

Bethany Lutheran Church

26418 Mountain Hwy E, Spanaway, WA 98387

“Sent to Serve”



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

January Newsletter 2018

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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

Preparing for 2018

2018 Pledges – Thank you to all who turned in their 2018 pledges. As of the end of the year, 70 households have pledged to support Bethany next year. This number is up from last year, as are the pledges themselves!

Offering Envelopes - If you asked to have offering envelopes, please pick yours up in the narthex. If you forgot to request them, ask for them in the office.

Annual Reports – If you head up a committee or ministry, it's time to think about year-end reports. Please have yours into the office by January 18th. Good information to include is: activities during the year; totals for fundraising, if any; how many volunteers are involved; who is served by your committee or ministry; impact of committee or ministry on church and/or community. All of these reports help make up our Annual Report, which is a snapshot of how the people of Bethany acted as “the church” this past year. How did this “Light on the Prairie” shine? Tell us about it!

Budget Q&A Meetings – There will be two Budget Q&A meetings on Sunday, Jan. 14th and 21st, at 9:15 AM between services. The purpose of these meetings is to acquaint yourselves with the proposed budget that will be presented at the Annual Meeting and to have any questions answered or clarifications made. The budget will be voted on at the Jan. 9th council meeting and will then be available on Sunday Jan. 14th in the narthex.

One Service – There will be only ONE service on Sunday, Jan. 28th at 9:15, followed by the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting - is set for Sunday, Jan. 28, 2018, after the 9:15 service at approximately 10:30 AM. The Annual Report will be presented, elections held, and the budget for 2018 will be voted on. Everyone is welcome to attend. Only those eligible may vote. (Must be a member and have made a contribution of record within the past year. If you are unsure of your eligibility, please contact the office.)

Bethany Kids & More

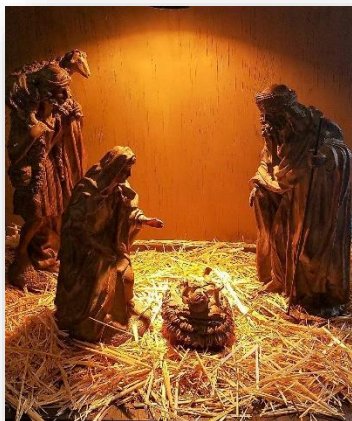
Youth Group News

Bazaar Update: Thank you so much for all of your support for our third annual Scandinavian Bazaar. The youth raised over \$1000 which will support the many ministries and events of the youth throughout the year. We enjoyed the variety of vendors, shoppers and the lovely donated quilt. The quilt raffle alone raised over \$300 and the winner was LINDA KING. Special thanks to Kelli Bacher and Nori Cash for all their work and organization of all the details of the day! We look forward to hosting another bazaar next year.

Youth Group: We resume in January on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Jan. 10th and 24th, at 5:30 PM.



Making Lefsa for the Bazaar



*Nativity Figures donated by Walt & Kathy Birdseye
Lighted Creche made by Dewaine Selzler
Sconces made by Greg Johnson*



Kids' Korner



Thank you to those who attended the Sunday School Christmas program. It was a classic program, with Christmas readings, singing, and a nativity scene. How wonderful to see our young members learning and keeping the traditions of Christmas alive!



*Adaline Pettit in "Carol
Dickens' Christmas"*



Zachary Sandor's Baptism

Men's Breakfast

The January Men's Breakfast will be in Litzer Hall. It will be a nice way to ring in the new year since the first Saturday of 2018, January 6th, is also Three Kings Day. Seems like a nice way to celebrate. The gathering time will be the same, 9:00 AM, with a potluck breakfast.

Holy Happenings

Senior Social

The January Senior Social lunch will be on Thursday, January 18th at 12:00 noon. What are your "New Year's Resolutions," past and present? All are welcome; see you the 18th.



December Senior Social

Festival of the Nativity

We will celebrate Epiphany on January 7th with our annual Festival of the Nativity. Bring your Nativity sets to the fellowship hall for all to enjoy before they get packed up for another year. Bring one, bring two, bring ten! It doesn't have to be a traditional full set; it can be anything depicting the holy family.



"Nativities" made at Senior Social

Beginner's Tai Chi

Beginner's Tai Chi Classes will be held in Litzer Hall starting Tuesday, February 13th at 2:15 PM. Please contact Sallee Johnson, 253-847-0881, for details and information on how to sign up.

Upcoming Events

New Year's Day,

Mon. Jan. 1st, OFFICE CLOSED

Property Meeting

Tues. Jan. 2nd, 7:00 PM, Office

Men's Breakfast

Sat. Jan. 6th, 9:00 AM, Litzer Hall

Festival of the Nativity

Sun. Jan 7th, 9:00 AM, Litzer Hall

Bethany Connect Packing

Sun. Jan. 7th, 10:15, Room #7

Council Meeting

Tues. Jan. 9th, 7:00 PM, Litzer Hall

Youth Group

Wed. Jan. 10 & 24th, 5:30 PM, Litzer Hall

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Mon. Jan. 15th, OFFICE CLOSED

Senior Social

Thurs. Jan. 18th, 12:00 PM, Litzer Hall

Budget Q & A

Sun. Jan. 14th & 21st, Sanctuary

Yahweh Yarners

Sun. Jan. 21st, 9:00 AM, Library

Annual Meeting

Sun. Jan. 28th ONE SERVICE at 9:15
Meeting at 10:30 AM, Sanctuary

Blessing Bag Project

During the month of January, the church will focus on filling 50 Blessing Bags as a community outreach project. The primary ingredients will be food items: breakfast bars, cereal bars, granola bars, protein bars, peanut butter and cheese crackers, single packaged nuts and trail mix, Vienna sausages and foil tuna packs, (not requiring a can opener). We will begin taking donations next Sunday, January 7th. See the Blessing Bag display in the narthex for examples of items to fill the Blessing Bags.

Bits & Pieces

Food Bank News

We are going to begin having a monthly product focus to help everyone participate in providing for the food bank's "urgent needs." For January, the "urgent need" is peanut butter. Please help! This year we have had \$19,000 in donations, and \$7,115.00 of that was from Bethany Lutheran. That is around 38 percent from Bethany Lutheran! Wow! We are serving 1,000-1,200 individuals or approximately 350 families per month. Each family is receiving 36-48 pounds of food, which is a goodly amount compared to most food banks. We are handing out about 15,000 pounds of food per month. We lost a major benefactor (12K per year), but we did pick up a new one - a warehouse that gives us 1-2 pallets of food weekly. We are struggling with our homeless clients. They are wasting a considerable amount of food. Last year a Thrivent Action Team from Bethany made up 25 bags specifically tailored for our homeless clients. It was appreciated by all involved with the food bank. Starting in the new year, we will institute a plan that is more specific for the homeless. We had \$312,000 worth of volunteer labor hours last year. God bless our volunteers! We need them and appreciate them. And God bless our congregation members that so faithfully donate food and money to one of our most valued ministries!



Gift Drive

Community Outreach

Thanks to your generosity, 89 toys and other gifts, plus gift cards were delivered to the Eatonville Family Agency to be used for their Parent Shopping Days event. Another 46 items from the Giving Tree were collected for Bethel School District families. Thank you for your overwhelming response!

Council Members 2017-18

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

Financial Peace

Have we convinced you that FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY really is for you yet? Why is it so important to take control over our money? Dave says there are only three things we can do with money: SPEND it (we've got that one down!), INVEST it (we're learning!), and GIVE it. What? How can we build wealth if we're constantly giving our money away? Dave calls that "The Great Misunderstanding," and it can change your life. The realization that everything we have is a gift from God will reveal the true key to winning – with both your life and your money. There is still time to sign up; do it today! Google Dave Ramsey Financial Peace to sign up and order your class materials.