



Bethesda  
Lutheran Church

# Bethesda Outlook

October, 2009



## 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.

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As autumn arrives, people in various places may notice something odd.

A procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, is led to churches for a special ceremony called the Blessing of Pets.

This custom is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures.

Francis, whose feast day is October 4th, loved the larks flying about his hilltop town. He and his early brothers, staying in a small hovel, allowed themselves to be displaced by a donkey.

Francis wrote a Canticle of the Creatures, an ode to God's living things. "All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures." And there was testimony in the cause for St. Clare of Assisi's canonization that referred to her little cat!

That there are today over 62 million cats in the U.S. attests to the continuing affection we have for our furry, feathered or finned friends. We've even had a cat called Socks in the White House. Other popular presidential pets range from Abraham Lincoln's Fido to Lyndon Johnson's beagles, named Him and Her.

For single householders, a pet can be a true companion. Many people arrive home from work to find a furry friend overjoyed at their return. Many a senior has a lap filled with a purring fellow creature.

The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye-to-eye, a man and his dog, or a woman and her cat, are two creatures of love.

No wonder people enjoy the opportunity to take their animal companions to church for a special blessing. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated.

At Franciscan churches, a friar with brown robe and white cord often welcomes each animal with a special prayer. The Blessing of Pets usually goes like this:

*"Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen."*

## From our Council President

We are the Whole People of God and have been adopted into God's family through the grace and power of God's action. Our view of the pastor's role is that of a spiritual leader. What other expectations do we have of him? He needs us as much as we need him to be true ministers of God's people. Our pastor can be someone we draw upon for strength and hope in difficult times while we, the people may provide understanding and compassion for one who is struggling. We are called from above, within and among ourselves to serve all humanity. We have each been given a different set of gifts to apply in many ways. As is the pastor, we are all called to be a part of the community and be involved in community activities whether they be as individuals, with our families or work responsibilities. We, the people, are called to be an active part of the congregation and be involved in worship and other church activities.

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teacher, to equip the saints for the

work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the UNITY of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." *Ephesians 4:11-13*

It is our responsibility to come to a balanced understanding of ministry. The "truly faithful", serve God beyond the church and reach out into the community with volunteer work, being there for our families and friends and confronting tough issues of ethics and work responsibilities.

We must be wary of expectations of what we think our roles and the roles of pastor are! The practice of mutual respect builds healthy relationships. Embrace the respect of boundaries others set before us because this will give us the freedom to serve as ministers in a safe and trusting manner.

Remember to respect one another, to listen with an open heart and clear mind. Support one another as we carry out our unique callings from

God. Our goal is to remind one another that both the pastor's and the people's ministerial jobs are demanding, fulfilling and rewarding. We practice mutual respect so that we might be a whole body of Christ together.

Is the pastor any of the following? Are you, the people any of these roles? Preacher, Teacher, Priest, Prophet, Pastoral caregiver, Administrator, Cheerleader, Ambassador, Blessed presence, Midwife for life passages, Ritual maker, Keeper of the story, Curator of the tradition, Chief executive officer, Activities director, Role model, One of us, Corporate therapist or???

Mutually Yours In Christ,

Dena Lee  
Congregational President

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## Intern Committee Update

We gathered for our first intern committee meeting with Pr. Jacquie on September 3rd in the church office. Our first meeting involved introducing ourselves to each other on the committee and setting upcoming meeting dates and locations. There are eleven of us on the committee including Pr. Jacquie. Seven of us are from Bethesda and two of our members are

from Edmonds Lutheran church. Our committee will gather once a month. We will meet in a variety of locations including each other's homes and on different days of the week to make it possible for all of our committee members to join us. A few of us will be sharing the leadership role of the committee. The people on the committee from Bethesda are Nina

Wyzinski, Anny Glebe, Debbie Luce, Jeanette Anstice, Gary Wilson, Pat Olson, Katherine Dederick, DJ Porter, Mimi Seale, Penny Thedens and Pr. Jacquie. Doug Walker and Diane McCallum are also on the committee and attend Edmonds Lutheran Church.

Penny Thedens

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**Community Lunch at  
Central Lutheran  
Soup Kitchen**

Please join Jean Leavens, Pr. Jacquie and Pr. Malcolm for a day of service on Tuesday October 27th at the Community Lunch Program through Central Lutheran Church on Capital Hill. We will meet at Bethesda at 9am to carpool to Central Lutheran, and should be back by 2:30pm after we have served and cleaned up the meal.

Please sign up on the sheet downstairs on the counter near the coffee pot.

**Kids Camp**  
for school age children

Come join us at Camp Fun-in-the-Fall

When: Monday's Sept 21-October 12  
6-6:45 pm in church office

What: Come and study the season of change in a fun filled Christian atmosphere

Enjoy crafts, games, music, drama, Bible study and a lot of fun!

For more information call Laurie McCraney 425-776-1318

All High School Students Welcome  
9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
**Senior High Youth Group is forming.**  
Every Sunday evening from 7-8pm  
Beginning September 27<sup>th</sup>

in the church office building just to the south of the church at

**Bethesda Lutheran Church**  
23406 ~ 56<sup>th</sup> Ave W.  
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Bring your friends for this time of, fellowship, service, fun and study

For more information contact:  
Kari Gray @ 206-913-3490 or  
Blair Sprouse @ 425-775-5198

**Mysteria Liturgical Dance Ensemble** is seeking new members. No "real" dance experience required—just a passion to dance with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit!

SHOWTIME IS SAT., OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>  
"M.L.D.E." WILL PERFORM AS A PART OF OUR BETHANY BENEFIT CONCERT.

Join Dena for a first rehearsal Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30-9 pm in the sanctuary.

Anyone 7 or older is welcome!

Dena: 206-368-9446

**HEY KIDS! WANNA BE IN A CHRISTMAS SHOW?**

Come to the church sanctuary on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3 pm to learn how YOU can be a part of our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual production of "**THE SECOND SHEPHERD'S PAGEANT**"—a Renaissance Christmas play with song & dance

We are seeking youth ages 7-15 who like to act, sing and dance, who play musical instruments as well technical help with sound, lights and costumes!

Contact Dena Lee or Merry Wick for details.

Dena: 206-368-9446 ~ Merry; 425-827-6176

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>OCTOBER 2009</b>				1	2	3
				Brownies 7:00 PM Intern Comm. @ J. Anstice's 7:00 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM WAM Comm. 6:30 PM Lit. Dance Reh. 7:30 PM	Lit. Dance Reh. 1:00 PM Family (Seemi) Pot luck gathering 6:00-11:00 PM
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Blessing of Pets Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM High School Youth 7:00-8:30 PM	Community Dinner 5:30 PM Kid's Camp 6:00 PM	Brownies 6:30 pm Education Comm. 7:00 PM Jammers 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Confirmation 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM Lit. Dance Reh. 7:30 PM	Girl Scouts 10:00 AM Shower 11:00 AM Lit. Dance Reh. 1:00 PM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM High School Youth 7:00-8:30 PM	Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM Community Dinner 5:30 PM Kid's Camp 6:00 PM	Healing Service 5:30 PM Outreach Comm. 7:00 PM Jammers 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Lake Village Condo Meeting 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM Lit. Dance Reh. 7:30 PM	Children's Play Reh. - 1:00 PM Benefit Concert for Bethany 7:30 PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1:00 PM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM High School Youth 7:00-8:30 PM	Community Dinner 5:30 PM Kid's Camp 6:00 PM Council Meeting 7:00 PM	Brownies 6:30pm Jammers 7:15 PM <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Confirmation 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM	Men's Fellowship 8:00 AM Children's Play Reh. - 1:00 PM Family Movie Night 5:00 PM
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
A'cappella Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 AM Education - 9:00 AM Worship - 10:15 AM Community Dinner Prep - 4:00-11:00PM High School Youth 7:00-8:30 PM	Sue's Bible Study 2:00 PM Community Dinner 5:30 PM Kid's Camp 6:00 PM Finance Comm. 7:00 PM	Twins Club 5:00-9:00 PM Healing Service 5:30 PM Jammers 7:15 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon Confirmation 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	Brownies 7:00 PM	Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. Lunch - Noon AA Meeting 6:00-9:00 PM	WORK PARTY 8:30 am "The Shack" book discussion 9:30 AM Children's Play Reh. - 1:00 PM

DATE		COMMUNION ORGANIZER	FLOWERS	LAY READER	READINGS	 <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>OCTOBER</b> 1 - Carol Klingensmith 4 - Alec Bueing 8 - Marion Gesinger 9 - Judy Rasmussen 10 - Robin Olson 11 - Lara Cochran 13 - Marillyn Johnson 14 - Kiely Ann Sherman 17 - Norma Elliott 24 - Louise Whipple 28 - Alex Colorado 30 - Alexander Pearson
Oct. 4	Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost  <u>BLESSING OF PETS</u>	Dorothy Wilson	Debbie Luce	Les Olsen	Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm 8 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	
Oct. 11	Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost	Dorothy Wilson	Debbie Luce	Les Olsen	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Psalm 90:12-17 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31	
Oct. 18	Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost  Bethany of the Northwest Sunday	Dorothy Wilson	Debbie Luce	Les Olsen	Isaiah 53:4-12 Psalm 91:9-16 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	
Oct. 25	Reformation Sunday  Bible Sunday	Dorothy Wilson	Debbie Luce	Les Olsen	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36	

**Camp Lutherwood 5th Annual Men's Day**  
**Saturday October 10, 2009 ~ 9:00AM to 3:00PM**  
 On beautiful Lake Samish near Bellingham Washington

**MEN IN TRANSITION—**  
 Being one or ministering to one who is.

Is your life changing because of a change in employment, loss of your wife, divorce or retirement? These are all big transitions in a man's life.

These can be very stressful times in our live.

Dr. Carl Epp is our speaker this year. He will be leading us in discussion about transitions in our lives. How to be in transition or how to help those who are in the midst of transition.

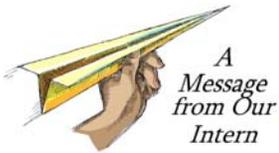
Carl is a licensed psychologist with a consulting practice in Stanwood and Mount Vernon. For many years he has provided vocational services to people with a broad range of vocational problems. He does pre-employment screening and testing for corporations. He previously taught

Occupational Psychology in the Graduate Psychology Department at Western Washington University. He holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from the Psychology Department in the University of Minnesota. He also holds a M. Div. from Bethel Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is now an active member of First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon, Washington.

*Lunch will be provided - a suggested freewill offering of \$10.00 will be taken to cover the meal cost. We need your reservations as early as possible so that we will know how many meals to prepare.*

*to register on line and get more information, go to: [www.ourmim.org/events.html](http://www.ourmim.org/events.html)*

Bob Merrill  
 Camp Director  
 Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center  
 1185 Roy Road | Bellingham WA 98229  
 360-734-7652  
[www.camplutherwood.org](http://www.camplutherwood.org)



“In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth...” (Gen. 1:1). “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (John 1:1).

At Bethesda, October is celebrated as a month of ‘beginnings’. At the start of October, we celebrate all of God’s creation with our annual Blessing of All Pets and Animals in worship. Here we are reminded of God’s creative love for all, and we begin a new commitment to care for this creation with which we are blessed. At the end of the month, we celebrate Reformation Sunday, the beginning of our Lutheran tradition, where we are called to renew our commitment to sharing the Word of God and to follow Jesus on the way.

Many of us may look at this as a month of ‘in-between’ times; school has gotten underway, summer has transitioned to autumn, and the rush of the holiday season has not yet caught up with us. But we are constantly reminded that each day, each time of our lives is a new beginning. The Word calls us to open our eyes to new possibilities each day, and to enter fully into new life with Christ.

It is still a month of new beginnings for me. I am learning that my whole year of internship is a beginning! Each day I am blessed with meeting new people, learning about programs at Bethesda where we care for each other and reach out to our neighbors, and sharing in new life as Bethesda blossoms with the work of the Spirit. What a rich experience this is for me, and I pray for joy as I begin each day with new anticipation.

Many have asked me about my ‘beginnings’. What has shaped me and formed me? How has God called me to this time and place? Let me tell you a little bit about myself. I was born in the Midwest, the youngest of six children. We moved frequently when I was growing up, but the center of our family life in each community we lived was always the church. Our family was very musical, and we often gathered around the piano in the evenings to sing together.

During college, I moved to the Pacific Northwest and began my first vocation, or calling, within the church – I became a church musician. For 30 years I worked in various churches in Washington and California. Jim and I have now been married for 31 years and are blessed with three sons. In addition to working as a musician, Jim and I both worked in the title insurance industry, and I also taught elementary school for a time.

In 2003, I officially ‘retired’ from church music. After a few years, I realized that God was calling me to a new vocation in the life of faith. It took me a while to discern, but when I finally said “Yes!” all of my extended family responded with the same affirmation: “It’s about time!” I began my studies at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in 2007.

Our life of faith is a journey of beginnings. Even when we may think our path is coming to an end, the sudden twists and turns reveal a new time, a new outlook, a new life. October, the month of ‘in-between’, is really a reminder to us to look for new beginnings, and to rejoice in each new discovery of God’s love in our lives.

Blessings,  
Pr. Jacquie

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#### COMMITTEE OF THE MONTH: STEWARDSHIP

Have you been around for the Monday night dinners? Have you noticed the improvements to the kitchen and playground area? Are you aware of the benevolences our church pays? Have you attended any of our Bible Studies, concerts or Tour-de-Terrace? These are all indications of Bethesda’s Stewardship.

What IS Stewardship? Webster’s dictionary defines it in part as *“One actively concerned with the direction of the affairs of an organization”* or in everyday language – Stewardship is everything I do after I say “I believe”.

Paul, when dealing with the Corinthians encouraged them to be good stewards. In 2 Corinthians 8:7 he writes *“Now as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you – so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.”* Authorities have said the Corinthian believers excelled in everything – they had strong faith, good preaching, much knowledge, much enthusiasm, much love. Paul wanted them to also be leaders in generosity. Giving is a natural response of love. Paul did not order the Corinthians to give, but encourage them to prove that their love was sincere.

In verses 10-15 Paul challenges the Corinthians to act on their plans. At this point four principles of giving emerge: (1) your willingness to give cheerfully is more important than the amount you give; (2) you should strive to fulfill your financial commitments; (3) if you give to others in need, they will in turn help you when you are in need; (4) you should give as a response to Christ, not for anything you can get out of it. How you give reflects your devotion to Christ.

We are approaching the Stewardship emphasis time of year and challenge you to be thinking of the gifts that you have received and what you are able to give. We also invite you to join us after service on Sunday – November 1<sup>st</sup> as we recognize the many stewards of Bethesda! Lunch will be provided.

Judy Rasmussen  
Stewardship Committee Chair



## Bethany of the NW Sunday ~ Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>

We are a partner and sponsoring congregation of Bethany of the Northwest. On Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating our relationship with this ministry. Bethany has seven locations in the Everett area providing a variety of services, in a variety of settings.

On Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> we will welcome Pr. Rod Vereb, (Bethany's Director of Spiritual Care) as he shares with us the message for this day. He will be also be available during our fellowship time following the 10:15 Worship Service to share information and answer and questions you may have.

Come and learn more about this outreach ministry we sponsor every year with our congregational Benevolence



## Reformation Sunday - Oct 25<sup>th</sup> - Bible Sunday

### **REMEMBER THE COLOR OF THE DAY IS RED**

On Reformation Sunday, Oct 25<sup>th</sup>, during the 10:15 am service we will be giving a Bible to your student'(s) to have in your home. Last year every child and even some adults received age appropriate Bibles. This year Bibles will be given to those who have moved into a *new* age appropriate Bible and who have come to our community since last years Bible Sunday.

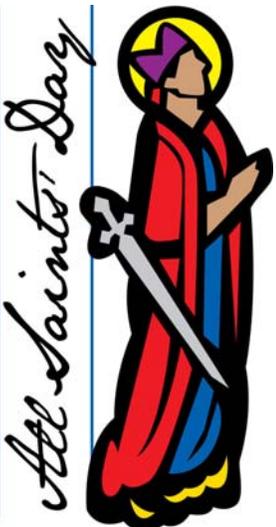
## Reformation Sunday

It is our desire that every child in our Sunday school classes have God's living Word in their hands so that with your help as parents, teachers, grandparents and mentors, God's grace, mercy, love will be placed upon their hearts. It is also our desire to help you pass on and teach the faith to your children and to provide you with as much help and encouragement as possible.

On that I will bless the Bibles and we as a congregation will pray for you and your child/children as we practice our congregational Baptismal promise to support you as you teach and bring Gods' word into the lives of your sons and daughters. It will then be my honor to give these Bibles to you and have you then give them to your child/children.

*Faith is indeed caught more than it is taught, and more so by you as you practice your faith in your daily lives.*

I would also like to hear from you what it is that we can do as a congregation and what it is I can do as your pastor to help and support you as parents. Martin Luther said that the highest calling is that of the care and nurture of the family,



## All Saints Sunday- November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009

*All Saints' Day is a universal festival of the Church. This festival day directs our attention to the richness of Christian history and the varied experiences of the grace of God by lifting up the lives of the saints.*

*The custom of commemorating all the martyrs of the Church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints' Day (Nov. 1) celebrates not only the martyrs and saints, but all the people of God, living and dead, who together form the mystical body of Christ.*

*During the 10:15am worship service on Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be a special reading of the names of those who have died since All Saints' Sunday last year. If there is a name you want to include on this list, please contact the church office:*

E-Mail: [jean@bethesdalcmnt.com](mailto:jean@bethesdalcmnt.com)

Phone: 425-778-6390

Bethesda  
Lutheran Church

23406 56th Ave. W  
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Phone: 425-778-6390

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

Change Service Requested

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Mountlake Terrace, WA

PERMIT #10

We're on the Web!  
bethesdalcm.com

# Bethesda Lutheran Church

Presents a Benefit Concert for

## *Bethany of the Northwest*

Rehabilitation and Care facilities

Saturday, October 17, 2009 7:00 pm

### FEATURING:

*Mysteria Liturgical Dancers*

City of Refuge Church Musicians (Hispanic Christian Band)

*Shirley's Girls* (three Swingin', Singin' Sisters)

AND

Lee Chronbach and the Bethesda Jammers\*

With guest musicians

**Bob Antolin** – Saxophone and **Chris Patin** – Drums

\*The Bethesda Jammers are a contemporary jazz/gospel ensemble

Bethesda Lutheran Church

23406 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. W Mountlake Terrace, WA

PH: 425-778-6390 [www.bethesdalcm.com](http://www.bethesdalcm.com)

"Meet the Musicians" reception directly following the concert.

Free-will offering. Funds matched by Thrivent Financial