

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”

September 2023

Faith Raising Above Fund Raising: Part 2

By Pastor Kevin Haug

“Building Bright Futures: Investing in Our Community’s Children” is the full title of our capital campaign to raise funds for a new preschool building. This title was resoundingly agreed upon by the capital campaign leaders at our initial training session on August 12th.

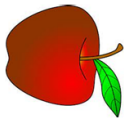
One of the attendees Googled “most successful capital campaign themes.” Number one (paraphrasing) was “Building Brighter Futures.” Number two was “Investing in the next Generation.” Therefore, based upon the title alone, we should have a successful campaign!

If we were only so lucky! But titles alone do not ensure success, especially in the church. We measure success in the church in a different fashion. We measure success by our faithful response to God’s great grace. In particular, we here at Bethany measure success by whether or not something has aligned with our mission: to be, live as, and make disciples of Jesus Christ. Church experts, over and over and over, will tell you, money follows mission.

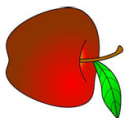
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September



Faith Raising Above Fund Raising (Continued from page 1.)

This is why we will be spending the bulk of our time in the next several months doing exactly what Pastor Casey wrote about in his newsletter article last month: Bible studies, prayer vigil, small-group gatherings, special worship services, and fellowship events. These are intended to help our faith in God deepen as we enter into the spiritual practices of the church. These are intended to draw us closer to God and to one another. Before we “Build Bright Futures” with a building, we will build our collective and individual faiths. That alone will be a success. And as we better understand and respond to God's great grace, the money will follow.



Meal at Marktplatz

Date: Sunday, Sept. 24th
Time: after late church

There's a celebration happening Sunday, September 24th. It's a thank you from our church council to honor and thank Bethany members for another great year. You will take the short walk to Marktplatz after late church for a full barbeque meal of brisket, sausage, potato salad and pinto beans plus a yummy dessert all catered by Backwoods Barbeque. Of course, being from Fredericksburg there will be tasty libations! Come enjoy delicious food, drink and especially the camaraderie of fellow members. So mark your calendar for the last Sunday in September!



In Our Prayers

Hospital/Clinic/ER/Tests:

Eli Geistweidt	Eliana Graham	Lindy Haley
Bobby Klein	Judy Morgan	Linda Warriner

Ongoing:

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

Our Sympathy to:

- The family of Matthew Boatright, whose funeral was August 5 (son of Margaret Hannum & was in Bethany's confirmation class and youth group)
- The family of Kay Haney Wagner, whose funeral was August 11.
- Deanna Christensen at the death of her mother, Lois Schroeder.
- Carlene Grobe at the death of her sister-in-law, Ruby Hartmann
- Sheila Donovan & family at the death of Gregory Matthews



September Sunday School
Offering will go to the
Needs Council
—chosen by CYFM



September Birthdays



1— Robert Fletcher
Greta Hartmann
Avery Holland
2 — Dorcella Sunday
3—Sierra Deike
Autumn Elrod
Emma Elrod
Nancy Geistweidt
Elizabeth Warriner
4—Hal Doerre
Ruth Rose
Gerald Schmidt
5—Mike Haley
6 - Laurie Jenschke
Marjorie Ottmers
Rode Parker
7—Kate Maenius
Dana Sherrod
Christy Walker
8—Ron Borchers
Marlene Deike
Noah Greene
Clara Kozielski
Hesston Schulz
9—Gina Daniels
Carol Eckhardt
Christian Evans
Sammy Geistweidt
Samantha Williams
10—Judy Luckenbach
11—Garryn Pittman
12—Lynette Cornehl
Lindy Haley
13—Justin Hoffmann
Barbara Mauer
Jean Renfro



14—Reed Collier
Holden Light
Nancy Neans
Elizabeth Sandoval
Gary Stehling
Kyle Treibs
Curvey Weber
15 – Allen Buchmeier
16—Melissa Holland
Vonnice Maner
Larry Ottmers
17—Nathan White
19—Emma Baughn
Nolan Baughn
Danielle Geistweidt
Shyann Pitts
20—Kit Kunz
21—Grant Giles
22—Lauren Itz
23—Carol Baethge
Peggy Cox
Ruby Kettenhofen
Linda Simonsen
24—Mary Heath
John Schmidt II
25—Florine Bruns
Carolyn Garza
26 - Lara Nixon Rivera
Luther Rode
Carin Treibs
Rode Walker
27 – Boen Stone
28—Stanley Crenwelge
Susan Ottmers
29—Brenda Doerre
Daisy Straube
30—Linda Pape
Brooklynn Stehling



Building Bright Futures

Investing in Our Community's Children *Capital Campaign Committee*

Each member of our leadership team will be recruiting volunteers for their specific areas of our "Building Bright Futures" campaign:

- Consultant – Luke Bouman
- Campaign Chair — Bill Heath
- Advance Commitments Director — Jim McAfee
- Planned Giving Director — Jody Donovan
- Enrichment Gatherings Director — Karen Oestreich
- Audio-Visual Director — Aaron Steger
- Promotion Director — Ernie Loeffler
- Resource Director — Joyce Richey and Linda McCann
- Children and Youth Director — Denise Stehling and Beth Iverson
- Bible Study Director — Kay Stech
- Prayer Vigil Director — Carl Schoessow
- Banquet Director — Beth Luckenbach
- Hospitality Director — Constance Schultz
- Commitment Visits Director — Michael Yosko
- Continuation Director — Wilma McAndrew
- Pastors – Pr Casey Zesch & Pr Kevin Haug

CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY
FALL FESTIVAL
Fredericksburg Marktplatz

SEPT 16

9 AM
3 PM

CRAFT VENDORS | FOOD VENDORS | MUSIC | RAFFLE
 KIDS GAMES | FUN RUN | QUILT AUCTION

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE EBERT RANCH POND
 Visit crosstrails.org for more information

See page 25 for more information on the
 Fall Festival and how your can help.



Welcome, New Members!

On August 20, the congregation welcomed new members to Bethany through baptism and affirmation of baptism:

- Don and Dianna Blount
- Tracy Cleaton and granddaughter, Edith Cleaton
- David (Bubba) and Kalyn Gonzales, Collins, Finnley, & Elliott
- Eric and Carol Hammersen (associate members)
- Travis Neal
- Debby Roberts
- Jim and Heidi Schaefer
- Forrest and Cindy Wheeler



September 2023 Assisted Living

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

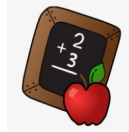
September 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP COMMUNION

Date	Time	Communion Assistants
Sun. Sept. 3	8:15	David & Sharon Browne
	10:30	Jean Weber, Leland Geistweidt, Dorothy Klier
Sun. Sept. 10	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion
Sun. Sept. 17	8:15	May Eilers, Todd Keener
	10:30	Carlton Eckert, Jim & Constance Schultz
Sun. Sept. 24	8:15	No Communion
	10:30	No Communion



Bethany Preschool turns 40 this month!

Give thanks for those with the original insight and imagination to begin this ministry for children, parents, families, and the good of the workforce in Gillespie County! And thanks to all directors, teachers, board members, volunteers, and donors. God has blessed your work beyond our own dreams.



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.



Building Bright Futures Campaign Schedule

The schedule below includes major activities in the Building Bright Futures Campaign. Please watch additional newsletters for more information.

- Sunday, August 13 – Campaign Kickoff Sunday
- Sunday, September 17 – All Church Bible Study Kickoff
- Friday, October 20 through Saturday, October 21 – Twenty- Four Hour Prayer Vigil
- October – Small Group Enrichment Gatherings
- Sunday, October 29 – Advance Commitments Gathering
- Saturday, November 18 – All-Church Banquet
- Sunday, November 19 – Commitment Sunday
- Sunday, December 10 – Celebration Sunday



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.



**Sunday School &
Adult Education Classes
2023/2024**

<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 Class	Trinity Room
Adult Bible Class	Sanctuary Overflow

*Breakfast Bar
Is Open!!!*

9:00-9:30 am- Downstairs Kitchen



Breakfast Bar Teams for September:

Sept. 3: Team 6—Kelly Urbanec, Kay Stech, Nancy Geistweidt, Janie Bailey, Vonnie Maner, Cherry Woods, Kathy Meybaum, Lindy Haley

Sept. 10: Team 7—Cheryl & Danny Flink, Alicia Elrod, Brittany Durst, Danielle Geistweidt, Carolyn Garza, Ginny Stehling, Karlene Ottmers

Sept. 17: Team 17—Karen Oestreich, Eileen Whited, Debbie Tiemann, Ann Hostetter, Denise Stehling, Jackie Kneese, Cristol Schoesow, Annabel Wilkinson, Carolyn Carson, Donna Mittel

Sept. 24: Team 9—Shane & Michele Willis, Will Stehling, Jody & Sheila Donovan, Greta Hartmann, Caroline Stafford, Dorothy Klier, Sharon Wendt



CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY
Summer Camps & Retreats

Aug. 7, 2023

Dear Members of Bethany,

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

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

All of the amazing opportunities we offer could not happen without congregations like yours who believe in this ministry. Please continue to keep the annual fund of Cross Trails Ministry in your budget so that we may continue to serve the hundreds of individuals we do each year. Thanks for your prayers, support, and partnership! We are truly grateful!

Thank you for your generous gift!

Yours in Christ,
Darcey Wagner
Office Manager

September 2023 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

DATE	TIME	USHERS
Sun. Sept. 3	8:15	Beth Luckenbach - captain, Jerry Luckenbach, Carol Seminara, Linda McCann
	10:30	Ernie Loeffler- captain Karen Jo Loeffler, Sharon & Bobby Wendt
Sun. Sept. 10	8:15	Jerry Luckenbach- captain,
	10:30	Carlton Eckert- captain Joe & Marilyn Butcher
Sun. Sept. 17	8:15	Cindy Zenner- captain, Jackie Kneese, Larry Ahrens, Clara Kozielski
	10:30	Leland Geistweidt- captain Kevin Kunz, Kathy Meybaum, Joyce Richey
Sun. Sept. 24	8:15	Dwight Oestreich—captain, Jerald Klett
	10:30	Willard Dearing— captain Dayton Eckhardt

September 2023 PRAISE & WORSHIP (10:30)

	Leader	HOSTS	Communion Assistants
	Kid's Message		Prayer Minister
Sun. Sept. 3	Erik Iverson Beth Iverson	Weldon & Winnie Griffin	No Communion Erik Iverson
Sun. Sept. 10	Ken Smith Ken Smith	Elizabeth White Elizabeth Warriner	Camille & Marc Williamson Karen Rode (2) Ken Smith
Sun. Sept. 17	Beth Luckenbach Beth Luckenbach	Ken Smith Linda Pape	No Communion Beth Luckenbach
Sun. Sept. 24	Carl Schoessow Carl Schoessow	Karen Rode (2)	Jaye Treibs (2) Beth & Erik Iverson Carl Schoessow



September 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. People of all ages are welcomed. Please come join us! We'll study various Bible passages.

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 the Trinity Room at 9:20 am. If you are looking for an interactive and conversational Bible study, please join us. You'll enjoy it as we learn together.

Legacy Builders (young adults class)-

Enjoy the Breakfast Bar and then please come and join us downstairs in room 115 for scripture, encouragement, insight, and great fellowship!



This class will be doing Bible Stories for Grown-Ups: Reading Scripture with New Eyes by Josh Scott.

Brother Steward

Back to School Guide!

We are all stewards of God's gifts to us. Even our children are responsible. So for our Mini-Stewards:



1. Take **Time** to say a prayer for your family, your teachers, and yourself for guidance and thanks.
2. Use your **Talent** to help others in school and in the community.
3. Your **Treasure**? Set aside a small part of your allowance for a favorite charity. And lastly be kind, be tolerant, be respectful. Treat others as you would have them treat you.

Remember God is watching. And God gives the final grades!

God Bless.



- **Sept. 5**—WELCA board mtg—4:00 at Jet Itz's home
- **Sept. 7**—Leah Circle—9:30 am will meet at Bethany
- **Sept. 12**—Hope Circle—6:00 pm will meet at Bethany
- **Sept. 13** - The quilters—9:00 am -will meet in the quilting/choir room downstairs.
- **Sept. 14**- 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.

*****August WELCA offering went to the Grace Center****



Fall Festival—Saturday, September 16 @ Marktplatz 9:00 am—3:00 pm

We need:

- Volunteers to work in the Bethany Booth
- Baked items to sell (Check with your circle leader.)

See the sign-up sheet on the WELCA Bulletin Board.

Please have your items at the Bethany church kitchen by 5:00 pm the Friday before the Festival (Sept. 15th) We will be setting up at 7:30 am on Saturday morning.

We could use your help!!



We will also need help with the clean-up after 3:00 pm.



Come buy some goodies, support Cross Trails Camp and support our Bethany

WELCA!!!!

Consider 'Percentage Giving'

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." --Malachi 3:10



Again and again the Bible lifts up tithing – giving a tenth of our income – as a benchmark for faithful giving. The prophet Malachi goes so far as to say God promises to rain down abundant blessings upon those who tithe. Yet most Christians fall quite short of tithing, generally giving less than 3 percent to the church?

Why? One reason is that in calculating how much to give, most people use the fixed-rate method. They first take stock of how much *they are able* to give, and then how much *they want* to give. Weighing these two factors, they then decide how much *they will* give.

There's nothing particularly bad about this method, but it has limitations. While giving folks an offering amount they can live with, the fixed-rate method doesn't necessarily put them on the path toward tithing.

A better method is percentage giving, that is, determining your offering as a percentage of income. Here's how:

Using a calculator, divide your weekly (or monthly, or yearly) church offering by your take-home pay for the same period (week, month or year). Then multiply that figure by 100. This gives you the percentage of your giving. For example, if your weekly offering is \$30 and your weekly take-home pay is \$500, your percentage of giving is 6 percent ($30 \div 500 = 0.06$, then $0.06 \times 100 = 6$).

Can *everyone* afford to tithe? Of course not. But many of us, maybe most of us, could afford to give more than we do now. The important thing is to be prayerful about your offering, be as generous as you are able, and keep tithing in mind, perhaps as a goal.

Keeping track of your giving as a percentage of income provides you with information to gauge your offering and perhaps build up to a tithe. You can make it a goal gradually, over time, to increase the percentage until you reach a tithe – 10 percent. One simple way would be to increase your giving by one half of a percentage point per year.

As Malachi promises, God will bless you richly for your tithing, and not only that, your church will be blessed, too. Switching from fixed-rate giving to percentage giving is a good start.

--Rob Blezard

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Council Highlights

August 15, 2023



Merrily Hartmann of the Aesthetics Committee reported that almost all the work on the narthex and other areas is complete. The cost has come in under budget, so the council approved several additional smaller projects suggested by the Aesthetics Committee. The committee received a hearty "thank you" for their hard work and great results.

Council president Troy Ottmers reported favorably on the Capital Campaign training which was conducted on Saturday, August 12.

The Council heard a report on a proposed sign in the parking lot asking tourists using the lot for online Venmo donations for Bethany youth activities.

The council approved funds to replace the old speakers in the fellowship hall used for the Praise and Worship service and other events.

The parking lot repair is slated for October.

The council approved the list of proposed monthly special offerings for 2024 which were presented by the Stewardship Committee.

The council accepted and welcomed fourteen people into membership at Bethany.



September 2023 Altar Guild

Traditional:

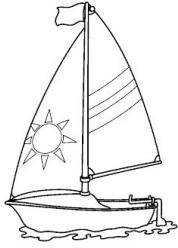
Constance Schultz, Dorothy Klier

Contemporary:

Jennifer Jenschke,
Emily Klier Sandoval



ALTAR GUILD
SCHEDULE



Lifeboat Log : September 2023 "Ahoy, Bethany"

During our last meeting, it was pointed out that the Gillespie Literacy Council is looking for tutors. They have over 40 eager students who are needing help at various stages of English language learning. A curriculum is provided, so you will not be blazing a path alone. To find out more, please email

gillespieliteracycouncil1989@gmail.com

Or call JoAnna Troppy at 956-457-4341. What a lovely opportunity to show God's love for someone else through your time and concern!

As always, many thanks for your donations of food, money, and time to the Lifeboat Little Food Pantry. Shoppers are definitely finding a little extra for their tables this summer. Praise God!

Come yourself, or tell a friend about our upcoming free **Car Day clinic, Saturday, September 9**, from 9-11 AM in the back parking lot. We will check your tires, battery, hoses, windshield wipers, and fluid levels.



Best wishes for fair winds and pleasant sailing to you all!

-Bethany Outreach and Advocacy Team (BOAT)

Next BOAT meeting

**Thursday, September 21
5:45 PM**



Youth & Family

Faith Foundations

Faith Foundations is our after school program for 1st-5th graders. We will be spending time on the foundational stories of the Bible on the kids' levels, while also incorporating games, snacks, music, and spending time together. Faith Foundations will take place **every Tuesday or Thursday after school until 5:00 p.m.**

Jumpstart

Jumpstart is an after-school program for students in 6th grade and takes place **every Wednesday from 4:00-5:00 pm.** Jumpstart is just what it sounds like...a jumpstart to Confirmation. Students gather for snacks, and after that they have a short lesson followed by a craft, project or game. Jumpstart is designed to serve as an introduction to the Confirmation classes in which they will participate over the next 2 years.

Confirmation

Confirmation is a 2-yr. program that takes an in-depth look at the Christian faith. This year we will examine the topics of Luther's Small Catechism and how they are still relevant for faith and life today. **Confirmation sessions take place every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:00 pm.**

High School

High Schoolers will periodically meet on Sundays, once a month for meals, trips, games, activities, Bible study, etc..! Check with Kiesha.



Thank You to an amazing team of women who have come together to help sew new Christmas Journey costumes! We truly appreciate the costumes already donated, and are excited for more to come!! Thank you for supporting Christmas Journey!!!

If you would like to come help cut out and sew Christmas Journey costumes, mark your calendar for

Wednesday, September 6th , 9:00 am

for a full day of cutting out and sewing in the Bethany Fellowship Hall.

What to bring???

- Your sewing machine, if you have one
- Scissors or rotary cutter and mat
- Thread & needles
- Extension cord
- Sack lunch
- Possible material to be used???
- Seam ripper

For more info. call Debbie Tiemann, 830-456-6946



Thank you so much to everyone who helped out with Day Camp at Bethany. It was a great success!!



Special Offering for September
The Grace Center of
Fredericksburg

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Grace Center (TGC) is a 501(c)3 non-profit that exists to provide victims of domestic violence and their children a safe haven and supportive resources away from their abuser. The Grace Center successfully reached their 6.4 million dollar goal and construction of the 36 bed facility will soon be completed.

We can still be involved by providing funds to purchase items to help stock the shelter as well as volunteering.

Hattie Heiner Allen, executive director, will be providing an up-date report at our September Temple Talk.

If you wish to donate to this fund, make your check out to "Bethany Lutheran Church" and write "Grace Center" on the memo line.

Use your special offering envelope for September, a pew envelope, or automatic debit.

In the meantime, shop Schatze Haus at 712 W. Main St., a resale boutique that benefits The Grace Center.

BLC Dollars & Cents

	July 2023	Year to Date
Income	\$59,181.66	\$457,072.01
Expenses	\$58,953.93	\$443,996.23
Surplus	\$227.73	\$13,075.78

Balances Other Funds

Designated Accounts: \$190,967.14
Capital Improvement/Hennig Fund: \$195,528.93
Parking Lot (as of 8/8/23): \$69,495
 (includes \$15,000 contribution from BPS)
Pre School Building Fund: \$251,761.20
Emergency Aid Fund (Chase): \$5,998.25

PNC—Money Market Account Balance \$106,804.60
ELCA Mission Fund (Investment Account) \$35,000.00

Broadway Bank (CD-Hein Estate Gift) \$167,361.99
Edward Jones (Dr. Stein Estate Gift) \$293,109.37
 Beginning Value – Dec 31. 2019 - \$221,672.83

Monthly Special Offerings - 2023

January - Der Stadt Friedhof - \$4,205
 February – Bethany Preschool - \$11,953
 March – Needs Council – \$2,225
 April – Synod Assembly - \$1,553
 May – Water to Thrive - \$6,180
 June – Cross Trails Ministry - \$2,710
 July – Bethany Foundation - \$4,975



Now Collecting!!

“Old CERAMIC Mugs!!”

(Please make sure they are clean!!)

The bigger and more colorful, the better!!

The youth will be using them for the
Capital Campaign.

You will NOT get them back—BUT...

The mugs will be given a “Bright Future”
as a beautiful piece of art!

Please bring them, upstairs, outside
the Fellowship Hall!

Thanks!



Here's Something Good to Know

Actually, three new things good to know:

THE TRINITY ROOM: the conference room formerly known as the “Triple Room” in now re-named the “Trinity Room.” With the old room dividers removed, the three rooms have now become one. Thus, “Trinity!”

THE FLOWER CHART for those who wish to bring altar or other flowers for worship is now located in the work room, immediately to the left as you enter.

THE NURSERY NOW HAS A SCREEN for online worship! The room is still unattended by a care giver on Sundays; however, it is available for any parents who may wish to have a quiet time with their child and still view the worship service.



Sunday,
August 20th



Cross Trails Ministry is selling raffle tickets for a **Solar Eclipse Retreat** at Camp Chrysalis from April 5-9, 2024. One grand prize is a stay in a quad cabin that sleeps 10 and meals are included. Tickets are \$25 each and only 500 will be available. Value of the retreat is \$2,500. Second Prize is a Kodi Picnic Bag and Third Prize is 4 tickets to Oktoberfest and Uber. Drawing will be held at the Fall Festival at Marketplatz on September 16th. See Beth Luckenbach for more information.



**Are you a Sewer
(that is, one who sews!)
or Cutter Outer???**

If you can sew simple things or simply cut out items to be sewn, call Caroline Stafford at 830-998-5506. This is a mini-project to assist Water-To-Thrive.



Ring My Bells!!



A Few Words from Our
BPS Director
By Cheryl Flink

Ephesians 5:20

“always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Bethany Preschool has had a wonderful start to the school year! We are blessed to be fully staffed and have 125 children enrolled between our preschool and after school care program.

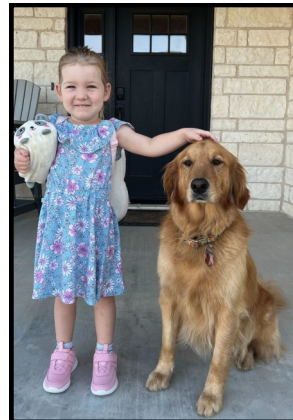
Enjoy some first day of school photos:



Finley and Crew



Reed & Harrison



Mia & Murphy

Our first academic theme is: All About Me! The children are learning rules and routines at school, how families are alike and different, how to identify different feelings and facial expressions, and how to develop self calming strategies. Our students will begin the Bible curriculum in September, Sparkhouse, and will also have Chapel each week with the Pastors and Kiesha.

Denise Stehling, Volunteer Coordinator Extraordinaire, has organized weekly readers from our congregation who will spread the joy of reading to our children.

(Continued on page 15.)

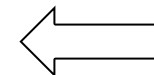


Aesthetics Committee Update

- The Triple Room is now to be called The Trinity Room (“the three have become one”)
- Food Pantry donations—There is a Narthex location and also a similar location outside the Fellowship Hall (see photo below.)
- Flower Calendar—This is now located in the Workroom. You can simply call Layne and he will coordinate with you.
- Nursery (on the hallway) - It has been updated and there is a TV for livestreaming the Praise & Worship service. (No attendant).
- Cry Room (off the Sanctuary) - It has been updated too! (no attendant).



Coffee Bar
and cabinet to
put Food
Pantry
donations





The Der Stadt Friedhof Cemetery Board would like to recognize and say "Thank you" to our retiring member, **Max Beckmann**, for his many years of service.

To my Bethany family,
Thank you so much for all of the cards & gifts and for honoring our seniors at church. You are very much appreciated.



Sincerely,
Jordan Hohmann

Oktoberfest in Fredericksburg is happening October 6-8, 2023, but we are already 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.



Ring My Bells!! (Continued from page 14.)

Looking ahead, it is soon time to begin selling tickets for our Bethany Preschool Fajita dinner fundraiser! Please mark your calendars for October 22nd! For \$15, you will have a delicious lunch and support the preschool! This year, we will offer the meals To-Go and have the fellowship hall open for guests to pick up their meals and eat at the church! Dollars raised from this event support our ability to maintain a low cost tuition for families, as well as operations support. Tickets go on sale September 1st from children in the school, and sales will begin after all three church services beginning September 10th.

Thank you for your support and encouragement as our program continues to thrive!

God be with you,
Cheryl Flink



Sunday—October 22nd

BPS

FAJITA DINNER



Tickets on Sale September 10th

\$15 per plate

Dine-In or Take-Out!!

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

Calendar

Calendar