



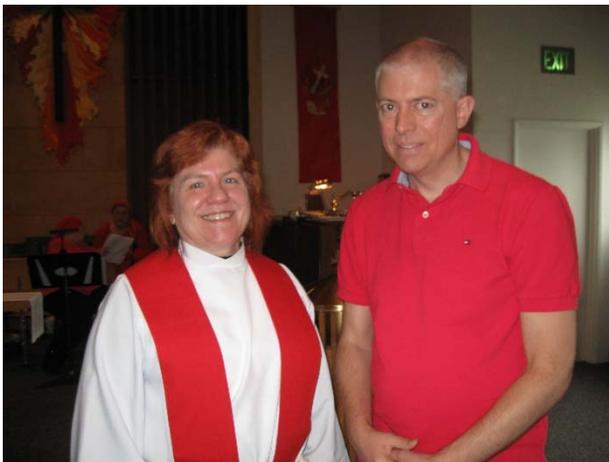
# Bethesda Outlook

Bethesda Lutheran church

June, 2016



Welcome to the five new members who have joined Bethesda Lutheran. They are pictured left to right: Paul Larmore, Thea Miklasiewicz, Kristina Larmore, Lynn Miner and Charles Chisholm.



Paul Lamore was baptized by Pastor Kathleen Anderson on Sunday, May 16, 2016.



Mark your calendars for the "TRADITIONAL Father's Day BBQ/potluck" on June 19th following church services.

**Interim Pastor**  
**Pr. Kathleen Anderson**

**Office Administrator**  
**Jean Leavens**  
425-778-6390

**Treasurer:**  
**Sue Rasmussen**  
425-357-6272

**Musician:**  
**Vic Peters**  
206-789-1699

**Altar Care:**  
**Joy DeGraff**  
425-778-5040

**Council ~ 2015-16**

**President:**  
**Joy DeGraff**  
425-778-5040

**Vice President:**  
**Sharon Boyd**  
425-610-4588

**Secretary**  
**Katherine Dedrick**  
425-672-9080

**Jeanette Anstice**  
425-742-4216

**Bill Johnson**  
206-300-2440

**Darlene Johnston**  
425-673-5168

**Caryl Klingensmith**  
425-775-0478

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

# June 2016

1  
Al-Anon Mtg.  
7:00pm

2  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Girl Scouts  
6:00pm—8:00pm

3  
Girl Scouts  
5:00pm—8:00pm

4  
Cedar Christian  
School Car Wash  
9:00am-1:00pm  
Richer, Fuller Life  
10:00am - Noon

5  
Worship  
10:15am  
Comm. Table  
prep  
4:00pm-7:00pm

6  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Ruth/Miriam Circle  
2:00pm-4:00pm  
Comm. Table  
5:30pm-8:00pm  
Facilities Committee  
6:45pm (bldg. 3)

7  
Comm. Table  
clean up  
7:00am—12:00pm

8  
Foodie Book  
Group  
6:30pm-8:30pm  
Al-Anon Mtg.  
7:00pm

9  
Care & Concern  
10:00am-Noon  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Girl Scouts  
6:00pm—8:00pm

10  
**SMOKEY  
POINT  
REST STOP**  
*beginning  
at 2:00pm*

11  
**SMOKEY  
POINT  
REST STOP**

12  
Worship  
10:15am  
Comm. Table  
prep  
4:00pm-7:00pm  
**SMOKEY  
POINT  
REST STOP**

13  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
**SMOKEY  
POINT  
REST STOP**  
*ending  
at 2:00pm*  
Sue's Bible Study  
2:00pm-4:00pm  
Comm. Table  
5:30pm-8:00pm  
Finance Committee  
7:00pm (bldg. 3)

14  
Comm. Table  
clean up  
7:00am—12:00pm

15  
Al-Anon Mtg.  
7:00pm

16  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Girl Scouts  
6:00pm—8:00pm

17  
Girl Scouts  
5:00pm—8:00pm

18

19  
Worship  
10:15am  
**Father's Day  
BBQ**  
Comm. Table  
prep  
4:00pm-7:00pm

20  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Comm. Table  
5:30pm-8:00pm  
Council meeting  
7:00pm-9:00pm

21  
Comm. Table  
clean up  
7:00am—12:00pm  
Comm. Table  
Team meeting  
11:00am-1:00pm

22  
Al-Anon Mtg.  
7:00pm

23  
**Newsletter  
Deadline**  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Girl Scouts  
6:00pm—8:00pm

24

25  
Men's Fellowship  
8:00am—10:00am

26  
Worship  
10:15am  
Comm. Table  
prep  
4:00pm-7:00pm

27  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Sue's Bible Study  
2:00pm-4:00pm  
Comm. Table  
5:30pm-8:00pm

28  
Comm. Table  
clean up  
7:00am—12:00pm

29  
Al-Anon Mtg.  
7:00pm

30  
Comm. Table  
Tutoring  
10:00am-5:00pm  
Girl Scouts  
6:00pm—8:00pm

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6 - Matthew Boehm Shane Klingensmith	20 - Jean Leavens
8 - Mary Massey	21 - Mike Klingensmith
12 - Marlene Helms	22 - Anna Molitor
14 - Cole Anstice	28 - Dorthy Johannes
	30 - Jeff Molitor

### FRED MEYER Community Rewards Program

Do you have a Fred Meyer Community Rewards Card? Bethesda is registered in their community rewards program and you can help us raise funds.

Go to <http://fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4>

Click on "Link your Rewards Card Now"

Log in to your account

search for 92255 (or type in Bethesda). Choose Bethesda Lutheran Church



## Bethesda Community Services

### June Fundraiser

Bethesda Community Services provides people with help in many ways. It might be with a payment for utilities or for gas to help someone get to work. The assistance is paid directly to the business.

Bethesda Community Services will be hosting the Interstate 5 rest stop at Smokey Point (northbound) **beginning at 2:00pm Friday, June 10th**. Our shift will continue until 2:00pm on Monday, June 13th. Hosts will be scheduled by Cliff Pearson. Each shift lasts 4 hours. To sign up to host a shift or two or for more information contact Cliff Pearson at 425-275-3590.

Donations of: cookies, coffee, sugar, hot chocolate, cups, napkins and powdered creamer are needed and appreciated. You can drop off your donations in the church office. This is the largest fundraiser of the year for BCS so please plan to help.



Several years ago, Elizabeth Sherrill, a contributor to Guideposts, wrote of traveling through Germany. In one of the small towns she observed a natural stream of water falling down a hillside into a village. The townsfolk had somehow attached a pipe and faucet to the stream, so that the water poured into a basin that was used by people and animals as a fresh water source. The basin was filled to overflowing and water constantly fell back into the stream bed and went along its merry way. At first Ms. Sherrill thought, "What a waste! They should turn the tap off, and save the water." But then she reminded herself that the water was a natural flowing stream, and turning the tap off wouldn't save anything. The water was going to continue to flow regardless.

I like the little lesson in stewardship that story tells. God supplies us with plenty, but our fear of wasting our resources makes us hesitant to use them to their best advantage in His service. We all realize that our church has continual needs that we must meet, both spiritual and material.

We pay our bills as a church just as we must do in our personal lives. Our donations, though, often do not cover our needs, and I sometimes feel it is because we fear that we will not have enough if we give away too much.

Good stewardship requires that we be realistic with the gifts we have been given; we must meet our daily needs, and know how much we can donate to various causes without putting ourselves into a position of debt or exhaustion. I speak of exhaustion because half of good stewardship involves good use of time and the specific gifts the Lord has instilled in us as talents to be shared. Stewardship involves not "hiding our lights under a bushel" to use a Biblical phrase. Someone once defined stewardship as "everything I do after I say I believe". Let us not be afraid to believe and do!

May God bless us with talents and discernment to use our resources as He makes needs known.

#### **FROM OUR COUNCIL SECRETARY**

Hi All,

I am writing to update you on the notebook containing the minutes in the Fellowship Hall. Seems someone really likes it and purloined the most current contents. I had no sooner put in the last few months notes (minutes, committee reports, treasurer reports, and other items, when someone took all of them! So, to get around that, I will now put a shortened version of the notes in the newsletter.

So, the news from last month is Jean's hours have changed so she works from Monday through Thursday now, with Fridays off. We are in need of a STRONG stewardship program, but haven't had enough volunteers to make that work. Lifeline wanted to use the facilities again, along with Jean without any compensation, so the council turned them down. All committees turned in reports. Those were always included in the notebook, but not here. Old business- the lending library is almost ready and that is all for the month of March (the rest already happened so I won't go into it, new members and all) other than to welcome them!

The news from the council is we are in the red \$3,322.84. Thea proposed a Thrivent Action Team to do something to aid in the costs of the paper products. Good Luck to you and be sure to ask for help Thea! We read the reports from the various committees so be sure to ask them how their committees are doing. The Lending Library is almost ready to open. There will be a car wash here June 4th, but it is being done by the school that sends the helpers to Monday Night Dinners. They are raising funds for team uniforms. Come and support them please. That is about the gist of it all. Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask council members. Cliff and Caryl missed this one, but everyone else was present.

This will be how I do the updates from now on as someone didn't want the information in the blue book and it was lots of my own ink printing out copies, time to put them in the proper places and keep it current, so now I will just email Jean and she will add it to the newsletter. I am sorry it won't contain the committee reports or the treasurer's report, but if I hear from enough of you, I could possibly put those in the notebook, even though they seem to be missing as well.

Take care and have a wonderful month,  
till next time,  
Katherine, Council Secretary

### ~~SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT~~

Considering our church building is the place where we choose to worship, I believe Bethesda Lutheran Church is a HOME with each member an integral part of the Church Family.

It is hard to balance taking care of ourselves with taking care of our responsibilities, but we all have the obligation to care for our Church Family. It is essential to the well-being of all that we do take care of ourselves, filling our own wells with water so that we have something to offer at the end of the day to each other.

It is easy to get caught up in the demands of Church Home life because the demands never stop. There is always one more thing you can do, another meeting, another tear-stained face that needs a hug, a person who needs a hand, or a nourishing bowl of soup. If you don't set some boundaries, you will find yourself on an endless journey of doing for others. Just like the flight attendant who instructs you to put on your own oxygen face mask first so you can take care of others.

This analogy is in regards to taking care of the Church Family first. When the Church Family agrees and votes on a budget, when they hire a pastor, or elect a council, they are placing their faith in these Family members to care for them and the Home. They are trusting (just as a children trust their parents), that all decisions made are for the highest good of all, not just the needs of a few....that HOME will always be there with doors wide open for them. They are safe.

We all need to be careful how we honor our commitments to God and to each other.

When trust is broken it causes needless hurt and we should care about this.

When one of us suffers or leaves to take their disillusionment elsewhere, the whole family suffers.

We may not always agree, but we must respect a viewpoint other than our own and act accordingly.

God's will is ALWAYS for our highest good. Sometimes this is a resounding NO to our requests: only HE knows the whole story, only He sees the whole picture.

I do believe HE wants us to honor commitments and lead by example, particularly those who are chosen by the Church Family. Persons in positions of trust need to be beyond reproach. If God wants it to happen, it will. Are we assisting or enabling?

Maybe we just need to get out of HIS way and watch for the miracle.

Peace and Blessings~~~  
Mickey

## FORTH AND BACK

*You can't come back if you haven't gone forth*

By Susan Rasmussen

### God Allows Do-overs

Digging around in my purse the other day, I found a fortune from the cookie I had for dessert at a Chinese restaurant some time ago. It read, "If you never change your mind about something, why do you have one?" Perhaps a bit snooty, but more than a bit of truth there. Most fortune cookies are less "predictions" and more "wise sayings", and this saying struck a note with me. I remember reading something years ago that said that if a person does not change their mind about at least one idea over the course of a year, that person has ceased to grow. We can fall into the trap of allowing ourselves to become set in our ways, judgmental, self-righteous, and, eventually, unforgiving.

One of my favorite movies is "Hoosiers"; based on a true story about an undesirable coach who is given the chance to redeem himself by coaching a high school basketball team in rural Indiana. It's a gripping and uplifting story that has me on the edge of my chair no matter how often I watch it. If you have not seen it, I'll bring it over if you'll make the popcorn!

As I say, I have watched this movie a number of times, but it wasn't until a couple of years ago that it dawned on me that the coach wasn't the only person given a second chance. If you do ever get to see the show, notice how many folks are called upon to get or give another chance to someone. This says so much to me about the ability to view from another angle and change my mind.

It's Biblical, you know, this idea of changing one's mind. Over and over, God's people are faithless, then forgiven to go try again. God even gave Himself a do-over when he destroyed the Earth with a flood, and began again with Noah and his sons (Genesis 6, 7 & 8)! The continual falling away, repentance and forgiveness is the basis for all our dealings with God and Christ from the beginning to this day. If we are gathered back into God's fold again and again after our goof-ups, should we not use the same example in our dealings with each other? Each time we pray The Lord's Prayer, we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others. What if we don't forgive, or forgive only grudgingly? Is this what we are to expect from God? Ummm...

In Matthew 18:21-22, Peter and Jesus have a conversation about how often we are to forgive. Peter suggests seven times, as that was more than rabbinical expectations, but he is told by the Lord, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy TIMES seven." In other words, don't count the times just do it. We all, every one of us, can use all the do-overs we can get, and then some. May God continue to bless us with agile minds that occasionally see another's point of view. Changing our minds is a blessing to be counted.

### Something Real to Think About

God calls us to love God above all else, and to love our neighbors at least as much as we love ourselves. Throughout our lives, God shapes and molds us into who God intends for us to be. The New Testament calls Jesus the "pioneer and perfecter" of our faith. God prepares us and forms us into the image of Christ; this is who we are as church.

Here, again, is the study from the Barna group on Actions and Attitudes that are like Jesus, and like the Pharisees, and how contemporary people who claim the name of Christian self-identify. Jesus is near to God's heart and the One in whom God is well-pleased.

Be who God calls you to be. God equips and empowers you to answer God's call to be like Jesus. So—be like Jesus.

The Barna research group did a nationwide study of self-identified Christians with the goal to determine whether Christians have the actions and attitude of Jesus as they interact with others or if they are more akin to the beliefs and behaviors of Pharisees, the self-righteous sect of religious leaders described in the New Testament. You remember the Pharisees, don't you? These men attempted repeatedly to obstruct and derail Jesus' ministry; they attempted to block the Word of God from reaching those to whom Jesus was called to minister.

In order to assess these beliefs and attitude, Barna researchers presented a series of 20 agree-or-disagree statements. Five actions and five attitudes that seem to best encapsulate the actions and attitudes of Jesus Christ during his ministry on earth. The researchers did the same for the Pharisees (ten total statements, five reflecting behaviors and five examining attitudes).

David Kinnaman, president of Barna Group, directed the study. He commented on the creation of a "Christ-like" scale: "Our intent is to create some new discussion about the intangible aspects of following and representing Jesus. Obviously, survey research, by itself, cannot fully measure someone's 'Christ-likeness' or 'Pharisee-likeness.' But the study is meant to identify baseline qualities of Jesus, like empathy, love, and a desire to share faith with others—or the resistance to such ideals in the form of self-focused hypocrisy. The statements are based on the biblical record given in the Gospels and in the Epistles and our team worked closely with a leading pastor to develop the survey questions."

To flesh out the objectives of the study, a nationwide, representative sample of Christians was asked to respond to 20 statements. They could rate their agreement on a four-point scale. The ten research statements used to examine **Christ-likeness** include the following:

***Actions like Jesus:***

- I listen to others to learn their story before telling them about my faith.
- In recent years, I have influenced multiple people to consider following Christ.
- I regularly choose to have meals with people with very different faith or morals from me.
- I try to discover the needs of non-Christians rather than waiting for them to come to me.
- I am personally spending time with non-believers to help them follow Jesus.

***Attitudes like Jesus:***

- I see God-given value in every person, regardless of their past or present condition.
- I believe God is for everyone.
- I see God working in people's lives, even when they are not following him.
- It is more important to help people know God is for them than to make sure they know they are sinners.
- I feel compassion for people who are not following God and doing immoral things.

The ten statements used to assess self-righteousness (like the **Pharisees**), included the following research items:

***Self-Righteous Actions:***

- I tell others the most important thing in my life is following God's rules.
- I don't talk about my sins or struggles. That's between me and God.
- I try to avoid spending time with people who are openly gay or lesbian.
- I like to point out those who do not have the right theology or doctrine.
- I prefer to serve people who attend my church rather than those outside the church.

### *Self-Righteous Attitudes:*

- I find it hard to be friends with people who seem to constantly do the wrong things.
- It's not my responsibility to help people who won't help themselves.
- I feel grateful to be a Christian when I see other people's failures and flaws.
- I believe we should stand against those who are opposed to Christian values.
- People who follow God's rules are better than those who do not.

Using these 20 questions as the basis of analysis, the researchers created an aggregate score for each individual and placed those results into one of four categories, or quadrants. The four categories include:

- Christ-like in action and attitude
- Christ-like in action, but not in attitude
- Christ-like in attitude, but not action
- Christ-like in neither

The findings reveal that most self-identified Christians in the U.S. are characterized by having the attitudes and actions researchers identified as Pharisaical. Just over half of the nation's Christians—using the broadest definition of those who call themselves Christians—qualify for this category (51%). They tend to have attitudes and actions that are characterized by self-righteousness.

On the other end of the spectrum, 14% of today's self-identified Christians—just one out of every seven Christians—seem to represent the actions and attitudes Barna researchers found to be consistent with those of Jesus.

In the middle are those who have some mix of action and attitude. About one-fifth of Christians are Christ-like in attitude, but often represent Pharisaical actions (21%). Another 14% of respondents tend to be defined as Christ-like in action, but seem to be motivated by self-righteous or hypocritical attitudes.

Don't buy into claims that the church exists for the church. In John 3:16, we read that Jesus died for the *kosmos*—usually translated as “world” but obviously the Greek word from which we get our English word “cosmos”. Jesus died for the universe, not for any particular denomination or sect, not for any select group of people, but for the *universe*. Since Jesus has died for the sake of the entire universe, God calls us to serve those for whom he has died. If you're worried about being tired or spent, God will take care of us as we do the work to which we are called. When my grandpa Anderson came in from working in the fields, Grandma was there to see that he had food and drink. God will take care of us in the same way, when we come in from working in the fields, with the body and blood of our Lord. Jesus invites us to give all our burdens to him, and he will carry them for us. And so we are equipped to witness through service to the world. If we could reach the entire universe, we would.

Be like Jesus. See his face in everyone you meet and know that when you minister to that person, however you do it, however you show God's love and compassion to another human being, you are ministering to our Lord and Savior.

Be like Jesus.

May God's peace be with you all,

Pastor Anderson

<https://www.barna.org/faith-spirituality/619-are-christians-more-like-jesus-or-more-like-the-pharisees#.VzSzgvrKUI>