

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED are dedicated to the glory of God by Liza Heinig in thanksgiving for the beauty of the season and looking ahead to new beginnings.

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

YOUTH GATHERING MEETING

August 24, 7:00 pm – Lounge

All kids going into 8th grade – 12th grade this year are invited to participate in the up-coming ELCA National Youth Gathering next summer, July 2027! Theme for this Gathering will be Imagine More! Come to the meeting with adults/parents on Monday, August 24th to learn more and to begin to plan together for this amazing faith growth experience with youth and adults from around the Nation!

ST. B'S HIVE (ST. BARNABAS)

Presents Women in Space

September 16, Noon – 2:00 pm, reservations required

Laura Blair highlights women in space including 3 US astronauts! Luncheon at noon with presentation. Reservations are required - Marjie Koons care@stbarnabasBV.org.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Sunday, October 4 at 11:30 am in the Lounge

Outreach committee is being formed to help Bethesda continue to reach out into the community and the wider church. Come together to plan and organize outreach events and help encourage and grow the work of caring and loving our neighbors! Most of the organizing in the past was done peace-meal and usually church staff led. Creating a committee is an opportunity for the congregation to engage further and explore how to serve the community in new ways. Contact Pastor Angela if you have questions or want to participate but can't be at the meeting.

DISASTER RELIEF WORK

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are the household of faith." Galatians 6:10

Members from both St. Matthew's in Medina and Bethesda on the Bay will travel September 13, 2026 to Carter County Tennessee to provide disaster recovery assistance. Please pray for the travel, the work, and the relationships built between participants and the homeowners. You can offer food donations for the trip or support with a monetary gift. Also, if applicable, please consider designating a Thrivent Grant for this ministry. Reach out to Pastor Angela if you would like more info or to help.

PAPER GOODS DONATIONS FOR KNICKERBOCKER SENIOR APARTMENTS

The Knickerbocker Senior Apartments requested help from the four Bay Village congregations that support it to collect donations of paper goods to support their programming for residents. Each Sunday during the month of August, we will be accepting donations of the following items for the Knickerbocker:

- Paper plates (dessert and dinner size)
- Paper bowls
- Dinner napkins
- Paper towels
- Clorox wipes
- Paper coffee cups (10 or 12 oz)
- Compostable, dinner-sized take-out containers

The donated items will be used for birthday celebrations, coffee hours, and community lunch and dinner events, gatherings that mean a great deal to the residents. By donating these essential supplies, we will be helping the Knickerbocker to stretch its program dollars further, allowing them to invest more deeply in engaging entertainment, educational opportunities, and meaningful social experiences for the residents. Thank you for your support of this initiative, which is sponsored by the Mission & Ministry Team of Church Council.

GATHER TOGETHER, a young adult ministry for 20s/30s

Saturday, September 12, at 4:00 pm

Young Adults are invited to come for an afternoon of faith and fellowship at the Rocky River Nature Center on September 12. We will meet in the parking lot at 4 pm. The group will walk for about an hour and conclude with a contemplative prayer. Please feel free to bring family and pets! RRNC is located in the Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Reservation: 24000 Valley Parkway, North Olmsted, OH 44070. Kindly RSVP to emmacsleva@gmail.com. Look forward to seeing you there!

"Gather Together" is a self-organized young adult group across several Lutheran communities focused on building affirming community through meaningful engagement with one another, with God, and with our wider world. See gathernetwork.org/ more information about the ELCA's Gather Ministry.

BACKPACK BLESSING

August 30, *during worship*

School may have already started for most, but we want to send our children to school with God's love and blessings! Children of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks to worship on Sunday, August 30 for a special Backpack Blessing.

BETHESDA TO WORSHIP AT GOOD SOIL

Sunday, September 27th at 9:30 am – outdoors

Bethesda will travel to Rocky River to worship with Good Soil. Mark your calendars and plan on journeying down the road to continue the relationship building and shared worship! It is a blessing to be the One Body of Christ! *Carpooling and shared rides are encouraged due to space constraints at Good Soil. Meet at Bethesda at 9:00 am if you would like to carpool. Please note that service begins at 9:30 and that there will NOT be service at Bethesda that morning. Good Soil is located at 20300 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River.*

CHOIR ANTHEM, SEPT 27TH

A combined choir from both churches will sing an anthem during worship at Good Soil. The rehearsal will be at 9:00 am at Good Soil.

BETHESDA CHANCEL CHOIR

Bethesda's choir will kick off rehearsals on Thursday, September 10th at 7:00 pm. Rehearsals continue on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. A shorter rehearsal and warm-up before worship meets on Sundays around 9:30 am. Everyone is welcome! Speak with Eric Richardson with questions.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

September 3, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Seventh and Eighth graders are encouraged and invited to participate in Confirmation, which is a fun and meaningful learning and faith growth opportunity. Bethesda hosts confirmation for the Conference of Lutheran Churches. The students are in classes with kids from other area congregations. They learn about the Lutheran Church, the Bible, and other helpful material to aid in their faith development. Classes start September 3rd! Speak with Pastor Angela if you or your child would like to participate!

PEACEMAKERS QUILTERS

The Peacemakers is an outside group that meets at Bethesda Thursdays at 9:00 am, September 10 through May 2027. 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!

BIBLE STUDY

September 2, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Come and share in fellowship and bible study centered around the up-coming Sunday scripture lessons. No expertise is needed and you can come when you're able. The group usually meets in the Library but may need to relocate temporarily while the space is under construction. Stay tuned!

VELOSANO BIKE TO CURE

Gary Weiland thanks everyone who participated in VeloSano's Match Day last Tuesday, in which he raised more than \$4,000 for his Bike to Cure ride in just one day. He has now raised \$6,708 toward his personal \$8,000 goal. This is the ninth consecutive year Gary has led a team to support cancer research. Team Discovery currently has 100 riders with a goal of 110 riders and \$130,000, which will fully fund one cancer research pilot. This year, Team Discovery will surpass Gary's ultimate goal of raising \$1/2 million for cancer research since 2018. The Bike to Cure ride is Sept. 19. Support Gary's ride at <https://give.velosano.org/gweiland>.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The joint Call Committee, comprised of volunteers from Bethesda and Good Soil, has been actively interviewing candidates. Led by Co-chairs Chris Webner and JoAnne Wancata (Good Soil), the committee is making excellent progress and is excited about the quality of the applicants.

While the process has been lengthy, the time has given the committee an opportunity to build as a team. We are especially thankful for the consultation of Mitch Phillips, the Assistant to the Bishop of our Northeastern Ohio Synod. Thank you for entrusting us in representing the best interests of our congregation.

With thanks,

Scott Pohlkamp *on behalf of the call committee*

Chris Webner, Lisa Hanson, Lynne Zeidler (Bethesda call committee members)

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

Nurse Debbie Roski will be doing a blood pressure check again on September 13th after worship.

CLASS FOR 2-4 YEAR OLDS

Dates TBD

Bethesda is excited to announce that we will continue our 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. Exact dates are to be determined by group consensus.

COMMUNITY CUPBOARD AT ST. BARNABAS

On July 15th, the Vestry of St. Barnabas issued a resolution which read in part “the Vestry of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church expresses its heartfelt gratitude to the congregation of Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church for their faithful partnership and generous support of the St. Barnabas Community Cupboard...”

Last month we collected 55 items that were donated to the Community Cupboard. Thank you to all those who contributed. As noted, our continued support is greatly appreciated by St. Barnabas.

The third Sunday of the month is coming up this weekend on August 16th. This month we will offer a general collection of non-perishable food, hygiene products, or pet food. So, put a few items on your shopping list and bring them to church on Sunday. Monetary donations are also welcome. A collection bin will be located in the Narthex. To the gardeners out there, the Community Cupboard also welcomes fresh fruits and vegetables from our gardens. However, these items should be taken directly to the Community Cupboard at St. Barnabas.