

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.



June 2 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

June 9 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

June 16 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

June 23 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 AM
Communion

June 30 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

June 5 – Spring Clean Up

June 17-20th - Annual VBS.

June 29 Veggie stand opens 8:00 am

We are no longer able to use the email address: blcmalmo@frontiernet.net
Please use this new email address: blcmalmo@gmail.com



The Veggie Stand is opening on Saturday, June 29th at 8 am!! Consider stopping by to pick up some corn and/or jelly! Of course, donated baked goods are always appreciated; it is what brings many from our surrounding area to visit us early on Saturday mornings. The Veggie Stand will open on Saturday, June 29 and every Saturday through Labor Day weekend! We hope you'll donate baked goods, veggies, or event just stop by to say "hi". All donations go towards helping others in need!

ROAR 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.



SPRING CLEAN UP

Wednesday, June 5,
from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
We will be cleaning yard,
trimming trees, washing

windows. Put on your calendar. We can use your help!



From the Pastor

“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth! You made your glory higher than heaven! From the mouths of nursing babies you have laid a strong foundation because of your foes, in order to stop vengeful enemies.”

When I look up at your skies, at what your fingers made—the moon and the stars that you set firmly in place—what are human beings that you think about them; what are human beings that you pay attention to them?”

You’ve made them only slightly less than divine, crowning them with glory and grandeur. You’ve let them rule over your handiwork, putting everything under their feet—all sheep and all cattle, the wild animals too, the birds in the sky, the fish of the ocean, everything that travels the pathways of the sea. LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!” (Psalm 8)

Greetings, brothers and sisters in Christ!

Our spring and early summer weather has admittedly been a bit of a mixed bag this year. However, there have indeed been, and no doubt will be, many days this summer when we remember why we live in Minnesota, surrounded by lakes and trees. On cool, quiet summer mornings or while watching the sun set over the lake, it is hard not to be filled with gratitude for the beauty of God’s good creation all around us.

But as much as we delight in those moments, we hearty, small-town Minnesotans can have a tendency to prioritize the practical over the beautiful. Function over form. Given that most of the world over-emphasizes physical appearance and the newest, shiniest toys, we would do well to push back against those obsessions.

Yet neither should we eliminate beauty and wonder in our lives. The goal, I suppose, is to recognize a deeper and broader sense of beauty. So that we might see the wonderful work of God in more places, more people, more moments of our lives.

Beauty is part of the Christian faith and one of the great examples of this is found in the poetry of the Psalms. For part of June and most of July we will be focusing on the Psalms on Sunday morning. Some are more poetic than others, but I encourage you to try reading your way through the book of Psalms this summer. Most are fairly short, and it would be easy to read one or two a day and make your way through the whole Psalter before the days start turning cool again.

Of course, the Psalms also remind us that beauty is not always happy. Rather than just some empty, superficial

thrill, the beauty that God works in our world always speaks a truth, and so sometimes the poetry of the psalms speaks words of praise, and sometimes words of lament. As Prof. Diane Jacobson wrote recently in an article about poetry in the Psalms: “Our praise is related to promise and grace. Our praise surprises us with a God who meets us in our lament and takes us beyond. The poetry of praise transports us. Our questions are met by promise.”

Every day in our lives isn’t filled with sunshine and singing birds. But God meets us in every moment of our lives, helping us to remember the beauty of his love, even when life seems pretty ugly. Wherever life may find you this month, may God find you and bring you a few beautiful moments of promise and grace.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor James Muske

P.S. A brief update related to the two synod committees on which I serve:

- 2020 Bishop Election – Since bishops in NE MN Synod can only serve a max of 2, 6 year terms, next year will be time to call a new bishop. Any ordained pastor in the ELCA can be nominated to serve, so if you have an idea, please feel free to chat with me. There will be more information coming throughout this year. You can also share your thoughts via a survey currently on the synod’s website: www.nemnsynod.org/2020-bishops-election.html

- Together Here, the group within our synod that is working to educate our synod and build stronger relationships our native neighbors, has organized a series of workshops within our synod. There are four locations – in Virginia, Grand Rapids, Cloquet, and Trinity Lutheran in Brainerd. I am planning to help lead the first event in June. There is a schedule posted below, but please contact me for more info or check out our website (www.nemnsynod.org/together-www.nemnsynod.org/together-here.html) if you are interested.



Keep your ears and eyes open on Sunday mornings too, as I hope to organize local group outings to places like the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and events like the powwow in June.

- (www.nemnsynod.org/together-here.html) if you are interested.
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Brainerd, MN - 4th Tuesday of each month

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1420 S 6th St, Brainerd, MN 56401 - 6:30 PM—8:30 PM

June: Blanket Exercise—Regional Facilitator
 July: Doctrine of Discovery—Together Here (TH)
 August: Lutheran History with native peoples—TH
 September: Boarding Schools—Together Here (TH)
 October: Intergenerational Trauma—Dr. Melissa Walls
 November: The Soul of an Indian - Together Here (TH)
 December: Contextual Lodge - Mr. Kevin Kot
 January: Implicit Bias—Dr. Marsha Lue
 February: Treaties—Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper
 March: Getting to know our neighbors—TH
 April: Traditional stories and sites of the region



Minutes of May 20, 2019, Council Meeting

In attendance: Mary Braun, Jenny Schuett, Ron Haglund, Dorothy Munding, Pastor James Muske and Judie Birk.

The meeting was called to order by council vice president Jenny Schuett.

Pastor James gave opening Devotions.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the April meeting by Ron Haglund, seconded by Mary Braun, and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial view and current month activity for April was presented by Mary Braun. Motion was made by Ron Haglund to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Dorothy Munding and passed. Every committee should have received their budget worksheet and should look at returning them by June 13 for review.

Pastor's Report: (April 17 to May 20, 2019)

- Holy Week and Easter went well! Thanks to all those that helped make it a wonderful time!
 - Similar to Lent, some of the Aitkin-area pastors are planning to pulpit swap a few times this summer, since that seemed to be popular.
- Presided at a wedding at Grace Lutheran Church in McGregor; everything went well and I am now registered with the state.
- Attended the Synod Assembly in Duluth with George and Patti Smith, May 3-5. A good time to connect with other fellow Lutherans across NE MN. Also had some great presentations by our companion synod in South Andhra, India.
- Also met with the Synod's Bishop Election Committee while I was at the Synod Assembly. Since next year is the bishop's election, more events and info will be coming. There is a survey out right now that I will try to either link or print in the next newsletter. <http://www.nemnsynod.org/2020-bishops-election.html>
- The Together Here synod committee, educating and building better relationships with our native neighbors, is also hosting a series of monthly workshops across the synod. The nearest location for us will be at Trinity Lutheran Church in Brainerd, 6:30-8:30 on the 4th Tuesday of each month from June until next April.
 - I would also like to help organize some opportunities to attend some of the Mille Lacs Indian Museum's summer activities and the tribal powwow (and other events that may come up).
- Usual assortment of committee work and it was a busy month for pastoral care visits and calls. Also attended the funeral for Ron Hass.

Old Business:

Update from Stewardship Committee — Mary reported that we transferred \$20,000 from our checking account into a Savings Certificate account at MCCU.

- **Update 100th Anniversary Celebration August 2019** — Judie Birk reported that the Centennial committee will be advertising the August 11 Celebration Date to encourage our community to attend. We also want to encourage members along with their friends and family to join Bethesda as they walk/bike or ride in the 4th of July parade in Glen. We want to all be wearing our 'Rejoice Always' t-shirts to really make a

statement! Pastor wrote a fundraising letter to be sent out soon.

- Update Isle School Paw Pantry – **Reminder:** 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 volunteers once a month for three hours. Please call George if you have an interest. Also, please put something in the weekly bulletins for this need.
 - Feedback on Church Roster Mailings sent out. Two or three updates only. Council discussed.
 - Update on secretarial needs for the office. Mary is keeping a record of how many phone calls and it's not too many. We do have voice mail. Pastor says he get only a few phone calls on Wednesdays when Mary is gone. Personnel committee is looking into staffing needs.
 - Camp Onomia Council gathering (possible date)...suggested doing it during our regular council meeting. Maybe in October after new members are voted onto the Council.

New Business:

Committee Reports:

Mission & Evangelism

Mission and Evangelism Meeting Notes from April 22, 2019

Members Present: Pastor James, Sue Samuelson, Judie Birk, Joanne Stueven

On April 16 Joanne Stueven and Sandy Pullen discussed with the council the new Sunday school program and the possibility of adding Christian Education Committee, or continuing as a part of Mission and Evangelism. At this time we will not add a committee, but welcome anyone involved to communicate plans and ideas to Mission and Evangelism for funding and support. Laury Nyberg has done an awesome job taking this on. The council and committees will support the program in any way possible.

Not knowing when we could meet as a group, Joanne Stueven completed the Policies and Procedure form requested by Stewardship stating how we budget for annual expenditures.

We spent some time editing the 3-fold advertisement brochure and the post card. Judie will proceed creating the final draft as soon as a few more event dates are confirmed.

At some point soon we will invite Pearl Crisis Center to give a Temple Talk. Then, we will decide how many Temple Talks we want to host each year.

Pastor explained that the Heartland Fee is more of a donation than a fee. He will talk with Mary as to which fund could be used for that donation.

Over the winter, Pastor sent an outreach letter to names on our mailing list asking them for more current information as to their church status. This information may help update our membership list regarding those who have transferred and let others know we are thinking about them.

Property Committee

Report for May 2019

- Spring Clean-Up was set for Wednesday, June 5, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Lawn sign-up sheet is in Narthex. Lawn mowers are serviced and ready for use.
- We will rent chipper to cut brush pile.
- Faucet in men's bathroom will be replaced.
- A contractor has been contacted to repair soffit edging on east end of Fellowship Hall.
- Spray hose in kitchen sink will be replaced.
- Boyd's Electric has been contacted for a quote to repair fan in Fellowship Hall. We are considering replacing the fan ourselves, depending on the bid.
- We are getting quotes for Parsonage garage roof.
- Our next meeting will be June 10 at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lee Forrester

Worship & Music:

Meeting minutes from May 2, 2019, 11:00am at the Beanery, Aitkin

Members in attendance: Pastor James, Jim Christensen, Carol Bakken, Sheila Penoyer, Ron Haglund, Sharon Whipple, Julie Swaggert

- Meeting opened with prayer by Pastor James
- The Worship and Music Committee met at the Beanery in Aitkin to allow our Director of Music, Sheila Penoyer, to attend. Meetings will be held at least quarterly at the Beanery.
- Paula Spetz has resigned from the Worship and Music Committee. We want to thank Paula for her years of faithful service to this committee!

- Sheila discussed music items including choir, performance schedule, recruiting efforts, Cantata dates and new music purchase possibilities.
- Jim reviewed music technology, digital organ operation and folks who are willing to help run the digital organ on Sundays. The committee encouraged him to recruit and train some additional members in the operation of the digital organ as the two service season is upon us.
- Budget discussion included a review of the current budget and all members gaining more understanding of the items included in the budget. We began discussions looking at next year's budget and will continue the discussion in June. Upgrades and additions to our sanctuary technology including projector, screen, and worship technology input and operators were discussed.
- We reviewed the Worship and Music Committee Job Description. Julie will talk with Diane Jones about the Altar Guild and how the committee can better serve and help (if needed).
- June 9th is the Sunday for our annual outdoor worship service. Good weather is always a top prayer item for this service!
- Pastor James is interested in having a Family-focused 10am service the 4th Sunday of June, July and August. This would possibly replace Sunday School on these Sundays and would include music and a message geared to children and families as well as all of the congregation.
- The August 11th Centennial Praise Fest is scheduled and 2 other Praise Teams (First Lutheran of Aitkin and Faith in Isle) have committed to participate so far.
- Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer
- Next meeting is June 6th at 10:30am at Bethesda

Stewardship & Finance:

- We are continuing with budget process.
- Talked about parsonage mortgage payoff date.
- Possible large budget items and the next steps in the audit.
- Next meeting we will have budget requests from committees and will have reports on audit along with suggestions for Financial Position report and will start budget figures for 2020
- Next Stewardship meeting is Thursday, June 17th at 1 pm. Submitted by Pat Becker

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

The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next council meeting will be June 17 at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.

2019 TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income Actual	\$30,298	\$157,589
Income Budgeted	\$17,826	\$130,442
Expense Actual	\$23,541	\$129,928
Expense Budgeted	\$16,272	\$130,875
Over/(Short)	\$6,757	\$27,661

Women of the ELCA Minutes May 15, 2019

Chairwoman Sue S opened the mtg with 9 members present. The luncheon prayer was read. Refreshments were served by Sandy P & Linda S. The secretary's report was accepted & approved as printed in the May newsletter.

The treasurer's report was given by Diane Jones with a balance on hand of \$2,621.61. Motion by Char B, second by Elsa to accept the report. Motion passed. Old business:

Jelly making resulted in 440 jar being made.

The food safety class was well attended by 34 people.

Funeral serving – Plates of dessert bars will be placed on beverage container table rather than on the tables.

New business:

WELCA will buy a ladder for the crafter/quilter room. Barb F will purchase it. The summer convention at Sugar Lake is June 23-25. Registration for members attending will be paid by WELCA

The next WELCA mtg will be August 14th at 9:30 a.m. with Bev S & Lynn M serving refreshments. Motion was made to adjourn the mtg by Elsa, second by Barb F, carried.

Mtg closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Char Berg, secy



It is great having all of my choir peeps back from their winter break! We are still trying to get back in the groove of practice on Wed. nights and singing the 1st & 3rd Sundays. We have gained a couple of new members, Judy Seifert & our newest young member Neda. We are so happy to have them singing with us!! If there is anyone else that would like to try out the choir we practice Wed. nights from 6 pm - 7 pm. We welcome anyone who loves to sing, and likes to have fun! All are welcome! Here are dates & times we practice and sing, Wed., June 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th from 6 to 7. The practice on June 19th will be at the Malmo Town hall where we will be singing at the Lion's Community Picnic. We will sing, as well as the VBS kids, and the Praise Team. The Lions have asked the choir to make the cookies for the picnic. They are requesting all cookies, no bars. We will be singing on Sunday June 2nd, "Lord of Mercy, God of Grace", and then again on June 23rd, "You Give". I wanted to let you know that the Praise Team is planning an outdoor service for June 9th at 8:30 & 10:00, weather permitting. Please bring a lawn chair and come on out to sing Praises to our Lord in our beautiful flower gardens and out in the fresh air and nature. It will be a great worship experience!

See you there! Sheila Penoyer/Choir Director

Thank you

Many thanks to Lynne & Dennis Meidlinger for the many years they have delivered our Luther World Relief quilts and blankets to South St. Paul. Bethesda Quilters, Bev, Dorothy, Marge, Ellen.



BUDGET REQUEST FORMS



Each committee has received the 2019-2020 Budget Request forms in their In Boxes in the office.

The Stewardship committee is requesting that all committees have these forms fill out and returned by June 13th.

The Memory Garden is taking paver orders until Father'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.

Recycling. Besides plastic grocery bags, there are other plastic films that can be recycled. For instance, newspaper, dry cleaning, bread product bags, plastic covering for water bottles, and paper products such as toilet paper and towels can all be recycled together. But CANNOT go with other recycling! Clean and dry plastic film must be brought to Target, Kohls or Walmart to be dropped in their containers. To learn more, go to <http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org>



Centennial News

Mark your calendar for our Centennial Celebration on August 11, 2019! Plans are to have a Praise Fest, a community meal and many other fun activities that day.

A fund raising letter is being sent out soon to help raise funds for this monumental event. As Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo celebrates its Centennial, we realize that every parishioner has been equally important and essential to our growth. We are thankful to all who have given of their gifts, time and talent to God's service. We know we were blessed by the labors of those who went before us in the faith, but we are a people who still keep our eyes on the future.

Glen 4th of July Parade — Centennial Support

At this year's Glen parade, we are hoping to get at least 100 — Yes, 100 — participants to bike, walk or ride the parade route (mostly blacktop now) with everyone wearing their "Centennial Rejoice Always" t-shirts or sweatshirts. What a statement we can

make! We will hand out balloons with our Centennial Date and message of 'Rejoice Always'. A sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship Hall soon.

Centennial Monthly Drawings

The Centennial committee would like to thank everyone for participating in these monthly raffles. Monies raised will go to our August 11 celebration and a commemorative stained glass piece of art that will hang in the Fellowship Hall. Please continue supporting this effort in the coming months!

Raffle Basket for June 2019

(Courtesy of Bethesda Adult Choir)

- \$100 Visa Gift Card
- "This is my Story" CD (by Darwin Bruesewitz)
- "Precious Memories" CD (by Alan Jackson)
- Musical Themed Drink Coasters
- You Get to Choose the Hymns for July 14th Service

Centennial Historical Display

We are looking for items to display in our historical display for the Centennial. If you have any items or photos that can be loaned to the display, please contact Val Benton or bring to church.



Help! We need Coffee Servers for June and July.

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.

We are in need for volunteers to usher on Sundays. If interested please contact Skip or Lynne Hansen.

Isle Area Food Shelf There is still a need for cereals, individual packets of oatmeal and volunteers once a month for three hours. Food Collection Basket



is in the Narthex. Please call George Smith (620-786-4865) if you have an interest in helping once a month. 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

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!

The Crafter schedule for the 9:00 am meetings in the church fellowship hall is as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 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.

Save the date:

"God's work. Our hands."

Sunday is Sept. 8

Mark your calendar! "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is Sept. 8. Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this day of service. Whether your congregation prepares meals for neighbors in need, cleans parks and beaches, or writes thank-you notes to emergency responders, your service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: *All of life in Jesus Christ — every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.*

Happy Father's Day June 16th



Listen to past Sunday Services on the below link.

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmö
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	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	(320) 684-2846
Parish Nurse	Kathy Berland	(218) 838-6181

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