

Bethany Bells

The monthly newsletter of BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
110 West Austin St. Fredericksburg, TX 78624

www.bethanyfbg.com

Phone 830-997-2069 FAX 830-990-8916

“Being, Living as, and Making Disciples of Jesus Christ”

February 2022

Grief Support Group Begins at Bethany

By Pastor Ray Teimann

Bethany, like most congregations, does a wonderful job of caring for grieving people in the immediate days surrounding a death and funeral. Our members provide an amazing basis of support.

However, those who are grieving often need more. Not long after the funeral, people surrounding the grieving person return to their daily routines. Many don't understand the deep, prolonged impact that can be caused by the death of a loved one, much less the need for ongoing support and encouragement for the grieving person.

A program called “GriefShare” provides this kind of sustained support and helps a grieving person move from grieving to joy. Pastor Tiemann and a team of lay leaders will facilitate the 14 sessions that are a part of this program. Participants will meet weekly for two hours that will include a video and a small group conversation. They will also receive a personal workbook to help them continue their thinking and praying between sessions.

Bethany will provide this program as a free ministry to the congregation and community members. Classes begin on Thursday, February 17, and will be held twice each Thursday to accommodate varying schedules: 10:00 a.m. - noon and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

If you or a friend or a family member needs this kind of support, registration forms are available by calling (830-997-2069) or emailing (churchofficeblc@gmail.com) the church office. Or, come to the first class on February 17 and see if this is right for you. More info p. 2.

Bethany Lutheran Church
110 W. Austin St.
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
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**GriefShare –
from Mourning to Joy**
Classes Begin Thursday
February 17

GriefShare classes will meet every Thursday from February 17 – May 19. The class will be offered twice each week:

10:00 a.m. until noon

6:00-8:00 p.m.

There is no charge for these classes and persons can join the class at any point. Topics covered include 1) Is This Normal? 2) The Challenges of Grief, 3) The Journey of Grief, 4) Grief and Your Relationships, 5) Why? 6) Guilt and Anger, 7) Complicating Factors, 8) Stuck, 9) Lessons of Grief, 10) Heaven, and 11) What Do I Live for Now?

For more information, contact Rev. Ray Tiemann, Visitation Pastor, (email) tiemann200@gmail.com or (mobile) 830-456-6948 or Wilma McAndrew, Team Leader, (email) dwmcandrew@yahoo.com or (mobile) 830-644-2092.



In Our Prayers

Hospital/Clinic/ER:

Shelba Fenimore Skotti Lombardi Dwight Oestreich
Keith Whited Dave Laughlin Julianne Lombardi

Ongoing:

Carol Eckhardt Audrey Gold

Our Sympathy to:

- To Sandy Swearingen at the death of her sister, Jo Ann Spaeth Lange, in December.
- To Pat Evans and family at the death of her son John Evans; Bethany memorial was January 13.



Congratulations:

- To Peggy Sue & Mike Sagebiel at the birth of grandson Harrison Wade Wilke, son of Roland Jr. & Katie, on January 10.



BETHANY

Preschool Director Farewell

As you may know, our Preschool Director Stephanie Sanchez announced last fall that she would be leaving Fredericksburg to return to her family's preschool in the Houston area. We will miss her! Her

last day is March 11. She has certainly had a heart for children and a heart for Jesus, and we thank her for her many years of service.

A Search Team is in the process of finding a new director. Applications are due February 4.

See Us on Facebook Weekly Livestream Changes



You don't have to be a Facebook member to go to Bethany's Facebook page and watch our livestream events... which are also saved and can be watched at another time:

- FB prayer service w/ Pastor Kevin—Monday morning
- Bible Study w/ Pastor Kevin—7:00 pm Wednesdays
- Sunday Services at 8:15 traditional and 10:30 Praise & Worship (10:30 is also on YouTube)
- PLUS go to Bethany's YouTube channel to watch sermons and other video events
URL for YouTube

www.youtube.com/c/BethanyLutheranChurchofFredericksburgTX



February Birthdays



1 – Wade Giles Yogi Whitehead	12 – Valerie Baughn Caroline Stafford	21 – Cara Deike Taylor Deike
2 – Traeger Fuhrmann	13 – Sissy Andrichyn Roni Hanifen	Jerlene McWilliams Franklin Schulz
3 – Bryn DeGraw Evyn Durst Steven Evans Luke Sandoval West Giles	Jim Schultz Hawkins Staudt	22 – Michelle Ersch Payne Fry Brenna Itz Connie Pressler
4 – Jeanette Beckmann	15 – August Neans Clarence Rose	23 – Erin Hoekstra Sharon Joseph
5 – Dustin DeGraw	16 – Myrtle Hohmann Tami Smith	24 – Bea Price
7 – Brian Richey	17 – Wayne Klier Joe Sagebiel	25 – Rose Marie Mazanke Flora Wallendorf David Windham
8 – Lexi Cole Cristal Ristau Al Sunday	18 – Shirley Sagebiel 19 - Suzy Kreitz Vanda Stowe	26 – Damon Cleaton
9 – Erick Christensen	20 – Alton Herbort Dax Jung	27 – Doris Eckert Glen Grona Carolyn Whitehead
10 – Alison Grona Jaye Treibs	Bobby Klein Stanley Meier	28 – Gary Clifton Deborah Ottmers
11 – Kendall Bell Don Morris		

Stay Informed

- Text messages for updates & prayer; to join the Bethany group, text: **@bethanytx2 to 81010**
- After hours, listen to our office phone's voice message about upcoming worship.
- Those on our email prayer chain will also occasionally receive updates about changes in schedules.



Bulletin Announcements on Website

Want to see the Sunday bulletin and announcements? They're both posted each week on our website—the first items on the page:

www.bethanyfbg.com

Don't have internet? Stop by the church during the week for a copy. If you'd like to stay in your car, call and we'll bring one out to you!



Looking Ahead

Lent Begins March 2nd

Two services Ash Wednesday, One service other Wednesdays

ASH WEDNESDAY: Noon & Evening

Lent begins with two Ash Wednesday services and, possibly, an evening meal (TBA):

12:05 p.m. Imposition of Ashes & Communion

6:00 p.m. [Tentatively – baked potato supper]

7:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes & Communion (*live streamed*)

5 WEDNESDAYS IN LENT: Noon Only

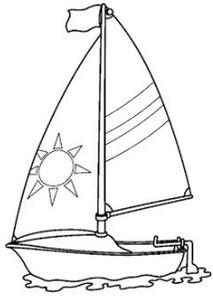
After Ash Wednesday, we'll have only one service in-person, and that will be at 12:05 p.m. It will be livestreamed, so people are invited to watch any time after 12:05 p.m.

LENT THEME

"God's Love Is Shown." In the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God shows us the greatest love the world has ever known. We'll focus each week on a different characteristic of God's love.

WEDNESDAY MEALS?

Tentatively, we'd like to have an evening meal before the 7pm Ash Wednesday service, and soup lunches after the Noon services. Because of the COVID.19 surge at press time, we are uncertain. We'll let you know as we get closer to March.



Lifeboat Log: February 2022

For the last few months, BOAT members have been writing postcards to inmates incarcerated in the Gillespie County Jail. On one side of the card, we write a verse from Scripture and a personal encouragement. On the other side is Bethany's address, mission, and these two statements: "This message of God's love and hope is sent to you from a friend at Bethany" and "We are forgiven and given new life through faith in Him." Join us in praying that disciples will be made and/or strengthened in jail. Also, look forward to an event in the near future where you can learn more about how to minister to these neighbors of ours.



We Can Help!!!

Please continue to pray for those people affected by the December 10th tornados in near Mayfield, Kentucky. Bethany member

Nancy Geistweidt's hometown of Cayce, near Mayfield, was heavily damaged. There are a couple of ways you can give direct assistance:

- You can go through Cayce Baptist Church Tornado Relief, 41 Holly Circle, Fulton, KY 42041. This will go directly to the families who need it!
- Another trusted source is ELCA Disaster Relief Response, ELCA Gift Processing, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116.

In both instances, write "Tornadoes" in your check memo line.

Thanks so much for your help!



February 2022 Assisted Living Nursing Home Communion

Location	Day	Time	Location	Day	Time
Knopp Assisted	Wed. 2/2	9:30	Villages of Windcrest	Wed. 2/9	9:45
Knopp #2	Wed. 2/2	10:30	FBG NH	Wed. 2/9	10:45
Heritage Place	Thur. 2/3	9:30	Knopp RC	Thur. 2/10	9:30
Windcrest	Thur. 2/3	10:30	Knopp #1	Thur. 2/10	10:30

Bethany: January/April/July/October
Holy Ghost: March/June/September/December
Zion: February/May/August/November

Celeste Care

*Dan Mittel

Villages of Windcrest

*Marion Welgehausen *Gloria Brooks *Audelle Burkey

FBG NURSING HOME

KNOPP HEALTHCARE & REHAB CTR (#1)

*Robert & Bambi Walter *Brandi Welgehausen

KNOPP RETIREMENT

*Clarence Rose

KNOPP (#2)

* Betty Grinke

KNOPP Assisted Living Care Center

*Susan Weinheimer

WINDCREST NURSING & REHAB

Out of Town

Menger Springs/Boerne, TX *Dorothy Rode

BLC Dollars & Cents

General Fund Budget

December 2021

Income \$113,058.95 Income – Year \$709,861.86

Expenses \$ 73,015.40 Expenses – Year \$695,722.02

Surplus year to date ----- \$ 14,139.84 End of Dec 2021

Balances Other Funds – December 2021

Designated Accounts: \$275,182.08

Capital Improvement/Hennig Fund: \$166,625.53

Pre School Building Fund: \$207,849.81

Emergency Aid Fund (Chase): \$10,135.82

PNC Bank (BBVA) Money Market Account Balance \$106,793.95

ELCA Loan Fund (Investment Account) \$35,000.00

First United Bank (CD-Hein Estate Gift) \$106,199.44

First United Bank (Savings-Hein Estate Gift) \$60,688.33

Edward Jones (Dr. Stein Estate Gift) \$313,531.99

(Beginning Value 12-31-2019 --\$221,672.83)

Monthly Special Offerings - 2021

January - Der Stadt Friedhof - \$2,660.00

February – HC Needs Council - \$3,355.21

March – Sky Ranch - \$2,070.00

April – Synod Assembly - \$1,110.00

May – Bethany PreSchool - \$11,666.00

June – Cross Trails Ministry - \$3,730.00

July - Bethany Foundation – \$6,020.00

August – Christian Job Corps - \$1,860.00

September – Grace Center - \$3,087.00

October - New Horizons/Living Well/Advantage

Care \$2,867.00

November – Hunger Programs - \$4,919.00

December -Emergency Aid - \$5,174.00

Church Council 2022

14 members: 12 elected, 2 ex-officio; 1 ongoing guest

NEWLY ELECTED TO COUNCIL:

- Tim Dahlstrom
- Becky Dittmar
- Sheila Donovan
- Danny Flink

IN THEIR SECOND YEAR:

- Deanna Christensen
- Lyle Johansen
- Troy Ottmers
- Eileen Whited

IN THEIR THIRD YEAR:

- Will Stehling
- Jet Itz
- Caleb Elrod
- David Ewing

EX-OFFICIO: Pastor Kevin Haug & Pastor Casey Zesch

ONGOING GUEST: Kiesha Priem, CYFM Director

Election Results

From January 23 Congregational Meeting

COUNCIL: see “newly elected” above

BETHANY FOUNDATION:

- Merrily Hartmann
- Beth Luckenbach
- James Hartmann

PRESCHOOL BOARD:

- Danny Flink
- Monica Jinright
- Tyler Turbeville

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

From Outgoing Council:

- Kay Stech
- Elizabeth White

Non-Council:

- Paul Hartmann
- Judy Dittmar
- Rose Marie Mazanke

SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPS:

- Paul Hartmann
- Merrily Hartmann



Sundays in February:

Adult Classes @ 9:20 Sundays

Adult Bible Class -



The Adult Bible Class meets in the overflow area at the **back** of the sanctuary with the pastors. They generally study a book of the Bible or specific Bible topics. They welcome all ages but most are over 50, although millennials sometimes attend. People of all ages are welcomed! February topic: "The Holy Spirit"



Transitions Class—

The Transitions class is for anyone who enjoys a highly interactive class where all thoughts and ideas are welcome. The class meets in **room 205** (triple room) at 9:20 a.m.. Please join us for lively discussions on various topics related to life and faith.

Legacy Builders (young adults class)-

The Legacy Builders class meets downstairs in room 115 starting at 9:20 am. In February they will be finishing up "Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name" and will begin a new lesson "You Were Made For This Moment." Please join us for breakfast bar, fellowship and studies seeking guidance for life's decisions.



February 2022 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader	HOSTS	Communion Assistants
	Kid's Message		Prayer Minister
Sun. Feb. 6	Erik Iverson Beth Iverson	Jackie Kneese (2)	No Communion Erik Iverson
Sun. Feb. 13	Mary Evans Mary Evans	Shane & Michele Willis	Jay Treibs (2) Steve Evans, Linda Pape Mary Evans
Sun. Feb. 20	Cheryl Flink Cheryl Flink	Kay & Stuart Stech	No Communion Cheryl Flink
Sun. Feb. 27	Beth Luckenbach Beth Luckenbach	Sem & Danielle Geistweidt	Marc & Camille Williamson Carl & Cristol Schoessow Beth Luckenbach



Council Highlights—

January 18, 2022



- The Council finalized plans for the annual meeting to be held on January 23 after church services.
- The Council designated surplus funds to be placed in the contingency fund.
- The Council heard of Bethany's new Grief Share program which will be led by Pastor Ray Tiemann and Wilma McAndrew
- The Council appointed a congregational treasurer and assistant treasurer as well as members to the aesthetics, audit and finance committees.

February 2022 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. Feb. 6	8:15	Dorothy Klier, captain, Wayne Klier, Ben Warriner, Elizabeth Warriner
	10:30	Kenneth Treibs, captain Jaye Treibs, Jennifer Jenschke, James Jenschke
Sun. Feb. 13	8:15	Vonnie Maner, captain, Zander Maner
	10:30	Ernie Loeffler, captain Carlton Eckert
Sun. Feb. 20	8:15	Gary Stehling, captain Denise Stehling, Cindy Zenner, James Hartmann
	10:30	Donnie Schuch captain Bruce Woerner, Joyce Richey, Tom Roarick
Sun. Feb. 27	8:15	Dwight Oestreich, captain Shirley Sagebiel
	10:30	Willard Dearing, captain Dayton Eckhardt

February 2022 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. Feb. 6	8:15	Beth Luckenbach, Rose Marie Mazanke
	10:30	Ted & Nancy Geistweidt, Pat McCready
Sun. Feb. 13	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Feb. 20	8:15	Ray & Debbie Tiemann
	10:30	Carolyn Stafford, Walter & Marilyn Probst
Sun. Feb. 27	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion

Breakfast Bar Info:

Come join us for a full breakfast bar in the downstairs kitchen (rm. 109). Breakfast begins at 9:00 before Sunday School. The food is served by masked and gloved hosts—not a grab & go meal. We encourage folks to dine in their Sunday School classroom or you may dine at tables & chairs across the hall in the Noah's Ark room.



Come join us for
Sunday School!!

Who goes.....

Where

2-5 year olds	Room #100
Kinder & 1 st Grade	Room #103
2nd & 3rd grade	Room #101
4th & 5th Grade	Room #105
Middle School	Room #113
High School	Room #112



Sunday School Stewardship

**Sunday School Offering Recipient
For January was:**

Wounded Warriors chosen by the Middle School
Sunday School Class.

**Sunday School Offering Recipient
For February was:**

B.I.G. Love Cancer Care chosen by CYFM committee



Love Yourself as Your Neighbor

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." –Matthew 22:37-39

Does this happen to you? When I make a mistake or do something dumb, I mentally beat myself up. But when OTHER people mess up, I'm Mr. Understanding and Forgiveness.

Clearly, I've got work to do, but doesn't everyone struggle to balance love of neighbor and love of self? If we are to be good stewards of our lives, we **have** to get this right. That's the genius of the second-greatest commandment – that we have to love our neighbor AND ourselves if we are to become the people God wants us to become and have the lives God wants us to have. This "month of love" provides an opportunity to focus on loving ourselves, which is too often the forgotten side of the "love thy neighbor and self" equation.

We live in a culture of criticism, so many of us fall into the trap of downplaying and denigrating ourselves, leaving us restless, discontent, depressed, empty, forever searching.

The secret is learning to love ourselves so we can love everyone and everything else, too. Here are some ideas.

- Pray! Ask God to help and guide you (Psalm 139:23-24).
- Pray! Ask God for friends who will walk with you (Proverbs 17:17).
- Remember that nothing can separate us from God's unconditional love (Romans 8:38-39).
- Strive to treat yourself with the tenderness and care you want to give others (Luke 6:31).
- Find a counselor who can help you work through past hurts and ingrained ways of thinking.

It may be hard to walk at first, but the prayerful path of greater self-love will enrich your life, open you to new people and experiences, and help you truly to follow Jesus' second greatest commandment: Love your neighbor as yourself.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2022, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipquy.com.

Brother Steward



Your Home Away From Home

Come to church more often; not just on Sundays. We're open every day.

It's a place where you can meditate, pray, worship, receive the sacraments, sing hymns of praise, or seek spiritual refuge from everyday problems. It's a place where you can celebrate the cycle of life through baptisms, weddings and funerals, as well as the great holydays of Christmas and Easter.

And there is a special space in the chapel where you can leave your troubles and anxieties at the door and exit in the light of the Lord. And through the good stewardship of time, talent, and treasure by our family, our doors are open every day.

No reservations are needed, walk-ins are invited. Think of church as an extension of your home; as a family room where the faithful gather to praise the Lord and thank him for his gifts. Or just come in for a friendly chat; God is always here.

God Bless!





Did you know....

RECEIPTS A MUST: When you're a servant volunteer at Bethany, we want to provide the tools & supplies you need, as approved by the overseeing committee or staff. We must have a **receipt** for any purchases you make using the Bethany business charge cards or when you need personal reimbursement. Thank you for your help and understanding!

PRIVATE EVENTS: Please do not block EXIT doors at any time during your private event in the fellowship hall.

FOOD PANTRY: There are always boxes in the entry area (narthex) by the church offices for your donation of canned goods.

RADIO & ONLINE SERVICES: Bethany's service is broadcast the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 am on KNAF-AM 910. We're online 8:15 & 10:30 each Sunday at Facebook, YouTube and website Bethanyfbg.com.

COMMUNION IN CHAIRS/PEWS: For those with walking difficulties in worship services, the pastors & communion assistants are glad to bring the Lord's Supper to them. Please do 3 things to help. Sit near an aisle, tell an usher or worship host when you enter, & raise a hand as communion distributors walk by.

***CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Normal hours are Mon-Fri 8:30 am—5:00 pm. Staff meetings are usually held Tuesday morning beginning at 9:00 am. (The second week of the month staff meeting is held on Wednesday due to the Pastors' Deanery on Tuesday.)

TURN OUT THE LIGHTS AFTER MEETINGS, PLEASE!

***FLOWER CHART:** Sign-up charts in the narthex for traditional services & in the fellowship hall lobby for praise & worship.

***TAKING OUT THE TRASH:** Whenever anyone serves food in the Fellowship Hall, please take the trash to the dumpster.

***LOCK IT TWICE:** Please remember when you leave the church at night to lock each glass door twice. (1) crash bar (2) outside knob



February Special Offering

Hill Country Community Needs Council

The mission of the Needs Council is "Helping Our Neighbors in Need," and that help has multiplied many times during COVID.19. It was begun in 1983 in order to coordinate community service organizations and to identify gaps in social service. The Needs Council provides assistance in four critical areas:

- Crisis assistance
- Counseling and domestic violence support
- Senior services
- Child and Family services

The Needs Council hosts the bi-monthly interagency council which brings social service organizations together to network and support each other. Bethany member Laurie Jenschke currently serves as president. It is located at 1904 N. Llano. You may write a check payable to Bethany & mark "Special Offering." Place in your February special offering envelope or a pew envelope on any Sunday morning in February or mail to the church:

Bethany Lutheran Church
110 W. Austin St.
Fredericksburg, TX 78624



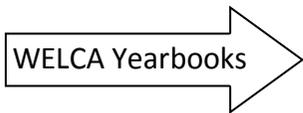
New Offering Boxes at Entrances/Exits

New secure offering boxes have been mounted on the walls by the entrances/exits to the sanctuary and to the fellowship hall. You may place your offerings in the slot of a box as you enter or leave the places of worship. Our thanks to Keith Whited for building the box. Ushers will remove the offering after worship for deposit.



- **February 1— 3:45 pm** WELCA board meets in downstairs kitchen.
- **February 3— 9:30 am** Leah Circle meets at Bethany Fellowship Hall.
- **February 8—6:00 pm** Hope Circle meets somewhere downstairs. Try the downstairs kitchen first!
- **February 9—9:00 am** Quilters meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs.
- **February 10—9:15 am** Lydia Circle meets in the downstairs kitchen.

Monthly offering for January went to the Hill Country Community Needs Council.



WELCA 2022 Yearbooks were passed out at the January Circle meetings. Extra copies are located in the Elevator Room.



Yes, The WELCA ladies will sell coffee, chocolate and tea in February!!

It's for a great cause. The money raised helps to pay for the shipping of quilts, baby kits and school kits for Lutheran World Relief.

To make it more convenient, we have set up a table in the narthex at church with a donation box. We hope you will stop by and pick up a bag or two and some chocolate bars. Any questions? Contact Debbie Tiemann 456-6946 or email at :

rtiemann1@austin.rr.com

- Coffee—Whole Bean, Ground, Kcups—\$10.00
- Boxed Tea—\$4
- Hot Cocoa & Baking Cocoa—\$5
- Chocolate Chips—\$4
- Chocolate Bars—\$4



Bethany Foundation Grant Recipients

Bethany Lutheran Foundation of Fredericksburg, Texas, Inc. recently named its 2022 grant recipients. The Foundation, whose mission is to Advance and Support the Discipleship of Jesus Christ, annually distributes funds to local organizations for outreach programs that support local benevolences and the mission of the Foundation. Recipients included:

• Bethany Lutheran Preschool	\$7,657.50
• Bethany Lutheran Church	\$7,657.50
• Hill Country Community Needs Council	\$2,000.00
• Bethany Women of the ELCA	\$1,000.00
• Boys & Girls Club of the Texas Hill Country	\$2,500.00
• The Grace Center	\$2,000.00
• Fredericksburg Community Health Center	\$2,615.00
(The Good Samaritan)	
• Living Well Learning Center	\$1,200.00
• MOM Center	\$1,000.00
• Honor Veterans Now	\$1,000.00
• Fredericksburg Rotary (Toys for Tots)	\$ 500.00
• Special Olympics of Texas	\$1,000.00
• Fredericksburg Chorale	\$ 500.00
	\$30,630.00



First Bibles to be Presented on Palm Sunday!

First Bibles will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 10th, to our 2 year olds and 3rd graders. The 3rd grade Bibles will be displayed outside of the Fellowship Hall, starting March 27th , for people to hi-light and share their favorite verses with the kids. This is a way to celebrate God’s story with each other and for the kids to know that they are a part of something much bigger than themselves.

3rd Graders (& some who have not received a Bible.)

- Emma Baughn
- Nolan Baughn
- Willow Elrod
- Daivey Edeen
- Wade Giles
- Johlt Haggerty
- Calen Holland
- Alayna Pape
- Grant Peyton
- Joshua Preiss
- Luke Sandoval

2 year Olds

- Matthew Mechler
- Cole Reeves
- Corb Rush
- Jacob Sanchez
- Mia Turbeville

***** If you do not see your child on this list, please contact the church office! Sometimes our records are not complete.*****



Thank You, Christmas Day Dinner Volunteers!!!

A hearty “thank you” goes out to all Bethany members who volunteered at the 5th annual Christmas Day dinner at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church! Fifteen people gave a little of their time to serve 310 dinners (including 62 delivered to homebound people) and enjoyed some food and fellowship themselves. Thank you for helping to bring a little joy to many who would have been alone or unable to celebrate such a splendid Christmas meal. Marti Jennings and the Holy Ghost fellowship team wanted you to know of their gratitude for your generosity of time and spirit. See ya next year??

-David Ewing



Dear Bethany Church,
The two German choirs of Fredericksburg, the Arion Maennerchor and the Hermannsoehne Gemischter Chor, want to thank Bethany Lutheran Church for allowing us to rehearse in the music room before the start of the pandemic and again in the fall of 2021. We appreciate your generosity . Please accept the donation for your church’s outreach program. The choir members enjoyed practicing in your facility.

We are thankful that you made the facility available to us when we were in dire need of a rehearsing room.

Sincerely,
Dieter Kemper
President of Arion Maennerchor

Heinrich Boenig
President of Hermannsoehne Gemischeter Chor



**A Few Words from our
BPS Director:
Stephanie Sanchez**

February is upon us, and it seems 2022 is going to move along just as quickly as the last couple of years. This month the children are looking forward to their class Valentine's Day Parties and have already started talking about the day. Much of the next couple of weeks will focus on friendship and love and how we can share those feelings with those around us. One of our teachers' main focuses for our preschool aged children is to develop their social-emotional skills. By developing these skills, we not only set our young students up for success in kindergarten but these skills will help in variety of different conflicts throughout their lives.

The last few years filled with social distancing, quarantines, and cohorting has taken its toll on the social development of children all over the world. Research shows that more children are suffering from increased separation anxiety, being overstimulated in the classroom setting, have more trouble resolving problems and struggle with friendships. We are seeing all of these in students of all ages in our program. In order to combat this, we are focusing on providing children with a safe place to express their feelings and grow their social skills. Our teachers spend time every day connecting with the children and connecting the children to each other to create a school family. By using intentional time each day, they learn to count on and depend on one another. This is a real-life connection of how to treat people and has proven to be one of the best things we can do to develop these social skills for life. Our curriculum offers time each day for students to share feelings, concerns and triumphs with their classmates, allowing them to not only learn how to express emotion, but build communication and literacy skills as well. As you can see, our Preschool teachers have a very important job in developing the future leaders of our society.

(Continued on page 13)



High School Mission Trip

(current 8th—12th grade)



Pine Ridge, South Dakota

(Pine Ridge Reservation)

With Next Step Ministries

June 25 – July 3



First Communion Class

(current 4th grade & above)

Sunday, February 27,

11:45-3:00 p.m.

4th—6th grade will be baking bread during the Sunday School Hour on March 6.

First Communion Family Service—March 9.
Below are those (known) eligible for First Communion this year:

Audrey Ahrens
Payton Boesl
Erich Cleaton
Autumn Elrod
Emma Elrod
Ethan Flink
Piers Fry

Leah Geistweidt
Helen Houser
Dax Jung
Zane Oestreich
Knox Padgett
Kendyll Petty
Trenton Schnelle

Atley Schulz
Clayton Slaughter
Hudson Staudt
Andrew Stehling
Luke Stehling
Lilian Straube



Bethany YARD heART Youth Fundraiser

Send the Bethany YARD heART exhibit to a friend for a (suggested) donation of only \$20. Upon receipt of your order form and donation, volunteers will secretly place Bethany's YARD heARTS in the requested friend's front yard to be exhibited. Requests can be made by filling out the YARD heART order form or emailing kieshblc@gmail.com However payment must be received before the heARTS will be placed. You may also purchase "heart insurance" for a suggested donation of \$25 to insure that your yard is not targeted again.

The YARD heART exhibit will travel in the evening hours and will remain in the yard for approximately 48 hours. YARD heARTS can be sent to ANYONE, not just Bethany members! But please keep it in the Fredericksburg zip code.

******HOWEVER**, our hearts may not be placed onto public property or at apartment complexes.*****

Please make checks payable to Bethany Youth and bring your check/cash along with your completed YARD heARTS Order Form to:

Bethany Lutheran Church, attn: Kiesha,
110 W. Austin St., Fredericksburg, TX 78624

OR

Use the Venmo App: @BethanyFBG



SCAN ME

(Continued from page 12.)

While play and fun is an important part of what we do each day, our preschool teachers are trained professionals who provide high quality care to each child in our program. Children are resilient and we have no doubt through support and skill building these children can grow to one of the most emotionally intelligent generations in history. Much of this training and curriculum is available to our students through the generosity of our congregation throughout the year including donations from the Bethany Foundation and your participation in the upcoming Texas Made Texas Raised event. These acts of generosity allow us to provide the most up to date trainings for our staff and cutting edge curriculum for our students. You are making a difference in the future generations. Bethany Preschool staff and families are blessed by you! Thank you for all you do for our program.

In His Service,
Stephanie Sanchez
Director



February 2022 Altar Guild

Traditional:

Clara Kozielski, Sheila Donovan,
Bonnie Beckmann & Pat McCready

Contemporary:

Sandra Swearingen & Kathy Marquart





175th Anniversary Salutes “Lasting Leadership” in February

During the month of February, the 175th anniversary theme is “Lasting Leadership.” The sponsor for the month is Hill Country Memorial, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2021.

Throughout Fredericksburg’s 175 years many examples of outstanding leadership can be found.

Certainly the leadership of John O. Meusebach in negotiating a peace treaty with the Penateka Comanche secured the future of this German settlement in the wilderness of Texas.

An example of early leadership in the business community came from Temple D. Smith, who founded in 1887 the Bank of Fredericksburg (*the building on East Main in which Headquarters Hats is located in*). It was with his vision and leadership that the San Antonio, Fredericksburg and Northern Railway Company in 1913 connected our town to a railhead of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad in Kendall County. An unintended legacy of the railway is the Old Tunnel State Park with its colony of Mexican free-tailed bats.

The National Museum of the Pacific War highlights the leadership traits of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz in the exhibits in the renovated gallery of the museum located in the Nimitz Hotel building on East Main Street. If you have not seen the interactive exhibits on the life of Admiral Nimitz, it is worth a trip downtown.

President Lyndon Baines Johnson, our neighbor down the road in Stonewall, provided leadership on the national scene in addressing poverty, educational opportunities, civil rights and preservation of natural resources in the United States by lobbying for and sometimes “forcing” legislation through Congress in the 1960s.

The opening of a new hospital in Fredericksburg in 1971 took a great deal of leadership in the community to make this dream a reality. The Medicare Act in 1965 had brought sweeping changes to the medical field across America.

(Continued on page 17.)



Souper Bowl of Caring

Bethany youth will be collecting canned goods for the Fredericksburg Food Pantry on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 13.

SWTS High School Youth Gathering February 18-20 “(Re)Connected”

Connections are important. Whoever you are in a relationship with, healthy connections will help build that relationship and help you answer who God is calling you to be. Camp fun and interactive, faith-filled learning with other synod youth are all a part of The Gathering experience.

Register online at crosstrails.org!

Youth—\$110 Adults—\$55



SUMMER DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 11-18 - Middle School (current 6th & 7th graders) at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, Colorado
- July 17-22—Day Camp at Bethany with Cross Trails Ministry
- July 24-29—Elementary kids (current 2nd –5th grade) at Camp Chrysalis, Kerrville

For Registration info. check with Kiesha!

Eat, Drink, & Give

Thursday, April 28

Vista Oaks Event Center

TEXAS MADE
TEXAS ★ RAISED

A Bethany Preschool Fundraiser

TICKETS: \$75



Join us for an evening of Texas
wine, small bites and
entertainment at the beautiful
Vista Oaks.

Sponsorships Now Available

Use QR code or
Contact Bethany Preschool
For more info

(“Lasting Leadership” continued from p. 14)

Exemplifying visionary leadership, Lorence Feller, MD, and J. Hardin Perry, MD, both made the decision to close their own private hospitals in Fredericksburg to help establish a new nonprofit community hospital.

Early leadership roles in the arena of preservation of historic structures in Fredericksburg and Gillespie County were held by people like Albert Keidel, Shatzie Crouch, Eugene and Margaret McDermott, Elise Kowert and many, many others who have followed in their footsteps. The leadership roles of many since 1935 have shaped the successes of the Gillespie County Historical Society.

Certainly the Fredericksburg that we know and love today has been impacted by visionary leaders throughout the past 175 years.

The 175th Anniversary Steering Committee salutes leaders of the past and present during February!



Dear Bethany family,

Thank you for the incredible support and love expressed upon the death of my mother, Dorothy Kusenberger. Your words of comfort, your cards, and memorials meant much to us during a very difficult time. We feel truly blessed to be members of the Bethany congregation.

God bless you all!

Teri & David Ewing

Calendar

Calendar