



Bethesda Outlook

June 2019

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

From NW Washing Synod Vice President:

Grace and Peace to you,

We are so blessed here in the Northwest Washington Synod with an abundance of generosity. Generosity of time, generosity of talent, generosity of treasure. Truly we strive to, "like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of [us] has received." (1Peter4:10) Through your many gifts we are able to nourish and grow ministries both local and global. As I have begun to live into this calling of synodical vice president, I am encouraged by the way that I see the Holy Spirit working among and through the people and congregations of the synod. Innovative, authentic, responsive ministry is not only alive, but flourishing.

I would like to that your congregation for the ways in which it contributes to the mission of the synod. Mission Support funds allow our synod staff to support new ministries, assist congregations in transition, and work with initiatives like Living Local, which encourages congregations to attend more carefully to what God is already up to among our neighbors and neighborhoods.

We are also grateful for gifts of time and talents, volunteers working tirelessly to serve, nurture, and love those in need. We give thanks for the hands that knit prayer shawls and sew quilts, that build houses and prepare food, that plant seeds and harvest crops, and that bind wounds and bless hearts.

Yours in Christ,

Kay Edgerton, NWWA Synod Vice President.

Bethesda Staff

Pastor: John Beck
425-954-3003

Office Administrator:
Judy Rasmussen
425-778-6390

Musician:
Vic Peters
206-789-1699

Custodian:
Steve Farrington

Council

President:
Jeff Molitor

Vice President:
Mimi Seale

Secretary:
Judy Rasmussen

Treasurer:
Sue Rasmussen

Katherine Dedrick
Kate Kurfess
Jaye Lill

Pastors Message



Direction for Jesus' Church

Requires Prayer and Planning

I have always loved the ancient Greek saying that goes something like this: "A sailor without a destination can not tell a good wind from an ill wind." To which I often add: "...and usually ends up in someone else's storm."

The simple reality of what direction the wind is blowing is a crucial part of nautical navigation. If I have not set a destination and set my course on how I will get there, I will simply be at the mercy of the wind that will blow me hither and yon.

A great majority of Christian communities have not done the work of setting their course. And then what substitutes for course-setting becomes doing the same-old-same old, simply repeating things that they have done in the past.

God is and always has been on a mission to love, bless and heal the world. God does that most dramatically through the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus. God's love and grace that pour out through Jesus' death on the cross become the gift we receive in our baptism and share with others through our daily lives.

We at Bethesda are living into that love and grace each Sunday. A group from the Church Council is working this month to find words that capture who we are and what we are up to on our journey together. They hope to bring some draft words to you at the Annual Meeting, words you will be invited to critique and test out.

We want our purpose to be something that the whole community has a chance to weigh in on. We want our direction to be something we all agree upon. We want our life together to be rich in conversation and sharing of who we are as individuals and as a group together. We want to be able to have significant disagreements without becoming disagreeable.

In the same way that we experimented with community conversation on Sunday, May 19, right in the middle of worship, we hope that our ability to talk together as a community will grow and strengthen.

Let's pay attention to how the wind is blowing, but even more importantly, let's figure out together the goal and destination Jesus has in mind.



Life In Between

By Bishop Kirby Unti

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

--Luke 10:11-13

Our Synod Staff has been dwelling on Luke's story of the 10 lepers for the last several months. It has come to our attention that the story takes place where many, many Biblical Stories take place, "in between places." In this case Jesus encounters the lepers in between Samaria and Galilee.

There is a practical reason for this. The lepers would not have been welcomed in Samaria or Galilee. They were living in the only place they were allowed, on the margins. Given that Jesus was constantly on the move plays right into the likelihood that we will encounter him in between place.

But there is more to this than geography. The story of faith, hope and love is forged "in between." For Abraham and Sarah it was formed in between the invitation to leave behind family and home and the promise of becoming a great nation. For the Israelites it was in the wilderness between Egypt and Promised Land. For the people of exile it was between living in a strange land and the hope of returning home. For the disciples it was in between the sea of Galilee and the cross. And then there is the most holy of time between Good Friday and Easter Morning.

I have never been good at living "in between." The uncertainty creates anxiety for me. I want to know the outcome. I just want to get there. Forty years in the wilderness would have done me in.

It is not easy for me to live in the present. I am often seduced into wanting to go back to the way it was or jumping ahead to what is waiting for me. Little did I know how prophetic the words of those were who said to Kim and me, "Enjoy your children because they grow up way too quickly." It is in the space and time of "in between" that we come to know, to love and to trust. It is precisely the place we are called to live.

Northwest Washington is entering "in between" time. In between two bishops. Please welcome Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee. Bishop-elect Shelley and I both are leaning into this in between space knowing that it is sacred encountering space. I encourage you not to look back or to race ahead. Rather welcome this new time and our new Bishop and take up residency in it. It is where we encounter Jesus.

Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, "The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you." --Luke 10:20-21

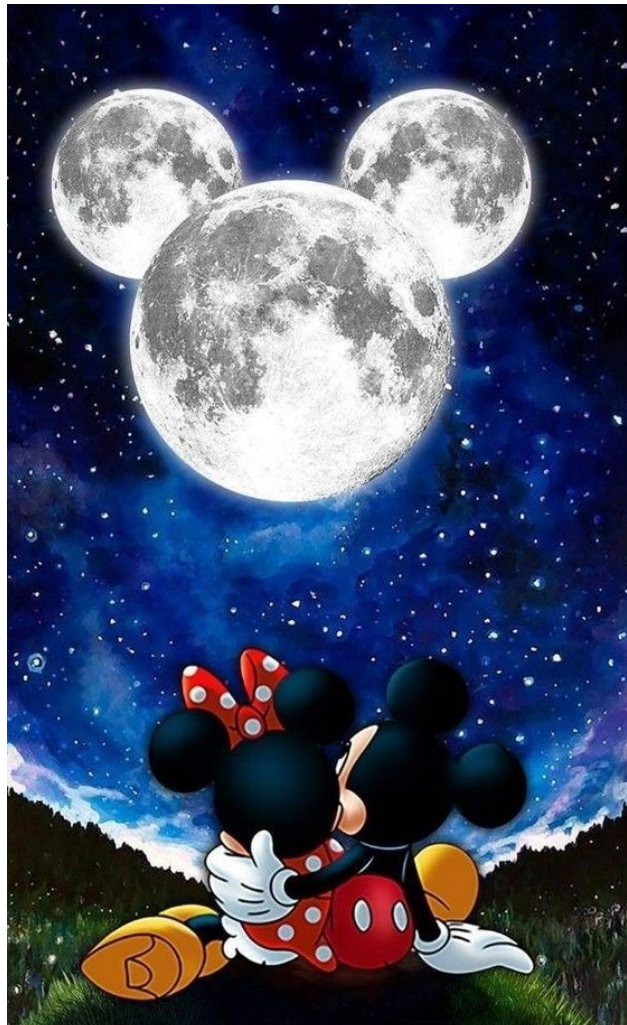
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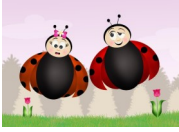
Council Hi-lights

- The council took a “field trip” to Building 3 to check out the space and how we may be able to use it for storage.
- \$200 from the Easter Breakfast was sent to Compass Housing.
- Update of Van request from Community Transit—we were NOT chosen as a recipient.
- Pastor and Katherine met with the Pastor from Saebit Church with regards to their building use.
- Two letters were read from the renters. They have purchased their own home and have given notice.
- Jaye talked about getting new banners that would draw attention to the church. Something in addition to the reader board.

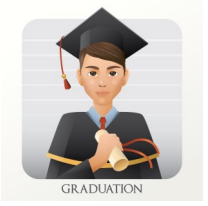
You are always invited to sit in on a council meeting to see what we do. We meet the 2nd Sunday of each month at 12:30pm in the Church Office Building. Our next meeting will be May 19.

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.





June 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Smokey Point Rest Stop (24 Hours)
2 Worship 10:15am Congregational Mtg 11:30am (S) Saebit Church 1:00pm (S) Smokey Point Rest Stop (24 hours)	3 Smokey Point Rest Stop (ends at 1:00pm)	4	5 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm (O) Saebit Church 7:00pm (S)	6	7	8
9 Worship 10:15am Council Meeting 12:30pm (O) Saebit Church 1:00pm (S) Comm. Table prep. 4:00pm (FH)	10 Monday Meal 1:00pm & 5:30pm (FH) Sues Bible Study 2:00pm (O)	11 Comm. Table clean up 9:00am (FH)	12 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm (O) Saebit Church 7:00pm (S) Foodie Book Group 7:00pm (FH)	13	14 Girl Scouts (50529) 5:30pm (FH)	15
16 Worship 10:15am Fathers Day BBQ 11:30am Saebit Church 1:00pm (S)	17	18	19 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm (O) Saebit Church 7:00pm (S)	20	21	22 Men's Breakfast 8:00 – 10:00am (FH) Private Party (FH) 11:00am – 9:00pm (Kina Tonga Grad)
23 Worship 10:15am Saebit Church 1:00pm (S) Comm. Table prep. 4:00pm (FH)	24 Monday Meal 1:00pm & 5:30pm (FH) Sues Bible Study 2:00pm (O)	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Comm. Table clean up 9:00am (FH)	26 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm (O) Saebit Church 7:00pm (S)	27	28	29 One Green Planet Metal Recycle Event
30						



June Birthdays....

12 –Marlene Helms

21—Mike Klingensmith

30—Jeff Molitor



Fathers Day BBQ

Sunday—June 16—After Service.

Bethesda will provide Hot Dogs and Hamburgers and buns.

Please bring a side dish to share

**Memorial Service for
Dena Lee-Cumming**

Saturday—June 22 4pm—6pm

United Churches of Olympia

110 11th Ave. SE

Olympia, WAA 98501

Please keep in your prayers:

Diane Anderson
Daniel Gaiter
Joy Halladay
Betty Henderson
Josiah
Mary Massy
Pat Olson
Mickey Sch
Bruise Wills

Christina Bumala
Rob Gebhardt
Marti Harper
Cindy Hinson
Kathy Kelly
Louis McCannots
Char Peterson
Kim Snyder

Sumi Chong
Joyce Griswold
Maxine Helms
Joel
Wolfgang Lill
Don McCollum
Al Rasmussen
Chuck Wagar

Please remember to pray for family members and care givers.



Notes From The Synod Assembly

Pastor John, Tim Hillerman and I represented the Bethesda Congregation at the 31st Assembly of the Northwest Washington Synod held at the Lynnwood Convention Center on May 17-19. We joined about 400 members and visitors from Lutheran congregations of the ELCA serving our state from the Canadian border to South King County in worship, discussions, and adoptions of resolutions affecting our work here and around the whole church under the theme of Grace and Gratitude. We heard from representatives of the Churchwide council and offices, and from our Sister Synod in Russia.

Our most pressing issue was to call a new Bishop for the Northwest Washington Synod, as Pastor Kirby Unti will complete his term in office this summer. We were reminded that, even though we hold ballots and elect a Bishop, that person is being CALLED to serve as any pastor is called. Nine candidates were nominated from a variety of areas, and each was given a chance to speak to the assembly. In the weeks prior to our meeting, the candidates were invited to speak and answer questions at two forums in the Synod, which were recorded and could be viewed on YouTube. After a couple of glitches due to improper registration, candidates were finally whittled down to three: Pr. Deanna Wildermuth, Pr. Shelley Bryan Wee and Pr. Terry Kylo. The final ballot was held on Sunday morning, and our Bishop elect is Pastor Shelley Bryan Wee. She will be installed in July.

The following people were elected to the Synod Council: Pr. Hector Garfias-Toledo, Eric Peoples, Beth Lewis and Emily Brebner. Elections were also held for members of the Consultation Committee, and the Committee on Discipline.

Six Resolutions were presented and discussed before being put to votes: Resolution A, Honoring Glen Gersmehl retiring Lutheran Peace Fellowship National Coordinator; Resolution B, Endorsement for the Poor Peoples Campaign; Resolution C, Directing the NW Washington Synod to Join the Emmaus Collective; Resolution D, Antiracism and Diversity Training for Rostered Ministers; Resolution E, No Way to Treat a Child: Protecting the Human Rights of Palestinian Children; Resolution F, Develop a year of celebration honoring the 50th Anniversary of Ordination of Women. All of the above resolutions were passed in assembly. If anyone would like to see the complete resolutions, talk to one of us.

Thank you all for supporting us as representatives to your Synod Assembly. The music was almost as wonderful as The Bethesda Inspirational Band, the discussions were meaningful and thought-provoking, and the business of the Church handled with energy and respect.

May God continue to bless,

Sue, Tim and Pastor John



Pastor Joan with delegates from Bethesda and Point of Grace Lutheran Church at Synod Assembly.

KIDS PAGE

BRAILLE

Braille is a system of raised dots (like a code) which enables blind people to run their fingers over the dots and read.

These are the arrangements of the dots for the braille alphabet:-

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n
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o p q r s t u v w x y z
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Can you translate this scripture by using this "code"?

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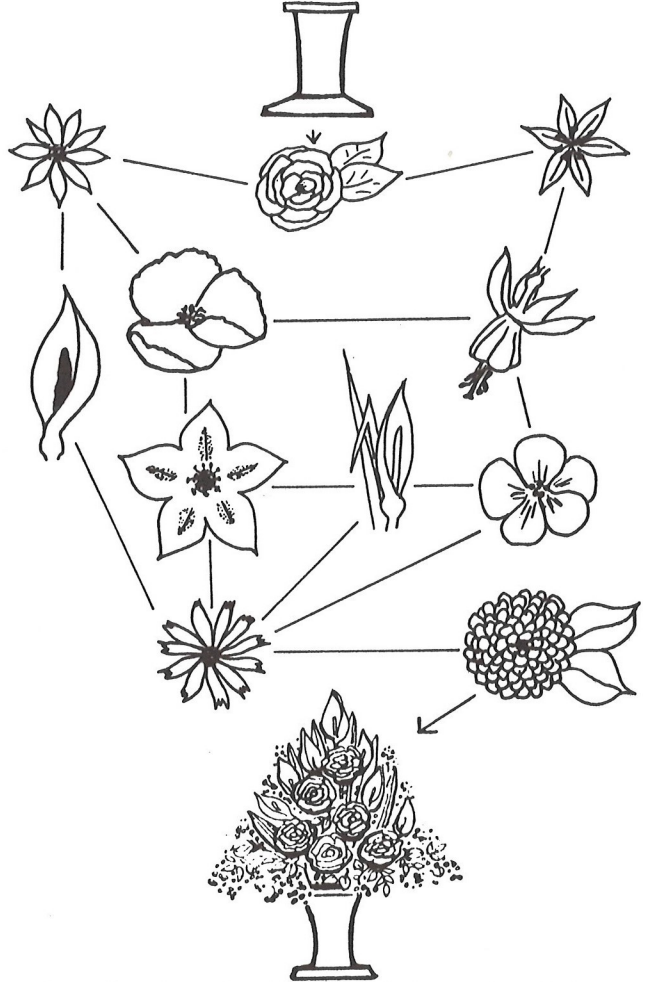
John 14:5

To know Jesus' answer, look up John 14:6.
 Can you find the words of his answer in the box?

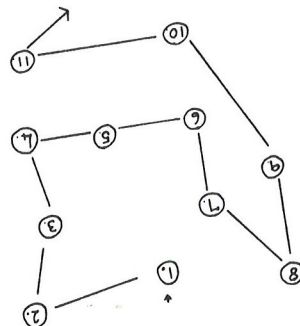
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Z	R	H	J	H	A	G	X	L
N	U	B	E	M	Q	D	C	H
E	T	R	S	M	I	H	E	N
V	H	C	U	A	T	O	P	M
O	S	I	S	O	H	D	T	S
B	W	T	V	J	E	H	T	E
N	W	A	X	B	F	D	H	M
O	N	E	Y	E	I	N	E	O
D	K	Y	U	P	L	A	F	C

ONE WAY

Can you find the path? There is only ONE WAY.
 Cross each flower once. Start at the vase, end at the bouquet.
 No fair making new lines!



ANSWERS



I am the way, and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except by me.

O	R	E	N	E	T	H	E	N	A	T	H	E	R														
R	H	A	G	X	L	I	N	F	L	I	A	T	H	E	R												
R	O	S	I	S	O	H	D	T	S	C	O	N	T	A	C												
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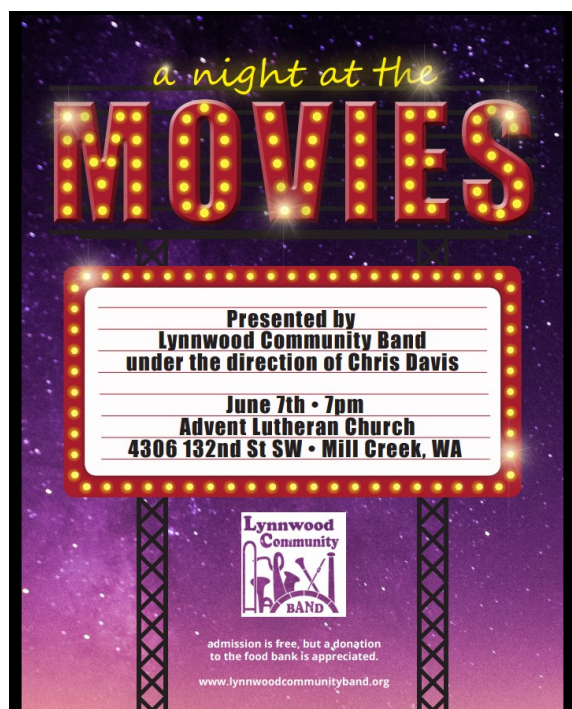
SMOKEY POINT REST STOP

Bethesda has been scheduled to work a weekend at the North Bound Smokey Point Rest Stop May 31 2:00pm through June 3 1:00pm

Volunteers are needed to work 4 hour shifts.

Please contact Cliff Pearson

LOTS OF COOKIES NEEDED TOO!



**FREE CONCERT
FRIDAY JUNE 7TH!**



Girl Scouts Leaders Meeting

Save the Date...

- Monday Meals = Every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Lunch at 1:00pm and Dinner at 5:30pm
- 4th Saturday of each month = Men's Breakfast. ALL are welcome.
- June 29—One Green Planet. At least 5 volunteers needed to help direct traffic, collect donations. Please see Kate Kurfess or Joy Halladay.
- July 26—Tour De Terrace
- August 6—National Night Out.
- September—Fashion Show.

Questions....

- 1) Do we want to continue to serve Hot Dogs during the Tour De Terrace parade? Joy Halladay is no longer able to take this project on but will be happy to show the ropes to someone who can.
- 2) Should we do a fashion show this year? Possible dates are September 7th or 14. Or we may need to go into October.

Please contact Joy Halladay with regards to either of these questions.



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