

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED are dedicated to the glory of God by Bob Emmerich in celebration of Malinda's birthday on October 10.

Last week's altar flowers were in honor of Bob Kretschmann from Kate Kretschmann.

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.

CELLIST

Arisa Boonpongmanee, Cellist, Senior at Westlake High School
Special thanks to Hilary Patriok, WHS Director of Orchestras

BIBLE STUDY

On break until Wednesday October 28 at 10:00 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. While the library is under renovation, Bible study will be held in the lounge. Come and share in the fellowship.

BETHESDA CHANCEL CHOIR

Bethesda's choir rehearses on Thursdays at 7:00 pm with a shorter rehearsal and warm-up before worship on Sundays around 9:30 am. Everyone is welcome! Speak with Eric Richardson with questions.

CLASS FOR 2-5 YEAR OLDS

Saturday, October 24 at 10:00 am

Bethesda is excited to continue a special class for children ages two through five 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.

PEACEMAKERS QUILTERS

The Peacemakers is an outside group that meets at Bethesda Thursdays at 9:00 am. 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!

BETHESDA FINANCIAL UPDATE

You may recall that council (and voted by the congregation) outsourced portions of the church's bookkeeping and reporting. This was put in place beginning May 1 and after a successful transition we have had timely reporting now for two months (July and August).

Our offerings are currently under budget by \$16,000 and under last year by approximately \$9,000. Our expenses are at budget and \$16,000 over last year. This combined is a loss of \$31,000 through August compared to budgeted loss of \$22,000 and compares to a loss of \$13,600 last year. We are still in a strong cash position; however, we are under where we planned to be at this time. If you are behind in your annual giving this would be a great time to catch up.

Finance Committee Members Needed

We are looking to reinstitute a finance committee, which is a small group of members with relevant professional experience willing to review reports and attend quarterly meetings. If interested please contact me, Pastor or anyone on church council.

Bill Zeidler, Treasurer

216-536-4830 or treasurer@bethesdayonthebay.org

LITANY OF SAINTS

It is tradition to name the faithful departed within the prayers of the people on All Saints' Day (November 1). If you have the name of a loved one who died in the last year who you would like to include, please reach out to the church office or fill out a pew contact card and place it in the offering plate. If you have a photo you would like displayed on the altar, please email it to the office, or leave in the office. Deadline is October 28.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Nurse Deb Roski will be doing blood pressure screening on October 18 after worship.

PILGRIMAGE

Please stay tuned to Bethesda social media as well as this enews for details about the pilgrims who are on their way to Greece. The first meeting of the group will be on Oct 12, Monday evening in Thessaloniki. Please pray for their travels and the faith experience they will have together. If you'd like to see their full brochure and follow along each day, contact the office.

CHORAL SCHOLARS

We have four choral scholars with us this year. Marina Bendaly, a sophomore from Westlake High is our soprano. Maeve Murray, a senior at Lakewood High, is singing alto. Returning as tenor is Will McLoney, a senior at Westlake High, and returning as bass is Charlie Felker, also a senior at Westlake High.

COMMUNITY CUPBOARD AT ST. BARNABAS

Last month, our congregation donated a generous collection of snack items to the Community Cupboard. St. Barnabas is deeply grateful for our ongoing support, and we extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed.

With cooler weather approaching, St. Barnabas is requesting canned soups and stews for this month's collection — chicken noodle is a favorite. Donations will be gathered on Sunday, October 18th, the third Sunday of the month. Please consider adding a few of these items to your shopping list and bringing them to church that day.

As always, contributions of any non-perishable food, hygiene products, or pet food are welcome, as are monetary donations. A collection bin will be available in the Narthex.

SECOND ROUND OF AGAPE FUND ALLOCATIONS

At its September 23, 2026, meeting, Church Council approved the following second-round allocations from the Agape Fund for 2026:

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries	\$1,000
ELCA World Hunger	\$1,000
Love Restored (ministry in Dominican Republic)	\$1,000
First Lutheran Church Lorain – Front Door Ministry	\$500
Total Second-Round Allocations	\$3,500

This week, I am providing information about the two recipients of funding that are continuing ministry partners for Bethesda on the Bay, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries and the Front Door Ministry at First Lutheran Church in Lorain. Next week, I will provide information on the two new ministry partners that received allocations.

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries is located in Cleveland and provides programs and services for those who are oppressed, forgotten, and hurting by providing responsive solutions, voice and hope in four areas: Housing & Shelter, Workforce Development, Youth Resiliency Services, and Guardianship Services (see <https://www.lutheranmetro.org> for more information on each of the four program areas). We did not specify that our allocation be used for any specific LMM program.

The Front Door Ministry of First Lutheran Church in Lorain again received an allocation from the Agape Fund this year. The Front Door Ministry assists individuals in need of

financial support and/or other resources for their basic needs such as food, transportation, shelter, and health care. Frequently requested items are food, gasoline, birth certificates, IDs, bus tickets, prescriptions, utilities, and rent deposits. Funding to provide these services comes from donations from churches and community agencies. Front Door Ministry is open every Tuesday from 9:30 am - 11:30 am at First Lutheran Church in Lorain.

Jerry Kiel, Chair
Mission & Ministry Team