



Bethlehem Star

The Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Los Alamitos, California

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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 re-
ceived the call from the Bishop on

October 19th. 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 1st. 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 28th,
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.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Please join your worship family on Wednesday, November 21st, 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!

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."



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.

Newsletter Deadline

Monday, November 19, 2007

(third Monday of the month)

Please submit articles by email or disc

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 4th.

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.

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.

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.

Green Up

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

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

Let's collect canned vegetables and canned fruits for their Thanksgiving boxes. Please put your donations in the "We Care" box by November 11th. They will be sorting and packing the Thanksgiving boxes on November 14th 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 17th. 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.



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.

Saturday, Nov. 3rd
9:00 am 'til work is done

Free
All You
(But you
hard!)



Donuts!
Can Eat!
have to work

A Little Bit of Life from Dan Powers

Krys took off to visit her family in Detroit for 3 weeks so

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.



Happy Birthday!!

11/ 2William Pollard
11/ 4Charlie Buezis
11/ 5Susan Buezis

Jack Lyons Mychael Strafford
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 Molenko (Mary Mazzariello) - cancer
Joyce Rekstad Alice Roop - lupus

Didith Oakes (Sigrun Borneo's sister-in-law)
Bob Piper (neighbor of Sigrun Borneo)
Lynn Roesner
Janis Sabic 11/16Mike Scott
11/17Carol Whitlock

Recuperating:
11/19Nadine Bohlken
Julie Anderson
Erik Bonwit
Sigrun Borneo
Marjorie Chapman
Lynne Estabrook
Joshua Gimbel (Betty John's great-grandson)

11/19Steven Bustamante - kidney cancer
11/20Lois Bohlken - hip surgery
11/20Darren Sandvig

11/22Dick Hansen - brain surgery
11/24Kent Schlesselman
Katherine Lindell
Charlie Lyons 11/27Joel Cooper

Herman Meier (Sue's cousin) - stroke
Kristine Parkinson (Lindell's daughter) - pancreatitis
Jackie Philips (Ron Clausen's sister) - multiple sclerosis
Jennifer Rienhorz (Shelton's granddaughter) - brain tumor
Jim Simonds (Carol Snyder's brother-in-law) - heart surgery

Convalescent or Care Facility:

Ruth Hudson
Jeanette Olmstead
Jeff Thompson

Happy Anniversary!!
11/15/1952 John & Luelle Buezis
11/21/1959 William & Carol Whitlock
Ernie Kling
Ruth Precker
John Buttler

Military in Harm's Way:

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

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

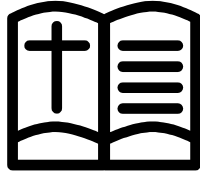
Lenora Jones (friend of Lynne Estabrook)
Chris Knell (friend of Sarah Sandvig)

11/20	Andrea Campbell 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

W.E.L.C.A. News
 November 2007
 Women's Bible Study
The Beatitudes-Session 3
 Theme verse Matthew 5:4



Faith Circle Next meeting will be on Tues. Nov. 6th
 Hostess- Marynell Wolfe. Ginny Gary will lead
 the Bible Study. Questions? Call Jean Franz at
 (562)596-6153.

Phoebe Circle Next meeting will be on Tues.
 Nov.13th. at the home of Christina Watson.
 Margaret Hangartner will lead the Bible Study.
 Questions? Call Charlotte Driskill at (562)430-
 3133.

W.E.L.C.A. BOARD Next meeting will be on Nov.
 5th 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.

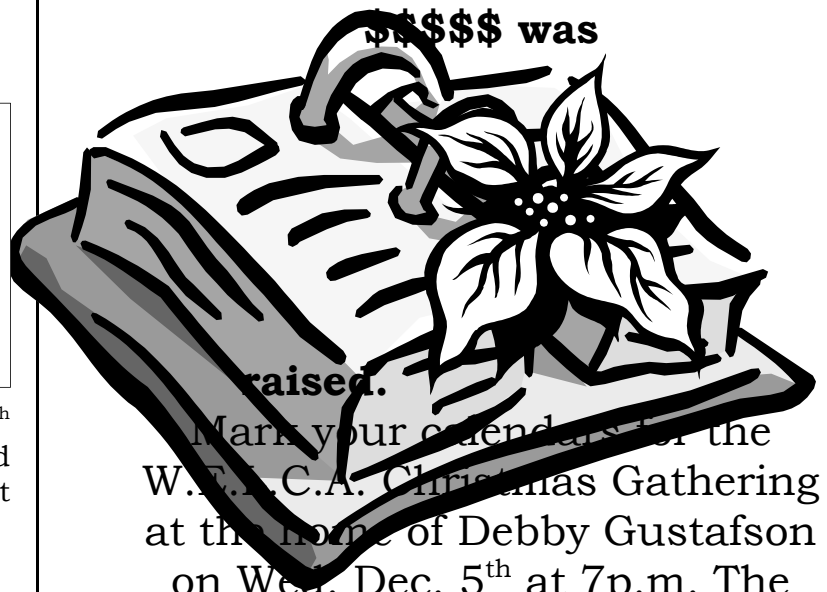
For information call President, Christina Watson
 at (562) 431-1112, evenings.



Sunday Morning
 Coffee & Cookies

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

Upcoming Events:

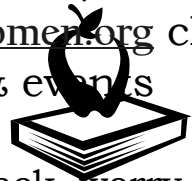


\$\$\$\$\$ was
 raised.
 Mark your calendars for the
 W.E.L.C.A. Christmas Gathering
 at the home of Debby Gustafson
 on Wed. Dec. 5th at 7p.m. The
 W.E.L.C.A. Board will hostess
 this wonderful holiday event.
 Fri-Sun. Nov. 16th - 18th at the Holy Trinity
 Gathering, Clarion, Convention Ctr., Anacostia.
 Love Gifts will be collected for
 Donations of Starbucks or Target Gift Cards
 W.E.C.A.E and the Lutheran
 would be appreciated. See Christina for details.
 Sun. Nov. 18th Installation of 2008 W.E.L.C.A.
 Officers and Board members at the 10a.m.
 Church Service.

of the
Women ELCA
 International Seafarers
 Thank you to everyone who

participated in the 34th Annual
 Apple Festival Bazaar, held on

www.pacificawomen.org click on
 news & events



Sat. Oct. 20th.
 Sorrow looks back, worry looks
 It was a great day of fun and
 around, and faith looks up. Mrs.
fellowship with Church
members and our

Cor  y  n
 Have a thankful Thanksgiving!

34th APPLE FESTIVAL BAZAAR REPORT 2007

Chairpersons: Christina Watson & Dianna Reynolds

DEPARTMENT HEAD CHAIRPERSONS

Kitchen Charlotte Driskill &
Janice Hunt

Gourmet/Bakery Debby Gustafson & Cheri
Dobberteen

Addie's Attic Arlene Pollard, Luella
Buezis & Doris Schaefer

Handmade Crafts Katherine Lindell &
Susan Schneider

Setup/Tear Down Men in Mission

Lynn's Book Nook Brian Gary & Youth

Cashier Cashier Andrea Campbell &
Dianne

Treasurer Treasurer Alice Roop

The 34th Annual Apple Festival Bazaar was held on October 20, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The Kitchen crew sold coffee & donuts from 7:30 a.m. until 11:00. Lunch was sold from 10:45 until 1:00 p.m. To help publicize the event, an all out appeal was placed in the September and October newsletter requesting the help of all members at Bethlehem. The newsletter tear off sheet was not used because of poor response in prior years. Inserts were placed in the Sunday bulletins during the months of September and October as well as a sign up sheet posted in the narthex, requesting participation. The telephone tree was activated Thursday October 18 to all Bethlehem Men.

s to the Sun, News Enterprise, L.A. Times, Leisure World publication, 2 weeks in advance. As far as I could tell, O.C. Register and The News Enterprise ran our ad. The wooden APPLE FESTIVAL BAZAAR sign was propped up against the tree on Wallingsford. The yellow banner was placed on the PCP pipe facing Katella. The Red banner was strung across two poles facing the back alley 14 days prior. These were placed 14 days prior to the event.

No candy/cookie-making workshops were held this year. Several women worked on their own to provide baked goods. Marianne Sakowski and Charlotte Driskill made at least 28 jars of Zucchini Pickles. Kristen Temple and Bill Haglund donated 38 jars of "Donna's" bean soup. Cheri Dobberteen donated the cookie and candy bags and ribbons.

Craft Workshops were not held this year, instead women were encouraged to make crafts at home. Besides the chair people, approximately 7 women participated.

Allie Oop, a children's recycled shop, could not donate this year but asked us to call them next year. The new picture frames from a retail store that were donated two years ago were brought out from storage. Some new items are stored in the outdoor closet for 2008.

Donations for Addie's Attic started coming in early morning, Sunday October 14th. Blue tarps were laid down in Bachman Hall to protect the carpet. Dianna and Christina hung signs from the ceiling indicating donation locations to make sorting and pricing easier. Several women worked throughout the week pricing and organizing the donations, especially Doris Schaefer and Luella Buezis. Ernie Mazzari sorted all the electrical items. Saturday he set up all the computers and TV's in the Fireside room and 4 were sold.

All food and drinks sold from the kitchen came from donations from the congregation and the community.

e supervision of Bill Lindell, erected 6 pop-up tents and 3 10 x 20 awnings (gray & brown). 4 long tables were placed for dining. All other tables were used for Addie's Attic, Lynn's Book Nook and cashier area.

All departments were outside except Gourmet/Bakery- they were in the Nursery. The Bank was in the Sunday School room. Kitchen served from in the building, offered seating outside under one of the awnings. Centerpieces of baskets of apples and fall vegetables were created and donated by Janice Hunt. Inside seating was not used.

About 1:30p.m. everyone working began "taking down". Two vans from the Seafarers Lutheran Maritime Mission came and loaded up mostly men's clothing for their mission. Donations were also collected for the WE CARE, Assistance League, and for National Charity League. "Friends of the Library" were not interested in collecting our left over books from Lynn's Book Nook. The books were taken to Vons Pavillons on Spring for their Breast Cancer fundraiser. Thank you to the Youth who delivered them.

Arlene contacted several charities for Saturday pick up. None would come on Saturday. The church building and parking lot were cleaned up by 3:00p.m., (except for one couch, drafting table and some misc. items), due to many helping hands. Arlene took approximately 18 "white plastic bags" stuffed with clothes and unbreakable items, and took them to WE CARE. Briggiman Disposal was tipped \$20.00 to empty 3 loads for us.

Approximately \$2,900.00 was raised on Saturday. Dianna Reynolds applied for matching funds of \$1,600.00 from Thrivent. Additional funds for Addie's Attic and for Gourmet/Baked Goods were collected the next day. We will make about \$3,100.

As in the past, the main goal set by Dianna and myself was to have a day of fun, fellowship,

. The weather was perfect. Everyone present had a great time! Goals were surpassed!

In Christ's Name, Christina Watson & Dianna Reynolds
10/21/07

