



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

# Bethesda Outlook

January, 2010

***Shine! Shine for all to see!!***

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."* Isaiah 9:2

Throughout Advent light has been a focus as we lit Advent wreaths, as we decorated and lit candles in our homes, as our neighborhoods and the world around us became so bright that it was hard to see the true light come to us in the baby Jesus. Many of us have had a hard time seeing and finding the hope of a new light as our lives have been filled with many struggles. Struggles as the ways of the past will be significantly different this year with loss of jobs and illness among our families and friends and grieving as well for what has been lost. Many of us have struggled to celebrate with the loss of loved ones no longer with us. Yet, God is with us as this light found in a humble manner which has come into the world whether we recognize it or not, or accept it or not; to love all, to give hope for all and make the world whole again.

*"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."* John 1:5

Epiphany, which is January 6<sup>th</sup>, is also a season of light in the dark seasonal days of our world. **We will celebrate Epiphany on Sunday January 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Throughout this season of light Jesus is revealed to us as repeatedly stepping beyond the accepted tribe, (those like us). We hear and learn in this season of Epiphany that this Jesus, who is revealed during the days of Christmas to Jewish parents, Jewish shepherds, and Jewish elders in the temple, is now revealed in a much widened sphere of tribes, to all!

Jesus is revealed on the festival of Epiphany, to wise men, gentile wise men from the east traveling to honor the King who has been born, whose star has appeared in the night sky.

*"Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven."* Matthew 5:16

The Epiphany season of the church year celebrates the discovery that **Someone** has

come, sent by God. Come, to bring God's light into our lives, to make a difference in our lives and our community, to heal our brokenness and to reveal the unimaginable depth of God's love for you and I and **ALL** through this light of Christ.

We are called to be not just a place of healing and grace, but also a beacon of light for our world and our community, and a place of radical hospitality where all are welcome. A Place where **all** are welcome not how we want them to be or think they should to be, but just as they are when they come!

*Where will your light shine?*

*Where will our light Shine and upon who in our community?*

In the readings of this season before Lent Jesus is consistently breaking down walls between tribes: between women and men, between powerful and marginalized, between Gentiles and Jews, family and stranger, clean and unclean, between all of us.

Today our tribalism is and must be challenged by Jesus' fierce inclusiveness. We are called to question our defensive loyalty to family, school, denomination, neighborhood, class, religion, church and buildings, country or any other tribes of exclusion in the face of Jesus' life, teachings and actions. The Glory and love of the LORD was, is, and shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

***HAPPY EPIPHANY***

***Shine! Shine for all to see!!***

*May you find the Epiphany light of promise and hope! May you share that Epiphany light with those far off from God in our world! In this Epiphany season may the light of the star and the glory of God be revealed to you in new and unexpected ways! May you light candles and pray for the revealing of God's light in your darkness and for the ever widening of God's love, hope and compassion in your lives. May you share that Epiphany light with those far off from God in our world !*

*Pastor Malcolm*

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## WELCOME TO BETHESDA!

Want to move more deeply as a Disciple of Jesus into the life of  
Bethesda Lutheran Church?

***Please come to this informational gathering!***

**Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup> Noon – 1pm**

*Church Office Building Conference Room*

Come and journey together for 4 sessions as we unpack what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ and Christian Lutherans at Bethesda. An informational gathering will take place on Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup>. We will have a time of conversation and a light lunch. Our first session and the remaining sessions will be decided by the group at that time based our schedules. We will then formally welcome you as a disciple into the

Bethesda Family in late February or early March at the 10:15am service.

Whether you are new to faith, have been away from a church for a long time, or are simply seeking to transfer your membership from another congregation, all participants in the ministries of Bethesda are encouraged to learn more about *Following Jesus* (becoming passionate Disciples).

Should you have any questions about this process, please feel free to contact Pastor Malcolm by email ([prmalcolmb@gmail.com](mailto:prmalcolmb@gmail.com)) or phone (425-778-6390). Thank you for worshipping at Bethesda.

*The members of Bethesda Lutheran Church share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through our proclamation, celebration, and sharing the love of Christ with our neighbors through an accepting, caring community.*

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## From Our Council President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to our New Year.

It is with great Joy that we once again honor the story of Christ's birth and the gifts that the Wise Men brought before the Baby Jesus. What are the gifts you bring before our King? Let the Light of Renewal shine forth from our hearts.

As Christians, let us not assume that we need not work on our manners and morals. In order to fulfill God's promise for us we need to constantly clean and polish our gifts, keeping our hearts open and our minds clear. Jesus is asking us all to remember to be considerate of one another. Jesus challenges us to develop a holistic relationship with ourselves, each other and our community. He asks that we let go of petty grievances, to remember that we our all baptized in His name.

Let us use our gifts that we have been given to move forward with Mercy and Grace, embracing God's wisdom that we live to love one another.

In Peace,

Dena Lee

Council President

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## More Than Membership

Do you have a heart to serve?

Each one of us has a talent that we can choose to share. We just have to decide to just do it ~ Really, no act of serving is too small, it all adds up to being a blessing, for the both the giver, as well as receiver ~

The "More Than Membership" committee, met on Monday December 14, at 10AM. In attendance were Pr. Malcolm, Pr. Jacquie, Joan Minnis, Pat Olson, Sharon Boyd, Joy DeGraff, Sharon Boehm and Debbie Luce.

This is a newly formed group, comprised of people, from our congregation. The purpose of the group is to offer thoughtful, caring and kind support to anyone in our church, and community, that would like support. It will involve us remembering people in prayer, welcoming newcomers, just being a supportive listener, visiting those that are isolated, and would like a caring visitor or two.

If you think you may feel called to join us, please do! All are welcome to join us for the meeting, next month on January 11, 2010, at 10am, in the church office. The only requirement is a heart to serve where God leads you ~

Debbie Luce

## Intern Committee Report

On Monday, December 7th, the Intern Committee gathered for their monthly meeting. In attendance were Anny Glebe, Jeanette Anstice, Penny Thedens, Doug Walker, Pr. Jacquie Berlien, Pat Olson, Dena Lee-Cumming (Council President) and Debbie Luce.

We had a time of visiting together, enjoying a variety of ice creams that were shared, as well as cookies, and coffee. During this time we shared about an important leader (s) who has impacted our lives. Pr. Jacquie spoke about where she is, in her process, at the three month mark. We discussed the upcoming mid-term Interns review, and what that process, will require of the group.

Pastor Jacquie's sermon dates are: 12/24/09 at the 9PM service, 1/3/2010, 1/17/2010, 1/31/2010, and her last Sunday to preach at Bethesda is 2/14/2010. At that time she will begin her work at Edmonds Lutheran Church. The next meeting is set for Monday January 4th at 7PM, meeting at Katherine Dedrick's home.

Debbie Luce

## Create Your Best Life!

You have goals and dreams.

We can help you realize them.

Lutheran Community Services Northwest is pleased to introduce our new Life Coaching Program. Professional life coaching can help you move beyond barriers and self-imposed limitations to live the life you were meant to live. Life issues addressed by our coaches include:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work-life balance  | <input type="checkbox"/> Family life/Parenting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career development | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-confidence       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life transitions   | <input type="checkbox"/> Relationships         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health & wellness  | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's issues        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual issues   | <input type="checkbox"/> Teen issues           |

All of our team members offer coaching by phone, and many by internet technology.

In addition, face-to-face coaching is available from coaches based in communities across Washington, Oregon and Idaho.



To learn more, or to schedule a free initial session, visit

[www.lcsnw.org/lifecoaching](http://www.lcsnw.org/lifecoaching)

Sun

Mon

Sun  
Tue

Wed

# JANUARY 2010

<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Ruth/Miriam 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm Girl Scouts 6:45pm Intern Committee Mtg. 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Brownies 6:30pm Education Comm. Mtg. 7:00pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Al-Anon Mtg.</p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm High School Youth 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>MTM Mtg. 10:00am Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm Finance Committee 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Outreach Comm. Mtg. 7:00pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Al-Anon Mtg.</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Exec. Comm. Mtg. Noon Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm High School Youth 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Community Dinner 5:30pm Council Mtg. 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Brownies 6:30pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Al-Anon Mtg.</p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm High School Youth 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Twins Club 5:00pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Confirmation Class Al-Anon Mtg.</p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am <b>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b> Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm High School Youth 7:00pm</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>SUNDAY, JANUARY 31</b></p> <p><b>10:15am</b></p> <p><b>PL</b></p> <p><b>congr</b></p> </div>		

	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> AA Mtg. 6:00pm  <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b> (office closed)	<b>2</b>
Noon 7:00pm	<b>7</b> Brownies 7:00pm	<b>8</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Noon Thrivent 3:00pm AA Mtg. 6:00pm WAM Committee mtg. 6:30pm	<b>9</b> Hospitality Comm. Mtg. 10:00am Thrivent Board Mtg. 11:00am
Noon 7:00pm	<b>14</b> Brownies 7:00pm	<b>15</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Noon AA Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>16</b> Work Party 9:30am Family Movie Night 5:00pm
Noon 7:00pm	<b>21</b> Brownies 7:00pm	<b>22</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Noon AA Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>23</b>
Noon 7:00pm 7:00pm	<b>28</b> Brownies 7:00pm	<b>29</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch Noon AA Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>30</b> TDT Arts & Crafts Mtg. 11:00am

**FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> ~ FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Please save this date and attend our annual congregational meeting to review the 2010 budget.**

DATE		COMMUNION ORGANIZER	USHERS	LAY READER	READINGS
Jan. 3	Second Sunday After Christmas	Dorothy Wilson	J.R. Mike Brenot	Dena Lee-Cumming	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:[1-9] 10-18
Jan. 6	Epiphany of our Lord				Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Jan. 10	Baptism of Our Lord	Dorothy Wilson	J.R. Mike Brenot	Dena Lee-Cumming	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Jan. 17	Second Sunday After Epiphany	Dorothy Wilson	J.R. Mike Brenot		Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11
Jan. 24	Third Sunday After Epiphany	Dorothy Wilson	J.R. Mike Brenot		Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21
Jan. 31	Fourth Sunday After Epiphany	Dorothy Wilson	J.R. Mike Brenot		Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30



- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 - Derald Porter       | 19 - Anny Glebe             |
| Garry Swierenga         | 20 - Laurie Olson (Pearson) |
| 4 - Marie Fay           | 21 - Audriana Hindman       |
| 8 - Sue Rasmussen       | 22 - Spencer Bueing         |
| 11 - Ray Rasmussen      | 24 - Zackery Goldsmith      |
| 13 - Dylan Olson        | 28 - Walter Smith           |
| 15 - Lillian Cunningham | 30 - Joan Minnis            |

### **Mountlake Terrace Super Seniors & Friends**

Proudly Presents

### **Shooting For the Stars**

*(A Sensational Talent Show)*

**Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010**

**7:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Bethesda Lutheran Church**

**23406 56th Ave. W.**

**Mountlake Terrace, WA**

**Tickets: \$7.50**

**Under 6 years Free**

## Thoughts For The Month

by *Jeanne Krahn*

In Italy, between Padua and Ferraro (in case you're planning a trip to Italy), is a villa with 365 windows. What did the builder have in mind—looking out a different window each day? Maybe Psalm 118:24—*"This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."* It's 2010—now what? 2009 was catastrophic, the "pits" for so many of us—but, hey, you're reading this aren't you? Am I writing it? Let's have an intelligent, God given response in our lives to find something positive in each of our coming 365 days. Too many of us simply endure the present common place day and wait for a better day in the future as if yesterday was an ok day but tomorrow is full of possibilities. Isn't each day a gift? Truly, for my generation the swift passing of years means to give priority to days of worth in the brief days we have. It is recorded somewhere about one of the princes of France in his days that his principal occupation was killing weasels in barns. Well, I guess there still are too many "weasel killers" in our world, unfortunately. Yes, I definitely am a "stick in the mud" thinking of the thousands of Americans having ample time to make their lives count in their communities. Great books remain unread, letters are left unwritten, calls unmade, and acts of love and kindness are neglected and left undone. Turn on the TV? But it is the truth that time is loaned, given for our temporary keeping—a priority call to worthy values in the brief days allotted to us. In a time when there is so much cruelty in our world, we must generate love to keep the soul of our world going.

Whoosh! Those icy cold dark days must have blotted me but these 12 days of Christmas are still around as our family's Epiphany get-together approaches. The message of the holiday season is love, the agape love—the spiritual or brotherly love of mankind, one for another. Recently read some different faith definitions of love:

**Bahá'i:** "Love me that I may love thee. If you lovest me not, my love can no wise reach thee."

**Confucianism:** "To love all men is the greatest benevolence."

**Hinduism:** "One can best worship the Lord through love."

**Islam:** "Love is this, that thou should account thyself very little and God very great."

**Judaism:** "Thou shall love the Lord by God with all thy heart and thy neighbor as thyself."

**Shinto:** "Love is the representative of the Lord."

**Sikhism:** "God will regenerate those in whose hearts there is love."

**Taoism:** "Heaven arms with Love those it would not see destroyed."

**Zoroastrianism:** "Man is the beloved of the Lord and should love Him in return."

**Jainism:** "The days are of most profit to him who acts in love."

**Christianity:** "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, etc."

Ok, 'nuf heavy, heavy! But "there is a scripture that encourages us to go the second mile with others, to do more than is expected of us, to give more than is expected of us, to give more than we have to, to be more than is required." Don't we all know people like that? Their second mile is called the "love mile" - giving extra time or money or effort—not because they have to but because they love—because they care. What a nice way to live! They always go out of their way for others. When they say "call me if you need anything", they really mean it. When something happens, they are the first ones there, and they always seem to know what to do. Aren't those people a great portion of Bethesda's congregation? How blessed can we be!

And now it's sinter seeming to show us the barrenness, the icy shadows, feelings of discomfort, discontent and short days and long nights. Isn't it a perfect time in our lives to slow down, to take a few hours for quiet reverence? Is it winter right now in the season of your life? Is everything on hold? Are you wondering if your soul will ever thaw? Don't we all endure some of those dry-spell times when you'd rather curl up by the warm fire with a good book and cup of hot coffee, shed a few tears about the years' happening and so on? That's ok. Those time come for all of us. They also pass. Helen Steiner Rice's words: *Hope for a world grown cynically cold, hungry for power and greed for gold. Faith to believe within and without there's a nameless fear in a world of doubt. Love that is bigger than race or creed to cover the world and fulfill each need. God grant these gifts to troubled hearts as the old year ends and the new year starts.*

'Nuf of "seriousity" for a while. I'm going outside to sunshine and check the "rhodies" - if they survived our icy days!



**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

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

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