

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.**

Inside This Month:

Prayers of the Church, Council Minutes	2
Schedules, Treasurer's Report, LSI News, School Donations for West Central	3
Blood Bank, Council Minutes, Time Change, Thank Yous	4
Calendar	5
Birthdays and Anniversaries	6

Bethesda News—

August 2020

Pastor Chip Borgstadt

♦ **Cell Ph 402-670-6055**

♦ PastorBorgstadt@gmail.com

Church Phone: 712-886-5241

Sunday School Vacation

Worship Service: 10:30 AM

SERVICES STREAMED LIVE on facebook

As a child, I loved going to the carnival—especially the games. Remember throwing rings on pop bottles? Or trying to knock over the wooden milk jugs with a baseball? I now know that those games were rigged to get your money and seldom give you a prize. But they were fun.

And there was the shooting gallery with the row of moving duck silhouettes. Each duck had a target painted on it. It didn't matter if that was rigged because I was a lousy shot. I was left eye dominant and always tried to aim using my right eye. And then the ducks were moving. I didn't stand a chance. But I tried.

It kind of feels like the shooting gallery right now in this time of pandemic. The ducks are moving, erratically sometimes. And the sights we use to aim at them are sometimes a little skewed. And we might have a dominant eye that has us predisposed to do one thing when another thing might work better. But we try.

With the complexity of each community having different circumstances and needs, it is hard for a national, even a regional leader, to offer guidance. One size doesn't fit all. So we find ourselves in the position of making the best decisions we can on a local basis.

We have returned to worship in the sanctuary following the guidelines from many sources. These sources update those guidelines as new information becomes available. The leadership of the congregations monitors these sources and try to make appropriate adaptations for our settings. We are thankful for the willingness of all to put the health of others before their own comfort and preferences. To be sure, we will continue to offer worship on-line and as long as it is prudent we will gather in the sanctuary. Our prayer is

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

that COVID-19 infections remain low in our communities until a vaccine is found and administered.

We also are working to address confirmation delivery for our young people. We are developing a robust, but flexible set of approaches to accommodate learning in a variety of settings. We will have digital content and use on-line and in person exploration of that content. We will also be inviting mentors and parents to walk beside our confirmation youth with guided activities and support from me. Ideally, I will get to meet regularly with our youth. Yet, if we have a resurgence of the virus, we have in place a way to continue confirmation learning.

The words of Isaiah 43:1-3 were first spoken to a people in exile—away from their homes, in a land with different customs and patterns of life. While they longed to go back to the way things were, they still had some time to spend away. Isaiah spoke for God, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.”

We do not journey on this new path alone—God goes with us every step of the way, helping us walk by faith, even when sight suggests otherwise. Faith grows with our patience and prayers. Let's employ both generously.

Pastor Chip

Prayers of the Church



Dear heavenly Father, since in infinite love for fallen mankind You sent Your Son to redeem us from all evil, we can be free from the evil of loneliness inasmuch as Jesus suffered loneliness for us in Gethsemane and on Calvary. Yet many of Your children are still lonely today, and we pray You to be with them, O Lord. Fill their hearts with a sense of Your divine presence; then there will be no room for loneliness. If they are separated from family and friends, may they remember that You as their heavenly Father hold them together in Your loving care. Assure them that since they are members of the body of Christ their prayers unite at Your throne with the prayers of their beloved, even though they and their family are miles apart.

If selfishness contributes to the loneliness of Your children, help them to forget themselves in the service of others and thus find purpose and fulfillment in their lives. As they rededicate themselves to You, grant that they may never feel alone again. In the name of Jesus, our Friend and Companion. Amen.

Amen. Lutheran Book of Prayer, page 113

We pray for those who are suffering in any way, especially:

- ✠ JoAnn Moline
- ✠ Christy Moline
- ✠ Danny McWilliams
- ✠ Lisa Johnson
- ✠ Wes Moffatt
- ✠ Barb Wacheldorf
- ✠ Myles Mohr
- ✠ Grant Gorham
- ✠ Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a women baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life.
- ✠ Increase our understanding and awe

of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as caretaker of our home.

- ✠ As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace.

- ✠ You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people

in this time and place.

- ✠ In you are lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places. Embolden our witness now and one day gather us with all your saints in light.
- ✠ Be with all that have lost loved ones to death and give them strength in the good news of eternal life. Comfort the family and friends of Joe Fouts with the peace only you can give.
- ✠ Your Spirit helps us in our weakness. Help us when we do not know how or pray. Amen.

Regular Church Council Meeting July 5, 2020

President Russell Stanislav called the meeting to order at 11:30 am. Attending: Pastor Chip, Russell Stanislav, Roger Hansen, David McWilliams, Jim Rains, Mike Vaughn, Sharon Holverson, Alan Johnson, Lisa Johnson.

Pastor Chip led devotions and prayer.

Secretary's report was read and Alan made a motion to accept as presented. Roger seconded motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Sharon made a motion to accept as presented Alan seconded. Motion carried.

Youth report: Russell is going to talk to parents to see if there is an interest in holding an evening VBS for one night the first week of August.

Pastor's report: Church mutual insurance contacted Pastor and he will give the number to David to connect with them. Worship planning for July/August is underway and the music will be the

same for St. Johns and Bethesda on one bulletin. Pastor Chip will email the bulletin to David so that congregation can access it on the fb site in order to read along with the service. Pastor Chip passed out a sheet for us to look over to consider all things such as confirmation, baptisms, weddings may need to consider "new normal" ideas depending on how the coronavirus continues to affect us.

Old Business: New Coop contacted us to prepay for summer fill at \$.95 per gallon. We will order 2,000 gallon under prepay. Russell will take care of this. Harold has Garret doing the mowing while he is ill.

Alan made a motion to adjourn the meeting David seconded. President Russell set the next council meeting for Aug. 2, 2020, and adjourned the meeting at 12:15.

Council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

August/Sept Schedules

Aug Ushers:

*Daryle Lauritsen
Donnie Koch

Sept Ushers:

*Mike Vaughn
Gary Kalskett

Scripture Readers:

Aug 2 - Roger Hansen
Aug 9 - Alan Johnson
Aug 16 - Kevin Johnson
Aug 23 - Lisa Johnson
Aug 30 - Mark Johnson
Sept 6 - Sam Johnson
Sept 13 - Susan Johnson
Sept 20 - Diane Kalskett
Sept 27 - Sharon Lee

Acolytes:

Aug 2 - Chenoa & Aiyana
Aug 9 - Novie & Hadlie
Aug 16 - Chenoa & Aiyana
Aug 23 - Novie & Hadlie
Aug 30 - Chenoa & Aiyana
Sept 6 - Novie & Hadlie
Sept 13 - Chenoa & Aiyana

Sept 20 - Novie & Hadlie
Sept 27 - Chenoa & Aiyana

Communion Assistant:

1st month we have communion at the altar railing
1. Russell Stanislav
2. Cathy Stephens

Communion Dates:

Aug 2 - First Sunday
Aug 16 - Third Sunday
Sept 6 - First Sunday
Sept 20 - Third Sunday

Altar Care:

Aug - Roger & Inge Hansen
Sept - Maggie Rains

Altar Colors:

June 7 - White
June 14 - Oct 18 - Green

LSI News

Back to School Month

School is right around the corner! This year's back-to-school time feels a little different than usual for all of us, but imagine what it would be like to be a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder. For the last several months, their routine has been turned upside-down and they've learned to adjust to a new way of life. Moving back into a school year structure can be particularly stressful and it can be difficult to concentrate and cope.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) provides mental health services to children and families across the state. It's our job to relate to children who might feel alone or misunderstood. Our therapists provide virtual telehealth therapy sessions with children while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team collaborates with families virtually or in a community setting to help them develop skills like anger management and healthy decision-making. LSI also provides 24-hour mental health care at the Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers in Waverly and Ames to empower Iowa's most vulnerable children and teens.

We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

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 www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

We are Still Here: LSI's Therapy Services

When LSI's workforce began working remote as a COVID-19 precaution, therapist Andrea knew she would need to adjust to a new way of providing therapy to the clients she serves.

In particular, one individual she met with struggled with anxiety on a daily basis. With the pandemic, however, her anxiety deepened and she spiraled to levels she hadn't encountered in years. And she was afraid she would no longer be able to see Andrea and receive the weekly therapy she'd relied on.

But that wasn't stopping Andrea. She set up a home office where she could provide telehealth virtual therapy sessions to all her clients in need of the same consistent care they were used to. Andrea used this time to work with her client on self-care strategies, coping skills, and mindfulness to help her client stay grounded when she felt anxious.

Andrea's client now has the tools she needs to handle the difficult days through this crisis, and Andrea is able to continue providing life-changing serves to Iowa children, adults, and families in her community.

July Offerings and Attendance

7/5 - 30 - \$1595.00
7/12 - 32 - \$1047.00
7/19 - 31 - \$772.00
7/26 - 29 - \$513.00
World Hunger - \$34.00
Noisy Offering - \$31.71

Checking	\$ 8,602.37
Back Up Funds	14,451.77
Emergency Fund	4,124.66
Youth Funds	355.52
Memorial Funds	8,080.50

School Supplies Donations



We are gathering school supplies to donate to West Central Development in Onawa.

There is a box in the entryway for you to place your donations. Things that are needed are all regular school supplies

(pencils and pens not so much), hand sanitizers, masks, backpacks, etc. Roger and Inge Hansen are in charge of this and will be taking the items to West Central, where they will be given to students the week of August 17th. Donations here are accepted through August 16th. Thanks for helping support this important cause as our children return to school. Thank you!

LifeServe Blood Bank

Monday, August 10

1:30 pm to 4:45 pm

Moorhead Community Building

Help save local lives. LifeServe supplies all the hospitals in our area with much needed blood and blood products. To make an appointment, contact LifeServe Blood Center at 800-287-4903 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

You must have an appointment.

No walk-ins allowed due to COVID19.

**Church Council Minutes
Special Council Meeting**

President Russell called the meeting to order following worship. Attending: Russell Stanislav, Roger Hansen, David McWilliams, Sharon Holverson, Jim Rains, Mike Vaughn, Alan Johnson, Lisa Johnson, and Pastor Chip.

David brought to the council's attention that the Mission Investment Fund had reached its maturity. Council was asked if they wanted to reinvest or put the money into the Bethesda bank account. Mike Vaughn made a motion to reinvest, Alan Johnson seconded. Motion carried to reinvest the fund.

Meeting adjourned.

Coronavirus Concerns

COVID19 has brought many changes and fears and unknowns into our world. During this month of children, teachers, administrators, and staff going back to school, we need to keep them and their safety in our prayers. May the right decisions be made to keep all healthy while also maintaining a sense of normalcy. Remind us that it doesn't matter if parents choose to send their children back to regular school, home school, or on-line schooling, they need our support. The decisions are not made without much thought and consideration of each families' situations and needs for their children.

Also, during this time we need to keep all those dealing with COVID19 in our prayers. It is such a difficult time when loved ones are not allowed to visit. Many of the elderly and handicapped do not understand why things have changed so much. Also, it is hard on those wanting to visit with their loved ones.

It is also a frightening time for expectant parents, not knowing how COVID19 will affect their unborn. Also, what should be a happy time, turns into a time with no visitors. People have tested positive for the corona virus and have been unable to see their baby for many days. It is a stressful time for many. Keep all in your prayers!



Mark your calendars and spread the word, Bethesda's worship time will go back to 8:45 a.m. starting Sunday, September 6th. As part of our shared pastor

arrangement, Bethesda and St. John switch worship times once a year to allow everyone to worship at their favorite time every other year! This coming year Bethesda will have Worship at 8:45 am followed by Sunday School at 10:00 am. St. John will worship at 10:30 am throughout the year to come. Every time worship time changes there is always a bit of confusion as we adjust to a new schedule. Spread the word so that everyone is aware of the time change!



Hope West Food Pantry gratefully acknowledges your recent donation. The pantry's volunteer and clients appreciate your generosity.

Thank you
Hope West Food Pantry
✝ * * * * *

Dear Pastor Chip,

How kind of you to think of Hope Church pantry with your bread donation. Thank you very much! Your donation will be a blessing to many hungry families.

God Bless you and your service to Him,

Mary Beth Vonk
Office Administrator
Hope Presbyterian Church

BETHESDA HAPPENINGS - AUGUST 2020

Worship is live streamed on Bethesda Church facebook page. After service, it is posted on our website www.stjohn.bethesda-lutheran.org.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					3	1
2 10:30 AM Wor- ship with Holy Communion Church Council Meeting following church service	3	4	5 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	6 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	7	8
9 10:30 AM Wor- ship	10	11	12 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	13 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	14	15
16 10:30 AM Wor- ship with Holy Communion	17	18	19 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	20 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	21	22
23 10:30 AM Wor- ship	24	25	26 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	27 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	28	29
30 10:30 AM Wor- ship with Noisy Offering	31					Church Worship time changes to 8:45 AM on Sun- day, September 6th! Remind oth- ers!

Bethesda Lutheran Church
 703 Pine Street
 Moorhead, IA 51558

August 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!

Aug 2 - Gary Kalskett

Judy Kuhlman

Aug 11 - Norman Kuhlman

Aug 14 - Mike Vaughn

Lydia Johnson

Aug 15 - Harold Remmenga

Aug 17 - Kevin Johnson

Aug 28 - Aaron Johnson

Keith & Mary Hieber Anniversary

If you or someone you know needs help through this difficult time of COVID19, please reach out to Pastor Chip, a board member, friend, or neighbor. It doesn't matter if it is for food, financial assistance, or just someone to talk to and listen. We are in this together! We want and need to help each other!!

***If you know of any additions or corrections to our list, please leave a note in the newsletter tray on the table by the balcony steps.**

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.