



Bethesda Outlook

April 2022

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 email: officemanager@bethesdalcm.com

Musician: Vic Peters.. 206-789-1699

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday
9:00am—2:00pm

www.bethesdalcm.com

A few Easter Symbols

EASTER EGGS: The oval-shaped egg has been a universal symbol in many religions across the millennia, symbolizing new life, rebirth and fertility. In Judaism, eggs are a part of the Passover Seder plate. For some Christians, the egg symbolizes the rock tomb out of which Christ emerged to the new life of his Resurrection. Also, there was a practical reason that eggs became popular on Easter: They were forbidden during the 40 days of Lent. However, chickens still laid eggs, so they were often collected and decorated.

EASTER LAMB: Among the popular Easter symbols, the lamb is by far the most significant of this great feast. The lamb is said to symbolize Jesus, as it embodies purity and goodness, but also represents sacrifice. Jesus was crucified during Passover week and then made the ultimate sacrifice, his life. He is referred to as the “Lamb of God” and “our Passover lamb” in the Bible. During Easter, we celebrate Jesus’ Passover from death to life.

EASTER LILY: The magnificent Easter lily, with its sheer white petals, symbolizes life, purity, innocence, joy and peace. It is said that beautiful white lilies sprang up in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus wept in the last hours before he was betrayed by Judas. The lilies sprang up where drops of Christ’s sweat fell to the ground in his final ours of sorrow.

From: The Old Farmer’s Almanac 2022

Grace Notes --- from Pastor Heidi



Palm Sunday is also called Passion Sunday. Liturgical traditions around Holy Week have gradually shifted within my own lifetime. Palm Sunday when I was growing up was dedicated to Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The story of his last meal with his disciples happened on Maundy Thursday, and we left Jesus' suffering and death for Good Friday. On Easter Sunday we celebrate Jesus' resurrection with brass, joyful hymns, the return of Alleluias, and lilies. Lots of lilies. Holy WEEK really did run Sunday through Sunday.

It may sound obvious, but without death there can be no resurrection. Without Jesus' crucifixion and death on Friday, we just can't get to Easter Sunday. Without the mandate to humble service and sacramental presence in a shared meal, we don't really get the fullness of life as the Body of Christ.

So, Palm Sunday is also called Passion Sunday. On April 10th we WILL celebrate that triumphal entry into Jerusalem waving palm fronds and sword ferns, singing "All Glory Laud and Honor". VERY quickly the mood will change as our worship service takes on the shape and flow of Jesus' last hours. Bethesda's Holy Week will again be without a Maundy Thursday service – please keep Jesus' mandate by finding a loving way to be of service. While we will not be offering an organized worship service on Good Friday, we WILL once again be opening the sanctuary for quiet prayer time near the cross. Drop in anytime between 3-7 p.m.

As God works through Bethesda, we trust that in God's good timing we will again have full-fledged Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. We might even do an Easter vigil with baptisms in a few years! God IS doing a new thing in our midst.

Don't miss out on Easter Sunday, April 17th. Invite friends, family members and neighbors to join with us as we bear witness to God's deep and transformative love, God's joyful "YES!" to life!

Pastor Heidi

Van Go Drivers Needed

Our beautiful Bethesda VanGo is ready for the road; we just need drivers now. The primary requirement to become a driver is a good driving record over the past 5 years. You don't need to be an official member of Bethesda. Oh, yeah. You DO need to be at least 21 years of age! We'll set up an orientation session for you and accompany you on your first chauffeur ride. This will be fun! We especially need Sunday morning drivers to bring our beloved elders to church services. Dave Dettman will be one of those volunteers, but he'll only be able to do that once a month or so. Do you have a neighbor or family member who might be available Sundays? They don't have to even attend the service if they'd prefer to simply drive. Cast the eye of your mind about and see upon whom it alights!

Hosts Needed for Good Friday Prayer Vigil

Pastor Heidi will be in the sanctuary from 3-7 p.m. on Good Friday, April 15th. We need to provide one additional host per hour, for the sake of both hospitality and security. Please contact Judy in the office or find the sign up sheet at church. We only had a few visitors last year, but we DID have one brand-new, walked in off the sidewalk person who was grieving a recent death. When our doors are open, God shepherds folks through it. "Door keepers" are not "gate keepers" who keep folks out, but friendly faces who keep the doors OPEN.

Tithes and Offerings"

"Tithing" is giving 10% (or any other regular pledge) of our income as "first fruits", off the top, in thanksgiving that God always takes care of our real needs. Our regular financial support make it possible to keep the lights on, the staff paid, and the garbage picked up. "Offerings" are special gifts that meet specific needs that arise and are made known.

In December we adopted a bare-bones budget that only amputated a few toes here and there. Maybe an appendix or gall bladder or two. We zeroed out several line items, writing in "Donation" instead of a number. And while it is true that staff salaries were not cut, it is also true that overall compensation packages were.

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April 2022

From the Bishop:

One of the things I love about living in the Pacific Northwest is the abundance of life. In January, the grass is green. In February, plants are blooming. In March, little flowers are pushing through soil. In April, color bursts out everywhere. To me, these signs of life are miracles.

And don't we need some of these signs right now? I mean, there are so many places where it feels like ongoing winter - the discord and acrimony amongst families, churches, peoples, and nations. As I write this article Russia is invading Ukraine. Perhaps when you read this article, things will be different but at this moment there is bombing and shooting and fear and death. And entrenched crises continue: homelessness, racism, ableism, unjust governments, and so much more. Individually, many are experiencing physical and mental illness, fatigue, and exclusion. I remember a quote from C.S. Lewis' book *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* where one of the characters says, "It is winter in Narnia, and has been for ever so long ... always winter, but never Christmas."

It has been a long winter ... perhaps even two years of winter. Pain and sorrow and death feel very close. There is grief, there is anger, there is exhaustion, and there is sadness.

And yet ... And yet ...

Gardens are full of seeds. Farmers are tilling the soil. Tulips are blooming. Rhododendrons are on their way. We see signs around us that winter is ending and the Bringer of Spring is coming.

As I travel through this synod, I see signs of new life and new hope. I see resolve and new partnerships. While there are challenges that we are all facing, while there is much work to do individually and together, I sense new possibilities.

When I meet with councils and other leaders in congregations, I am delighted that we are having good, strong, sometimes difficult conversations about things that matter. In our best moments, we are not as concerned about smaller difficulties but instead, as people of faith, we are leaning into what it means to love God and love neighbor in this time and in this place. I thank God for the opportunity for conversation, listening, and moving on the Breath of God's Spirit.

The truth is, alone - we cannot create life, alone - we cannot change systems, alone - we cannot move winter into spring. But *through Christ*, through the One who died for this world and who is raised into new life, we can.

And so, as it is written in Paul's second letter to the Corinthians:

We do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 16-18

We are promised that through this time, through world events, through whatever is next, Jesus is with us. And even more than that, we are promised that there is something amazing beyond all measure - more than we can know or even imagine. It is difficult to sometimes comprehend this promise - especially when we look at the destruction and pain and devastation in this world - and yet ... and yet ... we cling to the promise. As people of faith, we pray and whisper and shout it out - that through Christ's death and resurrection all things that create death will be gone. Period. Full. Stop.

And because of knowing and trusting this promise, we are then called, as beloved children of God, to see, appreciate, and tend to the small plants entrusted to us - knowing that we also are plants, also seeds, also soil, called to live into and share this new life with and for others.

May this Easter spring forth with new life for you. May you feel the hope given through Jesus. And may together we shout, "Happy Easter! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

bishop@lutheransnw.org

Council Hi-lights

- Constitution and Bylaws will be reviewed by Pastor Heide, Sue and Jaye.
- Synod Assembly will be held on Saturday, June 4th,. This will be an all-day in-person event at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood.
- Refrigerator repairs are complete and paid for. We are looking into purchasing a new dishwasher. UPDATE: AS OF 04/05/22—the compressor in the refrigerator broke down again. Repair people will order parts and repair. Warrantee will be used.
- Wolfgang Lill has resigned from the council

The council meetings are open to members of the congregation. The meetings are held the 2nd Sunday each month in the Conference Room , in the office building at 12:00pm. The next meeting will be May 8, 2022

Council
President:
Jeff Molitor
Vice President:
Jaye Lill
Secretary:
Kate Kurfess
Treasurer:
Sue Rasmussen
Paul Larmore

MONTH END FINANCIAL REPORT

As of March 2022

Balance Forward	\$1,030.28
Offerings	No report at time of printing
Other Income	
Total	
Total Expenses.....	
New Balance.....	



Happy Birthday.....

04/04—Christina Larmore

- Autumn Minnis

04/07—Joy Halladay

04/12—Wendel Wettland

04/19—Jaye Lill

“Tithes and Offerings” *Continued from Page 3*

“We are grateful to God that Bethesda has no debt! We are grateful to God that Bethesda WILL receive fair market value for the 8-10’ that the city will soon claim by eminent domain for the street widening project along 56th Avenue! We are grateful to God that we have great tenants caring for our rental house next door! We are grateful to God that we are NOT without assets! And we trust that God is already preparing hearts to come alongside us as workers in this mission field!

In the meantime, we are striving to be prudent and wise stewards, bringing forward both our tithes AND our offerings, for the sake of the Gospel. Please plan on sticking around after worship on April 24th for an informational meeting and conversation around budget matters. Lutherans may not find it easy or comfortable to talk about money, but Jesus did! And if Jesus did, well, we can follow in his footsteps.



Join us as we pray:

Oh Divine, most mighty, most merciful, our sacred stories tell us that you help and save your people. You are the fortress: may there be no more war. You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger. You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair. Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen.

WE LIFT IN PRAYER:

ANDERSON, JULIA
BALL, TAMMY (friend of M. Schwald) Cancer
BILLINGSLEY, MARQUIS (Wounded Warrior)
BRADY, MARK (Wounded Warrior)
BRUNO, BERNADETTE (neighbor of Rod Schwald)
CARROLL, KAREN
CHRISTOFFERSON, DEBBIE (Cancer)
FAMILY OF MIMI SEALE
FAMILY OF TAMMEY SCHERETTE
FISCHER, CURTIS
HALLADAY, JOY
HALVERSON, ROY (Lung Cancer) (Joy H. brother)
HAMRE, JUDITH
HARPER, MARTI
HAUMAN, SUE
HEDLUND, DANNA
HINSON, FRANCES
HOFFMAN, CHELSEA
JOHNSON, BILL
JOHNSON, ROY
JUAN, ANTOINETTE
JUPITER, PAT
LEASE, CHRISTINA (Valerie G. Granddaughter)
MARKES, FRANK (friend of Mickey S.)
MASSEY, RON
PEARSON, CLIFF (recovering from eye surgery)
PFIFER, JANET & BILL (neighbor – Rod Schwald)
RICE, PATTY (Karen C. daughter)
SNYDER, KIM (Joan M. daughter)
SPENCER, NATHAN
STANTON, PATRICK (relative of Mickey S., cancer)
WILLS, PAT (friend of Joy H.)
WILSON, DOROTHY

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR
FAMILY MEMBERS AND CARE
GIVERS.

APRIL 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
S=Sanctuary FH=Fellowship Hall O=Office Bldg B3=Building 3						BCS Plant Sale Staging
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Worship 10:15am (S) Council Meeting 12:00pm (O) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 1-3 (S)		Soup & Bread 6:00pm (FH) Lenten Service 7:00pm (S) Al-Anon 6:30pm (O)	Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)		GenZus Youth Group 1-2pm (O)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<i>Palm Sunday</i> Worship 10:15am (S) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 1-3 (S) Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm (O)		Foodie Book Group 6:30pm (FH) Al-Anon 6:30pm(O)	Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)	<i>Good Friday</i>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<i>Easter</i> Worship 10:15am (S) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 1-3 (S)	NEWS LETTER DEADLINE	Al-Anon 6:30pm (O)	Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)		Men's Breakfast 8-10am (FH) GenZus Youth Group 1-2pm (O)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship 10:15am (S) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 1-3 (S) Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm (O)		Al-Anon 6:30pm(O)	Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)		PLANT SALE <i>9am-3pm</i>

A Time to Plant

Bethesda Community Services

Announces its

Spring Plant and Garden Sale

So here's the “DIRT”

Saturday—April 30, 2022

9am—3pm

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

PH: 425-778-6390 www.bethesdalcm.com



Help us help others! 100% of proceeds go directly to assisting our low-income neighbors with their emergency financial needs.

Thank you very “mulch” for taking the “thyme” to read this.

Review of Membership Roster

Our governing documents charge us with conducting an annual review of our membership roster. The Council has empowered Joy Halladay and Darlene Johnston to begin that review. This is how our current constitution defines membership (highlighting added):

*“*C8.02. Members shall be classified as follows:*

***Baptized** members are those persons who have been received by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in this congregation, or, having been previously baptized in the name of the Triune God, have been received by certificate of transfer from other Lutheran congregations or by affirmation of faith.*

***Confirmed** members are baptized persons who have been confirmed in this congregation, those who have been received by adult baptism or by transfer as confirmed members from other Lutheran congregations, or baptized persons received by affirmation of faith.*

***Voting** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.*

***Associate** members are persons holding membership in other congregations who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation. These individuals have all the privileges and duties of membership except voting rights. Or other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.”*

(The constitution goes on to describe “seasonal members” – you can look that up if you’re interested!)

We DO have brothers and sisters, cousins in Christ who participate regularly in the life of Bethesda, but who aren’t technically voting members of the congregation. **Participation** in this family of faith is what forges community. We want to encourage folks who will be contacted regarding their membership status to receive Joy and Darlene’s loving outreach in the spirit of Christ. Just because someone isn’t still an active, voting member of Bethesda doesn’t mean that we don’t love them or would even dream of turning our backs on them should they need us in any way. Former members who would like to reconnect with us are warmly encouraged to “come and see” what God is doing here. We’ll always maintain a roster of honored alums. If you or your kids or grandkids grew up here, but haven’t been active in years, don’t worry – we won’t forget you. You’ll always find a home here, and are always welcome to consider yourself sons and daughters of Bethesda.

Puzzle Page

Spring Fun Word Search

Can you find the words associated with the coming of Spring?

C	U	K	K	M	F	X	S	R	E	W	O	L	F	U	Q	T	APRIL
I	A	X	I	K	A	O	R	N	R	Z	G	N	P	U	D	R	BASEBALL
L	T	S	W	T	S	D	E	E	S	E	F	N	G	B	T	A	BIRDS
R	B	A	L	I	E	E	E	H	T	S	T	F	C	T	S	I	BLOSSOMS
P	G	U	V	B	R	R	G	L	S	M	M	S	B	B	D	N	BUDS
S	X	H	D	G	M	R	I	R	X	A	X	L	A	L	R	S	DAFFODILS
U	F	Y	M	S	O	R	E	T	R	R	O	E	B	E	I	D	EASTER
N	P	W	F	W	P	W	K	B	O	S	Z	Y	G	G	B	A	FLOWERS
S	C	I	I	A	O	O	L	B	S	I	P	R	A	N	Z	F	GARDENING
H	W	N	L	H	M	E	I	O	S	Z	Y	W	O	I	E	F	GREEN
I	G	C	S	U	S	N	M	T	C	A	M	P	R	N	H	O	GROWING
N	U	O	G	H	T	S	N	D	M	E	C	I	H	E	C	D	KITE
E	I	X	U	O	Q	P	U	D	D	L	E	S	Q	D	R	I	MARBLES
A	G	Y	V	G	W	A	G	N	I	T	S	E	N	R	A	L	MARCH
D	U	Y	N	D	P	F	S	D	N	I	W	N	Z	A	M	S	MAY
Y	B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L	V	P	I	C	T	G	Z	A	NESTING
L	S	J	Y	X	A	M	G	N	I	T	N	A	L	P	M	J	PLANTING



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

Join us for worship Sundays at 10:15 a.m.
either in person (masked) or by Zoom.



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Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

PH: 425-778-6390

WWW.Bethesdalcmnt.com

