

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"

May 2023

Preschool Building Update

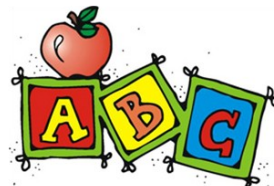
It seems eons ago that Bethany voted to proceed with a capital campaign to build Phase 1 of our master plan: a new preschool building. We were eagerly anticipating this challenge, and then COVID struck. Month after month, and now year after year, we have waited to move forward. When things finally settled down on the pandemic front, we were hit with eye-opening numbers. A project which was originally projected to cost \$3.7 million increased to just above \$6 million. Knowing this jump in cash was beyond the scope of the first project, the congregation council agreed that the congregation should have the opportunity to vote on it once again.



But the council also felt like more information should be gathered. Was our justification for building such a large facility still there? Could we handle the increased cost? If we were able to build the facility, would our preschool be able to handle all of the new expenses for maintenance, insurance, and utilities—things they are sharing with the congregation at this time? We set about collecting as many points of data as possible.

Some of the things we found were very surprising. A couple of months ago, the city conducted a post-COVID survey regarding child care in our community.

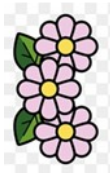
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Bethany Lutheran Church
110 W. Austin St.
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Return Service Requested



May



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

(Preschool Building Update—Continued from page 1.)

What once was a crisis before the pandemic has now turned into a need. In certain age groups, there seems to be more than enough child-care coverage, but in the areas of infant to three years old and after-school care, there is still a great need. This represents a snapshot in time, and we know that things can change greatly in the space of a few years. Many are wondering how the addition of 1000 housing units and new apartment complexes will affect the future need. We really are not sure.

We also learned the average amount we could expect to raise from a capital campaign both in the congregation and in the community. The numbers were a bit discouraging, but we were reminded, these were averages. Is it possible our congregation and our community can and will give more? Knowing the generosity of our church and the community, many of us are convinced that we will do much better than the average, although, it is a significant challenge before us should we agree to move forward.

At this writing, several in the preschool are projecting what it will cost to move into the new facility, what the operating costs will be, and how that might affect what we charge for tuition. This is actually a pretty important matter given that the most recent survey indicated that the employees of many businesses indicated that they could not afford high childcare costs. 46% said their workers could afford to pay less than \$550 per month/per child and 42% said their workers could afford \$550-\$750 per month/per child. If we are looking to minister to the greatest number of people, we have to be aware of these numbers.

Discussions of these matters have been ongoing, but there is a near unanimous agreement that we want to provide the absolute best in faith based education for our community's kids. We know that a new preschool building is needed to help us accomplish that goal. Please continue to hold this in prayer. We are hoping to have a town hall on May 21st to present more data and take questions. We are looking to schedule a congregational vote in June to see whether or not to proceed. Thank you for your patience in this important endeavor.

Pastor Kevin Haug
Associate Pastor
Bethany Lutheran Church



In Our Prayers

Hospital/Clinic/ER/Tests:

Berta Allen	Joe Bell	Heide Kemper
Bobby Klein	Marian Klein	Don Morris
Al Muirhead	Mike Sedgwick	Gerald Schmidt

Ongoing:

Carlton Eckert	Carol Eckhardt	Robert Gibbens
Audrey Gold	Heide Kemper	Bobby Klein
Billy Leifeste	Julianne Lombardi	

Wedding Congratulations to:

- Alyssa Rode and Rusty Petsch who were married on March 25th.

Our Sympathy to:

- The family of John Engel who died March 29; his funeral was April 4 at Bethany.
- The family of Alton Deike who died March 31; his funeral was April 5 at Bethany.
- Former Bethany Pastor Will Rotter and family at the death of his wife, Lillian Rotter. Funeral services were at St. John's Lutheran Church in Ruttersville.
- Jet Itz and family at the death of her father, Jerry Jenkins.
- Annabel Wilkinson and sister Shirley and family at the death of Shirley's husband, Don Hormuth, on March 30.
- Judy & Jerry Luckenbach at the death of her brother, Steve Brown

Baptisms:

- Ruby Harper Davis was baptized on Maundy Thursday, April 6. Parents are Jessica Mittel and Justin Davis. Bethany grandparent is Donna Mittel.
- Jonathan Alexander McCann was baptized on Maundy Thursday. Parents are John McCann and Kelley McCann. Bethany grandparent is Linda McCann
- Cora Jayne Turbeville was baptized Sunday, April 23. Parents are Dr. Rebecca (Tiemann) and Tyler Turbeville. Bethany grandparents are Pastor Ray & Debbie Tiemann.



May Birthdays



- 1 – Lisa Robison
Zana Smith
Don Weeks
- 2 – Marc Grobe
- 3 – Marilyn Dietz
Daniel Tiemann
- 5 – Wesley Keener
Kinsley Magee
Trish Schmidt
- 6 – Roy Enderlin
Joshua Russell
Constance Schultz
- 7 – Sandy Swearingen
Kalyn Stephens
- 8 – Alicia Elrod
Carol Itz
Halston Staudt
- 9 – J.B. Neans
- 10- Shaylin (Holland)
Bertelson
Emma Cleaton
Kathy Farnhof
- 11 – Joe Bell
Jacqueline Maldonado
- 12 –Trystan Atkins
Weldon Itz
Zachary Maner
- 13 – Matthew Dulaney
Camille Williamson
Cooper Jung
- 15 – Amy Evans
- 16 – May Eilers
Becca (Tiemann) Turbeville
- 17 – Betty Buchmeier
Jonah Greene
Barrett Greene
Calvin Grobe
Pam Schnelle

- 18 – Tom Pahl
Janice Sands
- 20 – Holly (McQuay) Palos
- 21 – Colt Davis
Mark Geistweidt
Austin Greene
Bryant Gold
Keaton Gold
Claudia Kemper
Matthew Myers
Joyce Richey
- 22 – John Dulaney
Megan Staudt
- 23 – Thomas Lentz
Olivia Palos
Charles Reaves
Taysha Slaughter
- 26 – Colton Fritz
Cristol Schoessow
Tyler Turbeville
- 27 – Madelyn Medve
Stephanie Sanchez
- 29 – Kristi Coolidge
Kelly Dooley
Joe Straube
- 31 –Sheila Petsch



Town Hall May 21

**Building & Campaign Updates after
All Worship Services**

The Building Committee and Capital Campaign Committee will present updated information and answer questions on Sunday, May 21. This is in preparation for a congregational vote—likely in early June—to proceed with a campaign for our new preschool building at the new cost.

Confirmation Sunday May 7

At 10:30 Traditional Service

On Sunday, May 7th, seven Bethany confirmands will affirm their baptism as the church “confirms” them in their faith. This year’s confirmands who have completed our two-year program in Bible and Catechism are:



- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Bryn DeGraw | Micaela Petty |
| Kamryn Evans | Garryn Pittman |
| Journie Lombardi | Halston Staudt |
| Kaden Ottmers | |



Graduates Honored May 21

**Bethany honors grads at 10:30 a.m. services.
Baccalaureate @ Bridge church for all FHS grads at 6:00 p.m.**

The Gillespie County Ministerial Association will again host its annual Baccalaureate for graduating high school seniors. This year it will be at Bridge Church, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Bethany will also honor its graduates that same day during the 10:30 morning services. CYFM will host a lunch for grads and their families at 11:45 in the fellowship hall.



Car Day Coming!!

Heads up... BOAT will be hosting their next

Car Day

Date: Saturday, May 6

Time: from 9 to 11 AM

Place: in the Bethany parking lot

Stop by for a free check of your car's fluids, tire pressure, hoses, battery condition and a little advice for future things to look out for. Share the word with those who could use this service.

Hope to see you there!



Bethany Trip to the Sculpture Gardens

Kerrville, TX

Date: Wednesday, May 10

Time: 9:00 am—2:30 pm

Price: \$10

- Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.
- We will be taking the Bethany buses.
- Limited to 30 people.

Lunch → We will be eating at
Billy Gene's Restaurant
(dutch treat)



May 2023 Assisted Living

Location	Day	Time	Location	Day	Time
Knopp Assisted	Wed. 5/3	9:30	Villages of Windcrest	Wed. 5/10	9:45
Knopp #2	Wed. 5/3	10:30	FBG NH	Wed. 5/10	10:45
Heritage Place	Thur. 5/4	9:30	Knopp RC	Thur. 5/11	9:30
Windcrest	Thur. 5/4	10:30	Knopp #1	Thur. 5/11	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 *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 *Frankie Law

Juniper Apartments, Kerrville

*Betty Deans Koetting

May 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. May 7	8:15	Rose Marie Mazanke, Wilma McAndrew
	10:30	Joe & Molly Butcher Becky Dittmar
Sun. May 14	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. May 21	8:15	Mike & Sue Sagebiel
	10:30	Kathy Meybaum, Joyce Richey, Pat McCready
Sun. May 28	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion



See Bulletin, Announcements & Hymns on Bethany Website



Each Sunday our bulletin announcements and worship bulletins are posted on our website www.bethanyfbg.com. If you're watching Bethany worship online, you notice that in traditional worship we don't have the words on-screen during communion since the pastors cannot operate the screen during distribution. But you can always find the hymn words in our online bulletins.



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.



Bethany was pleased to offer the GriefShare workshop again this Spring free for the community. The 14 week program ended on April 13, with many thanks to lay leaders Wilma

McAndrew, Kathy Meybaum, Karen Oestreich and pastoral leader, Ray Tiemann.

The class had 15 registrants over the course of the class, with 5 being Bethany members and the rest from the community and as far away as Mason and Kerrville. Schedules and other conflicts caused us to drop the evening class and combine them with the morning class about midway through, and we had 8 attend most of the classes.

Bethany will offer the class again next Spring. Both St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Hill Country Church both offer these classes as well during the year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Tiemann.

Peace,
Ray Tiemann, Visitation Pastor
Bethany Lutheran Church
Fredericksburg, TX



Mother's Day May 14

On Sunday, May 14, we will recognize and honor mothers and all women of faith during all three worship services.



National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 4th, 6:30 pm

The Marktplatz's Kindehalle (small one near playground) will be the location of this year's brief prayer time, hosted by Bethany's BOAT and led by people from the Ministerial Association. Music by Bethany's Quartet.



May 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 studying the book of Galatians. People of all ages are welcomed. Please come and 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 class will be studying "Moses: the Reluctant Prophet" By Adam Hamilton beginning Sunday, April 23 through May. This class meets downstairs in room 115. Please join us for scripture, encouragement, insight, and great fellowship!



May 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. May 7	8:15	Mike Sagebiel, - captain, Ben Warriner, Elizabeth Warriner, Sue Sagebiel
	10:30	Kenneth Treibs, captain Jaye Treibs, Jennifer Jenschke, James & Jacob Jenschke
Sun. May 14	8:15	Brad Holland- captain, Autumn Holland, Avery & Dawson Holland
	10:30	Oliver Deike - captain Mary Alice Deike, Becky Dittmar, Judy Dittmar
Sun. May 21	8:15	Vonnie Maner - captain, Zander Maner, Shirley Sagebiel, Kyle Kneese
	10:30	Dorothy Klier - captain Wayne Klier, Donnie Schuch, Lyle Johansen
Sun. May 28	8:15	Dwight Oestreich—captain, Wilma McAndrew, Gary Stehling, Denise Stehling
	10:30	Willard Dearing, captain Sandra Kammlah, Tom Pahl

May 2023 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader	HOSTS	Communion Assistants
	Kid's Message		Prayer Minister
Sun. May 7	Cheryl Flink Cheryl Flink	Ken Smith Robert McCall	No Communion Cheryl Flink
Sun. May 14	Erik & Beth Iverson Erik & Beth Iverson	Jaye & Kenneth Treibs	Camille Williamson (2) Elizabeth Warriner (2) Erik & Beth Iverson
Sun. May 21	Beth Luckenbach Beth Luckenbach	Jackie Kneese (2)	No Communion Beth Luckenbach
Sun. May 28	Carl Schoessow Carl Schoessow	Elizabeth White Sem Geistweidt	Merrily Hartmann Steve & Mary Evans (2) Dee or Tim Dahlstrom Carl Schoessow

BLC Dollars & Cents

	March 2023	Year
Income	\$75,486.56	\$208,495.82
Expenses	\$67,319.87	\$186,695.30
Surplus	\$8,166.69	\$21,800.52

Balances Other Funds


- Designated Accounts:** \$227,436.24
- Capital Improvement/Hennig Fund:** \$160,480.02
- Pre School Building Fund:** \$245,926.20
- Emergency Aid Fund (Chase):** \$10,758.25

PNC—Money Market Account Balance \$106,805.89
ELCA Mission Fund (Investment Account) \$35,000.00

First United Bank (CD-Hein Estate Gift) \$106,199.44
First United Bank (Savings-Hein Estate Gift) \$60,928.78
Edward Jones (Dr. Stein Estate Gift) \$274,362.17
 Beginning Value – Dec 31. 2019 - \$221,672.83

Monthly Special Offerings - 2023

January - Der Stadt Friedhof - \$4,205
 February – Bethany Preschool - \$11,728
 March – Needs Council – \$2,225



May 2023 Altar Guild

Traditional:
 Marjorie Ottmers, Shelba Fenimore,
 Lindy Haley

Contemporary:
 Sandra Swearingen & Kathy Marquart

ALTAR GUILD
 SCHEDULE



Sunday School & Adult Education Rooms

<u>Who goes.....</u>	<u>Where</u>
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	Room #205
Adult Bible Classes will meet in the overflow area at the back of the sanctuary.	

Breakfast Bar Info:

- Breakfast is served from 9:00-9:25



May 28—Last day of Breakfast Bar & Sunday School for the Summer. (Pastries only!)



Sunday School Stewardship

Sunday School Offering Recipient
 For May is:

The Golden Hub

Chosen by High School Sunday School Class

Brother Steward

It is the Church's Birthday!

So the story goes: The Abbot called the Brothers together to celebrate Pentecost, which is the birthday of the church. He asked each of them what gifts they had brought. The first Brother said his gift was prayer and that he would pray for loved ones, and the less fortunate. The second Brother said his gift was a talent to make things such as meals for the hungry. The third Brother said his gift was a small coin, which he gave to the Monastery's building fund.

The Abbot was pleased and said let us sing in praise of the Holy Spirit. Now there were Brothers each with his own language from Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England; but when they began to sing, the Latin words of Veni, Sancte, Spiritus (Come Holy Spirit Come) came out from each, unifying the group in one joyous voice to the amazement of all. The Lord sure works in mysterious ways, the Abbot said and joined in the celebration.



Parking Lot Fundraiser For Bethany Youth

Bethany Youth will be doing their Parking Lot Fundraiser on Friday Night and Saturday, May 26 & 27 for the Crawfish Festival.

Friday Night Special—\$15/space

Saturday—\$20/space

Thanks for your love and support!!

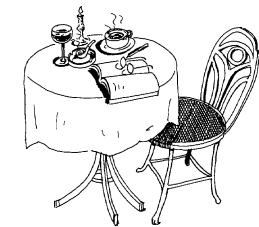


Thanks to all who donated Easter candy for the Bethany/Holy Ghost Easter Egg hunt!

It was a great success!



Thank you to all who helped with the Ladies luncheon.



It was so much fun!!!



Youth & Family

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!



High School Graduates Honored!

Bethany High School Graduates will be honored on Sunday, May 21. Here is the list of Bethany graduates:

Elizabeth Dulaney	Ella Hartmann	Kiera Haug
Jordan Hohmann	Avery Holland	Natalie Huff
James Jenschke	Hyleigh Ottmers	Matthew Stafford
Cameran Whiting	Brayden Durst	

★ Please let Kiesha know if your student is not listed.



Parking Lot Progress

At the April Council Meeting, the Property Management committee presented a report to the council regarding maintenance on our back parking lot. Most of you know it's pretty rough, and in need of attention.

The Property committee investigated several ways to repair and smooth things out, and recommended to council a bid from Bennett Paving in Leander, TX. This company has completed parking lot projects at several locations in Fredericksburg including: The Edge, Gillespie County Courthouse, Ewald Kubota, Yee Haw Outfitters, and Morris Ranch Road.

The process includes putting a first layer of asphalt on the parking lot to level everything out, placing anywhere from three to one inches of asphalt at a given spot. Tack oil will then be applied, and a second, two inch layer of asphalt will be applied. This process should take only two days, and it will be striped when completed. It carries a two year warranty, and should last for 25 years.

The estimated cost of the project is \$135,000.

The council approved the property committee's recommendation, and invited the property committee to lead in obtaining funding. The committee wanted to make a request to the congregation asking 20 people/families to donate \$5,000 each and 14 people/families to donate \$2,500 each. Several families have already agreed to contribute \$5,000. Of course, anyone is welcome to give more. Please make a contribution to the Capital Improvement Fund Parking Lot if you would like to help with this project.

We are aware that we may possibly be entering into a capital campaign for raising funds for a new preschool building, however we also know that we cannot neglect our current properties. Once we have the funding, we intend to move forward on the construction—we do not wish to go into debt for this project. Please remember, if you choose to give, that this would be in addition to what you would normally give to support the mission and ministry of Bethany. We still need to keep the lights on too. We know that you know this, but a reminder is oftentimes helpful. Thank you.

Pastor Kevin Haug

Your Stewardship Toolkit for May 2023!

Rev. Rob Blezard, Web Editor
The Stewardship of Life Institute
rob@stewardshipoflife.org



Thank God for our families

[Jesus was dying on the cross.] When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." -John 19:26-27

This month we celebrate the mothers and mother figures, and then in June we celebrate our fathers and father figures. What a wonderful opportunity to honor the strong bond between parents and children. How strong? The first use of the word "love" in the Bible, Genesis 22:2, describes the connection between Abraham and his son, Isaac.

Family is a cherished gift from God that we are entrusted to treasure, love and nourish. As parents, we are responsible for raising children to become healthy adults. And as children, we are responsible for caring for our aging parents.

As Jesus indicates in the passage above, there need not be a blood connection for a parent-child relationship. In Matthew 12:46-50, Jesus redefines family, saying that all who love and follow him are mothers, brothers, sisters, fathers. So, all of us are parent, child and sibling to one another. Now THAT'S some family!

As we honor the mother and father figures this spring, we can also challenge ourselves to be better stewards of the family bonds God has given us. We can explore how we can support families in our personal circles, our congregation and community – especially families that are troubled by great need, crises or dysfunction.

God ordained families to be the fundamental unit of human life. We can be good stewards of family relationships by caring for one another and helping everyone to grow into the faith family God intends.

--Rob Blezard

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(Continued from page 18.)

While we travel around the world, we will study Bible lessons that focus on:

- Creation: How God created the world, animals of all different kinds, and many diverse and wonderful people
- The book of Exodus and how Moses led the Hebrews out of Egypt by trusting in God
- Stories that focus on kindness and welcoming others and embracing differences
- Stories that focus on finding Jesus, and trusting in His eternal love

In His Name,
Cheryl Flink, Bethany Preschool Director



Potluck meals will return in August

No potluck meals in May, June or July; however, we will have potluck on Sunday, August 20. There are also special meals scheduled for September (at Marktplatz), October (Fajitas) and November (Thanksgiving).



A Few Words from our BPS Director

by Cheryl Flink

Psalms 136:1 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.

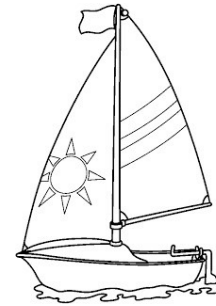
We had the best time celebrating Easter at Bethany Preschool this year! We are incredibly grateful to the Pastors and Kiesha for leading a special chapel and spreading the love of Christ to not only our preschool children, but also to our parents and grandparents who attended. A huge 'Thank you!' to Denise Stehling, Jody Donovan, Karis Edeen, Katie Jung, Ginny Stehling and Janelle Brunkow for assisting during Easter activity rotations. We are also grateful to our parent volunteers for helping hide eggs and making this day a blessing to our BPS children and families. We love providing opportunities to our families and spread the mission of Bethany Lutheran: To be, live as, and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are wrapping up our first full year using our Frog Street curriculum. The children are finishing the year learning about animals, different habitats, and growing to be Kindergarten ready. In Bible study, the children are studying stories from the New Testament.

We have a very busy May! Here are a few of our May events- We will host a 'Tea with our Treasures'. This special event will honor BPS mothers, grandmothers and women of faith in our children's lives. Our Prek 4 class-the Butterflies- will have their preschool graduation on May 19th. Bethany Preschool summer camp for children 18 months-12 years old begins on May 30th.

We are searching for guest speakers for our Summer Program. Our 3-12 year olds will be traveling around the world! The countries we will visit include: Germany, Egypt, Africa, Mexico and China. If you, or someone you know, would like to come speak to the children about these countries, please email Cheryl at bethanypsdirector@gmail.com.

(Continued on page 19.)



Lifeboat Log : May 2023

A huge "thank you" goes out to several Bethany members who have volunteered to fill the Lifeboat little food pantry, one day a week. If you would like an opportunity to serve your com-

munity in this way, please talk to Pastor Kevin, Layne, or a BOAT member. It's gratifying knowing that you are bringing a little light into someone's life, one meal at a time, in GOD'S NAME. What a blessing!

To all of you who contribute food or money to Lifeboat, "thank you!" Rising food costs have affected us too, so your contributions have been timely. One of our members chatted with a Fredericksburg resident who was stuffing three bags of food into the pantry. She was told she could leave it in the storage bin on the Hennig Haus porch (for us to put away later). Donating food to Lifeboat was one of her community offerings. Isn't that nice!

We have called those of you who filled out a "Helping Hands" volunteer checklist (from last month's "Bells" or worship bulletins). We will be in contact with you when needs are made known to Layne or the pastors. Thank you for indicating your willingness to extend a helping hand to someone in need. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from some assistance with a household task or personal need that is beyond your capability, let us know. We would love to marshall some folk together to lend a hand.

God bless you all, happy springtime, and pray for rain!

Bethany Outreach and Advocacy Team
(BOAT)



BOAT Dates to Remember:

- Car Day, Saturday, May 6th, 9:00—11:00 am, back parking lot
- Next BOAT meeting, Thursday, May 18, 5:45 pm, Triple Room





*please
join us*

- **May 2—4:00 pm** WELCA board meets in down stairs kitchen
- **May 4—9:30 am** Leah Circle meets at the home of Dee Dahlstrom. Please meet in the church parking lot by 8:45 am to carpool.
- **May 9—6:00 pm** Hope Circle meets in the downstairs kitchen
- **May 10—9:00 am** Quilters meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs
- **May 11—9:15 am** Lydia Circle meets in the downstairs kitchen.
The Monthly offering for April went to Meals on Wheels

• **Summer Joint Circle WELCA meeting -**

Sunday, June 4, 2023
Place to be determined

*** Check with circle leaders for more information on this gathering.*****



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!



**Council Highlights
April 18, 2023**



- Approved Stewardship Committee's recommendation to send No ELCA funds to the following: Kairos Prison Ministry, Good Samaritan, CEDEPCA (The Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America), Rainbow Trail and Mental Health & Development Disabilities Center.
- The council discussed the status of the Preschool Building. Pastor Kevin spoke to the why of the project: To provide the absolute best in faith-based education for our community kids. A town hall will be held May 21 after the services to update the congregation.
- The council approved the Financial Committee's recommendations to move funds to other banks to insure they are FIDC insured.
- The council approved the Property Management Committee's recommendation to have our parking lot resurfaced. The recommended bid comes to \$135,000 and will only take up to 2 days to complete. We will be asking the congregation to prayerfully consider giving to the Capital Improvement Fund to help pay for this necessary refurbishment.



Youth Photo Gallery

10 kids took the First Communion on Maundy Thursday, Apr. 6.
 Nolan Baughn, Luke Sandoval, Joshua Priess, Jase Marshall, Emma Baughn, Daivey Edeen, Willow Elrod & Ruby Davis.
 Back row: Pr. Casey Zesch, Johlt Haggerty, Kiesha Priem, Jonathan McCann & Pr. Kevin Haug.



Easter Egg Hunt 2023



Middle School at Top Golf on Apr. 23.
 Mason Rode, Colt Davis, Thomas Flink, Cohl Hartmann, Bailee Treibs, Mitchell Jones, Holly Rabke, Evie Cox & Eliana Graham.



High School at Top Golf on Apr. 16.
 Front Row: Dawson Holland, Kevin Haug Jr., Kaylee Haug, Kiera Haug, Emma Geistweidt, Kody Courtney,
 Back Row: Barrett Greene, Jake White, Grayson Crenwelge, Jonah Greene & Nathan White.



Special Offering for May

Water to Thrive

BUILD WELLS, CHANGE LIVES

Water to Thrive, based out of Austin, works to bring clean, safe water to those who need it in rural areas of Africa. Water to Thrive has been at work for 15 years. During this time, 1,687 wells have been completed changing the lives of at least 810,000 people.

In 2018-2019, Bethany sponsored one of those wells in Uganda. Even before that, Bethany supported Water to Thrive with several sizeable donations. Prayerfully consider a donation as this month's special offering as we continue to support this worthy mission.

You may write a check payable to Bethany and mark "Special Offering." Place in your May special offering envelope or a pew envelope on any Sunday morning in May or mail to the church:

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



ACU Choir to Perform Saturday, May 6th, at Bethany

The Opera Choir of Abilene Christian University will be holding a fundraising performance at Bethany Lutheran Church at 3:00 pm on Saturday, May 6th, in the Sanctuary. Entrance is by donation.

The show is a collection of solos, duets, and ensemble numbers from various musicals and operas. It is serving as a fundraiser for ACU Opera's trip to Italy this Summer where they will participate in classes, and have opportunities to perform.

Calendar

Calendar