

# Bethany Bells

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

[www.bethanyfbg.com](http://www.bethanyfbg.com)

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

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

November 2023

## Time to Eat by Pastor Kevin Haug

I am just going to throw my bathroom scale away. There is no sense even having one as I look at the month of November. Here is just a run down of scheduled meals I have at the church: the 8<sup>th</sup> for Ex-military flyers; 10<sup>th</sup> Wedding Rehearsal dinner; 11<sup>th</sup> Wedding Meal; 12<sup>th</sup> Bethany’s Thanksgiving meal and pie auction; 14<sup>th</sup> Preschool Turkey Lunch #1; 15<sup>th</sup> Preschool Turkey Lunch #2; 18<sup>th</sup> All Church Banquet for “Building Bright Futures” Campaign. The next week is Thanksgiving week. Holy smokes. Turkey, dressing, and beans, OH MY!

Why so much? But then again...

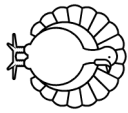
Over and over again, Jesus dined with people. Over and over again, Jesus compared the Kingdom of God to a banquet. The early Christians didn’t simply gather for a worship service with Communion; their services were built around eating a meal with each other. Gathering to dine is deeply embedded into the Christian worldview and practice.

(Continued on page 2.)



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

U.S. Postage  
Non-Profit Organization  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
PERMIT 101



# November





### All Saints Remembrance—November 5th

On Sunday, November 5, Bethany will remember all saints living and deceased, and especially those Bethany members and friends who have died since our last All Saints Sunday.

Shirley Bernhard Schaefer	Mary Lou Loudon
Wayne Louis Zimmerman	Barbara Jean Loitz
Dan Everett Mittel	Matthew David Boatright
John Curtis Engel	James William Lange
Alton Marvin Deike	Ruby Kay Wagner
Franklin Clinton	Robert “Bob” Fletcher
Tommy Irl Underwood	Pat Carey Evans
Heide Sittig Kemper	Barbara Schroder Wright
	John Dustin Schlueter



(Pastor’s Message continued from page 1.)

That’s part of the reason a meal is built into our capital campaign. It is the church gathering together to be fed; to celebrate God’s gifts of food and drink; to celebrate all of the other gifts God has given to our congregation; to celebrate the relationships we have with each other; and, of course, to give thanks for all of these things. In a very real way, when we gather and dine together as a church our human and spiritual hungers are satisfied. And in this state, it is much easier to give thanks for all the blessings in our lives.

And isn’t that the point after all? Pastor Casey and I have repeatedly said that this capital campaign is first and foremost a faith raising endeavor—to draw us closer to God and make us aware of God’s goodness towards us. It is my sincere hope that all of this eating will help us do just that. Give thanks! Dig in! Remember the goodness of God.



## In Our Prayers

### Hospital/Clinic/ER/Tests:

Bill Heath	Stephen Itz	Bobby Klein
Gerald Schmidt	James Wallendorf	

### Ongoing:

Rachel Clifton	Sherry Colburn	Carlton Eckert
Carol Eckhardt	Robert Gibbens	Audrey Gold
Lindy Haley	Nic Jones	Bobby Klein
Billy Leifeste	Madeline Sagebiel	Lyn Linka

### Our Sympathy to:

- Judy Friedrich Schlueter at the death of her son John Dustin “Dusty” Schlueter who passed away October 6.
- The family of Genevieve Ketron who passed away on October 14.
- The family of Barbara Wright who passed away on September 22.

### Dedication:

Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes are dedicated this year to the memory of Elia Sandoval (daughter of Carlos & Emily Klier Sandoval) and Kenna Joy Kramer (daughter of Eddie & Keva Kramer).



## Ring My Bells!!



A Few Words from Our  
BPS Director  
By Cheryl Flink

Dear Bethany Lutheran Members,

*“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving.” 2 Corinthians 9:11*

I want to begin by saying “THANK YOU” to our generous Donors: Kyle Treibs \* Kenneth Treibs Construction\* Gatti’s Pizza \* H-E-B\* Hill Country Pest Control \* Knopp Healthcare Texas Wine Country \* Jellystone Park \* Max and Bonnie Beckmann \* Jim and Lynee Parker \* Jonathan Baethge \* Rusty Petsch \* Joyce Richey \* BPS Board \* BPS Parents . The event was a huge success due to deliciously prepared food and enormous behind the scene efforts! We look forward to next year!



This October we had field trips to Jenschke Orchards and Sweetberry Farms for some pump-tastic fun. The younger kiddos enjoyed pumpkin experiences on site and learned about heavy (pumpkins) and light (balloons).

We celebrated Halloween with a character parade, candy and bouncy castle fun. We look forward to continued holiday magic in November at our annual turkey dinner.

In His Name,  
Cheryl Flink



## Commitment Sunday Is November 19

Commitment Sunday for the Building Bright Futures campaign will be November 19 at all three worship services. All members of Bethany Lutheran Church have been sent a campaign booklet (or handed one at church) which includes a commitment card and return envelope to insert the return portion of your commitment card in.

We ask that you **NOT** fill in your commitment cards ahead of time, waiting to make your commitment in the worship service on November 19 as an act of worship. Extra commitment cards will be available that Sunday. If you cannot attend that Sunday, you may mail your commitment card in the envelope provided or drop it off at the church office any time.

Your commitment to Building Bright Futures is for three years and is over and above your regular giving to the congregation.

Each individual/household is asked to prayerfully commit to the most generous level of its financial and spiritual ability. Let God show you the way! You might begin by asking yourself these questions regarding your gift: *Was it born in prayer? Is it truly sacrificial? Is it based in faith? Does it produce joy?*

Please pray and consider making a sacrificial gift to the Building Bright Futures campaign.

For more detailed information about Commitment Sunday, please see your Building Bright Futures campaign newsletter #3 which will arrive in your mail in early November.

## Claim Your Seat at the All-Church Banquet by November 1

The All-Church Banquet, part of the Building Bright Futures campaign, will be held on **Saturday, November 18**. The deadline to confirm your attendance is Wednesday, November 1. If you did not turn in an RSVP insert after worship, please call the church office at (830)997-2069 or email [layneblc@gmail.com](mailto:layneblc@gmail.com).

This free event will start at 6:00 p.m. at the Pape Event Center at the Gillespie County Farm Bureau, located at 237 Equestrian Drive, off Highway 87 South.

The evening will include a catered meal by Delicious Details. The menu for the evening is house salad with dressing, cheese, and croutons on the side. The main course is smoked center cut pork loin served on the carving board with orange marmalade Dijon glaze or Dijon Marsala sauce and accompanied by fire roasted seasonal vegetables and parsley potatoes. A variety of house prepared dessert nibblers will complete the meal.

Thoughts on the past, present, and future of Bethany Lutheran Church will be presented, as well as the total-to-date of financial commitments to the Building Bright Futures campaign.

Childcare will be provided for those who request it when confirming your attendance. There is ample parking around the facility.

Attire is smart casual.

Look forward to an uplifting evening of praise and thanks to our Lord and to celebrate “being, living as, and making disciples of Jesus Christ” through the work of Bethany Lutheran Church and our preschool.



**Remember – please confirm your attendance  
at the banquet by Wednesday, November 1.**



## Texas Lutheran University Christmas Vespers 2023 Seguin, TX

### “I Choose Love”

We are called to be the love and light of God to all we meet in this fractured and divided world. Christmas Vespers 2023 seeks to bring us together in a community of love, peace, and hope. The service is titled “I Choose Love,” taking its title from the anthem by composer Mark A. Miller

The program of music will include works of Baroque composers Dietrich Buxtehude and J.S. Bach through composers of our time, including works by Eric Whitacre, Rosephanye Powell, Susan LaBarr, and Bob Chilcott, among others. Receiving its world premiere is “I Saw a Star” by composer William Averitt on a text by Sara Teasdale and incorporating the hymn tune and text *Puer nobis*. This work was commissioned by the TLU Choir in honor of Nancy and Fred Carney for their unwavering support of the choral program at Texas Lutheran University.

Join us for a service that seeks to lift hearts and spirits with peace, harmony, and hope.

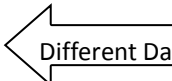
Performances at TLU (tickets are free, but required):

- **Friday, Dec. 1—7:30 pm—Jackson Auditorium**
- **Saturday, Dec. 2—7:30 pm—Jackson Auditorium**
- **Sunday, Dec. 3—4 pm—Jackson Auditorium**





**November  
Schedule**

- **Nov. 2—Leah Circle**—9:30 am will meet at Jean Weber’s home.
- **Nov. 6—WELCA board mtg**—4:00 at Jet Itz’s home. 
- **Nov. 8 - The quilters**—9:00 am -will meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs.
- **Nov. 9—Lydia Circle** - 9:15 am—will meet at Bethany
- **Nov. 14—Hope Circle**—6:00 pm will meet at Karlene Ottmer’s home.

\*\*\*\*October WELCA offering went to Bethany Preschool\*\*\*\*  
FYI—WELCA also sent a donation of \$800.00 to Crosstrails Ministry.



Bethany WELCA will be starting a new circle in **January!!!**

This circle will be the **Ruth Circle**

and will meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 9:00 am in member’s homes.

Anyone interested in joining this group is asked to call Constance Schultz (830-990-9893)



**WELCA Joint Circles  
Christmas Luncheon**



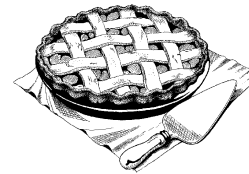
**Date: Sunday, Dec. 3rd  
Time: 11:45 am**

**Place: Bethany Fellowship Hall**



Come join in the Fun & Fellowship!

- Catered meal (suggested donation to be determined.)
- Secret Sisters will be revealed and we will draw for new ones for 2024
- Election & installation of new officers
- Singing Christmas Carols
- We will announce our new Bold Woman recipient that day!



**Thanksgiving Meal &  
Pie Auction**

We are happy to celebrate Thanksgiving with a congregational meal on Sunday, November 12, after the late services. Turkey, dressing & trimmings, as well as mashed potatoes, will be provided. We ask the congregation to bring other vegetables, salads and desserts. Bethany Youth will again have their Pie Auction which provides people with desserts for their family gatherings and serves as a fundraiser for youth events and ministries. And there will be a silent auction for 5 of the old pews from the "overflow" of the sanctuary. See article on page 10.



**Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

**Wednesday, November 22 - 7:00 p.m.**

*The congregation gathers for worship on Thanksgiving Eve, **Wednesday, Nov. 22, at 7:00 pm.***

*The entire offering that night goes for our monthly special offering—1/2 for Lutheran global hunger relief and 1/2 for our Fredericksburg Food Pantry.*





## Christmas Journey Signup

In the foyer of sanctuary & fellowship hall

We invite you to sign up for this year's Journey which will take place Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9. Signup sheets are in the narthex and fellowship hall entrance. Setup will begin on Sunday, December 3 and conclude December 6 & 7. We will need people to be characters, helpers, greeters, set-builders, food makers, traffic directors, and more. To put on a truly great performance for our community, we need lots of folks! Please sign up by **November 19th**.



### Angel Tree News!!!

Bethany Fellowship Team will once again sponsor needy families for Christmas on the Angel Tree. Trees will be set up in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Pick a card from the trees to support a family this Christmas.

\*\*\*Important: Don't lose the card!!!\*\*\*

**Please attach the card to your gift. Bring your gifts to the Trinity Room.**

**Deadline for gifts will be printed on the card.**

6



## Youth & Family

- SWTS Middle School Gathering (6th-8th Grade) **Nov. 10-12, 2023** @ Camp Chrysalis \$125/person  
Middle school youth are invited to come to camp to discover that following God is not about the glory, it's about the cross. Camp fun and interactive, faithfilled learning with other synod youth are all a part of The Gathering experience Register with Bethany, online at [crosstrails.org](http://crosstrails.org)
- **Nov. 12**—Youth Pie Auction  
The youth will be baking pies again this year! They will be set out on Nov. 12th, after the 8:15 service. They will be up for bidding at the Bethany Thanksgiving meal, put on by the Fellowship Committee. Come support our youth and get a Thanksgiving pie! All money raised will go towards youth camp and trips. Group bidders are welcome as well as individual bidders. If people want to make their own groups, you are encouraged to do that, but CYFM will not organize groups or help decide who gets the pie. If you are looking for a group, please contact Carl Schoessow.
- **December 3rd**—Angel Tree Shopping with lunch & laser tag @ Blazer Tag in Austin. Middle school and high school will meet at Bethany at 11:45, after church, and then head to South Austin to have lunch together, play some laser tag at Blazer Tag, and shop for Angel Tree gifts!
- Children's Christmas Program "Back to Bethlehem" Sunday evening, **Dec. 17th** 6:00 p.m. (More info. in the December Bells.)

**November 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. Nov. 5	8:15	Todd Keener - captain, Wesley Keener, Scott & Judy Brundridge
	10:30	Kenneth Treibs- captain Jaye Treibs, Jennifer Jenschke, Jaycee Treibs
Sun. Nov. 12	8:15	Bubba Schnelle- captain, Pam Schnelle, David & Sharon Browne
	10:30	Oliver Deike- captain Mary Alice Deike, Beth & Don Weeks
Sun. Nov. 19	8:15	Vonnie Maner- captain, Zander Maner, Wilma McAndrew, Joyce Robertson
	10:30	Donnie Schuch- captain Becky Dittmar, Judy Dittmar, Tom Roarick
Wed. Nov.	7:00 p.m.	Max Beckmann—captain Bonnie Beckmann, Randy Busch, Lois Bush
Sun. Nov. 26	8:15	Dwight Oestreich - captain, Mike & Sue Sagebiel
	10:30	Willard Dearing- captain Bruce Woerner

*The family of Robert Fletcher would like to thank everyone at Bethany for their prayers and kindness. We also extend a special thank you to everyone involved with the lunch reception following Robert's memorial service.*



*God Bless you all!  
Lou Ann Fletcher  
& family*



**Pack a CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX  
Operation Christmas Child**

Bethany will join other local churches in packing shoeboxes for children in need all over the world.

Information and boxes are available in the narthex and fellowship hall foyer. Deadline for the return of boxes is **November 13th**. They will then be delivered & shipped.

**We dedicate** shoe boxes collected this year to the memory of children

**Elia Sandoval & Kenna Joy Kramer.**



**To order a poinsettia**

to be used during worship services, please fill out this form and return with a check for \$10.00 to Bethany. Deadline is

**December 11th.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

# of poinsettias @ \$10 each: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

I will bring my own plant: \_\_\_\_\_

(Even if you bring your own plant, sign this form so we have the information for the bulletin.)

**We are limited to 60 poinsettias so get your order in soon.**



## Sunday School & Adult Education Classes 2023/2024

Who goes.....

2-5 year olds  
Kinder & 1st Grade  
2nd & 3rd Grade  
4th & 5th Grade  
Middle School  
High School  
Young Adults/Legacy Builder's  
Transitions Class  
Adult Bible Class

Where

Room #100  
Room #103  
Room #101  
Room #105  
Room #113  
Room #112  
Room #115  
Trinity Room  
Sanctuary

### *Breakfast Bar Is Open!!!*

**9:00-9:30 am- Downstairs Kitchen**



### **Breakfast Bar Teams for November**

**Nov. 5 (Team 4)**—Monica Jinright/Krystle Schnelle:  
Elizabeth White, Mary Heath, Valerie Nimitz, Vickie Smith,  
Katie Jinright, Mary Greene

**Nov. 12 (Team 5)** - Mary Alice Deike: Kiim Sedgwick,  
Elizabeth Warriner, Dawna & Kiera Haug, Donna Mittel,  
Katie Jung, Joyce Richey

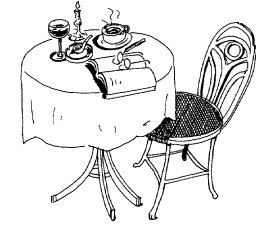
**Nov. 19 (Team 6)** - Kelly Urbanec: Kay Stech, Nancy  
Geistweidt, Janie Bailey, Vonnie Maner, Cherry Woods,  
Kathy Meybaum, Lindy Haley (later)

**Nov. 26 (Special Team)** - TBD

## Coming in January!

Our annual

### *Ladies Luncheon*



Date: Saturday, Jan. 27th

Yes, the Fellowship Committee has changed the date to earlier in the year after many requests to do so. We realize that it is November but with the holidays in between, we wanted to plan ahead.

During the months of November & December, we will be signing up women who want to decorate a table. Please contact Karen Oestreich (830-889-0295) or Beth Luckenbach (830-456-3453) and let them know that you are interested in being a hostess. Everyone comes up with wonderful ideas, and it is always a treat to see the different decorations.

In January if you aren't a hostess or someone's guest, we will have signup sheets. There will be plenty of tables for guests. The menu is yummy and prepare to be entertained!

So put the date on your calendar. Remember, we only can have 22 tables so if you are looking forward to doing a table, please call.





# November 2023 Assisted Living

Location	Day	Time	Location	Day	Time
Knopp Assisted	Wed. 11/1	9:30	Villages of Windcrest	Wed. 11/8	9:45
Knopp #2	Wed. 11/1	10:30	FBG NH	Wed. 11/8	10:45
Heritage Place	Thur. 11/2	9:30	Knopp RC	Thur. 11/9	9:30
Windcrest	Thur. 11/2	10:30	Knopp #1	Thur. 11/9	10:30

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

### CELESTE CARE

#### VILLAGES OF WINDCREST

\*Marion Welgehausen \*Gloria Brooks  
 \*Al Muirhead & Nancy O'Neal

#### FBG NURSING HOME

#### KNOPP HEALTHCARE & REHAB CTR (#1)

\*Brandi Welgehausen \*Clinton Deike \*Linda Warriner  
 \* Claudia Kemper

#### KNOPP RETIREMENT

\*Clarence Rose \* Jeanette Beckmann

#### KNOPP (#2)

#### KNOPP Assisted Living Care Center

\*Annabel Stein

#### WINDCREST NURSING & REHAB

#### HERITAGE

\* Roberta Young \* Frankie Law

#### Juniper Apartments, Kerrville

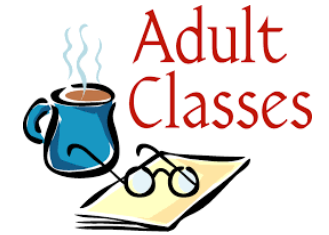
\*Betty Deans Koetting

#### Alamo Ranch, San Antonio

\*Audelle Burkey



# November Adult Sunday Schedule 9:20 a.m.



## Adult Bible Class-

The Adult Bible Class meets in the overflow area at the back of the sanctuary with the pastors. They will be studying our Bethany mission statement: "Being, Living as, and Making Disciples of Jesus". People of all ages are welcome. Please come and join us!

## Transitions Class-



The Transitions Class will begin a new study on Nov. 5 entitled, "You Were Made for This Moment." This study by Max Lucado is based on the Old Testament book of Esther and brings welcome news that God hasn't forgotten us in spite of life's challenges and worries. The class meets in room 205 (the Trinity Room) at 9:20 am. Please join us then for lively discussions on various topics related to life and faith.

## Legacy Builders-

For November & December the Legacy Builders Class will be studying "Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws". This class meets downstairs in room 115. Please join us for scripture, encouragement, insight, and great fellowship!



November Sunday School Offering will go to the Angel Tree —chosen by CYFM

## Pews from Old Bethany

### Silent Auction on Sunday, November 12



On Sunday, November 12, there will be 5 pews for sale via silent auction with funds to go to our youth program. These are the 5 pews at the very back of the “overflow” area of the church sanctuary. They were brought from “old Bethany” - the 1889 church building just down the street (now the Bible church) - when the congregation moved to its current campus in 1954. For some the pews will have sentimental value, for others the ideas for repurposing old church pews (Google it!) will be of interest.

The pews will be replaced with chairs which the church purchased just over a year ago. These have been stored in the Trinity (former Triple) Room since then. The Aesthetics Committee proposed that the chairs be used in the overflow and the pews removed to improve the looks and utility of the Trinity Room while maintaining plenty of seating. The Traditional Worship Committee agreed with the proposal, and it was approved by Council at the October council meeting.

## November 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. Nov. 5	8:15	Mike & Sue Sagebiel
	10:30	Pat McCreedy Walter & Marilyn Probst
Sun. Nov. 12	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Nov. 19	8:15	Shirley Sagebiel & Carol Seminara
	10:30	Kiesha Priem, Joyce Richey, Jean Weber
Wed. Nov. 22	7:00 pm	Troy & Karlene Ottmers
Sun. Nov. 26	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion

## It's Budget Time!

Committees have turned in their requests for the 2024 budget. The Finance Committee will put it all together this month and make a proposal to council. The final proposed budget will be voted on by the congregation at the January 28th Annual Congregational Meeting



**2023**  
**Committee Reports**  
**Due December 18.**  
**For the Annual Report**

## November 2023 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader	HOSTS	Communion Assistants
	Kid's Message		Prayer Minister
Sun. Nov. 5	Beth Luckenbach	Vic & Marion Nixon	No Communion
	Beth Luckenbach		Beth Luckenbach
Sun. Nov. 12	Cheryl Flink	Elizabeth White Brian Maenius	Camille & Marc Williamson Elizabeth Warriner (2)
	Cheryl Flink		Cheryl Flink
Sun. Nov. 19	Erik & Beth Iverson	Morgan McCall Will Stehling	No Communion
	Erik & Beth Iverson		Erik & Beth Iverson
Sun. Nov. 26	Ken Smith	Robert McCall Weldon & Winnie Griffin	Jaye Treibs (2) Erik & Beth Iverson (2)
	Ken Smith		Ken Smith



## November Birthdays

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1 – Ethan Dahlstrom<br>Haylen Parker<br>Dana Rowan   | 9 - Brandie Marshall<br>Donna Mittel<br>Karlene Ottmers<br>Shane Willis | 18 – Carissa Wehmeyer<br>19 – Kalyn Gonzales<br>Ryan Langehennig  |
| 2 – Abby Warriner  | 10 – Eli Geistweidt<br>Reyn Kothe<br>Cliff Ottmers                      | 20 – Roxanne Bruns<br>21 –Sharon Burgess<br>22 – Alvin Holland<br>Ann Hostetter<br>Phil Maple<br>Marilyn Probst<br>E.A. Reedy |
| 3 – Dalton Keener<br>Micaella Petty  | 11 – Matthew Stafford<br>Elizabeth White                                | 23 – Beth Weeks<br>24 – Sarah Dietz<br>Lisa Welgehausen   |
| 4 – Quenten Cox<br>Kenneth Crenwelge<br>Willard Dearing<br>Carolyn Grosenbacher<br>Karen Oestreich | 12 – Gloria Brooks<br>Callie Sides<br>Casie Ward                        | 25 – Autumn Holland<br>Victor Nixon, Jr.  |
| 6 – Donnie Schuch  | 13 – DeAnne Peterson<br>14 – Judy Dittmar                               | 27 – Max Beckmann<br>30 – Terry Neans   |
| 7 – Stephanie Bage<br>Ernest Celaya<br>Dwight Oestreich  | 15 – William Stafford<br>Tom Swearingen                                 |   |
| 8 – Lori Boos<br>Georgia Reagen<br>Brandi Welgehausen  | 16 – Marilyn Butcher<br>Sherry Colburn<br>Sean Doerre<br>Chase Lombardi |   |



### 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.



## Der Stadt Friedhof (City Cemetery) Board Vacancy

*“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.” 1 Peter 4:10*

Are you interested in serving on the Board of Der Stadt Friedhof (City Cemetery)? We are looking for a new member to join us in the calling to restore, preserve and maintain this historic and still active final resting place of our ancestors and loved ones. You will need to be a member of Bethany Lutheran Church, able to commit 10-30 hours a month and attend regular board meetings. If you are interested in learning more about what the position would entail, please contact Susan Stroehler, 830-456-3143 or [derstadtfriedhof@gmail.com](mailto:derstadtfriedhof@gmail.com) for more information.

Thank you!

Dear Members of Bethany,

On behalf of Cross Trails Ministry, I would like to take this opportunity to thank your congregation for the generous expression of support of \$2,710.00 dated July 18, 2023.



It is because of the financial gifts of congregations like Bethany Lutheran Church that we are able to continue the ministry that we provide to individuals, families, and groups as a direct extension of your congregational ministry. Your gift will help us to minister to thousands of people in our summer camp and retreat programs.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and partnership!  
We are truly grateful!

Yours in Christ,  
Darcey Wagner  
Office Manager



## Special Offering for November

**Local & Global Hunger**  
**½ ELCA World Hunger**  
**½ Local Food Pantry**

The November special offering is gathered throughout the month as a sign of our Thanksgiving and as part of our calling to end world hunger – around the corner and around the world.

You may use the Thanksgiving envelope any Sunday in November or at the Thanksgiving Eve service. You can also mail it to the church. If you use a pew envelope, please mark it “Hunger.” Checks should be made out to “Bethany Lutheran Church”.

This year, the Fredericksburg Food Pantry is also in dire need of donations of food. Because of various factors, they are no longer able to get as much through the area food bank, so we encourage any and all non-perishable food donations during the month of November.

Items can be placed in the designated cabinet in the Narthex/Lobby. Thank you for fighting hunger both near and far.



## Fredericksburg ISD Education Foundation

Dear Bethany Church,

I wanted to personally thank you for your recent generous support of the FISD Education Foundation. Support of this manner helps us fulfill our mission of helping our teachers and students.

Last month, we distributed over \$136,000 in grants to our teachers across all campuses.

Thank you for your support!

Mark Przywara  
 Vice President—Business Development  
 Fredericksburg ISD Education Foundation

## BLC Dollars & Cents

	September 2023	Year to Date
Gen. Fund Income	\$52,866.13	\$562,327.84
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$65,130.11	\$570,876.31
Deficit/Surplus	\$(12,263.98)	\$ (8,548.47)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Balances Other Funds

**Designated Accounts:** \$171,242.65

**Capital Improvement/Hennig Fund (SSBT):** \$48,307.59

**Parking Lot:** \$0

**Capital Improvement/Hennig CD (Guadalupe):** \$80,000

**Pre School Building Fund:**

SSBT acct: \$45,388.85

TX Hill Country CD: \$200,000

**Emergency Aid Fund (Chase):** \$5,606.25

**Contingency (PNC) -**

Money Market Account Balance: \$106,803.96

**ELCA Mission Fund (Investment Account):** \$35,000.00

**Broadway Bank (CD—Hein Estate Gift):** \$167,361.99

**Edward Jones (Dr. Stein Estate Gift):** \$278,129.88

Beginning Value—Dec. 31, 2019—\$221,672.83

### Monthly Special Offerings—2023

**January—Der Stadt Friedhof—\$4,205**

**February—Bethany Preschool—\$11,953**

**March—Needs Council—\$2,225**

**April—Synod Assembly—\$1,553**

**May—Water to Thrive— \$6,180**

**June—Cross Trails Ministry—\$2,710**

**July—Bethany Foundation—\$4,975**

**August—FISD Education Foundation—\$2,765**

**September—Grace Center, Fbg—\$2,640**





# Council Highlights

October 17, 2023



- The council heard reports on the preschool capital campaign and Pastor Casey’s participation in the Create Healthy Foundation community meeting.
  - Recommended the proceeds from the 5 pews for sale via silent auction go to CYFM. See separate article in this newsletter for more details. (page 10)
  - Christmas worship schedule approved: Sunday, Dec. 24 will be called the Festival of Christmas.
  - Services will be: 10:30 am Traditional,  
5:00 pm Traditional,  
7:30 pm Praise & Worship
- All services will be candlelight. No service on Monday, Christmas Day.
- Recommended to contract with the city to run/monitor the Hennig parking lot during the April 2024 eclipse.
  - The FISD Foundation received \$2,765.00 in the August special offering.

# Lifeboat Log : November 2023



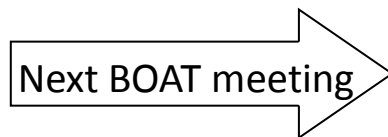
We want to extend our thanks and gratitude to John Stafford and Lance Langehennig for separately (or together) voluntarily adding their expertise to our quarterly Car Day clinics. It is so nice to have the voice of authority behind us as we check tires and belts, batteries and fluids. If you have not stopped by for a free inspection, or if you know someone who could use this service, please recommend us! Our next Saturday is coming back around soon. We’ll keep you posted.



Please remember the Lifeboat little food pantry as you make a grocery run. Your can of meat, veggies, soup, or fruit is a timely addition to our daily offerings. As you can imagine, keeping the box faithfully stocked has become a bigger financial task, and those needing to occasionally lean on it have kept a steady pace with our efforts. Thank you for all your support! We pray that God’s mercy and kindness is exhibited through our wee Lifeboat. What a nice thought and hope.

God bless you!

-Bethany Outreach and Advocacy Team  
(BOAT)



Thursday, November 9  
@ 5:45 p.m.






**November 2023 Altar Guild**

**Traditional:**  
Violet Ottmers  
Joyce Richey, Joyce Robertson

**Contemporary:**  
Jaye Treibs & Krystal Geistweidt



**Thank You!**

**Thanks to everyone who donated candy & prizes for the Bethany & Holy Ghost Fall Carnival! We could not put on such a great event without you!!!**

20



# Quilting Update



Our Bethany Quilters continue to shine the light of Christ to people

throughout the world who have lost everything due to earthquakes, floods, fires, and wars where refugees have fled their homes and countries. **GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS** is shown through the making of **193 quilts for LWR + additional quilts** used locally for high school seniors, and other needs within our community. We have an amazing group of ten ladies headed by **JEANNE DIETRICH** who has pieced and sewn most of these quilts. We come together to tie knots to finish them.

Special thanks to members of the Hope, Leah and Lydia Circles for providing items **for 48 School Kits, 32 Personal Care Kits, and 18 Baby Care Kits.**

The boxing, taping, and labeling of all the boxes was an amazing process. Thank you to everyone who helped. The boxes will travel to St. John Lutheran, Marion on November 1st (site of this year's Southwestern Texas In-gathering) to be loaded onto two 18-wheeler trucks, and from there will travel to Baltimore, Maryland (LWR Warehouse) for processing and shipping throughout the world.

Thank you to everyone who helped get the quilts into the sanctuary on Saturday and back to the basement after the Dedication of the Quilts and Kits on October 15.

The welcome mat will be rolled out to everyone who has a love of doing for others. Come visit us on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 am in the Music Room in the basement. We have a place for you. **No experience necessary! To learn more about LWR visit their website at LWR.org**

## Brother Steward

### Players or Spectators?

*This is the Couch Potato season. Brother Vince, our Resident Coach, reports that on the average, some fans will watch almost 20 hours of pro and college football per week. And watch one hour of church on Sunday. Brother Vince says when it comes to church, we need more players not watchers. Yes, for the few sitting on the sidelines let's really, participate in worship. Get involved! Think about the words and the readings and the sermons. Sing out your praise with the choir. Use your talents to help. Be an usher or a lector. Beautify the altar. Take a disabled person to worship. And in appreciation for God's gifts, continue your generosity when the offertory basket comes your way: a dollar, a ten, a check, anything; but bring something to the Lord's table. It's your gift to God for God's gift of life to you. Be a proactive church-goer. This is good stewardship. And remember, the famous words from our Brother Vince: Participating isn't everything; it's the only thing!*

God Bless.







# Youth Photo Gallery



Kinderpark

Thanks to the MANY volunteers that helped to make this event a GREAT success!



Bethany youth and adult volunteers helped with the kids' games and prizes at Kinderpark—Oktoberfest. All money raised went to Bethany Youth activities and trips. 18

# Thanks to our Quilters!!

The Bethany quilters have been busy sewing and packing up baby kits and school kits for Lutheran World Relief.



Thank you to all our Bethany quilters for their hard work and dedication to this project!!! The quilts are beautiful!!



Bethany had "The Blessing of the Quilts" on Sunday, October 15th.

Calendar

Calendar