



Bethesda Outlook

March 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

Schedule for Lent 2021

Midweek

Holden Evening Prayer services Wednesdays during Lent, 7:00 p.m by Zoom.
(March 3, 10, 17, 24)

Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 28th Zoom worship 10:15 a.m.

(We will not be celebrating Maundy Thursday together this year.)

Good Friday April 2, Vigil by the Cross. Drop into the open sanctuary for quiet meditation and prayer 3-7 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 4, 10:15 a.m. worship with Holy Communion. (If safe by then, we hope to be able to worship together in person; we will still offer it by Zoom, too.)

Grace Notes --- from Pastor Heidi

This Lenten season brings with it a sense of hopefulness. Another vaccine is about to be approved. Some of us have already gotten our first, even a second shot. Case numbers are diving. Snohomish County is now in Phase 2. Hospitalization and death rates are falling in this battle against Covid-19. We MIGHT be able to worship together for Palm Sunday on March 28th!!

On Ash Wednesday I waved to about a thousand cars (we-e-e-I-I-I, maybe not **quite** a thousand!), offering ashes and a smile. We let Mountlake Terrace know that Bethesda is alive and smiling here on 56th Avenue W. It's only with hope that we can fully dig into the good soil of Lent.

Hope puts down roots into God's goodness, God's justice, God's lovingkindness, God's compassion. Up from those roots we draw strength and nourishment. We draw courage to face our shortcomings and sins. We draw on the living waters that heal our wounds and refresh our souls.

May hope well up in you today, and you know your Holy Companion on your Lenten journey.

Pastor Heidi





Message from the Bishop



Dear Beloveds,

This is a picture of a calendar I have on my desk. The date on it is, “March 10, 2020. Yes, I am not making a mistake, the year on this calendar is 2020.

Last year, when I turned the page on this calendar, I had no idea that this date would mark the last time I had a “normal” day in my office – with my staff and I talking, sitting at our desks, crowded together, laughing, doing business – not thinking at all of masks or physically distancing or washing hands (well, hopefully we were washing our hands!).

I have kept this calendar on March 10, 2020 as a snapshot of when life changed to a new reality. Like many of you, I never dreamed that one year later we would all be planning our second Easter of COVID or having second birthdays under these strange circumstances or still not knowing for sure when we might gather together safely.

I did not anticipate the suffering so many people have undergone. The hundreds of thousands of people who have died. So many who are still suffering from the ravages of COVID. The impact of this virus has been brutal for millions of people.

While I consider myself a patient person, truth be told, I am becoming impatient. I am ready to be done with this pandemic. I am ready for the pain and anxiety of this disease to be over. I am ready for the loss of life and health of so many to stop. I am ready for this underlying feeling of anxiety and fear to end.

And you? My guess is you are feeling some of the same things.

But, as we hear in many of the psalms, we don’t stop at despair. As people who believe in resurrection, we don’t stop at death. In this Lenten season as we move towards Easter, we proclaim that we are a people of hope, too. As I read in my devotions this morning from Psalm 147: “The Lord heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their

wounds.” Through community with one another, through helping those who are marginalized, through coming together in prayer and song and worship, we are healing the brokenhearted and binding up wounds.

So, let me ask you, even as we wait, what are you looking forward to? Truly, what is bringing you hope right now? What are some things that you have learned and discovered during this pandemic that you want to take forward? We know that God works through all things – how do you see God working in your life and in the life of this nation and world?

I would love to hear from you where you see God’s Holy Spirit – in your congregation, in your home, in your workplace, in the world. Where are you finding hope? Where are you finding resurrection joy? You are welcome to email me at bishop@lutheransnw.org. I would love to hear from you.

In this Lenten season (a season that sometimes feels like it began last March and is still happening) we trust that we are walking the way of the Lord. God’s hand is guiding us. God’s love is surrounding us. And God brings us hope.

May you feel God’s grace through Jesus in these days. And may we soon gather in-person again.

Stay safe. Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Get a vaccine when you are eligible. And know that we are church together, even when we are physically separated.

In God’s Spirit of Hope,

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

MONTH END FINANCIAL REPORT

As of January 2021

Previous Checking Balance: \$2,384.46

Total Received: \$12,556.12

Total Disbursements: \$13,651.10

New Checking Balance: \$1,290.48

My Dear Friends,

I am sure we have all become more and more aware of the crisis we have gone through as the world, our nation and our state have been impacted by the extreme conditions of the past year: Covid 19, election issues and the riots in many of our cities and states, culminating in the storming of our nation's Capitol Building and the unprecedented weather in unusual places which has left so many in dire straits. We, as a Church Community, have been unable to worship together at our building, though gathering on ZOOM does help, but of course, that's not the same as being in the same room with each other. The Council is hoping that we can begin worshipping together very soon. It is what we are praying for!

I want to make you all aware of another matter that needs your attention and prayers. Our offerings have fallen off since fall by nearly \$2000 per month. I know that money is tight these days and expenses have increased in many ways. But I also wonder if our inability to gather together has made us neglectful of our giving responsibilities. I plead guilty to becoming careless of my own pledges to Bethesda, so I cannot "heap coals and ashes " on others. I have prayed and asked for better discernment with my personal finances so that I can better serve His church in this place. I want to ask you all to review your blessings and make your own agreements with God to give Him your best in blessings and service.

We are reminded by Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians, chapter 8 verse 7: "Now as you excel in everything--in faith, in utterance, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in your love for us--see that you excel in this gracious work also." In all things, God continues to bless.

Sue Rasmussen

Council Hi-lights

- We have a new person to do security checks around the premises. Steve Waldron has volunteered to do this as well as any handy work that may need to be done.
- Jaye and Judy will once again try to work on the Vanco E-giving (electronic offering)
- Sue and Pastor will work on Stewardship needs and communicating with the congregation.
- Renters lease has been extended for another six months at the same rate.

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 February 14, 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.

Council
President:
Jeff Molitor

Vice President:
Jaye Lill

Secretary:
Judy Rasmussen

Treasurer:
Sue Rasmussen

Kate Kurfess
Paul Larmore

Work Party

Saturday—March 27

10:00am—?

We need all hands-on-deck to help spiff up the church.

It's been ignored for a year and is in GREAT NEED of a thorough cleaning.

Grounds, Kitchen, Pantry (in office building) are a few places.

Please bring your mask, and help out wherever you can.

MARCH 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
S=Sanctuary FH=Fellowship Hall O=Office Bldg B3=Building 3			Lenten Service 7:00pm (S) (Zoom)			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship 10:15am Gleaning 4:00pm			Lenten Service 7:00pm (S) (Zoom)			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship 10:15am Council Meet- ing 12:30pm (O) Gleaning 4:00pm			Lenten Service 7:00pm (S) (Zoom)			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship 10:15am Gleaning 4:00pm			Lenten Service 7:00pm (S) (Zoom)	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE		WORK PARTY 10:00am
28	29	30	31			
PALM SUNDAY Worship 10:15am Gleaning 4:00pm						



Happy Birthday

3/9—Lyn Cline

3/28—Ron Massey



WE LIFT IN PRAYER:

- ALEXI—(Kate K. Granddaughter)
- ANDERSON, JULIA
- ARNOLD, STEVEN
- 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)
- CLEMENT, SALEM RICHARD (newborn with heart condition)
- 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
- JOHNSON, BILL (stroke)
- JUAN, ANTOINETTE
- LAMBERT, RON (friend of Mickey S.) Cancer
- LONG, JAY (friend of Al Rasmussen)
- MARKES, FRANK (friend of Mickey S.)
- NICHOLS, ANDY (Wounded Warrior – Mickey S.)
- MINOR, MARGARET (Joy H. cousin)
- PFIFER, JANET & BILL (neighbor – Rod Schwald)
- RASMUSSEN, ALAN (Cancer)
- 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.)

2021

DIRECTORY IS READY!

You may come pick up
your copy at the office

Monday-Thursday

9am—2pm

THANK YOU

Judy Rasmussen

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR FAMILY MEMBERS AND CARE GIVERS.



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