

VBS

Emerald Crossing

Psalm 23rd "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want..."

When: June 24,25 & 26

Time: 1-4 PM

Ages: PreK-5th grade

Community Event: June 26 4-6pm

VBS will culminate with a small program put on by the attendees, and a neighborhood block party style barbecue beginning at 4:00 pm.

All are welcome-Feel free to invite friends!

Volunteer help is welcome

You can register on the link at bethanyfree.com or use the QR code.



please sign up on the bulletin board or reach out to Melissa Reid or Tami Stelzig.



Worship With Us

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

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

11:00 A.M. Worship Services

Check Us Out

YouTube: @bethanyfreelutheranastoria3012

Instagram: www.instagram.com/bethanylutheranafc/

Bethany Website: www.bethanyfree.com

Subsplash: Bethany church Astoria, on your mobile device app.

Facebook: Bethany Free Lutheran

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am-10:30am

Kindergarten- Adults

Learning God's Word

Growing in Faith Transforming lives



Men's Prayer Breakfast

June 6th, 8:00 A.M. Cooking starts around 7:30am if you would like to help. We would love to have more men join us.



Bethany Sewing Ministry

The ladies of Bethany will be meeting, June 4, 18, 25 at 10am, downstairs at Bethany. All sewing skills are welcome or if you want to bring you other hand work and just fellowship. A lunch is provided.

They are always more than glad for any donations of fabric. Just drop by on one of the sewing days or contact the church and arrangements can be made.

Brown Bag Ministry

Every Wednesday at 11:00 am, we have our weekly Brown Bag Ministry which prepares brown bag lunches that are distributed in the community, we are always grateful for volunteers.



WMF Meeting



Women's Missionary Federation will meet, Thursday, June 11, 11am at the Bethany. All Ladies are Welcome, bring a lunch, dessert is provided.

Deacons & Trustees Meeting

Deacons & Trustees will meet here at Bethany, Tuesday June 9th, 6pm.

Art/Craft Meetup

Art meetup will be taking a break and will resume in September.

Raffle We are raffling off 2 patriotic quilts; proceeds will go towards incidental needs at the Bethany Annex. #1 with a white striped backing is 52"x66" and #2 with a blue backing is 57"x66". They will be on display at church, chances are \$5 each, drawing will be Sunday, June 28th.



Baby Bottle CAMPAIGN

Collecting Mother's Day to Father's Day



Baby Bottle Drive Coast Pregnancy Center is doing their annual fundraising drive with baby bottles again. There are baby bottles in the back of the church that can be filled

with your loose change, or money you have that you would like to donate. The collection time is from Mother's Day to Father's Day. Take a bottle home, and once it is filled, or Father's Day comes, you can return the bottle to the church, and we will take the bottles to the Clinic.

Baccalaureate Astoria High School's Baccalaureate will be Wednesday June 3rd at Astoria High School auditorium at 6:30pm

Sign Up Sheets Don't forget to check out the sign up sheets on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary.

New Bible Study A new bible study will be starting June 16 and then will follow on the next June 23, 30, 7pm at the parsonage called Tuesday Nights Together (TNT).



Upcoming Dates

Annual Picnic will be August 2nd at Cullaby Lake, South Shelter.



Our Joy Is What We Look Forward To

As I was looking through some of the Psalms this morning for a possible future sermon series, my eyes were drawn to Psalm 30. The title of this psalm is "Joy Comes with the Morning." This is a psalm written by David. Scholars believe David wrote this psalm after God punished him and his country for the pride and arrogance of David taking a count of those able to fight and make war. The punishment resulted in 70,000 men's death. To put that number into perspective, the total death toll of the American military in the entire Vietnam war was a little over 58,000 deaths. That is a staggering amount of lost lives resulting from what we often consider to be minor sins of pride and arrogance. At least some of the reason God was so angry was that David took pride in his own power and strength instead of keeping his trust in the Lord's strength. One must wonder what allowed David to carry on and be an effective leader after making such a horrible lapse in judgement.

What David seemed to understand so well was the fact that the future reward of followers of God would far outweigh the present circumstances and loss that we might encounter. We may right now be experiencing a level of suffering and pain that feels crushing and fatal. Yet, there is a hope for tomorrow of those trusting in the Lord that all things will be made right. Look at the beginning of this Psalm:

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit. (Ps. 30:1-3)

David writes of feeling dead and helpless, yet in the midst of his pain, the Lord brings healing and help.

Even though David was directly responsible for an extreme loss of life, he finds strength to do something odd, sing. What allowed David to sing you might wonder? David

understood that God's anger would not last, but that which does last would be God's favor. As a result, David would suffer through the consequences of his actions and weep at night. But there is a future. In the morning, on a new day he would find joy. Verses 4-5 tell us this:

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

I believe it is right and good to apply this same understanding of future hope to all Christians now. Today and perhaps even for most of our lives we may experience pain, suffering, and loss. But there is a future we have as followers of Jesus that will make our current sufferings not worthy of comparison. The Apostle Paul wrote of this concept to the church in Rome, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us" (Rom 8:18).

I don't want to minimize people's afflictions in this life. Some today feel like they are moving from one broken state to the next. Disease, hardships, loss, and death sometimes "dog pile" on to people. Instead of complaining to others, or shaking our fists at God over the state of our life, we should turn our attention to the Lord and praise him as David did. If you can't sing, talk, pray to the Lord. Pour out your heart to the Lord, for He hears you, and promises to one day restore all who have faith in Jesus to complete perfection. For as David says in verse 11, "You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness."

Pastor Rich Carr