W/M may have.

Barb Forrester reported on the Parsonage Pledges. As of June 14 there were 62 pledges. 28 completed and 34 remain. Pledges totaled \$150,020.00. The church has received \$109,801.90. \$40,218.20 remains. Pledges will be complete March 2020. Next year is the 100 anniversary of the church. There will be expenses associated with the celebration. Stewardship is asking where these expenses will be charged and who is determining the budget for the celebration?

Worship and Music submitted a proposal for multimedia technology for the sanctuary along with their requested budget for next year. Stewardship has a number of questions regarding this proposal. As we understand the WM committee recommends the quote for the laser projector at estimated quote of \$14,067.65. This does not include salaries to operate the system on a continuous basis. WM quote "the committee strongly suggests that the council works to fully understand how the technology will operate and who will be responsible for preparing presentations and how and who will operate the equipment during services."

Questions and concerns regarding proposal for multimedia technology: 1. It was voiced that we should not undertake another expensive project until the parsonage mortgage is paid. 2. The cost of one/two people to understand and operate the system on a continuous basis is a major concern to our committee. The cost of this salary needs to be part of the overall cost for inclusion into the budget, if approved. 3. Will more space be needed to operate the system and if so, how will this affect the sanctuary?

We are working on the budget for the next fiscal year and will present it at the July meeting of the council. All of the committees submitted their budgets and we thank them. We have a couple questions regarding salaries, as the personnel committee has not met.

Envelope offerings are looking good for this year but 402 and 403 are behind expectations. Once we have a budget established, we will know how much operating cash we will expect to have. In our discussions last year, we felt that a minimum of two months operating costs be at our disposal.
Submitted by Pat Becker

Worship & Music:

Members Present: Pastor James, Randy Tofteland, Carol Bakken, Jim Christensen, Tom Christensen, Ron Haglund, Julie Swaggert and Sharon Whipple
The meeting was held on June 7 and opened with prayer by Pastor James.

The Committee was informed of the work Pastor James and Jim Christensen have completed researching sung liturgies. It was agreed we will try a liturgy from the former green hymnal initially. Additionally Pastor James would like to try the Land & Seasons liturgy next, but this will require getting a pianist to record the accompaniment before it can be used.

Jim Christensen confirmed he has an agreement with one of the founders of Dakota Road for a concert on July 7. Randy shared that he had contacted the council officers and they approved preceding with the concert. Jim and Julie Swaggert will lead the marketing effort including posters, newspaper, radio, church sign, bulletin and newsletter notices. Carol Bakken agreed to head refreshments. The cost of the event is \$1500 for the band plus lodging and the committee will be charging \$10 for adults, \$5 under 18 and free for kids 4 and under.

Randy presented quotes received for new multimedia equipment for the sanctuary. The committee reviewed the quotes and agreed if the church proceeds it should purchase the quote that includes the laser projector. This is the latest technology with the best quality and will not require frequently replacing costly bulbs. Pastor James will present the quotes and the committee's recommendation to the council at their next meeting.

The committee then reviewed and discussed its input for the 2018/19 budget which will be presented to the stewardship and finance committee.

Following the reciting of the Lord's Prayer, the meeting was adjourned. The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 5.

Property Committee:

Property committee meeting May 24 10:00 AM

Attendees: Lee Forester, Dianne Jones, Darrel Kelly, Ron Mehlhop

Clean up day will be June 4 9:00 AM. Clean up branches, clean up garden, trim a few Branches etc. Might need to purchase a hose for the parsonage, Pastor will check the garage first.

Parsonage steps need to be painted or stained later this summer, after the new grass is growing.

Someone suggested that Health and wellness committee needs to let the community know that we have a lot of equipment we could loan out, walker's crutch etc.

Need to create a maintenance list.

Fire extinguisher needs to be checked by a certified company. Darrel will contact them.

Confirmation class would like to start a garden. Also talked about starting a community garden for interested church members.

Next year's budget was propose and Lee will turn it in.

Talked about a full system water filter, Darrel will get a bid.

Lee got a bid of \$3300.00 for edging around the parsonage.

Don Myre has turned the lights off on the sign because of all the bugs they collect.

Next Property Committee meeting will be June 27 at 10:00 AM

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

The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next council meeting will be July 20 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.





Bethesda Outreach Program

The Faith, Health and Wellness Committee is organizing a new program with the goal that

homebound members, those with a chronic illness or those who have recently been hospitalized will receive home visits or regular phone calls from members of a visitation team, a parish nurse and/or the pastor.

The following opportunities will be available:

Volunteer at care centers to do activities with the residents. This can be done individually on a regular weekly or monthly basis or as a group that assists with an activity three to four times a year.

Partner with a homebound member and provide weekly or every other week phone calls and visit with the member on a regular monthly basis. Other things that could be done for the member include assist with grocery shopping or running errands, take to medical appointments, take out to lunch or help with other tasks.

Work with one or two other people and provide regular visits to members as a team. Bring communion to homebound residents.



Bethesda's fire pit area received a facelift thanks to Jerry Morris who sanded & stained the outdoor furniture!



Join the team!
Sign up to mow the church lawn!

Signup sheet in the Narthex



Check out the Angel in the garden! Thank you to Val Benton for the donation and Jerry Morris for helping to install it!

Help! We need Coffee Servers for July, August.

Please sign up so we may continue to have coffee in between the services, the signup sheet is now on a board mounted in fellowship hall. We hope everyone serves at least once a year if not twice.



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

Double Pinochle is at 1:00 on Mondays

MEMORIAL SERVICES at BETHESDA IN JUNE

June 2nd, 2018 – Owen Heins

June 22nd, 2018 – Kimiko “Jackie” Liljenquist

June 23rd, 2018 – Rose Pederssen



A memorial service will be held Monday, July 2, 2018 at 11 AM at Glory Baptist Church for Jane Myers Humphreys. Visitation one hour prior; lunch at noon. She passed away on June 24th.

The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same moment. - Thomas Jefferson





The women of Bethesda will be assembling Hospice Kits in August for Global Health Ministries because there is a great need for the kits.

We have two grants to help us purchase the items but we also want to be a part of giving to others in less fortunate situations.

Please begin gathering these items:

- 1 regular size bath towel
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 bath size bar of soap wrapped
- 1 tooth brush in original packaging
- 1 tube of toothpaste
- 1 "pick" style comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 6 Band-Aids rubber banded together
- 1 jar/tube of petroleum jelly 4oz, lid taped
- 1 pair heavy duty household kitchen gloves, size medium



It is great to have the choir back singing. We have been having a great time with some fun songs. I want to thank all of you for coming to the Malmo Community Picnic and singing for singing. I had a lot of great comments. It was a fun night for the kids and the adults

Our practice schedule for the month of July is Singing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" on Sunday, July 1st & "This is for you" on July 8th. Practice times of 6:00 pm on Wed. July 11th, 18th, & 25th. We will take off Wed., 4th of July, so you can have time for family. Remember the Glen Parade on the 4th of July. We have gotten a wagon that Val has offered for the parade; Jim is in the process of

checking it all over to make sure it is safe. We are looking for riders who want to throw candy and sing. Anyone interested talk to me or Jerry Morris about the parade float.

I am in the process of looking at a new Christmas Cantata, and will order a book and CD soon to make sure it is one we want to perform. We also are working on the Jamboree. It will be a 25th Anniversary show and we are going to bring back some old songs and skits from the last 25 years. We have a lot going on and I appreciate all of my peeps for their ideas and enthusiasm!! Anyone who wants to come and practice with us and sing is always welcomed. Until next month!!

Sheila Penoyer/Choir Director

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo

Hosts a Concert on
Saturday, July 7th, 2018 at 7:00pm

DAKOTA ROAD MUSIC

Featuring

**HANS PETERSON
&
NELSON MORLOCK**



**21590 State Hwy 47, Isle MN
Phone: 320-684-2123**

Admission: Adults=\$10 | Up to age 18=\$5
Children under 4=FREE

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The *Lifeline* Mission

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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 Malmo

Pastor	James A. Muske	(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

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