

ACT PARISH MURDOCK-DEGRAFF CLUSTER NEWSLETTER

BETHESDA AND BUFFALO LAKE OF GRACE CHURCHES

SEPTEMBER 2019

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FROM PASTORS . . .

Dear Friends,

The 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was held August 5 – 10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee. More than 900 voting members gathered for the assembly, which is the chief legislative authority of the church. Some of the highlights of the gathering include:

1. Reelecting on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop.
2. Electing Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Rothmeyer currently serves as executive for administration with the Office of the Secretary, and will begin her term on November 1.
3. Approving the social statement “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action” and its implementing resolutions. The social statement calls the church to action on a range of actions including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
4. Adopting “A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment,” which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests were in attendance.
5. Approving the triennium budget for 2020 – 2022. The budget for the churchwide organization includes \$68,378,325 for 2020, \$68,442,034 for 2021, and \$68,507,018 for 2022. \$21.5 million was authorized for ELCA World Hunger.
6. Adopting a memorial that affirms the ELCA’s long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declaring the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
7. Adopting a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA’s ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA’s decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in same-gender relationships.
8. Adopting a resolution that commits the ELCA to support the World Council of Church’s campaign toward a world without rape and violence.
9. Adopting a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling ELCA congregations to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God.

We can be thankful to all those who traveled to Milwaukee to take part in our churchwide assembly. It is a good reminder that the church is much larger than our own individual congregations, as well as the fact that together we can do so much more than we can do alone. Please continue to keep our churchwide and synod leaders in your thoughts and prayers.

Peace,
Pastor Dan



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The Bethesda coffee dollars received each Sunday at the coffee hour will be designated to one specific area each month.

September coffee dollars will be given to:
Bethesda Sunday school



Bethesda Esther Quilting Circle

September 5th at 9:30

Quilting followed by potluck and short meeting.

DON'T MISS the opportunity to purchase a chance(s) for a beautiful quilt. Tickets are \$1.00/ticket. Just ask a member of the Esther Circle, who will be selling the tickets.



SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY SUNDAY

September 8th 8:30am

It's Sunday school time . . .

Summer is behind us and changing of the seasons will happen before we know it.

PLEASE send in your children's registration get your kid's enrolled for this year.

Answers to page 5 quiz

1. Ruth and Esther
2. Elizabeth; Luke 1
3. Sarai/Sara; Gen. 11:29
4. Anna; Luke 2:22-38
5. Rebekah; Gen. 25:19-26
6. Leah; Gen. 29
7. Rahab; Josh. 2
8. Hannah, Samuel; I Samuel 1
9. Queen of Sheba, I Kings 10
10. Ruth and Orpah, Ruth 1:4

Ushers for September

Anessa and Wade Jeseritz

Jean and Lee Jeseritz

Ronnelle and Chad Jeseritz

Usher/Alter Guild Guide and Duties are included in your Bethesda directory.

Please be sure to look at these carefully. **We have become a very busy church and there are duties that need to be done each week.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a board member or building committee member.

Bethesda Women of the ELCA

WEDNESDAY, September 18th

5:30 pm

Election of officers

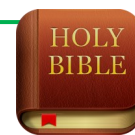
Final plan for Soup & Sandwich dinner.

Decorate church for autumn.

Bethesda Sarah Circle

Thursday, at 2pm

Sherrie's Café hosted by Elsa Olson



CONGREGATIONAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

Sunday September 8th following worship

Bethesda WELCA will serve a spaghetti dinner with garlic bread and salad.

Free will donation will go toward the kitchen remodel project



Bethesda September Mission of the Month

Monetary donations. We will be take the money donation and purchase flowers for our shut-in whether they are at home or in a facility.



If you wish to write a check, please make it payable to the “Bethesda Women of the ELCA.

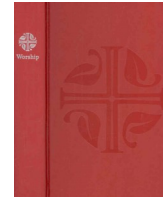
Romans 12:8 *“If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.”*

NEW . . .

BUFFALO LAKE SUNDAY SCHOOL

starting September 8th following worship

It's Sunday school time . . .



Bethesda has received a gift of 50 new ELW worship hymnals. We are still in need of about 20-25 additional hymnals at a cost of \$25, which includes the hymnal and a little for shipping.

If you would like to donate a hymnal(s) to the church, please make a check payable to Bethesda Lutheran Church with hymnal written on the memo line. We are planning to start using our new hymnals sometime in September.

Goodbye, August
Hello, September

The ACT website is maintained by Nancy Stredde of St. John's. If you have church announcements/pictures for the website, please contact Nancy at: firststep@charter.net

You can find the ACT website at:
www.actparish.com.



Sunday, September 1st

There are two joint ACT Labor Day weekend worship services on Sunday September 1st.

8:15 Buffalo Lake

10:00 Bethesda

September 2019 ACT Worship Information

September 2019 Worship Schedule

St. John's - 8am

Buffalo Lake – 8:15am

Bethesda and Monson Lake – 9:30am

Hope – 10:45am

Mamrelund – 11am

Sept. 1 - Luke 14:1, 7-14 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Joint Services 8:15am Buffalo Lake & 10am Bethesda

Sept. 8 - Luke 14:25-33 Philemon 1:1-21

Sept. 15 – Luke 15:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Sept. 22 – Luke 16:1-13 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Sept. 29 Lay Led service

“To Be a Blessing”

Thursday, September 26th

Green Lake Bible Camp

Registration begins at 5pm

Gathering begins at 6:30.

The speakers are the Grahn Sisters (Mary Gruis & Megan Morrison). They will tell the story of their brother, Peter, and the different ways their family was blessed in the midst of that struggle and how their family has found ways to use those blessings to be a blessing to others as we are called by God to do so.

Registration deadline if September ???

Cost is \$10 which includes dinner. Please make your check payable to the Bethesda WELCA.

“God's ultimate goal for your life on Earth is not comfort but character development. He wants you to grow up spiritually and become like Christ. . . Christlike-ness is all about transforming your character, not your personality”.

Rick Warren

ACT Confirmation schedule Fall 2019-2020 7th-9th grades

Wednesday	Sept. 11th	6:30-8pm at Hope
Wednesday	Sept. 25th	6:30-8pm at Hope
Wednesday	October 9th	6:30-8pm at Hope
Wednesday	October 23rd	6:30-8pm at Hope
Wednesday	November 6th	6:30-8pm at Hope
Wednesday	November 20th	6:30-8pm at Hope



**** Caffeine & Conversation ****

CAFFEINE & CONVERSATION will be held on Tuesdays at 9:30am at the Bethesda and 1:00pm at Hope.

If you have not been able to join us yet, PLEASE consider coming- we have great conversation about Scripture and life, yummy goodies and wonderful fellowship (and coffee!)



**** MEN'S BREAKFAST ****

Men's breakfast will be starting again on Saturday morning, September 7th at 7am at Sherrie's Café in Kerkhoven.

Hope to see you then!

Breakfast

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Which books of the Bible are named after women?
2. What was the name of Mary's cousin whose baby was born just months before Jesus?
3. Who was Abram's wife?
4. What elderly widow saw Baby Jesus at the Temple?
5. Who was Isaac's wife, the mother of Esau and Jacob?
6. What woman was Jacob required to marry before he could marry the woman's younger sister?
7. What woman helped the Israelite spies who were scouting out her city of Jericho?
8. What barren woman was given a child after she pleaded at the temple, and what was her child's name?
9. What woman brought lavish gifts when she came to visit King Solomon?
10. What were the names of Naomi's two daughters-in-laws?

(Answer on page 2)