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

January

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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"

January 2023

Town Hall #2

The "Detail" Presentation January 29

Last month, on December 18, we had our first Town Hall meeting to give a "big picture" overview of where we are regarding the new preschool building we'd voted in December 2019 to build. Of course, COVID hit along with financial uncertainty, so we delayed our $3.7M Capital Campaign initially planned for fall 2020.

As noted on December 18, we know the cost has almost doubled, and we know we as a congregation can't build the preschool alone—we'll need a commitment from the community.

Building Chair Dwight Oestreich presented a history of the congregation's actions in making a Long Range Plan, creating a master plan for the campus, and the vote to build a new preschool to expand our ministry to children and families and help with the childcare crisis in Fredericksburg. The new 2022 estimate for construction is $5,700,000 plus architect's fee of $465,000.

Preschool Director Cheryl Flink gave information about current enrollment of 119, a waiting list of 103, new building space for 210-260, & ways we keep fees affordable. Campaign Chair Bill Heath provided the possible plans for launching a congregational campaign, a community campaign, and seeking grants. More details will be given on Sunday, January 29, 11:45 a.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting

January 22, 2023

Bethany's annual Congregational meeting will be held **Sunday, January 22nd** after the late services. We will discuss and vote on the 2023 budget, receive reports, and elect nominees. A published "Annual Report 2022" will be distributed on January 15th.

Annual Report Distributed January 15

The "Annual Report" gives an overview of Bethany in 2022, summaries of the mission and ministries of all our committees and organizations, the proposed 2023 Budget, financial reports, the agenda for our January 22 meeting, and nominees for Council, Preschool board, Bethany Foundation, and Synod Assembly voting members.

To all those who serve as usher and/or communion assistants:

Since there are some changes in duties for ushers and communion assistants, we will be offering a short training session following the services on January 15; 9:15 and 10:30 so please attend whichever is convenient for you. This is just to make volunteers aware of changes and to ensure everyone feels comfortable in performing their duties. Anyone who would like to help and has not volunteered in the past will find it helpful to hear how and why things are done. The training session will be short. We need and appreciate all the help.

In Our Prayers

Hospital/Clinic/ER/Tests:

Helen Feller	Clara Kozielski	Frankie Law
Kathy Meybaum	Dan Mitttel	Vic Nixon
Pastor Walter Probst	Gary Stehling	

Ongoing:

Audrey Gold	Heide Kemper	Bobby Klein
Billy Leifeste		

Our Sympathy to:

- The family of Betty Brown Grinke, who died November 24; funeral was November 30.
- Corine Schulz at the death of her brother, Delvin Reuter

Congratulations to:

Jessica Mittel & Travis Neal who were married at Bethany in a private ceremony on December 16.

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 up-coming worship.
- Those on our email prayer chain will also occasionally receive updates about changes in schedules.

January Birthdays

1 – River Andrichyn
2 – Kathy Crenwelge
Sweetie Dietz
Megan Jinright
Ken Oehler
Mike Sedgwick
3- Peggy Geistweidt
Iris Neffendorf
4- Lyn Linka
Kevin Haug
5- Jaleigh Brown
Evan Barnard
Garet Gold
Kiera Haug
6 – Winnie Griffin
Casey Zesch
7- Kayla York
8 – Miranda Langehennig
9 – Doris Herbort
11- Paul Hartmann
Dieter Kemper
Charles Kuenemann
12- Noelle Christensen
Denise Kunz
13 –Pat Maenius
14 –Richard Bruns
Monica Jinright
Margie Oehler
Lilly Ottmers
Madeline Sagebiel
Aaron Steger
Nora Tronstad
Lilly Tronstad
15 - Oliver Deike
Kimberly Fritz
16 – Jason Itz
Russell Wipff
Gage Bertelson
17 – Judy Kramer
18 – Linda Schuch
James Wallendorf
19 – Clinton Deike
Shelba Fenimore
20 – Pansy Benedict
Bryan Langehennig
Lindsey Luckenbach
Jonathan Slaughter
21 – Maurie Gray
Kim Sedgwick
22 – Kyle Grona
Jason Jenschke
23 – Kathy Laumann
Clayton Slaughter
24 – Ella Hartmann
Christa Peyton
25 – Shelby Beaird
Sidney Beaird
Zoe Rivera
Greyson Roarick
Brooklyn Schnelle
26 – Collyns Koone
Ed Kramer
Michael Robison
27 – David Laughlin
Kathy Straube
Karen Rode
28 – Grant Pittman
29 – Guy Ristau
30 – Esther Holland
31 – Kathy Marquart
Nora Schoessow

Nominations

Below are the slate of nominees for your consideration at the Annual Meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

COUNCL NOMINEE SLATE FOR 2023 (vote for 4):

- Dave Brown
- Brenda Doerre
- Katie Jung
- Mike Stolpe

PRESCHOOL BOARD (vote for 3):

- Cristal Wilkinson Ristau
- Courtney Schoessow Mechler
- Justin Hagendorf

SYNOD ASSEMBLY NOMINEES (vote for 2):

- Stuart Stech
- Kay Stech

BETHANY LUTHERAN FOUNDATION OF FREDERICKSBURG, INC.

(See terms below.)

Notes: Mike Sedgwick is nominated to fill the unexpired 2-year term of James Hartmann. Two directors are retiring after two full terms. The BLF Board voted to expand the number of Directors from 7 to 9 as provided in the Bylaws.

To maintain the existing staggering of terms across the 3 classes of 3 Directors each:

- Dana Rowan (selected at random) shall serve a a1-year term.
- Lindy Haley, Joyce Richey, and Eric Iverson shall serve 3-year terms.

Elect 5:

Lindy Haley
Joyce Richey
Mike Sedgwick
Erik Iverson
Dana Rowan
floor nominations, if any

Special Offering for January

Der Stadt Friedhof

Our church cemetery is overseen by a board of representatives from Bethany, Zion, and Holy Ghost Lutheran Churches and supported by donations from these 3 churches and sometimes other congregations. You may write a check payable to Bethany and stub it "cemetery". Use your January special offering envelope or a pew envelope on any Sunday morning in January or mail it to the church:

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

Bethany representatives are Max Beckmann and Ralph Rode.

Sacred Marriage Seminar

What If God Designed Marriage to Make Us Holy More than to Make Us Happy

January 20 – 21

Free seminar by renowned Christian author Gary Thomas, sponsored by the Gillespie County Ministerial Association, Friday Jan 20, 6-9pm, and Saturday Jan 21, 9-12am. Location has changed to the Fredericksburg Methodist Church. Childcare for age 3-11 provided by Bethany Lutheran Church (997-2069). Designed for all Christians —married, engaged, divorced, single. Questions? Contact the Good Samaritan Center 990-8651. Go to www.garythomas.com and read more about the book *Sacred Marriage* or ask Pastor Kevin.

January 2023
Assisted Living

Location	Day	Time	Location	Day	Time
Knopp Assisted	Wed. 1/4	9:30	Villages of Windcrest	Wed. 1/11	9:45
Knopp #2	Wed. 1/4	10:30	FBG NH	Wed. 1/11	10:45
Heritage Place	Thur.1/5	9:30	Knopp RC	Thur. 1/12	9:30
Windcrest	Thur. 1/5	10:30	Knopp #1	Thur. 1/12	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)
*Brandi Welgehausen *Clinton Deike

KNOPP RETIREMENT
*Clarence Rose * Jeanette Beckmann

KNOPP (#2)

KNOPP Assisted Living Care Center

WINDCREST NURSING & REHAB
*Genevieve Ketron

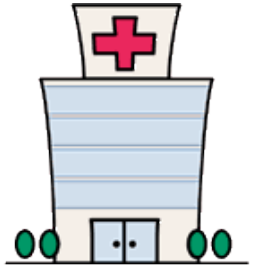
Heritage
* Roberta Young

Juniper Apartments, Kerrville
*Betty Deans Koetting

January 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. Jan. 1	10:30	Debbie Tiemann, Kiesha Priem
Sun. Jan. 8	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Jan. 15	8:15	Rose Marie Mazanke, Jonathan Baethge
	10:30	Jody Donovan, Jim McAfee, Sharon Joseph
Sun. Jan. 22	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Jan. 29	8:15	Todd & Wesley Keener
	10:30	Joe & Marilyn Butcher, Pat McCready

When You Are Hospitalized



If you are hospitalized and would like a visit by one or our pastors, please call or have someone call the church office to let the pastors know. When you register at the hospital desk, please specifically put "Bethany" or at least "Lutheran" on your registration form when you check in.

Wanted: Empty Ink Cartridges

When your computer ink cartridges are empty please bring them to Bethany. There is a basket in the Fellowship Hall lobby where the are being collected. Money raised from these empty cartridges helps to fund worthwhile projects.

One Worship Service New Year's Day – January 1

We will have one New Year's Day worship in the sanctuary on Sunday, January 1st, which is the "Eighth Day of Christmas." So plan on singing more Christmas carols plus a new year's hymn. The service will be at 10:30 a.m.

Important Dates in January

January 20-21: Sacred Marriage Seminar

January 22: Annual Congregational Meeting
(Annual reports given January 15)
Church Council Supper

January 29: Town Hall Meeting #2: The Details

January 2023 Altar Guild

Traditional:
Marjorie Ottmers &
Sarah Eckhardt

Contemporary:
Jaye Treibs & Krystal Geistweidt

January Sunday Schedule

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 will continue studying Bible passages about "The Lord's Supper" during January. People of all ages are welcomed. Please come join us!

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 then for lively discussions on various topics related to life and faith.

Legacy Builders (young adults class)-

The Legacy Builders Sunday School class is studying the series The Way by Adam Hamilton for the month of January. This class meets downstairs in room 115. Please join us for scripture, encouragement, insight, and great fellowship!

January 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. Jan. 1	10:30	Kenneth Treibs - captain, Jaye Treibs, Jennifer Jenschke, James Jenschke
Sun. Jan. 8	8:15	Todd Keener—captain, Wesley Keener, David Browne, Sharon Browne
	10:30	Ted Geistweidt- captain Nancy Geistweidt, Joe & Marilyn Butcher
Sun. Jan. 15	8:15	Beth Luckenbach—captain, Jerry Luckenbach, Linda McCann, Gerald Schmidt
	10:30	Bruce Woerner - captain Robert & Shelly Gibbons, Logan & Callen Ketron
Sun. Jan. 22	8:15	Dwight Oestreich—captain Anton Loest, Scott & Judy Brundridge
	10:30	Willard Dearing—captain Rick Dulaney, Matthew, John & Elizabeth Dulaney
Sun. Jan. 29	8:15	Mike Sagebiel—captain Peggy Sue Sagebiel, Shirley Sagebiel, Jonathan Baethge
	10:30	Weldon Itz—captain Jet Itz, Al & Dorcella Sunday

Bulletin Announcements on Website

Want to see the Sunday bulletin and announcements? They're both posted each week on our website. Click on the worship tab for the drop down menu: **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!

January 2023 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader / Kid's Message	HOSTS	Communion Assistants / Prayer Minister
Sun. Jan. 1	One New Year's Day Service in Sanctuary		
Sun. Jan. 8	Ken Smith / Ken Smith	Elizabeth White Danielle Geistweidt	Marc & Camille Williamson Ralph & Karen Rode / Ken Smith
Sun. Jan. 15	Carl Schoessow / Carl Schoessow	Larry Ahrens Jackie Kneese	No Communion / Carl Schoessow
Sun. Jan. 22	Beth Luckenbach / Beth Luckenbach	Katie Jung (2)	Erik & Beth Iverson Jennifer & James Jenschke / Beth Luckenbach
Sun. Jan. 29	Kiesha Priem / Kiesha Priem	Kiesha Priem (2)	Kiesha Priem (4)

Council Highlights—

December 13, 2022

- The council heard a report from Dwight Oestreich of the Building Committee, Bill Heath of the Capital Campaign Committee, and Cheryl Flink, Bethany Preschool Director.
- Danny Flink gave a very positive report on the Christmas Journey. Over $5000 was collected for the Fredericksburg Food Pantry.
- The council approved the proposed 2023 budget presented by the Finance Committee for presentation to the congregation at the January 22, 2023, Annual Meeting.
- The refurbishing of the handbells was approved.
- The November monthly financial report reflected a shrinking deficit, and the pastors reported generous giving so far in December.

Sunday School & Adult Education Rooms

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

Young Adults/Legacy Builder's Room #115
Transitions will meet in the Triple Room #205
Adult Bible Classes will meet in the overflow area at the back of the sanctuary.

Christmas Journey spread Christmas cheer through the story of the birth of Christ to over 2,000 people, and we were able to donate over $5,000 to the Fredericksburg Food Pantry!

We are so blessed to give this gift to the community and to people from all over the nation. (We even had guests from Brazil!) The Journey is a journey, and it takes a village to put this on! The time and talents of over 150 volunteers is truly appreciated! From the set up and take down crew, actors, scene captains, costume fitting teams, sanctuary clean up crew, and those who helped by making delicious food, we are eternally grateful! Let's do it again! (Well in 11 months!)

Love,
Kenneth and Jaye Treibs
Danny and Cheryl Flink

Brother Steward

Happy New Year!
Happy New You!

Make a resolution to be a Steward!

What's that all about? We are all called to use wisely God's gifts to us of Time, Talent, and Treasure. And that's the basis of stewardship. For example:

Time: *Use it to pray more. Go to church regularly. Read the scriptures.*

Talent: *Visit the sick or lonely. Help the poor and needy. Volunteer for the Food Pantry. Teach Bible class.*

Treasure: *Support our ministries, church and school through offertory collections.*

That's stewardship....and that's a way to be a ***Happy New You****, this New Year.*

God Bless!

A HUGE Thank You!!!

Thank you Bethany! You have given so many families a smile this Christmas and a belief in the goodness of their fellow man. You once again outdid yourselves! The triple room was filled with food, staples and gifts for the children of several families supplied to us by the Needs Council. Whatever we ask for—food, gifts, or your time—Bethany members always give more. The generosity you have shown to so many demonstrates your love for your neighbor.

We also want to thank those who helped to deliver the Angel Tree gifts to the Needs Council. The Needs Council was overwhelmed with the outpouring of gifts from our Bethany members to these needy families. You are awesome!!

Thank you also for the wonderful nourishing food for the Christmas Journey. The many soups and sandwiches were all delicious and so enjoyed by the workers.

We are blessed to be surrounded by so many loving hearts and live side by side in our beautiful community.

The Fellowship Committee

Women of the ELCA

January Schedule

Our 3 WELCA Circles will getting back to their usual schedules in January. All 3 circles have a Bible study, a short business meeting, and **lots** of good fellowship!!!

- **January 3—4:00 pm** WELCA board meets in downstairs kitchen
- **January 5—9:30 am** Leah Circle meets at Lois Bush's home.
- **January 10—6:00 pm** Hope Circle meets in the downstairs kitchen.
- **January 11—9:00 am** Quilters meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs
- **January 12—9:15 am** Lydia Circle meets in the downstairs kitchen.

The Monthly offering for December went to the ELCA World Hunger program and some of the members also bought Good Gift Ornaments to send an animal to a needy family

Congratulations and thank you to our new WELCA officers.

President—Jet Itz
Vice President—Krystal Geistweidt
Treasurer—Ann Hostetter
Secretary—Nancy Geistweidt
Mission in Action—Dorcella Sunday
Mission in Growth—Carolyn Garza

Our Bold Woman recipient for 2022 is Dorcella Sunday!!! This was announced at the December Joint Circles meeting. Dorcella is a circle leader for the Lydia group and our Mission in Action representative. She has been involved in WELCA for many years and has served in many capacities, as an officer and committee representative.

GriefShare – from Mourning to Joy

Bethany is pleased to offer again in 2023 a program called "GriefShare." It provides sustained, personal support and helps a grieving person move from mourning 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. Participants will also receive a personal workbook to help them continue their thinking and praying between sessions.

GriefShare classes will meet every Thursday from January 12-April 13. The class will be offered twice each week, from 10:00 a.m. until noon and again from 6:00-8:00 p.m. There is no charge for these classes and persons can join the class at any point. Topics 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.

New Year's Resolutions to Steward Your Life

Have any resolutions for 2023? (It's not Too late to make them!) New Year's resolutions are a great way to boost the stewardship of your life. After all, resolutions are just goals for enriching our lives.

Here are some areas to consider:
***Spirituality:** Grow in faith by engaging spiritual practices. Resolve to pray and read scripture daily, attend worship, give generously, cultivate spiritual relationships, serve church and community.*

***Health:** Gain vitality by resolving to lose weight, eat healthfully, exercise regularly, learn about health and nutrition and get checkups at your doctor and dentist.*

***Intellect:** Keep your mind active by resolving to read books, check out educational programs and podcasts, take a class to learn a new language or skill.*

***Relationships:** Resolve to make new friendships and deepen existing ones. Work on family relationships to strengthen bonds and bring people closer to you and other family members.*

***Leisure:** Include resolutions to help you enjoy life! Vacations, hobbies, activities, getaways, day trips.*

***Financial:** Get your financial house in order. Resolve to make and keep a budget, reduce debt, increase income, save more and become more learned in money matters.*

We are stewards of the life that God has given us. For 2023, pray for God's guidance and make a few resolutions that address your priority issues. And pray for God's help in keeping them. Blessings for 2023!

—Rob Blezard

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A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

***Directions:** Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.*

Do not seek r**e**_____ or bear a grudge against anyone among your __ople, but lo**v**e your n**e**ig_____ as you**r**self.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do rig**h**t; seek jus_____. Def**e**nd the __p**r**es**s**ed. Take up the cause of t**h**e _____less; ple**a**d the ___e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown y**o**u, O mortal, what is go__. **...**
To act j**u**st**t**y **a**nd to lov**e** me___ and **t**o walk _____ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

- father____
- pe____
- __venge
- __od
- __rcy
- op_____
- ____hbor
- humb__
- cas_
- ___tice

So in _ _ _ _ ything, do to ot _ _ _ _ what you would _ _ ve them d _ to you, for this s _ ms up the _ _ w and the Proph _ _ s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV

Answer: revenge, people, neighbor, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets

Did you know….

Friendly Reminders

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 SERVICE: Bethany's service is broadcast the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 am on KNAF-AM 910.

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.

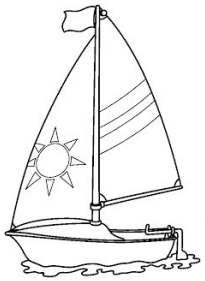
***CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Normal hours are Mon-Fri 8:30 am—5:00 pm. Staff meeting are usually held Tuesday morning beginning at 9:00 am. (The second week of the month staff meeting is held on Wednesday due to the Pastors' Deanery on Tuesday.)

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



Lifeboat Log : January 2023

A hearty "thank you" to all who volunteered to help out at the annual Holy Ghost Christmas Day dinner! We were able to contribute 15 workers who enjoyed serving grateful diners as well as also sharing in some tasty food. Assistance like this as well as continuing to support the Lifeboat little free pantry are tangible and meaningful demonstrations of God's love for our community. Again, thank you!

A reminder that we will be hosting our quarterly Car Day on **Saturday, January 7, from 9-11 AM**, in the back parking lot. If your car needs a little TLC, please stop by. Also, recommend us to someone who could use this service. We appreciate the word-of-mouth advertisement!

B.O.A.T.
(Bethany Outreach and Advocacy Team)

Calling All Readers!!

We have a large collections of books in the Triple Room available to anyone who would like to take them.

Come check it out! You may find something that interests you.

Proposal for Preschool Building

The Building Committee and Capital Campaign Committee have been meeting to assess current need and possibilities for a new Bethany Preschool Building. The congregation voted in December 2019 to build a new preschool; however, COVID disrupted our plans for a capital campaign in 2020 and 2021.

The estimated cost in 2019 was $3.4 million plus architect fees; the new estimate in 2022 is $5.7 million plus architect fees. The committees believe that the new cost most likely means we cannot accomplish this project on our own. The committees and council therefore are looking at a two-fold capital campaign: one *within* the congregation, one in the community. They believe the community awareness of the need for child care could bring about some major gifts from outside of the congregation.

Current plans are to have a town hall meeting on January 29th and a tentative vote in February.

Prayer Cards to Ushers

We are again collecting prayer cards in Traditional Worship. A pastor picks up the cards at 8:15 worship. At 10:30, the ushers will need to collect the cards, as the worship pastor runs the slide show on the screen. You may write on the prayer card the names of people for whom we should pray. Be sure that you have permission from the person or that their condition is public information. Thanks!

Thank You

Dear Bethany friends,
You have truly BEEN and LIVED as disciples of Jesus Christ to our family during the illness and death of Tim. We are so thankful for all of your cards, texts, phone calls, visits, hugs, and food, first when we learned of the cancer and then through the journey to his death and through the burial. We especially thank our pastors: Casey, Kevin, and Ray. Their visits and prayers always uplifted us. May each of you have a very blessed New Year.

The Van Antwerp family

THANK YOU to everyone who packed a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child. Bethany collected over 108 boxes to be sent to children around the world. Way to go!! Also, a special thanks to those who made special contributions to help pay for shipping.

Pastors Casey, Pastor Kevin and Pastor Ray and their families would like to thank everyone for their Christmas greetings, cards, gifts, and well wishes. We are honored and blessed to serve with so many kind folks.

Bethany Lutheran Church
Designated Special Monthly Offering Calendar
2023

January	Der Stadt Friedhof
February	Bethany Preschool
March	Needs Council
April	Synod Assembly
May	Water to Thrive
June	Cross Trail Ministry
July	Bethany Foundation
August	FISD Education Foundation
September	The Grace Center of Fredericksburg
October	New Horizons/Living Well College/ Advantage Care Services
November	Hunger (Fbg. Food Pantry & ELCA World Hunger, each 1/2)
December	Bethany Emergency Aid Fund

Thank you to the following for making the Youth Christmas Program possible:

Karis Edeen, Mary Greene, Katie Jung, Rusty Petsch, Kiesha Priem, John & Caroline Stafford, Aaron Steger, Ginny Stehling, Kenneth & Jaye Treibs, Kyle Treibs, Elizabeth White, Annabel Wilkinson, our youth, their parents, and to all the strong bodies who helped with scene set up and take down.

Alyssa Rode
Director of Christian Education

The Fellowship Committee is meeting on **Sunday, January 15th, 11:45** to make plans for the year. Interested in joining this group???
Please come!!! All are welcome!

BLC Dollars & Cents

General Fund Budget - November 2022

Nov Income	$61,298	YTD Income	$656,473
Nov Expenses	$63,341	YTD Expenses	$688,587

Deficit year to date $-32,114
(Thanks to generous early December contributions, we have already received >$85,000 through the first 3 Sundays. Thank you for your continued contributions and support.)

Balances other funds (November 2022)

Designated Funds: $212,229
Capital Improvement / Hennig Fund: $159,885
Pre School Building Fund: $232,667
Emergency Aid Fund: $6,377

Contingency Fund (PNC money market): $106,805
ELCA Mission Fund: $35,000
Hein Fund (for GF or Hennig) - CD: $106,199
Hein Fund (for GF or Hennig) - MMA: $60,830
Dr. Stein Investment Fund: $266,604

November Special Offering - Hunger Programs: $4605

New: Doors Open Longer

New Option for Entering Porte-cochere Doors

The double doors under the porte-cochere now have a new mechanism that allows to doors to remain open longer for those needing a little more time. Simply push the door open as far as it will go and it will remain in place. Once inside, the person assisting you can pull on the door and it will close again. This will be especially helpful for people in wheelchairs or with walkers.

Youth & Family

Don't Forget!!!

No Sunday School or Breakfast Bar January 1st. We'll start everything back up on January 8.

January 29th: Youth-led worship during Praise & Worship Service (10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.)

ALSO....

January 29th: Middle & High School— "Soup"er Bowl of Caring Lunch & Bowling

We'll be collecting canned food items for the Fredericksburg Food Pantry. We'll meet after church to eat & hand out bags in the neighborhoods; then head to BB's bowling!! Bring $10.

February 12—after church Middle & High School pick up cans for "Soup"er Bowl of Caring.

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We have hope in our board member nominees, and also truly appreciate all of the good works of the members who are exiting! A huge THANK YOU to the exiting board members—Callie Sides, Brooke Eckert and Carissa Tronstad for their three years of service and dedication to improving the preschool and supporting our staff. We look forward to our new board member nominees in January: Justin Hagendorf, Courtney Schoessow Mechler and Cristal Wilkinson Ristau! Thank you for committing to dedicate your time to our Bethany Preschool adventures!

With our academics, we will dive back into our classroom rules and routines! The thematic focus for this month is: Fairy Tales and Rhymes. The students will engage in retelling familiar fables such as "The Three Little Pigs", "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" and "Jack and the Beanstalk". In Bible study, the children will be reading stories from the New Testament.

We look forward to many hopeful opportunities this year! Thank you all for walking with us in love and support every step of the way!

God be with you!
Cheryl Flink, Bethany Preschool Director

From the Bethany Caretaker:

A big thank you for the help of taking down and resetting for all the different events throughout the year. Also, please remember, I like to recycle cardboard, plastic bottles and #1 & 2 plastic containers.

Thanks, John Stafford

A Few Words from our BPS Director:

Cheryl Flink

Dear Bethany Lutheran members,

Romans 15:13 ~ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Happy New Year!

We ended 2022 with a TON of fun activities! One highlight was our Bethany Preschool float in the Light the Night parade! Our staff and their families were invited to dress as toys as we rode down Main Street in our "Radio Flyer" wagon! The parade was a wonderful way to begin the Christmas season festivities! A special "thank you" to Josh Haggerty and J4 Trailers for the trailer use, Kyle Treibs for music, Kris Kneese for hay bales, Delise Stehling and Katie Jung for cardboard, Danny Flink, Elizabeth White, Jessica and Blake Schulz for assisting with set and take down, and to our always enthusiastic staff who participated!!

In 2023 we look forward to so many hopeful opportunities! We will be holding a Town Hall meeting on January 29th to present updated information on the new Preschool building. We hope to see you there so that we are able to address questions and inform Bethany members on the project as we move towards voting on the new bid.

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Summer Dates to Remember

- June 10-17: Middle School (Current 6th & 7th grade) at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp
- July 8-15: High School (Current 8-11th grade) at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp
- July 8-15: Graduating Seniors—Into the Wild at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp
- July 23-28: Elementary (current 2nd -5th grade) at Camp Chrysalis
- July 31-August 4: Day Camp at Bethany (current Kinder-5th grade) Middle & High School Volunteer Opportunities

For Registration info. check with Kiesha!

Bethany YARD heART Fundraiser

We will be starting our YARD heART fundraiser soon! Money raised will help towards camp, National Youth Gathering, and other fundraisers. Look for order forms soon!!!

Calendar

Calendar