



Bethesda Outlook

May 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@bethesdalcmmt.com

Musician: Vic Peters.. 206-789-1699

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday
9:00am—2:00pm

www.bethesdalcmmt.com

Annual Meeting Sunday June 12th

Plan on attending Bethesda's Annual Meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, June 12th in the sanctuary. We will receive reports, elect leaders, vote on constitutional amendments, consider our mission goals, and discern Bethesda's direction for the year ahead. That's a lot to pack into one hour! Your Council will strive to put written materials into your hands ahead of time, so that our time together can be both efficient and productive. Please take the time to prayerfully review everything in advance.

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Bethesda's Block Party Saturday, July 16th!

Dear Friends, the Plant Sale is (almost) over, so take a few deep breaths, pat yourselves on the back for an amazing job, and rest up for a couple of weeks.

Next we turn our considerable talent and energy toward our big summer Block Party. This will truly re-launch us in active ministry in our own neighborhood. Live music, dancing, food trucks, children's crafts, games, and info booths will welcome our new neighbors and long-time residents to come and get to know one another.

We'll be recruiting folks for work teams. A steering committee has been laying the ground-work behind the scenes, and has applied for grant funding to help make this the best event possible. The more seed money we raise in advance, the more hospitable the Block Party

Grace Notes --- from Pastor Heidi



Christians live in a paradoxical, already/not-yet state of tension. We live IN the world, bombarded with the painful realities of war, disease, brokenness and death. We see the images from Ukraine. We read the hateful, fearful social media posts. We worry with every sniffle, sneeze and cough. Despair weighs down our limbs, urging us to give up.

But we are not OF this world. We belong to the Author of Life, who has claimed us forever. Resurrection is real. Our short little lives matter to God. Hope is stronger than despair, and just will NOT remain entombed. “Jesus Christ is ris’n today! Alleluia!” This holy truth redeems us for wholeness. In the midst of apathy, we find renewed energy. In the face of destruction, we find creativity. In the face of hatred and rage, we see the kindness and compassion of Jesus. Love wins.

Dear Ones, we are followers of the Prince of Peace. We are called together to bear witness to the unconditional, eternal love of God. We are never alone, never abandoned to the depths. Jesus is with us, dwelling inside our bodies, sustaining us with every breath. Even in the worst we face, that abiding Presence is with us.

I need to be reminded of this Truth regularly. I need to hear hope and good news proclaimed. I need to gather with you in worship to celebrate the sacrament of Love incarnate. I need you, my family of faith. Together we embody the very Body of Christ for the sake of the world. We remind each other that joy is our inheritance – received now, fulfilled eternally.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

--Pastor Heidi



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: houselessness, 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

Offerings

Other Income

NO REPORT FOR MARCH

Total

Total Expenses.....

New Balance.....



Happy Birthday.....

05/06—Valerie Grove

05/18—Gary Wilson

05/30—Katherine Dedrick

Reminder..

The Bethesda Van is available to help you!

Need a ride to an appointment, store or even church service or Bible Study? Call the office Monday thru Thursday 9am—1pm and we can set up pick up times.





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)
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.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Your Church Council has been going over our constitution with a fine-toothed comb, and has prepared a thoughtful set of amendments for your consideration and action. We found a number of places where our practice is not in keeping with our governance document. Some of those call us to amend our practice. Some of them invite us to amend the document! Some clauses need clarification. Some just need grammatical correction.

To amend the constitution itself requires two separate votes on identical language, at separate congregational meetings. We anticipate that first vote taking place on June 12th. The second vote would be held at our fall meeting. The NW-WA Synod needs to review and approve of any changes to ensure that we remain in compliance with the Model Constitution for Congregations of the ELCA.

To amend bylaws only requires one congregational vote. But in order to make changes....we have to FIND those bylaws!!! Yep. They're AWOL. If YOU have a recent copy, please contact Judy in the office. We know that they exist, and have seen some Continuing Resolutions, but not a full set of bylaws. Help is welcomed! If we don't find them, we'll need to get a sample set from the synod, edit them to fit Bethesda's needs, and present them later for adoption. Ugghh. Better to find the existing ones!

Watch your email and mailbox for the Proposed Constitutional Amendments that the Council will send out by May 12th.

MAY 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S=Sanctuary	O=Office Bldg	FH=Fellowship Hall	B3=Building 3			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Worship 10:15am (S) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 3-5 (S) Girl Scouts Team Meeting 6:15 (FH)			Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)		GenZus Youth Group 1-2pm (O)
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Worship 10:15am (S) Council Meeting 12:00pm (O) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 3-5 (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)	Girl Scouts (50529) 5:30pm (FH)	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Worship 10:15am (S) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 3-5 (S)		Al-Anon 6:30pm (O)	Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)		GenZus Youth Group 1-2pm (O) Girl Scouts (46885) 10:30-12 (FH)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship <u>10:15am (S)</u> Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 3-5 (S) Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm (O)	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	Al-Anon 6:30pm (O)	Handbell Rehearsal 2-4 (S) Al-Anon 7:00pm (O)	Girl Scouts (50529) 5:30pm (FH)	Men's Breakfast 8-11:30am (FH)
29	30	31				
Worship 10:15am (S) Gleaning 4:00pm (FH)	Handbell Rehearsal 3-5 (S)					

Puzzle Page

ON YOUR DESK

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



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

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.

CALENDAR
CARDS
CHARGER
CLIPS
COMPUTER
CUP
DICTIONARY
DRAWER
ERASER
FILES

GLASS
GLUE
KEYBOARD
KEYS
LABELS
LAMP
MARKER
MEMOS
MINTS
MOUSE

MUG
NOTES
PAPERS
PENCIL
PENS
PHONE
PHOTO
PLANNER
PLANT
PRINTER

RULER
SCISSORS
SNACKS
STAMPS
STAPLER
STICKERS
TABLET
TAPE
TISSUE



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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