Bethlehem Star

Volume 56 Issue 4

April 2016

Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth her song begin; Let the round world keep triumph, And all that is therein; Invisible and visible, Their notes let all things blend For Christ is risen Our joy that hath no end.

John of Damascus

This ancient hymn envisions the whole of creation joining in celebration. The resurrection of Christ is the triumph of hope over despair, of life over death, which reaches out to all creation.

Although we live in a world where the power of death and despair seem undiminished, the promise of Easter is that the victory of life over death has already take place in Christ. Our work as Christ followers is to take hold of the promise in faith and live in light of this new reality.

In the past decades we have been made increasingly aware of the threats to the health of our planet and the creatures with whom we share it. Just as all of creation is included in the celebration of Easter's victory of life over death, to live in light of Easter means to care for the wellbeing of God's creation.

On the Fifth Sunday of Easter – April 17^{th} – we will commemorate Earth Day. Although it is not officially a church year festival it is an especially appropriate theme for the season: as we are reminded each time we gather to share the Lord's Supper, we celebrate Christ's resurrection by joining with all creation in an unending hymn of praise.

Peace, Pastor Richard

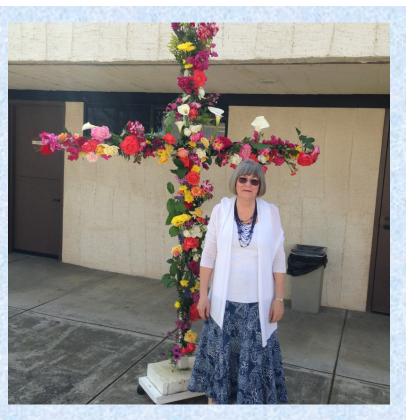
Easter Celebration

Bethlehem enjoyed a great Easter morning of worship, music and fellowship.

The children were thrilled with the Egg Hunt after service and thanks to Carol Snyder for taking the initiative to decorate our Flower Cross.

As you can see, she did a wonderful job. Thanks, Carol!







The Sandvig & Watson families with the Flower Cross. Great picture!

IT'S TIME FOR CARD BINGO April 10th in the Fireside Room 2 pm – 4 pm The game is back by popular demand!! Come see what is going on that Sunday. Bring a wrapped \$3 new gift or a White Elephant. We will even wrap them if you don't want to. Refreshments will be served along with a lot of laughs from the attendees. If you have any questions, please contact Margie. Hope to see you on Sunday, April 10th at 2 pm.

Faith Circle Meeting - we would like to remind all you wonderful women about our meeting on Tuesday, April 5th at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room. Jennie Anderson will be our Hostess and Merle Hower will be our Bible Study Leader. See you on April 5th!

Men in Mission will resume on Saturday, April 2nd we'll be studying Luke's "Gospel to the Gentiles" from the Masters Builders Bible for Men. The first week's reading will be chapter 1, verses 1—38 with discussion of verses 26-38. We meet at 9am in the Fireside Room.

SAVE THE DATE(S)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School July 25 to 29, 2016 9am-Noon Bar B Q Friday July 29th 5pm

Theme: " Christmas in July "

Once again, our own talented Brian Gary and Ken Watson are creating an original Vacation Bible School session filled with song, crafts, games and treats. Mark your calendar now and tell your friends and family.

Thank you, Christina Watson, Director

Parish Life News

We have the information on the events at the Hollywood Bowl for 2016. Sign up for which events you would like to go see. We need at least **10** tickets per each event to preorder.

- June 18th Opening Night with Steely Dan
- June 24th Sing a Long The Sound of Music
- July 2,3,4 Fireworks Spectacular- Chicago
- July 8-9 Star Trek in Concert
- July 15-16 Diana Ross
- July 22-23 Weird Al Yankovic Takes the Bowl
- July 29-31 A Chorus Line
- August 5-6 Tchaikovsky Spectacular with Fireworks
- Aug. 12-13 An Olympic Carnival-with Sergio Mendes, Herb Alpert and Lani Hall, Dianne Reeves, & Romero Lubambo.
- August 19 Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals
- August 20 Brandi Carlile—Old Crow Medicine Show.
- Aug.26-27 Culture Club
- Sept. 2,3,4 John Williams-Maestro of Movies.

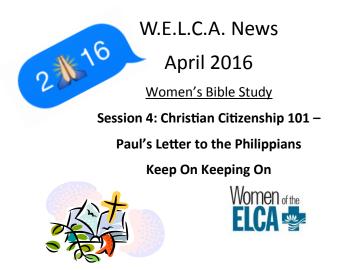
The La Mirada Theatre presents Dream Girls March 25-April 17th.

We have the Angel Baseball tickets ordered for June 12th @ 12:35 p.m. with the Cleveland Indians .

Thanks to all the groups for cooking and serving the Soup and Salad Suppers during Lent. Everyone enjoyed the soup and salad and not having to cook on Wednesday nights!



We need volunteers to learn and operate the Audio/Visual system. If you would like to learn this interesting process and be part of the team, contact Ann Tegtmeier at 562-596-5961 or <u>asaint2@verizon.net</u>.



WELCA Board

The next meeting of the WELCA Board will be held **Sunday, April 3rd after service in the Fireside room**. For more information, contact Dianna Reynolds.

FAITH Circle

Meets **Tuesday, April 5th** beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. The hostess will be Jennie Anderson and Bible Study leader will be Merle Hower. For questions and details call Faith Circle leader, Arlene Pollard.

PHOEBE Circle

Meets **Tuesday, April 12th** beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Charlotte Driskill. Charlotte will also conduct our Bible study. For questions and details? Call Dianna Reynolds All Women of Bethlehem are welcome.



Coffee & Cookies

Thank you to Men in Mission for providing coffee and cookies in the month of March. Phoebe Circle will be responsible for the month of April.

WELCA Yearbooks are now Available!

See your Circle Leader or Erika Gary for your copy. A BIG THANK YOU to Heidi Kracy for her help with the Yearbook!

Women's 2016 Theme

"Serving with Joy"



WELCA's Calendar of Events

April

Enjoying Spring!



Thank you to all the Women who served, cleaned up and donated items for the WELCA Soup and Salad night. A Big Thank You to Erika Gary for the wonderful Minestrone Soup.

"Growing Through Narrows Spots

From Fear to Joy"

Sunday, May 22nd we will hold our Spring Gathering and General Meeting of WELCA, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm Ruth Bachman will provide an inspiring program and a light lunch will be included.

Please join us! Cost is \$7.00



Check out Pacifica Partners on line

www.pacificawomen.org

click on news & events





Lutheran Social Services-Long Beach Community Care Center Monthly Report

Dear Bethlehem Family and Friends,

As we continue our monthly request for in-kind food donations in 2016 we are asking you for your continuing help during April for **Cereal, Fruit Cups or Can Beans.** These items are needed daily. Continuous donated items of clothes, socks (new or gently used) are always needed this time of the year.

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





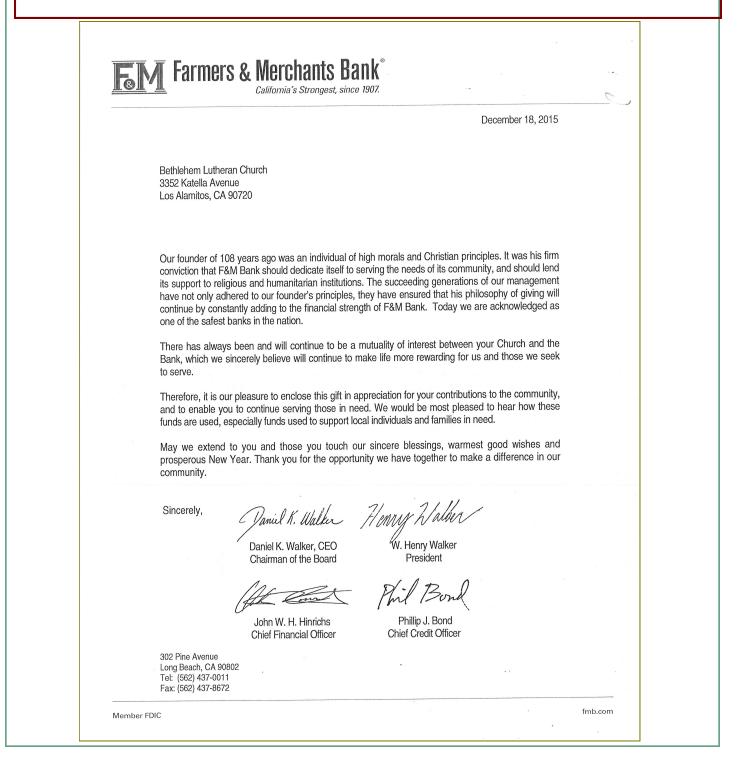
The Social Ministry Committee made 20 kids' bags for the Easter Community Kids Party.



Bethlehem Granted a Gift - Bethlehem Lutheran Church and F&M Bank have enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship for many, many years. It is because of this relationship that F&M Bank has again generously donated a \$200 gift to us.

In keeping with Bethlehem's tradition of passing the funds along to our greater community, the Church Council voted that this gift be used to help a child in need of dental work. We will work with the non-profit L. B. Children's Dental Health Clinic to identify and help such a child. We graciously thank F&M Bank for their generosity and our recognition by this gift.

Alice Roop, Council President



	4/1/1989 Richard		& Candie Toth		4/11/1987		Ken & Debbie Johnson
Der milito	4/14/2007	David & Krissy Retrum		4/18/1975		Marv & Susan Schneider	
This Manna Mann Manna Manna Mann	4/23/1983	Jim & Susan Martin		4/24/2010		George & Marsha Egbert	
Anniversaries Birthdays	4/24/1976	Lon & Cathy Warnock		4/30/1971		David & Jeanne Sandvig	
4/1	Noah Carril	lo	4/1	Maria Sakov	wski	4/2	Ken Johnson
4/3	Kenneth Correia Cathy Warnock		4/3	Caryl Harris		4/6	Caroline Sisk
4/6			4/8	Marv Schneider		4/10	Marynell Wolfe
4/11	Merle Hower		4/12	John Buezis		4/17	Geoff Kracy
4/19	Erika Gary		4/26	Cheri Dobberteen		4/26	Laura Duke
4/30	Melissa Sar	ndvig					



Gladyce Ackerman Julie Anderson Melody Andreoli Elaine Asbury Amy Bachman Colleen Bidwell Arthur Brandon Charlie Buezis Luelle Buezis Elinor Blum Bob Campbell Laurie Carpenter Shirley Carrier Maxine Cornwell Jeff Davis

Sara DeWeese

Keresey Dillon Linda Kjenstad John La Barbera Lynne Estabrook Doug Evans Joan Lee Jean Franz Erin Lopez Judy Frazier Lori Maldonado Katrina Gary Lynn & Noel Miles **Rick Gary** Sandy Miller Jason Guerin Michael Murray Bruce Gustafson Linda Nygard The Bryan Halverson Family Jeanette Olmstead Joe Harris Andrew Pritchard The Hashimoto Family Dale Retrum Dennis Hengy Nick Riley Donna Hoffman Bill Ritz Genevieve Jenkins Louise Ronchetto Jason Sakowski **Betty Jones**

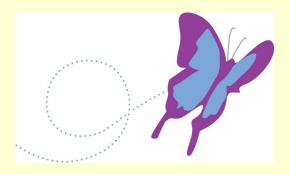
Valerie Sanchez **Rich Schultheis** Mary Seibert **Dorothy Sideris** Bertram Sohl Charlotte Sohl Ed Sutton James Taylor Ann Tegtmeier Steve Tegtmeier Allen Thunselle Linda Thunselle Hank Van Zant Sandy Wasky Tom Watkins Hal Wolfe

Thanks to These People for Serving in April

	Reader	Cantor	Ushers	Counters
4/3	Bill Haglund	Andrea Campbell	Dianna Reynolds Christina Watson	Dale Retrum David Retrum
4/10	Jim Martin	Andrea Campbell		Caryl Harris Joyce Payne
4/17	Vanessa Stevenson	Andrea Campbell	George & Marsha Egbert	Charlotte Driskill Jim Martin
4/24	Charlotte Driskill	Andrea Campbell	Marianne Sakowski	Margie Moeller Doris Morrissey

<u>Altar Guild</u>

- 4/3 Arlene Pollard
- 4/10 Vanessa Stevenson
- 4/17 Alice Roop
- 4/24 Jim Brandon



Altar Flowers

- 4/3 Clausen, Meyer
- 4/10 Buezis, Wolfe
- 4/17 Hansen, Kracy
- 4/24 Egbert, Sandvig, Warnock

