

Bethany Lutheran Church

4644 Clark Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90808

www.bethanylutheran.org

(562) 421-4711

6th SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPANY + + + FEBRUARY 13, 2022

+ *God Gathers Us In His Presence* +

PRELUDE: “St. Anne” Fuge from the Prelude and Fugue in Eb Major, BWV 522

~ by J. S. Bach

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: “O Day of Rest and Gladness” LSB 906



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 This day at earth's cre - a - tion The light first had its birth;
3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, His Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear;
△ 4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, We walk the pil - grim way,



O balm of care and sad - ness, Most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
This day for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
His liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, Through bread and wine made near.
At length our rest at - tain - ing, Our end - less Sab - bath day.



This day the high and low - ly, Through a - ges joined to bless,
This day our Lord vic - to - rious The Spir - it sent from heav'n,
We jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, Re - newed with heav'n - ly might,
We sing to Thee our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



Sing, “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” The tri - une God con - fess.
And thus this day most glo - rious A three - fold light was giv'n.
From grace more grace re - ceiv - ing, On this blest day of light.
The Church her voice up - rais - es To Thee, blest Three in One.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

IN ALL THINGS LITANY: (Based on Colossians 1:15-20)

Leader: Jesus is the image of the invisible God.

People: All things were created by Him and for Him.

Leader: In Him all things hold together.

People: He is the head of the body, the church.

Leader: God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Christ.

People: and to reconcile all things to Himself.

Leader: All things, in heaven and on earth.

People: and to provide peace in all things through Jesus blood.

+ *God Gives Us the Gift of His Word* +

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 17:5-8

“This is what the LORD says:

Cursed is the person who trusts humans,
who makes flesh and blood his strength
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

He will be like a bush in the wilderness.

He will not see when something good comes.

He will live in the dry places in the desert,
in a salty land where no one can live.

Blessed is the person who trusts the LORD.

The LORD will be his confidence.

He will be like a tree that is planted by water.

It will send its roots down to a stream.

It will not be afraid in the heat of summer.

Its leaves will turn green.

It will not be anxious during droughts.

It will not stop producing fruit. – GW®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *1 Corinthians 15:12-20*

If we have told you that Christ has been brought back to life, how can some of you say that coming back from the dead is impossible? If the dead can't be brought back to life, then Christ hasn't come back to life. If Christ hasn't come back to life, our message has no meaning and your faith also has no meaning. In addition, we are obviously witnesses who lied about God because we testified that He brought Christ back to life. But if it's true that the dead don't come back to life, then God didn't bring Christ back to life. Certainly, if the dead don't come back to life, then Christ hasn't come back to life either. If Christ hasn't come back to life, your faith is worthless and sin still has you in its power. Then those who have died as believers in Christ no longer exist. If Christ is our hope in this life only, we deserve more pity than any other people.

But now Christ has come back from the dead. He is the very first person of those who have died to come back to life. – GW®

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 6:17-26*

Jesus came down from the mountain with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of His disciples and many other people were there. They had come from all over Judea, Jerusalem, and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon. They wanted to hear Him and be cured of their diseases. Those who were tormented by evil spirits were cured. The entire crowd was trying to touch Him because power was coming from Him and curing all of them.

Jesus looked at His disciples and said,

“Blessed are those who are poor.

God's kingdom is theirs.

Blessed are those who are hungry.

They will be satisfied.

Blessed are those who are crying.

They will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you, avoid you,
insult you, and slander you

because you are committed to the Son of Man.

Rejoice then, and be very happy!

You have a great reward in heaven.
That's the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

“But how horrible it will be for those who are rich.
They have had their comfort.
How horrible it will be for those who are well-fed.
They will be hungry.
How horrible it will be for those who are laughing.
They will mourn and cry.
How horrible it will be for you
when everyone says nice things about you.
That's the way their ancestors treated the false prophets. – GW®

SERMON HYMN: *“I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus”* LSB 729



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,
3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

- 5 I am trusting Thee for power;
Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
Must prevail.
- 6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.

MESSAGE



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest-ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill;
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
Thou by all wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

NICENE CREED: (* *catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy *catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord:
People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For *(names of synodical and district presidents)*, for all pastors in Christ,
for all servants of the Church, and for all the people,
let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For *(name of president or monarch)*, for all public servants,
for the government and those who protect us,
that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed,
let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health,
and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who bring offerings,
those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil,
those who sing, and all the people here present
who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy,
let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth,
and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need,
let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For ... *(additional bids for prayer)* ... let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT FOR PEACE:

Leader: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Leader: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

+ *We Give Thanks for God's Word* +

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maralee at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

+ *The Service of Holy Communion* +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood an You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

+ *God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service* +

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN:**“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”****LSB 919**

1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us with Your grace
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us with Your Word,
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us, pre - cious Light;
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us, boun - teous Lord;



That Sa - tan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.
And thus now and here - af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.
Your truth di - rect and keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.
Let us in grace and wis - dom Grow dai - ly through Your Word.

5 Abide with Your protection
Among us, Lord, our strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
Among us with Your love;
Grant steadfastness and help us
To reach our home above.

POSTLUDE: “Fugue sur le Thème du Carillon des Heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons, op. 12”

~ by Maurice Duruflé

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“O Day of Rest and Gladness” LSB 906

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, sts. 1-2, alt.; Charles P. Price, 1920-99, st. 3;

The Hymnal 1982, st. 4. Tune: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle*, Württemberg, 1784;setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text: (sts.1-2) and music: Public domain.

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“I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus” LSB 729

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79. Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77. Text and music: Public domain.

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” LSB 394

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93.

Text and music: Public domain.

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus” LSB 919

Text: Josua Stegmann; tr. August Crull. Tune: Melchior Vulpius; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941.

Text and music: Public domain.

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THE BETHANY BLUEPRINT

Having been called to Faith in Christ, moved by the love of God the Father and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the members of Bethany Lutheran Church are committed to:

Worshipping Faithfully (Acts 2:42, 46)
Forming Spiritually (Colossians 1:10-14)
Serving Passionately (Ephesians 2:10)
Giving Proportionately (Luke 21:1-4)
Sharing Intentionally (Matthew 28:19-20)

WEEKLY CHIMES

THE PARISH LIFE OF BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808
562-421-4711
www.bethanylutheran.org

**WEEK OF
FEBRUARY 13 – 20, 2022**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Claude Potter	Doug Crawford	Phyllis Lee	Merlyn Wagner
Charlene Mitchell	Heidi Moyer-Miser	Grace Hennings	
Kathy Jones	John Fredrickson	Bill Hutchinson	Ron Miner
Mary Mendez	Levi Rose	Jean Barton	Evelyn Rucks

WORSHIPING FAITHFULLY: Hebrews 10:25

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY'S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN...

You can hear them as podcasts on our website www.bethanylutheran.org.

THE SAME TEXT WILL BE EXPLORED AT ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SITES:

Bethany Lutheran in Long Beach, Holy Cross in Cypress; and of course on the Live Streamed via our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/BethanyLutheranLongBeach> at Bethany's 9:30AM Worship Service.

LUKE IN LENT

This season there will be no midweek Lenten worship services. However, this Lenten Season, we will walk the *Via Dolorosa* (that is "The Way of Suffering") with the One who is The Way to Life, The Way of Life and The Living Way itself, Jesus Christ. We will be using the *Living Way Bible Study* materials that correspond to the Historic Luke readings in the season of Lent.

We meet at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Cypress.

Need a copy of the week's lesson...

- For a hard print copy of the lessons, you may pick it up in the church office at Bethany.
- For an electronic copy, please email Cindy Morrison at cmorrison@bethanylutheran.org.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU:

To the members and congregation of Bethany,

For the past two decades, we have been blessed to be a part of Bethany Lutheran Church. Bethany has graciously opened its doors to us and supported the ministry of the late Pastor Paul Jacob. Pastor Paul fought a long and hard battle against cancer for the past three years. However, God made sure that he was not alone in his journey, as numerous members gave their support every step of the way— whether it was providing regular rides to City of Hope and UCSD for chemo and radiation treatments, gifting him with a beautiful handmade quilt, or singing Christmas songs and reading scriptures to him during his last days in the hospital. Everything meant so much to Pastor Paul and he loved Bethany with his entire heart.

As his wife and daughter speaking, we both wanted to express our gratitude to Bethany for all of their support. We are touched by the overwhelming comfort and love showered upon us. The congregation at Bethany has gone above and beyond to help us through this time of great loss. We wanted to say thank you so much for raising funds to help cover funeral expenses, organizing the memorial and funeral service, and providing delicious meals for us. We especially wanted to convey our thanks to Pastor Kritzer and the Mission India Team for the immense support given all these past years up to now. Lastly, we wanted to give a heartfelt thanks to everyone for their prayers. ~ Elizabeth and Eugenia

FORMING SPIRITUALLY: Colossians 1:10-14



COUCH CONVERSATIONS: Take some time this week with your family, or on your own to have some conversations about our text and theme for worship. Perhaps you can do this on the couch right after the last song or later around the dinner table. You could even use them to have conversations in the car. We hope that these conversations will help you as you continue to be formed spiritually.

Luke 6:17-26

The sayings of Jesus found in our text today are called beatitudes. A similar list is found in Matthew 5. The name beatitude comes from the Latin word “blessed” and these blessings of Jesus are not given to those who strive to be poor, are hungry, weep, or excluded. These blessings show the goodness of God even when difficult things happen.

- What are some of the blessings that God has given you?
- Share about a time when something that didn’t seem like much of a blessing became one.
- Perhaps you have heard the phrase, “*Blessed, to be a blessing.*” How might this be true?
- How have others been a blessing to you in the past?



THEOLOGY ON TAP: Season 4 of the Theology On Tap Podcast with Pastor Seth, Pastor Kevin, Pastor Kyle, Pastor Mark and Kayleigh is out now! Get it wherever you get your podcasts including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Anchor.fm. This season the team tackles the idea of how to interpret the Bible and why many people struggle when doing it. So, grab yourself a cold beer, warm glass of milk, hot cup of tea, bottle of water, and pull up a chair and join us for Theology On Tap, and get ready for a lively discussion of theology, spirituality and sharing life together.

WELCOME TO THE BIBLE QUIZ

The answers to these questions will be found in next week's Sunday Chimes, along with 3 new questions. See how many questions you and your family can answer.

1. In Psalms the righteous person is like a tree planted next to _____.
2. St. Paul makes it clear that without the resurrection of Jesus our faith is in _____.
3. The "Blessed are you ..." sayings by Jesus are called the _____.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S BIBLE QUIZ

1. Isaiah saw the LORD on His throne surrounded by angles called _____?

Answer: Seraphim. ~ Isaiah 6:1-8

2. Speaking in _____ is a gift given by the Holy Spirit to the early Church.

Answer: Tongues. ~ 1 Corinthians 14:11-12

3. Simon Peter was a fisherman, and Jesus turned him into a fisher of _____.

Answer: Men. ~ Luke 5:10

SERVING PASSIONATELY: Ephesians 2:10

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER OPPORTUNITIES - FEBRUARY & MARCH DATES:



I am interested in knowing which youth wish to acolyte for Sunday Worship services. Possible for 4th graders on up. Boys and girls welcome. Service times are 8:00 & 9:30AM. Training is available if you will be a first time acolyte. If you have any questions concerning this ministry opportunity, please contact me at the email or phone number listed below. **Crucifer & Acolyte Sign Ups for February are Now Open.** Please prayerfully consider this service opportunity and sign up.

~ Karl Fink – DCE kfink@bethanvlutheran.org 562.421.4711, ext. 19




I love my church family!

FRIENDSHIP GROUP: You are invited to join us for Friendship Group on Wednesday, February 16th at 11:30 AM in the Parish Lounge. Just bring your lunch, as coffee and dessert will be provided. Karl Fink will have a devotion and then we will play

Bingo, a favorite and fun game. Please join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Don't be shy.

GIVING PROPORTIONATELY: Luke 21:1-4

 **SCRIP:** SCRIP and the LCMS Youth Gathering - a story yet untold... This is a Youth Gathering year. High school youth will be attending the LCMS Youth Gathering in Houston, TX from July 9 - 13, 2022. This is a great opportunity to increase Scrip sales and help support our youth! To that end - if you are NOT currently using Scrip, I would like to invite you to start today! If you are an occasional user, I would like to challenge you to increase your purchases! The hope is to raise at least \$250 to help support the youth as a whole. Your purchases would help defray the overall cost for participants and support the funding of chaperones. You would be surprised at how much can be raised just by using Scrip to purchase your groceries, gas and Amazon! AND, if many of you do that, the effect would be exponential! Please help us reach our goal! Look for the thermometer at the Scrip table to track our progress and buy Scrip today! Thanks! ~ Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator

BRIANNA ESSWEIN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNEY NEWS:



The 2022 Golf Tourney has been locked in at Lakewood Country Club for Friday, March 25. Start time is once again 1:00 PM.

Our ONLINE Registration form is NOW live! You are able to register your foursome, buy raffle tickets, purchase a guest dinner (for those not golfing), and/or let us know if you wish to do a sponsorship for the tournament!

Use the QR code to the right to register... or we will also have available paper copies of the registration form, if that is your preferred way to register. These are available in the church office.



Should you have any questions, kindly speak to any of these people on the committee: Marty Callow, Bob Newell, Phil Lopez, Craig Dean, Ted Spaseff, or Marty Platt. Feel free to contact me as well with any questions or concerns. So looking forward to being back at this event again! - Karl Fink

BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATIONS:

Beutel Scholarship Grant Applications are now being accepted for academic year 2022-2023 and are available in the Church Office. These applications are for students attending a college or university of our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in preparation for a full-time career as a pastor, teacher, deaconess, youth director, social worker, lay missionary worker, medical missionary, or parish worker. The purpose of the grant is to encourage our young people to pursue a career in church work and to give them assistance in reaching this goal. All scholarships are awarded on an annual basis. If a student needs scholarship help for the school term beginning in the fall of 2022, they must apply between January 1 and March 1 of this year. Applications are available in the Church Office for completion in a folder marked BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIPS. In order for students to be eligible, they **MUST RETURN APPLICATIONS** to the Church Office (Elder's Box) **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2022**. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Swick at (562) 714-3196.

THE 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK UP.
PICK YOURS UP TODAY IN THE PARISH LOUNGE.

PLEASE NOTE:

The 2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS have been emailed to you. Those that do not have an email address on file, will receive theirs in the U.S. mail. If you have NOT received your Contribution Statement yet, please contact Maraley Shaeffer at: mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org



FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH OF LOVE



The Bethany 5th grade Girl Scouts are organizing a Blanket Drive as part of their Bronze Award Project. They will be working with the spcaLA in Long Beach collecting clean, used blankets and towels for the shelter. Currently, the animals are on cold cement-floored kennels, and would love a warm snuggly blanket or towel to lay on to keep warm. Share your love through the whole month of February by giving a blanket or towel to help keep the animals warm. They don't care if they aren't in perfect condition or have a stain, just as long as they are clean. Here's a win-win idea... take any blankets or towels that are looking a little worn out of your cupboard... buy yourself some new items to replace the old. Then, donate your used blankets and towels by putting them in the box in the Church Narthex on Sundays, or take them to the Church Office during the week. The dogs, cats and other animals at the shelter will be so happy you did!



IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME!

Did you know Bethany has Girl Scout troops in Kinder, 2nd, 5th, 6th and 8th grades? They will be selling cookies between services on 2/13 through 3/13! Thanks for supporting Bethany Girl Scouts!!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD gift-filled shoeboxes go to some of the most difficult to reach places on earth. That includes areas that are hostile to the Gospel, places where whole people groups are yet unreached, and hundreds of remote Pacific islands. Did you know that some of the boxes from our West Coast region this past season were sent to these Pacific islands? They may have included boxes that you personally packed, or those packed by Bethany school children in November, or those packed online by members at Bethany, Holy Cross, or the Gathering. Shoeboxes are used by local churches to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in all kinds of environments, from densely populated inner cities to deserts and jungles—even in places where the Name of Jesus has never been heard. Thank you for your support of this ministry which seeks to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. In addition to the Pacific Islands, shoeboxes from our region were sent to the following countries: Ecuador, Peru, El Salvador, Madagascar, Thailand, Philippines, Samoa, American Samoa, and Mongolia. 993,000 boxes were collected in the Fullerton West Coast Office alone. National and World totals will be available soon. Thank you again, for your ongoing support of the mission and ministry of Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse. (shared by OCC Committee)





WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN

At Bethany we know that “our stuff is not our stuff!” All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!

There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:

Giving Online Text to Give Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Basket

Please see the GIVING link on Bethany’s website for more information on how to make your offering. **If you need further assistance, contact our Financial Administrator at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org**

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: Act 2:44



ANNUAL CAMPOUT RETREAT: Bethany's Annual Family Campout Retreat is February 19, 20 and 21 at Mobiland RV Park in Ocotillo Wells. Bring your special dish for Saturday's pot luck supper, and Sunday evening hors d'oeuvres along with some firewood for the campfire. A worship service will be held Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. For questions or reservation please call or text Philip Lopez, at (562) 416-5960.

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Thursday from 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM noon. Closed Fridays.

† † † † †

SAVE THE DATE

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Orange is Celebrating 100 Years of Ministry

October 15th: Anniversary Banquet

October 16th: Anniversary Sunday Service

Synodical President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison will be our special guest speaker.

Luncheon immediately following.

Do you know any church or school alumni, past staff or someone who should be invited?

Please send addresses to church@immanuelorange.org



COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW....

Last Sunday (February 6th) was Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. All life, from first cells till final breath, is intrinsically sacred for it is God's creation, yet life is intentional dignified through human action. Of course, human action or inaction can also degrade life when for the power, profit or pleasure of some others are exploited.

Through human trafficking the exploitation of Vulnerable men and women and children is increasing in our cities and communities. Unfortunately, big events such as the Super Bowl in Los Angeles this weekend, tend to bring an increase in the exploitation of the vulnerable.

On our Sanctity of Human Life Sunday in 2020, Rev. Dr. Mike Gibson, our District President reminded us that we are to work for the welfare of those in the communities in which God has placed us and called us to care for and love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

The good news is that there are organizations dedicated to fighting against sex and labor trafficking; caring for the vulnerable among us; and equipping us to work for the welfare of all of our neighbors.

The Long Beach Human Trafficking Task Force (LBHTTF) works hard to stop this modern-day human slavery and help those who have escaped or been liberated from its grasp. For more information, please visit the LBHTTF website at: <https://www.lbhttf.org>

Let My People Go <https://www.lmpg.org> is a Ministry striving to equip Christians and congregations to "love those most vulnerable in their churches and communities."

Pray: Dear Lord, open my eyes to the unseen vulnerable ones in my life, and help me to dignify their life by loving them as You love me. Bless our authorities, churches, and support agencies in Long Beach and our surrounding communities as they continue their efforts to protect those most vulnerable to traffickers. Lord please help us of Bethany Lutheran Church to be salt and light to our community as we live out and speak to what You value, O God; and to work with our families and our community to fight against those cultural practices that break your heart. In Jesus name, Amen.

GROWING IN FAITH

Sunday, March 20th – Succulent Creation
11:00AM to 12:30PM at Bethany Lutheran Church
An Event to Support our Youth Gathering Participants



"Growing In Faith" - a workshop to create your own succulent garden and **to support Bethany Lutheran Church Youth attending the LCMS Youth Gathering** in Houston, TX this summer. The event will be in Hensley Square.

There are three price points:

- Small Pot (up to 2 plants) - \$15
- Medium Pot (up to 4 plants) - \$30
- Large Pot (up to 6 plants) - \$45

*The price paid will include everything needed to create your succulent garden (your choice of pot, succulents, soil and decorative add-ons like stones, sand, marbles or moss).

*Light refreshments are included.

Please NOTE:

- ***NO Walk Up Registration for this event as supplies will be limited. Thank you for your understanding.***
- ***Registration for this event closes on Monday, March 14 at Midnight!***

To REGISTER for the Succulent Creation Event, click on this link <https://bit.ly/2022succulents> or use this QR code:



We look forward to seeing you at this fun creative event.

- Kim Ryskamp, The Board of Youth

Questions??? Please contact Kim Ryskamp at

kimryskamp@gmail.com

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES



Ash Wednesday, March 2nd Worship Services

Private imposition of ashes 7:30 to 8:30 AM (No service, only ashes)

All are welcome to the 9:00 AM Ash Wednesday School Chapel with imposition of ashes

Worship at 5:30 PM with imposition of ashes at **Holy Cross**

Worship at 7:00 PM with imposition of ashes at **Bethany**

Luke in Lent on Wednesdays March 9, 16, 23, & 30 and April 6

Living Way Bible Study at 7:00 PM at **Holy Cross** in the **Parish Hall**

Palm Sunday, April 10th Worship Service

Worship at 8:00 and 9:30 AM at **Bethany**

Zoom Worship at 10:00 AM with **The Gathering**

Worship at 11:00 AM at **Holy Cross**

Maundy Thursday, April 14th Worship Service

Worship at 1:00 and 7:00 PM at **Bethany**

Good Friday, April 15th Worship Services

Worship at 1:00 PM at **Bethany**

Worship at 7:00 PM at **Holy Cross**

Easter Festival, April 17th Worship Services

Worship at 8:00 and 9:30 AM at **Bethany**

Zoom Worship at 10:00 AM with **The Gathering**

Worship at 11:00 AM at **Holy Cross**