

Bethesda Life-Line

Worship Services*

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 AM

Service of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday 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.



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

May 12 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

May 19 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

May 26 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 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

May 6 - Jelly Making

May 25 - Veggie Stand open

June 17-21 - Annual VBS.

Please use this new email

address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

We are no longer able to use the email

address: blcmalmo@frontiernet.net



2019

Support our Centennial Activities

Each month you have the opportunity to win a fabulous prize by purchasing a \$1 chance, while also decorating the fellowship hall.

All funds raised will be used for our Centennial Celebration on August 11, 2019.

Our theme for May will be "Butterflies". The prize for May will be, among other things, a hanging plant basket. The winner will be drawn the last Sunday of the month during Fellowship hour after worship service.

We hope you participate each month for a chance to win a different prize each month. Thank you for your support. *Need not be present to win.*

The Memory Garden is taking paver orders until Mother's Day. You may order an engraved paver to honor anyone special (living or deceased.) A large paver is \$35, a small paver costs \$25. Order forms can be found in the narthex. Return completed forms to Val Benton or place in the office Memory Garden mailbox.

Welcome back to all of my snowbirds!!

The choir season is about to begin!! Our first practice is Wed. April 24th at 6:00 pm, with Praise Team at

7:00. May practices are May 1st,

8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th. We will

be singing on May 5th "Jesus Messiah" & May 19th "His Love Remains". I look forward to seeing all my peeps back again this choir

season, and some new faces are

planning on joining us. If you love to sing, and love to have fun. Please try out the Bethesda Choir!!! We will love to have you!!!

Sheila Penoyer/Choir Director





From the Pastor

Happy and blessed Easter to you all! Even though the weeks of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter can be a bit marathon for a pastor (many thanks for all who give even more of their time and energy this time of

year!), that transition from the dark, mournful day of Good Friday to the joyous morning of Easter Sunday never fails to stir something within me. Even when I am starting to feel tired and overwhelmed, Easter morning always manages to break through the fog and offer a word of hope.

Hopefully those words spark something in all of us, in whatever vocabulary we need to hear the most. Perhaps words that speak a promise of new life, when we are feeling worn out or when all we see is loss. Maybe, a word of renewal and re-creation when everything seems broken and beyond fixing. Or a word that offers forgiveness, even as it challenges us and draws out the best in us.

It helps, of course, that Easter is actually an entire season, not just one day, because it might take a few tries for us to hear all those words. More than that, even, Easter is part of the new life that God calls us to lead and to share with others. As Jesus' time in flesh and blood walking among us comes to an end, he sends the Spirit. The lively wind of God that fills our lungs and that we breathe back out into the world. The Holy Spirit that is active in and through us so that all those words offer more than just temporary comfort. Instead those words empower us to renew and restore our relationship with God and neighbor. As the Spirit works, we begin to sense the fullness of Jesus' gift to the world.

So, as we celebrate and as we catch our breath for a moment between Easter and the start of summer, perhaps take a moment (or two or three) to imagine how the Good News of Easter might shape all that comes next.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor James

Easter messages from our bishops:

*From Bishop Thomas Aitken,
Northeast MN Synod:*

Easter is not a general optimism of new life that abounds because it's Spring. It is not wishful thinking but a power that changes the way we frame life and live life, in the real world right now. Easter is the great and true mystery of Jesus' resurrection that "grants grace sufficient for each day, that by our lives we truly say, Christ has triumphed, he is living, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. May this glorious truth give us confidence to live like him and to proclaim that all "power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his."



*From our Presiding Bishop
Elizabeth Eaton:*

Getting a phone call in the middle of the night is never a good thing. I remember the second time my father had open-heart surgery. It was a long procedure and a difficult one, and after it was done the doctor called us to his office and said, "There's been some bleeding. We'll let you know, but you should go home now and rest." And so going home that night, I listened for a phone call in the middle of the night and was awakened only to find out it was morning and it was birds singing, not the phone ringing. My father had made it through the night, and in fact he did recover from the surgery. This is the joy we feel at Easter, but magnified. All of the hope that had been dashed on Good Friday, the terrible pressure of grief, the terrible pressure of knowing there was no future in the world, only on Sunday to be greeted not by the ringing of a telephone announcing death but the loud clear singing of alleluias. This is the joy we have, and it's a promise so strong that even when we do die, even when we do confront death, we have the hope and the assurance of eternal life.

Easter makes it possible for us, even at the grave, to sing alleluia.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

Happy Easter, dear church.



Minutes of April 16, 2019, Council Meeting

In attendance: George Smith, Mary Braun, Jenny Schuett, Ron Haglund, Sherry Whipple, Dorothy Munding, Cheryl Malotky, Pastor James Muske and Judie Birk. Guests were Joann Stiven and Sandy Pullen.

The meeting was called to order by council president George Smith. Pastor James gave opening Devotions.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the March meeting by Mary Braun, seconded by Dorothy Munding, and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Mary provided information on certificates to council from Members Cooperative Credit Union in Aitkin, Neighborhood National Bank in Aitkin or Capital One Savings. Council discussed the different interest options from these establishments. A motion was made by Ron Haglund to put \$10,000 in Savings and \$10,000 in a Certificate of Deposit for one year at the Members Cooperative Credit Union of Aitkin. Dorothy seconded the motion and passed. (one nay, who rather we go to Neighborhood). Financial view and current month activity for March was presented by Mary Braun. Motion was made by Sherry Whipple to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Ron Haglund and passed.

Pastor's report – (March 19 to April 16, 2019)

Helped with another Movie & Pizza night on March 31. Thanks again to all who helped!
Lead evening worship at Camp Onomia for a retreat for the synod's School of Lay Ministry on April 5
Lead the funeral worship service for Frances Berge on April 6.
Planning to conduct a marriage service for Amanda Ringer and Brad Eddy at Grace Lutheran near McGregor on April 27 (for Pastor Erika who is at a new call). Met with them this past month.
As part of the Together Here group (helping build understanding and relationships with native neighbors), our synod team is meeting at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum on April 25 at 11am. Also plan

to lead a "blanket exercise" at Calvary Lutheran in Mora on April 28.

Will attend the Synod Assembly in Duluth, May 3-5. George and Patti also plan to attend. Might take an extra day or two afterwards, if I can find a substitute preacher.

Will be one of the narrators at the ecumenical Good Friday cantata held at Faith Lutheran in Isle.

Debating if I want to attend the Festival of Homiletics (preaching festival) in Minneapolis, May 13-17, as I haven't really been using my continuing education time and budget.

Finished the Lenten series, another good year! Would like to continue to look for other opportunities for shared activities and ministry with area churches. Maybe some kind of joint outdoor summer worship?

Old Business:

Update from Stewardship Committee —

Stewardship recommends that \$6,000 out of pledge fund 420 and 432 be paid toward the parsonage mortgage. Stewardship recommends that no more than \$40,000.00 out of checking be put into a money market fund.

Update 100th Anniversary Celebration August 2019 —

April meeting is next week on the 22nd. The March movie/pizza night was another success. Plans to do a Junk Bingo on April 28 is in the works. Pastor is working on a fundraising letter to raise money for our centennial event.

Update Isle School Paw Pantry — the program will be discontinued for the summer and start again in the Fall.

Update Isle Area Food Shelf — Still a need for cereals, individual packets of oatmeal and other foods. Volunteers needed once a month for three hours (first Tuesday 2-6 pm). If someone in the congregation is interested, contact George or Patti Smith.

Update on Church Property Insurance — North Star Mutual (Oberfeld Insurance) has presented their quote. Current policy expires 04/21/2019. As of today, I am aware of no other quotes. Recommend we continue with North Star Mutual.

A motion to go with North Star Mutual was made by Cheryl Malotky and seconded by Jenny Schuett and passed.

Feedback on Church Roster Mailings sent out — Mary has only got a few responses. Transfers didn't say where they transferred to.

Graduation Quilts — A letter to the graduates' parents was suggested to please come to a service to receive a quilt. We will ask M&E if they can write a letter.

New Business:

Secretarial Position — Jenny Schuett is leaving as part-time secretary and has let the personal committee know. Council thanks her for her service. Secretarial hours will be posted for when Mary works. Jenny will continue as a volunteer to do the communion tally.

Sunday School / Education committee needed — Sandy Pullen and Joanne Stueven came to council to discuss what is needed from the Mission and Evangelism (M&E) Committee. It was suggested that M&E ask someone involved with the Sunday School program to be on the M&E Committee. Budgeting for this year is a concern. We have current materials and craft items that can be used. Pastor has ideas too that he will share with the M&E Committee.

Council Retreat — Pastor suggested we do a council retreat and we would invite the committee chairs. We are looking at September timeline.

Committee Reports:

Worship & Music:

March 14th, 2019 at 10:30am

Members present: Carol Bakken, Jim Christensen, Sharon Whipple, Paula Spetz, Pastor James, Julie Swaggert. Opening prayer....Pastor James

Topics: (Both old and new)

Holy week and Easter Services and details

The times for services have been set, will be in the paper and newsletter:

Maundy Thursday: April 18 6:30pm

Good Friday: April 19 9:00am

Easter Sunday: 8:30 and 10:00am (back to 2 services!)

Review, discuss and update Worship and Music Committee **Job Description** and **begin budget discussion**. This topic could take more than one month or require subcommittee work. This will be the main focus of our next meeting on **May 2nd**. Julie will bring copies of the current budget sheets and the Worship and Music Committee Job Descriptions to the next meeting so we all have hard copies to work off of.

Centennial Service and celebration discussion

We are scheduled to have guest praise bands at the August 11th Centennial celebration (afternoon). Jim will confirm and check with church praise bands. Pastor James suggested the Praise Band event could also be part of our "outward reaching" Centennial celebration and a fund raiser (perhaps for the local food shelf) could be established for that event. More discussion to come at next meeting!

Outdoor summer worship

Using our outdoor facilities or taking a service to a nearby resort were discussed as possibilities. More discussion at the next meeting.

Possible quarterly meetings in Aitkin to accommodate Music Director's schedule.

We agreed to meet quarterly at the Beanery in Aitkin so Director of Music, Sheila Penoyer can attend.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 2nd at 11:00am at the Beanery in Aitkin. Closed with Lord's Prayer

Stewardship & Finance:

MEETING APRIL 8, 2019

Stewardship recommends that \$6,000 out of pledge fund 420 and 432 be paid toward the parsonage mortgage.

We further recommend that Pastor and the property committee discuss how to allot the pledge funds to be received during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. These recommendations need to be part of the submitted property budget requests. Stewardship estimates that approximately \$13,000 may be received during the remaining pledge drive in 2019-2020.

Some of the \$13,000 will need to go toward paying the remaining mortgage which we estimate to be approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 in 2019-2020. Stewardship recommends that no more than \$40,000.00 out of checking be put into a money market fund. (Information will be provided for the council to consider)

Donna and Mary are following up with committees to get the policy and procedure information asked for as part of the in-house audit

Next meeting is Monday, May 6 at noon. Agenda will include developing a form to be used by committees in preparing their budget requests for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Submitted by Pat Becker

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

April 2019

The committee has not met since December. Our next meeting will be in May

Lawn mowing schedule will be put out soon and due to no volunteers to service the mowers, they will be serviced by local lawn repair shop. Cost...?

Roof on the parsonage garage needs replacing. Cost approximately \$2,000. Will get estimates.

Parsonage driveway needs to be replaced/repared. A suggestion to pave over top of existing drive was made. Estimates will be obtained. Cost guesstimate \$10,000-\$15,000.

Parsonage window reported cracked. I will contact Anderson Homes for possible warranty.

Several chairs have been taken out of service due to bent legs. Also, the vinyl covers on the seats are starting to crack along the edges. Del and Dianne Jones have replaced seat covers on many of the chairs. Thank you to Del and Dianne!

Should we consider having an upholsterer doing the remainder of the chairs? Question for Council. We can get the estimate.

Respectfully submitted, Lee Forrester

Motion was made to adjourn by Mary Braun, seconded by Jenny, and passed. The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next council meeting will be May 20 at 9:30 am. Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.

2019 TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund	MARCH	YTD
Income Actual	\$19,152	\$127,291
Income Budgeted	\$15,542	\$112,616
Expense Actual	\$14,276	\$107,751
Expense Budgeted	\$16,192	\$114,603
Over (Short)	\$4,876	\$19,540

Women of the ELCA Mtg – April 17, 2019

Chairwoman Jeannine B opened the mtg with 16 members present. Refreshments were served by Pat B & Darlene C. The purpose statement was read. Sandy P gave devotions.

The secy's report was accepted as written in the Lifeline. Diane gave the treasurer's report with a bal on hand of \$4,212.34. Motion by Char, sec by Elsa to accept the report. Passed. A matter of a monetary amount of \$100 to the Heartland conference was discussed. It will be checked out.

Old business:

- The Spring Gathering for the Heartland conference will be April 24th at Bethesda.
- A food safety mtg will be held May 1st at 1:00 at Bethesda
- Jelly making is scheduled for May 6th at 8:00 am in the church kitchen.
- The crafter's schedule was handed out.

New business:

The synod convention at Sugar Lake is June 24-26. WELCA will pay for the registration for all WELCA members who attend.

The next mtg is May 15th at 9:30 a.m. Sandy P & Linda S will serve refreshments.

Char Berg, secy

There is a letter from the Ingrian Lutheran Church of Russia on the church web site:

<http://blcmalmo.org/2019/04/24/ingrian-lutheran-church-of-russia/>

It tells both of the struggles and joys that the Lutheran church is facing. Please keep them in your prayers. Pat Becker



May 12th

Crafters to Start Meeting

Our crafting meetings for the 2019 year are about to start. Anyone interested in working on craft projects is urged to attend. Some project ideas, materials, etc. are provided. There is always a demand for new project ideas. We look for projects that are not too trendy, yet practical and affordable.



A tentative schedule for the 9:00 am meetings in the church fellowship hall is as follows:

May 7, 21	June 4, 25
July 2, 16	August 6, 20
September 3, 10	October 1, 15

The bazaar is Saturday, October 26th. For more information, call Char Berg @320-684-2102.

Help! We need Coffee Servers for May and June.



Please sign up so we may continue to have coffee in between the services, the sign up 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 500! Join in on the fun!

Potluck On the 2nd Thursday ONLY at noon



Double Pinochle is at 1:00 on Mondays



VBS invites kids to discover that God is good even when life gets wild. They will learn about animals and life in Africa. Vacation Bible School will be held June 17-21 for ages 4-12. 6th graders and older are

welcome as helpers. Please invite your grand, great grand or neighbor kids to join us for the week. If they have attended in the past the registration form will be mailed to them. On line registration will also be available at blcmalmo@gmail.com. Please consider joining the fun that week by volunteering to help in any way you feel comfortable. Contact Joanne Stueven or Dianne Jones.

JELLY MAKING TIME!

It is time for the annual Bethesda Jelly making again. The date has been set for Monday, May 6th, 8:00a.m.. So mark your calendars and more information will follow. Sign-up sheets will be out in mid-April. Plan to come and join in the fun. No experience needed.



CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice started on Wednesday, April 24th at 6:00 pm. Anyone interested in singing with the choir can just come to practice. Everyone is welcome.



RAFFLE WINNER!



Congrats to Vicki Vossen as she claims 1st prize from last month's Centennial Raffle fundraiser. We are so blessed to have her beautiful family as part of our congregation; we hope they enjoy the goodies!

We hope you participate each month for a chance to win a different prize specially chosen for that month. Thank you for your support. *Need not be present to win.*



Pastor James gave an outstanding sermon with a message regarding the importance of women at Easter and in the church down through the ages. Here's a special thanks to Pastor for all his work throughout this season. Thanks to those working to set up for the Heartland Women's Gathering... it's a special week for the ladies at Bethesda!



Easter Lily Dedications

<u>Name</u>	<u>In Honor or Memory of</u>
Jerry & Pat Becker	Loved Ones
Roy & Char Berg	Parents
Jeannine Bruesewitz	Loved Ones
Chuck & Elsa Carlson	Family
Richard & Karen Carron	Family
Wayne & JoAnn Danielson	Family
Richard Gripp	Family
Skip & Lynn Hansen	Loved Ones
Ron & Arty Heins	Parents
Dennis Hennessy & Julie Swaggert	Family
Del & Dianne Jones	Family
Mike & Sherri Lofgren	Jim & Lois Falk
Mike & Sherri Lofgren	Len & Lauonne Lofgren
Dennis & Lynne Meidlinger	Family
Keith & Dorothy Munding	Loved Ones
Pastor James Muske	Family
Sam & Sue Samuelson	Family
Jenny Schuett	Dennis & Parents
Penny Sjoquist	Family
George & Patti Smith	Joe & David
Dave & Joanne Stueven	Family
Mary Swanson	Del & Jenny
Bev Wedig	Al, Jen, Travis

Listen to past Sundays Service on our website at this link.

<http://blcmalmo.org/category/sermons/>

PRAYER CHAIN

PRAYER & CARE:

- Please pray for Gaylard Westerlund.
- Please pray for Gary Hansen
- Please pray for Ron & Carol Hass

Please call the church office secretaries if you need Holy Communion brought to you at your home or in any Health Care Facility. Between our Pastor and Parish Nurses we will gladly visit those in need as soon as possible.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Are you in need of prayer? Would you like to add someone's name to prayer list? Confidential form and those names will be added to Bethesda's prayer list.



And thanks to Elsa Carlson, Dianne Jones and all the Altar Guild for keeping the sanctuary functioning and BEAUTIFUL

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

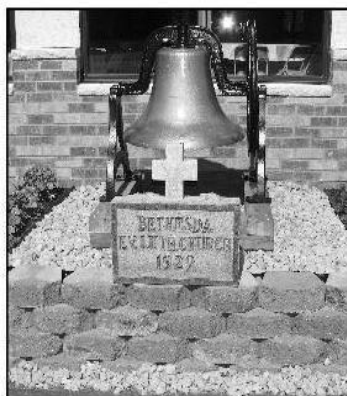
NON PROFIT ORG
Paid
Permit No. 25
Aitkin, MN 56431

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@gmail.com	(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	James A. Muske	(320) 684-2123
Council President	George Smith	(320) 537-1020
Vice President	Jenny Schuett	(651) 245-8532
Parish Nurse	Darlene Christensen	(218) 839-8193
Parish Nurse	Kathy Berland	(218) 838-6181

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