



Bethesda  
Lutheran Church

# Bethesda Outlook

May, 2010

*Greetings Easter people in the name of the Risen Christ,*

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

This we will proclaim on Pentecost Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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 2010

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 their 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.

**Remember to wear Red on Pentecost Sunday- May 23rd**

*“He is risen indeed”*

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*The Spirit* insert

*Pastor Malcolm*

## THANK YOU!

**Praise!** and **Thanks!** for all the wonderful people who have made our Playground a better place! It looks fabulous. It is truly a joy to behold. Thank you, Nancy Anderson, for all the new plants—can't wait to see those vine maples spread their welcoming shade during the years of summer months that they will share with us. Thank you, Eric Anderson, for all your support and labor.

Thank you Flash, Mitch, Chad, John, Jeff, Tim and Jorge for getting rid of the old structure and putting the new one in place! If I have forgotten anyone, please

know that you are in my heart for giving so generously of your time and talents!

**Congregation:** We would like to do some more plantings of herbs and other hardy perennials. Have you got some to share? Oregano. Marjoram. Sage. Lavender. Daisies. Sword ferns and salal would be good additions to our plantings!! These plants are all low maintenance and drought tolerant! We could also use a shade umbrella for our picnic table.

Once again, thank you, blessed ones!

Love, Dena Lee

## ***Would you like to dedicate a New Hymnal? The ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book) Is the new cranberry colored service book which has replaced the green book.***

We now have 100 of these wonderful worship books in our pews purchased for us by an anonymous donor.

When I graciously and humbly accepted this gift on behalf of Bethesda the donor and I spoke of the possible desire for many to want to purchase these hymnals in memory of a beloved one or to the Glory of God.

If you wish to purchase an ELW in memory of a loved one or to the Glory of God you may do so beginning in May. There will be forms and envelopes available for you to make a donation to cover the cost of these books (\$25/each) and request a nameplate to be placed in a book to honor a loved one or to the Glory of God.

At the request of our initial benefactor any money collected will be used to further our mission to serve God and the people of Mountlake Terrace and beyond.

If you have any further questions, please contact Pr Malcolm @ Bethesda 425-778-6390 or by email: [prmalcolmb@gmail.com](mailto:prmalcolmb@gmail.com)

## From Your Council President

Our **Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting is June 6<sup>th</sup>** directly following service. We will be giving all Committee Reports as well as electing new members for Council. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting to learn about what is happening at Bethesda. Only members may vote.

**Hospitality is the Featured Committee for the Month of May.** They will present a temple talk sometime this month so our congregation might be better informed as to what this committee is all about. They are seeking new members. Many hands make light work!

Our **Confirmation Class** is making Birthday Party Bags for the MLT Food Bank. To finance this project, the class held a successful bake sale in Dec.'09 (\$141!) and held a quilt raffle. We thank our congregation for their support of this service project.

**The Synod Assembly is May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>** at the Everett Event Center. Dena Lee and Pastor Malcolm will be attending this exciting assembly entitled "**Living the Good News of God's Welcome.**" We would like one man and one youth member of our congregation to join us for either or both days. Talk to Pastor or Dena if you are interested.

## RED ONION CAPER

Bethesda Community Services member, Mabelle Hoffman, contacted The Red Onion owner, Shaun Richards, and suggested a “community dinner” event with the restaurant operating as usual. Bethesda members would be invited to have dinner at The Red Onion and B.C.S.C. members would assist in some preparation, bussing and serving of the meals. Mabelle seized the opportunity and brought it to the committee for a quick response and programming of the dinner.

It was agreed the committee would place two people in the kitchen, one at the ice cream station and two people in the seating area for the 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. time. During this period 20% of all sales and all tips were to accrue to B.C.S.C. on Tuesday, March 16, 2010.

Committee members arrived at 4:30 p.m. for a quick orientation and assignment of duties. Cliff, being ever present, put on the short colorful apron and headed for the dish pit (pardon the expression) to handle the dirty and clean dishes. Merry Wick set up in the very back of the kitchen with a very sharp knife to cut vegetables for meal preparation. Chelsea Hoffman was quickly trained to dispense ice cream and make floats and shakes. Mabelle and Katherine Dedrick donned the Bethesda

green shirts, seated customers, delivered food orders and bussed and washed tables and whatever else needed doing.

Hungry Bethesda members responded extremely well! It was approximated two thirds of the restaurant meals were ordered by Bethesda members with some orders taken to go. It was a very nice greet, eat and meet time for Bethesda and community members in a very “community” way with much sharing and discussion around the meals.

Mabelle reported the 20% “take” was \$200.00, tips raised was \$264.00. \$464.00 was raised for committee to use to assist people with need in the community, our church members and attendees. Shaun was well pleased with the program and agreed The Red Onion will do this again. Please consider The Red Onion for your meals out and thank Shaun and his wife, LaRae, and daughter for working this for us!

The next fundraiser for B.C.S.C. will be a car wash at Rogers Market. Bring your dirty car and your neighbors, too! Stay tuned for the Saturday date and time for this event.

## RE-VISION BETHESDA

***“...I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams.” Acts2:17***

Are you dreaming? Seeing visions of what God's presence can be like in this community? What would you like to see happen at Bethesda Lutheran Church in the next five years?

We last dared to dream about the future more than 10 years ago. Much of what we wanted to see then has been fulfilled. Some of it became superfluous as time went by. All of it was valid at the time we dreamt about it in 1999. It is now 2010, and time for us to re-vision our goals and hopes for the next era at Bethesda.

I want to encourage you all to brainstorm: that is, have a vision without regard to cost or logistics, or practicalities. Dare to think outside your comfort zones. If

enough of us have the same dreams, we will find way to make them happen. During the month of May, take the time to create a vision for Bethesda's future. Share that vision with committees you serve on or with the members of the church council or with others as you sit around the coffee table after services. Then, bring those visions to the gathering on **SATURDAY, JUNE 12 FROM 9:00 UNTIL ABOUT 2:00**. There we will all gather and sift through everyone's ideas and form a new vision for our life here at Bethesda. All are more than welcome, they are **desired. No thoughts are too big or too small.**

Mark your calendars and plan to be with us as we RE-VISION BETHESDA. We want to see you there!

All God's blessing upon you!  
Sue Rasmussen



**Turn off the TV, Put down the newspaper and magazines, Set the cell phone on silence, and invest 5 minutes in your Family with these 5 simple steps**

1. **SHARE** highs & lows of the day
2. **READ** and highlight a verse of Scripture in your Bible
3. **TALK** about how the verse relates to your highs & lows
4. **PRAY** for your highs & lows, for your family, and for the world
5. **BLESS** one another

### ***The FAITH 5 (Faith Acts In The Home)***

*Care to have some fun, keep your family communicating every night, and grow in your understanding of yourself and God? Try this simple five-step process for the next eight weeks and see if it doesn't help! Here's how you do it: Whoever is going to bed first in your home calls "FAITH 5" or "Huddle Up!" Everyone must drop what they're doing, turn off the television, put down the newspaper or their homework, set the cell phone on silence and gather in a room of the convener's choice. Then take turns going through these five simple steps:*

*You want a great relationship with your kids? You want openness, honesty, caring and sharing in your family? You want to raise a child to be a strong, thoughtful, empathetic, positive, healthy adult out in the world some day? You can't buy that. You have to invest in it. And the investment is the most expensive currency you own – your TIME – aimed at that most precious young person in your life.*

*Kids spell love TIME. Be intentional. Be consistent. Be caring. Be the parent. Every night. Every home. No one else can do that for you.*

#### **Five Questions**

1. **For Parents of Young Children:** What would it be worth to you to have a teenager some day who won't go to sleep without talking to you about their day? Praying with you? Blessing you? Would it be worth five minutes? To night? Every night?
2. **For Parents of Pre-Teens:** What would happen to your family over time if you were able to keep this open, caring communication going every night throughout adolescence?
3. **For Parents of Teenagers:** Once the teen years begin and drivers' licences come into play, communication between parents and teens can become a challenge. How might this type of five-minute conversation change a family if they were intentional and consistent about it? Would the benefits outweigh the hassle of trying to invest this time of care, listening, and prayer each night in your home? Why or why not?
4. **For couples:** What would happen to you as a couple over the course of several months if your relationship deepened and you got to know each others dreams. What would happen if in the midst of your busy lives if you spent at least 5 minutes each day focused on listening, caring for each others needs and praying together for each other and for your life together as a couple?
5. **Church Leaders:** What would happen to a family and the entire congregation over time if they made an intentional point of doing the Faith 5 most every night? What would happen to your church five years from today if the majority of your households were doing active listening, scripture, faith talk, prayer, and blessings every night?

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Hospitality Comm. Mtg. - 10:00am
<b>2</b> Worship - 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. - 3:00pm Bethesda Terrace Youth - 7:00pm	<b>3</b> Ruth/Miriam - 2pm @office (D. Johnson) Community Dinner 5:30pm Girl Scouts 6:45pm Intern Committee Mtg. - 7:00pm	<b>4</b> Brownies - 6:30pm Education Comm. Mtg. - 7:00pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm	<b>5</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	<b>6 <i>National Day of Prayer</i></b> Brownies - 6:30pm	<b>7</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon WAM Committee mtg. - 5:45pm AA Mtg. - 6:00pm	<b>8</b> <b><i>Car Wash</i></b>
<b>9 <i>Mother's Day</i></b> Worship - 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. - 3:00pm Bethesda Terrace Youth - 7:00pm	<b>10</b> MTM Mtg. - 10am Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm Finance Comm. mtg. - 7:00pm	<b>11</b> Outreach Comm. Mtg. - 7:00pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm	<b>12</b> Esther Circle 10:00am Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	<b>13</b> Brownies - 6:30pm	<b>14</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon AA Mtg. - 6:00pm	<b>15</b> Exec. Comm. Mtg. Noon Family Movie Night 5:00pm
<b>16</b> Worship - 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. - 3:00pm Arts Faire meeting 3:00pm Bethesda Terrace Youth - 7:00pm	<b>17</b> Community Dinner 5:30pm Council Meeting 7:00pm	<b>18</b> Brownies - 6:30pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm  <b><u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</u></b>	<b>19</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	<b>20</b> Brownies - 6:30pm	<b>21</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon AA Mtg. - 6:00pm	<b>22</b> <b><i>Spring Tea</i></b>
<b>23 <i>Pentecost</i></b> Worship - 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. - 3:00pm Bethesda Terrace Youth - 7:00pm	<b>24</b> Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm	<b>25</b> Twins Club - 5pm Jammers rehearsal 7:15pm	<b>26</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	<b>27</b> Brownies - 6:30pm	<b>28</b> Mtlk. Terr. Sr's. lunch - Noon AA Mtg. - 6:00pm	<b>29</b> Men's Fellowship 8:00am
<b>30 <i>The Holy Trinity</i></b> Worship - 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. - 3:00pm Bethesda Terrace Youth - 7:00pm	<b>31</b>  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>(office closed)</b>	<h1>MAY 2010</h1>				

DATE		COMMUNION ORGANIZER	USHERS	LAY READER	FLOWERS	READINGS
May 2	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Dorothy Wilson	Flash Scaff	Katherine Dedrick		Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35
May 9	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Dorothy Wilson	Flash Scaff	Katherine Dedrick	Mickey Schwald	Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 John 14:23-29
May 16	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Dorothy Wilson	Flash Scaff	Debbie Luce	Debbie Luce	Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26
May 23	Day of Pentecost Confirmation Sunday	Dorothy Wilson	Flash Scaff	Debbie Luce		Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17 [25-27]
May 30	The Holy Trinity	Dorothy Wilson	Flash Scaff	John Sullivan	Katherine Dedrick	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8 Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15



## MAY

- 1 - Cory Henderson
- 6 - Ruby Engelstad  
Taniela Tonga
- 11 - Sarah Van Deren
- 14 - Florence Carlson
- 18 - Amy Goldsmith  
Chloe McArdle
- 24 - Sheri Fifield-Maahs
- 25 - Kristine Van Deren
- 27 - Emmalee Donald
- 30 - Katherine Dedrick

### *Easter Breakfast*

Cliff Pearson and his crew of men did a great job collecting food, preparing and serving the wonderful breakfast. We were blessed with help from Albertsons, Fred Meyer, QFC, Costco, Top Foods and Stadium Flowers.

We had our talented women decorating the tables, setting up the place settings and decorating the church. Norma Elliott with Janice Bowen's help arranged the church's Easter egg hunt.

Thank you for all your help. We raised \$661.00 and it will be matched 50% by Thrivent Financial. The money will go to Compass Housing Alliance to help the homeless and the under employed. In previous years we raised the money for LATCH. LATCH (Lutheran Alliance to Create Housing) has merged with Compass to be more effective.

Your Thrivent Volunteer Advocates,  
Joan Minnis, Jeanette Anstice and Margaret Berghuis

### *Affirmation of Baptism* *Sunday- May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010*

On Pentecost Sunday we will be confirming three of our confirmation students as part our Pentecost Sunday service. We used to call this 'Confirmation Sunday' but today we call this an "AFFIRMATION of BAPTISM" because that is what these students will be doing. On this Sunday: ***Kenzie Grayson, Anna Matteucci, and Christina Salsbury*** who have instructed in the Christian faith will come before us and publically Affirm the Baptismal promises made on their behalf by their parents, sponsors and the congregation when they were baptized. In this stepping stone on their maturing faith journey they will also be assuming and taking on greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community of disciples and our mission in the world.

## Thoughts For The Month

by *Jeanne Krahn*

Earth Day was on April 22nd but isn't it (or should be) everyday? Acts 2:43-47 *"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the good will of all people."* We must pray, therefore, for the strength to change our personal and public lives in the end that there may be enough—ELCA Social Statement from Caring For Creation. An ancient Indian proverb (Chief Seattle) *"Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."* Leo Rosten once wrote that *"the purpose of life is to matter, to be productive, to have it make a difference that you have lived at all, using the talents that God has given you for the betterment of others."* OK—so Earth day is everyday and we have a responsibility, but I'm only one person. What I can do seems so ineffective. Every paper, every TV program, every magazine nags about something, doesn't it? Think of one raindrop—by itself it doesn't do much, but have a few more coming down and something happens. Hey, don't everyone rush out with good intentions of "doing" and create a flood—just try to make consistent changes with caring as you can. So many facets in our lives can use change—major or minor.

Sharing a few of those droplets: are you aware of the "Pacific Garbage Patch"? It's a vortex of marine litter located within the North Pacific Gyre (your new word for today), one of five major oceanic graves. About 1,000 miles west of California, the Patch is estimated to be twice the size of Texas. Estimates are that 80% of the garbage comes from land based sources (Who? Us?) and 20% from ships at sea. Nearly 90% of this floating junk is plastic and durable. For each item to biodegrade in that water environment, it takes: paper towels—2 to 4 weeks; apple core—2 months; cigarettes—1 to 5 years; plastic bags/wrappers—10-20 years; Styrofoam cups—50 years; balloons/Mylar—100+ years; plastic bottles—450 years; fishing lines—600 years; aluminum cans—200 years. Plastics technically do not biodegrade completely as they just break down into smaller and smaller pieces that persist and act like sponges for toxic chemicals. Humans dump (via wind and runoff) approximately 14 billion pounds of garbage in the world's oceans each year.

That's ocean. How about around home? Your garbage disposal not only uses electricity but the ground up matter travels to a wastewater plant where more fuel and water are used to treat, process and filter the waste—then on to the Sound. We are continuously encouraged to recycle and do we have the bins! I'm wondering how the contents of the food waste bin is going to hold up on the summer heat. But at least something is

keeping it being preserved in the land fill as when they finally do begin to decompose anaerobically (without air) in a dump, the greenhouse gas, methane, is produced. Composting is an aerobic process exposing the stuff to air, it only produces carbon dioxide—and some good soil additive for whatever you have in your yard. If the average family composted regularly, or put food scraps in their yard waste container to be composted, each household would prevent about 30 pounds of methane emissions per year, the equivalent of around 620 pounds of carbon dioxide. Each person in the U.S. throws away approximately 4.5 pounds of waste each day, totaling 231.9 million tons of municipal solid waste. Food scraps were about 11.2% of that land fill waste amounting to 25.9 million tons of food waste produced back, when?

There's a small start for your creation care challenge. Immediate: try to reduce the amount of processed food you eat. Summer's coming, farmer's markets opening, your garden's beginning to produce. That's another story. Use your mugs to drink wherever you are, and use a permanent water bottle (even helps keeping the BPA's from you and the children). Also, imagine a 100 ft. Douglas fir tree—that's about how much each of us uses in paper and wood products—try 100% recycled paper as often as possible.

Change of thought: the way to give to God is to give to others. He's fixed it so givers have more fun than takers. Mother's Day is coming up and celebrate mom and other women who have inspired you. Present them with a Northwest Harvest gift card, showing you, in turn, are making a difference in another's life. Proceeds from Northwest Harvest gift cards toward feeding the hungry in our state, 40% of whom are children. Just place an order and make a donation and they will send personalized cards for you, noting you have made a gift in her name. They can also be used for graduations, birthdays, weddings, or thinking of you. To order, go to the order form at:

[www.northwestharvest.org/cards.htm](http://www.northwestharvest.org/cards.htm)

e-mail [giftcard@northwestharvest.org](mailto:giftcard@northwestharvest.org)

call 800-722-6924 for the order form

What an idea—how many gee-gaws does mom need anyhow?

Whoops! Blew that—I'm a plant and book person. Anyhow, Mother's Day love and hugs for all the "moms" in your lives. Blessings that your Memorial Day memories shall bring you peace and love.

P.S.: God answers knee mail.

**Bethesda  
Lutheran Church**

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Phone: 425-778-6390

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

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