

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"

July 2022

Where You Put Your Feet

By Pastor Casey

When a Christian gets out of bed in the morning, he or she puts feet on the ground of some nation. Christians have dual citizenship: we are citizens of God's Kingdom and of the nation where we live. Since God's Kingdom comes first, we have the job of blessing and working for the good which our own nation does and, like the Biblical prophets, the job of critiquing our nation when it fails and "does what is evil in the sight of God." In the USA, we have freedom to openly bless and critique, whereas many Christians in other nations are persecuted, banned, tortured, or killed for speaking out.

As we celebrate our freedoms on July 4th , we also share concerns at how deeply divided and angry we are. Jesus said, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand."

Nothing wrong with having different opinions with open, respectful conversation and debate, but what worries us is the current anger at "the other side." Fred Buechner warned: "Of the Seven Deadly Sins, anger is possibly the most fun. To lick your wounds, to smack you lips over grievances long past, to roll over your tongue the prospect of bitter confrontations still to come, to savor to the last toothsome morsel both the pain you are given and the pain you are giving back – in many ways it is a feast fit for a king. The chief drawback is that what you are wolfing down is yourself. The skeleton at the feast is you."

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



July



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

Kneeling at Traditional Worship

Third Sunday of the Month



Since we are at a better place now than when COVID 19 began, the Traditional Worship Committee approved returning to our tradition of kneeling for communion on the 3rd Sunday of the month (for those able to do so), and having continuous communion on the first Sunday of the month.

At Bethany, we have Holy Communion at Traditional Worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and at Praise & Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Pastor Rose 65th Ordination Anniversary



Bethany member, Pastor Clarence Rose, celebrated the 65th anniversary of his ordination on June 16. In retirement, he served part-time as Bethany's visitation pastor 2000 – 2008. He now resides at Knopp Retirement Home where he gives Sunday devotions each week.



Financial Secretary Search Team

After 30 years, Berta Allen will be retiring later this fall from her job as financial secretary, a 10-hour per week position. She worked at Bethany 1992 - 2014 as our full time Secretary/Office-Manager/Financial Secretary, then just worked finances 2014-2022. A Search Team will likely post ads for the position before July 1. See Bethany Facebook page and the Frederickburg Standard. The team: Paul Hartmann (chair), Carolyn Dearing Carson, Dwight Dittmar, the pastors, and Layne Petty (administrator).



In Our Prayers

Hospital/Clinic/ER:

Winnie Griffin
Bobby Harris

Carolyn Grosenbacher
Ralph Rode

Ongoing:

Carol Eckhardt
Jason Holland

Donald Eckhardt Audrey Gold
Kenna Joy Kramer

Ordination Anniversary Congratulations:

- To Pastor Clarence Rose on his 65th anniversary of ordination

Wedding Congratulations:

- To Carli Cole and Carson Jeffrey who were married on June 25.



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!



July Birthdays



- 1 – Carolyn Carson
Sharon Fiedler
Sydney Geistweidt
Charlotte Hirt
Atley Schulz
- 3 – Frankie Law
Mason Rode
- 5 – Garrett Baethge
Ashlyn Beckmann
Jeanette Dick
Robert Wolf
- 6 – Rachel Clifton
Lyle Johansen
- 7 – Kurt Geistweidt
Margaret Klaehn
Riley Neffendorf
Hudson Staudt
- 8 – Audrey Ahrens
Paycen Merritt
Al Muirhead
- 9 – Grayson Durst
Chase Grona
Logan Ketron
Linda Mosley
Annabel Stein
- 10 – Aiden Bashrum
Scott Brundridge
Jody Donovan
Layne Petty
Caden Williams
Tina Wipff
- 11 – Karen Loeffler
- 13 – Klara Atkins
Betty Grinke
James McAfee
Annabel Wilkinson
- 14 – Laurie Jayson
- 15 – Ricky Neffendorf
- 16 – Laird Ketron
Reenie Pehl
Jynnette Chantenza
- 18 – Gage Collier
Pat McCready
Will Stehling
Steve York
- 19 – Corbin Boesl
Austin Ottmers
Callie Stech
- 21 – Linda Woerner
- 22 – Leah Geistweidt
David Ketron
- 23 – Remmington Neffendorf
- 27 – Nancy O’Neal
- 28 – David Ewing
Lester Meier
- 29 – Marc Duderstadt
Ethan George
- 30 – Marissa Pitts
Rode Walker
- 31 – Frieda Marquart
Ava Perry



Capital Campaign Hopes to Begin This Fall 2022 For our new Bethany Preschool Building

After the congregation approved a campus Master Plan in 2018, they voted in December 2019 to build a new preschool building and planned to begin the capital campaign in the fall of 2020. That, of course, was delayed by the COVID 19 pandemic and then delayed again when 2021 rolled around.

Now, the Building Committee is ready for the capital campaign in the Fall of 2022. But before we launch the campaign, the Committee wants to have a new cost estimate made by The Koehler Company, a construction company we interviewed before the previous cost estimate was made.

Wisdom says the new estimate will be higher than the original \$3.7 million in 2019. If we can get the new estimate by late July, then we can bring in our consultant Luke Bouman to train our campaign team in August and begin the campaign in September. We will spend 3 months letting God build us spiritually before we make commitments financially.

Watch bulletins, the website, and our Facebook page for updates as we move through July. Also, see another article on the history of our planning on p. 4 in this newsletter.



A New Building

A brief history of our journey to build

It was 2013 when architect Randy Stehling and Bethany's Long Range Planning Committee presented to our congregation a "master plan program," a written 46-page document following dozens of interviews with all Bethany committees and teams—as well as many individuals—about priorities for Bethany ministries in the future.

In September 2018 the congregation approved the full, comprehensive "Master Plan" itself and voted that Phase 1 be a new preschool building. The Council then appointed a Building Committee to work on a plan for a new preschool. The Committee and Council then presented the design plan at town hall meetings, followed by a congregation meeting on December 8, 2019, where the vote was taken to:

"Authorize the Bethany Lutheran Church Council to implement Phase One of the Master Plan—Bethany Preschool building—beginning with a Capital Campaign and pre-construction architectural costs of \$259,000. The Council will then be authorized to enter into construction contracts when monetary contributions and pledges reach 30% of the preliminary cost estimates of \$3,441,000."

The Building Committee and a small initial Capital Campaign Team interviewed 3 campaign consultants and contracted with Pr. Luke Bouman of The Enrichment Group to train our committee and direct the campaign. That committee will form subcommittees to work on Bible studies, a prayer vigil, a banquet, activities, and pledges/contributions.



July 2022 Assisted Living Nursing Home Communion

Location	Day	Time	Location	Day	Time
Knopp Assisted	Wed. 7/6	9:30	Villages of Windcrest	Wed. 7/13	9:45
Knopp #2	Wed. 7/6	10:30	FBG NH	Wed. 7/13	10:45
Heritage Place	Thur. 7/7	9:30	Knopp RC	Thur. 7/14	9:30
Windcrest	Thur. 7/7	10:30	Knopp #1	Thur. 7/14	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

KNOPP RETIREMENT

*Clarence Rose

KNOPP (#2)

* Walter & Betty Grinke *Ruby May Stahl

KNOPP Assisted Living Care Center

*Susan Weinheimer

WINDCREST NURSING & REHAB

*Genevieve Ketron

July 2022 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. Jul. 3	8:15	Mary Eilers, Dorothy Klier
	10:30	Carlton Eckert, Ted & Nancy Geistweidt
Sun. Jul. 10	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Jul. 17	8:15	Jonathan Baethge, Rose Marie Mazanke
	10:30	Pat McCready, Jim & Constance Schultz
Sun. Jul. 24	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Jul. 31	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion

Stay Informed

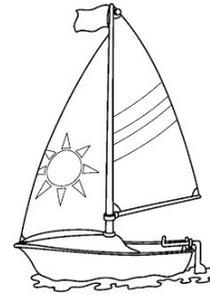


- Text messages for updates & prayer; to join the Bethany group, text: **@bethanytx2** to **81010**
- After hours, listen to our office phone's voice message about upcoming worship.
- Those on our email prayer chain will also occasionally receive updates about changes in schedules.



Cardboard does **not** go into our Bethany dumpster. We have a recycle trailer in the alley on Bethany's east side where you can put it.

Thanks for your help!



Lifeboat Log : July 2022

During these hot and busy days of summer, please remember to drop a few items by the Lifeboat little food pantry! Particularly useful right now

would be various canned beans, different types of canned meats, breakfast/protein bars, and fruit cocktail. We're in pretty good shape with canned veggies. The storage bench on the Hennig Haus porch is always available for storage if the actual pantry is full.

Many thanks, Bethany folk! You are Christ's giving hands to those who need a little help. Stay cool!

BOAT

(Bethany Outreach and Advocacy Team)



Pastor Steve Qualben at Holy Ghost

Bethany's former pastor, Steve Qualben, has accepted a call to serve at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church. He served Bethany 2007 to 2012 then a church in Iowa 2012 until now. Pr Steve and Annette will live in the Holy Ghost parsonage, along with sons Jacob and James. If you see them around town, welcome them back to Fredericksburg. Daughter Rebekah has already graduated from college and remains in Iowa with her job. Pastor Casey & Pastor Kevin attended the lunch at Holy Ghost on the day of Pr Steve's installation.



Summer 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 be continuing the study of "The Lutheran Difference" and focusing on "Baptism". They generally take a couple of weeks off during the summer at the discretion of the pastors and the class members. Please check your bulletin to insure they are meeting. 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. **The Transitions class will not be meeting in June or July but will start up again in August.** Please join us then for lively discussions on various topics related to life and faith.

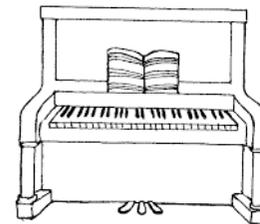
Legacy Builders (young adults class)-

The Legacy Builders class meets downstairs in room 115 starting at 9:20 am. **The Legacy Builders class will not be meeting in June or July but will start up again in August.** Please join us at that time for breakfast bar, fellowship and studies seeking guidance for life's decisions.



July 2022 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. Jul. 3	8:15	Brad Holland - captain, Autumn, Avery & Dawson Holland
	10:30	Tom Roarick—captain Sharon Roarick, Jim & Constance Schultz
Sun. Jul. 10	8:15	Ed Kramer—captain, Judy Kramer
	10:30	Jody Donovan - captain Sheila Donovan
Sun. Jul. 17	8:15	Bubba Schnelle—captain, Shirley Sagebiel, Linda McCann, Gerald Schmidt
	10:30	Jim McAfee - captain Sharon Joseph, Wes & Georgia Reagan
Sun. Jul. 24	8:15	Dwight Oestreich—captain Scott Brundridge, Judy Brundridge
	10:30	Willard Dearing—captain Kathy Meybaum
Sun. Jul. 31	8:15	Cindy Zenner—captain Jackie Kneese & Larry Ahrens
	10:30	Bruce Woerner—captain Shelba Fenimore, Joyce Richey



Free Piano Still Available!!!

Bethany currently has an over-abundance of pianos. We would like to offer a piano to anyone interested. It is a blonde piano in room #209. The piano is free, however anyone taking ownership will be responsible for any costs associated with moving the piano. Please speak with Layne or one of the Pastors for more information.

July 2022 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader Kid's Message	HOSTS	Communion Assistants Prayer Minister
Sun. Jul. 3	Carl Schoessow Carl Schoessow	Vic & Marion Nixon	No Communion Carl Schoessow
Sun. Jul. 10	Ken Smith Ken Smith	Marc & Camille Williamson	Jaye Treibs (2) Ralph & Karen Rode Ken Smith
Sun. Jul. 17	Beth Luckenbach Beth Luckenbach	Mark & Kathy Marquart	No Communion Beth Luckenbach
Sun. July 24	Kay Stech Kay Stech	Jackie Kneese Larry Ahrens	Steve & Mary Evans Carl & Cristol Schoessow Kay Stech
Sun. July 31	Cheryl Flink Cheryl Flink	Sem & Danielle Geistweidt	No Communion Cheryl Flink



Global Leadership Summit 2022

The Global Leadership Summit is coming to town on August 4-5. Twelve-plus world class leadership speakers will present their latest and best live via satellite at the high school auditorium. As the tag line goes, "when a leader gets better, everyone around them gets better," and that goes for leadership for self, marriage, parenting, church, business and community as various high performance leaders from various disciplines share. Enjoy this top-notch conference without travel or hotel expenses at the low cost of \$229 per person.

Visit <https://globalleadership.org/global-leadership-summit> for more info and to register.



July Sunday School News:



- Sunday School recesses for children and youth – no classes until Rally Day on August 21. (Do come to Day Camp & special events!)
- No Breakfast Bar.
- Transitions Class and Legacy Builders class will not meet again until August.
- Adult Bible Class will meet in June.
- Watch for special young adult & family events during the summer.

Interested in volunteering your time to the church?



We would love to have you as a Sunday School teacher beginning in **August!**

Contact Alyssa Rode by email at alyssarblc@gmail.com to sign up.

Alyssa Rode

Director of Christian Education
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX
alyssarblc@gmail.com

O: (830)997-2069

C: (830)998-1709



Special Offering for July

Bethany Foundation

In January, 2007, Bethany congregation received a generous gift from the estate of Alma and Udo Braeutigam. To allow this gift—as well as future bequests, donations and memorials—the congregation then voted to form the **Bethany Lutheran Foundation** of Fredericksburg, Texas.

The Foundation is now 15 years old and has \$708,000 in the fund. Each year monies from the earnings of the principal are given to local organizations as grants to fulfill **BLF's Mission Statement - "to advance and support the discipleship of Jesus Christ by providing financial resources for religious, educational and charitable activities and purposes"**. The more we grow this fund, the more we are able to provide financial assistance to worthy causes right here in our own community.

Bethany congregation and Bethany preschool each receive 25% of the annual grant distributions. The other 50% is awarded to local non-profit organizations that provide support for seniors, children, low income healthcare, food resources, etc...

Bethany Lutheran Foundation has been designated as the recipient for the **July Special Monthly Offering**.

➡ **Checks should be made payable to "Bethany Lutheran Foundation" (not "church")**

and can be placed in the July special offering envelope (or a clearly marked envelope) and inserted in a church offering box or mailed to:

Bethany Lutheran Foundation, P.O. Box 673, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

(Continued on page 9.)

(Continued from page 24.)

Bethany's generous contributions through offerings and fundraisers allow our program to thrive by offering a low cost tuition to our community members. Thank you also to the many Bethany member volunteers that have been: organizing our storage rooms to become a fully functional supply room for our teachers, organizing our brand new academic curriculum for fall, and providing interactive lessons and read-alouds with our 'campers' and preschoolers.

We are grateful for grant funding which aides in providing a fully staffed program! We are grateful for our staff who come everyday ready to play and have fun with Bethany Summer Program youth!

Thank you, congregation, for using your time and talents to encourage such an exceptional summer program!

God be with you!
-Cheryl Flink



Lost and Found items will be disposed of **after Sunday, July 3rd.**

Please look over the items and see if any belong to you!!

They will be by the Fellowship Hall for you to look over!



A Few Words from our BPS Director: Cheryl Flink

Howdy Bethany Members!

Psalm 95:1 – “Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!”

Walking through the hallways of our preschool and summer camp program, you hear lots of joyful noises! Whether it is singing, laughing, playing, socializing, the ‘summer campers’ are having fun-filled days!

Our preschoolers have enjoyed: Splash Day Thursdays, Nature lessons with Pastor Ray, Music Mondays with Mrs. Laurie, special reading times with Mrs. Denise and Mr. Donovan, Wednesday library program walking trips, and fort building Movie Mondays! The teachers have also had fun incorporating our summer themes into the preschoolers' whole group read-alouds, crafts, and center stations. Needless to say, each day is full of fun and engaging activities!

Our older ‘summer campers’ (5-12 year olds) have enjoyed: daily walks to the Marktplatz playground, daily trips to the town pool to swim, fort building Movie Mondays, nature lessons with Pastor Ray, music Mondays with Mrs. Laurie, Beyblade tournaments (if you have not seen a beyblade tournament, it is definitely worth a Youtube look-up!!), Bible studies, and Wednesday library program trips. We are also looking forward to upcoming field trips off campus!

(Continued on page 25.)



(Continued from page 8.)

New Website

BLF now has its own website—www.blffbgtx.org. Please check it out and learn more about the foundation, its mission, recent grant recipients, as well as our contact info.

Thank you for your continued support of BLF’s ongoing mission to help others in our community through this special July offering. We also ask that you prayerfully consider BLF through (1) memorial gifts, (2) end of the year gift-giving and (3) being included in your personal estate planning.

Thank you, Bethany! God bless you!

Bethany Foundation Board

Dear Bethany Members,

Many thanks to Pastor Casey, Pastor Kevin and Pastor Ray for all their prayers and support while



I was recovering from a bone infection.

Also, sincere thanks to all others who kept me in their prayers. It’s a blessing to be a part of such a caring congregation.

Allan Buchmeier

July 2022 Altar Guild

Traditional:

Jean Weber, Pat McCready

Contemporary:

Sandra Swearingen &
Kathy Marquardt



Brother Steward

Are You Plugged In?

Way before the smartphone, the only messaging services we had were church bells. When they rang we knew something was up.

Today, Holy Gigabytes! We have instant communications and connections to anyone, anyplace in the world. But, how many of us are plugged into the Lord?

Do we Google the Bible?

Do we use our search engines to read the Scriptures?

How about forwarding and sharing important opinion on religious issues, or morality in government?

... And when was the last time you searched Yahoo for The Beatitudes, or a hymn, or a memorial prayer?

How about texting "THNX" to Jesus once in a while? Of all the time we spend on the internet, let's take a few roll over minutes and connect with the Lord this

summer!

God Bless.



Dear Bethany Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your monetary gift to help at-risk children who are hurting, find their way to a life of hope and adventure. At Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, our dedicated staff encourage growth in all areas of a child's life. This growth prepares them to face life's challenges with an open heart, a clear mind, and a healthy sense of adventure—and you make that possible.

Summer is just on the horizon & there is no better time to foster a child's sense of adventure when the days are warm and the stars in the Texas sky shine bright. Right now, our children are preparing for our annual Cardboard Boat Race, looking forward to summer camping trips, and other warm weather outings. Encouraging adventure for our youth is not only fun for the, it cultivates healthy risk taking, innovation and laughter. These are the building blocks we believe are necessary to learning the importance of balancing work with play and finding the excitement in life no matter what you are doing.

Thank you so much for giving every child at Boys Ranch the opportunity to learn & grow, and for giving them a chance to see how far their adventure can take them.

Sincerely,
Darrin Murphy
VP of Engagement

23



Things to Remember

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

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

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

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.

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.

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

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

HOSPITAL: If you are hospitalized, please call or have someone call the church office to let the pastors know so we can pray for you.



Council Highlights— June 21, 2022



- The financial audit of Bethany Preschool and Bethany Lutheran Church is underway.
- The Fellowship Team will host a Congregational Celebration on Marktplatz with a catered meal on September 18 celebrating our return to in-person meeting and ministry.
- The celebration will also serve as a retirement celebration for financial secretary Berta Allen after her many years of able service to the congregation.
- The council approved purchase of 24 new lightweight round tables for the Fellowship Hall.

Dear Bethany Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, beautiful cards, telephone calls, texts, delicious food and for my very special "nap" pillow!



A special thank you goes to Pastor Tiemann for coming out to see us! We so appreciate you giving us communion, the Word of the Lord and great conversation.

We are so privileged to be members of Bethany Lutheran Church.

To God Alone Be the Glory!

Blessings to all!

Raynette Kuenemann



- **No WELCA board meeting** in July.
- **No Leah Circle meeting** in July.
- **No Hope Circle meeting** in July
- **No Lydia Circle meeting** in July.
- **To Be Determined**—Quilters meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs. Quilters usually meet the second Wednesday of each month.

Monthly offering for June went to CEDEPCA

(For more information on what this is see page 21 of this newsletter.)



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

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	Chocolate Chips—\$5
Hot Cocoa & Baking Cocoa—\$8	Chocolate Bars—\$4

At the June Bethany's All Circle Ladies Luncheon the speaker, Cheryl Rowan, talked about an organization she works with in Guatemala. She mentioned an upcoming virtual event and has included information here for those who are interested. For more information contact Cheryl at 830-998-7274



The Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA) is an educational institution that contributes to the transformation of lives and contexts by providing training and accompaniment, and by offering spaces for reflection to women and men from diverse Christian traditions, communities and contexts.



THE NEW FACE OF MISSION

Date: Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2022

Time: (Central) 6:30

What is the “New Face of Mission” in a world still reeling from colonialism? Join CEDEPCA for the next Virtual Journey to Guatemala where we will talk about what makes for healthy cross-cultural relationships using the new book, Freeing Congregational Mission: A Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility, and Co-Development.

Designed for an English-speaking audience, this Virtual Journey will be helpful for anyone interested in leading or participating in a service or learning trip.

The book’s co-authors Hunter Farrell and Bala Kyllep are professors and directors of the World Mission Initiative at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. We are excited that both authors will guide us on this Virtual Journey in important critical thinking and self-examination around mission. Participants are encouraged to read the book beforehand for a richer experience.



Pre-registration is required: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZluf-GvqilqHtM2QF7KuLW4U8Hpk0ZGRpXP>



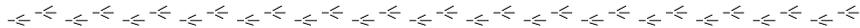
SUMMER DATES TO REMEMBER



(CURRENT) 8th—12th Grade—Mission Trip to Eagle Butte, South Dakota, (Cheyenne River Reservation) With Next Step Ministries June 25-July 3 (See p. 21 for Pre-retreat info.)

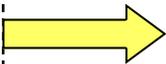
Adults Going: Danielle Geistweidt, Noah Greene, Kiesha Priem, Elizabeth White

Kids Going: Will Bryla, Grayson Crenwelge, Emma Geistweidt, Sydney Geistweidt, Austin Greene, Jonah Greene, Journie Lombardi, Andrew Pyka, Clara Quay, Eli Quay, Jaren Quay, Jake White, Nathan White



(CURRENT) 2nd-5th Grade—Lutheran Camp Chrysalis, July 24-29

If you're interested in spending a fun & faith filled week at camp, we need at least ONE other adult to come to camp! Bethany will pay your



camp fees. Please talk with Kiesha!!!

Adults Going: Kiesha Priem

Kids Going: Klara Atkins, Emma Baughn, Nolan Baughn, Evie Cox, Jordan Cox, Autumn Elrod, Emma Elrod, Willow Elrod, Ethan Flink, Mila Fowler, Calen Holland, Amillia Moellering, Zane Oestreich, Atley Schulz, Kamryn Sieckmann, Andrew Stehling, Abigail Warriner



BLC Dollars & Cents

General Fund Budget

May 2022

Income	\$50,681.80	Income – Year	\$308,378.49
Expenses	\$69,280.26	Expenses – Year	\$309,022.90

Deficit year to date ----- (\$-644.41)

Balances Other Funds – May 2022

Designated Accounts: \$282,791.75

Capital Improvement/Hennig Fund: \$169,114.87

Pre School Building Fund: \$219,009.50

Emergency Aid Fund (Chase): \$9,128.84

PNC—Money Market Account Balance \$106,801.21

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) \$60,730.99

Edward Jones (Dr. Stein Estate Gift) \$275,223.17

Monthly Special Offerings - 2022

January - Der Stadt Friedhof \$3,763.00

February – HC Needs Council - \$2,290.00

March – Rainbow Trail Camp - \$2,270.00

April – Synod Assembly - \$1,475.00

May – Bethany PreSchool - \$8,799.00

Stewardship of our Nation

Politics have always been a source of friction in the United States, but things have never been as polarized and ugly as today. We are in a precarious place, where many political and social experts say we are in danger of unraveling altogether.



Christians can help, we who are commanded to love our neighbor as ourselves (Leviticus 19:8, Matthew 22:39) and commended to work for the common good (Isaiah 58:8-14, 1 Corinthians 12:7). In the month of July, when we remember the founding of our nation and all it stands for, we can recommit to good stewardship of our civic virtues, our political process, and national identity.

Here are some ideas:

- **Seek and cling to truth:** There are enough malicious “fake news” stories and wild conspiracy theories going around to make your head spin. Endeavor to find out what is true. Don’t listen to lies and liars, and always speak truth, especially in face of lies.
- **Love and pray for those with whom you disagree:** Jesus taught us to pray for our enemies (Matthew 5:44). Now those who disagree with our politics aren’t our enemies, but the principle remains. Love and pray for them.
- **Don’t insult:** Jesus taught that when we say “you fool” to our neighbor we have committed murder in our hearts (Matthew 5:21-22). Engage on issues and policies, not personalities.
- **Settle for what’s fair:** Politics works best when both sides compromise. Everyone loses when it’s played “all or nothing.”
- **Finally, be a peacemaker:** Jesus taught, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

Our country desperately needs cooler heads to prevail if we are to face the future as a healthy democracy. As Christian stewards, we can lead the way.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2022, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Rev. Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org.



SUMMER DAY CAMP AT BETHANY



We are so excited to be able to have Day Camp with Cross Trails Ministry at Bethany this summer! (This is, essentially, our VBS.) Day Camp is put on by Bethany, using Cross Trails Ministry Camp Staff to lead programs during the week. It is for kids who are **CURRENTLY FINISHING** kinder-5th grade, with volunteer opportunities for older kids and adults.

When: July 18-22, 2022

Who: (KIDS CURRENTLY FINISHING) Kinder—5th grade! 6th—12th grade and adults are welcome to volunteer. (Check with Kiesha)!!!

Theme: Ready, Set, Go! Exploring Faith Practices

We plan to keep our “usual” half-day schedule, from 8:00-12:15 pm during the week of Day Camp.

We are very blessed to be able to fund Day Camp so that it is FREE for participants

NEW THIS YEAR: Registration will be online only!

<https://crosstrails.org/congregational-day-camp/>



Bethany Youth Trip to Colorado



Bethany Group at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado.



Rafting down the Arkansas River In Colorado!



Micaella Petty trusting her group during low ropes.



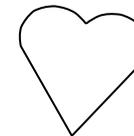
All smiles here!!



#UvaldeStrong Heart Project

From Donna Maxwell, Gillespie County 4-H office

Our 4-H Hearts will always be with Uvalde!



We have a 4-H Agent and some 4-hers in Uvalde that have stepped up to hang "quilted hearts" around Uvalde for individuals to find and take home to always remember. The Gillespie County 4-H office will be collecting these hearts in June and July.

Things to know:

Size of Heart - The size is up to the seamstress. I'm guessing most would be about 4" across but there is not a minimum or maximum requirement. Be creative!



Loop? -Yes, if a loop could be added while sewing that would make it a lot easier to "hang" somewhere. The loop could be ribbon, string/thread, or fabric.

Deadline: Please have them turned in to the Gillespie Extension office by July 25th **(or drop them off at the church office)** so we can get them to Uvalde!

If you have any questions, please email Donna at donna.maxwell@ag.tamu.edu or call the Gillespie County Extension Office at 830-997-3452.

(Or contact Karen Loeffler from Bethany karenjo56@gmail.com or 830-990-4454)



Here is a sample "heart".

Calendar

Calendar