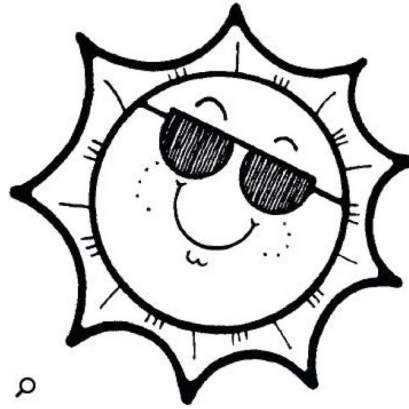


Coming This Month...

August- 9 Deacons and Trustee Meeting

11 WMF Meeting

28 Church Picnic



Church Picnic

Bethany Free Lutheran Church
451 34th St.
Astoria, OR 97103

Do you like me?

At the risk of sounding like my grandparents I need to make a statement. Life is very different today, then when I grew up! I would hear this multiple times as a youth, and my response often was an eye roll, and a dismissive attitude toward the person that reminded me of just how much things are different. Normally it would always be worse today than a generation ago. However, not all things today are worse off. Today it is expected to get at least 200,000 miles from a vehicle. In the 70's if you had an old car with 85,000 miles on it, you realized that you were driving on borrowed time. Today most people can take their car to a parts store and have them plug in a machine to diagnose the majority of car issues related to a check engine light all for free. Back in the day you needed to have a certain level of training and plenty of tools in order to know why a car wasn't running correctly. For those old enough to remember driving a car on bias-ply tires, the change to radial tires without inner tubes is a night and day difference as well. Not all change is bad, nor is everything better that was back in the day.

However, some things are very different, and worse off today. With the development of social media and the fact that most teenagers all have powerful phones equipped with instant access to the internet, coupled with high end cameras built right into their phone- seemingly everyone posts and receives pictures, updates, and messages from friends, family, enemies, and what has become known as social media influencers on a regular basis.

Many people (especially 20 somethings and younger) constantly look to their phones for personal validation, social acceptance, and "friends." The more likes, tweets, pics, thumbs up, and comments that you can generate on various social media platforms the better. People have even died looking for the perfect screen shot and caption. Besides people often glued to their phones which sometimes causes accidents, some have fallen to their deaths, or killed others trying to get that amazing picture that they know will generate a buzz on whatever social media app they use.

All of us want to be liked, and have friends. The reality is that we won't be liked by everyone, nor should we even try. In fact, we should not be surprised to find that if we truly embrace our faith, we will be hated by many. Jesus had some hard things to say regarding this truth in the Gospel of John chapter 15 verses 18-21:

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. ²¹ But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

There is nothing wrong with posting stuff on social media. If you find pleasure making tweets, snaps, posts, or some other social media tag, have at it. However, be mindful of the trap that easily can overtake many which is the powerful desire to be liked. If you really want to follow in the steps of Jesus you will be hated and despised by many, regardless of the number of cools pics you post on social media. We are children of God, and call Jesus our brother, so let's not worry about being friends of the world!

Pastor Rich

Worship With Us

8:45 A.M. Glad Tidings Radio 1370 A.M.

9:40 A.M. Adult/ Youth Sunday School (all ages welcome)

11:00 a.m. Worship Services

Live Stream

We live stream our 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship services on Facebook Live (Bethany Free Lutheran Church) Links can also be found on our website: bethanyfree.com

Sermons after the live can also be found on our YouTube

Bethany Free Lutheran, Astoria, Oregon

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRy9Al_SiJgkGJcnVsJlZwQ

Men's Breakfast



Men's breakfast and prayer will be August 6th at 8:00 A.M. at the church. If you would like to help with cooking that will start at 7:15 A.M.

Men's breakfast will be the 1st Saturday of each month.

Church Council Meeting

Board of Deacons and Trustees will be meeting Tuesday August 9th at 6:00 P.M.

WMF Meeting

Women's Missionary Federation (WMF)

Thursday August 11th, at 11:00 A.M. Everyone is asked to bring sack lunch, all ladies are welcome.



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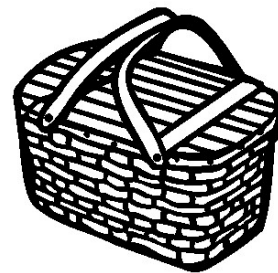
Worship Service and Picnic

Our annual outdoor worship service and picnic is Sunday August 28th at 11:00

A.M. Bring your bathing suits and

beach toys and join us at Cullaby Lake County Park located off U.S. Highway 101 between Astoria and Seaside.

Hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks will be provided. You are encouraged to bring a salad, chips, veggies or desserts, or any other dishes to share.



Brown Bag Ministry

Every Tuesday at 1:30 P.M. Each week our Brown Bag Ministry prepares as many as 100 or more brown bag lunches that are distributed to the homeless by local nonprofits and individuals. Each lunch is created to feed the body and share the good news of God's love and salvation through Jesus. Join us in packing the bags.

Prayer Chain

A reorganizing of the prayer chain is going on, if you would like to be involved contact the church (503-325-2925) or Linda Takalo (503-458-6654)