



Bethesda  
Lutheran Church

# Bethesda Outlook

April, 2009

## *Images and Words For the Journey of Holy Week to Easter*

Holy Week marks the center of our entire church year. More than a time of remembering, the experience of Holy Week and Easter offers the greatest gifts of God - life and salvation, forgiveness and grace, mercy and love. I invite you to come relive and experience these saving events. This week is indeed full of jarring contradictions.

We at Bethesda are going to join those of the Western Christian church who speak about these Three Days as being one continuous liturgy. By doing so, we will hold them together as one service to tell the whole story of how the Triune God, (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), acts to save us all, God's beloved people through Jesus Christ.

The Triduum begins on Maundy Thursday (7pm-April 9<sup>th</sup>) in the sanctuary. The Latin word Maundy means command. On this day we hear the words of Jesus' 'new commandment' for us to love and serve one another. We will focus our time around Jesus' last meal together with his disciples and end that service by stripping the altar. We leave that service in silence and begin our Good Friday service in silence as our liturgy of God's story of salvation continues.

Good Friday, (7pm-April 10<sup>th</sup>), is a service of quite and darkness as we hear readings of Jesus arrest, trial and crucifixion. The church is bare and bleak. We will hear Jesus' last words on that evening from members of Bethesda as we read the words given to us by a great story teller, Walt Wangerin. As the night comes to a close, we leave the church in silence after we have experienced the darkness of the day and heard the sound of Christ's tomb slammed shut.

Palm Sunday (April 5<sup>th</sup>) is the entry into Holy Week. On that Sunday we acknowledge the success of our Lord with cheers and waving Palms. (*The palm branch is an ancient symbol of victory used by the disciples as Jesus entered Jerusalem. We too, will carry palms in our procession into that Sundays Service*). Moments later we announce His humiliating defeat as we cry, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him", "Crucify Him" and read of His death in the readings for that day.

The *Triduum* (Trid-oo-um) which is a Latin term for the Three Days (*From Maundy Thursday sundown through sundown Easter Day*) is the keystone or pivotal point of the Christian Year. Some may regard these Three Days as having four separate liturgies: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, The Vigil of Easter on Saturday, and Easter Sunday, (8:30 & 11am April 12<sup>th</sup>, with Easter Breakfast between the 2 services).

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We come then in silence to the Vigil of Easter, (7pm-Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>) as the new light is lit from the Pascal Candle (*Pascal is a Jewish word we use which means to us the “lamb of God” or Jesus*) We will start the service outside on the front steps of Bethesda as the Pascal candle is lit and all together, each with our own candles, we will bring the new light of Christ back into the church. The service will be focused around the stories of Gods great acts of salvation and the Easter promise of new life through our baptism.

We gather on Easter morning and hear proclaimed: “Alleluia, He is risen” and we respond, “He is risen indeed”. White is the color for Easter’s joyous celebration and we will see many other beautiful colors in church on that day. Trumpets will be playing as we sing and

celebrate the risen Christ and our new life. The season of Easter lasts for 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost and in that time together we will explore and rediscover how the mystery of salvation and resurrection can be claimed and made apart of our life in the coming year.

We are indeed Easter people, people of the Risen Christ! I invite you to come and journey with Jesus from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, share in His meal with us, see the starkness of the cross, and help bring the light of Jesus back into the church as we journey together into the new light and life for us all and for the world through the risen Christ on Easter morning.

*Pastor Malcolm*

## Bethesda Community Dinners

*Every Monday in the Fellowship Hall @ 5:30pm*

***ALL are Welcome*** – Bring your friends and neighbors.

Come and enjoy a delicious meal, fellowship and a time to build community.

## Bethesda Community Dinners

*could use your Help:  
in food pick up and preparation,  
set up, serving and cleanup.*

Please let Janice Bowen know where you might be able to help in this incredible time of grace.

Sundays for food pickup @ Central Market meet at Bethesda @ 5:30pm

Sundays for food preparation@ Bethesda ~ 7:30 or 8pm start- NOTE:

Call Janice on her cell to confirm when she will be back at Bethesda 425-239-4328

Mondays for food preparation: 10am-5pm come at any time to help during these hours

Mondays for set up, serving and cleanup: 5-9pm

For more information Contact Janice Bowen @ 425-239-4328(cell) or 425-774-6270

Pastor Malcolm @ [prmalcolmb@gmail.com](mailto:prmalcolmb@gmail.com) or 425-778-6390

## Volunteers Make A Family Center Youth Program Possible



Through generous and consistent volunteer support and private funding, The Family Center of South Snohomish County along with their partners in the Edmonds School District, the Concern for Neighbors Food Bank, and the Edmonds Community Foundation have expanded the **Bottomless Backpacks Food for Youth** Program.

From Lutheran Community Services  
“Community Connections”



**BETHESDA CONGREGATIONAL  
WORK PARTY**

**April 4, 2009**

We begin at 8:30 a.m.  
or as soon as you can be available.

The work party is our annual spring spruce-up and clean-up day in preparation of our celebration of Easter. Work is needed on the grounds, parking lots and sidewalks along with every building including the rental house. The church needs spring cleaning. The Hospitality Committee will prepare a delicious lunch for us between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. This is a time for sharing and fellowship. Some will stay for work which continues into the afternoon.

A list is posted in the Fellowship Hall near the rear door exit. Many varied items are on the list. Please check the list and determine what area might fit for you. Dena has an ambitious program of resurrecting the playground and can use the help of youngsters and older people. Please bring a youth with you.

Thrivent Financial will support our effort with funds of \$200.00 minimum as part of their annual Join Hands Day program, with proper paperwork, which we have provided.

If you have questions, please talk with Larry Fischer, Cliff Pearson, Joan Minnis or Joy Halladay.

**HAWAIIAN**

**LUAU**

Sat April 25 2:00 pm

Donation: \$12.50 adults \$5.00 under 12

BETHESDA FELLOWSHIP HALL

Proceeds going to COMMUNITY SERVICES

Bring your friends for a great time and dinner  
Hawaiian shirts and muumuus are option

*Easter  
Breakfast*



**APRIL 12 ~ 9:30-11am**

to benefit LATCH (*Lutheran Alliance To Create Housing*)

This program raises funds for building and maintaining affordable housing for people who are homeless and cannot pay market rent. Thrivent will match 50 cents on the \$1.00 for all money collected from the breakfast.

**Donations for the breakfast is \$4.00 per person, or \$12.00 per family.**

~~\*\*You Are Invited\*\*~~



To share your Easter lilies and/or flowering potted plants for Easter Services on April 12th.

If you need pick up, please contact Mickey at 425  
-778-0049

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>APRIL 2009</h1>			1 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Soup/Bread-6:00 PM Lenten Svc.-7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal <i>after Lenten Svc.</i> AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	2 <b>Hospitality Comm.</b> 7:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM	3 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM <b>WAM Comm.</b> 6:30 PM	4 <b>Join Hands Day Work Party 8:30 AM</b>
5  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	6 <b>Ruth/Miriam Circle @ Church Office</b> Community Dinner 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM	7 Brownies 6:30pm	8 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	9 <b>Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM</b>	10 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM <b>Good Friday Service 7:00 PM</b>	11 Church Decorating 9:00 AM <b>Easter Vigil Service 7:00 PM</b>
12  <b>EASTER</b> Festival Worship 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Easter Breakfast 9:30-11:00 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	13 <b>Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM</b> Community Dinner 5:30 PM	14 Jammer's 7:15 PM	15 Esther Circle @ M. Pedersen's 10:00 AM Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	16 Brownies 7:00 PM	17 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00 PM	18 <b>Family Dinner &amp; a Movie 5:30 PM</b>
19 A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	20 Community Dinner 5:30 PM	21 Brownies 6:30pm <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	22 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	23 Brownies 7:00 PM	24 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM	25 <b>Men's Fellowship 8:00-10:00 AM</b> <b>HAWAIIAN LUAU 2:00 PM</b>
26 A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	27 <b>Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM</b> Community Dinner 5:30 PM	28 Twins Club 5:00-9:00 PM Jammer's 7:15 PM	29 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	30 Brownies 7:00 PM		

DATE		COMMUNION ORGANIZER	LAY READER	READINGS
April 5	Palm Sunday	Judy Rasmussen	Mickey Schwald	Isaiah 50:4–9a Psalm 31:9–16 Philippians 2:5–11 Mark 14:1—15:47
April 11	Vigil of Easter	Judy Rasmussen	Mickey Schwald	Romans 6:3–11 John 20:1–18
April 12	Easter Day	Judy Rasmussen	Mickey Schwald	Acts 10:34–43 Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24 1 Corinthians 15:1–11 Mark 16:1–8
April 19	Second Sunday of Easter	Judy Rasmussen	Mickey Schwald	Acts 4:32–35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1—2:2 John 20:19–31
April 26	Third Sunday of Easter	Judy Rasmussen	Mickey Schwald	Acts 3:12–19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1–7 Luke 24:36b–48



**APRIL**

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 - Kris Rasmussen                   | 14 - Shaun Anstice<br>Bob Leavens |
| 4 - Autumn Minnis                    | 16 - Maxine Helms                 |
| 6 - Barbara Van Deren                | 17 - Miranda Currier              |
| 7 - Theresa Campagna<br>Joy Halladay | 19 - Jack Giseburt<br>Jaye Lill   |
|                                      | 20 - Carol Nelson                 |

**Youth Corner**

Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, is the **second Sunday** of the month, which is our **Family Service Sunday!** We need acolytes, ushers, and greeters for both services! We need families to pour coffee and juice, clear and set Easter breakfast tables. We need help with clean up as well. How might you become involved?

**Family Dinner & a Movie Night is April 18<sup>th</sup>.** Please join us for dinner at 5:30. This is a great way to connect with all our youth & families.

## Thoughts For The Month

by *Jeanne Krahn*

What.. No flowers at the altar? Nope! It's Lent – flowers on the altar have come to mean the resurrected life of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is supposedly a penitential time – the austerity of the church for 40 days reflects this. It should be a wake-up call for all of us – this season of Lent. For me, it's too often a disturbing time, days of ups and downs. Is it a season of new beginnings for me, a solemn time to look outward, to quit the petty, whiny wants and respond to needs of others? What am I supposed to give up for Lent and why? Do I deprive myself – of what, when and again why so I can feel good about my personal sacrifices? Will I begin to see God's world and my place in it? Perhaps a bit of fasting will sharpen my palate and conscience to appreciate this gift of daily bread when many in our world go to bed hungry. Lent becomes the journey to the cross, Good Friday is the entry way to Easter. The strains on families today are enormous. Trying times, more than ever, as our government is immersed in chaotic change. The season of Lent is our wake-up call, time to rub our eyes, pray for clearer vision as God goes with us on our journey. Time to begin to see God's world and our place in it, in a new way to become tillers and keepers of God's good creation. Easter observance, Passover and Spring popping up all over inevitably brings the promise of our built in optimism and enough hope to sustain us.

Ok – one last scolding for all of us. I read this sometime ago in this Lenten season and did it set my brain wobbling!

### *The Point Missed* by Dorothy Bowen

For 2000 years the church has missed the point. We were told to love one another as much as we love ourselves. We said, "yes!" - and did the opposite. Sometimes we hated one another as much as we hated ourselves. But most of the time we just loved ourselves, and of course our families and sometimes even others who resemble us and disliked others, hated, ignored, used as stepping stones, others - and what do we have to show for 2000 years of saying "yes!" to God? We have beautiful church buildings, cathedrals, monasteries. We have church-owned slum property. We have church-run soup kitchens...that are put as far away from our neighborhoods as possible. (Loving my neighbor doesn't mean allowing him close.)

We have charities – lots of charities – because we have made the humiliation of charity necessary. We have locked church buildings with man-made security systems, because that's where our treasures are.

Our elegant crosses and stained glass windows, copying machines and computer systems, plush carpets and comfortable pews.

We work hard for the church. (How the world would be changed if we worked hard for God.) We put on huge rummage sales so we can squeeze one last bit of money from things we were going to throw away. And then we give the money to the charities we have made necessary by our life styles which glorify looking out for Number One and sic the Devil on the hindmost because they're really poor, because they are lazy, no good, shiftless! Not deserving God's love and certainly not deserving of mine.

We even have armed camps shooting to kill in God's name those who disagree and armed nations killing other nations, even killing groups within their own nations in God's name because God only loves us – not them.

For 2000 years we've missed the point!! God does love us. But you know, God loves everybody else too!

Yep, does shake a thought or two doesn't it? Rather blows the whistle on our sort of "touristy" faith when we tend to take the route of greatest spiritual pleasure via the cheapest fare.

'Nuf grumbling. It was Friday. Jesus was nailed on the cross but Sunday's coming! He has risen! He has risen indeed! Our grandson Ryan wrote in 1995 "Let the wonderful days of spring sweep us away into a gentle breeze taking us to fields of jasmine and daisies and the skies of light blue, let it take you to Mother Nature's most beautiful land. Blow away all worries and allow all surprises. Feel the love of all that surrounds you. Dwell on the peace and tranquility, share this with the ones you love, for this is spring, this is her place, for this is God's place. This is heaven!"

Peace and love to all from our Krahn family.



## Reports From Our Council

### Finance

We are in process of preparing our annual audit report that will be presented at the Congregational Meeting, May 31<sup>st</sup>. We have designated memorial funds from Edna Lewis, Al Wilson & Betty Gronning to be added to the Kitchen Remodel Fund.

### Facilities

**“Join Hands”** day is well planned out. Please join hands, youth & adults on April 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30- 12:30 to facilitate the long task list we have! Lunch is provided (and Lutheran coffee). We are still working on completing the electrical upgrade for our kitchen.

### Hospitality

The **“Shrove Tuesday”** Pancake Supper was well attended. **All** of the soups for **Lenten Wednesday Supper** have been fabulous. **Thank you very much, you clever soup makers!** Please make your reservations for our **“Luau” on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**, 2 pm. Ticket prices are \$15/12.50 for adults and \$5 for youth under 12. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Speak with Joy Halladay.

### Outreach

Outreach was unable to meet this past month due to inclement weather conditions.

### Worship, Art & Music

**Palm Sunday is April 5<sup>th</sup>.** Join us for **Maundy Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm.** **Good Friday Service** will be held **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm.** **Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> is Easter Vigil at 7 pm.** **Easter Services are at 8:30 am & 11 am.** An **Easter Breakfast** to benefit **LATCH** will be served by our Men’s Fellowship between 9 – 10:30 am. We hope you will attend all of our Easter services and the breakfast.

### Education

Attendance has been very light. We wonder how we might serve our families and youth more fully.

### Pastor’s Report

Ask yourself these questions:

- IF WE CLOSED OUR DOORS, HOW WOULD THIS IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY?***
- WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BE?***
- WHO ARE WE AND WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE IN MLT?***
- WHAT IS GOD CALLING US TO DO?***
- WHAT ARE OUR GOALS TO LIVE OUT OUR PURPOSE IN MLT?***

### From emergent Mission Prayer Team

**Thank you** (people of Bethesda) for the many ways that you support (Church of the Beloved) and share in the partnership of a mission start that is unique and ambitious, a venture of local churches, individuals, the NW Washington Synod and the ELCA.

Gary Rothenberger, Pastor  
eMPT Chair

+++++

### Church of the Beloved

[www.belovedschurch.org](http://www.belovedschurch.org)

An ELCA mission to the emerging generations in the King/Snohomish area, created through a grassroots partnership of congregations coordinated by the emergent Mission Prayer Team. (eMPT)

Ryan Marsh, Mission Developer  
Tara Ward, Worship Director

### From Concern For Neighbors

On behalf of the Board of Directors and everyone involved with Concern For Neighbors Food Bank, we would like to thank you and your parishioners for your continued support of the Concern For Neighbors Food Bank in Mountlake Terrace. Every donation we receive helps our organization in providing food for those in need.

With the economy struggling, our donations were down over the summer but with an increasing number of clients in need. In August 2008, the two storage containers we have were virtually empty. Food donations started to pick-up in November and our containers are no longer empty. Your financial support enables us to purchase fresh foods that we do not receive during the year and to aid those who need some financial assistance.

Our thanks for helping us continue to serve the community. We wish you and everyone involved in your ministry a very healthy and prosperous 2009.

Anne C. Peterson  
President  
Board of Directors

**Bethesda  
Lutheran Church**

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Phone: 425-778-6390

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

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**[bethesdalcm.com](http://bethesdalcm.com)**



*Let's Journey  
Together*

*Come and journey to the cross  
and new life @  
Bethesda Lutheran  
Church*

*ALL WELCOME*—TO ALL EVENTS

*Holy Week Services @ 7pm*

*Thursday April 9th – Maundy Thursday*

*Friday April 10th – Good Friday*

*Saturday April 11th – Vigil of Easter*

*Easter Sunday*

*Festival Worship 8:30am & 11am*

*Easter Breakfast – 9:30-11am – All Welcome*