

Bethesda Lutheran Church
GATHER...GROW...GO



Sunday, June 21, 2020 . . . 9:30am

Welcome

A special welcome to those new to worshipping with us—we're glad the spirit has called you here! **Bethesda Lutheran Church is live streaming church services on Facebook during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic.** If you don't already have a church home and would like to join ours, please call the office at 515-232-6256 and we'll connect you to one of the Pastors, and make it easy.

OUR MISSION IN SUCH A TIME AS THIS

GATHER in due time
GROW in the meantime
GO with God ALL the time

GROW IN GOD'S WORD

June 28 . . . Matthew 10:24-39

LIVESTREAMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our Facebook page will host the Livestreams—<https://www.facebook.com/BethesdaAmes/>—and they will remain as videos for later viewing. Our Sunday videos will also be posted as Sermons on our website: <https://bethesdaames.org/sermons/>. Just “Like” our Facebook page and you will receive notification that the stream is starting.



We're still in touch. Call our church office with any needs, prayer requests, or to talk to a familiar voice. We're still sending out our Friday *Living Current* email blast; let us know if you'd like to be added to the list! You can keep up with us on our website and Facebook page too.

Finally, and most importantly, for today and all days, God is still with us. Do not be frightened. Or dismayed. Be strong. Be courageous. For the Lord your God is with you, wherever you go.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

And though the mountains are toppled into the depths of the sea,

The Lord of hosts is with us;

And the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

MORNING PRAYER

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

A reading from Jeremiah

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"

then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;

I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

¹⁰For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends

are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
 therefore my persecutors will stumble,
 and they will not prevail.
 They will be greatly shamed,
 for they will not succeed.
 Their eternal dishonor
 will never be forgotten.
¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
 you see the heart and the mind;
 let me see your retribution upon them,
 for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³Sing to the LORD;
 praise the LORD!
 For he has delivered the life of the needy
 from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

A reading from Romans.

^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

FAITH FORMATION MOMENT

SERMON

SONG: *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

PEACE & OFFERING: *Text three of your friends or family!*

Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/t4x6vz6>
 or scan the QR code at right, with your smart phone or other device,
 to go directly to Bethesda's secure giving page.



OFFERTORY: "Lead on, O King Eternal" (M. Kretsinger-Harries)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

SONG: *They Will Know We Are Christians*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Bethesda Opportunities

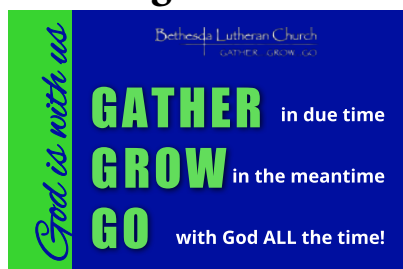


June 24 at 6:30pm will be a “Drive in” service with sound transmitted through the FM radio in your car (no outdoor speakers or seating will be available). Printed bulletins will be provided. Please bring your own juice/wine and bread/crackers for the celebration of Holy Communion. The service will immediately be **followed by our Semi-annual congregational meeting**.

N O T E : Monday, June 22 you can drive through from 1) noon-1; and 2) 5-6 pm) to pick up the **Semi-annual Report** and summer devotionals, Backyard Camp Kits, and we’ll have an offering collection.

Get Your Bethesda Yard Sign!

Join your Bethesda neighbors in sharing the Good News! For only \$10 we can post one in YOUR yard. Visit <https://bethesdaames.org/bethesda-yard-signs> to order today!



Bethesda Backyard Camping Kits

We have decided to cancel Fine Arts Camp and instead

plan a series of outdoor, social-distance friendly family events this summer. Our June offering is a kit to accompany camping in your own backyard! **Come pick them up on Monday, June 22** (along with the *Semi-annual Report* and summer devotional—between **noon-1pm** **A N D 5-6pm**.)



Share the Music!

You may have noticed the recent “Musical Offering” posts on our Facebook page which feature at-home performances by Bethesda folks. If you have a song or performance to share—doesn’t have to be religious music!—reach out to Mark Kretsinger-Harries (mkharrises@bethesdaames.org) and he’ll walk you through the process.



Opportunities to Join Ministry Teams

Are you comfortable on a ladder? Mechanically inclined? Able to lift and move? Do you have spare time during weekdays? **The Bethesda Facilities Team is looking for three new members!** Please contact Kathy Harris with your interest in joining this active team, at kmh1951@msn.com.

The **Food Pantry** is still providing curbside service with no direct guest contact. The three volunteers per shift are practicing social distancing, and we encourage wearing masks. If you are healthy and not in the groups potentially vulnerable to coronavirus, **we would love to train and place you in our schedule** (likely all summer and possibly into the fall). Interested volunteers may contact Joyce O’Donnell at jdodonn@icloud.com.

We are also in need of **handsewn face masks to give out to our Food Pantry guests**. Visit <https://bethesdaames.org/help-make-face-masks/> for details.

New Bethesda Website Prayer Request

Please check out the new “Prayer Request” option at www.bethesdaames.org, under the Resources drop-down menu. Anyone can ask for prayer, 24/7, and ask for a response as well. Blessings!



Assistance Program @ The Waterford

The Waterford at Ames Assisted Living would like to help any seniors in need of a hot fresh meal—or anyone who may need assisted living services. Please call Logan Harrington for further information at 515-292-2858.



Beginning June 22
we will embark on a six week book study of

UNCLOBBER:
Rethinking the Misuse of the Bible On Homosexuality
by Colby Martin

Our book study, led by Miriam Chadima, Task Force Member, will take place on
Monday evenings via Zoom, June 22 - July 27 from 7-8:30 pm.

Join us on this journey of growth and learning as we look at how the Bible has been used against people of the LGBTQIA+ community, and what we can do to stop the discrimination towards our queer brothers and sisters in Christ.

The course is free to join, and you may buy your own book.*

Sign up at this link:

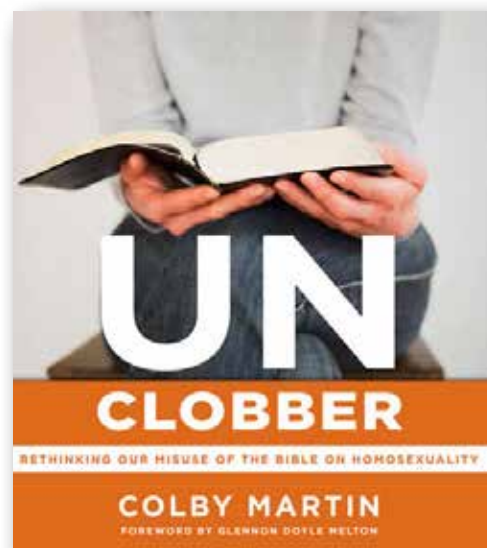
<https://tinyurl.com/y9zaqhmq>

The book is available at many locations, including these online retailers:

- [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)
- [Booksamillion.com](https://www.booksamillion.com)
- [Barnesand noble.com](https://www.barnesandnoble.com)

Or you can reserve the book at the Ames Public Library.
It is also available on Audible.com as an audio book.

* Please contact mchadima@bethesdaames.org if you would like information regarding assistance to purchase the book.



PRAYER AT BETHESDA

HEALING: Bob Ahlstrom; Don Borcharding; Gloria Egertson; Gloria Herrold; Jens Klatt; Bill Marion; Jerry Mortensen; Mary Nelson; Dean Newlon; Charlie Ricketts; Trish Swanson; Jason Thomes (grandson of Hannah Coney); Delbert Trickle

SERVING OUR NATION: Colonel Mark Kappelmann, (D.C.), son of Glenn & Mary Kappelmann
 Kristin Murray, Diplomat (US Embassy, Rabat, Morocco), daughter of Russ & Jan Melby

CARD SHOWERS . . .

The family of **Mary & Jerry Nelson** would like to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 20th by throwing them a card shower! We invite you to send a card or email in honor of this special occasion. **34625 Bay View Rd. #206, Bayfield, WI 54814** -or- jnelsonames@aol.com

Ken Elvik turns "90" on June 29! Please shower him with cards at: **1801 - 20th St.; Room 201; Ames, IA 50010**

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Ministers Pastor Bryan Simmons, Pastor Sonja Gerstenberger
 Musician Mark Kretsinger-Harries
 Lay Reader Chris Brakke
 Sound Tech Randy Slocum
 Video Techs Rod Fischer, Allan Schmidt

CONTACT INFORMATION

Joyce O'Donnell, Council President jodonn@icloud.com
 Bryan Simmons, Lead Pastor bsimmons@BethesdaAmes.org
 Ryan Arnold, Associate Pastor rarnold@BethesdaAmes.org
 Sonja Gerstenberger, Pastoral Intern sgerstenberger@BethesdaAmes.org
 Miriam Chadima, Volunteer and Youth Event Manager mchadima@BethesdaAmes.org
 Lindsay Peters, Youth Ministries Specialist (6-12th grade) lpeters@BethesdaAmes.org
 Mary Nelson, Lead Organist mnelson@BethesdaAmes.org
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 Curtis Malone, Assistant Custodian



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Office PHONE Hours
 Monday–Thursday
 9:00 am–4:00 pm

1517 Northwestern Ave.
 Ames, IA 50010
 515-232-6256

**Livestream
 Worship Schedule**
 Sunday . . . 9:30 am

www.bethesdaames.org