



The Beacon

Bethania Lutheran Church
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December 2021

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Pastor Chris's Message

Christ disrupts. That's the point of Christmas. Any parent knows the obvious already, that a newborn baby disrupts life, and alters everything the moment their presence is known. But Jesus' birth did more than disrupt the life of his young parents, he disrupted an entire social system based on power and subjugation.

God disrupts what becomes normal for us. Normal. That's a fluid word right now. What is normal for society was not normal prior to the pandemic and likely won't be normal a few months from now. And yet consistencies remain. We are still a divided nation. Anger, fear, distrust, and polarization still dominate our news cycles, social media, and the national landscape of our country. At some point, you wonder when something's gotta give. God disrupts what's normal for us.

The normal of Jesus' time was a system of hierarchy, a system in which Rome dominated and got what it wanted through violence and power; it had co-opted the Jewish Temple-system of the time to be a vassal of Rome's empire, and thus, the people Jesus grew up with and around were paying almost their entire subsistence in taxes to support this system—against their will. This would be enough to cause any oppressed nation to rise up against their oppressors and act out their anger and pain in the same violence and warfare from which they were being dominated—and that's exactly what happened. The Zealot movement, which culminated in the Great Revolt against Rome in 64CE, was Israel's fed-up response to Rome. And it resulted in Jerusalem's destruction. Normal wasn't working in Jesus' time and place.

But Christ disrupts. The very birth story of Jesus was a response to the normal of Jesus' time. I've written about it before, but Jesus' birth story was meant to be told alongside the birth story of Caesar Augustus—another story of a virgin birth resulting in the destiny of the child to reshape the world around them. However, where Caesar's story included all the power, wealth, and domination one would expect from a Caesar of Rome, Jesus' story was the complete opposite. Born of humble origins amidst the cultural scandal of unwed parents, not destined for power, wealth, or domination, yet, through love, non-violence, compassion, and justice, he created a movement that overcame the most powerful empire in the world. Christ didn't just disrupt with his birth, he disrupted by creating and empowering a movement of people dedicated to community, to bringing together the powerless and commit to a life of compassion, love, inclusivity, and justice. He was everything Rome was not, and because of that, Rome had no idea how to stop the movement. Christ disrupts. God disrupts what becomes normal.

We need God to disrupt our normal, now! And as I always say, God prefers to work through us. We need to disrupt what's normal. Advent and Christmas are about preparing and allowing this prophesied Messiah to disrupt our lives, our normal. It's meant to be a time of reflecting on how this normalcy impacts us, shapes us, integrates itself into our own routines, so that we can open ourselves to being disrupted.



The better we can understand how we participate in the anger, fear, distrust, and polarization in our communities and nation, the better we can allow Jesus to disrupt and empower us to embody the life he calls us to; a life of compassion, love, inclusivity, and justice, in the hopes of sharing those values with others. If our love and compassion can start with the faith of a mustard seed, perhaps we can disrupt the normal of our communities and truly bring Christ to our world this Christmas.

**In Christ's Disrupting Love,
Pastor Chris Brown**



Bethania's "New" App is 2 Years Old!

Bethania 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.

Youth and Family Ministry

The Youth Group meets from 4-6 pm on Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021 in the Fireside Room.

Bethania Preschool & After School

This year the preschool will be holding their Christmas program outdoors. The program will take place in the courtyard area on Dec. 16th at 6 pm. Children will come dressed in pajamas or nightgowns with warm clothes underneath and sing Christmas songs for parents and family. The program will take about 30 to 45 minutes long. Parents will be able to sign up to bring goodies to be given out after the program is finished.

Preschool Children will also be having their Christmas gift exchange party on Dec. 17th. Parents are asked to provide one wrapped present for the children's gift exchange party. Children will sing holiday songs around the Christmas tree and then enjoy milk and cookies as their snack.

Bethania Preschool and After School Program will be closed from Dec. 23, 2021 through Jan. 2, 2022. The school age children will attend Bethania's After School program when they get out for vacation and play indoor/games and make festive projects.

In the short period of taking on the new role as director I find myself reflecting daily upon my many decisions. I am very critical about myself when I feel like I have made a poor decision. However, over my short period as Director I have learned something very important from my predecessor, Eileen Knotts, and that is, *there's nothing that cannot be fixed*. These words have helped me cope through some of my tough days, problem solve and learn from my mistakes. I love working with children and parents and I'm very thankful that I have a strong support system to which I can speak freely without being judged.

I hope all that are traveling for the upcoming holidays have safe travels and I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Feliz Navidad,
Lola Gonzales**

Advent

Advent began Nov. 28. The Advent wreath is near the pulpit and the garland will be draped below the organ pipes. Join us as we prepare in word and song for Christmas.

We thank all of our volunteers who help prepare the church and grounds for the holidays:

Donna Ineman for decorating the Advent wreath; **Diana Boltz** for the banners, hangings from the pulpit and lectern and indoor wreaths (Diana changes the banners and other paraments all year-long); **Rod Nielsen** for the Christmas wreath over the front door; **Lou Fox Bender** and **Kevin McConnell** for the outdoor Nativity; **Kevin** also brings the Advent wreath and stand from the basement and the garland below the organ pipes, and others who help as needed.

We also thank the **Jaeger and FitzGerald families** for setting up and decorating the Christmas tree in the sanctuary.

And a special thanks to the **Danish Sisterhood** for purchasing a new Christmas tree and decorating it for the Christmas party (Dec. 12) and season.

Masks in Worship (edited from The Beacon August 2021)

Your Church Council (including Pastor Chris) has reviewed the mask mandate, and voted to the wearing of masks for all indoor activities, including worship services, (since Friday, Aug. 5) is still in effect.

While we realize that over 95% of our worshiping members and visitors are fully vaccinated, we also must remember that we are called to be followers of Christ, and that we must lead by example. Let us all lift up our community, and most especially our health care workers, in our prayers as we all deal with this resurgence of the Pandemic.

Thank you for your understanding and support of this decision. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, or any other member of the Church Council.

Peace of the Lord be with you all,

Ron Walsh
Congregation Council President



Christmas Services



Service of Carols - Dec. 19

Do you like singing Christmas Carols and having quiet time during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season? Then come to the Service of Carols Dec. 19 at 6 pm in the sanctuary. The Service of Carols is a lovely evening service with carols and messages of Advent and Christmas. After the service we will have cookies and hot apple cider in the Parish Hall.

Little Christmas Eve Service - Dec. 23

Pastor Anne-Grethe Krogh Nielsen will lead the Danish Service on Dec. 23 at 6 pm in the church. Danish Christmas Hymns, liturgy, sermon. Anyone who has come to this service can tell you it is a beautiful service - even if you don't speak or understand Danish.

Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24

4:00 pm & 6:00 pm Bethania's Traditional Services
11:00 pm Candlelight Service

Celebrate at Bethania with our three Christmas Eve Services. Communion will be celebrated at all three services.

Poinsettias



We have ordered 18 poinsettias from Sea View Nursery in Goleta. If you would like one, please fill out the form below and return it with payment (\$6.00 each) to Bethania. You may take your poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve services.

Name _____ **Phone** _____

of poinsettia plants: _____

Dedication in bulletin

Given by _____

In honor of/In memory of

Payment of \$6.00/poinsettia enclosed.

Faith in Action

News from Tuesdays

Thanks to all of our fantastic volunteers, we made it through the Thanksgiving crush on Tuesday, Nov. 23. That night everyone worked hard – and we were sad we had to miss the Interfaith Service! I was so thankful for everyone who decided to help and be there for our neighbors. Here are the numbers for the last few weeks:

Nov. 2	204 Households	800 Individuals
Nov. 9	213 Households	834 Individuals
Nov. 16	259 Households	1015 Individuals
Nov. 23	317 Households	1300 Individuals

Since beginning our “enrollment” in late August (when Food Bank changed the forms and made us start keeping an ongoing record of attendance by household size, age, race, etc.) at the start of the Food Bank’s new year, **we are now serving over 890 unique households**. This tracks with the most recent statistics for our area, which indicate there are approximately **930** local households going hungry every week.

Last Tuesday we had a local woman in her 80s come to the distribution. She was very frail. She told us that she doesn’t have enough money for food because her space rent is so high where she lives. She also was in dire need of incontinence items. Whispering to me that she often had to choose between her incontinence needs and having food, she would choose the incontinence products because it was more embarrassing to be without those. “No one really knows if you aren’t eating,” she said, “but they know if you have an accident in public.” And yes, fortunately we had items to give to her for her needs – both food and incontinence – for the coming week. We tried to help her without any embarrassment – hopefully she will return so we can continue to help.

What can you do to help our neighbors and food distribution each week?

- **Pray for strength and health** for our many volunteers and strength for our families who are struggling with food insecurity.
- **Become a Volunteer.** We have times available all day long - 10:00 morning packing, 1:30 afternoon packing, 4:45 distribution, 7:00 cleanup – each and every week!
- **Donate Food Items** to the Blessing Box or Food Distribution
- **Do you have a Thrivent card?** Do a project to help food distribution clients: Use your grant gift card to purchase items such as Baby Food, Baby Formula, Diapers, Wipes, Incontinence Supplies, Feminine Hygiene items, Ensure – or even use it to purchase your favorite items for us to pack on Tuesdays!
- If you are connected to an organization outside of Bethania or have friends who wonder how they can help, **ask friends or businesses for a donation.** Donations can be made on the Bethania webpage through Push Pay or sent to the church office, earmarked “Tuesday Food Distribution.” We are the only Food Distribution that has no paid staff or salary expenses or rental expenses to cover, which means we are the most efficient distribution with any funds donated!

We can always use donations of protein items (canned chicken and tuna) and staples such as canned vegetables, nuts, chili, baked beans, jelly, honey, cereal, boxed or dried milk, snacks for kids and cake mixes Donations can be left in the church, at the church office or you can contact me to drop off items. **We also distribute diapers and wipes, along with incontinence and feminine hygiene items.** Donations of any of these products are greatly appreciated.

If you would like to help, please contact me. This service for our community is making a difference to so many lives here in our area. We are thankful that we have been able to help so many local neighbors each week.

–Linda Marzullo

Chairman, Social Ministry Committee

688-5219 (Work), 688-3059 (Home) or vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Next Brown Bag Senior Breakfast Packing: Scheduled for Dec. 5

Our next (and maybe final if we pack a lot) Brown Bag Breakfast 2021 packing day is scheduled for Dec. 5th. We will be packing in the Parish Hall starting around 10:30 am until 1 pm. Everyone is invited to help out – all ages and abilities are needed to help pack!

The bags we make provide food items for local seniors to eat while taking medications. Usually our bags are used for breakfast meds and to guarantee a morning meal, afternoon snack or sometimes a late evening or midnight snack as one of the recipients let us know. Our breakfast bags are delivered three times a week to local seniors through the Buellton Senior Center.

If you would like to donate items, church is open daily (usually from 9-5) and you can drop off any donated items inside or at the church office, in addition to bringing items to us on packing day. You can also make a donation and earmark it “Brown Bag Breakfasts” so we can go do the shopping. Any amount of help is much appreciated!

- Protein Drinks (such as Ensure or Atkins)
- Soft Granola/Cereal Bars
- Protein Bars
- Oatmeal Packets (Protein type)
- Instant Cup of Soup/Lunch or Noodles
- Fruit Cups or Applesauce
- Pudding (non-refrigerated)
- Small Juice Boxes or Plastic Bottles of Fruit Juices (such as Apple, Cranberry, Orange)

Every contribution to this project helps make life a little better for a local senior. Thank you!

–Linda Marzullo

Chairman, Social Ministry Committee

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

Christmas Angels & Preschool Presents: *Calling all Angels!*



Would you like to be an “angel” to a needy child? Dust off your angel wings if you would be interested in helping to make Christmas special for a child at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz or the Preschool this year.

Angel Wish lists will be available on Dec. 5th following the 9:30 worship service in the Parish Hall or by contacting Linda Marzullo (see *info below*).

Any way you can help, large or small, is appreciated...We have committed to adopting 80 little Angels this year so far. With your help, we can make sure these children receive a Christmas gift to make their holiday happier.

The **CHRISTMAS ANGEL** project helps the members of Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz by providing Christmas gifts for needy children who attend the church. Iglesia is a mission start up church currently based at Bethel in Santa Maria, which serves the very poorest of the farm workers who often live in difficult circumstances. Oftentimes families share one bed or live in someone else’s garage without heat or running water. Many of the children may not have shoes, warm clothing or enough to eat. Agricultural conditions, weather and the economy directly affect these hard-working families, especially during the winter months. As we enter into the slow growing season, these families are even further behind in their ability to have enough food to eat, let alone provide Christmas gifts for their children.

Even closer to home, the **PRESCHOOL PRESENTS** project helps to support local families who attend Bethania Preschool and After School program. These local families are chosen by Preschool Director. Your donations will assist us in purchasing gifts and other necessary items for local children, to help these families who require some assistance to make their child’s Christmas special. If you would like to shop for a Preschool child or make a donation to this project, you can earmark it “Preschool Presents”. *(This is a different donation from the Preschool Scholarship Fund.)*

We would be happy to have your Angelic assistance for any of these children. If you are interested in sponsoring a child through the Christmas Angel or the Preschool Presents Projects, donations of any amount are welcome. If you would prefer to do the shopping on your own, or make a contribution of an item on a child’s wish list, please let Linda Marzullo know. All of the children/families have specific needs and/or requests we are going to try to fulfill, based on their “wish lists”. As soon as we receive the “wish lists” we will be able to coordinate meeting the children’s needs. An email will be sent out once we have the names and our little Angels’ most desired items! Contact Linda Marzullo if you would like to be an Angel and adopt a child through fulfilling their wish list.

Email questions to Linda at vikingpressprint@verizon.net, call her work 688-5219 or contact the church office.

Christmas Angel Wrap
Sunday, Dec. 19th
Beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall
Christmas Music, Coffee & Gift Wrapping
for Iglesia



Bring yourself and your willing hands and singing voice. Everyone is welcome, whether you want to wrap, sing, have coffee and watch...we have 80 children to wrap presents for, and we need your help! We provide the paper, boxes and tape - you help do the wrapping of the gifts our Angels have purchased, and have some fun at the same time.

We will be enjoying Christmas music, coffee, and fellowship as we wrap gifts for needy children from Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz in Santa Maria (*see related article*). The gifts will be going to the children who have been sponsored through the Christmas Angel Project. All wrapped gifts will be delivered to Iglesia, in time for their Christmas Angel distribution.

We invite people of all ages to come and help WRAP up this project by wrapping some gifts for children. Help us spread the Christmas Spirit to our neighbors!

For more information about this project or to help with delivery or Angel gift purchases, contact the church office or Linda Marzullo at work 688-5219, or email: vikingpressprint@verizon.net.

Noisy Offering: Making Change Count

The next “Noisy Sunday” is coming on Dec. 26th. Noisy Offering donations received that day will be used to purchase diapers, diaper rash cream, powdered formula and baby food. Consider this offering another way to recognize the birth of baby Jesus!

What will our donations be used towards?

Donations on Noisy Sunday will be used to purchase items to help struggling families keep their babies healthy, clean, fed and nurtured. For many of these families, finding funds to purchase diapers and formula are a struggle. Diapers typically cost over \$110 per child per month. Parents should expect to spend between \$1,500-\$2,190 per year if exclusively formula feeding during their baby’s first year. Specialty formulas, such as those that contain hydrolyzed proteins, may cost even more. Keep in mind that this equates to roughly \$3-\$6 per day when spread across a year. Specialized formulas cost more.

Participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (better known as SNAP, formerly called food stamps) surged last year. The USDA reports that the program serves more than 42 million people. Hygiene items like soaps, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, and cosmetics can’t be purchased using SNAP. Baby wipes and diapers aren’t SNAP eligible either, nor are they covered under the Women, Infants, and Children program, better known as WIC. Although advocates have long tried to implement federal programs to address diaper needs, only families living below the federal poverty level currently receive money that can be used to buy baby diapers.

We all really “make change for the better” with the Noisy Sunday! So bring your coins and make some noise to help celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus – and the birth of little miracles everywhere on Dec. 26th. Together, we can CHANGE a child’s world!

– Linda Marzullo

Events and Occasions

Theo Pub at Solvang Brew!

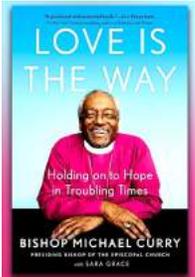
Theology Pub will be gathering once again at Solvang Brew! We'll be getting together at 7 pm on Thursday, Dec. 9th. And now that we're back at the brewery, bring your appetites! See you there!



Danish Sisterhood Christmas Party

The Danish Sisterhood Christmas Party will be Sunday, Dec. 12. There'll be a traditional pork dinner, singing, Christmas story and dancing around the Christmas tree. Doors open at 5:30 pm and dinner is served at 6 pm. Tickets are \$10/adult and \$5/child 10 and under. For reservations, please email: secretarydss177@gmail.com. If you make reservations, please pay at the door. Also, there is a pick-up option for dinner. If you make reservations for pick-up, you can have a dinner brought to you outside between 5:30 and 6 pm.

Book Club



Bethania's Book Group is reading and discussing Love is the Way, by Bishop Michael Curry. We'll be discussing the introduction and chapters 6 & 7. The book group day is also changing to the **3rd Thursday** of the month, so we'll be gathering via Zoom on Dec. 16, at 2 pm. If you would like to join, you can purchase a copy at The Book Loft, and a link will be emailed out and posted on social media.

Church Business

Nyheder fra Bethania Rådet News from the Bethania Council Nov. 18th Meeting

To be more informative and transparent, your Church Council is continuing the new process of communicating news and publishing decisions we have made via the Beacon. Our goal, each month, is to announce major decisions taken by the council to help everyone stay abreast of issues facing the church. Questions, if any, about these discussions, decisions, or messages should be addressed to a council member preferably in writing.

From the November Council meeting, we would like to report on the following topics:

- Received a report from Bill Zigler and Kevin McConnell on property projects by priority, that need to be completed around the campus. Council will give input to Bill & Kevin as to which projects can be completed with the funding we have available and by highest priority.
- Voted to hold off on concrete work in courtyard until 2022. This item was previously voted on in October.
- Accepted a quote from Accents by Laura to replace the draperies and rods in the Sanctuary in the amount of \$16,090. Voted to request funding from the Heritage Fund and Endowment Fund to fund the project, the majority of the funding coming from the Heritage Fund.

- Pastor Chris announced he has a viable candidate for the Youth and Family Ministry Director position. He will be conducting an interview in December, and if the candidate is approved, propose a start date in January 2022.
- Pastor also advised us of a possible Intern that would be starting in January. The Intern would be serving all of the churches in our conference on a rotating basis. The Conference has asked that each church support this ministry with a \$1,000 stipend. The Council voted to support this with the contribution of \$1,000.
- There was discussion regarding the usage of the Endowment Fund. The Council agreed that a meeting between the Council, the Endowment Fund Committee, and interested congregation members should be held in January, and asked Pastor to facilitate the meeting.

Questions, if any, about these discussions, decisions, or messages should be addressed to a council member preferably in writing.

Emily Abello (805) 688-1243	Jasmine Day day.jasmine@gmail.com	Lori McConnell (805) 331-7971
Wendy Bevier (805) 680-1521	Lynne Hemming (805) 698-9886	Anne Twigg (805) 350-1922
Josh Bratt (805) 245-0465	Carol Lake (805) 688-6797	Ron Walsh (805) 705-3736

Notes to Financial Statement - October 2021 Financials

BALANCE SHEET

	Oct 2021	Sep 2021	Change
Operating Acct	\$59,098	\$52,032	7066
Money Mkt Acct	122,645	135,943	-13,298
Petty Cash Acct	100	100	0
Fund Accounts	2,007,563	2,007,563	0
Fixed Assets	1,852,376	1,852,376	0
Total Assets	4,041,782	4,048,014	-6232
Current Liabilities	315,182	319,942	-4760
Equity	3,728,072	3,728,072	0
Total Liab/Equity	4,048,014	4,048,014	0

PROFIT & LOSS ACTUAL VS BUDGET

September 2021	Actual	Budget
Total Income	22,226	23,453
Total Expenses	23,713	26,798
Net Income	-1487	-3345

Balance Sheet: Our cash position is still good with \$59,000+ in the operating account.

Profit & Loss Budget Performance:

Income: In October we did not need help from the Endowment Fund. It is looking like we may not need Endowment fund help for November. This is the first month this year that we have had a net revenue over expenses. The preschool paid their share of liability insurance, and offerings were over budget for the month by \$2680. Offerings were down by \$11,000 off of the budget earlier in the year, but now are appx. \$8000.00 down, so thanks to the generosity of the congregation the gap is closing on that budget deficit.

Expenses: Expenses are still as expected and are well controlled.

- **Lori McConnell, Treasurer**

Financial Reports

In addition to the Treasurer's Report, there are two additional reports here in the Beacon. One is the amended 2022 Budget that the congregation passed at our meeting on the 14th. You will note that the line items have been adjusted to include Endowment Fund Contributions, and removing the Brown Bag breakfast income and expenses, resulting in a deficit of \$3,423.

As several members asked about offerings over the year, you will also find a report that is a five year analysis of offerings from 2016 to October of 2021. Please review both documents. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to call me.

Ron Walsh
Congregation Council President

2022 Draft Budget

INCOME	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
4060 - Fundraising activities		
4061 - Fundraising	\$3,000	\$5,000
Total 4060 Fundraising	\$3,000	\$5,000
4030 - Other Income		
4031 - Rental Income - Laurel	\$21,600	\$21,600
4060 - Youth Fund	\$1,500	\$1,000
4040 Miscellaneous Receipts	\$42,000	\$1,000
4031 - Facilities use receipts	\$1,000	\$2,500
4033 - Endowment Fund Contributions		\$36,000
Total 4030 - Other Income	\$66,100	\$62,100
4000 - Offerings		
4001 - Offerings regular envelope	\$213,000	\$210,000
4001 - Offerings - non-member	\$8,000	\$9,000
4003 - Vacation Bible School	\$1,200	\$1,000
Total 4000 - Offerings	\$222,200	\$220,000
4010 Other Receipts		
4011 - Bldg. Maint. Receipts	\$500	\$300
4012 - Cemetery Insurance Reimb.	\$600	\$600
4016 - Special Event Receipts	\$0	\$0
4018 - Other Mission Receipts		
4018 - Other mission receipts -other	\$750	\$750
Total 4010 - Other Receipts	\$13,850	\$1,650
4020 - Child Care Reimbursements		
4022 - Child Care Utilities	\$9,000	\$8,700
4023 - Child Care Liability Ins.	\$6,500	\$6,500
Total 4020 - Child Care Reimbursements	\$15,500	\$15,200
Total Income	\$320,650	\$303,950
Expenses	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
5055 - Fund Raising expenses		
5056 - Fund raising activities	\$1,300	\$2,500
total - 5050 Fund Raising Expenses	\$1,300	\$2,500
5000 - Benevolence		
5001 - Synod Support	\$10,750	\$11,000
5002 - Other Benevolence		
5002 - Benevolence - other	\$1,500	\$1,000
5002 - Other benevolence	\$13,500	\$1,000
Total 5000 - Benevolence	\$24,200	\$12,000
5010 - Salary & Benefits		
5028 - Preschool wages - PPP	\$0	\$0
5027 - Site Supervisor	\$500	\$1,200
5026 - Family Ministry Director	\$25,000	\$12,500

2022 Draft Budget

5011 - Pastor Salary	\$75,047	\$78,500
5012 - Pastor Benefits	\$33,000	\$35,123
5014 - Secretarial Wages	\$48,500	\$49,955
5019 - Worship musicians	\$7,000	\$10,300
5020 - Guest pastors	\$0	\$1,000
5021 - Guest musicians	\$500	\$0
5022 - Nursery attendant	\$700	\$1,200
5023 - Bookkeeper	\$9,600	\$10,000
Total 5010 - Salary & benefits	\$199,847	\$199,778
5031 - Conferences & workshops	\$150	\$150
5032 - Pastor Continuing Education	\$650	\$650
5033 - Pastor discretionary	\$750	\$900
50343 - Payroll tax expense	\$6,500	\$7,200
5036 - Travel reimbursement	\$350	\$500
5037 - Workers compensation ins.	\$1,100	\$1,100
Total - 5300 Staff expenses	\$9,500	\$10,500
5040 - Office administration		
5041 - Computer & internet expenses	\$4,000	\$4,200
5042 - Copier expense	\$4,000	\$4,000
5043 - Office supplies	\$1,500	\$1,800
5044 - Other administrative expenses	\$3,000	\$2,500
5045 - Postage	\$700	\$750
5046 - Telephone expense	\$1,000	\$1,100
Total 5040 - office administration	\$14,200	\$14,350
5050 - Meeting Expenses		
5052 - Synod Assembly	\$0	\$350
Total 5050 - Meeting expenses	\$0	\$350
5060 -- Property expenses		
5061 - General liability insurance	\$14,000	\$14,500
5062 - Janitorial Supplies	\$2,000	\$1,800
5063 - Maintenance	\$3,000	\$2,500
5064 - Outside Maintenance services	\$16,000	\$16,000
5065 - Property taxes	\$750	\$750
5066 - Rental maintenance - Laurel	\$750	\$500
Total - 5060 Property expenses	\$36,500	\$36,050
5070 - Utilities		
5078 - Preschool Utilities PPP	\$0	\$0
5071 - Natural gas	\$3,900	\$4,000
5072 - Electricity	\$5,500	\$5,500
5073 - Trash disposal	\$5,500	\$5,000
5074 - Water/sewer	\$5,500	\$5,000
5075 - Utilities - Laurel	\$2,400	\$2,400
Total - 5070 Utilities	\$22,800	\$21,900

2022 Draft Budget

5210 - Christian education		
5211 - Adult education	\$250	\$200
5212 - Confirmation	\$250	\$250
5213 - Sunday school	\$350	\$350
5214 - Vacation bible school	\$850	\$1,000
5215 - Audio-visual	\$350	\$350
5216 - Christian education comm. Exp.	\$500	\$250
Total 5210 - Christian Education	\$2,550	\$2,400
5220 - Outreach committee		
5221 - Evangelism supplies	\$250	\$100
5222 - Publicity	\$850	\$700
Total - 5220 Outreach Committee	\$1,100	\$800
5230 - Social ministry committee		
5231 - Hike for Hunger	\$750	\$750
5232 - Social ministry committee exp.	\$500	\$500
Total - 5230 Social ministry committee	\$1,250	\$1,250
5240 - Stewardship committee		
5241 - Stewardship committee exp.	\$250	\$250
Total - 5240 Stewardship committee	\$250	\$250
5250 - Worship & music committee		
5251 - Altar supplies	\$300	\$300
5252 -Choir music/supplies	\$400	\$500
5254 - Floral arrangements	\$500	\$500
5255 - Organ maintenance	\$1,200	\$1,400
5256 - Piano maintenance	\$300	\$450
5257 - Service bulletins	\$100	\$100
5258 - Song copyrights	\$750	\$750
5259 - Worship & music committee exp.	\$500	\$250
Total - 5250 Worship & music comm.	\$4,050	\$4,250
5260 - Youthj committee		
5261 - Youth committee expenses	\$2,000	\$1,000
Total - 5260 Youth Copmittee exp.	\$2,000	\$1,000
Total Expenses	\$319,597	\$307,378
Net Ordinary Income	\$1,053	-\$3,428

Budget p. 1 of 3

Budget p. 2 of 3

5 year offering/income/expense

OFFERINGS	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
January						
budget	\$14,193	\$17,688	\$17,053	\$17,088	\$17,480	\$17,400
actual	\$15,893	\$18,100	\$16,094	\$15,095	\$14,548	\$20,583
difference	\$980	-\$412	-\$1,094	-\$1,953	-\$2,932	\$3,093
February						
budget	\$13,634	\$18,245	\$17,143	\$17,087	\$17,490	\$16,400
actual	\$16,401	\$17,185	\$20,768	\$16,230	\$14,239	\$12,845
difference	\$2,767	-\$1,260	\$3,625	-\$857	-\$3,251	-\$3,550
March						
budget	\$16,118	\$18,152	\$17,143	\$17,088	\$17,490	\$16,400
actual	\$19,186	\$14,561	\$16,949	\$17,962	\$19,575	\$12,805
difference	\$3,068	-\$3,591	-\$104	\$824	\$2,085	-\$3,595
April						
budget	\$18,136	\$17,803	\$19,793	\$18,063	\$19,000	\$21,200
actual	\$14,022	\$20,359	\$21,182	\$15,341	\$21,862	\$17,243
difference	-\$3,714	\$2,556	\$1,289	-\$2,722	\$2,862	-\$3,157
May						
budget	\$14,284	\$18,105	\$17,143	\$17,288	\$17,890	\$16,900
actual	\$15,545	\$19,911	\$18,680	\$13,917	\$17,609	\$17,111
difference	\$1,261	\$1,086	\$1,537	-\$3,371	-\$281	\$211
June						
budget	\$14,814	\$18,434	\$16,993	\$18,488	\$19,090	\$17,000
actual	\$18,239	\$12,361	\$14,658	\$31,927	\$11,719	\$14,247
difference	\$3,515	-\$6,073	-\$2,335	\$13,439	-\$7,371	-\$2,753
July						
budget	\$14,132	\$18,107	\$16,193	\$17,088	\$16,490	\$17,000
actual	\$17,125	\$16,722	\$18,250	\$17,820	\$18,015	\$16,239
difference	\$2,993	-\$1,385	\$2,057	\$752	\$1,525	-\$761
August						
budget	\$14,840	\$17,848	\$17,143	\$17,088	\$17,490	\$16,200
actual	\$13,859	\$20,068	\$15,035	\$12,881	\$17,050	\$16,855
difference	-\$981	\$2,220	-\$2,108	-\$4,267	-\$940	\$655
September						
budget	\$15,919	\$17,793	\$17,143	\$17,087	\$17,490	\$16,400
actual	\$12,035	\$13,517	\$24,215	\$18,894	\$11,415	\$14,110
difference	-\$3,884	-\$4,726	\$7,072	\$1,827	-\$6,075	-\$2,290
October						
budget	\$16,408	\$17,968	\$17,143	\$17,088	\$17,490	\$16,400
actual	\$17,883	\$16,485	\$15,596	\$16,290	\$12,600	\$19,084
difference	\$1,475	-\$1,483	-\$1,547	-\$798	-\$4,890	\$2,684
November						
budget	\$17,658	\$18,158	\$17,243	\$17,087	\$17,000	
actual	\$15,209	\$15,269	\$14,893	\$13,087	\$12,654	
difference	-\$2,429	-\$2,889	-\$2,350	\$4,000	-\$4,346	

5 year offering/income/expense

Offerings	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
December						
budget	\$34,992	\$18,702	\$25,927	\$29,300	\$32,000	
actual	\$25,830	\$27,268	\$36,852	\$36,734	\$44,889	
difference	-\$8,562	\$8,566	\$10,875	\$7,434	\$16,889	
Total yearly offering						
budget	\$206,600	\$217,000	\$216,200	\$219,800	\$227,900	
actual	\$200,716	\$211,281	\$229,215	\$226,794	\$221,176	
difference	-\$5,784	-\$5,719	\$13,025	\$6,994	-\$6,724	
Total all income						
budget	\$263,658	\$271,700	\$278,280	\$290,300	\$308,650	
actual	\$261,863	\$277,121	\$326,671	\$325,488	\$315,607	
difference	-\$1,495	-\$5,421	\$23,607	\$35,188	\$6,957	
Total all expenses						
budget	\$265,715	\$288,250	\$281,675	\$297,355	\$321,650	
actual	\$267,803	\$293,244	\$303,064	\$315,379	\$310,030	
difference	\$1,788	\$4,994	\$21,389	\$18,024	\$11,620	
Total net for year	-\$5,940	-\$16,123	\$23,607	\$10,109	\$5,567	

Social Ministry Meets Dec. 8 @ 6:00 pm

Anyone who is interested is invited to attend our next meeting of the Social Ministry Committee on **Wednesday, Dec. 8th at 6:00 pm in the Fireside Room.**

Meeting Agenda items include: Food Distribution and fundraising/rummage sale, Christmas Angel Gifts Wrap and Delivery, future projects and more.

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

Food Distribution Quarterly Review will Meet in January 2022

Anyone interested in the Food Distribution Program is invited to attend the Quarterly Review Meeting in January 2022. Look for an update in the January Beacon.

–Linda Marzullo, Chairman, Social Ministry
688-5219, 688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Information from our Cemetery Committee

To our Bethania members-

For any of you who might be interested in purchasing plots in our Bethania Solvang Cemetery on Chalk Hill Rd, we would like to let you know that there are limited spaces available. We have 11 traditional cremation sites and 14 full burial sites remaining. We also have a Memory Garden option with 84 sites available where burials are ashes to dirt without a receptacle. We would like the members of our church to have the first opportunity, so please contact us for more information. In February we will open these spaces up for sale to residents of the community.

Betty Petersen 805.325.6267

Marie Jaeger 805.688.5448

A Gift to the Endowment Fund

A gift to the Endowment Fund is a gift to the future of Bethania. The Fund was established to enhance the mission of Bethania. The money the Fund receives is carefully invested. Only the income from the investments is used. The principal is not touched. 10% of the income must go beyond Bethania. In just the past five years, the Endowment Fund has paid:

- \$18,000 in scholarships
- \$5,000 for the 2018 Youth Gathering
- \$6,402 to the preschool for repairs and improvements
- \$30,731 to Bethania for the sanctuary air conditioning, emergency capital repairs, and the church website
- \$26,000 in donations to SYV Cottage Hospital, Middle Circle, Camp Rancho Alegre, and Circle V Ranch Camp
- \$60,000 to Bethania for emergency funding during the pandemic

In addition, the Endowment Fund has paid Bethania's annual commitment to Iglesia Luterana each year.

The Heritage Fund was established in 2012 to preserve Bethania's historic facilities (the church building). Up to 20% of the principal can be used in a calendar year. In the past five years, the Heritage Fund has paid out \$17,603. The funds were used to repair an exterior light fixture, repair the church sewer line, purchase new faucets, and install new exterior doors.

Bethania is fortunate to have the Endowment Fund and the Heritage Fund to pay for these major expenses. Please consider making a donation to the Endowment Fund and/or the Heritage Fund. Gifts of all sizes are gratefully accepted.

If you would like more information and invest in Bethania's future, please contact me.

Donna Hinsbeeck, Chair

805-686-1671

donna.hinsbeeck@rocketmail.com

Memorials and Honorary Donations

Over the past year we have received several memorial gifts and some honorary gifts. These gifts are kept in Bethania's Memorial Fund until they are used to buy items for Bethania, the Preschool & After School Program and the Cemetery. Combined together with other such gifts, we have been able to buy new ovens for the kitchen, easy-up canopies, new software for the church office computer, among many other things. We thank everyone for these gifts in memory of or in honor of loved ones.

Memorial or Honorary Gifts may also be made to the Endowment Fund, Heritage Fund, the Food Distribution Fund or Bethania Preschool and After School Program.

Received Since February 2021 with Gratitude

~ In Memory of ~

Mary Conners (Food Distribution)

Joan Sorenson (Endowment Fund)

Bob Petersen

Jimm Dorathan (Food Distribution)

Emil & Hulfred Jensen

Margaret Vang

Emily Bornhoft

Fred Kovol (Memorials and Endowment)

Ed Hansen

Burt Dillow (to the Food Distribution Program)

Received in November:

~ In Honor Of ~

*A donation to the Food Distribution Program
in honor of Allison Piligian from her "Secret Prayer Pal"*

Thank You's

Jeanne LaBarge thanks everyone for their prayers during the past months.

Thank you to the **Upper Campus School Council at Solvang School** for collecting 592 cans and boxes of food at their November Food Drive which they donated to our Food Distribution Program.

We thank all the students and families who supported this endeavor! It was as the Student Council said, "a huge success."

In Our Hearts, In Our Prayers

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

For comfort during grief for the family and loved ones of ...

Diane Bernhardt, friend of Fred & Genie Machetanz
Bryan Merich, son of Analise & Larry Merich
Ingrid Lund, sister of Chris Lund
Gloria Schatz
Henry Nielsen

Health and Other Concerns

Carol Aides, Andy Blanton, Dennis Bornhoft, Melissa Eck, Sheldon & Pat Green, Luis Haro, Shannon Hazard, Belle Hoger, Jennifer Howell, Tomi Izuno, Glen Jacobsen, Betsy & Steve Logan, Ariana Macias, John Marzullo, Brian Merrick, Denise Morris, Eric and Mallory Oftebro, Barbara & Charles Osborn, Marie Ostertag, Kate Pearrrson, Chèle Ludwig Petersen, Doyle Phillips, Robin Schatan, Judy Stamat, and those who serve our country both at home and abroad.

December Calendar Items

Sundays

9:30 am Worship Service in the Sanctuary

10:30 am Produce Table in the Breezeway & Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

11:00 am Unorthodox Gathering in the Sanctuary

11:00 am Sunday School in the Fireside Room

Monday - Friday

9:00 am - 3:00 pm - The Church Office is open.

Mondays

8:00 pm AA in the Fireside Room

Tuesdays

9:30 am Prepare and Organize for Food Distribution

1:30 pm Arrival of Food from FoodBank in the Front Parking Lot

1:45 ish pm Food Distribution Packing in the Church, Produce Sorting & Bagging in Front of the Church

5:15 - 6:45 pm Food Distribution on the Laurel Side and Courtyard side of the Church

Wednesdays

6:00 pm Yoga in the Parish Hall

Thursday, Dec. 2

Kristyl's office hours will be 12 noon - 6 pm because of SYV Wind Ensemble rehearsal.

Sunday, Dec. 5

10:30 am Brown Bag Breakfast Packing in the Parish Hall

1:00-4:00 pm SYV Jewish Community Hanukkah Party in the Courtyard

4:00 - 6:00 pm Youth Group in the Fireside Room

Wednesday, Dec. 8

6:00 pm Social Ministry Committee meeting in the Fireside Room

Thursday, Dec.9

7:00 pm Theo Pub at Solvang Brewing Company Fire Pit

Friday, Dec. 10

9 am - noon Quilting Group in the Parish Hall

Sunday, Dec. 12

5:30 pm Danish Sisterhood Party in the Parish Hall

Wednesday, Dec. 15

5:30 pm Bethania Preschool & After School Board Meeting in the Fireside Room

Thursday, Dec. 16

2:00 pm Book Group via Zoom

6:00 pm Preschool Christmas Program in the Courtyard

7:00 pm Council Meeting in the Fireside Room

Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021

10:30 am Christmas Angel Wrap in the Parish Hall

6:00 pm Service of Carols in the Sanctuary

Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021

The Preschool & After School Program will be closed Dec. 23, 2021 through Jan. 2, 2022

6:00 pm Danish Language Little Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary

Friday, Dec. 24, 2021

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary

11:00 pm Candle Light Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday, Dec. 26, 2021

Noisy Offering

The Beacon

December 2021

Bethania Lutheran Church
621 Atterdag Rd
Solvang CA 93463

1-(805) 688-4637
bethanialutheranch@gmail.com
www.bethanialutheran.net

Preschool/After School
1-(805) 688-7077
bethaniaps@verizon.net

Christmas Services in the Sanctuary

Service of Carols - Dec. 19, 2021

Danish Little Christmas Eve Service - Dec. 23, 2021

Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24, 2021

4:00 pm & 6:00 pm Bethania's Traditional Services

11:00 pm Candlelight Service