

Bethesda Lutheran
Church

703 Pine St.
Moorhead, IA 51558

Bethesda's Reason for Belonging...

Bethesda Lutheran Church exists to...

- **Provide a worship center in which to experience God's presence**
- **Equip people with a faith that works in real life**
- **Send people into the world in Jesus' name to serve.**

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Bethesda News—

June 2020

Pastor Chip Bergstadt

♦ **Cell Ph 402-670-6055**

♦ PastorBorgstadt@gmail.com

Church Phone: 712-886-5241

Sunday School Vacation

Worship Service: 10:30 AM

SERVICES ONLINE AT PRESENT TIME

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PERA

Dealing with the coronavirus pandemic has been disrupting all sorts of things, including graduation, sports and the completion of an interim period of ministry and moving on to a new phase of a congregation's life with a newly called pastor. Although my time of providing ministry to St. John and Bethesda is coming to an end, Ruth and I will still be residing in Missouri Valley, and we hope to have some kind of farewell gathering when conditions will allow.

It has been good to be in ministry with you since September of 2018. The congregations have negotiated the interim period in good fashion, and are now prepared to move forward. It is an exciting time. I trust that you all will not only welcome your new pastor, but also be open to new ideas and new ways of doing ministry that he will bring with him. I encourage you to work together and be willing to give of yourselves. Treat one another and your pastor with grace as we rely on God to treat us in that way. With that kind of openness and cooperation, I believe that the Holy Spirit will continue to make these healthy, faithful, serving and inclusive communities of faith, as I have experienced them to be. I encourage the young people of the congregation to let Christ's light grow in you and participate in the life and future of your congregation here now and wherever you may be in the future.

I have indeed enjoyed my time in ministry with you. I pray God's rich blessings upon you and hope to be seeing you again. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Pastor Steve Pera

President—Russell Stanislav

Vice President—Alan Johnson

Secretary—Lisa Johnson

Treasurer—David McWilliams

Financial Secretary—Sharon Holverson

Trustees—Mike Vaughn, Jim Rains,

and Roger Hansen

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BORGSTADT

I hope you quickly realize how honored I am to join the people of Bethesda and St. John in ministry. In the midst of our current reality, I am grateful for your faith and confidence to trust in God's provision and guidance. I have always been drawn to congregations that love God, love each other and love the community where God has placed them. Bethesda and St. John are fine examples of that. And I am confident that together we will see even more ways God has blessed us to be a blessing in Dunlap and Moorhead.

As I write this, the council and I have been exploring how we can return to in-person worship safely. I am just as eager to be together as you are. We are following the best practices that balance the needs of all in the congregation and community with recommended health practices and our desire to gather in worship and praise. Please be assured that we when we return to in-person worship, we will also continue on-line worship for those who are unable or not yet ready to return to the building. The church is the people, not the building. And we are doing *God's work with our hands* whether we are together in the building or gathered on-line.

How we tell the story of quarantine shapes how we feel about what is happening to us right now. The children of Israel spent time in the wilderness as God led them through Moses to a new way of life. God was bringing their hearts and minds together for a better life. Their resistance to the time of formation (through the conditions they faced) only prolonged that wilderness experience. I encourage us all to expect the Holy Spirit to bring us to a greater expression of being the church in our respective communities. Welcoming God's formative work will result in blessing that will reach many. May that be our story in this moment.

Thank you for calling me to be your pastor. You are a blessing.

Pastor Chip

Call or text me at 402-670-6055

Pastor Chip Borgstadt to be Installed as Pastor at Bethesda

Pastor Chip Borgstadt of Omaha began serving as Bethesda's Pastor on June 1, 2020. We welcome him to our church and to our community! He will be serving Bethesda and St John of Dunlap. He and his wife live in Omaha and will continue to reside there. Pastor Chip will be having regular office hours at Bethesda. At this time he plans to be in Moorhead on Thursdays. As soon as we are able we will be having an installation service.

Pastor Chip (as he prefers to be called) has previously served at Nebraska Synod-ELCA, Omaha as an assistant to the Bishop; Midland University in Fremont, NE, as a coordinator of youth and family ministry program; St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Valley, NE as Sr. Pastor; Resurrection Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE as a transitional Pastor; and he most recently has served as Ministry Director at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in Omaha, NE. Pastor Chip has also organized and led three synodical mission trips. He has a current website at www.goodsoil.today which offers daily devotions and prayer suggestions. Check it out!!

Stated in his own words, some of his convictions include:

1. God's grace is more amazing that we can imagine.
2. We are blessed to be a blessing.
3. God provides us with everything we need in order to do what we are called to do in serving others.
4. God does extraordinary things through ordinary people.
5. We need each other - that's how God ordered life.

Pastor also expressed an interest in creativity and innovation. He enjoys a challenge in order to learn and to be a better companion with others on the learning journey. Pastor Chip has expressed flexibility so we can all find common ground to work together in worship, fellowship, and spreading the Good News of Jesus. You are welcome to call him on his cell phone 402-670-6055 or email him at PastorBorgstadt@gmail.com at any time of the day.

We are excited to welcome Pastor Chip Borgstadt to our congregation to be our Pastor on our faith journey together. Watch for announcements of an upcoming installation as soon as COVID19 permits gatherings.

Farewell to Pastor Stephen Pera

We have been truly blessed to have Pastor Steve serve as our interim Pastor the past two years. Pastor Pera and his wife reside in Missouri Valley. He signed a year contract and then agreed to serve for another year. I hope you were able to meet him, hear his great sermons, and witness his wonderful music talent. We appreciate the time and effort Pastor Steve gave to Bethesda and St. John. He may not be serving here now, but he is always welcome to come back to visit and to do some special music!! Thank you, Pastor Steve, for all you have done.

Bible School

The church council and Pastor Chip have been discussing ways to hold Community Bible School this year. There will be decisions made and announcements to follow. This corona virus has made all things complicated - but not impossible!



What is a Dad?

A dad is someone who
Wants to catch you before you fall
But instead picks you up,
Brushes you off,
And lets you try again.

A dad is someone who
Wants to keep you from making mistakes
But instead lets you find your own way,
Even though his heart breads in silence
When you get hurt.

A dad is someone who
Holds you when you cry,
Scolds you when you break the rules,
Cheers with pride when you succeed,
And has faith in you even when you fail.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

June/July Schedules

June Ushers:

*Mark Johnson
Jim Rains
Russell Stanislav
Joe Monahan

Devin Monahan

July Ushers:

*Alan Johnson
Roger Hansen

We will keep ushers in their rotations for the year.

Scripture Readers:

First Sunday that church services begin again:

1. Maggie Rains
2. Harold Remmenga
3. Russell Stanislav
4. Cathy Stephens

Acolytes:

June 7 - Chenoa & Aiyana
June 14 - Novie & Hadlie
June 21- Chenoa & Aiyana
June 28 - Novie & Hadlie
July 5 - Chenoa & Aiyana

July 12 - Novie & Hadlie

July 19 - Chenoa & Aiyana

July 26 - Novie & Hadlie

Communion Assistant:

1st month church services reconvene:

1. Russell Stanislav
2. Cathy Stephens

Communion Dates:

June 21 - Third Sunday

June 28 - Last Sunday

July 5 - First Sunday

July 19 - Third Sunday

Altar Care:

June - Deb Lauritsen

July - Sharon Lee &
Joni Smith

Altar Colors:

June 7 - White

June 14 - Oct 18 - Green

Offerings for Bethesda for the Month of May:

Regular Offering - \$3290.00

World Hunger Offering - \$190.00

Fund for the Future - \$580.00

Church Services

Until the church opens for our regular services, you can watch a live feed of the service on Facebook on Bethesda Church page. It is at 8:45a.m. on June 14 from St John and the next week at 10:30a.m. from Bethesda. It will be rotated weekly. The service is also posted on our website for you to watch at any time. That site is www.stjohn.bethesda-lutheran.org.

Also, if you or anyone you know, be it a friend, neighbor, or whoever, needs help through this difficult time of COVID19, please reach out to Pastor Chip or one of the church council members. It could be a need for food, financial, or just a need to talk to someone. We are all in this together and need to help each other!!!

LSI News

Happy Father's Day!

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families.

Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them.

This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

Our Mission: *Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations.* Learn more at LSIowa.org and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

Creating Her Community

Paulynn had a dream of what she wanted in life: lots of friends, a job she loved, a healthy lifestyle, and a sense of community.

But it was difficult for Paulynn to leave the apartment she shared with her dad, Lee. Though Lee had dedicated his life to serving as his daughter's primary caregiver, they didn't have reliable transportation that could accommodate her wheelchair. And Paulynn's risk of seizures meant she always needed to be accompanied by her dad.

Despite the obstacles, Lee was determined to give his daughter the life she dreamed of. He enrolled her in LSI's Services for People with Disabilities.

Fifteen years later, Paulynn's dream has become a reality. Through LSI, Paulynn's team provides transportation that allows her to travel to and from her apartment with ease. While Paulynn is out, Lee is able to take a well-deserved break from his caregiving role.

With support from LSI, Paulynn is able to give back to her community. Each week, she helps package meals for individuals in need. She has created a community of her own through her volunteer work. And for every moment, her LSI team is there to support her.

"We're very grateful for LSI," Lee says. "They've been really great supporting my daughter."

Bethesda Lutheran Church Council Meetings

Regular Council Meeting May 3, 2020

President Russell Stanislav called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Attending: Alan Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Jim Rains, Sharon Holverson, Mike Vaughn, Roger Hansen, and David McWilliams by phone. Russell read devotions/prayer.

Secretary's report: Jim made a motion to accept as presented Alan seconded motion. Motion carried with corrections: Pastor Chip is 63 years old.

Treasurer's report:

Checking Acc't:	
Beginning Balance	\$9507.18
Payments	2567.09
Deposits	<u>4399.12</u>
Ending Balance	\$11339.21

Backup Funds	\$14,450.54
Emergency Funds	4,121.63
Memorial Funds	8,080.50
Youth Funds	355.52

Mike made a motion to accept as presented. Roger Seconded. Motion carried.

Youth Report: Russell said the youth are waiting for the return of Sunday school at this time Synod wants church to remain closed until the end of May.

Old Business: Rory Barnett will plaster the men's bathroom but the men will do the work to remove the old and paint the new. Roger will call to be put on

Rory's list. The Lenten money totaled \$1,193 toward pastor loan pay back and David will send this money in and we will keep collecting in an attempt to reach our goal of \$2020.

New Business: Consider starting the new Pastor at 75% time with the possibility he will opt for 60%. Alan made the motion to accept payment option 4 and Sharon seconded. Motion carried. David will look for a new office chair as the current one is in bad shape. Russell will call Pastor Chip.

Many changes in worship were discussed in how to best social distance. Communion, fellowship, hand sanitizer, how to sanitize the church was discussed.

Alan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lisa seconded the motion. Motion carried. President Russell set the next regular council meeting for June 7, 2020 and adjourned the meeting at 10 am. Council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

There are *Christ in Our Home* booklets available in the ushers pew at church.



JOHNSON BREAKFAST

The annual 4th of July Breakfast at the park has been cancelled for 2020. This is due to the corona virus and all the necessary precautions. Stay healthy and have a safe 4th of July!

Prayers of the Church

Holy God, triune God, the true and living God, the one and only Lord of all, accept our worship and adoration. Though we cannot understand, we join the seraphim in covering our eyes and our feet in deepest reverence, and in crying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts! Heaven and earth are full of Your glory!" Yet in Jesus Christ we know You, because in Him You have made Yourself known.

God the Father, we adore You because You made Yourself our Father in Jesus Christ and sealed Your fatherhood to us in baptism.

God the Son, we praise You because You became flesh, that we might see the glory of God in Your life and death for us.

God the Holy Spirit, we trust You because you led us to know Jesus Christ and covered us with His holiness.

We confess You, O triune God, in the power of Your majesty. To You alone be all glory now and forever. Amen.

Lutheran Book of Prayer, page 71
We pray for those who are suffering in any

way, especially:
✠ Lisa Johnson
✠ Wes Moffatt
✠ Barb Wacheldorf
✠ Myles Mohr
✠ Grant Gorham
✠ O God, call your people to be one, as you are one. Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of our neighbor, and the call to proclaim your reign to all people.

✠ Breath life into your creation. Guide your people as we explore the mysteries of the universe. We pray for the work of scientists and mathematicians whose skill enriches our understanding.

✠ Make your justice known among the na-

tions of the earth. Protect the vulnerable. Redirect those who use violence and greed as weapons.

✠ Come to the aid of your children. We pray for those engulfed in grief, those without supportive families, and for all who are isolated, powerless, or afraid, that all may rest their anxieties in your care.

✠ Give courage to all who embark on new ventures. We especially remember this day those who risked their lives to serve in our armed forces.

✠ Grant safety to those serving overseas and on the homeland. Raise all of your saints to eternal life. We give you thanks for the faithful examples of those who now rest in you. We especially remember the families and friends of Virgil Olson and Carolyn Archer. Be with their families and friends as they mourn. Give them peace and strength in the days ahead.
✠ Amen.

Thank You

Hello Bethesda Lutheran Church Women,

We want to thank you for your \$300.00 gift that you made on 3/9/2020. Every act of your generosity helps us further our mission of empowering individuals to seek out opportunities for an enhanced quality of life.

Because we are a registered 501(c)3 organization, your donation will be completely tax deductible. At the beginning of the coming year, we will send you another letter detailing your total gift amount for this past year, including pledge dollars received.

Thank you.
Chief Executive Office
Crossroads of Western Iowa

* * * * *

Hello!

I wanted to personally reach out to you all for your generous gift. The strive to make sure that ever dollar we receive is used to impact our clients' lives. We are grateful for you all and see you as friends in the community.

Thank you,
Hannah Smith, Director of Philanthropy
Crossroads of Western Iowa

Bethesda Lutheran Church
 703 Pine Street
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June Birthdays and Anniversaries

Bethesda Members extend their love and prayers to everyone with Birthdays and Anniversaries this month! May God continue to bless you this year and always!

June 1 - Steve Christo

Kody & Haley Petersen Anniversary

June 3 - Blair Holverson

June 7 - Jim & Maggie Rains Anniversary

June 9 - Jim Rains

June 11 - Sendeska Kalskett

Megaeska Kalskett

June 13 - Bryce McDonald

June 14 - Maggie Rains

June 15 - Jolene & Bryce McDonald Anniversary

June 16 - Darlene & Butch Bowman Anniversary

June 17 - Jeanne Johnson

June 18 - Sheila & Don Lindsey Anniversary

June 23 - Derrick Crawford

Kim & Steve Christo Anniverary

June 27 - Roger Hansen

Lauryn Johnson

Check Out Bethesda's Website

Thank you to David McWilliams for designing a joint website for Bethesda and St. John! David has it up and running! Check it out at:

www.stjohn.bethesda-lutheran.org

You will find Newsletter information, pictures, directions and other information posted there. You can also find St. John's information there as well.

Join Bethesda On Facebook...

The church has two sites...one regular page for church photos, and a group page for church events, and possibly discussions and more. To join the page search for "Bethesda Church" and "Friends of Bethesda" Then simply ask to join the group...if you have already joined, please invite other Bethesda friends in your Facebook friends list.

***If you know of any additions or corrections to our list, please leave a note in the newsletter**
