



Bethesda Outlook

April 2014

SPRING WORK PARTY- April 12, 2014

The Facilities and Grounds Committee has a long list of items and issues to be worked. Some will be done prior to our Saturday, April 12, work date and those things not done will be accomplished as time permits. Congregation members and attendees, especially the younger people, are asked to help us accomplish items on the list.

Building roof and gutter cleaning and parking lot cleanup are daunting tasks more suited to the more youthful of us. We will be there even if it rains since there are also many jobs indoors. Besides yard work, we clean the church and buildings inside and out.

See the list, select one or more items and come prepared to work with us on that date. Committee members ask you to check with them if you desire to do some work prior to the work party date. We can give direction and supply tools and materials as needed. See Larry, Cliff, Joy Halladay or Joan.

We will be on site by 8:30 a.m. but can be there earlier if needed. The Hospitality Committee has always had coffee brewed in the morning and at times pastries are set up for us to enjoy. Lunch is always served and always very delicious. Come and enjoy whatever part of the day works for you. Any time is a good time to be on hand. We will look for you there.

Facilities and Grounds Committee

- Weeding and clearing debris from flower beds and lawns.
- Clean parking lot of all debris.
- Need fascia boards on office bldg.
- The swing set needs to have the bolts tightened and possibly replace the rings with a child seat. Possibly provide a cover.
- General cleaning of church and office
- Snake drains in parking lot
- Prune trees and bushes including dead head rhodys
- Need to clean the lower components of freezer and refrigerators in Fellowship Hall
- Need to clear table and chair room and all closets (check furnace & choir room)
- Clean Fellowship Hall carpet (spots)
- Clean all windows of buildings
- Paint bathrooms in Fellowship Hall
- Finish drain work at the Sr. Center
- Repair front church step cracks
- Clean bumpers and curbs around the property, then paint
- Clean roof, gutters and downspouts on rental house
- Need to pour cement next to the garbage pad when weather is warm

Please bring tools and equipment as needed

The 5 Wednesdays of Lent!

During the season of Lent, we will be holding a special mid-week worship service as part of our Lenten journey together. This year it will again be preceded by a simple soup and bread supper



at 6pm then followed by Holden Evening Prayer Service of meditation with a short Lenten message.

All are Welcome!

The remaining 2 Wednesdays are April 2nd & 9th

6pm- Soup Supper
Please sign up in Fellowship Hall

7pm- Evening Prayer Service

Images and Words for the Journey of



Holy Week
To Easter Sunday
April 13th - 20th

Holy Week, marks the center of our entire church year. More than a time of remembering, the experience of Holy Week and Easter offers the greatest gifts of God- life and salvation, forgiveness

and grace, mercy and love. I invite you to come relive and experience these saving events. This week is indeed full of jarring contradictions.

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday (April 13th – 10:15am) is the entry into Holy Week. On that Sunday we acknowledge the success of our Lord with cheers and waving Palms. *(The palm branch is an ancient symbol of victory used by the disciples as Jesus entered Jerusalem. We*

too, will carry palms in our procession into that Sunday's Service). Moments later we announce His humiliating defeat as we cry, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him", "Crucify Him" and read of His death in the readings for that day.



Palm Sunday

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday

(7pm-April 17th) we will gather together for *'The Lord's Supper'* in the sanctuary. The Latin word Maundy means command. On this day we hear the words of Jesus' 'new commandment' for us to love and serve one another. We will focus our time around



Jesus' last meal together with his disciples and end that service by stripping the altar bare as a reminder of the starkness of the day to come. We leave that service in silence and begin our Good Friday service in silence as our liturgy of God's story of salvation continues.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday

(7pm-April 18th), is a service of quiet and darkness as we hear readings of Jesus arrest, trial and crucifixion. The church is bare and bleak. We will hear Jesus' last words on that evening from members of Bethesda as we read the

words given to us by a great story teller, Walt Wangerin. As the night comes to a close, we leave the church in silence after we have experienced the darkness of the day and heard the sound of Christ's tomb slammed shut. *Again we leave the church in silence.*



EASTER SUNDAY



Then on *Easter Sunday* Morning (April 20th), we gather and we here proclaimed: "Alleluia, He is risen" and we respond, "He is risen

indeed". White is the color for Easter's joyous celebration and we will see many other beautiful colors in church on that day. Trumpets will be playing as we sing and celebrate the risen Christ and our new life. The season of Easter lasts for 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost and in that time together we will explore and rediscover how the mystery of salvation and resurrection can be claimed and made apart of our life in the

coming year.

We are indeed Easter people, people of the Risen Christ! I invite you to come and journey with Jesus from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, share in His meal with us, see the starkness of the cross, and help bring the light of Jesus back into the church as we journey together into the new light and life for us all and for the world through the risen Christ on Easter morning.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Girl Scouts 6:30pm	2 Lenten Service Soup/Bread—6pm Worship—7pm Choir Rehearsal <i>after worship</i> Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	3 Girl Scouts 6:30pm	4	5 Hospitality Comm. Mtg. 10:00am
6 Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	7 Ruth/Miriam Circle 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm Facilities Committee 6:45pm @ J. Minnis' Girl Scout Leaders 6:45pm	8	9 Lenten Service Soup/Bread—6pm Worship—7pm Choir Rehearsal <i>after worship</i> Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	10 Life Group 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	11	12 WORK PARTY Monday Night Dinner Ministry Meeting <i>(after work party)</i>
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	14 Care & Concern Ministry 10:00 am Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm	15 Girl Scouts 6:30pm	16 Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm <u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</u>	17 Maundy Thursday Service—7pm	18 Good Friday Service—7pm	19 Family Movie Night 5:00pm
20 EASTER Worship: 8:30 & 11am Breakfast: 9:30-10:45am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	21 Community Dinner 5:30pm Council Meeting 7:00pm	22	23 Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm	24 Life Group 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	25	26 Men's Fellowship 8:00am
27 Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm	28 Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm Community Dinner 5:30pm	29	30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm			



1 - Kris Rasmussen
 4 - Autumn Minnis
 7 - Joy Halladay

14 - Shaun Anstice
 Bob Leavens
 16 - Maxine Helms
 17 - Miranda Currier

19 - Jaye Lill
 20 - Carol Nelson
 21 - Janice Bowen
 23 - Tom Ruzicka

Hello again dear Bethesda friends.

Yes, I am back, possibly settled enough to write a few thoughts needed by you all or not. We have missed all of you at Bethesda, though Stan has kept singing in the choir, at least that's where he says he is going.

I hope my rambling is not too confusing. Blame it on the Ester Bunny and a few cracked eggs I must have sent his way. So many ups and downs have occurred since my last writings so hopefully I can make some logic.

My thoughts have always been with you all. How could we ever forget how many you've given me. I hope the Easter Bunny finds all our blessed Bethesda friends. Let's try in this new year to do what we can to keep this good earth as God is making it now. Hopefully many of you have seen the T.V. DVD on the "Planet Earth". Very full filling!

Bye for now, God bless you

Jeanne Krahn

Got ELCA-Primary Health Benefits?

Take the Mayo Clinic Health Assessment between Jan. 1 and April 30. You'll earn \$150 wellness dollars and help all the employers in our synod save 2% on health contributions for ALL of 2014. We need 65% of y'all to take this in order to get the 2% savings, so encourage one another to get it done! (AND \$150 is just the start, ELCA Primary members and eligible spouses can

earn up to \$500 wellness dollars each! www.porticobenefits.org



Spring is coming and so is the Bethesda Lutheran Church **Plant Sale**. The sale will be held on **Saturday, May 3rd from 9:00am until 2:00pm**. "We need plants, pots and lots of help on the day of the sale", said Joan Minnis. "Set up will start at 8:00". Call Joan (425 778 0309) to let her know if you will be helping on Saturday or if you can't keep your plants at your home so she can make arrangements for you to drop them at her house.

The sale will include a **quilt raffle**. The quilt was possibly the last one made by Ida Fassbind when she was 93 years old. Her daughter said she didn't think her mother used a pattern to make the queen size patchwork quilt. The tickets will be \$1 and all proceeds will go to the general fund.

Please help our plant sale and quilt raffle by:

- Selling raffle tickets to family, friends, and neighbors
- Donate pots, plants and/or soil
- Help on the day of the sale

Pastor:
Malcolm Brown
 206-755-2627

Office Administrator
Jean Leavens
 425-778-6390

Treasurer:
Sue Rasmussen
 425-357-6272

Choir Director
Judy Rasmussen
 425-357-6272

Musician:
Vic Peters
 206-789-1699

Altar Care:
Joy DeGraff
 425-778-5040

Council

President:
Ron Olson
 206-962-1591

Vice President:
Kari Gray
 206-913-3490

Secretary
Joy DeGraff
 425-778-5040

Jeanette Anstice
 425-742-4216

Katherine Dedrick
 425-672-9080

Machelle Hoffman
 425-791-1464

Darlene Johnston
 425-673-5168

Cliff Pearson
 425-275-3590

Jeff Thedens
 425-481-6406

Donna Veveris
 206-546-4251

**WE ARE HERE TO
 SERVE YOU!
 CALL US FOR
 ANYTHING!**

The Spirit

The Journey That Leads to Easter by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop



The call came from the Patient's Advocacy Office at the Medical Center. A family I had never met before was requesting a visit from a Lutheran pastor to a young mother who, during a routine hysterectomy developed complications which placed her in a coma. The Patient Advocate explained to me that it was a very sad situation surrounded with great uncertainty. I walked out the door feeling helpless. I

prayed as I drove to the hospital that I might be able to be a person of grace for this family. Kathy was the mother of two young children. Her mother and husband introduced themselves to me when I entered the room. It was obvious they were frightened, their faces wearing the stains of their tears. Kathy lay in the bed surrounded by all the paraphernalia of an ICU room. My heart broke for them as they shared what little they knew. They asked if I would pray for Kathy which I did.

Over the next weeks I visited on a regular basis talking to Kathy as if she were able to hear and comprehend my words. I met her beautiful children and tried to support her husband and parents. It was an endurance contest for them and their hope was fading as alternative arrangements were being spoken about. One evening I dropped by the hospital. There was no family in the room when I entered.

I barely made my way in when Kathy said to me

through her impaired speech, "Hi Pastor Kirby, I am so glad you are here." I was stunned. How did she know it was me? How did she know my name? Remember, we had never met before. I don't even remember what we spoke about. What I do remember is driving home in almost trance like state. Kim was taking a sewing class at the local fabric store. I had to tell her. I walked into the classroom and just blurted out, "Kathy woke up!" The class must have thought I was going off the deep end.

Kathy struggled mightily in the weeks and years to come to regain some sense of her life as her brain tried to rewire itself. She had to learn how to do everything new again. The people of St. Matthew's will never forget the day she walked on her own, haltingly to the communion rail. Her marriage would end but her two children would see their way through confirmation. Her mother and other extended family became part of the faith community. We all were amazed at Kathy's resolve in spite of the never ending challenges she faced.

Fast forward 25 years and Kathy's kids have grown up and she has remarried. Life continues to provide her with many challenges all which she seems to take in stride. Kathy's story for me is a reminder of why Lent invites us to practice the discipline of appearing before God daily, confessing our helplessness never too sure if God is aware of our presence or not. In fact "not knowing" is for me a major part of my Christian journey. Yet I continue to seek trusting that my Easter Days will come when God will speak my name, "Hi Kirby, I am so glad you are here."

NW Washington Synod of the ELCA -- 2014 Synod Assembly -- May 16 & 17

Edward D. Hansen Conference Center, Comcast Arena, Everett

Online Registration Open Now ... Registration Deadline May 1

www.lutheransnw.org/synod-assembly-2014

Get Ready to Serve!

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday

is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. On Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014, ELCA congregations will gather once again to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God’s people.

As part of the ELCA’s 25th anniversary in 2013, the first-ever “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday provided ELCA members of all ages an opportunity to live out their faith in service to others. As a church that believes God is calling us into the world together, our congregations shared Jesus’ love with their neighbors and communities through a multitude of service projects.

The response from our members was moving and inspiring. Stories and images were shared about the impact the day of service had among congregations and their communities.

Was your congregation able to participate last year? We would love to hear from you! To share your stories, ideas and expertises, touch base with Susan in the synod office.

Please help spread the word about “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014. To assist you, information and resources will be available on www.ELCA.org. Download a toolkit which includes ideas for service projects, discussion questions, a checklist and tips for how to publicize your congregation’s activities with your local news media. You can also find bulletin inserts and flyers, designed to help your congregation plan their day of service. T-shirts will once again be available from Old Lutheran to help increase the visual impact across the ELCA.

What could we do?

First, take a walk around the neighborhood in which your congregation is located. Ask the neighbors closest to the church what they think would be helpful.

Contact local schools, parks, retirement homes, and service agencies and find out what projects they may have available.



Consider the many talents and skills in your congregation. God has given you much to share!

Build a planning team that includes all ages.

Brainstorm additional ideas on how best to show God’s love through your hands in your neighborhood.

Here is the beginning of a brainstorm list. May it ignite some ideas for your congregation as you plan!

Yard, trail, park or school clean up

Put together “Soup Kits” for a local food bank

Sponsor a game day at a local senior center

Offer a free concert and lunch for the community

Put together “Homeless Helper Kits” (sealable plastic bag with trail mix, jerky, dried fruit, toiletry supplies, gift certificate for a meal, etc.)

The Spirit, a publication of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is intended for members, leaders, and clergy of synod congregations and organizations.

Congregations are encouraged to copy ***The Spirit*** and include it in their own newsletters. ***The Spirit*** can be downloaded from the Synod website.

Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA

5519 Phinney Ave North
Seattle, WA 98103-5829
Telephone: 206-783-9292
Toll Free: 1-800-244-6997
Fax: 206-783-9833

Email: office@lutheransnw.org
Website: www.lutheransnw.org

Information for the May issue of *The Spirit* is due to the Synod Office by April 7.

**Bethesda Lutheran
Church**

23406 56th Ave. W
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Phone: 425-778-6390
Fax: 425-361-7781

jean@bethesdalcm.com

Pastor: Malcolm Brown

Church of the Beloved: Ryan Marsh—Deployed

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