

Bethesda Life-Line

Worship Services*

Bethesda now has a YouTube channel! Please check out last week's service



(<https://www.youtube.com/BethesdaLutheranChurchMalmoMN/videos>), as well as on our Facebook page



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

May 1 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

**May 8 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion**

**May 15 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion**

**May 22 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion**

**May 29 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion**

Upcoming Events

May 8 National Day of Prayer-Isle Churches

May 30 Memorial Day

June 5th New Member Sunday

June 20-24, 2022-Vacation Bible school. Please invite kids to attend Vacation Bible School the week of June 20-24, 2022. We're excited to be back in person again!



GAME DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 22

2-4 PM

May Game Day Corn Hole Tournament

Join us on Sunday, May 22 for a fun afternoon of Corn Hole. Find yourself a partner or Sign up as a single and we will partner you up with another (Not a requisite to sign up, but it would be nice to see how many we will get!). This will be a family-friendly tournament, so bring the kids and grandkids. We will have other games if Corn Hole isn't your bag! Bring a snack to share and possibly we will be able to celebrate spring in Minnesota outdoors! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

Jelly Making

The date for our annual jelly making has been set for Monday, May 9th. Beginning at 8 AM. Many hands are needed so please come and help out. No experience is needed. Just come and join in the fun. Signup sheet is in the



Fellowship Hall. Donations are always accepted such as:

- Frozen raspberries
- Jalapenos or other hot peppers
- Rhubarb
- 4 oz. (1/2 pint) jelly jars & Lids
- Sure Jell and Pectin



From the Pastor

The following is the text of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Easter message:

Easter Eggs, Ukraine, and God's Victory (An Easter Message)

In Matthew's gospel, the resurrection of Jesus is introduced this way: "After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord had descended from heaven, came and rolled back the stone before the tomb until it was open."

A number of years ago, when I was serving as the bishop of North Carolina, one of our clergy, the Rev. James Melnyk, offered a workshop on the Saturday before Palm Sunday on how to design, and color, and make Easter eggs.

I attended the workshop with a number of other people from around the Raleigh area and did my best to make an Easter egg. But Jim was a master at doing so. You see, Jim's family hailed from Ukraine, and he had been making those Easter eggs from childhood, and spoke of his grandmother and the family tradition that hailed from Ukraine, the making of those Easter eggs. I knew the significance of the Easter egg and Easter. I knew the stories and the truth and the teachings about the coming of new life into the world, and the connection of life emerging from an egg, and Jesus rising from the dead, bringing new life and hope into our world.

But it became clear to me, in the last month or so, in this time when the people of the Ukraine are struggling for their freedom, struggling to be what God intends for all people to be, free people, that, that egg, which is deeply embedded in the life and the consciousness of the people of Ukraine, that those Easter eggs are not just mere symbols, but reminders of the reality of the

resurrection of Jesus. Think back. On Palm Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem, as we know, riding on a donkey. That was a deliberate act on his part.

He entered Jerusalem at about same time that Pontius Pilate, the governor of Rome, would've been entering the city from the other side, from the other gate. Pilate would've been riding a war horse, accompanied by a cavalry and infantry. He would've been riding in the streets of Jerusalem at this, the dawn of the Passover, which was a celebration of Jewish freedom. Harking back to the days of Moses and the Exodus, Pilate knew that the people would remember that God decreed freedom for all people, and that the Roman empire, which held Judea as a colony, would need to put down, by brute force, any attempt to strike a blow for their freedom.

So, Pilate entered Jerusalem on a war horse, and Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey. The way of humility, the way of the love that we know from the God who is love, the way of truth, the way of compassion, the way of justice, the way of God, the way of love. That way faced the way of the world, brute force, totalitarian power, injustice, bigotry, violence, embodied in Pontius Pilate, governor of Rome. And the rest of the week was a conflict between the way of the empire and the way of the kingdom or the reign of God's love.

On Friday, the empire struck. Jesus was executed on the orders of the governor of Rome. He was killed, and hope seemed to die with him. His followers fled, save those few women who stood by the cross, and save old Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, who provided a tomb for the body of Jesus. The Scripture says they placed his body in the tomb and rolled the stone in front of the tomb. And there he lay dead, lifeless. There their hopes dashed on the altars of reality, their truth was crushed to earth. Their love itself seemed to die.

Then early Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene, and at least one other, and maybe

a few other women, went to the tomb to anoint his body, to do the rites of burial that were customary. But when they got there, they realized that there had been an earthquake, that the earth, if you will, had been cracked open, and that the tomb was empty. The tomb was open and empty. The earth had been cracked open, and they would soon discover that Jesus had been raised from the dead. The earth cracking open, the tomb opening like an egg cracked open, and new life emerging from it.

That is the victory of life. That is the victory of love. That is the victory of God. The resurrection of Jesus is the victory that we can believe in and live by.



Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
Minutes of April 18, 2022 Council Meeting

In attendance: Dennis Hennessy, Mary Braun, Darlene Christensen, Cheryl Malotky, Pastor James Muske, Dick Stebbins, Joanne Stueven, Sharon Whipple

The meeting was called to order by council president Dennis Hennessy. Pastor James gave opening Devotions.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the March meeting by Sherry Whipple and seconded by Darlene Christensen and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

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 Dick Stebbins and passed.

Pastor's Report – March 21-April 18, 2022

Some items for this month:

Survived Lent and Holy Week! Lots to do, but great to see so many people returning!

Enjoyed participating in the Isle Good Friday Cantata, all our practices on Sunday afternoon seemed to pay off.

Together with Mary Vukelich, hosted and provided tech support for the Synod's EcoFaith 2022 Summit, held online via Zoom.

Will attend the Synod Assembly April 29-May 1.

The Bishop will be providing a sermon, and Dennis Hennessy will help lead worship that Sunday.

Plan to take some continuing education time May 16-20.

Was invited to attend the Church wide Assembly in August in Columbus, Ohio, after the original pastor moved out of the synod.

Planning to apply for a sabbatical grant by the end of this month, but wouldn't apply until 2023 if received.

Old Business

Digital Sign is scheduled for delivery in May. Jody Steward will be coordinating delivery and installation.

Mental Health First Aid Class on May 3 & 10.

Update authorized signers on bank account — It was noted to take the names of George Smith and Ron Mehlhop off as signers on the account and add Dennis Hennessy. Mary Braun will stay on the list as a signer.

New Business

Summer worship schedule – Going to one service or two was discussed at council. Mary will include a survey in the newsletter to get a poll of what parishioners want.

Name tag buttons will now be handled by Gary Sjerven. We may try a new look!

New Member Sunday — Sunday, June 5th — Mary will send out letters to respective new members. If

anyone knows of possible new members, please let the office know.

May 22nd Game Day — A game day with a ‘Corn Hole’ tournament is being planned.

Committee Reports

Parish Nurse-Faith Health and Wellness Committee Report

The Faith Health and Wellness committee has not met officially as a group since the pandemic. The Parish Nurse program along with Pastor James have tried to keep members connected through phone calls and visits when appropriate. The Grief Ministry has continued with distribution of Prayer Shawls and the “Journey Through Grief” literature being given to those who have lost loved ones.

Now that church has opened up and more activities are being offered the committee will meet again to reorganize with the following goals: involve previous members and add new ones, restart the Outreach Ministry now that Nursing Homes and Assisted Livings are allowing visitors and collaborate with Mission and Evangelism/Christian Education to offer additional educational/supportive programs to the congregation and the community.

Darlene Christensen, Parish Nurse

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

The next council meeting will be May 16 at 10 am. Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.

2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>General Fund</u> <i>(Envelope Giving)</i>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income Actual	\$16,477	\$44,826
Budget Actual	\$11,667	\$35,000
<u>All Funds</u>		
Total Income Actual	\$20,777	\$ 55,119
Total Income Budget	\$12,454	\$ 37,362
Expenses Actual	\$14,156	\$ 64,254
Expenses Budget	\$12,640	\$ 37,971
Over/(Short)	\$ 6,621	(\$ 9,135)



April 13, 2022

Chairwoman Sue Samuelson opened the meeting with 14 present.

Jeannine Bruesewitz gave devotions. The Purpose & Mission statements were read.

The secretary’s report stood approved as printed in the January newsletter. The treasurer’s report was given by Dianne Jones with a balance on hand of \$3,288.47. Motion by Barb Forrester, seconded by Elsa Carlson to accept the report. Motion passed.

Old business:

Thank you cards & letters from bazaar recipients were posted on the WELCA board.

New business:

In Kind kit products were purchased & arranged by Sue to pack into 36 tote bags. The bags were filled after the WELCA meeting. Cost was \$564.88, paid for out of the corn feed money. The bags will be delivered to the June 6-8 Summer Gathering.

Jelly making will be Monday, May 9th at 8:00am. Sue will shop for jelly supplies. Mary B. will put out left over jellies to be purchased with a free will offering.

Kitchen cleaning is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28th at 8:00am

We need to find a delegate to attend the June 6-8 summer gathering.

Discussion was held re: how much money to allocate for various offerings. Elsa Carlson made a motion and Char Berg seconded it to give \$300 for the Summer convention and \$300 for the general WELCA Gathering. Motion passed.

Craft meetings will start on Monday, May 23rd @9:00am

The next WELCA meeting will be Wednesday, May 18th at 10:00am

Motion by Mary Braun and second by Janice Olson to adjourn the meeting.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer. Char Berg, secy.



Spring 2022???

This does not seem like Spring, but I expect that the lake ice will melt and we will get to enjoy liquid water soon. I hope everyone has endured this past winter well and is anticipating enjoying the outdoors someday soon.

Julie and I spent Easter Sunday with her mother, Yvonne, in Buffalo, MN. Zion Lutheran Church had an Easter Sunday service at Havenwood, Yvonne's residence. The celebrant gave a sermon about the resurrection and the part that Mary Magdalene played in reporting the empty tomb and the resurrected Jesus.

She used the Bible verse from Psalms 118 vs 22 "The stone the builders rejected has become the corner stone." It was used in the context that the disciples did not believe her and rejected her testimony about seeing the Risen Lord. It made me aware again that the Bible hides so much truth in plain sight. How often I have failed to see what God has made that I have rejected.

We are called to be the hands and feet of the Lord. To spend our lives as Jesus spent His for us. I know that I have fallen short of this calling many times and I will probably continue to fall short of His perfect example because I am human, but I still have to try.

I have seen this effort made by many in this congregation and as a congregation we have been able to weather the storm of COVID. It is a struggle to throw off the effects of COVID and the isolation it created among us, but I am confident that we will. And that as a congregation we will once again gather together to worship, socialize and renew our community with our good works.

Thank you for your continued support of Bethesda and our community.

God bless,
Dennis Hennessy
Council President

Parish Nurse Notes

On April 20th Roland Brummer, a 28 year cancer RN presented an informative session on filling out an advance directive at Bethesda's fourth and final End of Life Series. He explained the various parts of the form and talked through the decisions that need to be made when completing the form. To view this program go to Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo's Facebook page to get to the YouTube site. The link to access a copy of the form is found there. You can also get a copy of the form in the church office. If you have questions or would like help completing your form contact Darlene Christensen or Mary Vukelich. Mary is also a notary public and can certify your signature on the final page of the document. A healthcare directive is a gift to you and your family during one of life's most precious times so consider filling out or finishing yours soon.



The Choir started practicing for the season on April 19th. Choir Practice will be on Tuesday nights at 5:30 and Praise Team at 6:30. Here is our May schedule for Choir. We will not have practice on May 3rd, as Sheila will be gone celebrating her mom's 85th Birthday. So, the choir will be practicing on Tues. May 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st at 5:30, and will be singing on Sunday, May 8th, "Jesus Messiah" and May 22nd, "Jesus Take me Near the Cross", with Pastor James singing the solo. Anyone who would like to come and sing with the choir. We are always looking for new members. I am looking forward to another fun-filled Choir season!
Sheila Penoyer/Choir Director

Prayer Shawl Ministry

A huge thank you to all those who have donated yarn or knitted/crocheted Prayer Shawls and Prayer Squares. Our supply was almost depleted and now we have 25 beautiful shawls and a new supply of prayer squares that can be given to those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one or are facing a medical challenge. The shawls are available from Darlene Christensen or from the quilt rack in the

narthex. Yarn is also available if you wish to make a shawl.

Faith, Health and Wellness

Now that activities at church and visitation at Care Centers and Assisted Living facilities have opened up more we are looking to reorganize this committee and the Outreach Ministry. We are looking for people who can make phone calls or visit members either individually or as a team or to participate with some other aspect of the committee. Contact Pastor James or Darlene if you can be a part of this ministry.

WELCA DELEGATES WELCA is looking for delegates for the Summer Convention on June 6-8, 2022. Any female member of the church is welcome. More information and registration forms available in the Fellowship Hall on the table along the NW wall. See Jeannine Bruesewitz or Susan Samuelson for more information.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER Thursday, May 5, 2022. Prayer Breakfast at Faith Lutheran Church from 7:00-9:30am. Open Prayer from 11am – 2pm at the following churches: Faith Lutheran, Living Waters Assembly of God, Isle Baptist, Holden Lutheran & Wahkon Presbyterian. Concert of Prayer from 6:30-8:00pm at Isle Evangelical Free Church. See poster in Narthex for complete information.



Crafters to Start Meeting

Our crafting meetings for the 2022 year are about to start. Mark your calendar for Monday, May 23 at 9 am to brainstorm ideas for our fall bazaar. Bring ideas or craft that you think we can do as a group.

FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING at Bethesda - like us on Facebook, view live streaming worship services on Sunday mornings on our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/bethesdalutheranchurchmalmomn>, or visit our website at:

www.blcmalmo.org



Tuesday, May 3 (10 am-2:30 pm) &
Tuesday, May 10 (10 am-2:30 pm)

Recognizing Mental Health Concerns

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo is hosting a two-part course on Mental Health First Aid on May 3 and May 10 (10 am-2:30 both days).

Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. This training gives one the skills needed to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help them connect to the appropriate care.

Who should attend and why:

This course is recommended for caring individuals, First Responders, hospital staff, police officers, employers, faith leaders and community members. Learn about common signs and symptoms of mental illness and substance use. Know how to interact with a person in crisis and how to connect the person with help. There will also be expanded content on trauma, addiction and self-care.

Course Information

This course is led by Mary Vukelich a certified instructor for Mental Health First Aid. Participants must attend both session. A contribution from Thrivent Financial helped reduce cost of class to \$10. Plan to bring a bag lunch. Refreshments will be served.

Please call 320-684-2123 to register. Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo is located at 21590 State Hwy. 47.



May 8th

• "If you have a mom, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been."

—Robert Brault

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE SURVEY

• As we enter into the summer season, what best describes your attitude toward attending worship services at church this summer?

- I prefer two Sunday Worship services. One at 8:30am & one at 10:00am
- I prefer one Sunday earlier morning Worship service
 - 8:30am or 9:00am
- I prefer one Sunday later morning Worship service
 - 9:30am or 10:00am
- I would like a Saturday evening “Causal” worship service in addition to Sunday morning.
- I would like a Wednesday night “Family” worship service in addition to Sunday morning.
- I prefer to worship online at YouTube.
- Not Sure

• Do you expect the church to offer children’s and student ministries when schools are back in the fall?

- Yes
- No, have them participate in the main worship service for now.
- Yes, I would be willing to assist with instruction.

Name (optional): _____

Please fill out the above survey questions and return it to the church office either in person, by mail, or email us your wishes for our Summer Worship Schedules.

Email: blcmalmo@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 21590 State Hwy 47, Isle, MN 56342

Look for this survey in your regular Sunday bulletin.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER is Thursday, May 5, 2022. Prayer Breakfast at Faith Lutheran Church from 7:00-9:30am. Open Prayer from 11am – 2pm at the following churches: Faith Lutheran, Living Waters Assembly of God, Isle Baptist, Holden Lutheran & Wahkon Presbyterian. Concert of Prayer from 6:30-8:00pm at Isle Evangelical Free Church. See poster in Narthex for complete information.



Choir Practice has started on Tuesday nights at 5:30pm. More members are always welcome to join the choir. If you like to sing, we would like to have you join us! Practice lasts about one hour a week.



**Be ye fishers of men.
You catch them –
He'll clean them**
**Happy Opening of Fishing
on May 15th!**

Activities & Events

May 2022

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

Ushers **Jim Christensen**

May 1: Darrell Kelly & Dick Stebbins
 May 8: The Vukelich Family
 May 15: Lee & Barb Forrester
 May 22: Darrell Kelly & Dick Stebbins
 May 29: Janice Olson & Winnie Zahradka

Altar Care Dianne Jones

May..Barb Forrester and Karen Elias
 June.. Linda Southworth and Sylvia Tapelt
 July..Winnie Zahradka and Dianne Jones

Recycling



Greeters **Jim Christensen**

May 1: Barry & Donna Ansell
 May 8: Jenny Schuett & Patti Smith
 May 15: Wayne & Janice Olson
 May 22: Wally & Bev Swenson
 May 29: Don & Donna Myhre



May 10 Susan & Richard Stebbins
 May 24 Joyce & Ron Keil
 May 24 Lisa & Sheldon Stay



May 2	Thomas Westerlund
May 4	Reily Lagerstrom
May 5	Jonathan Mickelson
May 8	Char Berg
May 8	Jeannine Bruesewitz
May 8	Dick Nelson
May 10	Gary Sjerven
May 11	Wayne Olson
May 12	Donna Ansell
May 13	Jeanne Anderson
May 13	Jamie Trotter
May 14	Vada Sorby
May 15	Tom Christensen
May 17	Janice Olson
May 21	Jacquelyn Follmer
May 21	Laurina Tofteland
May 21	Martin Wolf
May 22	Marilyn Andrews
May 22	Ray Piispanen
May 24	Kris Fredrick
May 26	Steven Lebens
May 27	Elle Johnson
May 28	Skip Hansen
May 29	Eldon Mitchell
May 29	Gaylard Westerlund
May 30	Michael Brucciani
May 31	Theresa Berry
May 31	Gale Rolek



May 2022

Bethesda Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Worship No Communion	2 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	3 10:00-2:30 Men- tal Health First Aid class	4 9:00 Women's Bible Study practice	5 National Day of Prayer Events in Isle all Day 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 4:00 Bell Practice	6	7
8 9:00 Worship Communion Choir sings Mother's Day	9 8:00 jelly making 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	10 9:00 Quilters 10:00-2:30 Men- tal Health First Aid class 5:30 Choir 6:30 Praise choir	11 9:00 Women's Bible Study	12 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 4:00 Bell Practice	13	14 Opening of fishing
15 9:00 Worship Communion	16 9:00 Women's Devotional Bible study 10:00 Council mtg 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	17 5:30 Choir 6:30 Praise choir	18 9-4:00 WIC 9:00 Women's Bible Study 10:00 WELCA	19 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 4:00 Bell Practice	20 Newline Deadline	21
22 9:00 Worship Communion 2:00 Game Day	23 9:00 Crafters 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	24 9:00 Quilters 5:30 Choir 6:30 Praise choir	25 9:00 Women's Bible Study	26 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 4:00 Bell Practice	27	28
29 9:00 Worship Communion	30 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg Memorial Day	31 5:30 Choir 6:30 Praise choir				

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
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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 Malmo
Pastor	James A. Muske	(320) 684-2123
Council President	Dennis Hennessy	(651) 247-2283
Vice President		
Parish Nurse	Darlene Christensen	(320) 279-0097
Parish Nurse	Kathy Berland	(218) 838-6181

To share articles and/or information, mail to:

Sue Stebbins, *Lifeline* Editor

c/o Bethesda Lutheran Church

Email address: blnews@juno.com

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