

Celebration of Freedom July 6th & 7th, 2013



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Church Secretary: Evelyn Richter

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN, C 320-684-2846

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Kathy Berland RN ANP 320-495-3988

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will grow spiritually and in numbers as we serve Christ. We will reach out and address the hurts and hopes in our community. We will maintain a church home that is reverently joyous and extend a welcome to all who seek to join us in our mission.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

A Celebration of Freedom

July 6th & 7th, 2013

PRELUDE HYMNS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

(Congregation please respond with the bold print)

Welcome, fellow human beings, to the worship of the God who created us.

We gather here in wonder. God made us in His image and likeness. We often forget that.

Life is a great mystery – intellect, body, and spirit – earth-bound and yet reaching up to heaven; confined to space and time, yet destined for eternal life.

We stop to fix our thoughts on who we really are in God's sight.

Let us begin our worship with words of praise.

Lord, You have flooded us with your love; You have led us into real life; You have given us every good gift which is ours. We are astounded by your grace toward us. Accept now our gratitude and praise. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

MEDITATION MUSIC

FIRST READINGS CONCERNING FREEDOM

Galations 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.”

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

John 8: 31-32

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free?”

MEDITATION MUSIC

SECOND READINGS CONCERNING FREEDOM

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Peter 1:16-17

Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. Show proper respect to everyone. Love the gathering of believers, fear God, honor the king.

Matthew 11:28-30

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

MEDITATION SONG

THE MEDITATION

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING MUSIC

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

We pray for our common lives together, O Lord, and for purpose and meaning in our activities and experience.

We pray for freedom:

From our tempers

which makes us do things and say things we don't mean,

from our selfishness

which makes us place ourselves before others and makes us insensitive to the concerns and feelings of our family and friends.

from our pride

which makes us say we are better than others,

from our anger

which makes us try to hurt one another and unable to forgive,

from our envy and jealousy,

which makes us covet those material goods we do not have and resent another's well being,

from our fears

which makes us unable to risk ourselves in our relations with others, unable to face the truth when we encounter it, and unable to live fully the life God has given us,

from our insecurities

which cause us to be defensive, make us unable to come to decisions, and unable to affirm ourselves with God's act of creation in each one of us.

from our prejudices

which make us judge others superficially,

from apathy

which makes us ignore our neighbor who is anyone in misery.

Most of all, we pray for freedom from the sin of despair, that despair which makes us say, "it's not worth the effort."

Which denies the present reality of hope and denies the promises of God who is the God of hope.

We pray for those who are alienated and separated from us by reason of sickness, poverty, race, war, justice, disaster, and misunderstanding.

Help us to live in the knowledge that God's promises are faithful, and God's promises are that we should be free.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

As you leave this service, you will go forth into a world filled with hatred, apathy, and selfishness. Will you seek to strengthen your faith so that you might be able to accept the challenges that come to you? Will you spread faith, hope, and love among your fellow human beings?

We will endeavor to allow the spirit of Christ to shine into our lives in a greater way, and to shine through us in thought, word, and deed.

Go forth with the blessing of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMNS

POSTLUDE MUSIC

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF JULY 7TH, 2013

Music: 8:30 a.m. Sun. – Marlys Beavers, Organist
5:00 p.m. Sat., July 6th & 10:00 a.m Sun., July 7th – John Koziol, Jr.
& friends.

Ushers: 5:00 p.m. Sat., July 6th – Skip & Lynn Hansen
8:30 a.m. Sun., July 7th – Keith & Dawn Kellen,
10:00 a.m. – Ron & JoAnn Haglund

Lector: 8:30 a.m. Sun. – Val Benton

No Coffee Served Today.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA JULY 7TH THRU JULY 13TH, 2013

Mon., July 8 th	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women's Devotions AA & Alanon
Tues., July 9 th	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Quilters Bells
Wed., July 10 th	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Bible Study Stewardship Committee Hardanger Bible Study Choir Praise Team
Thurs., July 11 th	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S. Foot Care Funtimers
Fri., July 12 th	10:00 a.m.	Bone Builders
Sat., July 13 th	Morning 5:00 p.m.	Veggie Stand Sat. Eve. Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to Libby Turner, John Koziol, Jr. and the rest of the band for sharing their gift of music with us this holiday weekend.

A basket is set up in the back of the fellowship hall if you would like to help defray some of the cost of the band. Thank you for your support.

The hours for the **BEEF & CORN FEED** are 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 27th. They were incorrectly listed in the July Newsletter. Invite your friends and neighbors and come enjoy a fine meal.

We are in need of a volunteer to take charge of securing people for the **greeters list**. See Evie in the office for more information.

The **Church Council is seeking a new Council Secretary** to replace Judy Wozney who has resigned. If you have any interest, please contact our Council President Sandy Pullen.

The **next Church Council Meeting** will be held on Sunday, July 21st at 11:00 a.m.

The **Veggie Stand** opened for the season on the morning of Saturday, July 6th. Come check out the sweet corn and other goodies that show up every Saturday. If you can help with providing baked goods, it would be greatly appreciated.

We are need of **COFFEE SERVERS** for July 28th, August 18th and 25th. If you can provide coffee & goodies any of those days, please sign up on the board next to the kitchen serving window. Thank you.

The **Mille Lacs Patchworker Quilt Show** will be held Saturday, July 13th from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Isle High School.

Golf at 10:00 a.m. on Mondays at Wealthwood Golf Course. Come join us!

The Northeastern Minnesota Synod will be sponsoring a **choir concert tour to Russia** in May. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity to sing the praises of our Lord and help build mission outreach, please consider applying. There is a flyer on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Information is also available on www.nemnsynod.org or speak to Pat Becker.



It is for

FREEDOM

that Christ has set us free.

GALATIANS 5:1