



# Bethlehem Star

The Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Los Alamitos, California



Volume 47, Issue 10

November, 2007

*From the  
Pastor*



Dear Members and Friends of  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

It is with great joy that I accept the call to be the pastor of your church family. I officially received the call from the Bishop on October 19<sup>th</sup>. It's been a privilege to be among you this past year as your interim and to work side by side with so many of you. I look forward now to serving as your called pastor and appreciate your vote of confidence which led to this call.

There are many great things going on among the Bethlehem family, which we will hopefully not only continue, but from which we can build on to move our congregation into the future. The challenges of being the church are many today, but I'm confident that working together with each of you we can meet these challenges. This past year has shown me that the Spirit is alive and well here at Bethlehem, but my hope is that we will grow even stronger as the Spirit leads us in the coming years. I look forward to working with you to set the direction of our future ministry and to growing together in our stewardship, evangelism, worship, spiritual growth, mission outreach, and in ways that better serve not only our members, but reach out to those around us.

Kathleen and I look forward to getting to know each of you better in the coming years. Once again I give thanks for the members of Bethlehem and am honored to become your called pastor.

Your servant in Christ,  
Pastor Mark Will

(Pastor Will will officially begin his new position on November 1<sup>st</sup>. As of this writing a date for his installation has not been set by the Bishop. You will be notified as soon as this date is confirmed).

## Lutheran Disaster Teams at Work You can still help!

Lutheran Disaster Response teams are on the scene reaching out to those in need as the result of the recent fires. At our worship service on Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, we had a special collection to help these teams help those in need. If you haven't given and would like to you can bring or send a check to the church office. Please make your checks out to Bethlehem, but mark in the comment section "California Fires." All the money we send to Lutheran Disaster Response will be used to help those in California. Whether you give a \$1 or \$100 your gift can make a difference as we reach out to the victims of the fires.

Be strong and of good courage;  
do not be afraid, nor be dismayed,  
for the Lord your God is with you  
wherever you go.                      Joshua 1:9

## Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 18, 2007  
immediately following the worship service  
Bachman Hall

This meeting is for 2008 Budget approval and election of the 2008 Church Council. All voting members are encouraged to attend (a voting member is a confirmed member who has a recorded attendance and contribution within the past year)

## Something to think About from the Pastor

Psalm 147: 7 "Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;  
make melody to our God..."

Isn't it so easy to rush through our busy days taking so many things for granted. Before us is the beauty of the sunset, the cool ocean breeze, the song of the birds, the smell of roses, the love of family, the kindness of a friend, food on our table, help in time of need, clothes in our closet, a beautiful worship center, and our list goes on. So often these seem to become just common everyday things in our life that we take for granted. Psalm 147 reminds us that these are much more than taken for granted things in our lives, they are blessings that our God has graciously given to us.

Sitting watching the fires and listening to so many talking about how in an instant everything they owned was gone or hearing those on the east coast who turn on their faucets to a drip of water, it must bring to mind how blessed we are to have these so often overlooked gifts in our lives. There's that old saying, "you never miss the water till the well runs dry."

Maybe this Thanksgiving can be a time for us to give thanks for the many so often taken for granted or overlooked gifts from God. Perhaps this Thanksgiving can be a time that helps us take time to stop and see how blessed we are as the people of God.

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### Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Please join your worship family on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7 p.m. for a service of song and thanksgiving. Following the service we will have a fellowship time in Bachman Hall with pie and coffee sponsored by the Women of Bethlehem. Take time to begin your Thanksgiving holiday with your worship family!

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### November Council Meetings

Wednesday, November 7, 2007 (Budget)

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

7:00 pm

Fireside Room

## Thanks for All of Your Purchases of Equal Exchange Coffee, Cocoa, Tea and Chocolate



The Bethlehem Youth Group thanks you for your continued support of our participation in the Lutheran World Relief Coffee Project. The most recent newsletter from them lends more good news: "For every pound of fairly traded coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar and snacks that Lutherans purchase, Equal Exchange donates 20¢ to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). For 2006, that amount totaled \$57,285.80. This year LWR is using its Small Farmer Fund to support an organic farm improvement program with a cooperative of small-scale coffee farmers that Equal Exchange works with in Colombia."

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### Now Available! Baking Cocoa!

*Use the Youth Group's Organic Baking Cocoa to  
make these delicious brownies!*

#### Brownies

2/3 cup oil

1/2 cup cocoa

2 cups sugar

1 cup flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

1 cup nuts, coarsely chopped

4 eggs, beaten slightly

- Combine oil, cocoa and sugar. Add flour, baking powder, salt, vanilla and nuts.
- Fold in eggs last.
- Spread batter in a greased 13" x 9" pan and bake at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes.

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### Newsletter Deadline

Monday, November 19, 2007

(third Monday of the month)

Please submit articles by email or disc

W.E.L.C.A. News  
November 2007

Women's Bible Study  
**The Beatitudes-Session 3**  
Theme verse Matthew 5:4



Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted

Faith Circle Next meeting will be on Tues. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> Hostess- Marynell Wolfe. Ginny Gary will lead the Bible Study. Questions? Call Jean Franz

Phoebe Circle Next meeting will be on Tues. Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>. at the home of Christina Watson. Margaret Hangartner will lead the Bible Study. Questions? Call Charlotte Driskill

W.E.L.C.A. BOARD Next meeting will be on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30p.m. at the home of Christina Watson. There will be a potluck supper followed by a meeting of the 2007 and 2008 Board Members.

For information call President. Christina Watson



Sunday Morning  
Coffee & Cookies

Thank you Phoebe Circle for providing coffee and cookies in October. Faith Circle will be responsible in November.

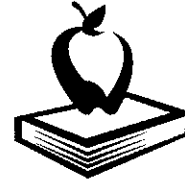
Upcoming Events:



Fri-Sun. Nov. 2-4 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacifica Synod Gathering, Clarion Convention Ctr., Anaheim. Donations of Starbucks or Target Gift Cards would be appreciated. See Christina for details.  
Sun. Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> Installation of 2008 W.E.L.C.A. Officers and Board members at the 10a.m. Church Service.

Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA

**Thank you to everyone who participated in the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Festival Bazaar; held on Sat. Oct 20th.**



**It was a great day of fun and fellowship with Church members and our Community.**  
**Approximately \$\$\$\$\$ was raised.**

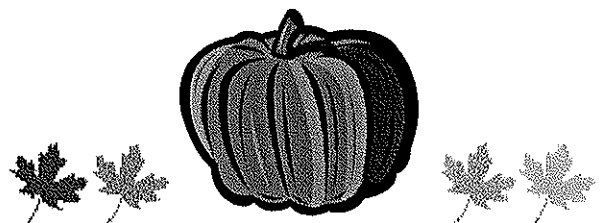


Mark your calendars for the W.E.L.C.A. Christmas Gathering at the home of Debby Gustafson on Wed. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m. The W.E.L.C.A. Board will hostess this wonderful holiday event. Love Gifts will be collected for WE CARE and the Lutheran International Seafarers.



Check out Pacifica Partners on line  
[www.pacificawomen.org](http://www.pacificawomen.org) click on news & events

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, and faith looks up. -Mrs. Miracle



Have a thankful Thanksgiving!

## Petal Pushers

You can still volunteer to work for Petal Pushers in December—the sooner, the better. Look for the sign-up sheets for work dates and ordering shirts. Please order and pay for your shirts by November 4<sup>th</sup>.

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## 10% Back-to-School Campaign

Thank you to those who collected Vons/Pavilion's receipts. We earned approximately \$20 which is \$20 more than we had before! We will know in a few months our total earnings from the promotion. This is an annual project so watch for the logo on the store shelves during July and August next year. In the meantime, register your Vons Club card with eScrip and all contributions will go to the Youth Group automatically.

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# G-o-a-l!!!

We collected enough to feed twenty-five families for a month by Reformation Day! Thank you to those who contributed to "Food for the Poor." We will set new goals after Christmas for this worthy charity. You can contribute at any time through an offering envelope or by dropping spare change in the collection bank on the church office counter.

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## Christmas Gift Basket Idea

Do you like to make gift baskets at Christmas? Please consider including our fair trade coffee, tea, hot cocoa mix and chocolate candy bars which you can purchase any Sunday from the Youth Group's Coffee display.

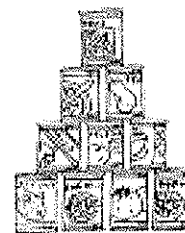
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## Green Up

Mark your calendars! We are planning to decorate the church, Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. We'll need your help to get everything done by lunchtime!

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**K**eepp those coins coming! We are continuing to buy sheep for the Heifer Project. Thanks for your support!



**FOOD DRIVE**

for

**We Care**

Let's collect canned vegetables and canned fruits for their Thanksgiving boxes. Please put your donations in the "We Care" box by November 11<sup>th</sup>. They will be sorting and packing the Thanksgiving boxes on November 14<sup>th</sup> and would love to have extra hands helping with the work. Please give them a call at (562) 598-9790 to let them know you will help.

We Care is also looking forward to the helpful hands of our Youth Group members for distribution day, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please arrive at 10 a.m. for instructions. You will be finished by 12 noon.

Hope you can help this organization make a difference for local families this Thanksgiving.

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## Senior Ministry Inventory

Our plans for the Senior Ministry Inventory are temporarily on hold because we are hoping that Thrivent will be able to help with the cost. The inventory is \$12 per person, and we were hoping that Thrivent could help us reduce the cost for our members, especially those on a tight budget.

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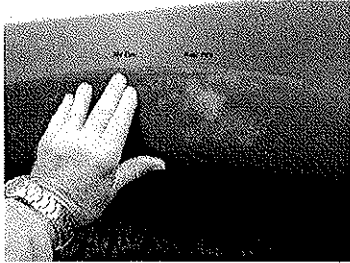
Saturday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>

9:00 am 'til work is done

**Free Donuts! All You Can Eat!**  
(But you have to work hard!)

## A Little Bit of Life from Dan Powers

Krys took off to visit her family in Detroit for 3 weeks so after I dropped her off at the airport I headed for the High Sierras. I spent 5 days at Gull Lake fishing. The first night I felt the truck rocking. I looked out my rear window and saw a black bear inside the bed of my truck rummaging for something to eat. Fortunately for me and the bear, he ran off after I shouted at him. I always sleep with a .357 Magnum under my pillow but I sure didn't want to shoot a bear. He was just hungry. During the night I kept hearing noises and thought the bear had returned. When I got up I found that raccoons were having a dance on my hood.



The trees were beautiful. All the quaky aspen and cottonwood were shades of yellow. Daytime temperatures were nice, in the 70s. Early in the



mornings it was 24 deg F but I have warm clothes. My little 4 HP engine ran fine and the blow up boat was great. Got one nice 2# rainbow and he

sure tasted good. It is not often that you can filet a trout. I headed north thru Lake Tahoe and camped at Lake Almanor. I heard loud thumps on the cab and looked out the window to see it was snowing. It was a wet snow and when the



pine tree branches became too heavy big piles of snow would come crashing down. The next day I had planned to go thru Lassen but the road was closed because of the snow. I took off along a 2 lane country road and it was beautiful. It was a winter wonderland just like in Michigan where I grew up.

I spent 4 days with my friends Gary and Jo Ann in their homestead on 5 acres in Williams Oregon. It was nice to sit by a warm Franklin stove. I spent my 72nd birthday shooting my pistols and then drinking beer with Gary. It was a beautiful warm day. Gary and Jo Ann joined me for 2 days camping on the coast amongst the Giant Redwoods. The size of the trees never ceases to amaze me.

I headed south and camped along the coast. It was drizzling most of the way. I had great weather. Maybe 2 bad days out of 3 weeks.

Time for me to start planning for our next trip. God gives us but one day at a time. Enjoy each and every one of them.

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## Men in Mission

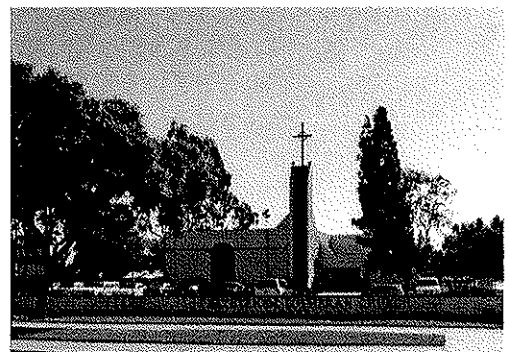
November meetings on Saturday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am in the Fireside Room. All men are invited to join us for food, fellowship and Bible study. Please invite friends, neighbors, relatives to join us.

Thanks to all the men, and others, who helped with the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Bazaar. There were so many hands available to help, it was just great!

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## Celebrate Our History! Do You Remember?

On November 2, 1980 our worship family celebrated, thanked God and dedicated our current sanctuary. For 27 years this sanctuary has been the place where God's word has been shared, the sacraments celebrated, and people's lives spiritually enriched.





### Happy Birthday!!

11/ 2	William Pollard
11/ 4	Charlie Buezis
11/ 5	Susan Buezis
	Mychael Strafford
11/ 6	Niklas Rekstad
11/ 7	Bill Lindell
11/ 9	Arlene Pollard
11/10	Marti Mazzari
	Alice Roop
11/11	Erik Bonwit
11/12	Harold Miller
11/16	Mike Scott
11/17	Carol Whitlock
11/19	Nadine Bohlken
	Steven Bustamante
	Andrea Campbell
11/20	Lois Bohlken
	Darren Sandvig
11/21	John Mann
11/22	Dick Hansen
11/24	Kent Schlesselman
11/26	Stacy Byone
11/27	Joel Cooper
	Steve Slade
11/28	Monica Krazy
	Camille Riach
11/30	Ken Watson

### Happy Anniversary!!

11/15/1952	John & Luelle Buezis
11/21/1959	William & Carol Whitlock

### Please remember in prayer:

#### Hospitalized:

Joel Cooper

#### Undergoing treatment:

Julie Anderson (Richard Toth's sister)  
 Adeline Beemer (Lynn Roesner's mother) - lymphoma  
 Joan Bissing (friend of Charlotte Driskill) - cancer  
 Joe & Barbara Bull (friends of Mary Seibert)  
 Julie Davis - rheumatoid arthritis  
 Sara DeWeese - cancer  
 Janet Egbert - cancer  
 Katrina Gary  
 Stuart Gordon (brother-in-law of Sigrun Borneo)  
 Pat Green (Carol Snyder's cousin) - cancer

Lenora Jones (friend of Lynne Estabrook)  
 Chris Knell (friend of Sarah Sandvig)  
 Jack Lyons  
 Jim Mauritzen (friend of the Hunts) - cancer  
 Andrew May (friend of Christine Wolfe) - car accident  
 Kathleen McAteere (friend of Wilkie Adams) - cancer  
 Tony & Lynn Miles (friends of Jim Brandon & Carol Snyder)  
 Shirley Moleneux (Betty Jacobs' niece) - cancer  
 Joyce Rekstad - lupus  
 Didith Oakes (Sigrun Borneo's sister-in-law)  
 Bob Piper (neighbor of Sigrun Borneo)  
 Lynn Roesner  
 Janis Sabic

#### Recuperating:

Julie Anderson - kidney cancer  
 Erik Bonwit  
 Sigrun Borneo  
 Marjorie Chapman - hip surgery  
 Lynne Estabrook  
 Joshua Gimbel (Betty Jacobs' great-grandson) - brain surgery

Betty Jacobs  
 Genevieve Jenkins  
 Katherine Lindell  
 Charlie Lyons  
 Herman Meier (Heidi Krazy's cousin) - stroke  
 Kristine Parkinson (Lindell's daughter) - pancreatitis  
 Jackie Philips (Ron Clausen's sister) - multiple sclerosis  
 Jennifer Rienholz (Sheltons granddaughter) - brain tumor  
 Jim Simonds (Carol Snyder's brother-in-law) - heart surgery

#### Convalescent or Care Facility:

Ruth Hudson Ernie Kling  
 Jeanette Olmstead Ruth Precker  
 Jeff Thompson

#### Homebound:

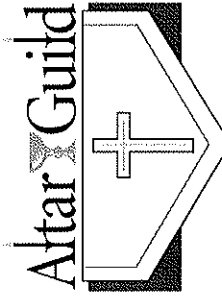
Gladyce Ackerman John Buttler

#### Military in Harm's Way:

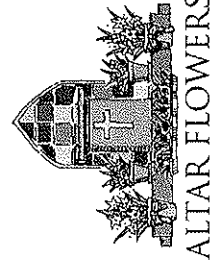
Matt Purtell (Krissy Retrum's cousin) - in Iraq

## Thanks to These People for Serving in November, 2007

DATE	ACOLYTE	CROSS BEARER	CANTOR	READER	USHERS	COUNTERS	OPEN/CLOSE
11/4	Paul Scott		Karin Nielsen Bonwit	Charlotte Driskill	Rick Gary, Geoff & Heidi Krazy Marv & Susan Schneider	M. Schneider S. Schneider	Fritz Campbell James Toth
11/11		Paul Scott	Katherine Lindell	Dale Retrum	Rick Gary, Geoff & Heidi Krazy John Gearhart, Cathy Warnock	C. Watson J. Slade	Dale Retrum Cathy Warnock
11/18	Paul Scott		John Buezis	Bill Haglund	Rick Gary, Jim & Marge Hargrove Dan & Marianne Sakowski	D. Retrum D. Retrum	Dianna Reynolds Bob Campbell
11/25		Paul Scott	Charlotte Driskill	Jane Clausen	Rick Gary, Alice Roop John Buezis, Jr. Bob & Andrea Campbell	M. Moeller C. Watson	Alice Roop Eric Dobberteen



11/4 Christina Watson  
 11/11 Marianne Sakowski  
 11/18 Christina Watson  
 11/25 Doris Schaefer



11/4  
 11/11  
 11/18  
 11/25 Watson

### NURSERY CARE

Nursery care is provided during our Sunday services. An attendant will be in our nursery from 9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. to care for infants and preschool children.



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# Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
3352 Katella Avenue  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

November, 2007

PLEASE RETURN BY 11/7/07

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E-Mail: [bethlehem.lutheran@verizon.net](mailto:bethlehem.lutheran@verizon.net)  
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