

Bethany Lutheran Church

26418 Mtn Hwy E, Spanaway, WA 98387 253.847.8801 bethany-l-c.org

April 2024 Newsletter



Easter Continues All the Way to the Festival of Pentecost May 19

Easter is not a day or even a week; rather, Easter is a week of weeks (plus one day)! For seven weeks after we first affirm that *Christ is risen*, we continue to so affirm each Sunday through Pentecost.

And there is more! Even after this lengthy Easter season has concluded, every Sunday is like a “little Easter” no matter what the season is. Herein lies the reason that traditions of abstention from various pleasures during Lent do not apply on Sundays. It is, of course, your choice whether that dessert you gave up for Lent will be eaten on Sunday, but you do have the choice. The point is that we celebrate Jesus’ *living* presence in our midst when we gather around the Word of God and the Table of our Lord.

Here are the gospel readings we will hear during the Easter season:

April 7 – John 20:19-31 (beholding the wounds of the risen Christ)

April 14 – Luke 24:36b-48 (eating with the risen Christ)

April 21 – John 10:11-18 (Christ the shepherd)

April 28 – John 15:1-8 (Christ the vine)

May 5 – John 15:9-17 (Christ the friend and lover)

May 12 – John 17:6-19 (Christ’s prayer for his disciples)

May 19 - John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 (Christ sends the Spirit of truth)

He Lives! And because he lives, we will live also,

Pastor Janeen

HOLY HAPPENINGS IN MARCH



SOUP SUPPERS



If we are missing you, or your birth date is wrong, please let us know!

Stan Smitherman.....	2 nd
Michelle Parker.....	5 th
Kelli Bacher.....	5 th
Jim Erickson.....	8 th
Elaine Earl.....	9 th
Joni Hallgren.....	10 th
Bob Cunningham.....	12 th
Zachary Sandor.....	14 th
Ann Lachney.....	20 th
Jeff Scott.....	24 th
Madison Shelton.....	29 th
Harlee Akers.....	30 th
Bailey Andersen.....	30 th

May God Bless You!

Are you doing any Spring cleaning around the house?

Please consider donating items to **Mary Bridge Children's Hospital.**

When are donations due? Before November. What types of things can you donate? **Items that are gently used or new, but no furniture or clothing.** Donations go 100% to the cause. Please see Louise Harris for more information.

April Calendar Highlights

1st Office is Closed

7th 2nd Sunday of Easter Worship 10 AM
with Council Installation

9th Council Meeting 5:30 PM
with election of officers

14th 3rd Sunday of Easter Worship 10 AM

18th Senior Social 12 NOON

20th Elbe Volunteer Breakfast 9:30 AM

21st 4th Sunday of Easter Worship 10 AM
Elbe Worship 2:30 PM

28th 5th Sunday of Easter Worship 10 AM

30th *The Bible* Adult Study 10 AM



Spanaway Food Bank

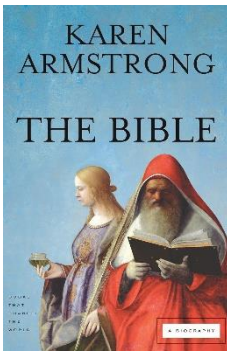
The Food Bank is always in need of peanut butter, cereal, plastic bags, and anything you are willing to provide for people in need. Thank you!

Gift of Grand Piano



Last month Bethany received a 1915 Steinway grand piano as a gift from Shirley Knelleken. The piano, dubbed “Jubal” by Claudia, was owned, played, and enjoyed by Shirley’s sister, Arlene Hoveland, for many years. Its presence has been enthusiastically applauded by us all and it looks like it was meant to be in our chancel. Thanks, Shirley!

New Tuesday Morning Bible Study Begins April 30



An eight week adult study on *The Bible: a Biography*, by historian Karen Armstrong, will meet weekly at 10 AM beginning on April 30 and concluding on June 18 (the week BEFORE VBS begins). Armstrong is a critically acclaimed historian and author of numerous books pertaining to religious history. If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Janeen know. You may order your own book or be added to the church’s order.



Come Early to Worship – Listen to Favorite Old Hymns

Come fifteen minutes early and enjoy Claudia playing some of your favorites from years past. Have a request? She probably knows it! This is a casual extended prelude, but you are welcome to sing along if you know the words. Please keep conversation to a minimum in the worship space to allow others to enjoy the music.

PARKING LOT CLEAN-UP



A huge thank you to all who cleaned up the church parking lot, Saturday the 16th. The parking lot and the building look phenomenal!! **Kerry Harris, Kirk Woodward, Roger Klein, Garry Olson, & Josh Woodward** all donated their time. Everyone appreciates the hard work they put into doing all they did.



Josh, Kirk, Roger & Garry
(Kerry, took picture)



Roger Klein



MARCH SENIOR SOCIAL



April Senior Social
Thursday, April 18th
Noon - Litzer Hall
All are Welcome!

Pie will be the dessert of the day
-made by the Quilting Group



Creig Kuwitzky

Another big thank you to
Creig & Kirk, who cleaned
up the flower garden. It
looks beautiful!



PALM SUNDAY

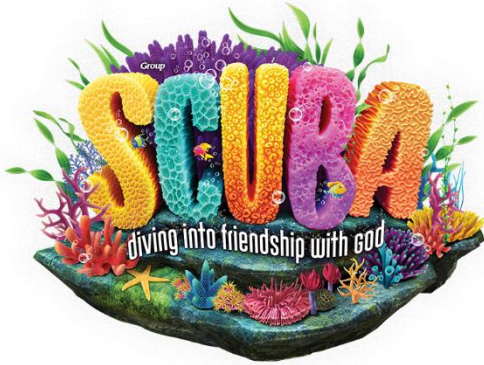
March 24th



Easter March 31st

SAVE THE DATE

VBS will be June 24th – June 28th
10:30 AM TO 1 PM (Lunch included)
Ages 3-11 (12 and up can be helpers)
Scuba VBS: Dive into God's love.



Day 1: God is a friend who's real.

Day 2: God is a friend who loves.

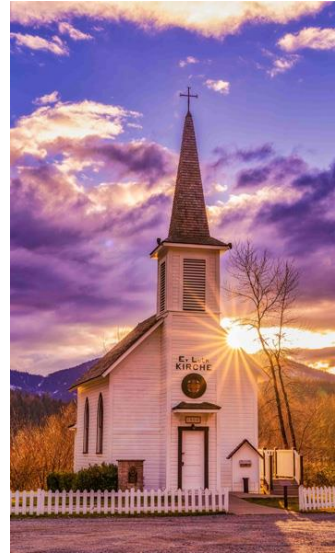
Day 3: God is a friend we can trust.

Day 4: God is a friend forever.

Day 5: God is a friend for everyone.

If anyone is interested in helping this year, please contact the office. We are looking for volunteers to be crew leaders, help to make decorations and decorate the rooms.

We have already received the first two shipments of supplies and welcome any special \$\$ donations to help us provide this ministry. We anticipate serving 40 + children. Thank you in advance!



Annual Elbe Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

It's time again for the annual Elbe Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. This year it will be held at **Peace Lutheran in Puyallup, 214 E Pioneer, April 20th.** The women of Peace will be serving breakfast at 9:30.

Our speaker is Mary Davison who is a 'Triple Crown' hiker which means she has completed 10,000 miles of US trails. Completing this at age 76! Her third book is due out in the fall. There is no charge, but I do need a headcount for our hosts.

Elbe Church has a website that can answer your questions about services, contact information etc. ElbeHistoricChurch.com

~ Kathy Mettler

Council Members & Officers April 2024 – March 2025

Kelli Bacher, Secretary
Gary Christensen
Stan Lind
Walt Sandor
Carol Severson, Vice-President
Janeen Smith, Pastor
Paulette Van Cleve, Treasurer
Rick Ward
Officers will be elected on the 9th of April

Staff & Contact Information

Bethany Pastor Janeen Smith
neenigal@gmail.com
253.209.5774 (text or call)

Administrative Assistants:
Kristi Fandrich, in office T-Th
Wendy Smitherman, in office Mon.
Andrew Vert, remote work on web
Pianist/Choir: Claudia Simpson-Jones
Custodian: Kirk Goddard

Administrative Email
BethanyLCOffice@gmail.com

Office Hours
Mon. – Thurs. 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM
(Closed on Federal Holidays)
Office Phone 253.847.8801

Financial Secretary Email:
bethanyfinancesecretary@gmail.com

On the web: www.bethany-l-c.org

On Facebook:
Bethany Lutheran Church Group

YouTube Channel:
BethanyLutheranChurchSpanawayW

UPDATE:

Plastic for a Bench

We still need to collect **500 LBS** for our next bench!

Please keep collecting soft, foldable plastics only, which include things like **bread bags**, **bubble wrap**, **plastic grocery bags**, and **clean Ziploc bags**. ***Please, no hard plastics, no mesh bags, and no packaging peanuts***

Contact Wendy Sandor for any questions. Thanks!

COLLECTING IN ROOM 6!

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

Jeremiah 29:11

“For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

John 14:1

“Let not your heart be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.”

I hope these scripture passages find you comfort in whatever you are going through in your lives. He is always with you!



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Bethany Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 5024

Spanaway, WA 98387

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