

Bethesda Lutheran
Church

703 Pine St.
Moorhead, IA 51558

Bethesda News—

September 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.**

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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

As I drive the highway between Dunlap and Moorhead, I see signs that summer is coming to an end and autumn is just around the corner. The fields are still green, but every now and then there is a hint of brown. Farmers are baling hay, the ears of corn are filling out and the beans look like they're drinking in every drop of moisture in anticipation of harvest.

At Bethesda and St. John, there are signs of a change of season, too. We are preparing for Christian education, selecting our worship liturgies for the next few months, and making sure we have the necessary things for a change in weather. Jill and Ashley have been working on a creative and engaging Christian Education menu for St. John. In addition to the Wednesday BLAST, St. John will be offering a monthly intergenerational SUNDAY FUNDAY with a variety of activities to help us grow in faith. Bethesda will be actively recruiting the children in the community for Sunday morning learning before worship.

And we have a flexible approach to our confirmation ministry, too. We recognize that family schedules are more challenging than ever, so we will provide three ways our confirmands can participate in exploring and learning the basics of the Lutheran faith. Three Wednesday afternoons a month, we will offer a one hour class starting at 5pm. That class will be at St. John. One Sunday a month we will offer a three hour session at Bethesda, starting after worship. And all through the month, we will have the same lessons on line. (NewConfirmation.wordpress.com) And we have one other confirmation opportunity—parents are invited to sit in on the classes! Our ninth graders, who will be confirmed in October, will meet with me to develop a written statement of faith to be shared with the congregation on Confirmation Sunday.

As has been true since before I came to St. John and Bethesda, we are always monitoring the COVID situations in our communities. We strive to find a balance between safety and comfort. With the latest variant affecting so many of the children, we recognize that our precautions are taken to protect them. The measures we take in person are based on their needs, not ours. That is the love that Jesus talks about when he says, "They will know you are my disciples by your love for one another."

When the harvest is over, our focus moves to preparation for the next season. It is a regular cycle that brings rhythm to our lives. In the church, this is the time when we plant new seeds of faith, nourish the soil of compassionate community, and trust a loving God to bring about growth.

September blessings.

Pastor Chip

Prayers of the Church



Lord God, our Father and Creator:
 We deserve
 To labor among thorns and thistles,
 To eat by the sweat of our brow,
 To work without reward,
 For we confess
 We have spoiled Your creation by our sin,
 We have marred Your work by our neglect,
 We have hurt Your work by our rebellion.
 We pray You bless our labor
 By Him who was once a carpenter,
 By Him who came to be our servant,
 By him who saved us to serve.
 For His sake keep us and all who labor
 From false dealing and unfair practice,
 From excessive profit and unjust gain
 From slovenly service and irrational demands.
 Help us
 To labor with love,
 To labor with joy,
 To labor with faithfulness.
 Teach us that the best labor we give You

In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.
 Lutheran Book of Prayer. Page 114
 Provide for the needs of others we pray:
 † David McWilliams & Lynne
 † Nick Johnson
 † Jay Lindsey
 † Kathi Aubry
 † Jackie Mesenbrink
 † Steve Hein
 † Roger Hansen
 † Todd Pape
 † Lenyce Lawrenson
 † Kristi Little

We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations. Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors.

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture corn, wheat and all crops grown for the nourishment of your people.

We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of the common good.

We pray for our church. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance.

We give thanks for those who have died. As you sustained them through all their days, so dwell in our hearts, that we may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. We remember the family and friends of Marci Archer Cleaver and pray your comfort and strength sustain them through their sorrow.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God. Amen.

Regular Church Council Meeting August 4, 2021

President Russell Stanislav called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Attending: Russell Stanislav, Alan Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Jim Rains, Mike Vaughn, Sharon Holverson, David McWilliams, Roger Hansen, and Pastor Chip.

Pastor Chip shared devotions.

Minutes were read. Alan made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was read. Mike made a motion and Alan seconded to approve treasurer's report.

Youth Report: VBS served 16 students. \$21 was donated to Bethesda for the youth. August 29th will be Rally Sunday. Aiyana Bowman is at camp this week.

Pastor's Report: 125th Anniversary of Bethesda will be celebrated Aug. 29, 2021. Communion will be at the rail covid permitting, Rally Day, Blessing of the Backpacks, Dedication of the new Communion Chalice, Pastor Margo invited to lead a prayer, and Pastor Carla invited to send a message.

We will hold a bbq with potluck after worship. Worship will be held at 10:30 am.

Lisa and Russell will lead service Aug. 8, 2021.

ELCA Lead Initiative Application will ask for a 2 year commitment to attend 2 gatherings each year starting

in Nov. 2021. A monthly task force meeting can be held via zoom. We can do this jointly with St. John. The shared cost will be \$500. If the congregation is selected the team can expect to learn how to innovate for the future, network with other congregations, eligibility in grant to conduct a ministry experiment.

Confirmation students from Bethesda will be Landon Johnson, Eli Bowman, and Hadlie Stanislav.

Face to face classes will be 3x per month on Wednesdays at St John. Sundays 1x per month at Bethesda. And online lessons for make up when the other times do not work.

Congregation will be encouraged to wear masks but not required as of now.

No old business.

New Business: Russell repaired the mailbox. Don showed Russell where the bats are coming in the church.

Discussion on how to cool Pastor's office. Three quotes will be taken and then we will discuss.

Alan made a motion to adjourn. Mike seconded. President Russell adjourned the meeting at 7:10.

Next meeting will be held Sept. 5, 2021 after worship.

Council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sept/Oct Schedules

Sept Ushers:

*Mark Johnson
Jim Rains
Russell Stanislav

Oct Ushers:

*Alan Johnson
Roger Hansen

Scripture Readers:

Sept 5 - Cathy Stephens
Sept 12 - Mike Vaughn
Sept 19 - Angie Bothwell
Sept 26 - Darlene Bowman
Oct 3 - Roger Hansen
Oct 10 - Alan Johnson
Oct 17 - Kevin Johnson
Oct 24 - Lisa Johnson
Oct 31 - Sam Johnson

Acolytes:

Sept 5 - Landon & Lydia
Sept 12 - Chenoa & Aiyana
Sept 19 - Lauryn & Eli
Sept 26 - Novie & Hadlie
Oct 3 - Landon & Lydia
Oct 10 - Chenoa & Aiyana
Oct 17 - Lauryn & Eli
Oct 24 - Novie & Hadlie
Oct 31 - Landon & Lydia

Communion Assistants:

Sept - Joni Smith
Oct - Russell Stanislav

Communion Dates:

Sept 5 - First Sunday
Sept 12 - Third Sunday
Oct 3 - First Sunday
Oct 17 - Third Sunday

Altar Care:

Sept - Maggie Rains
Oct - Lisa Johnson

Altar Colors:

June 6 - Oct 24 - Green
Oct 31 - Red
Nov 1 - White

LSI News

Direct Support Professionals Week

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professional's Week, we celebrate all the ways in which professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives.

One way LSI empowers lowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up lowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities. Through our innovative Host Homes program, caregivers can also become mentors to individuals with disabilities, welcoming them into their private family home where they can receive more one-on-one care and encouragement.

It has been a challenging year for parents of children with disabilities, and there are lots of Iowa families who deserve support right now. You can help by joining the LSI team as a short-term respite care provider for Iowa kids. Visit LSIowa.org for respite to learn more, and if you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, 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 LSIowa.org and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

Where are They Now: Amanda and Mavis

Amanda has lived with her Host Homes mentor, Mavis, for three years and continues to gain more independence through the program. When Amanda first entered Host Homes, she required multiple psychiatric hospital visits throughout the year. She had been living in a busy home with roommates, and she needed a new environment to thrive.

When she moved in with Mavis, the two worked together to build important life skills for Amanda and find ways for her to cultivate her creative mind. Amanda loves listening to Elvis music, sewing, and ceramics, so Mavis helped Amanda enroll in art classes. When she was no longer able to attend during the pandemic, Mavis ensured she had space at home to continue creating art. Amanda recently finished a major ceramics project: a replica of Elvis she has been working on for three years. Amanda continues to work on her goals, including personal hygiene, exercise, medication management, and cooking. Throughout the pandemic, Mavis and Amanda spent lots of time in the kitchen, and Amanda is now able to cook independently. She loves trying new dishes, and her favorite foods are pasta recipes. And instead of several emergency calls and hospital visits each year, Amanda has not needed mental health hospitalization in more than a year and a half. "I think I'm doing really well, I've been doing lots of things," Amanda says. "I want to do even more amazing things too. I really like it here."

August Offering, Attendance & Balances

Aug 1 - (31) -	\$1937.86	Checking	\$ 2,452.02
Aug 8 - (27) -	\$1212.00	Back Up Funds	\$ 15,020.25
Aug 15 - (28) -	\$1592.14	Emergency	\$
Aug 22 - (24) -	\$ 721.00	Memorial	\$
Aug 29 - (33) -	\$ 843.00	Youth	\$

Sunday School will begin September 26th. The students begin at age 3 and are welcome to attend through high school. The classes will be each Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome!! Be sure to invite your friends that may not be active in another church. Thank you to Russell Stanislav and Maggie Rains for teaching this year. Substitutes will be needed.

If you have any items you would like included in the monthly newsletter, please put in the basket at the back of the church by the balcony staircase.

Bethesda Lutheran Church Celebrates the 125th Anniversary

Sunday, August 29, 2021



The original song board is used to this day.



Of course, there was plenty of delicious food!

Sunday, August 29th Pastor Chip Borgstadt led a celebration of Bethesda's 125th Anniversary (plus one year due to COVID restrictions in 2020). We had our worship service which included a special letter from Pastor Carla who was our previous pastor and a touching poem from Londa and Loren Ingebretsen who are Pastor Carla's parents. There was a special leaflet made and distributed giving the history of the church. There are still copies available of these at the church. Following the service, we had a potluck dinner with abundant food! Thanks to the guys that grilled the hamburgers and hotdogs and to everyone who brought the side dishes and desserts.

There have been many changes during the 125 years, including the building being built in town in 1948. Many improvements have been made since, including ramp, new carpets, organ, bathrooms, kitchen and dining room remodel, new roof, and stained glass windows. The pandemic made for a time of innovation, going online for church services which we will continue. In 1970, we had an average attendance of 136! Our attendance has been shrinking, but the faithful spirit of our parishioners has not. We invite you to join us in prayers for the next 25 years and for God's blessing for each and every one.



Blessing of Backpacks

Pastor Chip blessed the backpacks going to school this year. We wish all the students a safe and welcoming environment where they can learn and grow! Have a great school year to all of the students.



BETHESDA HAPPENINGS - September 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 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	2	3	4
5 10:30 AM Wor- ship with Holy Communion Church Council following worship	6 8 PM AA /Alanon	7	8 5:00 PM Confir- mation at St John	9 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	10	11
12 10:30 AM Wor- ship	13 8 PM AA /Alanon	14	15 5:00 PM Confir- mation at St John	16 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	17	18
19 10:30 AM Wor- ship with Holy Communion 12 - 3 PM Confirmation at Bethesda	20 8 PM AA /Alanon	21	22 5:00 PM Confir- mation at St John	23 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead	24	25
26 9:30 AM Sunday School Begins 10:30 AM Wor- ship	27 8 PM AA /Alanon	28	29 5:00 PM Confir- mation at St John	30 Pastor Chip's Day at Moorhead		

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September 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!

Sept 4 - Mary Hieber

Sept 6 - Colleen Vaughn

Sept 8 - Neal Mann

Sept 10 - Jacquelyn Hutzell

Sept 11 - Kathi Aubry
 Keith Hieber

Sept 12 - Sharon Hinrichsen

Sept 17 - Lisa Johnson

Sept 19 - Maggie Raymond

Sept 22 - Eli Bowman

Sept 24 - Kimberly Monahan

Sept 25 - Jennifer Lauritsen

Sept 27 - Neal Hutzell

If you know of birthdays or anniversaries that can be added to our list, please let Pastor Chip or Susan know.

Bethesda's Website

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.