



# Bethesda Outlook

February 2015

## *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper* February 17<sup>th</sup> — 6:00-7:00pm



The day before the beginning of Lent is known as Shrove Tuesday. On Shrove Tuesday, many Christians make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs we need to repent, (turning our hearts back towards God), and what changes and ways of life or areas of spiritual growth we need to ask God's help in dealing with.

Shrove Tuesday is also called Fat Tuesday, because on that day the fats that have been kept around such as bacon, sausage or the drippings for cooking are to be used up as they were not to be used during Lent. Since pancakes are a good and helpful way of using up fat, the day is also called Pancake Tuesday.

We invite you, your family, friends and neighbors to Bethesda's **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**. Please come with an appetite for pancakes, sausage and much more. A free will offering will be taken to cover the costs but there

## *Ash Wednesday Worship – February 18<sup>th</sup> – 7pm*



We like many churches use ashes during the **Ash Wednesday** worship in a ritual called the [Imposition of Ashes](#). In this custom, ashes are mixed with a small amount of oil and applied to the forehead of each worshipper. In the Ash Wednesday bulletin these words are written: **Earth to Earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.**

*We recall these words as ashes are placed on our heads and we are vividly reminded that: 'we are dust and to dust we shall return'. The ash is a chilling reminder of our mortality, but because our death is now in Christ, our endings are beginnings. The Lenten disciplines of acts of kindness, prayer, and fasting are tools of **discipleship** that can lead us to renewal as we bury all that is holding us back from truly being alive. Lent is an invitation to a journey that will lead to the new life and resurrection of Easter."*



## *The 5 Wednesdays of Lent!*

*February 25<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>*

6pm- Soup Supper - **Please sign up in Fellowship Hall**

7pm- Holden Evening Prayer Service

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 a ½ Hour simple Evening Prayer Service of meditation with a short Lenten message. **All are Welcome!**

# FEBRUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm—11:00pm</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Ruth/Miriam Circle 2:00pm—4:00pm WAM meeting 5:30pm—6:45pm Community Dinner 5:30pm—8:30pm Girl Scout Leaders 6:30pm—9:00pm Facilities Committee @ J. Minnis' 6:45pm</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Comm. Dinner clean up 7:00am—2:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00—7:30pm</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm—9:00pm</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Girl Scouts 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Hospitality Comm. Meeting 10:00am—Noon</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm—11:00pm</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Care &amp; Concern Ministry 10:00—Noon Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm—3:30pm Community Dinner 5:30pm—8:30pm Council Meeting 7:00pm—9:00pm</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Comm. Dinner clean up 7:00am—2:30pm</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm—9:00pm</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Girl Scouts 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Richer, Fuller Life Series 8:30am—4:30pm</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm—11:00pm</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Community Dinner 5:30pm—8:30pm</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Comm. Dinner clean up 7:00am—2:30pm <b>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Ash Wednesday Service - 7:00pm</b> Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Girl Scouts 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Richer, Fuller Life Series 8:30am—4:30pm</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Worship 10:15am Comm. Dinner prep. 3:00pm—11:00pm</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Sue's Bible Study 2:00pm—3:30pm Community Dinner 5:30pm—8:30pm</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Comm. Dinner clean up 7:00am—2:30pm</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Lenten Service Soup/Bread—6pm Worship—7pm</b> Al-Anon Mtg. 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Girl Scouts 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Men's Fellowship 8:00am—10:00am Richer, Fuller Life Series 8:30am—4:30pm</p>



1 - Erik Olson	7 - Sam Harpst	14 - Tangiloto Motuliki
2 - Dick Anstice	Ron Olson	15 - Hilary Anstice
5 - Danna Hudlund	9 - Cyndy Wesley	16 - Jeanne Krahn
	Tangikina Tonga	27 - Melissa Anstice

## Thrivent

### THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS FOR 2014

The rules have changed for Thrivent Choice Dollars. You should have received an e-mail or a letter from Thrivent stating where you wish your Choice Dollars to go. The deadline is March 31 for funds in 2014. If you have not done this, we request that you do one of the following:

You can call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice". You need to say or enter your Social Security number and press 1 to direct the Choice Dollars or press 2 to hear the terms and conditions. A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars. If you decide to say Bethesda Lutheran Church, be sure you tell them Mountlake Terrace, WA as there are several Bethesda churches. You will have to call several times a year since they are no longer recurring.

If you prefer to use the computer, visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice). Click on "log in" at the top right of the screen and enter your MyThrivent user ID and password. (If you haven't registered on Thrivent.com, click on "register now" to register for full access.) Look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars" in the Thrivent Choice box on your MyThrivent page. Search the catalog of organizations to find your choice. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars Now" to direct your designated Choice Dollars to benefit that organization.

Your Thrivent Congregational Coordinators,

Joan Minnis, Jeanette Anstice, Dick Anstice, Donna Veveris, Cliff Pearson & Katherine Dedrick

### THRIVENT FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR 2014

We wanted to let our congregation know the amount of money we have received in 2014 from Thrivent for the Choice Dollars program.

January	\$ 32.00
February	\$ 242.00
March	\$1,279.00
April	\$ 329.00
May	\$ 359.00
June	\$ 78.00
June	\$ 280.00
July	\$ 86.00
August	\$ 48.00
September	\$ 00.00
October	\$ 199.00
November	\$ 91.00
December	<u>\$1,065.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,088.00</b>

Thank you to all of you who requested your Choice Dollars from Thrivent for Bethesda Lutheran Church. They are being added to our general operating fund.

Your Thrivent Congregational Coordinators,

Joan Minnis, Jeanette Anstice, Dick Anstice, Donna Veveris, Cliff Pearson & Katherine Dedrick

## Blame Game

By Kirby Unti, NWWA Bishop



"Why do you see the speck in your brother's eye, but fail to see the beam of wood in your own?" -*Matthew 7:3*

One of the great challenges of living in my own skin is avoiding the blame game. Being right is so easy. Owning my own brokenness and cutting a little slack for my neighbor is so much harder.

I remember talking to a parole officer about his work. I asked him how good he thought he was at predicting who would make it on the outside and who would end up going back to the big house. His response came quickly. It is really quite easy to predict. If a guy is still blaming the institution or somebody else for his woes I can be sure he is headed back. It is the guy who takes responsibility for what has happened in his life who has a future.

I have become more keenly aware of how rare it is in conflicted situations for individuals to own their part of the conflict. I have made it a practice to ask the question, "Do you feel like you contributed to the conflict in any way?" It usually takes the person by surprise. Typically it is a perspective they haven't given much attention to. When asked they often rush right back into a litany of the other person's wrongs.

I know this to be true in my own life. I can be so focused on how wrong the other person is that I am blind to the part I play.

One of the consultants I worked with when I was in the congregation offered me another way of understanding how important it is to see the bigger picture when in a conflicted situation. His wisdom was not to avoid the resistance which is my natural pattern. He taught me to engage the resistance. Engage the resistance because within it you can discover some very helpful truths about the organization.

There often is so much noise in the resistance we fail to hear the truth. It takes disciplined listening to get past the noise. This is not easy to do when I am anxious, defensive, and my heart is pounding inside my chest.

Think of what this means for us as a country as we are wrestling with police shootings and increasing racial tensions. Depending upon your perspective it is very easy to assess blame. What is far more challenging is to discover the truths that all sides need to discover.

I know I am receiving good counsel when I vent my frustrations about how I feel someone has offended me when my counselor says to me, "What is it that you need to hear in this person's criticism of you?" I hate the question even though I know the advice is very sound.

We as Lutherans know by our very confession that we begin each day with a large beam in our own eye. We know that we have to daily flood our eyes with the waters of baptism in order to see at all.

If we want to avoid the big house, then we must listen to what the parole officer has learned. It is the truth that sets us free.

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