

The Beacon

Bethania Lutheran Church
1-805-688-4637
www.bethanialutheran.net

January 2020

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I vividly remember sitting here this time last year writing about the New Year. I brought to that space a desire to let go of 2018 and move into 2019 with renewed hope for our country and world. It's strange that I find myself in the same mental and emotional space. Last year, our country was polarized over its politics. It doesn't feel like we've drifted any closer to unity; rather it feels like we keep going in the opposite direction. Last year I feel like there was very personal pain to lament and grieve and a desire to move on into the New Year, however, the New Year brought different pain and grief and the desire to move away from it into newness is prevalent again.

How can this be? How can I be sitting here wishing for the exact same thing as last year? Isn't the New Year about moving into newness? While each year brings its own hardships and joys, at least we can say they're both new. So why does this feel so much like the same?

I have no idea what you're feeling right now. I don't know if you're struggling with the same tired feelings I am or if you've been able to move into that renewed hope that the New Year often brings. If you're struggling, I want to offer some insight I've received.

Therapy has taught me to let go of a "fix-it" approach to life, at least when things seem overwhelming and that encroaching need to control steps in. It's been one of the most difficult and yet most liberating growths I've experienced. When that fix-it mentality is gone, I'm able to see what is present instead of being so focused on past pains and future controls. Because I'm not so focused on the outcome I want, I'm able to hold in balance both the positives and negatives around me.

This lends to an interesting insight: we don't need to allow positive and negative experiences consume all of our attention. We can allow both to exist at the same time, knowing that the negative will not destroy us because the positive is right there, we just weren't able to see it before. And when I can hold those two experiences in balance, I'm not so dependent on expectations being met, but can be flexible when life decides to laugh at the planning I've done.

This takes time. Even as I'm sharing this I have that tired feeling of moving into the New Year feeling like the stuff I hoped for is still the stuff I'm hoping for. So I have to sit back and see the beauty and the love that did happen. While the pain of those we've lost is still there, the comfort we've experienced in each other and the presence of their memories are still here. While we've gone through some financial anxieties, we are an ever-expanding church, both in numbers involved and ministries expressed. While the country seems divided and fearful and while those feelings leak into our own fabrics, we embrace the future with love, courage, creativity, and togetherness. And as I sit, reflecting on this feeling of sameness, writing about renewed love and hope in one another and through our church, I'm reminded that what I was hoping for all along was right there, I just wasn't able to see it before.

As we enter into this new year, my prayer is not that resolutions will come true. Anne Lamott has a profound quote: Expectations are regrets under construction. Expectation can serve as positive reinforcement when it used as hope, but it can quickly turn into painful regret when it's not met. Rather, my prayer is that our eyes can be opened to the love, community, compassion, and hope this is already around us – that we simply weren't able to see before.

**With Love,
Pastor Chris**

Due to time constraints at the end of December and getting a new copier, the January Beacon was copied and mailed Jan. 6, 2020. We apologize for the delay.

Bethania's New App



Bethania now has its own smartphone application that you can get from any smartphone. Just go to either the App Store or Google Play on your phone and search for "Bethania Church". You should see this logo. It's free to download and will have regular information about worship, giving, upcoming events, and other resources. If you have any questions about how to download it or operate it, please talk to Pastor Chris.

Theology Pub

Theology Pub meets on Jan. 9 at 7pm at Solvang Brew, around the fire pit. No expertise required – just an open mind and appetite!

Book Group

Book Group meets Jan. 16 at 2 pm in the Parish Hall. We are continuing "Finding God in the Waves" and discussing chapter 12 to the end of the book.

Youth and Family Ministry

Happy New 2020,

The Rummage Sale was a great success! **Thank you** for the donations and especially to the volunteers! The people who donated their time and effort through setting up, organizing, selling, and breaking down! You show what church and, most especially, what God's Love truly means. We are in awe of you and are forever grateful.

Youth, with the assistance of their families, will be hosting a **Dessert Auction** on **Sunday January 5th** during coffee hour to raise funds for the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis by 2021. It costs roughly \$1,200 a person to attend, which includes airfare, hotel, meals, transportation, etc. We are planning and fundraising nearly anyway we can! Please come show your support and purchase some yummy treats for yourself or a friend!

Youth will meet Sunday Jan. 12th @ 5 pm -7 pm in the Fireside Room. Any student in 6th grade through high school is welcome to join. Whether looking to expand their education in faith or make new friends, they are welcome.

Sunday School is taught during the 11 am-12 pm service. We have dedicated classrooms for Ages 2-5 and Grades 1st-5th. Sunday School will be closed:

Dec. 29th (New Year's Eve Weekend)
Jan. 19th (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Weekend)
Feb. 16th (President's Day Weekend)
April 19th (Hike Against Hunger)
May 24th (Memorial Day Weekend)

I will be going on maternity leave once the baby arrives, end of January. I will return to work just six weeks after depending on doctor's recommendation and recovery. If you have questions regarding Youth & Families Ministry, please contact Pastor Chris.

Coming up in March, I purchased admission for up to 9 Bethanians and me to attend a Vacation Bible School workshop on Saturday March 14th. It will be hosted by a church in Santa Clarita. We'd leave early morning and return by the afternoon. Please let me know if you'd be interested in assisting with VBS, June 22nd- 26th, and would like to visit this workshop.

**Warmest blessings,
Livier (Liv-EE-air) Ghamari-Brown
Director of Youth & Family Ministry
(909)962-9366
livierghamari@yahoo.com**

Bethania Preschool and After School

Happy New Year from the Preschool and After School!!

Thank you for donating to our Christmas Greetings Fundraiser. Your support of the Preschool & After School is greatly appreciated. Through your donations we are able to provide the children attending with the best possible care as well as an exceptional learning environment.

Also thank you to those that attended our Christmas Program. It was nice to see a few congregation members attend. The children did a wonderful job "singing" the songs, and looked great dressed as angels.

We will be learning about winter and hibernation this month as well as continuing with our alphabet, colors, shapes, numbers, concepts and so much more. January is when we see a huge jump in the children's cognitive learning. The joy on their faces as they realize what they are learning is priceless.

We continue to run at full capacity with a lengthy wait list, and are already planning for our 2020-2021 School Year!

"Some people walk in the rain, others just get wet." ~ Roger Miller

**Blessings,
Eileen**

Christmas Greetings

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the following individuals who contributed to the Christmas Greetings fundraiser for Bethania Preschool & After School.



Neal & Emily Abello
Bruce & Liz Beeler
Elizabeth Breen
Tim & Linda Cline
Don & Lois De Meyer
Jim, Kristyl & Sean Downey
Fred & Nancy Emerson
Helen FitzGerald
Erling Grumstrup
Lorna Hansen
Gerry Hardy
Shirley Heap
Donna Hinsbeeck
Marie Jaeger
Danny & Eileen Knotts
Brenda Knudsen
Barbara Kovol
Fred & Genie Machtetanz
Barbara Marsh Klein
Stewart & Sheila Mee
Mike Murray
Annalisa Nearn
Birgitte Pedersen
John & Betty Petersen
Tom & Carolynn Petersen
Margaret Rasmussen
Robin & Jake Staff Schatan
Ron & Kathy Walsh
Gerda Willis

Thank you to all of the donors listed above.

Preschool Raffle Fundraiser

We raised over \$350 for the Preschool Raffle to get new toys for the Preschool Playground. A new teeter totter, basketball hoop, marble drop and sandbox toys will be arriving soon. Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team Project for helping us get new toys.

**Solvang Folk School Talks - New Speaker to Present
See the next page.**



Farstrup-Mortensen Lectures/Solvang Folk School Talks present...
Michael Gungor, Hillary McBride & William Matthews

“THE LITURGISTS”

February 21-22-23, 2020

NEW SPEAKER ADDED! Hillary McBride will now be joining Michael Gungor and William Matthews at the Solvang Folk School Talks /FM Lecture Series this February.

Pastor Chris Brown has invited these hosts of the Liturgists Podcast, one of the top religious podcasts in the country, to come to Bethania. The Liturgists are a global community working to subvert the barriers our society builds around religion, race, gender, ability, and sexuality. Their work is centered around compelling discussion, non-judgmental community, and thoughtful, evocative art. www.theliturgists.com.



MICHAEL GUNGOR is one half of Gungor, and is a co-host of *The Liturgists Podcast*. Michael is a Grammy nominated musician and composer. He leads the musical collective Gungor with his wife Lisa Gungor and is a co-founder of The Liturgists with Mike McHargue ('Science Mike').

In his latest book, *This: Becoming Free*, Gungor shares the deconstruction of his faith and the transformation of it as another story. Letting go of the stories that defined his identity and value in the world led Gungor and his family on a wild and painful journey through atheism, mysticism, betrayal, loss, medical issues,

and thousands of online trolls. Through personal story, parable, philosophy, physics, and absurdity, Gungor shows us that who we think we are is an illusion, a constriction of reality that creates suffering in our lives.

Michael Gungor and his wife Lisa live in Los Angeles, California with their two daughters.

WILLIAM MATTHEWS was born in the city of Detroit and raised in Raleigh NC. His father and grandfather before him a preacher and his mother a social worker & church choir director. William is known around the world as a singer songwriter and popular recording artist who for the past decade has extensively toured and performed all across the U.S, Europe, Australia, South Africa, Brazil & Asia. During that time William wrote and performed many popular songs that appeared on several Bethel Music compilations, many of which debuted at number 1 or highly charted on Billboard including his first record Hope's Anthem. His songs are sung in churches all over the world.



William's passion is artistry and advocacy. During the 2016 election William joined the Not Who We Are campaign. He filmed a short music documentary entitled "Your Voice Matters" showcasing Detroit & his family's roots in the black church, which was highlighted by media entities like CNN & Yahoo News. William also serves on the board of environmental advocacy group Micah Challenge. He currently resides in Los Angeles and recently finished his much anticipated sophomore record.



DR. HILLARY MCBRIDE is a Registered Clinical Counsellor in private practice in Vancouver who recently completed her PhD candidate in Counselling Psychology at University of British Columbia. During her doctoral studies, Hillary continued the research she started in her Masters: exploring women's relationships with their bodies, particularly when women feel comfortable and appreciative of their own bodies. Her areas of clinical and research specialty focus on the intersection of spirituality and mental health, trauma and trauma therapies, embodiment, eating disorders, body image, sex and sexuality, and feminist approaches to psychology. She was awarded the international Young Investigators Award for her work in human sexuality, and recently published her first book with Post Hill Press entitled "Mothers, daughters, and body image: Learning to love ourselves as we are". Hillary's research has been recognized by the American Psychological Association, the Canadian Psychological Association, and the

Government of Canada.

Hillary's work is deeply personal, and informed by how she has both experienced and observed women's struggles to embrace themselves and their bodies, as they are, in all stages of life. "I love to help see people grow, heal, change, and come into more fullness in themselves and their relationships," she states. "I want to make psychology and empirical research about well-being accessible to a wide variety of people."

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Special Gathering \$35

Friday, February 21, 2020

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Meet the Speakers & Each Other Reception

(Light snacks and desserts with wine and beer
Book signing and introductions; book sales)

Talks \$100

Saturday, February 22, 2020

8:45 AM – Singing and Introductions

9:00 AM – Talk 1

10:30 AM – Break/Singing

10:45 AM – Talk 2

12:15 PM – *Lunch on your own*

2:00 PM – Talk 3

3:30 PM – Break/Singing

3:45 PM – Talk 4

5:15 PM – Casual Reception

(Light snacks, wine and beer available to purchase by the glass)

Panel Discussion

Sunday, February 23, 2020

9:30 AM – Worship Service

10:30 AM – Coffee/Fellowship

11:00 AM – Panel Discussion

12:00 Noon – Closing

Child care is available with advance reservations only. Please call the church office.

Register Online Now at FMLectures.org or BethaniaLutheran.net

Ministry in the Community and Around the World

What is the Value of Educating Girls?

Thanks to your donations to Piyali Scholarships since 2012, Rekha Mistry, then a kindergartener, is now 13 and in 6th grade. \$375/year has provided tuition, books and school supplies, uniforms, nutritional meals, health care. Her favorite subject is Social Studies. See her letter on the Parish Hall bulletin board where she wrote about recent study of diversity – an important issue in India as well as the U.S.

Rekha has already far surpassed the little or no education available to her mother. She is on track to complete 8th grade at Piyali Learning Center for Girls in a village outside Mumbai. She may have the opportunity to attend high school. She is not being forced into early marriage or being sold into trafficking by her family. When she does begin working and when she marries, her education will enable better employment and the ability to nurture a healthy family.

During January and February, BLCW is sponsoring fundraising for the 2020 Piyali Center scholarships. Again this year, our goal is to raise \$1,275.

Elementary School Scholarships:

- *Rekha's scholarship (\$375)
- *Bidisha scholarship (\$375, 6 years old and in her first year.)

Literacy/Vocational Training Program Scholarships (18 months-2 years, young women)

- *Kalidar's scholarship (\$175, married as child, 2 children, no opportunity for education, 2nd year, literacy)
- *Soma's scholarship (\$175), married, in 1st year year, learning tailoring
- *Lakshmi's scholarship (\$175), married, 2 children, daughter in Piyali School, 1st year, when younger not able to continue studies because of parent illness.)

How can I invest in the education of these girls and young women? Your donation of any amount will enable their continued education.

Make check to Bethania Lutheran Church and write "Piyali Scholarship" on the memo line.

**Questions? Call or e-mail Nancy Emerson,
BLCW Scholarship Chairperson, 805-693-1386, fnemerson@comcast.net**

Noisy Sunday: Making Change Count on Jan. 26

No one person can change the world, but one and one and one add up. (Sylvie Guillem)

December's "Noisy Offering" helped raise funds to provide food items for the Senior Brown Bag Breakfast program. Your donations will be used for fruit cups, protein drinks, protein bars and other healthy items which will be packed at our next Brown Bag Breakfasts packing day on Jan. 12.

Our January Noisy Sunday offerings will be used to help provide pantry items for the members at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz. Pastor Esteban Salazar and his wife Angie recently attended the BLCW

brunch and were sharing stories of what the lives of their parishioners are like, and of their daily struggles. I cannot say it often enough, thank you for supporting this ministry. You are making a difference in a child's life with your quarters and dimes. You are helping to keep food on the shelf for the children of field workers who struggle to make ends meet. We all really "make change for the better" with the Noisy Sunday! So bring your coins and make some noise on Jan. 26. Together, we can CHANGE a family's world, right here in our area. Even one donation or one coin can make a difference to someone in need.

– **Linda Marzullo, Social Ministry**

Brown Bag Breakfasts for Seniors

Brown Bag Senior Breakfast Packing Day is coming: Sunday, Jan. 12 at coffee hour

Mark your calendar to help us pack brown bag breakfast items for local seniors in financial need on Sunday, Jan. 12 during the coffee hour.

Our little brown bags are for SYV seniors who need to take medications in the morning with food, and would otherwise have nothing to eat with their pills due to financial constraints or physical limitations. Currently we are helping 56 local seniors with breakfast bags each week.

You can also help out by donating any of the following items:

Protein Drinks (such as Ensure or Atkins)

Protein Bars

Instant Cup of Soup/Lunch or Noodles

Pudding (non-refrigerated)

Small Juice Boxes or Plastic Bottles of Fruit Juices (such as Apple, Cranberry, Orange)

Soft Granola/Cereal Bars

Oatmeal Packets (Protein type)

Fruit Cups or Applesauce

A big THANK YOU to Los Olivos Rotary who made a \$500.00 donation towards this project.

Make a difference in the health and happiness of someone living right here by packing a bag or donating a few items. Thank you!

–**Linda Marzullo**

Chairman, Social Ministry Committee

688-5219, 688-3059 or vikingspressprint@verizon.net

Shopping Lists for Brown Bag Breakfasts and Iglesia Food Pantry

See the next page for items we need to support the Brown Bag Breakfast program for seniors and the Food Pantry at Iglesia Luterana. Feel free to take this with when you go grocery shopping.

Brown Bag Breakfast Items Needed!

- PROTEIN DRINKS
Boost, Ensure, Atkins
- JUICES/DRINKS (individual)
Apple, Orange, Cranberry
V-8, Kern's Nectars, Coconut Water
- FRUIT CUP or APPLESAUCE CUPS
- BREAKFAST ITEMS
Instant Oatmeal (Protein type best),
Instant Lunch or Noodles
- PROTEIN BARS
- GRANOLA BARS (Soft is best) and
BREAKFAST BARS



Thank you for helping SYU Seniors in need!

Iglesia Shopping List

- Dry Beans Rice
- Maseca (corn flour)
- All Purpose Flour
- Small Pasta
- Sugar / Salt
- Coffee
- Snacks (such as Cookies)
- Bottled Juice
- Feminine Products
- Shampoo
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Bleach, Cleaning Products
- Baby Diapers (All sizes esp. 5&6)

Bethania has Angels as Members

Thank you to all of our Christmas Angels who helped with the gifts for our 70 Iglesia children and the 3 Preschool/After School children. This was a large Christmas Angel event, with all of these children to shop for, and I am so proud to say that Bethania members and friends once again stepped up to this challenge.

The members of Iglesia Luterana are primarily of indigenous Oaxacan descent; most do not speak English but may be able to get by with some Spanish, as their primary language is a native dialect. The pastor communicates in Spanish and those who speak only the indigenous dialect(s) have the Spanish translated to their language by others. They attend a start-up church located on the premises of Bethel Lutheran Church in Santa Maria. The parents of these children struggle during the off-season months to have enough food for their families and other necessities. Christmas presents are non-existent for the majority of these children.

We worked with Pastor Esteban and his wife Angie to try to fill the children's "wish lists". We were "Christmas Angels" to children of both genders, ranging in age from newborns to age 16. The presents were wrapped and delivered to the church in three vehicles for distribution to the children. The joy of the children and the gratitude of their parents is overwhelming, as the only gift that most of them will get was from our "angels".

We also supported some local families whose children attend our own Bethania Preschool and After School Program with gifts. These families are our neighbors who are struggling with their financial challenges. The three children were chosen by Director Eileen Knotts for assistance this Christmas season. We are very happy to be able to help some children who are attending our wonderful program based here at Bethania.

We encouraged people of all ages and abilities to participate. All sizes of monetary donations were given, ranging from spare change to \$200. We promoted the concept of "we can do the shopping for you" so that people who did not have the time or were physically unable to go shopping could participate. Thankfully we had many wonderful people agree to shop for their "adopted" child, which really helped with the task.

Thank you all for your generous hearts and loving help with this project. An extra special thank you to: my gift delivery team (John and Chris Jones; Robert, Alice and Valerie Laufer; Bridget Cassara; Tom and Carolynn Petersen); Special Angels Lois and Don DeMeyer; Carolyn Schuitt, Denise Morris, Rick Marzullo and Annalisa Nearn; Christian Education Committee members Donna Hinsbeeck, Caro Stinson, Brenda Knudsen, Alice Laufer; Social Ministry Committee members; and all the angels in our congregation and community who contributed in ways large and small...including helping to wrap all of these gifts!

- Linda Marzullo, Social Ministry

2019 Produce Table Tally

The Produce Table ran from May to November in 2019, with total donations of \$3,014.59. This amount was disbursed as follows: ELCA World Hunger- Good Gifts Program \$1,507.29; Pastor Chris Brown's Discretionary Fund \$746.00; SYV Extension of the Salvation Army \$761.30. I would like to extend a grateful and sincere "Thank You" to everyone who took produce home and also donated to the Produce Table. And a big thank you to everyone who shared their abundance with all of us.

- Carolynn Petersen

Coming Up at Bethania and Beyond!!!!

Gather Bible Study

Jan. 16 at 10:30 - Atterdag Lounge. Topic: "Hearing God's Voice: In the Old Testament, God's call comes in many forms" 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Special Coffee Hour on Jan. 26, 2020

Everyone is invited to Erling Grumstrup's 100th birthday coffee, hosted by his family, on Jan. 26, 2020 after the 9:30 service. Wish Erling well on this special occasion.

Church Business

Council Highlights - December 2019

The December monthly Council meeting was held at 7 pm on Dec. 20, 2019. Members present were Emily Abello, Wendy Bevier, Pastor Chris, Stewart Fries, Denise Johnson, Carol Lake, Carolyn Schuit, Ann Tucker and Ron Walsh. Also attending Linda Marzullo and Donna Hinsbeeck. Newly elected Council Members for 2020 attended as guests, Josh Bratt, Lynne Hemming, Lori McConnell, Anne Twigg, and Jeanelle Needham.

The meeting was graciously hosted by Carol Lake and Marilyn Larsen at their home where all members shared a holiday meal.

Council members received a report from the Social Ministry Committee Chair, Linda Marzullo, and the Farstrup-Mortensen Committee Chair, Donna Hinsbeeck, as part of the on-going program of inviting committee chairs to make presentations about their committees to the church council.

Council members present discussed a variety of topics including:

- New doors to the sanctuary
- Nominating and elections process
- Endowment Fund reimbursement request
- Acceptance of a Kei Lin Foundation restricted grant
- Office manager annual review
- Approval of Endowment Fund disbursements to Iglesia Luterana, SYV Cottage Hospital, and Circle V Ranch Camp.
- Preliminary draft of the 2020 Long Range Plan for Bethania

The new Council Members were welcomed to the Council. And the Council expressed its appreciation to the out-going Council Members – Bridget Cassera, Denise Johnson, Ann Tucker and Ron Walsh for their service on the Council.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020.

The Peace of Christ be with you all,
Stewart Fries, Bethania Council President
805-245-0041

Treasurer's Report For November 2019

Balance Sheet:

The cash balance in the operating account has improved over last month, with \$2,541 in the account after all bills were paid.

The money market has once again has gone down due to cash being used for capital improvements.

The result has been an increase in the fixed assets of the church and its properties.

The church has no indebtedness, and all accounts are current and all liabilities have been paid. The only exception is the pension liability.

The total assets of the church are \$3,751,788.

Profit & Loss, Budget Performance:

Income:

Other income is up for the month due to the youth fund income from the rummage sale that was held in November. Income for the month was up by \$2,645

Offerings were down by \$3,383 for the month, but were on budget for the first 11 months. Of particular note is the increase in non-member giving – it is at 160% of budget.

Other receipts were up for the month and were at 123% of budget for the first 11 months.

Child care reimbursements were on budget for the first 11 months of the year.

Total income for the month was slightly below budget by \$581.

Expenses:

Salary and benefits were slightly below the budget for the month (\$607 below), but are over for the first 11 months at 103%

Staff expenses were below budget for the month and for the first 11 months.

Office administration expenses were over budget.

Property expenses were below budget for the month, but continue to be over for the first 11 months.

Utilities were up slightly for the month, and also for the first 11 months.

All other expenses were at or below budget for the year to date.

Overall, our expenses were \$3,850 over income for the month, and \$14,000 for the year to date.

- **Ron Walsh, Treasurer**

Social Ministry Meets Jan. 13 @ 6 pm

Our next meeting of the Social Ministry Committee will be held Monday, Jan. 13 at 6 pm in the Fire-side Room.

Agenda items include:

Review of Brown Bag Breakfast packing/delivery/meetings
Noisy Offering designation for February
Report on Angel Gifts, Preschool Presents
Planning for Souperbowl/Toiletbowl and Lent ideas

If you are able to help or have any ideas, please contact me and let me know. Everyone is invited to these planning meetings – we are all involved in being the hands and feet of Jesus to the world.

–Linda Marzullo

Chairman, Social Ministry

688-5219, 688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Actions From Your Endowment and Heritage Fund Committee

The Endowment and Heritage Funds are a perfect place to give a memorial gift or to honor someone special, knowing that your gift will continue to provide funding into the future.

Your gift to the Endowment Fund will continue to give through the years because only the earnings of the funds are expended. The principal will remain intact and continue to generate income to support our outreach ministries.

ENDOWMENT FUND EXPENDITURES:

Gift to the ELCA to help fund Pastor Esteban and Angie Salazar's Salaries \$5,000

To fulfill our commitment to that ministry at Bethel Lutheran Church in Santa Maria.

Five \$1,000 Scholarships \$5,000

to the prior year scholarship recipients as we had no new applications this year.

A gift to Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital Foundation \$5,000

which will benefit the entire Santa Ynez Valley

A gift to Circle V Ranch Camp to assist with their ongoing rebuilding \$3,000

following the destruction from the Whittier fire

At the request of Church Council, Reimburse Bethania Lutheran Church for Extraordinary Capital Re-pairs and Improvements \$10,407

HERITAGE FUND EXPENDITURES:

Two new metering faucets for the two church bathrooms \$630

Two new doors for the sanctuary entrance (purchase only) \$2,096

Installation and painting of new church doors (voted not to exceed \$3000) \$3,000

- Carolynn Petersen, Chairman

In Our Hearts, In Our Prayers

We uplift in prayer the following people in our congregation and community. May we minister and bless all who need God's help.

Andy Blanton, Brianna Ceballos, Denise Chaboya, Annette Clausen, Caylin, Katy & Kay Corlee, Ida FitzGerald, Chris Frederiksen, Debbie Fritts, Jenie Galindo, Chris Gideon, Sheldon & Pat Green, Kathy Hackler, Marion Hallum, "Hank," Belle Hoger, Jennifer Howell, Glen Jacobsen, Michael Jech, Robert & Gail Jennings, Karen Johnson, Betsy & Steve Logan, Joe Martin, Stella Miller, Brian Merrick, Denise Morris, Denny Norrenbrock, Barbara & Charles Osborn, Marie Ostertag, Kate Pearrrson, Bob Petersen (brother of Tom), Chèle Ludwig Petersen, Doyle Phillips, Joyce Purvis, Tim Reed, Craig Schorr, Jesse Tovar, Lou Vitelli, Robert Workman, David & Yolanda Yanez, and those who serve our country both at home and abroad

Thank You's

Dear Bethania Scholarship Committee,

I would like to send you a big thank you for the generous scholarship you awarded me for my college education. This year I decided to take a separate path & enroll at Cuesta College for Automotive Technology - I could not be happier! This was the perfect choice for me and it would not have been possible without your generous support! I am so blessed to be a part of the Bethania Family!

**Thank you again,
Sarah Puder**

Amazing Grace Items Lost But not Found

Recently we realized that we are missing some items: some of the Preschool's white Christmas trees that are used for their Christmas program and the bottom of the big Christmas Tree that is used for the Danish Sisterhood Christmas Party. If you know where they are, please let Kristyl know in the Church Office or return them. The Preschool Christmas trees were not on the stage and the base of the big Christmas stage was not under the stage in its usual spot. They may have been moved during the March 2019 clean-up around the church. We would love to have them back.

December Photos - Kristyl Downey

BLCW Brunch
Poinsettias
Christmas Tree





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat'day
FR = Fireside Rm OFC = Office PH = Parish Hall CH = Church BPSAS = Preschool & AfterSchool	AV = Atterdag Village SME = St. Mark's Episcopal		1 New Year's Day CH OFC & BPSAS are closed.	2	3	4 2 pm Baby Shower for the Browns: PH
5 9:30 & 11 am Worship:CH 10:30 Coffee Hour:PH 10:30 am Youth Dessert Auction:PH 11 am Sunday School	6 7 pm Altar Guild Mtg:oFC 8 pm AA: FR	7 Bethania's 118th Birthday 7 pm Christian Ed. Mtg:OFC 7 pm Yoga:PH 7 pm Mankind Project: CH	8 9:30 am Staff Mtg:OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 11:45 pm Quilting:PH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH	9 2 pm BPSAS:PH 7 pm Theo Pub: Solvang Brewing Co.	10	11
12 9:30 & 11am Worship:CH 10:30 Coffee Hour:PH 10:30 am BBB Packing:PH 11 am Sunday School	13 6 pm Soc. Min. Mtg:FR 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR	14 2 pm Book Group: PH 7 pm Yoga:PH	15 9:30 am Staff Mtg: OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH	16 10:30 Bible Study:AV 10:30 am Communion: AV 7 pm Council Meeting: OFC	17	18
19 9:30& 11 am Worship:CH 10:30 Coffee Hour:PH 11 am Sunday School	20 5:15 pm Grief Group: SME 8 pm AA: FR 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR	21 12 noon Beacon Deadline: OFC 7 pm Yoga:PH 7 pm Mankind Project: CH	22 9 am Support the Troops Packing Day:PH 9:30 am Staff Mtg: OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH	23	24	25
26 9:30 & 11 am Worship & Noisy Offering :CH 10:30 Coffee Hour for E. Grumstrup's 100th Birthday:PH	27 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR	28 7 pm Yoga:PH	29	30	31	

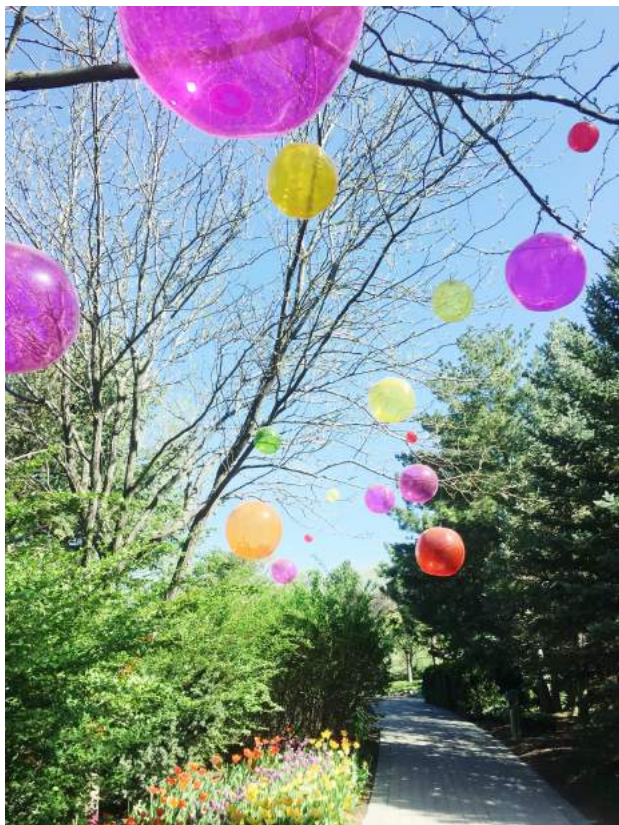
The Beacon

January 2020

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Happy New
Year!