

Bethany Lutheran Church

26418 Mountain Hwy E, Spanaway, WA 98387

“Sent to Serve”

December Newsletter 2017



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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Worship with Communion

Sundays, 8:00 & 10:15 AM
Wednesdays, 11:00 AM

Sunday School

Sundays, 9:00 AM

Sung Morning Prayer

Tuesdays, 9:30 AM

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Office Phone:

253-847-8801

Office Email:

bethanychurchlady@gmail.com

Pastor Janeen's Email:

neenigal@gmail.com

Website:

www.bethany-l-c.org

Facebook Group

Bethany Lutheran Church

Pastor's Peek at Advent and Christmas

Our church year begins in darkness even as our every day lives are filled with more and more darkness each day, up until a week before Christmas. As we are faithful in worship weekly, we will hear biblical texts that point us forward, out of darkness into light, out of dormancy (and what feels like death) into life, and out of despair into hope. If we allow what we experience in worship to overshadow the “trying too hard” high voltage holiday lights, then we may find that we are led from anxious to joyful tears. And we will not journey alone; all of us in our respective places of brokenness will gather together and learn from one another while we hear the ancient prophecies that assure us that God keeps promises. By the grace of God, we will experience a glimmer (or a beam) of the forgiveness and healing and wholeness intended for us. My prayer for you this Advent and Christmas isn't very complicated – it is this: let's gather together – God will do the rest! ~ Pastor Janeen

Carol Dickens' Christmas

A Christmusical by Claudia Simpson-Jones

One Old Photograph

+

Two Rival Fashion Designers

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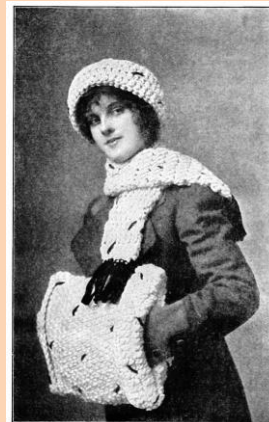
A Modern-Day Christmas Carol

When: Fri. Dec. 15, 7:30PM

Sun. Dec. 17, 5:30PM

Where: Bethany Lutheran

Featuring the Bethany Choir & Friends



Call the Office, 253-847-8801, to reserve your seat
(\$10 suggested donation)

Bethany Kids & More

Youth Group News

3rd Annual Scandinavian Bazaar Sunday, Dec. 3rd 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Join us for our 3rd Annual Bazaar. We have the biggest selection of vendors ever!!! So excited to showcase a variety of handmade items and local vendors. The Bethany Quilters have also donated a handmade quilt to be raffled off!
(1 ticket for \$3 or 4 tickets for \$10)

You'll find fresh local cranberries, handmade crafts, handmade soap, hand-crafted jewelry, Mary Kay, Isagenix, Rodan & Fields Skincare, Pampered Chef, Sewing by Lola, Thirty-One bags, essential oils, homemade Scandinavian baked goodies, and more!

Thank you for supporting our youth program and our community.



Homemade Krumkake

Operation Christmas Child

We made 65 boxes this year, which is much more than the 26 of last year. We should be proud of our congregation for stepping up for such a worthy ministry. You may not know the touching or miraculous story your shoebox brings, but I guarantee you, there is one. Thank you! Every shoebox has a story!

Kids' Korner

All are invited to the Sunday School Christmas program on Sunday, December 10th at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary. The older children have picked out a book to read from that showcases the Christmas Story. They will be the narrators and the younger kids will be dressed in costumes to help with the telling of the story. Bailey Andersen will play "Silent Night" and "O, Christmas Tree" on the guitar accompanied by the kids signing.

*Please note that there will be NO Sunday School on Dec. 24th or Dec. 31st.

We Gather: Advent & Christmas

Sundays, Dec. 3rd, 10th, 17th

8:00 AM & 10:15 AM, Holy Communion

Tuesdays, Dec. 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

9:30 AM, Sung Morning Prayer

Wednesdays, Dec. 6th, 13th, 20th

11:00 AM, Holy Communion

5:30 PM, Potato Bar Dinner

6:15 PM, Holden Evening Prayer

Sunday, Dec. 24th

9:15 AM, Holy Communion

4:30 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight

11:00 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight

Sunday, Dec. 31st

9:15 AM, Holy Communion

DragoArt.com

From the Library

A big thank you to Gail Egbers who has been working in the library each week. Her recommendations this month are the many Advent devotions, studies, and books available to enhance your Advent season.

Holy Happenings

Senior Social

In the busyness of preparing for Christmas, take a couple hours off on Thursday December 21st, and treat yourself to lunch out! The Lunch Ladies will be preparing a special hot meal, complete with all the "trimmings." Special entertainment will bless us all. Do you have a "special" Christmas sweater or shirt? Let's dress up in our finest!! We are hoping to help fill the "Food Bank" shopping cart with canned goods. Please add a few extra gifts of food to your grocery list and bring them on December 21st. May this time together be a blessing to all! See you at **noon on Thursday, December 21st.**



November Senior Social

Advent Poem – by Jill Kerton

I like to think that the first candle
Represents the Angel who foretold
The mothers of John and Jesus that
Their sons would be strong and bold

This candle will start to brighten
The darkness of the winter season
And help to remind us today
That God' has given us a reason

To respect other people's lives
And follow their great example, too
For John and Jesus gave us an example
That could bring a lasting peace if we do.

Upcoming Events

Men's Breakfast

Sat. Dec. 2nd, 9:00 AM, Hangar Inn

Annual Bazaar

Dec. 3rd, 9:00-1:00 PM, Litzer Hall/Narthex

Property Meeting

Tues. Dec. 5th 7:00 PM, Office

Advent Gathering

Wed. Dec. 6th, 13th, & 20th

Potato Bar Dinner, 5:30 PM, Litzer Hall

Holden Evening Prayer, 6:15 PM

Sunday School Christmas Program

Sun. Dec. 10th, 9:30 AM, Sanctuary

Youth Group

Wed. Dec. 13th, 5:30 PM, Litzer Hall

Carol Dickens' Christmas

Fri. Dec. 15th, 7:30 PM

Sun. Dec. 17th, 5:30 PM

Yahweh Yarners

Sun. Dec. 17th, 9:00 AM, Library

Council Meeting

Tues. Dec. 19th, 7:00 PM, Litzer Hall

Senior Social

Thurs. Dec. 21st, 12:00 PM, Litzer Hall

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Sun. Dec 24th, 4:30 PM & 11:00 PM

Christmas Day,

Mon. Dec. 25th, OFFICE CLOSED



*Rehearsing for Carol
Dickens' Christmas*

Bits & Pieces

From Bethany Connect

The Bethany Connect Program and the Spanaway Food Bank would like to thank you so much for your generous support of the pie project. In addition to personal pie purchases, 52 pumpkin pies were provided for the food bank. The money raised helps pay the postage for the boxes we send to the 12 students and 3 military personnel in the program. This is one of the biggest groups we have served in over 10 years. Thank you again for your continued support of the Bethany Connect Program.

The Role of Insurance, Yikes!

This is a topic that few people really enjoy, and yet it is an area that impacts your finances more than you could possibly imagine! Can you explain how your life insurance works? If your spouse were suddenly widowed, how much would he or she need to survive? How does health insurance work? Are specialty plans, such as cancer policies, a good deal? Let's find out as FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY walks you through the seven types of insurance that every adult needs, and reveals how to avoid the traps in the insurance industry that can leave you and your heirs flat broke! We're just weeks away from starting, so get prepared today! Classes begin at Bethany on Sun. Jan 7th. Google Dave Ramsey Financial Peace to sign up and order your class materials.



Children's Sermon

Council Members 2017

Jim Haifley
(President)

Deb Noble-Perry
(Vice-President)

Nori Cash
(Secretary)

Jim Erickson
(Treasurer)

Adaline Pettit
(Youth Representative)

Frank Putnam

Pastor Janeen Smith

Paulette Van Cleve

Sally Williams

Nancy Woodward

Community Outreach

Eatonville Family Agency's Parent Shopping Days – The deadline to bring **UNWRAPPED, NEW** toys, books and other items for Eatonville Family Agency's *Parent Shopping Days* is **Sunday, Dec. 10th**. Monetary gifts are also welcome – we can buy gift cards to add to the fun.

Bethany's Giving Tree for Bethel School District Families – We are collecting **PERSONALIZED WRAPPED, NEW** gifts and non-perishable holiday food items to benefit families in the Bethel community. **Tags will hang on a tree in the narthex** for you to take. There are also tags for specific food items. Items can be returned (with the tags) to the office. Monetary gifts are welcome – we will buy grocery gift cards for the families to purchase the fresh food they need.