



A publication of Bethel Lutheran Church distributed twice monthly.



bethelmadison.org/bethelite

Walking Through Grief

Life is often described as a journey.

This image of 'journey' can include multiple implications: a series of stops-along-the-way toward a known or unknown destination; almost always a journey is constituted by movement of some dimension; sometimes we feel as though we 'journey' alone, sometimes we journey with others.

Is life a journey for YOU? What 'stops' along the way have you experienced? Who has walked each journey with you?

Beginning the first week-end in August, and continuing through the first week-end in September, our worship times will focus on the various ways that you and I 'journey' through times of grief. **WALKING THROUGH GRIEF** sermons will invite you to explore a variety of grief experiences, either those you have known or those of friends and family as you have walked beside them.

What causes you sadness? Too often, grief is thought to be exclusively connected with the death of a loved one, or the facing of one's own death. This is a far-too-narrow definition of grief.

Grief often comes as we face loss of some kind. Recently my extended

family gathered for a reunion. Forty-two of us celebrated old memories and made new memories. In the midst of all these smiles and laughter and the antics of the 3-year old Emelia, we also shared hugs and tears acknowledging with deep grief the losses being experienced by my oldest sister and her children/grandchildren as they face her severe ramifications of physical and mental deterioration.

What losses are most painful for you? Loss of health, loss of job, loss of spouses and partners, loss of faith for you or loved ones, loss of hope...you fill in the blanks.

What do you know about communal grief? Grief can be extremely broad-based, even though we often limit our association of grief to an individual person.

This sermon series will begin with the broader aspect of grief and move, week by week, to narrower dimensions:

Cosmic and/or Divine Grief: does God experience grief? What does scripture mean when Paul says in Romans 8:22 'the whole creation' is groaning?

National Grief: when and how have you experienced our nation grieving?

Other nations that you have visited or learned about through books and other media?

Communal Grief: where have you been part of a community that has experienced loss, devastation and the necessary life changes to rebuild?

Extended Family Grief: Recently or long ago, what do you know about losing loved ones, either through the natural life cycle or through untimely tragedy?

Individual Grief: and you? what dimensions of grief have brought you face-to-face with loss?

As a pastoral staff, discussing and planning this series, we are searching scripture and hymns for words and promises that will bring us to the reality that God walks with us through all our times of loss and pain. Fittingly, a longer title for this series would be: **WALKING with Jesus, through GRIEF toward HOPE.**

We invite you to walk with us. We ask you to keep us in your prayers as God continues to lead us on this NEW DAY DAWNING, one step at a time. 🌈

—Pastor Margo R. Martens



Thurs, July 25

5:30-6:30pm: Dinner

7pm: "Concert on the Rooftop"
Kids "Christmas in July"

5:30-6:30pm – Dinner at Bethel for everyone (gluten-free and vegetarian options available)

6:30-9:30pm – Kids enjoy a Christmas in July themed evening with a variety of activities like decorating cookies, games and more. Later in the evening we wind down with a Christmas book given to the Sunday School program by Pastor Margo and watching a Christmas movie.

6:30-9:30pm – Parents and Pastor Mike will walk over to the Monona Terrace for a 7pm "Concert on the Rooftop" starring SuperTuesday! (tickets provided by Bethel)



CHRISTMAS IN JULY

BETHEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Childcare is provided by
Bethel Nursery Staff.

Wear your PJs and bring a small used toy, book, or game from home that you are willing to give away in our White Elephant gift exchange. We will wrap the white elephant gifts together and have a few extras in case you come without. Join us for Christmas songs, Charlie Brown Christmas and an indoor snowball fight!

Contact: Cindy at cindy@bethel-madison.org
REGISTER: www.bethel-madison.org/nightout

Did That Really Just Happen?



Bethel just experienced something good that almost never happens in churches today. A summer jump in giving! The normal course of business for churches across the country is to expect and brace for a downturn in giving with summer months. That's just the way things usually happen. But, these aren't usual days at Bethel. There is a new

spirit moving, a breath of fresh air. There is a new day dawning. For the months of May and June, generosity climbed by just over 2% each month from what has been the average for the past five years. Praise the Lord! Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for giving to God through Bethel. It's too early to tell if this trend will keep going for the remainder of the summer. But, keep up the great work! 🌈

Preview of Upcoming Events for Lutheran World Relief 2019



You are invited to take part in Bethel's Lutheran World Relief efforts to build Kits of Care. Each fall our congregation participates in this global mission by donating School Kits, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, Fabric Kits and Soap. The Blanket Workshop meets year-round to supply the Mission Quilts that are sent annually.

Donations will also be accepted for the LWR Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund. The cost to ship Bethel's donations for kits, quilts and soap totaled \$1,507 in 2018. Donating to the shipping fund will help ensure that the gifts created by our congregation and others can reach those who need them most. Information about how to donate will be available at the LWR tables.

REGISTRATION OPEN! Vacation Bible Camp



Encourage your beloved children to be God's agents of change! Parents, godparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, mentors, caregivers and friends - explore with your kids how forgiveness, inclusion, justice, generosity, and compassion are at the heart of the transformed Christian community. There will be stories, songs, crafts, adventures, swimming, and fun at the beach!

REGISTER ONLINE: www.bethel-madison.org/VBC 🌈

Example kits, kit lists and additional information will be available at Lutheran World Relief tables the following Sundays at Bethel: July 28 and Aug 4, 11 and 18. A Saturday service LWR display is planned for August 3. Please stop by the LWR tables to check out the kit displays, ask questions, pick up kit brochures and drop off donations. Additional kit brochures can be found at the Reception Desk.

You are invited to assemble and pack kits during "God's Work, Our Hands Day" on Sept 8.

Soap Sunday is Aug 25. Mild soap bars (4 to 5 oz.) will be collected to be used in Personal Care Kits & Baby Care Kits and will be added to Bethel's annual collection of soap that is sent overseas.

The deadline for donation of items is Sept 8. All kits, quilts and soap will be loaded on a train Sept 14 for transportation to the regional warehouse in Minnesota.

Tracking updates from Bethel's donations in the last year shows Bethel's donations have provided relief in Mauritania, Honduras, Zimbabwe, Rwanda and Nicaragua. Your generosity is making a positive impact all around the world!

Thank you for your continued support of LWR! 🌈

—Patty Saxe, LWR Coordinator
buckygrad2@charter.net

Bethel Member Receives First Call



Carolyn Staats, a member of Bethel, recently graduated from Luther Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. She has received her first pastoral call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Hudson, WI. Carolyn will be ordained at her Internship Church - St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi,

MN at 4pm on July 20. She will be installed as the Pastor of Mt. Zion on Sunday, July 21 at 9am. Bethel wants to wish Carolyn a very special congratulations! 🎉

Hospitality Volunteer Opportunity

Bethel folk are known for their hospitable personality. As we serve one another and other members of our broader community during times of grief and loss, whether in funerals and/or memorial worship times, we know that having a HOSPITALITY HOST available for friends and family is extremely helpful.

What is a **HOSPITALITY HOST**? Anyone from our Bethel community who is willing to work with the officiating pastor, helping guests find restrooms, water, and simply to answer questions they may have as they come to honor the life of a beloved friend/family member.

To date, Steve Young, Cathie Trevallee and Tom Pierce have served in such a capacity. We are deeply grateful for this ministry. **Would this be a volunteer option for you?** Talk with Pastor Margo if you are interested. There is no greater gift at the time of loss, than our presence with one another. Thank you for your partnership in Bethel's ministries of hospitality. 🎉

SAVE THE DATE: Women's Retreat (Oct 4-6) - "A Joy to Behold" Come on Friday and stay for the weekend, or just come for the day on Saturday. Art Ventures Retreat Center at Bethel Horizons. Registration will open on August 30

Art Display: Bethel's with a Backstory is the theme for the July-Aug Fine Arts display in the Fireside Gallery. This display features many unique items that are significant to Bethel's past. Framed drawings, ceramic and wooden art pieces are on display. These include a hand painted silk fan, a carved cane, an ornate chair, and a "Wizard of Oz" diorama. These each have a backstory that is shared in the display. Some items have unknown sources, and others have additional

historic information that is unknown to Bethel's Fine Arts committee. We invite you to contribute to the display by sharing information in the notebook we are providing. This is a wonderful chance to view and learn more about some of Bethel's unique fine art treasures.

Men's Current Christian Concerns (7am; Community Room)
July 18 - What's Next? | **July 25** - Open to Counterintuitive Ideas?

XYZ Activities: July 19: Madison Lake Pontoon Trip and Box Lunch Picnic. July 26: Chapel (9:30am) - Ruth Hanson; (10:30am) QiGong or Euchre; **Lunch (11:45am)** - Meatloaf, Dessert; **Program (after lunch)** - Mission Friday: Packing laundry detergent for Bethel's Food Pantry & addressing cards. **Aug 2: Chapel (9:30am)** - Lois Seymour; **Book Discussion (10:30am)** - *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns, QiGong or Euchre; **Lunch (11:45am)** - Spaghetti, Dessert; **Program (after lunch)** - Birthday celebrations with bingo and prizes. **Aug 9: Chapel (9:30am)** - Jeff Quinto; **Book Discussion (10:30am)** - *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns, QiGong or Euchre; **Lunch (11:45am)** - Build Your Own Taco Bar, Dessert; **Program (after lunch)** - Tomlinson Vintage Ford with a car from movie Public Enemy.

Blanket Workshop (July 18) - Anyone is welcome to drop in between the hours of 9am-2pm to help tie pre-assembled quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No sewing skills are required! If you can tie a knot you are qualified! We meet in Borgwardt Hall.

Madison Lake Pontoon Boat Trip & Picnic (July 19) - Join XYZ on July 19 for our Madison Lake Pontoon Trip and Picnic (a box lunch will be provided)! We meet at the Tenney Boat Dock at 9:30am. We will be on the water for roughly 1.5 hours enjoying the beautiful Madison views and weather! There is a limit of 30 people for this boat trip so please sign-up at XYZ meetings or contact Sue at 608.721.2984 or wmarking@msn.com. Cost is \$17 for members and \$22 for non-members. Accompany this amazing group during this time of fellowship and fun!

Drop-In Summer Choir (July 21 & 28) - This summer at Bethel Lutheran, ALL ARE WELCOME to join together in song for "Drop-In Summer Choir"! Grab a cup of coffee and some friends and family, and we'll make music for the 9am Worship Service!

The Important Details:

- Sunday, July 21: "Dona Nobis Pacem"
- Sunday, July 28 "Down to the River to Pray"

Rehearsals: 8:15am on each Sunday in the Choir Room (located in Bethel's lower level); **Worship:** 9am - we sing from the balcony during the Offertory (after the sermon and prayers); For more info contact Amy Hartsough at amyh@bethel-madison.org.

Victory Choir (July 23; 10:30am; Oakwood East) - The mission of the Victory Choir is to sing to shut-ins primarily at Nursing Homes once a month and to take a word of encouragement. On the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:30am, the Victory Choir, consisting of about 25 singers, gathers at a designated Nursing Home in the area to sing a two-part program consisting of old favorite hymns followed by "songs you didn't learn in church," or as the members call them, the "fun" songs. In a wonderfully unique way they touch the memories and the emotions of the residents. If interested in participating contact Connie Dreger at cdreger@madisoncollege.edu or 608.221.1754.

Social Justice Book Discussion (July 28) - On Sunday, July 28, 10:15-11:15am, the Social Justice Book Discussion Group will meet to discuss our summer read, Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility*, in the library. Please join us.

XYZ Christmas in July Sale (July 28) - We will have lots of Christmas items, cards, and other miscellaneous items. Come take a look and take something home with you!

Horizons 50th Anniversary Campaign Session (July 28) - There will be an informal session about the Horizons 50th Anniversary Campaign on Sun, July 28 at 10:15am in the Community Room. Bring coffee, donut holes, and questions!

Community Meal Program (Aug 12) - Bethel volunteers serve the Community Meal at Luke House, 310 Ingersoll Street, once a month. The next serving date is Aug 12. Please bring your food contributions to Bethel's main kitchen on the Sunday immediately preceding that date OR no later than 10am on the day of serving. Contact: Janet at 608.274.6745 or janetjohnson44@mac.com.

Feed and Read (Aug 19) - Join us starting at noon on Mon Aug 19 to discuss *Being Mortal* by Dr. Atul Gawande. Dr. Gawande, a surgeon in Boston, addresses the issues and realities for people nearing the end of their life. This is a powerful book on a topic that touches all of us. Bring a dish to share or a bag lunch. We'll discuss these important issues and have lunch together. All are welcome. Come and bring a friend.

Got Used Puzzles and Games? Please donate them to Bethel for Renew Circle's Used Puzzles and Games Sale, Nov 2-3. Used puzzles and games will be collected following Sunday church services on Sept 29, Oct 6, 13 & 20. Please bring your used puzzles and games with NO missing pieces in their boxes, taped shut, to our collection table. Donations made during the week will be collected at the Reception Desk. All proceeds from this sale will benefit Bethel's women who are willing to represent Bethel by attending the 11th Triennial Convention of Women of the ELCA, July 14-16, 2020, in Phoenix, AZ.

Steenland House Needs a Couple Roommates for Fall - This wonderful community of service oriented people are looking for a couple more roommates. The 1st floor and 3rd floor have a couple returning tenants who need another roommate to join their lease for these three bedroom units. Both are very unique spaces with historic features. The house was fully remodeled and restored three years ago and brought up to contemporary uses inside with central air and new appliances and w/d in unit. All utilities included. There is a community service hours requirement of 16hrs per month to receive the discounted rent. You don't need to be a Bethel member to live there. Please contact Michelle (mtesnow@yahoo.com) if you or any student or young at heart person is looking for a place to live this fall.

Special Horizons 50th Anniversary Website - Bethel Horizons' Board of Directors is making plans to mark the 50th Anniversary of Horizons' founding.

- **Aug 30-Sept 2 Weekend** - Plans are underway for a special staff reunion.
- **Oct 19** - Gala to be held in Madison.

Learn more about Horizons 50-year journey and the events planned for 2019, check out www.bethelhorizons.org/50th-anniversary

SAVE THE DATE: Circle of Love Golf Outing is Sept 16, 2019!

Bethel Series Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2020 - Join Reverend Jeff Quinto, Bethel Series Executive Director, and his wife Toni on **11 life-changing days in the Holy Land**, Jan 14-24, 2020.

- You will visit Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Jericho, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee and much more
- You will walk where Jesus walked.
- You will swim in the Dead Sea.
- You will dance on a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee.
- You will pray at the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed for God to "let this cup pass from me, ..."

25 faith-filled believers like you will see the Scriptures come alive!

This will be the trip of a lifetime! The cost of the trip, including airfare from Chicago, is \$3,690 based on double occupancy. Breakfast and dinner each day are included. As this is a limited opportunity at an excellent price, we expect to fill the 25 spots quickly. If you are interested in joining us, please download our brochure here: www.bethel-madison.org/holyland. For more info call 608.579.5700 or visit the Bethel Series office in Room 106 at Bethel.

Pastor Mike to Meet with Oakwood East & West Residents

Pastor Mike Brown will be having a coffee social to meet the Bethel members that live at Oakwood East and West. Oakwood East will meet on Thurs, Aug 1 at 9am in the Chapel. Oakwood West will also meet on Thurs Aug 1 at 2pm in the Nakoma Room. The Care Ministry Team will be hosting this event. Please feel free to come and get acquainted with Pastor Mike. For any questions, please contact Hank or Sharon Starkey at 608.273.0632. 🌈

FUND FACT \$

A Campership is a wonderful gift to provide for one of many young people who look forward to an overnight week at Horizons this summer, but whose family can't afford the entire cost. The advertised rate for a week is \$450 but the actual cost is \$619, so every gift amount is helpful!

VIEW MORE OPPORTUNITIES: www.bethel-madison.org/events



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Bethelite (USPS 053-160) Published bi-weekly by Bethel Lutheran Church
608.257.3577 | Email Christal Swigart: christal@bethel-madison.org

6 PENTECOST

Pastor John O. Swanson - July 20 at 5pm - Pentecost
Pastor John O. Swanson - July 21 at 7:45 & 9am - Sanctuary
Pastor John O. Swanson - July 21 at 11:15am - Sanctuary

7 PENTECOST

Pastor Margo R. Martens - July 27 at 5pm - Pentecost
Pastor Margo R. Martens - July 28 at 7:45am & 9am - Sanctuary
Pastor Margo R. Martens - July 28 at 11:15am - Sanctuary

SUNDAY, JULY 21

7:45a Worship Service (Sanctuary)
8:00a Coffee Fellowship (Emmaus & Fireside)
XYZ Table Sales (Emmaus)
8:30a Childcare provided 8:30am-12pm (Nursery)
Library Open (Library)
9:00a Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:45a Worship Service (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, JULY 22

12:00p Food Pantry Open 12-3pm (M-F) (Lower Level)

TUESDAY, JULY 23

8:30a Homeless Support Services (T&TH) (Pentecost)
9:00a Library Open (Library)
10:30a Victory Choir (Oakwood East)
12:00p Bethel Endowment Foundation Quarterly Meeting
(Borgwardt Lounge)
5:15p Rebuilding at Bethel (Library, Rm 100 & 120)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

10:00a Chapel (GS Chapel)

THURSDAY, JULY 25

7:00a Current Christian Concerns (Community)
8:00a Second Harvest Delivery
5:30p Parents Night Out and Christmas in July (Fireside)

FRIDAY, JULY 26

9:00a XYZ Activities

SATURDAY, JULY 27

9:30a Food Pantry Open 9:30-11:30am (Lower Level)
5:00p Saturday Evening Worship Service (Pentecost)
Bhutanese Worship in Nepali (GS Chapel)

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Mike Brown - Lead Pastor
pastormike@bethel-madison.org

Pastor Roger Black - Visitation Pastor, Interim
roger@bethel-madison.org

Pastor Margo R. Martens - Worship/Visitation Pastor
margo@bethel-madison.org

Pastor John O. Swanson - Director of Congregational Life
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Pastor Jerry Tews - Interim Support Pastor
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