



Bethesda Outlook

June 2021

Our Mission is to Proclaim, celebrate and share the love of Christ with our neighbors in an accepting, caring community.

Bethesda Staff

Pastor: Rev. Heidi Fish.....360-393-2977

Office Administrator: Judy Rasmussen
425-778-6390

Musician: Vic Peters.. 206-789-1699

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday
9:00am—2:00pm

I have received many Thank-You's and compliments regarding the cards that were sent out for Mothers Day. Sam Harpst said that it was a "wonderful surprise and much appreciated".

Our thanks to Joy Halladay and Katherine Dedrick for their hard work on these hand made cards!

I wonder what's in store for Fathers Day?



Blessings to All!

Judy Rasmussen—Office Administrator

Grace Notes --- from Pastor Heidi



Evangelism Alcove

“What’s the deal with ‘evangelism,’ ‘evangelist,’ ‘evangelical’?”

Funny you should ask! Evangelical. Go with your gut. What does that word evoke for you? Right off the bat, my mind goes to the interpretation that flies around on public and social media. “Evangelical” must mean conservative, pietistic, judgmental, happy-happy, or TV preachers, right?

Wrong. I refuse to give over that word to those who twist the Gospel into a particular political agenda more aligned with one particular wing of one particular party.

An “evangelist” is literally one who announces good news. Period. It is the title, not of an office, but of an activity. “Evangelism” is the announcing of good news. “Evangelical” doesn’t mean that I hate you for being who you are; it means the quality of one who brings good news.

“Evangelism” is something that has scared the pants off of Lutherans for a long time! We associate it with door knockers who will stand on your porch and try to convince you to believe the way they believe, and will take up an entire hour of your life because you’re too nice to ask them to leave! We bought into that modern definition, and have allowed that to restrict not just our vocabulary, but our understanding of the Gospel commission give to every Christian.

When you see someone for the beloved child of God they are, and you affirm that truth, you have announced good news. When you stand up for someone who is being bullied and attempt to make peace, you have announced good news. When you share what you have with someone in need, you have announced good news. When you visit the sick, the incarcerated, the outcast, and the marginalized, you are announcing good news.

And when you find a way to link that message to its source, to let others know that you are a follower of one called Jesus, you are announcing good news and pointing others toward its Author.

Bethesda Lutheran Church is positioned in the heart of Mountlake Terrace for a reason, and it isn’t in order to make a bundle selling prime real estate. We are here because God has placed us here and called us together.

Wouldn’t it be good news if right in the heart of this city there came to be known a community of Christians who are serious about being peacemakers, who actively challenge themselves to grow in faith, who have a reputation for having fun, who take time to feed children the stories of the faith and help them to grow up with a robust and resilient grounding in Christ? Wouldn’t that be good news? What if every member of that community of Christians felt supported and encouraged to follow their own passions for ministry in their daily life? What if they got in the habit of trying out new ideas to see what God might be up to today?

Well, Bethesda is part of a denomination that calls itself the **Evangelical** Lutheran Church in America. We don’t use its full name all that often. ELCA is just so much....tidier.

Let’s get a little bit messy. Let’s actually BE evangelical. Let’s BE bringers of good news. Can you hear the Bethesda Jammers getting into it? Sing along... “This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine....”

Pastor Heidi



Message from the Bishop

I began my Bishop's Report for the 2021 Synod Assembly on May 15, 2021 by quoting Paul in his letter to the Romans, "I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world."

I am so glad to be the Northwest Washington Synod with you – as we walk, journey, travel together. We are connected as the body of Christ – as siblings in Christ – together. We are the Northwest Washington Synod in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully. As people forgiven and redeemed, beloved and welcomed, we are called to embody God's grace in speech, action, and relationships. I am reminded daily that it is Jesus Christ who loves, welcomes, and forgives. As baptized children of God, we are called to participate in this love, hospitality, and forgiveness. I am thankful for all of you for your love, your welcome, and your forgiveness.

We on the synod staff have agreed to embrace the following statement as we work together with the congregations and ministry sites of this synod: *"Trusting in the Spirit, we are journeying together with God's people so that all may discover and participate in what God is doing among us through Jesus."*

Further, there are five focus areas interwoven in the work that we are doing as we journey together in Christ:

1. Faithful Innovation
2. Youth and Young Adults
3. Leadership
4. Connection

5. Racial Justice

I'd like to lift up a few of the actions from the 2021 NW WA Synod Assembly:

We had our first online assembly with 332 voting members in attendance on Zoom and over 200 following along on our Facebook Livestream.

We approved the Recommended Changes to the Constitution that were forwarded from the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

We approved the changes to the Constitution proposed by the Synod Council (with a minor amendment to have the Nominating Committee changed to 5 persons).

We elected persons to the following:

Synod Council

Committee on Discipline

Consultation Committee

Voting Members to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly

Approved budget.

We shared videos from our ministry partners and synod committees/teams.

Announced Grace Grants recipients.

As we do the work of this synod, I am reminded that it is not us but the Spirit that leads and guides. Trusting God's promises and participating in the Holy Spirit, we have reached places beyond what I thought possible. We have exceeded priorities and we are moving forward towards God's preferred future. I am grateful to be on this journey with you.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

Council Hi-lights

- The work party on Saturday, March 27th was very well attended. Lots got done but there's still more to do.
- Vanco E-giving is up and running!
- New locked mailbox has been installed.
- Dennis' van is gone. Dennis & Nugget are now living in Everett.
- Council Voted to start In-Person services as of April 18. Zoom service will always be available for those unable or uncomfortable to attend live.
- Council scheduled the next Congregational meeting for June 6. More information to follow.

Council
President:
Jeff Molitor

Vice President:
Jaye Lill

Secretary:
Judy Rasmussen

Treasurer:
Sue Rasmussen

Kate Kurfess
Paul Larmore

You are always invited to sit in on a council meeting to see what we do. We meet the 2nd Sunday of each month at 12:30pm in the Church Office Building. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2021

One spot will be emptied on the council come June 2021. If you are interested in serving on the Council, please contact any council member. We are also available if you have issues, concerns, compliments or complaints. We are committed to work for you.

MONTH END FINANCIAL REPORT

As of April 2021

April is always a difficult month for bookkeeping because of the many events that happen; extra services around Easter, Quarterly payroll taxes are due, etc. The summary for April, 2021 was no different. The cost of utilities has gone up higher than expected, and we have used quite a bit installing the Sound System. I have transferred \$4500 from the Rental Account and Sound System. We are really missing the income from the organizations who used our buildings regularly. But we are still solvent, and we can expect May and the Summer months' expenses to reduce a bit.

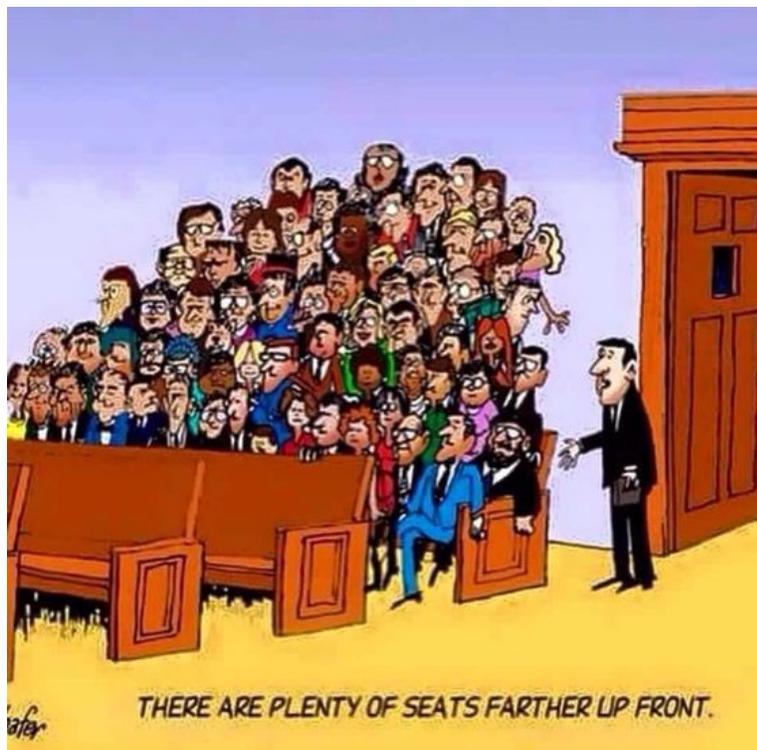
The April figures are:

Balance forward.....	\$2616.22
Offerings.....	\$8539.73
Other income.....	\$4659.81
Total.....	\$15,815.76
Total Expenses.....	\$14,807.72
New Balance.....	\$1008.04

Sue Rasmussen—Treasurer

Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place on June 6th. Pastor Heidi will most likely attend via Zoom. The agenda usually includes the election of Council members and reports. The Council will publish an agenda prior to the meeting. If you have topics you would like to see addressed, contact a Council member: Jeff Molitor (Pres.), Jaye Lill (Vice Pres.), Judy Rasmussen (Secretary), Sue Rasmussen (ex officio, as Treasurer), Paul Larmore, Kate Kurfess, and Pastor Heidi. Jeff's first term is expiring, but he has agreed to serve a second term, if re-elected. Kate Kurfess was appointed by the Council to fill Pat Jupiter's seat for the rest of his term. Judy Rasmussen will be leaving the Council with our deepest thanks. If you feel called and able to serve on Council, contact a Council member to indicate your interest. We are excited about what God is doing in our midst, and as for your prayerful participation.



Audit Committee Time

It's that time again! The Church Council will be putting together an audit committee to review our processes and procedures, to ensure that we're handling our resources in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Please prayerfully consider whether God might empower you with the skill, time, and energy to help with this important task. A Council member may be reaching out to invite your participation. What will you say?

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

- To Jeff Molitor, for his dedication to the future of Bethesda and to the Gospel we proclaim in Christ Jesus' name. His countless hours, amazing resources, fabulous friends and contacts, and clear vision have upgraded the technological capacity of our sanctuary, bringing un-dreamed of video, cathedral-like sound, and streaming ability to our worship life. God worked through Jeff to make our Christmas Eve service a success, as we Zoomed from our own worship space for the first time. All this and a flugelhorn, too!! His music brought me to the best tears that night.
- To Doug Jones, Jeff's right hand and guide in this amazing project. Not only has he worked right alongside Jeff, but he's given of his own time so generously! He was right there all the way through Christmas Eve. We cannot thank you enough, Doug.
- To Paul and Christina Larmore, for their willingness to share time, talents, and energy with us at Control Central, the tables in the back of the sanctuary that now host an array of sound boards, monitors, and lots of other tech stuff that Jeff keeps trying to explain to me!
- To Vic Peters, who demonstrated the remarkable feat of playing organ and trumpet simultaneously, proving that Judy wasn't exaggerating his talent in the least!!
- To Judy Rasmussen, for faithfully putting together the order of service, editing without complaint, printing bulletins for the worship leaders, and then blowing the socks off your new pastor with her gracious flute and her warm and wonderful voice.
- To Sue Rasmussen, for her calm demeanor in the midst of the swarm of last-minute activity just prior to 5:00 p.m. on December 24th! Her lovely voice brought harmonies and joy to our worship.
- To Dave Dettman, for his uncomplaining Sherpa service, loading, unloading, fetching (and isn't he fetching??), lighting candles, reading scripture, getting the Dungeness crab for Christmas dinner – he really is the complete package, the faithful partner to your pastor in every way.
- To Joy Halladay, for not being satisfied with simply **having** an inspiration, but for using her creative hands to **share** that inspiration in beauty and service. The wonderful Christmas star that has lit hearts driving past the church these past weeks represents the miracle that is joy to the world.
- To Larry Fisher and Bill Johnson for figuring out how to display that fabulous cross so that all could see it so well.
- To Nathan Spenser for all of his help moving things around in the sanctuary during construction, for helping set up the chancel, and for making the place thump from the new drum set! His spirit, kindness, and willingness to tackle new tasks are such a blessing.
- To the anonymous angel who raked up the pinecones and tidied the beds around the office entrances – they look great!
- To so many others whose support, encouragement, and partnership are what makes life at Bethesda so good; even as we are separated for safety, we are knit together in love. Watch this space for more thanks to come!

Baptismal Napkins

Thank to Eileen Oakes, our friend in Arizona, for volunteering to prepare some baptismal napkins for us! Eileen is talented with her fancy-dancy embroidery machine. We look forward to a new supply for all infants, children, teens, and adults whose hearts God is preparing to receive this sacrament of grace.

If you would like to join in this endeavor, it doesn't take a fancy-dancy machine – can you embroider a simple cross by hand? Not yet? Hey – YouTube has videos to learn just about **anything!!**

Trust Update

‘Fess up. How many of you have taken the time to watch that TED Talk I wrote about last month? This time I'm going to write out the entire link, just in case you are seeing this in a form that doesn't allow for an active link. https://www.ted.com/talks/frances_frei_how_to_build_and_rebuild_trust?language=en

[Now, wherever you see a space between words, there is actually an underscore/underline mark in the full address.]

Do you remember what the three points on the Trust Triangle represent? The three core elements of trust are Authenticity, Logic (in both competence and communication), and Empathy. If I believe that I am encountering the true You and that you're acting with integrity, and if I can see that you are knowledgeable about your topic, competent in it and communicate it well, and if I experience your genuine compassion and concern for me and my best interests (not just your own), then I am likely to trust you. Conversely, if any of those three elements “wobbles”, trust can break down.

Let's build it up! How's your trust bank doing? How's your trustworthiness account doing? Yep. We can all boost that triangle somewhere, sometime, in some context. It's worth doing.

ELECTRONIC OFFERING IS NOW AVAILABLE!

If you would like to give your offerings electronically, please visit our website: www.bethesdalcmnt.com Click on the offering tab then click on the link to get to the Vanco electronic offering. Follow the steps and you're done. Please feel free to contact Judy in the office if you have any questions.

Report of the Synod Assembly

This year's Northwest Washington Synod Assembly took place on May 15 via ZOOM. All delegates viewed from their homes and the Assembly team broadcasted from Trinity Lutheran in Lynnwood. The process went extraordinarily well, and the entire session covered all items on the agenda about 40 minutes quicker than expected. Delegates were muted at all times unless they communicated through "Chat" or signaled for permission to speak to the issues. Many videos were shown of the work going on around the synod and in various Lutheran agencies throughout the nation, with talks from Churchwide representatives.

Elections were held for the following committees and councils:

Synod Constitutional Committee: Rev. John Guthridge, Rev. Richard Rouse, Donald Pearson, and Maggie Smith.

Synod Committee on Discipline: Rev. Malcolm Brown, Rev. Darla DeFrance, James Colver and Elizabeth Stitt.

Synod Council: Rev. Ivar Hillesland, Rev. Rebecca Langholz, Deacon Amy O'Collins, Rev. Herb Shao, Celine Imani Austin, Curt Eidem, Sherianne Molzahn Caldwell, Lauren Ode-Giles and Elizabeth Stitt.

Voting Members to Churchwide Assembly in 2022: Joining the Bishop and the Assistant Bishop were Rev. Esau Cuevas, Rev. Rachel Swenson, Curt Eidem, Franklin Loulan, Laura Norton and Kasey Schultz.

Several changes were proposed and accepted to the Synod Constitution, most of which were updating the language and reducing redundancies, to meet with Churchwide recommendations.

The Budget and Spending Plan for 2021 and 2022 were approved as presented. Proposed budget for 2021= \$1,526,182.00 and for 2022= \$1,453,484.00.

Congregational and Rostered Minister milestones were recognized, one of whom was our Pastor Heidi who was recognized for 30 years of service since her ordination!!!

And in spite of Covid-19, four new ministry starts happened in the past year! I strongly encourage you all to go to the Synod Website and check out the programs, grants and ministries available to us for volunteering, service or assistance. Some of them are extraordinarily creative! The website is lutheransnw.org.

It was a very good day with much accomplished. I only wish we could have enjoyed the gorgeous weather more!

Blessings to all,

Sue Rasmussen

Planning Ahead

We may still be in shutdown, but that doesn't mean that we can't be preparing for the time when it's safe to gather again. Some terrific ideas were tossed around when the Bethesda Community Services Team gathered last month. Your input and upstep will help us decide which of these ideas to try first:

A Home and Garden Sale as a fundraiser. We could set up tables outside, under tents, and/or in the Fellowship Hall and invite members and friends to sell what's been accumulating, and share a percentage (or the entirety) with BCS to fund all the great services we can provide with that help. You might start propagating plant starts now!

Similar to the above, but invite every faith community in Mountlake Terrace to run their own sales *on the same day/weekend*. That could become a community tradition!

Additional grant research to find foundations looking for great ministries to support.

Recruit, screen, and train drivers to provide rides to folks who need special transportation.

When/if that gets rolling, wouldn't it be cool to eventually secure a shuttle bus with a wheelchair lift for that kind of ministry?? Those do become available and are occasionally awarded to organizations that apply for that type of grant.

A free food pantry, just something small, like an ice chest, that can be filled with ready-to-eat foods, cans not requiring a can opener, etc. What a great idea! Oh, look! It's already begun! Check out Bethesda's Joy Free Food Pantry below the evergreen trees out front. The sign encourages folks to "Take Some, Bring Some, Leave Some for Someone." Swing by and drop off a small load soon. [insert photo]

The more folks who are actively involved, the more we can do to help our neigh-



Happy Birthday

- 06/08—Mary Massey
- 06/12—Marlene Helms
- 06/17—Dave Dettman
- 06/22—Anna Molitor
- 06/30—Jeff Molitor

IN-PERSON SERVICE

NOW AVAILABLE

The church is now open for in-person Sunday service at 10:15am!

Mask wearing will be optional for those who are fully vaccinated.

Join us after service for a light coffee hour and fellowship.

Zoom Services will continue indefinitely.



WE LIFT IN PRAYER:

- ANDERSON, JULIA
- ARNOLD, STEVEN
- BAILEY, BRIAN
- BALL, TAMMY (friend of M. Schwald) Cancer
- BRUNO, BERNADETTE (neighbor of Rod Schwald)
- CARROLL, KAREN
- CHONG, SUMI
- CHRISTIANSON, MIKE (friend of Rod Schwald)
- CHRISTOFFERSON, DEBBIE (Cancer)
- COCHRAN, MARCI (very ill friend of Rod Schwald)
- CRONBACH, LEE (Parkinson's)
- ELKINS, DAVE (Valerie G. Son-in-law) Bone Cancer
- HALLADAY, JOY
- HARPER, MARTI
- HAUMAN, SUE
- HEDLUND, DANNA
- HENDERSON, LORETTA
- HINSON, FRANCES
- HOFFMAN, CHELSEA
- JOHNSON, BILL (stroke)
- JUAN, ANTOINETTE
- MARKES, FRANK (friend of Mickey S.)
- NICHOLS, ANDY (Wounded Warrior – Mickey S.)
- MINOR, MARGARET (Joy H. cousin)
- PFIFER, JANET & BILL (neighbor – Rod Schwald)
- RICE, PATTY (Nathan S. mother)
- SCHWALD, MICKEY
- SNYDER, KIM (Joan M. daughter)
- VALEZ, CARRIE (friend of Mickey S.)
- WILLS, PAT (blood clots in lungs) (friend of Joy H.)
- WILSON, GARY

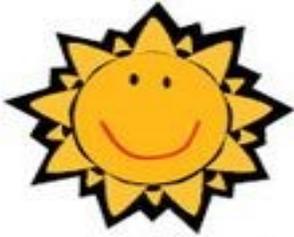
PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR FAMILY MEMBERS AND CARE GIVERS.

JUNE 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
S=Sanctuary FH=Fellowship Hall O=Office Bldg B3=Building 3						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:15am Congregation meeting – 12:00pm (S) Gleaning 4:00pm			Foodie Book Group 6:30pm (FH)			Schultz = Private Party (FH) 2-6
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:15am Council Meeting 12:30pm (O) Gleaning 4:00pm						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10:15am Gleaning 4:00pm						
27	28	29	30			
<u>W</u> orship 10:15am Gleaning 4:00pm	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE					

Puzzle Page



WELCOME SUMMER

C X A G N B H R C I Y J D L M K R A P E M E H T
A A T E P A R T I E S V F R U G A D H B T I J N
M L R H J W K K E Y S E I L F E R I F B L E U K
P B M N T K E O Y F P O U Q I W X R I H F S M O
I L D V I C E C R E A M R X S D W Y R G L Y P Z
N A P B O V C G P D S H E R H F S S E G I V R H
G R P H U L A H O O P S I J I J J A W K P H O L
M O D N A O F L O P G Q J R N S K N O T F U P V
W L F X P Y J Z L A A W E S G B L D R C L P E D
E L H F J G O H X I Q J W E K R L A K G O M H N
O E B S P C A U G U S T Q I C R X L S U P Z T M
V R G U H T D E R T H J K V L O H S B T S D R G
D C H N R V J T N C H A R O M H R L E E D E A F
P O P S I C L E S T T Y U M O Y L K K C I N H G
E A X C C W E T Y K C S G N A E M I E F A H A Q
S S T R N O N N E G H W O E V X B P A R A D E S
H T U E A D J U L Y R I B J R K E Y M M G H E V
A E S E T D F F Q W T M E R E T A Y U I H S O P
A R S N A D F G H A J M K L L Z C X C V S B N S
M Q W E L R T U C T I I O P K A H S D A A F G C
H J K L I Z X A C V B N N M N Q R W L E L N U I
R T Y E E U V I O P A G S D I F G G H J P A J N
Z X N C V B N F D H J T R H R J N K L E S G W C
I U E R K S E N O C W O N S P U P C I H G E W I
J W H C O O K O U T S W E E S D L K I J F M D P

AUGUST
BEACH
BIKES
CAMPING
CARNIVAL
COOKOUTS
FIREFLIES
FIREWORKS
FISHING
FLIPFLOPS

FUN
HULA HOOPS
ICE CREAM
JULY
JUMPROPE
JUNE
MOVIES
PARADES
PARTIES
PICNICS
POOL

POPSICLES
ROLLERCOASTER
SANDALS
SPLASH
SPRINKLER
SNOWCONES
SUNGLASSES
SUNSCREEN
SWIMMING
THEME PARK
VACATION

Color Me!



The
joy

of the LORD
is my
strength.

Nehemiah 8:10



Bethesda Lutheran Church
23406 56th Ave. W.
Mountlake Terrace WA 98043



23406 – 56th Avenue West
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

PH: 425-778-6390

WWW.Bethesdalcmnt.com

