



**B e t h e s d a
Lutheran Church**

Bethesda Outlook

May, 2008

**"Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit! Kindle in us the fire of your love!"**

Greetings Easter people in the name of the Risen Christ,

This we will proclaim on Pentecost Sunday, May 11TH. The Season of Easter culminates on the fiftieth day, Pentecost ("the fifty") with the continued celebration of the Spirit of the resurrected Jesus poured upon us to sustain us the church to rejoice, proclaim, love and serve the world.

On Pentecost Sunday many worshipers wear red recalling the red flames of the Holy Spirit. I invite all of you to wear red on this day as a sign that the Holy Spirit comes to all believers, and gifts them, not just the leaders of the community.

The wind of the Holy Spirit both forms the church and urges us outside the walls of the church to carry on the mission and ministry of Christ in the world. God is

on a mission to love and bless the whole world. God has gifted us here at Bethesda with a great abundance. An abundance of all that we will need in both people and material resources and has called us to show and tell of this mission of God. This mission of God is our mission, our only mission. We have something the world needs! We have no other mission than this one!! God has given all the gifts needed by the Holy Spirit for that mission, to accomplish that mission in our own unique way, in 2008.

We are God's people of the Holy Spirit and thus people of great abundance. This is an abundance that is created when we choose to come together to worship, celebrate, remember, and share all that we have been given. Our weekly gathering of word and sacrament is a sign of that abundance. It is

in community with God, each other and our world that we know and experience abundance.

We live in and out of this abundance as Pentecost people because we are Easter people first. We are people of hope and certainty of the future because the risen Jesus Christ stands in the gaps of our lives. This gap is the gap that is God's grace and love, the gap that our world so desperately needs filled as they encounter God's Easter people, *us*, in there lives.

We are indeed Easter People! And God is indeed up to something here! Will we dare to live in God's amazing grace? Will we dare to expect God to show in surprising and new ways?

"He is risen indeed"

Pastor Malcolm

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Sunday Adult Forums

9:00am-9:45am ~ Pastor Malcolm's Office

May 4th – Family Resources Part 2

Come and learn more about "Family Resources" where our ushers Chad and Todd live along with John, Mark and Ed.

May 11th – Bible basics

Choosing a translation! Reading and listening to Scripture! How to interpret "Controversial" Bible texts!

May 18th – Gospel, Evangelism and Grace Basics

How to proclaim the Gospel! Adopting and Evangelistic lifestyle! Cheap grace and regular grace!

May 25th – No Forum- Memorial Day Weekend

From Your Thrivent Congregational Coordinators

We want to thank all of you who helped Cliff Pearson, organizer, and Mike Pearson, chief cook, prepare such a great **Easter breakfast**. It was a huge success! We were told it was the best one yet! The men did the preparation, cooking and helped to serve as well as the clean-up afterwards. We appreciated the help of the young people to serve and clear dishes under Dena Lee's guidance. Thanks to Cameron Anstice, Cole Anstice, Anna Molitor, and Drew Molitor. Cliff was able to obtain the food (or money to buy it) through donations. A big thank you for those who decorated the church with all the flowers and butterflies, It was lovely! Thanks to Joy and her helpers for

arranging the flowers on the tables and Laurie and Morgan McCraney for setting the tables. Thanks to Alex Colorado for being the Easter Bunny and hiding the eggs. We were able to send all the money we collected for the breakfast to LATCH (Lutheran Alliance to Create Housing). We received 499.00 and that will be matched by 50% from Thrivent Financial and sent directly to LATCH. All of your efforts were very much appreciated.

Save the date! **Saturday, May 3** is Join Hands Day nationwide and we will be joining with the rest of the country! Our Facilities and Grounds Committee will be having another work party at

Bethesda! We want children, youth and all the adults, who are able, to come and help. We need to finish the rest of the weeding, spreading bark, working on the play yard and putting the final touches to our facility. Many hands make light labor! It is a fun time with fellowship and food so please help support the project. We will be receiving funds for our church from Thrivent Financial.

We appreciated the good turnout on our earlier spring clean-up. We will be finishing the projects for which we ran out of time and energy earlier.

*Joan Minnis, Jeanette Anstice, &
Donna Veveris*

Special Events

MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT WITH THE BETHESDA JAMMERS! Saturday, May 10th, 7:30 pm.

Goodwill donations are graciously accepted. These monies help to fund our musical concerts and a portion of the collected funds will go to the Alzheimer's Association. A dessert reception will follow the concert in our church social hall. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Come to Bethesda for a family night out at the movies. Friday, May 30th at 7:00 we will gather at the church office to watch *Ratatouille*. We will be serving a simple dinner at 6:00 with the movie beginning by 7:00.



The movie is about a rat named Remy who dreams of becoming a great French chef despite his family's wishes and the obvious problem of being a rat in a decidedly rodent-phobic profession. When fate places Remy in the sewers of Paris, he finds himself ideally situated beneath a restaurant made famous by his culinary hero, Auguste Gusteau.

Rental House

THE RENTAL HOUSE IS READY TO RENT! Many, many thanks to all the volunteers for the hard work they've done. We extend a huge thank you to Jeff Alber of Northeast Carpets for donating the carpet, pad and labor to carpet the three bedrooms. The rest of the house was tiled with tile donated earlier by Larry and Gerda Fischer. Thank you to Tim Minnis for the demolition, removing the plumbing,

treating and construction of the new wall, paying for the plasterboard taper, dump run etc. Thanks to Larry Fischer (Prima Plumbing) for installing and updating the plumbing, donating the water heater, grouting the tile, etc. Thanks to Cliff Pearson for getting bids, purchasing supplies, installing baseboard, mowing and handling the many details. Thanks to Jeanette Anstice for sealing grout,

thatching the front lawn, cleaning, and handling details. We also appreciate Mabelle Hoffman and her crew cleaning windows and blinds and general cleanup. Thanks to Cliff Pearson and Joan Minnis for coordinating most of the work.

The Rental Committee



2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Hospitality Comm. 10:00 AM Brownies 7:00 PM Jammer's 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Prayer Group 3:30 PM AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM WAM Comm. 6:30 PM	Join Hands Day ~ 9am Camp Lutherwood Community Service Day 7:30am-5pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
a cappella choir rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM	Ruth/Miriam Circle @ B. Van Deren's Brown Bag Study Group - 10:00 AM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM	Education Comm. 7:00 PM Rebecca Circle	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM Jammer's 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Prayer Group 3:30 PM AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM	Mother's Day Concert 7:30 pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
a cappella choir rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM	Brown Bag Study Group - 10:00 AM Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM Food Handlers Test - 7:00 PM	Outreach Comm. 7:00 PM	Esther Circle Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM Jammer's 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Prayer Group 3:30 PM AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM COUNCIL - 7:00 pm	Men's Fellowship 8:00-10:00 AM Baby Boomer's Women's Fellowship 2:00 PM
					SYNOD ASSEMBLY	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
a cappella choir rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM <u>BI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</u> (following the worship service)	Brown Bag Study Group - 10:00 AM	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM Jammer's 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Prayer Group 3:30 PM AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
a cappella choir rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM	 MEMORIAL DAY (office closed)	Twins Club 5:00-9:00 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM Jammer's 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Prayer Group 3:30 PM AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM	Summer Kick Off Dinner

DATE		COMMUNION ORGANIZER	LAY READER	READINGS
May 4	Seventh Sunday Of Easter	Judy Rasmussen	Gary Wilson	Acts 1:6–14 Psalm 68:1–10, 32–35 1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11 John 17:1–11
May 11	Day of Pentecost	Judy Rasmussen	Gary Wilson	Acts 2:1–21 Psalm 104:24–34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b–13 John 20:19–23
May 18	The Holy Trinity <i>Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting</i>	Judy Rasmussen	Gary Wilson	Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11–13 Matthew 28:16–20
May 25	Second Sunday After Pentecost	Judy Rasmussen	Gary Wilson	Isaiah 49:8–16a Psalm 131 1 Corinthians 4:1–5 Matthew 6:24–34



Birthdays

MAY

- 1 - Cory Henderson
- 6 - Ruby Engelstad
- 11 - Sarah Van Deren
- 18 - Amy Goldsmith
- 25 - Kristine Van Deren

Three Interwoven Circles



Each circle in this symbol represents one of the Persons of the Holy Trinity—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The circles, having no beginning and no end, signify the Trinity's eternal nature. The circles' interlacing symbolized unity. In the center is a triangle, an ancient symbol of the Trinity.

Bethesda Community Services Report

At this point, after having read the above line, many of you may be saying to yourselves, "...and what is THIS about?"

Well, let me give you a little introduction. Not too long ago, someone asked a lovely family to visit our Bethesda Family. After a few weeks, we were made aware that this family was in dire need of help. The family is from Tonga. They have three beautiful children. I am certain you have seen them at worship almost every Sunday for the past few months.

What has happened through the process of trying to find ways to keep them stable and help them with many problems they were having, we began to reach out for support within our community here at Bethesda. I can tell you that it has been an amazing outreach that has happened. You have

blessed them beyond what we ever thought might happen.

In the process, it became most evident that we needed to grow a lot more in these efforts. God was knocking on the door of our hearts, giving us a heads up as to how He can work through us to help so many who are in need around us.

Over the past couple of months, gatherings were held to see what we needed to do. Out of this, a new committee has been formed, The Bethesda Community Services Committee. This is a new venture, and we are, and will remain for the next few months, in a learning process as to what this will all be about, and how we will function to make it work effectively to God's glory as we reach out to those in need.

This is the first of continuing articles that will appear in the Newsletter

from now on, trying to keep you informed about all we are involved in as we grow in His grace. Please note that there will now be special "offering" envelopes in the pews so that whenever the Lord moves you to contribute to this effort, you can do so by just putting the gift in the envelope and then put it in the offering plate. Your gift will then be distributed as needed.

We thank you for your gracious gifts! May God bless you as you have blessed so many! If you have any questions, or know of any needs that we might help with, please talk to me, or call me at 425.678.8560, or email me at smb1942@comcast.net. And your prayers are requested, please! God bless you all!

Sharon Boyd, Chairperson

Recipe: "Kindness Kake"

from Sunday School

Read Proverbs 3:27-29

Please share your "Kindness Kake" Mix with your family and "A Neighbor"!

Preparation and cooking time: 50 minutes.

Serves: 9 – 3 inch squares.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a zip lock bag, measure:

1-½ cups flour	1-teaspoon baking soda
1-cup sugar	2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
½ teaspoon salt	

You will need the following ingredients when you are ready to bake you "Kindness Kake":

- 4 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon white (distilled) vinegar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Pour your "Kindness Kake" mix into an ungreased 9" pan. Poke three craters (large, medium and small) in your "Kake" mix. In the first crater, create a lake by pouring your vegetable oil to fill the large crater. In your second crater, make a pond by spilling the vinegar to fill your medium crater. Create a puddle in the third, small, crater with the vanilla. Starting low, spiral 1 cup of water over all of the "Kindness Kake" ingredients.

Using a wooden spoon or spatula, stir all the elements of your "Kindness Kake" together. Place your "Kindness Kake" in the center of your preheated oven and bake for about 35 minutes or until done. At the center of your "Kindness Kake", lightly touch it with your fingertip. If the center of your "Kindness Kake" springs back and smells great, it's done!

Set your "Kindness Kake" aside on a wire rack to cool before cutting. When cool, your "Kindness Kake" is ready to share! Serve with hand whipped cream for a special occasion.

Note: Kindly share this recipe for "Kindness Kake" with a neighborly person so that they might fully experience your "Kindness Kake".

Thoughts For The Month

by Jeanne Krahn

Spring has sprung - the grass has rize - I wonder where the flowers is - the current lament of the Skagit Valley tulip growers and us also—but writing in mid-April when you're reading this (you do occasionally, don't you?), the situation changes. Did you enjoy our summer? One day, April 12th - what a wow! Aren't we all like lemmings when there's blue sky and a warm sun? Outside we go to putter, mow, weed, wander to the water, even picnic. Is it the grown ups version of *"hide and go seek"* - *"olly olly oxen free"* (never did know how to spell that) but everyone's outside! What happened? Next day and continuing—rain, cold, snow and everyone's cranky again. Would massive reading clubs reading C. Leslie Charles book *"Why is Everyone So Cranky"* help? Why are you grumbling?

The early astronauts saw a planet with no boundaries—a single very fragile organism painted with 6 billion faces of people. Does everyone grumble and be cranky? Are they not equally children of a God, our community? I think that's part of our crankiness. Who cares? Who belongs to us anymore? Are we our brother's keeper? Cultures are judged by the way they treat their weakest members. Oh, how we've blown that throughout our world—though we're all in the *"same boat"*. Reading the newspapers, listening to the TV news, "bringing up" the blogs and emails to scan, certainly shows the anger, alienation, morals, loss of caring and community prevalent today.

Anyone doing anything about real life— the homeless, the poor, the abuser, the delinquent kid, the alcoholic, etc? Nope, easier to retreat behind one of those gated communities where there's selective control of who's, what's, when's and why's of neighbors—sit on your own patio—don't have to listen to your neighbor's voice. Wait a minute! There are many yearning for community. People are questioning this powerful religion of materialism and now this quagmire of a war and election-eering. Are you as disgusted with all that as I am? What are we doing about it besides grumbling and being cranky? Do you ever write your congress people, state of nation-wide and grumble to them? Having recently juggled tax figures, hearing the cost of this war in the trillions boggles me—it's obscene when I think of the derelictions within our own country.

But what is our community? Does it encompass your block, your church, your town, our nation? Cecile Andrews, our local guru of *"Simple Living"* said, *"-it's a group of people that you can just hang out with. No need for a clean house, an impressive resume, or witty things to say. You can just be yourself."* Join your thinking caps. You're needed. Times are hard for many people. Think about the fact that we have the largest gap among industrialized nations—and it is ever widening—between the rich and the poor. When a community's (that's you and me) social make up alters to include more of the economic upper level and the poor disappear (to where?) we end up with a one-layer white bread society. But a restless, cranky society seemingly unable to build community or much caring on shifting sands. Imagine our own state with so many poor children—our percentile is near the bottom!

A few years ago, Ben and Jerry, founders of Vermont's famous all-natural ice cream empire, had a good *Recipe For Life and Community*: 1 U.S. military budget (liquefied), 1 pound dreams, 1/3 cup chutzpah, 3 cups love, 2 cups political action, 1 pound fun - directions: 1) mix together chutzpah, love, dreams, political action and fun. 2) transfer into saucepan and add military budget. Reduce by half over high heat, stirring constantly. 3) yields health, education and playgrounds for all the world's kids! Worth a thought, anyhow, even if percentages differ now!

'Nuf gloom and doom! It's May, the merry month of May for moms and memories for Memorial Day. Yes, actually days to think of someone instead of *"yay—a three day holiday—head for the mall or wherever"*. May Day - sneak a flower or two on your friend's and neighbor's doorstep. Surprise a mom! They're the warm blankets of life. Judy Markey has written, *"you'd love 24 hours of someone—anyone—being mom to you. Well, not just anyone—she'd have to smell like talcum, and tuck you in, and hum you songs, and read you all the Madeline books, and make you laugh and keep the boogie man away. There'd be freshly ironed sheets, lilacs on the landing, pies baking in the kitchen, lots of sympathy for scrapes and boo-boos. 24 hours of unmitigated mothering. That's all any of us really want!"*

Memorial Day or Decoration Day, May 30 - firstly a time to remember those we've lost in wars—and an "earth angel" to prohibit wars and stop one now but we know words of wisdom to many are often like a worm in a cornfield—it goes in one ear and out the other.

Happy Spring! Count your blessings, take care of God's creations and remember no matter how hard you try, you can't get rid of a smile by giving it away.



**Bethesda
Lutheran Church**

23406 56th Ave. W
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Phone: 425-778-6390

Pastor: Malcolm Brown
Sno-King Cluster Intern: Diana Bottin
Church of the Beloved: Ryan Marsh—Deployed

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U.S. POSTAGE

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Mountlake Terrace, WA

PERMIT #10

We're on the Web!

bethesdalcm.com

Coming Up This Summer



HOLD THE DATE!

**VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL**

JULY 14-18 AND 20, 2008

July is closer than you think. VBS is still in need of someone who is willing to take charge of games, crafts, and preschool. We have people who are able to assist, but no one who is able to organize and be the leader in these areas. If you enjoy one of these areas, and you would like to have some fun with kids for a week this summer, please contact Mabelle Hoffman or myself. Mabelle will be representing Bethesda as VBS co-coordinator.

Pastor Diana



**ARTS &
CRAFTS
FESTIVAL**

JULY 25-27, 2008

**Attention All Gardeners,
Young & Old,
Green-Thumbed or Gold!**

Take the Bethesda Challenge! Plant & nurture herbs from the Bible (such as dill, mustard, mint, fennel, ansie hyssop or rosemary) to transplant into unique, recycled containers to sell at our Arts & Crafts Festival. Be inventive with a "pot" of marigolds. Old work-shoes or boots make great "pots" for chickens and hens.

GOT YOUR RUBBER BAND BALL STARTED?

Here's a tip: If starting the rubber band ball is causing you trouble, try starting with a nickel, dime or a quarter.