

Bethesda Lutheran
Church

703 Pine St.
Moorhead, IA 51558

Bethesda News—

May 2021

Bethesda's Reason for Being...

**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.**

Pastor Chip Borgstadt

- ♦ **Cell Ph 402-670-6055**
- ♦ PastorBorgstadt@gmail.com

Church Phone: 712-886-5241

Worship Service: 8:45 AM

Sunday School : 10:00 AM

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

In Exodus, the liberated Hebrew slaves wandered in the wilderness on their way to "The Promised Land." They mumbled and grumbled about every inconvenience they faced. When they were hungry, even after God provided the daily manna, they soon grew tired of it and started talking about going back to Egypt. In perfect human fashion, they remembered the good things about life in Egypt, and forgot that they had been slaves to a life-limiting system. How easy it is to become nostalgic, isn't it?

I've not heard mumbling and grumbling about things at church. Maybe it's still the honeymoon period, but I'm hoping it's indicative of a level of maturity and realistic expectations about pandemic conditions. I am happy to report, however, that we have been taking small steps to return to some familiar patterns, with appropriate modifications, in our worship and community life.

We do engage in the Lutheran "third sacrament—" coffee following worship. We socially distance and wear masks except when sipping our comfort beverage. It's not quite a potluck or covered dish meal, but it's a start.

We are also going to the altar for communion. It's a continuous line (some call it drive through). Masks are worn until we consume the elements. The servers use gloves. We use a pouring chalice for the wine or grape juice. And we still have the prepared communion kits for those who are more comfortable receiving it in the pews. We're not ready to distribute in tables, but we've started going beyond the pew.

Passing the peace is still more virtual than physical. Some people actually like that better. We encourage creativity in how you greet one another and offer a gesture of peace and reconciliation in worship. Passing the peace is a shorthand signal that the past is past and it will not limit the future. It is recognition, reconciliation and restoration—whatever is needed to restore and preserve a relationship.

So, what's normal? In a liminal time like this it's really hard to say. While many of the things we've assumed were part of what we did in church are on the shelf, and some of the things we're doing now are a little different, what is normal is that we journey together in faith, focusing on God's grace and love.

If you have not been to worship in the sanctuary recently, I pray that you will find a time when you are comfortable with joining us in person. If you are unable to be with us at "the appointed hour" I pray that you will join us online, when you can, to give thanks to God. If you would like communion to be brought to you at home, simply let me know and I'll make the arrangements.

We probably won't ever be able to go back 100% to the old normal. Too much has changed around us and in us. But we will continue to proclaim and hear God's Word, receive God's Holy Supper and serve others following the example of Jesus. That has always been part of the Church and I can't ever see it going away.

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Pastor Chip

Prayers of the Church



Lord God, we praise You for the gift of Your spirit, whom You poured upon fearful men to make them bold witnesses of the mighty acts You accomplished through Your holy Son Jesus, the Christ.

Give us the power of Your Spirit that we may serve You without fear. Regenerate us by Your Spirit that we may live each day as new persons in Christ. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may reach out in love to all men. Work in us with Your Spirit that we may always do Your will. Help us to see our baptism as the seal of the Spirit and the pledge of greater gifts to come.

By Your gracious gift of faith enable us to walk in the Spirit

and to live in hope. Seal us in Spirit that we may be Yours eternally. We pray through Him who promised that You would send the Spirit in His name. Amen.

Lutheran Book of Prayer. Page 70

Provide for the needs of others we pray:

✠ Roger Hansen

✠ Donnie Koch

✠ Todd Pape

✠ Mary Cumming

✠ Daryle Lauritsen

✠ Lenyce Lawrenson

✠ Kristi Little

✠ Bernadine Hansen

✠ We shower your church with grace, O God. Unite the whole church on earth, so that with one heart it testifies to the resurrection of Jesus Christ with power and love. Like dew on the mountains, refresh your creation. Restore waters, cleanse the air, and provide revitalizing

moisture to parched land. Give your whole creation the promise of new life.

✠ Guide all in authority, that they shepherd their peoples in the ways of your love. Defeat in us our impulse to war. Bestow the peace of Christ upon those in authority and breathe upon them the Holy Spirit. Shine the light of the risen Christ in our life together, so that we live it for one another, and our joy may be complete love .

✠ In thanksgiving and remembrance, we recall the lives and gifts of those who now live in endless joy. Unite us with them in resurrection hope. Be with the families and friends of Carl Grindle and Ethel Mae Kratz as they mourn. Bring them the comfort and strength only You can give through the promise of eternal life.

✠ Amen.

Regular Church Council Meeting April 1, 2021

President Russell Stanislav called the meeting to order at 7:45pm. Attending: Russell Stanislav, David McWilliams, Jim Raines, Roger Hansen, Sharon Holverson, Alan Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Mike Vaughn and Pastor Chip.

Pastor Chip shared devotions.

Correction to the March minutes: Sharon Holverson was absent. Alan made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Pastor Chip seconded the motion. Mike Vaughn made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Alan Johnson seconded the motion.

Youth Report: Maggie has been invited to give children's sermons.

Pastor's Report: April 18, 2021 we will go back to communion distribution up front in a single line.

May 10-17 or 18th Pastor Chip will be gone. In August Pastor will be at a BQ contest at Lizard Creek outside of Fort Dodge. St. John's will also be having a bq contest.

We need a picture of Bethesda congregation masked for Synod Assembly to celebrate anniversaries.

The mower is ready for Harold to mow the church lawn. We need a Sunday to pick up sticks to get ready.

New Business: David wants to buy wireless extenders estimated at \$100. A new computer is needed in the office estimated at \$1000 from Dell.

Sharon made a motion and Roger seconded to buy these items. All in favor.

Mike made a motion and Alan second to use memorial fund money to pay for these items. All in favor.

Children's sermons will be held when there is not communion.

Mike made a motion and Alan seconded to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be held May 6, at 6pm. The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

May/June Schedules

May Ushers:

*Alan Johnson
Roger Hansen

June Ushers:

*Daryle Lauritsen
Donnie Koch

Scripture Readers:

May 2 - Russell Stanislav
May 9 - Cathy Stephens
May 16 - Mike Vaughn
May 23 - Angie Bothwell
May 30 - Darlene Bowman
June 6 - Roger Hansen
June 13 - Alan Johnson
June 20 - Kevin Johnson
June 27 - Lisa Johnson

Acolytes:

May 2 - Lauryn & Eli
May 9 - Novie & Hadlie
May 16 - Landon & Lydiah
May 23 - Chenoa & Aiyana
May 30 - Lauryn & Eli
June 6 - Novie & Hadlie
June 13 - Landon & Lydiah
June 20 - Chenoa & Aiyana
June 27 - Lauryn & Eli

Communion Assistants:

May - Cathy Stephens
June - Angie Bothwell

Communion Dates:

May 2 - First Sunday
May 16 - Third Sunday
June 6 - First Sunday
June 20 - Third Sunday

Altar Care:

May - Colleen Shol
Lori Soukup
June - Deb Lauritsen

Altar Colors:

Apr 4 - May 16 - White
May 23 - Red for Pentecost
May 30 - White for The Holy Trinity
June 6 - Aug 8 - Green

April Offering, Attendance & Balances

Apr 1 - (19) - \$142.00	Checking	\$ 7,308.85
Apr 2 - (18) - \$74.00	Back Up Funds	\$ 15,013.98
Apr 4 - (40) - \$1531.00	Emergency	\$ 3,872.21
Apr 11 - (28) - \$760.00	Youth	\$ 542.23
Apr 18 - (25) - 560.00	Memorial	\$ 8,181.29
Apr 25 - (23) - 725.00		

Bethesda Lutheran Church

Special Church Council Meeting

April 25, 2021

Attending: Sharon Holverson, Dave McWilliams, Russell Stanislav, Roger Hansen, Mike Vaughn, Alan Johnson, Pastor Chip, Jim Rains. Absent: Lisa Johnson

David McWilliams brought to the council a request form Baird Financial Services. They would like us to cash out our policy at this time and to reinvest it. We will meet and discuss where we would like to invest at our next scheduled council meeting on May 6, 2021.

LSI News

Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.

We see moms turning to LSI Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2020, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to more than 1,097 families of young children. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many Iowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor your mother this year, please consider making a gift in her name to LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Debrah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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).

Wrapping Care Around Iowa Children

Martha and Marti first became foster parents in September of 2018, after their biological children expressed that they wanted to provide foster care as a family. They decided to become licensed through LSI Foster Care and Adoption and soon after, they welcomed a sibling group of three into their home.

"Our kids really wanted to look into foster care as a way to be able to help others as a family," Martha says. "Everybody had to sacrifice and pour in, and everybody was needed and brought something to the table."

The siblings stayed with the family for almost two years, until the opportunity came for them to find a forever home through adoption. Over the years, the siblings had become bonded to Martha and Marti, as well as their extended family and friends. The siblings are currently in the process of officially being adopted by a family close to Martha and Marti, so they can continue to stay connected to the important relationships they built in foster care.

The family has found a passion they can all share, and it's making a difference in the lives of Iowa children.

"We always explain fostering as 'good' and 'hard.' You never want to take one away from the other, because it's both. It's the hardest thing we've ever done, but it's the best thing we've done," Martha says. "We've had the privilege of having the kids in our home and you have the responsibility and the privilege to take care of them in their time of need."

Loess Hills Spring Fling

Saturday, May 8th, 2021

9AM—2:30PM

Moorhead City Park

Crafts/Vendors/ Rainbow Silent Auction & Mystery Raffle

10:30AM—Music by Sage Minnihan & Laura Heisterkamp

Spinning Wheel Demonstration by Annie Porter,
Something Unique of Soldier, Iowa

Food Vendor: Moorhead Mini Mart in the Park

Pizza, Drinks & Sweet Treats

Grand Opening of Moorhead Cultural Center

See the new renovations, and photo exhibit

Refreshments & Raffles

Loess Hills Gift Shop Open

Hand-crafted Items, Wines, & Unique Gifts

Social distancing & masks encouraged, hand sanitizer available
Sponsored by Loess Hills Hospitality Association, Moorhead Cultural
Center, and Loess Hills Gift Shop

For more information contact LHHA 712-886-5441 or
Sandy Harris 712-882-3617

Congratulations to Eli Bowman for being high sales person for the 4-H fruit sales! He worked hard and had lots to deliver! Thanks to all who ordered from him and help him accomplish this goal. Way to go, Eli!!

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY



Bethesda was all dressed up for Easter.

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!!



LifeServe Blood Bank

Moorhead Community Building

Monday, June 14, 2021

1:30 to 4:45 p.m.

You must have an appointment in order to donate blood.

Remember to bring your ID and mask.

Text 'LIFESERVE' to 999-777 to make your
appointment or call 800-287-4903.

**If you or someone you know has recovered from
COVID-19 and are interested in donating lifesaving
plasma, please contact LifeServe Blood Center
representative Allison Wegner, at 712-635-4930.

Thanks to everyone who donates in order to save lives. At the April blood drive, LifeServe was able to get 10 units of blood which will help 30 people in need.

BETHESDA HAPPENINGS - May 2021

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
						1
2 8:45 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:00AM Sunday School	3 8 PM AA /Alanon	4	5 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	6 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead Church Council 6:00 p.m.	7	8
9 8:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School Mother's Day	10 8 PM AA /Alanon	11	12 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	13 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	14	15
16 8:45 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10 AM Sunday School	17 8 PM AA /Alanon	18	19 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	20 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	21	22
23 8:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	24	25	26 Pastor Chip's Day at Dunlap	27 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	28	29
30 8:45 AM Worship at Ingemann Church No Sunday School	31 Memorial Day					

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May 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!

- May 1** - Paul Fohs
- May 4** - Dennis Thoreson
- May 6** - Roger & Inge Hansen Anniversary
Duane Renz
- May 7** - Mark Johnson
- May 12** - Ethel Mae Kratz
- May 15** - Inge Hansen
- May 21** - David McWilliams
- May 23** - Ron Lee
- May 30** - Chris & Stephenie Johnson 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!

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.