

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”

October 2023

Building Bright Futures

By Pastor Casey

The entire month of October gets us into the spiritual heart of our campaign, “Building Bright Futures: Investing in Our Community’s Children.”

BIBLE STUDY: We had an all-church study during worship in September and now we offer a series at all 3 adult classes during Sunday School plus the WELCA circles, a Zoom study, and a men’s gathering. Don’t have a group? Come to the sanctuary Sundays at 9:20 where the adult Bible class becomes an all-church study.

ENRICHMENT GATHERINGS: Small groups at homes or other venues where a leader will share plans about a new preschool, show a Bethany video, and discuss how Bethany impacts our lives.

24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL: Sign up for a time to pray in our sanctuary. That includes night-time, when we’ll have people to provide a safe and secure place. We’ll include prayer requests that will be gathered during enrichment gatherings.

ADVANCED COMMITMENT EVENT: While the congregation giving & pledging day is November 19, this event Oct. 29 invites not only building committees & council, but anyone who wants to give early. No gifts will be solicited during the 3 events above.

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



October



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

Sunday—October 22nd
BPS FAJITA DINNER

This annual fundraiser for our Preschool will offer both To-Go and Dine-In options. To-Go orders begin at 11am, and Dine-In begins at 11:45 in the Fellowship Hall. All proceeds go towards the Bethany Preschool Program.

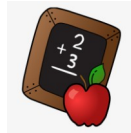
Hope to see you there!



Tickets—\$15 per plate

This includes 2 chicken fajitas, rice, beans, and dessert.

Dine-In or Take-Out!!



Tickets are available in the entrance area on Sundays and in the Preschool.



Have a Delicious Meal and Support
our Preschool!!!!



The Bishop Is Coming!

Sunday, October 22

Bishop Sue Briner will be our guest preacher Sunday, October 22. She is bishop of our Southwestern Texas Synod which includes 250+ pastors & deacons, 120+ congregations, 6 campus ministries, Cross Trails Ministry, and several ministry partners including Upbring and Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest.



In Our Prayers

Hospital/Clinic/ER/Tests:

Bill Heath	Genevieve Ketron	Monica Jinright
Kathy Meybaum	Donna Mittel	Judy Morgan
Kaden Ottmers	Joyce Richey	Pr. Casey Zesch

Ongoing:

Rachel Clifton	Sherry Colburn	Carlton Eckert
Carol Eckhardt	Robert Gibbens	Audrey Gold
Lindy Haley	Nic Jones	Bobby Klein
Billy Leifeste	Julianne Lombardi	

Our Sympathy to:

- The family of Robert Fletcher whose funeral was September 12 at Bethany.
- The family of Pat Evans whose memorial service was September 22 at Bethany.

Baptisms:

- Kalyn Gonzales and children Finnley and Elliott Gonzales, baptized on September 10.

Bethany Weddings:

- Jonathan “Tiny” Marquart & Jane Novosad, married September 16.
- Jackie Maldonado & Cobie Jordan, married September 30.

Congratulations:

to Mason (Rode) Petsch upon his adoption by Rusty Petsch, his new father, & husband to Alyssa Petsch.

24-Hour Prayer Vigil:

Sign up for a time of prayer in Bethany’s sanctuary October 20-21 (Friday—Saturday).

Ring My Bells!! (Continued from page 29.)

Our Bible stories these next few weeks will focus on: Micah spreading the good news, The Wedding Banquet and Feeding the 5,000. The children have fun reading Bible stories and participating in songs, crafts and play activities focused on the stories of the week.

Lastly, we are excited to share delicious chicken fajitas with you all on October 22nd through our annual fajita dinner fundraiser! Tickets are \$15 per person and include 2 chicken fajitas, rice, beans and dessert. We will have dine in and take out options available. Invite friends and family to dine in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy an afternoon meal!



Building Bright Futures Youth Art Project

The Youth at Bethany Lutheran Church are in the midst of an exciting journey as part of the Building Bright Futures campaign!

Colorful mugs have been transformed into resourceful banks that will be filled with donations for the new preschool. Just before Thanksgiving, our youth will join together to unite their donations and transform the mugs into a cross mosaic. This mosaic will become a lasting gift to the new preschool! You, too, can be part of this project by picking up a mug from the table in the Fellowship Hall foyer.



Join us in Building Bright Futures! 30



Building Bright Futures Bible Study

During the month of October, we will be focusing on faith-raising for our “Building Bright Futures” Campaign, and one of the main ways we will do so is through an all-church Bible Study. We will study and discuss several Bible stories and use them to help us understand how God’s generosity towards us leads us to be generous people.

We hope that you will engage this process as we grow spiritually together. Please note all of the different opportunities for study:

- Sunday morning during all regular Sunday School classes. If you do not regularly attend a class, we invite you to come to the pastors’ class in the Sanctuary as there is plenty of room.
- All women’s circles.
- A special men’s gathering on October 15th at Troy and Karlene Ottmer’s home, 3564 FM 2093 (Please bring your lawn chair!)
- Monday evening Zoom classes: please scan the QR code or look for the link on our website at www.bethanyfbg.com. Meeting ID: 882 8435 0032 Passcode: 414960



We look forward to this time of learning and faith-raising.



Bible Study Opportunities

Pastor's Adult, Transitions & Legacy Classes

Sundays in October at 9:15 a.m.

Zoom Bible Study

Mondays in October at 7 p.m.

Women's Circle Groups

Leah Circle Thursday, Oct. 5 at 9:30 a.m.
Hope Circle Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m.
Lydia Circle Thursday, Oct. 12 at 9:15 a.m.

Men's "Bible, Burgers, & Brew"

Sunday, Oct. 15 at 5:30 p.m.

At home of Troy & Karlene Ottmers
3564 FM 2093, Fredericksburg

Join the Campaign!

Get Involved!

Invest In Our Community!



Ring My Bells!!



A Few Words from Our
BPS Director
By Cheryl Flink

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

A huge THANK YOU to all who contributed to making Grandparent's Day a success! A special thanks to Kyle Treibs and Matt White for fabulous fellowship hall lighting and help with the sound system and technology!

Grandparents and other family members were welcomed in our Fellowship Hall to share a meal and ice cream with their grandchild. We had a wonderful turn out, and truly enjoyed celebrating our Grandparents who are here and who are in heaven.



After what feels like an eternity of sweltering heat, we finally are able to enjoy some "fall" weather and we are so excited! That also means it is time to enjoy the fun of fall: pumpkins, leaves, Halloween and even Thanksgiving is just around the corner. During this time of year we enjoy adding extra themes that incorporate what is happening in our homes and community to celebrate fall.

(Continued on page 30.)



- **Oct. 3—WELCA board mtg**—4:00 at Jet Itz’s home
- **Oct. 5—Leah Circle**—9:30 am will meet at Denise Stehling’s home
- **Oct. 10—Hope Circle**—6:00 pm will meet at Bethany
- **Oct. 11 - The quilters**—9:00 am -will meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs.
- **Oct. 12- Lydia Circle** - 9:15 am—will meet at Bethany
- **Oct. 21— Southwestern Texas Synod WELCA Gathering**—1 day convention at St. Mark’s in Cuero, TX.

****September WELCA offering went to
The Good Samaritan Center****



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)



Thank You!!!



The WELCA circles would like to say “Thank You” to all who helped make the Fall Festival such a success! Whether you worked a shift, helped set up or clean up, baked wonderfully delicious items, provided some neat plants for sale, provided other home-made items to sell, shopped our items or simply shared a prayer—THANK YOU!! Without you this would not have been possible. The funds raised will be used to help Camp Chrysalis and others in need.



24-Hour Prayer Vigil for Building Bright Futures

The Building Bright Futures Campaign will host a 24-Hour Prayer Vigil starting at 12:00 noon on Friday, October 20 through 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 21, at Bethany Lutheran Church. The Prayer Vigil Committee is being led by Carl Schoessow.

Sign-up sheets to participate in the prayer vigil will be available in the lobby of the fellowship hall and in the narthex of the sanctuary on Sundays, October 1st, October 8th, and October 15th. Each participant is asked to select a one-hour time slot for silent prayer.

Prayer request cards will be distributed and collected at all three worship services on the first three Sundays of October as well. These cards will also be available at the small group Enrichment Gatherings.

The prayer vigil will begin on Friday at noon and continue until noon on Saturday. Several prayer stations will be set up in the Bethany sanctuary. The representatives of the Prayer Vigil Committee will greet participants in the narthex during the vigil and provide prayer request cards with topics for you to pray silently about during your one-hour time commitment.

Participants of previous prayer vigils have commented that praying in the quiet of night was a very meaningful experience for them. Security is planned at the church during the night-time hours of the vigil.

Please note that if you are not able to come to the church to pray during the 24-hour vigil, a list of prayer topics will be available for your use to pray at home.

Your participation in this prayer vigil is one form of commitment to Building Bright Futures for the children of our community. And remember what we read in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. “Rejoice always, *pray without ceasing*, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

Enrichment Gatherings

Sign Up at Church or By Phone/Email

We invite you to sign up for one of the “Building Bright Futures” small-group gatherings. Sign up in the church entrance areas or contact Karen Oestreich 830-997-2554 (leave message) or fbgcouple@outlook.com.

The host homes/venues and dates:

- OCTOBER 11th :
2:00 pm – Karis Edeen – 4638 FM 2093
6:00 pm – Karlene Ottmers, Lost Draw Cellars, 113 E. Park
- OCTOBER 13th:
2:00 pm – Debbie Tiemann – 421 Cross Mountain
- OCTOBER 15th:
3:00 pm – Jackie Kneese – 211 W. Mulberry
- OCTOBER 16th:
10:00 am – Jessica Mittel – 2345 Summit Forest
- OCTOBER 17th:
10:00 am – Nancy Geistweidt - 146 Stonewood
- OCTOBER 19th:
6:30 pm – Katie Jung – 22146 Stone Oak
- OCTOBER 23rd:
6:00 pm—Mary Alice Deike—184 Hye-Albert Rd., Hye, TX
- OCTOBER 24th:
7:00 pm – Denise Stehling – 306 W. College
- OCTOBER 26th:
3:00 pm – Dorcella Sunday – 118 Winding Oaks
6:00 pm – Kelly Urbanec – 306 Wildwood

October 2023 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader Kid's Message	HOSTS	Communion Assistants Prayer Minister
Sun. Oct. 1	<u>Cheryl Flink</u> Cheryl Flink	Ralph & Karen Rode	<u>No Communion</u> Cheryl Flink
Sun. Oct. 8	<u>Carl Schoessow</u> Carl Schoessow	Vic & Marion Nixon	<u>Jaye Treibs (2) Steve & Mary Evans</u> Carl Schoessow
Sun. Oct. 15	<u>Beth Luckenbach</u> Beth Luckenbach	Danielle Geistweidt (2)	<u>No Communion</u> Beth Luckenbach
Sun. Oct. 22	<u>Erik & Beth Iverson</u> Erik & Beth Iverson	Jacqueline Kneese(2)	<u>Ralph & Karen Rode Beth Iverson, Linda Pape</u> Erik & Beth Iverson
Sun. Oct 29	<u>Ken Smith</u> Ken Smith	Elizabeth White Brian Maenius	<u>Camille & Marc Williamson Jaye Treibs (2)</u> Ken Smith

Volunteers Needed!!!!

Oktoberfest in Fredericksburg is happening October 6-8, 2023, and we are looking for volunteers to help with Kinderpark!

We need adult and youth volunteers to help with the kids' games & prizes!! Sign up with Kiesha if you are interested in helping! All money raised at Oktoberfest Kinderpark will go toward Bethany Youth activities and trips.



October 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. Oct. 1	8:15	Todd Keener - captain, Wesley Keener, Scott & Judy Brunridge
	10:30	Kenneth Treibs- captain Jaye Treibs, Jennifer Jenschke, Jaycee & Bailee Treibs
Sun. Oct. 8	8:15	Bubba Schnelle- captain, Pam Schnelle, David & Sharon Browne
	10:30	Oliver Deike- captain Mary Alice Deike, Beth & Don Weeks
Sun. Oct. 15	8:15	Vonnie Maner- captain, Zander Maner, Wilma McAndrew, Joyce Robertson
	10:30	Donnie Schuch- captain Becky Dittmar, Judy Dittmar, Tom Roarick
Sun. Oct. 22	8:15	Dwight Oestreich—captain, Mike and Sue Sagebiel
	10:30	Willard Dearing— captain Matthew, John & Elizabeth Dulaney
Sun. Oct. 29	8:15	Gary Stehling—captain, Denise Stehling, Gerald Schmidt
	10:30	Jim Schultz— captain Constance Schultz, Al & Dorcella Sunday

Bible Quiz

In Jesus' parable about people who hear and live by God's words, on what did the wise man build his house?

- A. rock
- B. sand
- C. grassland
- D. soil that was free of rocks



Answer: A (See Matthew 7:24-27.)

“Building Bright Futures” Advanced Commitments

On October 29th, we will hold an Advanced Commitment Gathering for our “Building Bright Futures” Campaign. This event is for anyone who would like to give an early, sacrificial, and inspirational gift of any amount.

The event will take place at the Gillespie County Historical Society Building, 312 W San Antonio St. at 5:30 p.m. Because we will have food and drink, we need to know how many people would like to attend. If you would like to attend to give an early, sacrificial, and inspirational gift, please call the church office and talk to Layne (830-997-2069). A personal invitation/letter will be mailed to you with further information. **Please RSVP by October 18th.**

This will be in advance of the congregation's main “gifting/pledging day” on Sunday, November 19th. Members of the Building Committee, Campaign Committee, and Church Council will automatically receive invitations. But, again, **anyone** who would like to give an early, sacrificial, and inspirational gift of any amount will receive an invitation.

Thank you for your support as we seek to live out our mission of being, living as, and making disciples of Jesus Christ as we “Build Bright Futures: Investing in Our Community's Children.”



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
Except on Oct. 22—that day it will be in the BPS rooms.



Breakfast Bar Teams for October:

Oct. 1 (Team 10)—Beth/Erik Iverson: Kiesha Priem, Teri Ewing, Donna Beckmann, Kara Anderson, Chrissy Stuewe, Kelly Urbanec, Lyn Farris

Oct. 8 (Team 11) - Fellowship Team—various team members

Oct. 15 (Team 1) - Jaye/Kenneth Treibs: Kyle/Carin Treibs, Sandy/Tom Swearingen, Rose Marie Mazanke, Jennifer Jenschke, Kathy Marquart, Ruth Rose

Oct. 22 (Team 2) - Camille/Marc Williamson: Autumn/Brad Holland, Jean Weber, Jet Itz, Karen Loeffler, Sharon Joseph, Emily Sandoval, JoAnn Leifeste

Oct. 29 (Team 3) - Judy/Ed Kramer: Lucinda Zesch, Dave/Pat Laughlin, Gayle McQuay, Beth Luckenbach, Melissa Holland, Robert & Morgan McCall, Deanna Christenson



Youth & Family



Fall Carnival

Bethany & Holy Ghost
 Wednesday, October 25th
 Hennig Grove
 5:30-7:30

Dress up & bring the family!!
 Lots of games, candy, prizes, crafts, and hotdogs!!



We will be collecting individually wrapped bags of candy for the Fall Carnival starting October 8th!!!

You can drop it off at Kiesha's door!



October 2023 Assisted Living

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

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

*Annabel Stein

WINDCREST NURSING & REHAB

*Genevieve Ketron *Linda Warriner

HERITAGE

* Roberta Young * Frankie Law

Juniper Apartments, Kerrville

*Betty Deans Koetting

Alamo Ranch, San Antonio

*Audelle Burkey

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October Adult Sunday Schedule



Adult Classes @ 9:20 Sundays

The Pastor's Adult, Transitions & Legacy Classes will be taking part in the All-Church Bible Study.



(See pp. 3 & 4 for more details.)

Adult Bible Class ———— Meets in the Sanctuary

The Transitions Class ——— Meets in the Trinity Room

The Legacy Builder's Class — Meets in rm. #115

Bethany Senior Event



Date: Tuesday, October 3rd Time: 11:30-1:30

Our next Bethany Senior event will be held on October 3rd, Tuesday, from 11:30-1:30. We will be playing Bingo and enjoying lunch with a pre-Oktoberfest theme.



**Fun, food and fellowship—Please come join us.
& bring a friend!!**



October Sunday School
Offering will go to the
Coats for Kids
—chosen by CYFM

9



Closures for Oktoberfest

Parking Lot & Austin Street

Again this year, Austin St. (in front of Bethany) will be closed for Oktoberfest. The City will open Austin Street for church parking on

Sunday morning, October 8th

during worship hours (please move your car after worship). You may park on the Bethany side of the street—simply tell the attendant you are a member. Enter from the Adams Street side only. Or, park in our back lot as usual.

Also, once again, Bethany’s parking lot will be reserved for Oktoberfest volunteers during event hours; our youth will receive a donation for the lot and will in turn run Kinder Park. The lot is open for Bethany members Sunday morning.



Reformation Sunday

Wear Red Sunday October 29

As we celebrate the Reformation which began in 1517, the color of the day is red! You’re invited to wear something **RED** that day as a sign of the Holy Spirit working in and through Christ’s church—reformed and always reforming.

October 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. Oct. 1	8:15	Jonathan Baethge, Beth Luckenbach
	10:30	Ernie & Karen Jo Loeffler Becky Dittmar
Sun. Oct. 8	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Oct. 15	8:15	Ed & Judy Kramer
	10:30	Jody Donovan, Joe & Marilyn Butcher
Sun. Oct. 22	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Oct. 29	8:15	Rose Marie Mazanke, Wilma McAndrew
	10:30	Jim McAfee, Sharon Joseph, Pat McCready

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.



October Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 – Mary Alice Deike
Lou Ann Fletcher
Troy Ottmers | 10 – Tyler Geistweidt
Aileen Hayes
Zane Huff | 23 – Krystal Geistweidt
Beau Ristau |
| 2 – Elias Christensen
Brayden Langehennig
Jessi Williams | Sandi McCready
Sarah Morris
Braxton Suris | 24 – Laken Thompson |
| 3 – Drew Bonillas
Emma Geistweidt
Rusty Petsch
Alyssa Petsch
Jim Schaefer | 11 – Bailey Wipff
12 – Brian Maenius
Broc Schulz | 25 – Jaxen Bertleson
Dwight Dittmar
Stephen Itz
Cindy Zenner |
| 4 – Trenton Schnelle | 13 – Brooke Beckmann
14 – Kaitla Coolidge | 26 – Mape Rush
Marty Gisclon |
| 5 – Brittany Durst
Raynette Kuenemann | 15 – Shanna Marquart
Wesley Rheinhardt | 27 – Rebecca Itz
Todd Keener
Kendyll Petty |
| 6 – Anthony Dietz
Traci Doerre
JoAnn Leifeste
Carissa Tronstad | 16 – Berta Allen
Daniel Jenschke
Bruce Woerner | 28 – Dayton Eckhardt
James Iverson |
| 8 – Josh Bonillas
Cindy Maple | 17 – Marion Welgehausen
Matt White | 29 – Jaren Bertelson
Kathleen Celaya
Cheryl Flink
Renee Grobe
Wil Rathke
Donna Wolf |
| 9 – Jayla Bierschwale
Dorothy Klier
Tyler Seghers
Rowdy Walker | 18 – Jarret Borchers
Rick Burgess
Andrea Pape
Julia Maenius | 30 – Daysha Aleman
Forrest Farnhof
George James |
| | 20 – Kim Bonillas
Sandra Kammlah
Taylor Ward | 31 – Bill Heath |
| | 21 – Erik Iverson | |
| | 22 – Ray Tiemann
Jean Weber | |



Bethany will join other local churches in packing shoeboxes for Children in need all over the world. Boxes and informational flyers will be available starting Sunday, October 15th in the Narthex & Fellowship Hall foyer. Deadline for returning shoeboxes will be **Sunday, November 12th.**



A huge THANK YOU to the Christmas Journey Stitchers who spent time making new costumes for our actors! Congratulations to Jaye Treibs for over 20 years of ministry and making Christmas Journey such a magical experience! Mark your calendars for the Christmas Journey experience on December 8th and 9th!

Sending out a big THANK YOU to all our Bethany folks who donated to help pay for re-paving our Bethany back parking lot! It was a big job but needed to be done. Thank you so much for giving extra for this project!



October 2023 Altar Guild



Traditional:
Marjorie Ottmers
Linda McCann, Sarah Eckhardt

Contemporary:

Sandra Swearingen & Kathy Marquart

BLC Dollars & Cents

Aug 2023		Year to Date
Gen Fund Income	\$52,389.70	\$509,461.71
Gen Fund Expenses	\$61,749.97	\$505,746.20
Deficit/Surplus:	-\$ 9,360.27	\$3,715.51

Balances Other Funds

- Designated Accounts: \$171,395.15
- Capital Improvement/Hennig Fund (SSBT): \$125,387.18
 - Parking Lot: \$70,675
- Capital Improvement/Hennig CD (Guadalupe): \$80,000

- Pre School Building Fund total: \$246,046.20
 - SSBT acct: \$46,046.20
 - TX Hill Country CD: \$200,000
- Emergency Aid Fund (Chase): \$5,806.25

- Contingency (PNC)–Money Market Account Balance \$106,804.32
- ELCA Mission Fund (Investment Account) \$35,000.00

- Broadway Bank (CD-Hein Estate Gift) \$167,361.99
- Edward Jones (Dr. Stein Estate Gift) \$283,593.31
 - 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 - \$4975
- August – FISD Education Foundation - \$2755

Puzzle!

Find these words — all from the book of Acts — forward, backward or diagonally in either direction.

N K C B T R I R I P S Y L O H
 K E N G E W R E Y A R P N
 O E C N E R E A R J N
 M T H E S L E I T N G E A
 I M U B U P J C H H C I R I
 S T A R T I G H T G E R E Z U P
 G T C P A T O I D I O S T O
 C N G H T R I S E P L A G I H
 N S O N R I S K U L A G I H
 N O R N Z X A L S I N P E T
 P T K E Y A E S A Y J M E
 B H B A R A N A B A S A E
 R E T E P A O A V V Q M Z
 L U P A S H M T D O R C A S
 J I O L A S S A Z S B G D
 U J H S R C S T E P H E L

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Ananias | light |
| baptize | Paul |
| Barnabas | Peter |
| basket | Philip |
| chariot | prayer |
| church | prison |
| Damascus | Samaria |
| Dorcus | Sanhedrin |
| Ethiopian | Saul |
| Gaza | Simon |
| Gentiles | sorcery |
| Holy Spirit | Stephen |
| Jerusalem | stones |
| Jesus | Straight |
| Joppa | synagogue |

Did you know....

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

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

FOOD PANTRY: You can put your donated items in the cabinets. There is a Narthex location and also a similar location outside the Fellowship Hall.

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

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

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

TURN OUT THE LIGHTS AFTER MEETINGS, PLEASE!

***FLOWER CHART:** This is now located in the Workroom. You can simply call Layne and he will coordinate with you.

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

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



The Christmas Journey

Bethany will again present "The Christmas Journey" for the community as well as for Christmas visitors, some of whom travel to Fredericksburg from out of town specifically to see the Journey!

**Dates: Friday and Saturday
December 8 & 9.**

Watch for signup sheets in the entrance area of church. We need people to be characters, set builders, helpers, entrance & exit greeters, food-makers, etc. Please consider volunteering for the Journey. Many new costumes are being sewn.



On a Committee????

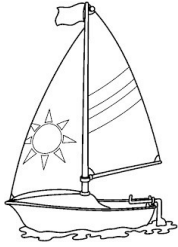
It's Budget Time!!!

All Committees are asked to review their budgets at their October meetings. Now is the time to turn in your 2024 budget requests to the Finance Committee by placing those requests in the box on Administrator Layne Petty's door. Or email them to Layne at:

layneblc@gmail.com

All Saints Remembrance—November 5th

On Sunday, November 5, Bethany will remember all those who have died since our last All Saints Sunday. Names will be printed in next month's newsletter. FYI—Daylight Savings Time begins that day!



Lifeboat Log : October 2023

Not so much to write about this month, but we continue to thank you for your support of Bethany's Lifeboat Little Food pantry. During this time of increased food prices, our pantry is being well used. Your generosity has kept it "open" (now 3 1/2 years and counting).

Thank you for extending God's caring hand to those who need it. We pray Lifeboat is a tangible witness of His love to those who are seeking meaning in life.

God bless us all!

-Bethany Outreach and Advocacy Team (BOAT)

Next BOAT meeting

Thursday, October 19th
@ 5:45 p.m.

Skyrocketing Insurance Costs

We wanted to take the opportunity to inform you of an unexpected rise in insurance costs which will affect our budget this year. Church Mutual raised the cost of our liability, auto, property, and umbrella insurance to over \$31,000. This is \$11,000 more than we budgeted for. We are currently comparing costs of other companies.



We know that Bethany is a generous congregation and that you have continually stepped up to handle financial challenges. This year, we have stayed in the black the vast majority of the time because of your tremendous giving. We thank you for this, and know that it will continue.



Council Highlights

September 19, 2023



- The council heard reports on the preschool capital campaign, the paving of the parking lot, and the work of Der Stadt Friedhof board.
- Acting on the recommendations of the Aesthetics Committee and the Traditional Worship Committee, the council approved the removal of the far back five pews in the overflow area. The pews will be offered for sale in the future. The extra chairs currently stored in the Trinity Room will be used as seating in that part of the overflow.
- Finance secretary Becky Dittmar reported on the sharp rise in the church's insurance premiums.
- Replacement of the worn-out air conditioning unit at the Hackberry Street parsonage was approved.
- The council approved the membership transfer of Bev Pankratz from Trinity Lutheran, Stonewall to Bethany, and the transfer out of Grant and Misty Giles and sons Wade and West to Immanuel Lutheran, Comfort.

Brother Steward

Alive in the Spirit of Prayer

Hats off to my brother Monks in Ireland! Long before the invention of the printing press in the 1400s, they copied by hand the new and old testament, all the important writings of the Popes and other theologians. No copy machines, just pen, ink, parchment and beautiful illustrations were used. Without these diligent souls, many of us would never have known the written word of God.



The Monks inspired a renewed interest in sacred books and religious articles. Lo, and behold, I have found a modern treasure trove of these in better Christian bookstores across the land. Think of the Monks that were the stewards of these great works!



Special Offering for October

**New Horizons/Living Well College/
Advantage Care Services**

Our special offering for the month of October will be New Horizons, Living Well College and Advantage Care Services. New Horizons/Living Well College/Advantage Care Services are three independent services for the developmentally disabled in the Gillespie County area. New Horizons serves the lowest functioning persons; Living Well College provides services and classes for persons with some trainable skills; and Advantage Care is highly functioning persons.

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

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

*Dear Bethany members and friends,
Thank you for your continuing prayers,
texts, phone calls, cards, visits, encouraging words,
hugs, and delicious meals. They were appreciated
during my surgery and continued recovery. I am
blessed to be part of such a caring and generous
Bethany family.*

*With gratitude,
Joyce Richey*

Calendar

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