



# Bethlehem Star

## May 2021

### From the Pastor's Desk...

We continue to inhale and exhale the Easter Alleluia's...signs of new and renewed life seem especially poignant this year, taking on fresh meaning in light of what the world has endured this past year. While many areas are experiencing progress against the pandemic, we also know that the pandemic has not been eradicated and there are many people still suffering from the disease itself, as well as the numerous related effects on people, emotionally, physically, financially, and spiritually. There have been so many losses, too many and too overwhelming to fully comprehend, yet we hold on to hope, Easter hope, hope of new and renewed life.

The church season moves from Easter to Pentecost, from resurrection life to life's breath in the Holy Spirit. Pentecost stirs us to holy life, stirred up, swirled about, breathed upon and into, creating and maintaining holy chaos in the speaking of, acting out, and receiving of God's Word. In a world that has been upended by so very much, we may feel as though we've been holding our breath, longing for the time when we can breathe freely again. In these days prior to the Pentecost season, as we linger in the Alleluia life of Easter, may we consider the fiery Holy Spirit that breathes new life into the church, breathing new life into God's people. May the breath of the Holy Spirit lead and guide us to words and acts of love and service, compassion and mercy. May we be fired up to be the people of God in this time and this place...may the Easter Good News lead us to the sustaining breath of Pentecost, stirring within us the Holy Spirit.

Blessings,

Pastor Jennifer Schultz

A memorial service will be held for Luelle Buezis on Saturday, May 22 at 1:00 pm outside in the courtyard of the church. You do not need to bring your own chair but we do ask that you wear a face mask and you will be asked to sign-in for tracking purposes. Pastor Jennifer is looking for some volunteers to help with this service, to set up chairs and pop-up tents, hand out bulletins, temperature screeners, sign-in attendant. If you would like to volunteer, please talk to Pastor Jennifer as soon as possible.

Pentecost Sunday is May 23 and we'll be celebrating this festival day in worship. Pastor Jennifer is looking for some volunteers who would be willing to read a portion of a scripture text in a foreign language (can be recorded at home or at church)...if you would like to participate, please contact her by Sunday, May 9.

2021 Pacifica Synod Assembly will be held online via Zoom on Saturday, May 1...Brad & Vanessa Stevenson and Pastor Jennifer are this year's voting members. Please pray for all those participating in the Assembly, for the reports and updates given, for the elections to Synod Council and committees, for resolutions and bylaws to be voted on, and for the connections created and reinforced in our theme of "Sent Out With Good News".

Wednesday Zoom Check Ins have resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. These sessions are available to anyone who would like to share in a time to check-in with one another, hear scripture, and pray together. There is no commitment to join every week, join when you can, in the past, these sessions have lasted between 20-30 minutes. For those that have been a part of these Zoom sessions in the past, you'll continue to be on the e-mail list...if you have not been a part of them and would like to join, please talk to Pastor Jennifer and she will e-mail you the Zoom link/sign-in information.

## **Worship Update:**

Indoor In-Person Worship has resumed on Sundays at 10:00 am. If you would like to attend worship, please e-mail or call the church office by Friday at 10:00 am. All attendees must follow our current protocols, including wearing a face mask and signing in. You may now park in either the back or front parking lots. We will be celebrating communion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. We will continue to record worship services and make them available on YouTube (search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos, CA and click on Videos), the website ([www.blcla.org](http://www.blcla.org)), and the Church Facebook page ([www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos, CA). Since we are recording the services on Sunday mornings, the recordings won't be available to view until early Sunday afternoons.

Pastor Jennifer is looking for some additional volunteers to help with Sunday morning worship...temperature screeners, seating chart attendant, usher. If you are interested in learning more or would like to volunteer, please talk to Pastor Jennifer so she can walk you through the brief training. Thanks in advance!

Would you like to contribute towards and dedicate in honor of a celebration or in memory of a loved one? We have 2 fresh flower bouquets for every Sunday worship service and if you would like to contribute and dedicate a bouquet, please e-mail or call the church office to sign up. Flowers are available to take home following the Sunday service.

**Paper Rollers** has resumed meeting on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning at 8:00 am in Bachman Hall. Participants are asked to wear a face mask and follow physical distancing and cleaning protocols. If you would like to participate or learn more, please give the church office a call. This group will be busy for quite some time thanks to all of the papers that have been dropped off.

**Thank you** for your donations.



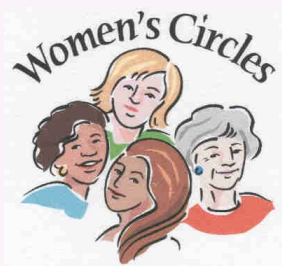
## **Men in Mission Meeting**

The next Bethlehem Men-In-Mission meeting will be on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 9:00 A.M in the Fireside Room. We will begin a new subject with a study of the Book of Romans from the Master Builders Bible for Men. The reading for this initial week will be Chapters 1:1 through 17 with discussion on verses 1:1 through 17 / The Gospel of Christ. Please note that COVID-19 Protocols will be observed and no refreshments will be available. All men of Bethlehem are invited.

## **Church Council Meeting:**

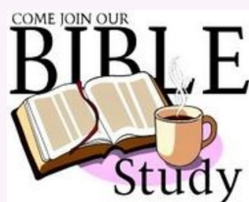
Council will meet on Sunday, May 16 in Bachman Hall following worship, beginning at approximately 11:30 am. Your council members are: Brad Stevenson, Jane Clausen, Debby Gustafson, Dick Hansen, Dianna Reynolds, Jeanne Sandvig, Vanessa Stevenson, Christina Watson and Pastor Jennifer Schultz.

May 2021



Faith Circle: We have been invited to join Phoebe Circle for a joint meeting at 6:30 p.m. on May 11, at the Parsonage meeting, hosted and led by Pastor Jennifer. A Zoom option will be offered for those who prefer. Offerings can be sent directly to Christina Watson, Treasurer. For questions and details, call Andrea Campbell.

Phoebe Circle: We will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11. Pastor Jennifer will host at the Parsonage and will lead the study. Offerings can be sent directly to Christina Watson, Treasurer. For questions and details, call Jeanne Sandvig.



The study is in the May issue of Gather magazine.



Coffee service will resume when conditions allow.



**May 8 -- Pacifica WELCA Zoom Event 12:30 p.m. (PDT) featuring Pastor Anne-Gretha Krogh Nielsen of Emanuel Danish Lutheran Church in Yorba Linda.**

**Zoom Meeting ID: call for info**

**Passcode: call for info**

**June 8 --Joint Faith and Phoebe Circles meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Christina Watson. Zoom option available for those who prefer.**

**June 19-- Judy's Kitchen at Congregational Church 10:00 am- 12:30 pm**



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



Join the Pacifica Synod  
Women of the ELCA  
On Facebook

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

## W.E.L.C.A. 2021 Calendar

May		May Ladies Day Program-POSTPONED UNTIL 2022
	11	Phoebe and Faith Circle meeting 6:30 pm Pastor Jennifer Host and Leader
June	08	Phoebe and Faith Circle Meeting 6:30 pm Christina Watson Host & Leader
	19	Judy's Kitchen-Congregational Church 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
August	10	W.E.L.C.A. Bar BQ – Melissa Sandvig's Home – 5:00 pm
		11 <sup>th</sup> Tri-Annual Gathering Phoenix, AZ POSTPONED UNTIL 2023
September	07	Faith Circle Meeting-Fireside Room 9:30 am
	14	Phoebe Circle Meeting 6:30 pm Jeanne Sandvig Host and Leader
	18	Judy's Kitchen-Congregational Church 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
October	05	Faith Circle Meeting-Fireside Room 9:30 am
	12	Phoebe Circle Meeting 6:30 pm Debby Gustafson Host and Pastor Leader
	16	47 <sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Festival Bazaar 8 am – 12 pm
		Junktique Style-no food served to the public, no bakery department
November	05	Faith Circle Meeting-Fireside Room 9:30 am
	5-6	34 <sup>st</sup> Annual Pacifica Women of the ELCA Gathering – Details TBA
	7	General & Bazaar Expenditures Meeting with Election of Officers for 2022
	9	Phoebe Circle Meeting 6:30 pm Dianna Reynolds Host and Leader
	24	Thanksgiving Eve Dessert - All Bethlehem Women
December	05	W.E.L.C.A. Board Installation during the Sunday Worship Service
	07	W.E.L.C.A. Christmas Gathering 6:30 pm Location TBD
		General Meeting & Budget Approval

Board meetings will be held as needed.

Updated 4/22/2021

# Lutheran Social Services-Long Beach Community Care Center - Monthly Report

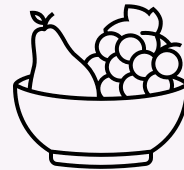
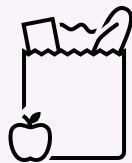


Dear Bethlehem Family and Friends,

We are asking you for your continuing help during **May** for items for **HOMELESS BAGS WHICH ARE URGENTLY NEEDED DAILY**. These items are all **pop-top lids** such as tuna, span, applesauce, jello, puddings, Vienna sausages, cup of soup, Ravioli, Mac & Cheese, soups, canned beans and granola bars. Even "surprise" food items are welcomed. Also, special request for Face Masks (blue ones), adult or child size.

Continuous donated items of cereals, pasta, spaghetti sauces, any kind of individual cookies, bars or candy, individual size cereal bars, diced fruit cups and juice boxes are always appreciated.

**Warm clothes, jackets, sweats, gloves, scarfs, and socks (new or gently used) are greatly needed this time of the year. \*\*\*Especially need MENS clothing\*\*\***



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



Double your Gift in a special Fundraiser for  
Lutheran Social Services, Southern California

0.5% of your purchase will be donated back to  
LSS, just follow the simple directions below  
and generate SMILES across LSS Southern  
California

Shop Amazon and help generate Smiles across LSS Southern California

Go to Amazon for your next purchase and  
a portion of your proceeds will benefit  
the programs and projects of  
LSS Southern California.

1. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. Sign in with your Amazon Account
3. Choose "Lutheran Social Services of  
Southern California" as your  
charitable organization

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**amazon**smile  
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*Shop Away!*

Thank You for caring,  
Bethlehem Social Ministry Committee  
Andrea, Bob, and Crew





5/2 Susan Schneider	5/3 John Buezis, Jr.	5/3 Samantha Retrum
5/5 Elaine Schulthies	5/6 Brian Gary	5/14 Betty Kizziar
5/19 Gary Nehrenberg	5/21 Hannah Wolfe Coe	5/23 Herb Menzel
5/26 Bob Campbell	5/26 Daryl Isaacs	5/30 Violet Orcutt

5/1/1956	Ray and Kay Shelton	5/7/1966	Dave and Linda Scott
5/14/1966	Dale and Sandy Retrum	5/17/1980	Geoff and Heidi Krazy
5/27/2000	Joe DeSautel and Katrinna Cassidy		



Julie Anderson  
 Elaine Asbury  
 Amy Bachman  
 Kevin Betts  
 Kate & Steve  
 John Buezis  
 Fritz Campbell  
 Shirley Campbell  
 Caren Cantafio  
 Laurie Carpenter  
 Linnea Clayton  
 Irene Cooper  
 Maxine Cornwell  
 Sara DeWeese  
 Katrina Gary  
 Marge Hargrove

Janet Harris  
 Joe Harris  
 Diana Hayden  
 Gaylord Hollister  
 Jason Jackson  
 Genevieve Jenkins  
 Betty Jones  
 Dean Kinzel  
 Julie Kizziar  
 Joan Lee  
 William Lewis  
 Erin Lopez  
 Patricia Lueckert  
 John Maio  
 Lawrence Massey  
 Jessica McIntire  
 Hal Miller  
 Pete Miller  
 Ethan Mohr  
 Dan Opoien

Coler Pearce  
 Retta Rasmussen  
 Shary Reed  
 Dale Retrum  
 Sandy Retrum  
 Elaine Schulthies  
 Hattie Stretz  
 Leslie Summers  
 Ed Sutton  
 Pauline Taylor  
 Ann Tegtmeier  
 Steve Tegtmeier  
 Candie Toth  
 Tom Watkins  
 Jerry Whitmore  
 Nancy & H.R. Williamson  
 Marynell Wolfe  
 Mitsuko Yamamoto  
 Margaret Ziegler

