



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

# Bethesda Outlook

September, 2009

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Where indeed has the summer gone? I, like many of you, am certainly asking this question as autumn is upon us and it seems that summer has only just begun.

Autumn is, above all else, a time of change. It is also a time of new beginnings. In addition to the changing weather, the hours of daylight shorten, curtailing or eliminating our evening outdoor activities. It is not as dramatic for us here in the Pacific Northwest, yet we still experience the changes in nature from our un-watered brownish lawns turning plush green again with the fall rains, to the changing leaves giving us glimpses of the brilliant colors of autumn. Our lifestyles often change as well, autumn means back to the routine, back to work, back to school, some of us will travel south to warmer, dryer climates this fall.

Even here at Bethesda, autumn is a time of change – so much so that many of us mistakenly think of September as the beginning of a new church year. Autumn brings in a new year and a new approach for Sunday School and Confirmation. We will begin to develop a youth group for Senior High youth with Blair Sprouse and Kari Gray, both of whom have a passion for that age group. Choir and Jammers rehearsals begin again, and new ideas for mission and ministry take shape as we continue to feed and wonder how we can serve our neighbors. We will welcome pastoral intern Jacquie Berlien and we will witness the ordination of Pr Diana Bottin, our past intern, on Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

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People return as our fall programs begin and yet, our calling is the same as it has been all summer; to hear God’s voice, be closer to God and to follow God on God’s mission to bless and heal our world. We are God’s called people here in this mission field of Mountlake Terrace, called to speak out and act out the proclamation of the living word of God made Flesh in Jesus the Christ. Right Here! Right Now! A proclamation that points to and enacts the grace and love God gives to all creation. We are indeed still in “ordinary days”, (the green season) with texts that will disturb and challenge us out of our comfort zones. The often messy and disturbing word of God made flesh in Jesus the Christ calls us to hear and see, to be love and to act and do love and grace This very same WORD will overturn our noisy gritty busy lives and heal our lives as well as those whom we serve in Jesus’ name.

This WORD calls us to remember and to imagine. The call before us is to both to learn and receive as disciples and to go out and serve as apostles. This autumn let us be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the questions, the dreams and the wonders of what might be and who we might become as new creations. Let us ponder hospitality of grace where all are welcome and their gifts wanted and needed, as they come to us because we are incomplete with out them. As we gather to let us spend time listening to hear God’s voice drown out the other noises of the world that make it hard to hear God. Lets us find rest in Jesus’ voice so that renewed we can move into the business of the fall, where all can find this place called Bethesda a place that connects all with each other and with a living God.

May you continue to seek, find and receive God’s hope, love and grace this autumn in surprising ways and in unexpected places! **See you in church!**

Pastor Malcolm

## From our Council President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Through baptism we are called into ministry. As we witness a baptism, we relive and renew our own baptism. Our baptism is the NOW of life. We are all adopted into the family of God through grace and action in God's name. Baptism places us together in a common ministry that we share as God's people. We are the ministers of the Lord. It is our calling to discover the gifts within ourselves and recognize and encourage the gifts

in others. It is our calling to communicate clearly and openly with one another so that we might share mutual respect of ourselves. In building a relationship of respect, we learn about boundaries. Boundaries, rather than bind, give us the freedom to serve God and each other safely and with trust. Baptism is our call from above that enables to "hear" our call from within. We are spirit directed to use our gifts in service to God and the people of God.

It is with great joy that I embrace the trust you, the congregation, have placed in me to lead and follow our baptismal path of deepening and strengthening our relationships with God, each other and our community.

I thank you all. And, the next time you take a bath or shower, use it as an opportunity to renew your relationship with God!

Blessings,  
Dena Lee

## Welcome Intern Pastor Jacquie Berlien

Pastor Jacquie will begin her internship by joining us for worship on Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup> and will give the message on September 13<sup>th</sup>. She will be with us for 6-8 months and in the coming year we will have the opportunity to walk with her, encourage her, listen to God's word proclaimed by her, be taught by her and to teach her as

she learns to put into action what she has been learning at Pacific Theological Seminary (PLTS) in Berkeley California. I believe that this is an incredible blessing and gift for us to be able to engage in the developmental process of another Pastoral Intern as she prepares to serve the Body of Christ in her future ministry setting. We hope that we will be

as much a blessing to her as I know she will be to us. Welcome to our family of faith here at this mission outpost in the 98043 zip Code.

Come meet and talk with her after church as we formally welcome her on Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> with a barbecue to follow.

## Recycled Arts and Crafts Festival

What a great festival we had this year! Everybody pitched in and helped, so thank you one and all for making it such a success.

We want to congratulate our winners of the Recycle Art Show. There were five entries, all of them were great. Winners were decided by a vote of those attending our fair.

1<sup>st</sup> prize went to Fern Thompson from Trinity Lutheran Church with her crocheted recycled plastic bag hat. Very clever.

2<sup>nd</sup> prize went to Norene Townsend from Mountlake Terrace with her beautiful china yard flowers.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT  
IS BACK**

**Family Movie Nights  
will be held on the 3rd  
Saturday of each month  
at 5:30 p.m.**

**The next Family Movie  
Night will be on September  
19th and we will be  
showing "Bedtime Story"**



## LUNCHEON & FASHION SHOW

presented by  
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

Noon ~ Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

BETHESDA FELLOWSHIP HALL  
23406 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. West MLT

\$12.50 donation ~ matched by Thrivent  
proceeds go to the kitchen remodeling fund

### RSVP

Joy 425-776-4833  
Machelle 425-275-3052

free popcorn



All welcome and encouraged

September 17<sup>th</sup>

Thursday 7-8pm

If you have signed up to Usher on a sheet passed around on Sunday Morning or wanted to and didn't or if this just sounds like a great way to serve God on Sunday mornings then this training is for you:

*Families with children of all ages, youth, couples, women and men of all ages come and learn about ushering at Bethesda.*

## Monday Nights at Bethesda

*Bethesda Community Dinners  
continue to grow and bless us!!*

**ALL are Welcome** – Bring your friends and neighbors. Come and enjoy a meal, fellowship and build community, every Monday evening at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

*We could use your help* in food preparation, set up, serving and cleanup on Monday and on Sunday evenings for food pick up and sorting. Please contact Janice Bowen to get specific information on the times help is needed on each day and let her know where you might be able to help in this incredible time of grace.

**Contact Janice Bowen @ 425-239-4328**

One of "Bethesda's sons" has been deployed to Afghanistan with his Air Force unit. Rod has asked us to pray for him and his men. He also said they would really love mail and some chocolate chip cookies! They all share their goodies from home. His mailing address is:

Roderick Schwald  
455 EMXG/CCF  
APO AE 09354

## Healing and Prayer Ministry

*continues*

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month – 5:30-6:30pm**

Pr Malcolm from Bethesda Lutheran Church along with Fr Richard St. Clare of *St John The Beloved, a Reformed Catholic Parish* will be leading a time of prayer, healing and hope.


**"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, nor let them be afraid."**

***We invite you to come- All are welcome!***

*We gather to provide a spiritual home where everyone may come and gather to be filled with the love of Christ, pray, receive forgiveness and mercy, and be spiritually nourished and sustained by the Word.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Education Comm. 7:00 PM Brownies 6:30 pm Jammers 7:15 PM	2 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	3 Brownies 7:00 PM	4 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM WAM Comm. 6:30 PM	5 Hospitality Comm. 10:00 AM
 A cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	7 Community Dinner 5:30 PM  <b>LABOR DAY</b> *** (office closed)	8 Outreach Comm. 7:00 PM Healing Service 5:30 PM Jammers 7:15 PM	9 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	10 Brownies 7:00 PM	11 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00 PM	12 WORK PARTY 8:30 AM AUTISM COOKING GROUP 10AM-NOON
13 A cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM <b>POTLUCK BBQ</b> Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	14 Community Dinner 5:30 PM Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM	15 Brownies 6:30pm Jammers 7:15 PM <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	16 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	17 Brownies 7:00 PM	18 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00 PM	19 BCSC CAR WASH AT ROGER'S MKT. FAMILY MOVIE NITE 5:30 PM
20 A cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	21 Community Dinner 5:30 PM Council Meeting 7:00 PM	22 Healing Service 5:30 PM Jammers 7:15 PM	23 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	24 Brownies 7:00 PM	25 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00 PM	26 Men's Fellowship 8:00-10:00 AM  Luncheon & Fashion Show Noon
27 A cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM	28 Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM Community Dinner 5:30 PM Finance Comm. 7:00 PM	29 Twins Club 5:00-9:00 PM Jammers 7:15 PM	30 Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	<h1>SEPTEMBER 2009</h1>		

DATE		COMMUNION ORGANIZER	FLOWERS	LAY READER	READINGS
Sept. 6	Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost	Judy Rasmussen		Mickey Schwald	Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146 James 2:1-10[11-13] 14-17 Mark 7:24-37
Sept. 13	Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost <u>RALLY SUNDAY</u> <u>Welcome New Intern</u>	Judy Rasmussen	Katherine Dedrick	Mickey Schwald	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 116:1-9 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38
Sept. 20	Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Guest: Ryan Marsh	Judy Rasmussen		Mickey Schwald	Jeremiah 11:18-20 Psalm 54 James 3:13-4:3; 4:7-8a Mark 9:30-37
Sept. 27	Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost	Judy Rasmussen	Pr. Malcolm & Charlie Brown	Mickey Schwald	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Psalm 19:7-14 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50

  
**Happy Birthday!**

**SEPTEMBER**

- 4 - Jeannie Krahn
- 9 - Vivian Connell
- 11 - Linnea Boehm
- 18 - Kim Currier  
Tim Minnis  
Ben Van Deren
- 19 - Flash E. Scaff, Jr.
- 22 - Margaret Berghuis  
Sean Forde
- 25 - Mark Swierenga
- 27 - Doris Porter
- 29 - Chris Gray  
Signe Richter  
Connor Zehrung



***Blessing of the Pets***  
***Teddy Bears also welcome***  
**Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 10:15am**

*This year we invite you and your pet(s) to attend our entire worship service together. The service will last no more than an hour and will include a brief order of worship and The Lord's Supper, followed by the Service of Blessing*

***Please invite your friends and neighbors for what promises to be a fun and spirit filled event.***

**PLEASE NOTE:** *In consideration of other peoples pets please have your pet on a leash or in an appropriate cage or carrier. If you have a difficult pet and are not sure if you should bring your pet, please contact Pastor Malcolm. You can bring a picture of that pet or I will be happy to come to your home and do the blessing there.*

See you and your Beloved Pet or Teddy Bear in Church on

**Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 10:15am**



## Thoughts For The Month

Gershwin's "Porgy and Bell" - "Summertime and the living is easy. Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high." Wasn't this summer a "WOW"! Grumbles, whines or whoopee! Sunshine—no thoughts the same but actually the earth is the Lord's, not a super market to satisfy our desires. God's turned the thermostat again about this time every year but sometimes difficult to tell when our world (and how we treat it) is so mixed up everywhere—drought where it shouldn't be, water overflowing rivers elsewhere, fires, earthquakes, tornadoes, monsoons, etc. You name it, it's happening somewhere if we take time to notice and pay attention. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." - *John 14:27*.

Does your life seem increasingly busy? On board trains, busses, cars, etc., everyone is talking on cell phones the size of a playing card. When we call a friend on the telephone we often get the answering machine. Should our lives be like this, constant rushing thither and yon? Seemingly never a quiet moment—always listening to or watching some electronic device? Watch the honey bee with his ceaseless labor within a hotbed of activity. A single worker bee makes one twelfth of a teaspoon of honey in her lifetime and a good hive will produce 50 to 60 pounds of honey to survive the winter. The job never ends but even they find a spot on the comb to rest, do absolutely nothing for awhile and, you know, it doesn't hurt the hive at all. How about your life? Know ours of late has created more stress and anxiety because of, at our age, never-ending tasks that are everywhere. Free weeds anyone? Ours and family members medical problems every week and unfortunately, the constant loss of friends to one illness or another. As Ziggy's cartoon says, "Sometimes I think life is one big test...and I'm in the wrong classroom." We must follow the example of the honey bee and find moments to just stop to find some peace for our soul. After all, Jesus did when he went up the mountain to pray—to create time and space for God to refresh his spirit. If Jesus needed time, surely, we also. The weeds will still be out there tomorrow!

Read this interesting summation about President Obama's beer summit at the White House last week. "Tell me what kind of beer a man drinks, and I'll tell you who he is. A Sierra Nevada? Probably lives in a blue state and drives a foreign car—maybe even a Prius. A Bud Light? A red stater, likes football, probably gets where he's going in a Chevy flatbed." It's all quite reductionist, this classification by beer choice, but it was certainly on the participants at President Obama's beer summit. Professor Henry Louis Gates originally asked for a Red Stripe from Jamaica (suggesting a certain worldliness and loyalty to people of color), but then switched to a more race-neutral choice, the Boston area favorite Sam Adams light. Sgt. James Crowley, a thinking man's cop, selected Bloo Moon, a fruity wheat beer brewed in Toronto that's often served with a slice of orange. The message: I'm no redneck. Obama went with Bud Light to show what a regular guy he is, his upcoming vacation in Martha's Vineyard notwithstanding.

by *Jeanne Krahn*

We Americans like to think we're not a class-based society, but beer is just one of the social signifiers that tip off where we fit in the grand scheme of race, education, politics, and wealth. A Subaru says one thing about its driver, a Dodge Ram says another. Working folk get their caffeine fix at Dunkin' Donuts, while the highly educated queue up for a venti Sumatra at Starbucks. Arugula or iceberg? A Mac or PC? Target or Bloomingdale's? Even when a copy ops for the fancy foreign beer and the President picks the every man's suds, our choices betray how we'd prefer to be perceived. In the land of plenty, you are what you consume. Anyone you know fit in? Too many ifs, ands and so what's? All our cultures share human needs that bring us together. Because we share a common world, we also share a common destiny to recognize ourselves in all people. We must learn to create and live in a world in which people of all cultures are treated with respect. Remember, "in the sands of time, our human footprints are remarkably the same, differing only by size and depth not by color, age or gender." Good idea every so often to re-read Shel Silverstein's "*No Difference*".

Small as a peanut, big as a giant, we're all the same size when we turn off the light. Rich as a sultan, poor as a mite, we're all worth the same when we turn off the light. Red, black or orange, yellow or white, we all look the same when we turn off the light. So maybe the way to make everything right is for God to just reach out and turn off the light!

'Nuf heavy, heavy! He's already turned down the thermostat. Time to sweep out summer and reduce your carbon footprint. Recycling all of your home's waste newspaper print, cardboard, glass and metal can reduce emissions an additional 850# a year. If your car gets 10 mpg more than the old one, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are reduced by 2,500# a year. Clean your counter tops, cupboards and walls, dip a cloth in warm water, add a little dish soap and baking soda. Try catalog shopping. (Here I am! And share the catalogs with many.) You'll save energy by not driving and reduce stress by avoiding the crowded malls. No worry about parking space. If you must go, take the bus. Skip wrapping paper. Use leftover fabric, lightweight wallpaper and the Sunday comics to wrap gifts. I often use a kitchen towel or doily depending upon who's receiving it and why—time to downsize. Replace your charcoal grill with an electric one. They generate far fewer air pollutants than burning charcoal or even propane gas.

Passing thoughts for any day—make up your mind but don't forget how to turn it around. Forbidden fruit makes a bad jam. Intelligence is like a river; the deeper it is, the less noise it makes. We would have better kids today if they had to chop wood to keep T.V., their iPods, blackberries, etc., working.

Fall is coming. Get outside to see that big orange moon, walk 'midst the crackling, fallen leaves, and give your silent blessings for all you see, have and feel.



## Church of the Beloved

*Have you ever wondered why Church of the Beloved and Ryan Marsh  
Are listed as Deployed staff of Bethesda Lutheran Church?*

**Come to worship on Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup> @ 10:15 am**

*& be blessed by Ryan and several of Beloved's musicians'  
for a unique style of worship, Gospel proclamation &  
music that is reaching people far off from God in a new and creative way.*

### *History of Church of the Beloved's beginning:*

SEP 7 2006 \_ a group of five ELCA churches (calling themselves the emergent Mission Prayer Team or eMPT), **including Bethesda Lutheran Church**, began meeting to pray about what they could do to engage 'missing generations' who were scarce within their congregations. They had tried many things in the past, but were now convinced that the Spirit of God was calling them to find leaders who were indigenous to these 'missing generations' and benevolently support them in a new mission without expecting any measurable benefit to their own churches. They invited Ryan Marsh, who was currently working at Church of the Apostles, to consult and pray with them. The longer he prayed with them the more he wondered, "Is it me, God?" After a process of discernment, everyone agreed – Ryan was going to move back to his home town of Edmonds to help nurture a new community of faith grown from the ground up. He started by gathering a core group of dreamers already living in and around that neighborhood. Each of the fourteen had similar stories of growing up in the church, becoming disenfranchised and inactive in the church, but still very active in faith and hope for the church. They met on Thursday nights to share a meal, stories, fears and hopes for starting a community of faith, realizing along the way that they were already were church... an imperfect, fumbling into God's grace, Church. Then, on Ash Wednesday 2007, they let the closed core group die in order to give birth to an open community called Church of the Beloved.



**To listen to Beloved's CD  
"Hope for a tree cut down" and  
download it  
[http://belovedschurch.org/hope/  
getalbum.php](http://belovedschurch.org/hope/getalbum.php)**

**How "Church of the Beloved" describes  
themselves on there web site:**

<http://belovedschurch.org/>

**Church of the Beloved** is a small, funny, growing group of friends who gather together

to welcome strangers,

to tell stories of God's grace,

to trust the healing love of Jesus,

and dream about where the Spirit is sending us next to be a gift to our neighborhood and world.

**We also like** to BBQ, create art, speak up for the marginalized, throw parties, and pray.

**We each come from** a hodgepodge of different backgrounds – Evangelical, Agnostic, Catholic, Wiccan, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Nazarene... and much more! And we each bring different gifts from these Christian traditions as we come together in a "creatively Lutheran" community that is inextricably linked to the Love of God, whose name is Jesus.

**We are** infants and grandparents, teens and young professionals, singles and families, artists and teachers, counselors and cafe baristas, independents, social conservatives and progressive liberals, Asian, Hispanic and Anglo, gay and straight, male and female...

We agree on lots of things, differ on lots of things, but we are all drawn together by one thing - **we are Church because Christ has called us his Beloved.**

So there is definitely room for you here.

**Bethesda  
Lutheran Church**

23406 56th Ave. W  
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Phone: 425-778-6390

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

Change Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE  
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Mountlake Terrace, WA  
PERMIT #10

**We're on the Web!**  
**[bethesdalcm.com](http://bethesdalcm.com)**



**SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>**

***POTLUCK BBQ FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE***

***Welcome Intern Pastor Jacquie Berlien***

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