

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED are dedicated to the glory of God in honor of Amelia Grace Gregory's 10th birthday from her family. God bless Amelia!

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO NEED THEM. SPEAK WITH AN USHER OR PASTOR FOR ASSISTANCE.

CONNECT CARD – There are connect cards in the pew pockets. If you are a guest, have a prayer intention or anything else to share, please fill out a card and drop it in the collection basket. There are also opportunities listed for ways to get involved!

NAME TAGS are available for all worshipers as desired. Thank you for wearing your nametag and helping us build community and fellowship. If you do not see your nametag hanging in the Narthex or you simply need a new one printed, please contact the church office at info@bethesdaonthebay.org. There are also guest name tags for any guest attending worship.

SCRIPTURE BASED COLORING SHEETS

Coloring sheets, based on the Sunday scripture, are available each week by the usher's stand. You are welcome to pick one up for use during worship or take it home with you for colorful prayer and meditation during the week.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY – ON BREAK May 20

Gather weekly on Wednesday at 10:00am for Bible study and discussion about the assigned scripture we hear on the approaching Sunday morning. No expertise needed. Share together in open conversation, prayer and fellowship.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL

October 12-23, 2026

Spots are still available! Registration and final payments are due on June 1st. Sign up now to participate in this special experience to explore the ancient Church and follow in St. Paul's footsteps. Register soon to secure your place. Registration forms are available in the narthex, email enews, or by contacting Pastor Angela directly.

SUMMER CHOIR

Everyone is welcome to make a joyful noise and have fun singing together! Summer is a good time to give it a try too! Mark your calendars and come to join the Summer Choir on June 14, July 12, or August 9. Come to the 9:20 a.m. rehearsal on any or all of those dates. No audition. Easy Peazy.

DISASTER RELIEF TRIPS

Registrar today! Carter County Tennessee the weeks of July 12, 2026 and September 13, 2026. We will continue to assist with recovery efforts for those who suffered great loss from Hurricane Helene in September 2024. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Bob Maas or Pastor Angela. Registration is due by June 1st.

BOOK CLUB

The Bethesda Book Club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm in the lounge at church. The next meeting is May 20th, and the book discussed will be Homecoming by Kate Morton. The group is open to anyone who wants to attend. A list of upcoming books is available. Any questions, contact Marcia at Marcia.Starr@oh.rr.com.

PEACEMAKER QUILTERS

The Peacemakers is an outside group that meets at Bethesda Thursdays at 9:00 am, now through May 28, 2026. They quilt and donate their quilts to charitable groups that need them, with the support of Thrivent Financial. New quilters and sewers are welcome anytime. The sewing technique is straight-seam. They also have projects you can do at home! If you are interested in learning more or joining the group, contact the office or show up on Thursday!

CLASS FOR 2-4 YEAR OLDS

May 30 – 10:00am

Bethesda is excited to announce that we have started a special class for children ages two through four along with their parents. We meet one Saturday a month from 10:00 to 11:00 am. If you are interested in attending these classes, please contact Diana Wolfe or the church office.

NEW MEMBERS

Have you been worshiping with Bethesda for a while? Are you interested in learning more about the ministry and the community? You're invited to share in conversation with Pastor Angela on Tuesday, May 26 at 6:45 in the church library. Please RSVP by Sunday May 24th. New members will be received on Sunday, May 31st, Holy Trinity Sunday. If you would like to be received as a member, please let Pastor Angela know.

LIBRARY RENOVATION

As Bethesda continues to refresh and update our facilities, the next project will be to renovate the current library space. The library has not been very well utilized over the last many years and could be more functional as meeting space. The goal is to not only modernize with fresh paint and flooring, but to make the space more user friendly, less cluttered, and more practical for education ministry and meeting space. This Sunday you are invited to take home any of the books on the shelves that could be meaningful for you. Some of the helpful reference books will be kept in the library for use by the education ministry. Those are marked.

GRADUATES

It's that time of year when there are graduates to celebrate! We will post our graduates in the showcase in June. If there is a high school or college graduate this year in your family, please email the following info to the church office by **May 17** (info@bethesdaonthebay.org):

- Name, Where graduating from, Degree, if applicable, Future plans, Any special honors they would like highlighted.
- A current photo (5x7 is preferred but we will use whatever is provided. The photo does not have to be a professional photo and can be mailed, dropped at church, or emailed. Please note emailed photos will be printed from church copy machine so will not be photo grade.)

AGAPE FUND DISTRIBUTION

At its April meeting Church Council approved \$9,000 for first-round disbursements from the Agape Fund for 2026, as shown here: First Lutheran Church, Ghana Mission for Akrampa School (Breakfast Program - \$4,800) and (Junior High Renovation Project - \$3,000), University Protestant Campus Ministry (UpCAM) (\$1,000), and St. Barnabas Community Cupboard (\$200).

A second round of disbursements, which will include some of our other ministry partners, will be made in the fall. On behalf of Church Council, thank you for your generous financial support to the Agape Fund and we ask that you please continue to support these ministries as we move through the year.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Thank you to the generous support of church members, the Church Council is happy to share that all of the sanctuary stained glass windows have been cared for and received the maintenance needed. They have each been resealed, all of the panels carefully looked over and attended to where needed, and the original caulking was replaced. The stained glass windows are roughly 30 years old this year. Thank you to the congregation and its members for stewarding these gifts well for future generations.

CALL PROCESS UPDATE — PROFILE COMPLETE!

Bethesda and Good Soil in Rocky River are partnering together to offer a call for a new Rostered Minister, either a deacon or pastor for the role of Christian Formation. The Executive Council committees from Good Soil and Bethesda on the Bay met together with the joint Call Committee on 3/29 to review the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) drafts, approve the position description, and discuss the shared breakdown of the projected expenses/compensation.

Both church councils have reviewed these MSP documents and they have been submitted to Pastor Mitch Phillips at the synod office for final approval. Soon these documents will be published in the ELCA's call database for available candidates to review. Interested candidates will contact the Northeastern Ohio Synod Staff to share their candidate profiles with the Call Committee.

Interviews with the Call Committee will then take place in the coming months. Please hold our Call Committee, council leaders, and this call process in your prayers as we discern who God is calling to serve as our shared Minister for Christian Formation.

What's Christian Formation? Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Studies, Small Group ministry, Service and Learning opportunities, Acolyte and Communion Instruction Classes, and Worship, are all examples of how we are "formed" in the Christian faith and life.

CLEVELAND POPS ORCHESTRA CHORUS "MUSIC SPRINGS FORTH"

Sunday, May 17, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

Avon Lake United Church of Christ, 32801 Electric Blvd, Avon Lake, Ohio

Join members Mary Beth Larsen, Brian Webner and Eric Richardson for this FREE concert. Donations appreciated.

Next concert at SEVERANCE HALL with POPS Orchestra.

Saturday, June 6, 7:30 p.m. "Music Made In America"