

A Letter of Welcome

Michael J. Fossen, Pastor

There are many people walking together in faith in Christ's church at Bethesda. We are from many families and places. We have various religious backgrounds and life experiences. Baptized into Christ and gathered together here, we are one family in Christ with one another and Christians all over the world. Bethesda Lutheran Church is the mission outpost where we worship, serve and reach out, inviting and encouraging others to share in good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus' love changes the world and has changed our lives. This is a place where we grow in our faith journey with the Lord and one another.

It is our prayer that in becoming an integral part of Bethesda, you experience a sense of community and belonging; that you experience joy and hope in Christ and the difference he has made for you. It is this Christ-centered love that calls us together, and sends us forward in serving.

Joining with our Lutheran Sisters and Brothers, we are:

Marked with the cross of Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit, we are claimed,
gathered and sent for the sake of the world.

Claimed by God's grace for the sake of the world, we are a new creation through
God's living Word by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gathered for the sake of the world we will live among God's faithful people, hear
God's Word and share in Christ's supper.

Sent by God's grace for the sake of the world we will proclaim the good news of
God in Christ through word and deed, serve all people following the
example of our Lord Jesus, and strive for justice and peace in all the world. ~

*Mission Statement of the ELCA. Bethesda is a member of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*