



Bethesda Outlook

February 2014

Pastor Malcolm's thoughts for February

On Sunday February 23rd we will begin our 9th year together as the people of God listening to God and engaging with what God is already doing here and calling us into at this mission outpost we call Bethesda Lutheran Church in Mountlake Terrace Washington, in the 98043 Zip Code

So we began some 8 years ago and continue to spend our time together as disciples, (*life long learners*) and as apostles, (*sent ones*), of Jesus Christ, through our lens of being Lutheran, proclaiming the Gospel for the sake of our world here in the 98043 Zip Code and beyond.

Together we continue to spend time wondering, with God, who we have been called to be and what we are called to do for the sake others and for the sake of our world. We and the very spirited Strategic Planning Team for Mission have done this by listening and wondering what God is up to here in our neighborhood in this and at this place. Those of us, who are still new, in the sixty plus years of ministry at this mission center, appreciate all who have gone before us. We appreciate the stewardship of the grounds and buildings as a place for us and for our community that is both a lighthouse (a beacon of the light of Christ), and a shade tree (a place to come and rest, renew and be healed). We are grateful as we now seek to learn what God is calling us into in 2014.

God is on a mission to bless and heal a world that is broken and in need of grace, love, hope and the healing power in their lives of grace, mercy and forgiveness. Therefore in all that we do, with all that we have and are, we are called into that same mission.

This work of doing God's love is always new, and is most often if not always, messy and because of that it brings about many challenges to our older, familiar, more convenient and comfortable ways of being and doing church. We often struggle with the notion that what today's world brings in the way of questions, and deep desire to experience this love, grace, mercy, forgiveness and kindness, is very different and because of this our call to ministry looks very different than it did yesterday. But as people of faith in the midst of so much that is so different and so messy, faithfully we continue to listen and follow our God who is faithful and among us as the Word made Flesh, and gives us all that we need to do his work as our lives are examples of God's love and grace.

I am thankful for the past but more than that I am grateful that even as we struggle in the messiness today, God continues to be faithful, and gives us everything we need to remind us that we have been gifted, and called; claimed and gathered; so that we can be renewed as a community to hear God's calling as we are sent into the world for the sake of the world. God's arms continued to be wrapped around us, giving us not only what we need, but also the courage to pursue the unknown and messiness which God has called us into. We are to be his hands and feet, God's listening ears and compassionate heart with mouths that give freely and generously love and grace and not judgment and condemnation. We are people who give generously through our lives, our space, our time, our gifts and our acts of both listening and speaking.

May God be with us, bless us and pour upon us abundant courage and grace,

Pastor Malcolm

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Hospitality Comm. Mtg. 10:00am
2 Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	3 Ruth/Miriam Circle 2:00pm WAM Comm. Mtg. 5:30pm Facilities Committee 6:30pm @ J. Minnis' Girl Scout Leaders 6:45pm	4 Girl Scouts 6:30pm	5 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	6 Girl Scouts 6:30pm	7	8
9 Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	10 Care & Concern Ministry 10:00 am Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm	11	12 Foodie Book Group 6:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	13 Life Group 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	14 <u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</u>	15 Family Movie Night 5:00pm
16 Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	17 Community Dinner 5:30pm Council Meeting 7:00pm	18 Girl Scouts 6:30pm	19 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	20 P.I.P. Club 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	21	22 Men's Fellowship 8:00am
23 Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	24 Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm	25	26 Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	27 Life Group 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	28	



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|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Erik Olson | 7 - Sam Harpst | 15 - Hilary Anstice |
| 2 - Dick Anstice | Ron Olson | 16 - Jeanne Krahn |
| 3 - Bill Rasmussen | 8 - Teresa Bueing | 18 - Norm Dibble |
| 5 - Danna Hudlund | 9 - Cyndy Wesley | 26 - Nina Wyzinski |
| 6 - Marit Brodersen | Tangikina Tonga | 27 - Melissa Anstice |
| | 14 - Tangiloto Motuliki | |



CONCERN FOR NEIGHBORS FOOD BANK

4700 - 228th St. SW. Mountlake Terrace, WA. 98043
 Food Bank: (425) 778-7227 Cell Phone: (206) 512-5289

The following was sent to Pr. Malcolm Brown on January 17, 2014.

“Again our thanks to you and your congregation for your continuing support Concern For Neighbors Food Bank in Mountlake Terrace. Your monetary donations we received during 2013 were approximately \$1,670 and always aid us in purchasing food and providing some financial assistance to our clients that are in need.”

“Hunger is still prevalent in our area, in our state and across the country. However, we have seen some reduction in our client numbers from 160 to 180 per week to about 150-170 clients per week. Hopefully this is a sign that the economy is starting to turn around but we have heard from some clients that they are returning to the food bank because of the recent cutbacks in food stamps. We will just have to see if this trend continues. Even though our client numbers are going down, our financial assistance funds are depleted by the end of the first or second week or each month.”

“Again our thanks from the Board of Directors, all our volunteers and clients in helping us continue to serve our community. We wish you all a very healthy and prosperous 2014.”

Sincerely,

Anne C. Peterson
 Executive Director

The ABCs of love

Use this alphabetical list of love-in-action verbs as a reminder of the many ways to reflect Christ's love:

Accepts	Notices
Behaves	Overlooks
Comforts	Provides
Defends	Quiets
Empowers	Rejoices
Forgives	Supports
Grows	Tries
Helps	Understands
Invests	Volunteers
Joins	Welcomes
Kneels	eXpects
Listens	Yields
Mentors	adds Zest to life

9 “verses” that aren’t in the Bible

Several popular sayings can put biblical literacy to the test. For example, the phrases below aren’t in Scripture — although some come pretty close:

- “Money is the root of evil.” (According to 1 Timothy 6:10, “the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.”)
- “Cleanliness is next to godliness.” (The closest teaching to this might be in James 4:8.)
- “God helps those who help themselves.” (This proverb originated in ancient Greece, not in Scripture.)
- “God moves in mysterious ways.” (A verse kind of like this is Isaiah 55:8.)
- “Spare the rod, spoil the child.” (British poet Samuel Butler coined this phrase, which could be a paraphrase of Proverbs 13:24.)
- “This, too, shall pass.” (This occurs nowhere in the Bible but has been linked, incorrectly, to King Solomon.)
- “Love the sinner, hate the sin.” (St. Augustine originally came up with a version of this phrase.)
- “Charity begins at home.” (British theologian John Wycliffe is credited with this saying.)
- “God will never give you more than you can bear.” (This seems to be a misinterpretation of 1 Corinthians 10:13.)