



Bethesda News

July 2016

Bethesda Lutheran Church: a congregation of S.W.I.M
South West Iowa Ministries, Western Iowa Synod, ELCA
2475 140th St., Clarinda, IA 51632
<http://swimwebsite.weebly.com>
Worship @ 11:00 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee 10:15 a.m.



Pastor Ann Albert ~ Phone: 712-379-3332 or email: grace200062@yahoo.com

A Message from Pastor Ann....

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, 4 who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NRSV)

Sometimes just having a listening ear helps solve a problem. We are guided by the Bible to share each others burdens and to help one another.

I am available to listen and help if you are troubled, considering a life change, experiencing grief, or just need a sounding board. While SWIM covers a lot of territory, I am at the north end of SWIM on most Wednesdays and can meet with you at Bethesda or at St. John's. I am here for you.

The best way to contact me is my home phone 712-379-3332. If I'm not home, leave a message and I'll return your call to set up a meeting. We can also talk over the phone if that is more convenient. Our conversation will always be confidential. If you need me, I am here.

Pastor Ann



CAMP CHANGE

The Bethesda offerings were very noisy in June as children collected loose change to sponsor a camp scholarship for a needy child at Lutheran Lakeside. A total of \$523.00 was collected. Many thanks to all who contributed. Camp can Change a Life.



The Bethesda Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, July 7th at 10:00 a.m. at D &D's Treasures in Clarinda where they will learn about collectibles with Dave and Dennis. After the tour they will go to the Garrison House for lunch. (Dutch Treat)



The Bethesda WELCA enjoyed brunch at the *Cabin By the Creek* near Red Oak on Thursday, June 23rd. They also toured the Cabin that is full of interesting quilts and many bears.

Call committee update....

There will be an informational/update meeting on the call process at 10:00 am on July 3 during coffee. See you there!

The Swim Call Committee met on June 1st with Bishop Prois in attendance and met again on June 9th without his presence but was with us by speaker phone.

Some things that Bishop Prois explained to us at the first meeting were: there are about 180 pulpit vacancies in the ELCA and there are 80 seminary graduates to fill the pulpit vacancies; there are about 27 vacancies in the Western Iowa Synod with few prospects for filling them.

Ann Albert will be eligible for ordination in November and will need a call to be ordained.

As a result of these two meetings, the Call Committee voted to recommend to the Swim Council that Swim extend a call to Ann Albert to serve us for a period of three years. If the Swim Council approves this recommendation, it will go to the 5 individual congregations for a vote. All of the congregations will need to approve it for it to be effective.

Wayne Sederburg
Bethesda Member of Call Committee



June 26th, the SWIM congregations met at Viking Lake for their annual morning worship service and potluck picnic. The music was provided by the Bethesda Recorder Consort, Miriam Hanson playing a bell tree solo and Yvonne Johnson leading worship the on keyboard.

Alisha and Selena enjoy playing catch following the picnic.





Morning Worship @ 11:00 A.M.
Fellowship Coffee @ 10:15 A.M.
Communion first and last Sunday of the month

Preaching Schedule at Bethesda

July 3 Ann Albert
 July 10 TBA
 July 17 Ann Albert
 July 24 Noel Kropp
 July 31 Ann Albert

Worship assistants in July

Greeters Jim & Carmen Lunberg
 Reader Greg Wallin
 Communion Asst. Greg Wallin
 Ushers Wayne & Rogene Sederburg
 Don & Marlene Paulson

Coffee Servers

July 3 Steve & Phyllis Carlson
 July 10 Steve & Lori Lastine
 July 17 Dennis Boger & Dave Jones
 July 24 Margaret & Yvonne Johnson
 July 31 Robert & Robin Wright

July Birthdays

7 Delores Renander
 10 David Meier
 10 Dennis Meier
 16 Barbara Nelson
 17 Lori Lastine
 18 Cody Vanderholm
 20 Steve Carlson
 22 Shelby Lewellen
 23 Justin Sederburg

Wedding Anniversaries

1 Mike & Sandy Carlson
 25 Steve & Phyllis Carlson



An invitation to St. John's 140th Anniversary....

You are welcome to join St. John's in celebrating their 140th anniversary on July 10, 2016. The service will begin at 9:45 with Bishop Prois giving the message, followed by a special musical program at 10:00 and a catered dinner at 12:00. As this is a catered dinner, we will need your reservation. Please contact Bob Anderson at 712-586-4538 or email-Bojo@myfmtc.com by July 1st.
 Thanks, Bob

Upcoming Events

July 3 10:00 a.m. Informational meeting on the call process
 July 7 10:00 a.m. WELCA meeting at D & D Treasures
 July 9 1:00 p.m. SWIM Open Door Mission trip. Meet at Red Oak Kmart parking lot.
 July 10 9:45 a.m. St. John's Anniversary service
 July 13 7:30 p.m. Church Council
 July 24 August newsletter items are due. Send to Yvonne (johnsony@myfmtc.com)



God's work. Our hands.

As a social ministry organization of the ELCA, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is so thankful for your partnership in ministry! We give special thanks for the many congregations making LSI the focus of their "God's work. Our hands." projects.

Past "God's work. Our hands." projects have included donations of tools for dads enrolled in our early childhood programs, plus children's books, towel bundles, school supplies and backpacks. LSI has also been blessed to receive "noisy" offerings, special offerings and proceeds from yard work or luncheons. Some Sunday School classes and youth groups have also encouraged youth at LSI's Beloit and Bremwood Residential Treatment Centers through quilts and letters.

We thank you for your witness of God's love and your service! If you are interested in ministering to those served by LSI and would like to know more about current needs, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at deborah.whitford@LSIowa.org.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa

Finding Help and Hope

Bernie's daughter-in-law walked into her house and set her new baby on the living room sofa. She told Bernie the baby was "a mistake" and that she couldn't parent him. She never returned. At age 50, Bernie became a mom to her 2-month-old grandson, Bryce. Bernie's son—the baby's biological father—had medical and mental health issues that left him unable to care for the child.

When Bryce was young, he was diagnosed with ADHD, ODD (Oppositional Defiant Disorder), fetal drug and alcohol syndrome, mental retardation, and partial bipolar disorder. As he grew older, Bryce began to develop anger issues. Bernie knew he was struggling, so she reached out to LSI.

Soon, Bryce began receiving regular home visits from a Behavioral Health Intervention Services worker, who coached Bryce on anger management. Bryce also began seeing an LSI therapist.

Today, Bryce is 15 years old. He attends special education classes, and is doing wonderfully. When he is upset, he reaches out to his LSI therapist for help. Bryce still struggles with anger, but Bernie and his LSI support teamwork together to meet Bryce where he is.

"I want to thank each and every one of our workers from LSI," Bernie says. "They are doing marvelous work with him."

And thanks to LSI donors, Bryce receives the help, hope, and support he needs.