

Bethlehem Star February 2019

From the Pastor's Desk...

I recently had the opportunity to visit and speak at El Camino Pines Camp in Frazier Park. I had never been to this camp before and was excited to have this opportunity to participate in their annual Family Winterfest. My arrival day started off by me leaving 40 minutes later than I had originally intended and then about an hour+ away from the camp, the roadway signs began to indicate an upcoming accident with the right 2 lanes in I-5 being closed. Then a few miles beyond that initial road sign, another sign said to expect a 1 hour delay. I quickly tried to see if there was an alternative route that I could off of I-5 and use some backroads to get to the camp but there were no alternatives. So, I along with countless others, crept along, slowly on I-5 and because I was on the mountain pass, I ended up not having any cell phone, so I couldn't make some phone calls to help pass the time (to clarify, my vehicle has the capability for hands-free phone calls). I finally made it to the road the camp was located on, except I missed the final turn and realized it about 1 mile later (as I had passed a snow gate, and there was snow up there, along with a lot of people sledding), so I was delayed even a bit more. I ended up arriving close to 2 hours later than I had originally intended yet still had a few hours before participants arrived.

Running late and unintentional delays...these are not unusual parts of our everyday lives, for some of us, they may be more frequently experienced than others but there are some things that we simply can't control and/or avoid (like slow traffic because of an accident up ahead). I share this recent experience because upon reflecting on it, I was struck by the immense difference between what I had experienced on the trip to the camp and my arrival at the camp. As soon as I stepped out of my vehicle and took a deep breath, I noticed the stillness and the beautiful scent of pine trees...I was truly in a different place. From the hundreds of vehicles on the busy interstate to the quietness of the slightly snow-covered ground of the camp. Such...A...Difference! What differences have you experienced lately? Were these differences welcomed or an intrusion? Were they planned or were they unexpected? God, through Jesus, makes a difference...to us, to the world. In this season of Epiphany, we hear stories in scripture of how Jesus came to be realized, made manifest, in the differences he makes to those he encounters. These differences that Jesus was making were both viewed as welcome and intrusion, as planned and unexpected...yet Jesus was not deterred. As we journey deeper into this season of Light, may our hearts, minds, ears, and eyes be opened to the differences that Jesus still makes in our lives and our world.

Blessings,

Pastor Jennifer Schultz

- **New Member Sessions:** If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a member or already know you would like to become a member of Bethlehem Lutheran, please mark the following dates on your calendar: Sundays, February 10 and 24. These sessions will be held in the Fireside Room after worship, light refreshments will be provided. Pastor Jennifer will hold 2 sessions about what it means to be part of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and a member of Bethlehem. Attending both sessions will be helpful and informative but are not required. We'll receive new members during 10:00 am worship on Sunday, March 3. If these dates don't work for your schedule but you're still interested, please talk to Pastor Jennifer and we'll work something out. Please let Pastor Jennifer if you are interested in participating or if you have any questions.
- **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, February 24 immediately following worship. The agenda for this meeting is to review the Annual Congregational Report from various committees and groups from the church, this is also a time to ask for clarification and/or ask questions about submitted reports.
- **Mark Your Calendars for the 3rd Annual All Church Birthday Party:** Sunday, March 24 from 2-4 pm in Bachman Hall. Everyone who has a birthday (that's EVERYONE), whether you excitedly or reluctantly celebrate the occasion, is invited to come and participate in this All Ages event. We'll have some new games, trivia, prizes, cake decorating, photo booth, etc...as part of our celebration! We would welcome help in providing needed supplies (cake, frosting/decorations, table decorations, set-up, clean-up)...sign-up sheets will be available at the beginning of March. We'll also have a sign-up sheet for those interested in attending, to help give the planning group an estimate of participants. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Jennifer.
- The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6. We'll mark time during this season with Wednesday night Soup, Salad, & Bread Meals at 6:00 pm in Bachman Hall and Worship at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary from March 6 - April 10. Postcards will soon be available for you to invite others to join us as we observe this contemplative season. We encourage your participation in these meaningful times of fellowship and worship with one another.



We are again having a Valentine's Dinner, to be held Saturday, February 9th at 5 pm. The location is at EL TORITO Restaurant, 5995 Katella Avenue, Cypress. The meal is a Taco Bar and the cost of \$22 includes non-alcoholic drinks, tax and tip. You are responsible for your bar tab. Payment will be collected at the event. If anyone is interested in baking small size desserts, we will have a table set aside for them.

EVERYONE is invited, so bring your relatives and friends. There will be a sign-up sheet after church service on February 3rd or you can make a reservation through Margie Moeller no later than February 4th. Looking forward to seeing you that evening!





2018
Giving
Statements

2018 Giving Statements are available for you to pick up on the Church Office counter on Sunday mornings or during office hours. If you have any questions please call the office at 562-430-3444.

Your 2019 Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council:

Bob Campbell - Council President & Social Ministry
Brad Stevenson - Council Vice President & Property
Susan Martin - Secretary Bill Lindell - Treasurer
Lana Dieter - Education Dick Hansen - Worship & Music
Shary Reed - Parish Life Dale Retrum - Stewardship
Pastor Jennifer Schultz



The next Bethlehem Men-In-Mission meeting will be on Saturday, February 2nd, 2019, at 9:00 A.M in the Fireside Room. Our next bible study is going to be on the **Book of Revelation**. At this meeting Pastor Jennifer is going to give a summary presentation about this book of the Bible to help us prepare for and hopefully better understand our study efforts. We will also meet on Saturday, February 16th, 2019, at 9:00 A.M in the Fireside Room. We will begin our study of the **Book of Revelation** from the **Master Builders Bible for Men**. The reading for this week will be Chapters 1:1 through 3:22 with discussion on verses 1:9 - 20, **Star of the Drama**.

New Men in Mission Bible Study: The next bible study subject for Men-In-Mission is going to begin in February 2019 and is going to be on the **Book of Revelation from the Master Builders Bible for Men**. The first meeting in February will be an overview presentation of this book by Pastor Jennifer. It is anticipated that the overall study of this book will continue through to the end of 2019. Anybody interested in a study of this complicated book is welcome to join us.

NORTH COUNTY VETERANS STAND DOWN - LOVE GIFT LIST

HYGIENE KITS:

Towels

Soap

Shampoo

Deodorant

Brush/Comb

Snack items

And other useful items for homeless veterans living in cars, couch surfing and living in storage units.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Backpacks

Binders

Notebooks

Pencils

Pens

And other school supplies for veterans going back to school on GI Bill.

*Please deposit the items in the boxes provided
in the Narthex by February 24, 2019.*



Flickr: Chits Toumanian

Lutheran Social Services-Long Beach Community Care Center Monthly Report

Dear Bethlehem Family and Friends,

As we continue in this new year, our monthly request in February 2019 for food donations will be for **Cereal - Cereal - and more Cereals, any size**. Also, **Oatmeal**, individual sizes. Any and all other food donations of your choice will be appreciated.

Our cold nights need warm sweat shirts, jackets and socks and can be gently used. They love the knitted hats and beanies.

LSS is so happy to welcome us and receive the food items and warm clothing we bring.

Thanks again for helping to keep our Lutheran Social Service cupboard (Pastor's Pantry in Narthex) full. Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Long Beach and the people and families served daily in their Ministry again appreciate your kindness, care and compassion.

Bob, Andrea and crew
Social Ministry Committee





Pictures from Seafarers Donations in December





John & Janice Hunt 2/14/1960 Jim Brandon & Carol Snyder 2/25/1999

| | | | | | |
|------|----------------|------|----------------|------|--------------------|
| 2/1 | George Egbert | 2/7 | Sarah Sandvig | 2/8 | Emilie Sohl |
| 2/9 | Julie Anderson | 2/15 | Jim Brandon | 2/19 | Aiden Sandvig |
| 2/21 | Jeri Alacano | 2/23 | David Sakowski | 2/27 | Kevin Gustafson II |
| 2/28 | Luelle Buezis | | | | |



Gladyce Ackerman
 Gretchen Alkema
 Julie Anderson
 Elaine Asbury
 Amy Bachman
 Kevin Betts
 Colleen Bidwell
 Art Brandon
 Jim Brandon
 Kate & Steve
 John Buezis
 Luelle Buezis
 Andrea Campbell
 Bob Campbell
 Shirley Campbell
 Caren Cantafio
 Laurie Carpenter
 Linnea Clayton
 Etta Bjornson Connell
 Irene Cooper
 Maxine Cornwell
 Sara DeWeese
 Keresev Dillon
 Jim Dooley
 Laura Duke

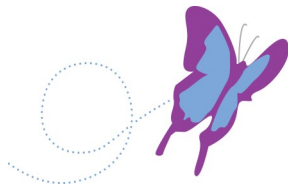
Joan Ebersold
 Judy Frazier
 Frank Gary
 Katrina Gary
 Bruce Gustafson
 Janet Harris
 Joe Harris
 Diana Hayden
 Gaylord Hollister
 Violet Imoto Family
 Genevieve Jenkins
 Betty Jones
 Dean Kinzel
 Julie Kizziar
 Joan Lee
 Karol Lemerond
 William Lewis
 Erin Lopez
 Patricia Lueckert
 Lawrence Massey
 Jessica McIntire
 Hal Miller
 Pete Miller
 Sandy Miller
 Ethan Mohr
 Linda Nygard
 Dan Opoiin
 Coler Pearce
 Hal & Carol Penke
 Dale Retrum
 Sandy Retrum

Bill Ritz
 Elaine Schulthies
 Karen Smith
 Leslie Summers
 Ed Sutton
 James Taylor
 Ann Tegtmeier
 Steve Tegtmeier
 Mary "Betty" Vennes
 Kirk Von Salzen
 Tom Watkins
 Jerry Whitmore
 Nancy Williamson
 Mitsuko Yamamoto
 Margaret Ziegler



Thanks to These People for Serving in February

| | Reader | Cantor | Ushers | Counters |
|------|----------------|--------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 2/3 | Johanne Hansen | Charles Toth | John Buezis, Jr Dianna Reynolds Brad Stevenson Christina Watson | John Buezis John Buezis, Jr |
| 2/10 | Brad Stevenson | Charles Toth | John Buezis, Jr Bruce & Debby Gustafson Pam Tipich | Andrea Campbell Bob Campbell |
| 2/17 | Alice Roop | Charles Toth | John & Janice Hunt Brad Stevenson | Lulu Meyer Paul Meyer |
| 2/24 | Lana Dieter | Charles Toth | Paul Meyer | George Egbert Marsha Egbert |



Altar Guild

2/3
2/10 Marianne Sakowski
2/17
2/24 Marge Hargrove



Altar Flowers

2/3 Payne, Rolf, Sandvig/Watson
2/10 Wolfe
2/17
2/24