

Bethesda Life-Line



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

September 6 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

September 13 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

September 20 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

September 27 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

Upcoming Events

Last Veggie stand is September 5th

September 9th – Bonfire and Picnic 5-7pm

Crafting Days This Year's Crafting Day dates :
September 21 & 28, and October 19.

The Bazaar will be held on October 31 with a
vintage market theme.



September 7!



2026



God's Work Our Hands 2026

The ELCA encourages churches to participate in a
September 13 event by serving the community.

For years we have asked Bethesda members to help
clean the beach by the Carlsons Hogsback area on that
Sunday. There have not been many cars to the area due
to road closures although boats have still used the area.
Perhaps volunteers will check the area for trash on
September 13 or sometime this fall.

In addition, we would like to collect pantry donations
or baby and family care essentials to be distributed to
WIC and local food shelves around the date of
September 13, 2026.

There will be a list of suggested items available soon.
Detailed information about local programs is available
by searching Aitkin Co. WIC program. We welcome
all hands to help,
Mission and Evangelism

SAVE THE DATE!

The Worship and Music Committee (WAM) is
sponsoring a **Bonfire and Picnic on Wednesday,**
September 9th from 5-7pm. We will have Grilled
Hot Dogs, chips and Lemonade plus plates, cups and
silverware. Please bring a dish to share!
We will also make some old- fashioned s'mores!
We have not secured any special music for the evening
yet, but we are still working on it! Come and enjoy our
beautiful gardens and grounds and visit with your
Bethesda friends and neighbors! (In case of bad
weather, we will move into the Fellowship Hall.

Pastor Christina



Where Is God Calling Bethesda?

Last month, I invited you to think about what it means to be part of Bethesda. Why did you first come? What has kept you here? What would you tell someone who asked why Bethesda matters to you?

Thank you to those who shared your thoughts and stories. Those conversations have stayed with me, and they lead us to another question worth asking together: What is God calling us to do and to be in this place, at this time?

We can already see signs of God's answer in the ministry happening among us. We gather around Word and Sacrament. We care for one another. We feed people, welcome neighbors, tend gardens, support our community, pray together, learn together, and show up when someone needs us. Some of these ministries are easy to see; others happen quietly, through everyday acts of faithfulness.

As we look ahead, I hope we will keep listening together for where God is calling us next. What needs do we see around us? What gifts has God already placed among us? Where might the Holy Spirit be inviting Bethesda to serve?

Living Water: The Season of Creation

September gives us a wonderful opportunity to think about those questions as we begin the *Season of Creation* on Sunday, September 6th. This year's theme is *Living Water*, drawing from Ezekiel 47:1–12. Ezekiel gives us this beautiful vision of water flowing from the temple, becoming deeper as it goes and bringing life wherever it flows.

It seems an especially fitting image for Bethesda, surrounded as we are by lakes, woods, wetlands, gardens, wildlife, and all the beauty of this part of Minnesota. During the Season of Creation, we will take time to notice God's good creation, give thanks for it, and remember that care for the earth and our neighbors is part of the vocation we share in baptism.

Where is God's life already flowing among us? How is the Holy Spirit inviting us to join in that life for the sake of our neighbors and all creation?

I look forward to continuing that conversation with you.

Pastor Christina

Bethesda Church Council Minutes

8/17/26

Council Members: Bob Carlson, Pastor Christina Kadelbach, Mark Vukelich, Larry Pantsari, David Brown, Winnie Zahradka, Dean Malotky, Mary Braun, Sylvia Tapelt. The meeting was called to order by Bob Carlson, and the opening prayer was given by Pastor Christina.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made to accept the minutes from July by Mark Vukelich, seconded by David Brown, and passed.

Treasurer's Report: The financial review and current month's activities for July were presented by Mary Braun. A motion to accept the report was made by Mark Vukelich, seconded by David Brown, and passed.

Pastor's Report: Officiated two baptisms. The church received a thank-you from Eco Care for the donation. Installation of the new bishop at First Lutheran in Isle will be held September 12, 2026. Pastor has been invited to Synod Mission Support events on September 27 and 29 and will attend with two others.

Old Business: Aquarius Home Service work at the parsonage has been completed. Four bids have been received to upgrade the sound system; options will be evaluated to determine the best fit for the church. A motion was made by Dean Malotky, seconded by Mark Vukelich, to remove James Muske, Dennis Hennessy, and Brenda Sjerven from all banking accounts. Bob Carlson and Mark Vukelich have been added as authorized signers on checking and savings accounts, and Mary Braun remains as a signer. The motion passed.

New Business: The picnic table for the memorial garden area has been ordered and should arrive soon. The fountain will be removed, and the picnic table will temporarily be placed where the fountain was until bricks are laid for the new location. The Strategic Planning Committee requested council approval of the BLC Constitution. A motion to accept was made by David Brown, seconded by Mark Vukelich, and

passed. Informational meetings on constitution revisions will be held Sunday, October 4 and Sunday, October 18 after worship service.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2026, at 11:00 AM.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Braun, seconded by Larry Pantsari, and passed. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by: Sylvia Tapelt

Stewardship

We are judged by what we do, and only in doing can we give example. Christians practice stewardship by sharing with those in need their God-given time, talents, and money, as an act of thanks to God for all his gifts to them.

The Stewardship meeting was on August 12th with Donna Ansell, Barb Forrester and Mary Braun. Stewardship Council audit appears to be complete. Unusable offering boxes will be cleared for misc. entries.

Reviewed Strategic Planning meeting financial portion; Bank reconciliation is within necessary requirements, and the Forms were reviewed - Expenditure Approval, Reimbursement, Check Request, Gifts

- October 8 or 9 the 2027 budget forms to Committees; Mary to give account details
- November 6th completed budget forms back in office
- November 8th Stewardship Time & Talent Sunday. Congregation gathering in Fellowship Hall for T&T forms to discuss and fill out and turn in
- Congregational Yearly meeting is December 13th

The next Stewardship meeting is set for October 7th at 10:00. Any persons interested in attending are very welcome.



**First Day of Fall
September 22nd**

2026 TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<i>(Envelope Giving)</i>		
Income Actual	\$ 10,269	\$ 104,847
Budget	\$ 11,958	\$ 83,708
<u>All Funds</u>		
Total Income Actual	\$ 15,297	\$ 147,586
Total Income Budget	\$ 14,373	\$ 100,610
Expenses Actual	\$ 18,319	\$ 128,048
Expenses Budget	\$ 16,819	\$ 117,736
Over/(Short)	(\$ 3,022)	\$ 19,538

September Blessing Box

Bethesda received an invitation to attend a community meeting in Aitkin to discuss the loss of the Aitkin Loaves and Fishes food program which ended in June after providing hundreds of thousands of meals in the past 10 years. Bethesda has been active in volunteering and participating in this important community program. So many Bethesda folks have helped make and wrap cookies or helped make and serve meals over the past years. Julie Swaggert was able to attend the August 10 planning meeting in Aitkin and heard from the recently formed Aitkin Area Community Meal Planning Team. This team is working to create a program that would continue to serve the many people in the area who are counting on those meals.

Bethesda is hoping to keep our commitment to this very worthwhile program. The new Aitkin Area Community Meal program will need monetary support as well as volunteers. We are suggesting that our September Blessing Box go to help in any way we can. As the program gets going there will be opportunities to volunteer making and serving the food.

Thank you for your Blessing Box donations
Mission and Evangelism



Join us for an information session about the proposed revisions to the BLC Constitution. The sessions will be on October 4 and October 18 following coffee hour. The process, proposed changes, and next steps involving the vote at the annual congregation meeting on December 13 will be covered during each session.

Giving is an act of worship—a faithful response to God’s grace. Your gifts support Bethesda’s ministry and help share God’s love. As the table is set, let us give for the healing of the world.

Ways to Give:

- Place your offering in the plate during worship
- Use Vanco Services (forms in the Narthex)
- Scan the QR code to give through the app



Recurring or one-time online options
<https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo> Thank you for your faithful and generous support.

WELCA Mtg. August 19, 2026

President Jenny Schuett opened the mtg. with 9 members present. Jeannine gave devotions. The purpose and mission statements were read. The secy’s report was accepted as written in the Lifeline.

The treasurer’s report was given with a bal. of \$6,792.36. Motion made by Char, 2nd by Darlene to accept the report. Motion passed.

Darlene & Jeannine spoke about their experiences at the July Triennial conference in DesMoines.

There was no old business.

New business:

- Members gave updates on the upcoming bazaar work & the success of the “bluejean denim revival” class.
 - A motion was made by Jeannine & seconded by Barb to give the proceeds of the upcoming Corn Feed to local food shelves. Motion Passed.
 - The raffle money from the upcoming bazaar will go to Lutheran Relief.
 - Pastor will put a notice in the newsletter asking for items for school kits & newborn kits.
 - We will order 40 backpacks for next year’s school kits.
- The mtg. was closed with the Lord’s Prayer.
Motion to adjourn by Char. Second by Pastor Cristina.
Motion passed.

The next WELCA mtg. will be Wednesday, September 16, 2026.

Blue Jeans! Blue Jeans!!

Thank you for attending Blue Jeans! Blue Jeans!! What a joy to see so many creative, crafty gals dive into the Blue Jean Revival with enthusiasm. From repurposing old denim to dreaming up fresh new designs, the room was buzzing with laughter, imagination, and shared inspiration. Your energy made the event shine, and we’re already excited for the next creative gathering.



Veggie Stand

Thank you for all the generous donations to the Veggie Stand this summer. Every jar, every baked good, and every bit of produce helped make the stand a true blessing for our community. Your support kept it thriving all season long, and we're grateful for the kindness that showed up week after week. Our last day will be September 5th, and we celebrate a wonderful season because of you.



Thank you

Thanks to all who helped serve, husk corn, clean up, and lend a hand in every way to make this year's corn feed possible. Your hard work, cheerful teamwork, and willingness to pitch in made the event an immense success, and our community is stronger because of you.



Position Available

Is anyone might be interested in learning how to run the iPad in church on Sunday mornings? Please talk to Jim Christensen at church or call 320-279 0962 to learn what to do before, during and after the service.



Join us on Tuesday, September 15 at 1 pm for a Scam Prevention Workshop, designed to help you and others you care about stay a step ahead of scammers. We'll walk through the warning signs to watch for, practical tips to protect yourself and others, and simple strategies for responding if you ever suspect something isn't right. Whether you're looking for yourself or a neighbor to stay safe, this session will leave you feeling more confident and prepared. All are welcome, bring a friend and a few questions!

Activities & Events

September 2026

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

Ushers *Mark & Mary Vukelich*

September 6 — Mark & Mary Vukelich

September 13 — Barry & Donna Ansell

September 20 — Lee & Barb Forrester

September 27 — David & Libby Brown

Greeters *Jenny Schuett*

September 6 — Merrily Jones & Darrell Kelly

September 13 — Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

September 20 — Carol & Larry Pantsari

September 27 — LuAnn & Ron Gordon

Altar Care Dianne Jones

September - Barb Forrester & Kat Carlson

October – Elsa Carlson & Carol Pantsari

Sunday Hospitality

September 6 —

September 13 — Rocky & Cindy VanVickle

September 20 —

September 27 — Rocky & Jo DeFeyer



Sept. 1	Neda Vossen
Sept. 2	Darlene Meinert
Sept. 3	Ronald Aho
Sept. 3	Dolores Block
Sept. 4	Norm McGibbon
Sept. 4	Lynne Meidlinger
Sept. 6	Patricia Wanous
Sept. 7	Charles Carlson
Sept. 10	Dorothy Munding
Sept. 14	Dawn Kellen
Sept. 15	Gene Miller
Sept. 15	Kirk Swenson
Sept. 16	Libby Brown
Sept. 16	Minnie Gilbert
Sept. 17	Merrily Jones
Sept. 17	Julie Swaggert
Sept. 19	Steve Lackner
Sept. 23	Larry Pantsari
Sept. 24	Greg Westerlund
Sept. 26	Melody Lackner
Sept. 26	Douglas Penoyer
Sept. 26	Brian Simonson
Sept. 27	Samantha Rassier
Sept. 28	Kathy Mjelde



Sept. 4 — Joan & Dennis Petersen

Sept. 7 — Donna & Barry Ansell

Sept. 8 — Kat & Bob Carlson

Sept. 8 — Melody & Steve Lackner

Sept. 13 — Sara & Steven Lebens

Sept. 15 — JoAnn & Ron Haglund

Sept. 26 — Darlene & Jim Christensen

Sept. 27 — Arty & Ron Heins



As summer draws to a close, we pause to savor its final golden days—the laughter by the lake, the hum of gardens, and the glow of evening sunsets that linger just a little longer. The season's end reminds us to carry its spirit of warmth and connection into the months ahead, cherishing the memories made and the community that continues to grow even as the air turns crisp.



September 2026

Bethesda Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 Chair Yoga 3:00 Choir practice 4:00 Bells	2 9:00 Women's Bible Study	3 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:15 Chair Yoga	4	5 7:30—11:00 Last Veggie Stand
6 9:00 Worship Communion	7 Labor Day 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	8 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Chair Yoga 3:00 Choir practice 4:00 Bells	9 9:00 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Bonfire/Picnic	10 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:15 Chair Yoga	11	12
13 9:00 Worship Communion God's Work Our Hands	14 8:30 Women's Devotions 10:00 Property mtg 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	15 9:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 Scam Prevention Workshop 3:00 Choir practice 4:00 Bells	16 9:00 Women's Bible Study 10:00 WELCA 9-4:00 WTC	17 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:15 Chair Yoga	18	19
20 9:00 Worship Communion Newline Deadline	21 9:00 Crafters 10:00 Council mtg 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	22 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Chair Yoga 3:00 Choir practice 4:00 Bells	23 9:00 Women's Bible Study	24 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:15 Chair Yoga	25	26
27 9:00 Worship Communion	28 9:00 Crafters 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA &	29 9:00 Chair Yoga 3:00 Choir practice 4:00 Bells	30			

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
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
Fax
Toll Free
Church Web site
Facebook page

blcmalmo@gmail.com (320) 684-2123
(320)-684-2836
(877) 684-2123
blcmalmo.org

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo

Pastor
Council President
Vice President
Parish Nurse
Parish Nurse

Christina Kadelbach
Bob Carlson
Mark Vukelich
Darlene Christensen
Kathy Berland

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