

# Bethlehem Star

Volume 56 Issue 3

March 2016

## *An Easter Prayer*

*O You Who Comes,*

*who are the hope of the world, give us hope. Give us hope that beyond the worst the world can do there is such a best that not even the world can take it from us, hope that none whom you have loved is ever finally lost, not even to death.*

*O You Who Died*

*in loneliness and pain, suffer to die in us all that keeps us from you and from each other and from becoming as good and as brave as we are called to become. O Lamb of God forgive us.*

*O You Who Rose Again,*

*You Holy Spirit of Christ, arise and live within us now, that we may be your body, that we may be your feet to walk into the world's pain, your hands to heal, your heart to break, if need must be, for love of the world.*

*O Risen Christ, make Christs of us all.*

*Frederick Buechner*

Greetings,

This “Easter Prayer” expresses the deepest meaning of the central event of the Christian faith which we are soon to celebrate. Easter is the celebration of the victory of the Hope of the World which enables us to live with hope. Easter is the remembrance of the one who died for the sake of love in order that we might die to all that separates us from God and one another. Easter is the commemoration of the Risen Christ whose indwelling Spirit empowers us to follow the way of compassion and healing in a broken and hurting world. The meaning of Easter, then, is not simply the celebration, remembrance and commemoration of something that happened long ago, but the promise that God is alive and active in our lives here and now. The meaning of Easter is that the love of God revealed in Christ can be embodied in us, that God seeks to make Christs of us all.

Peace,

Pastor Richard

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### **LENTEN SEASON AT BETHLEHEM**

Lenten Season Midweek Soup Supper and Worship: We gather on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm in Bachman Hall for a simple soup and salad supper. Worship in the sanctuary follows at 7:00pm. We hope you can join in our gatherings March 2nd, 9th and 16th.

### **ADULT EDUCATION**

Sunday morning Adult Bible study will conclude our study of the psalms—Journey through the Psalms—on Sunday, March 16th. There will be no Sunday Adult study on Palm Sunday, March 20 and Easter, March 27. We'll resume in April with a new Bible study.

The Monday Evening Adult Discussion class will resume on Monday, April 4, meeting at 7:00pm with our DVD discussion series on Islam.

### **MEN-IN-MISSION MEETING**

The next Bethlehem Men-in-Mission meeting will be on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room. We will hear and discuss the second part of a two-part audio presentation titled “Men and Grief.” All men are invited.

### **FAITH CIRCLE**

We have another Circle meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> in the Fireside room beginning at 9:30 am. Merle Hower will be our hostess and Ginny Gary will be our Bible Study leader. Please bring any love gifts that you have for Andrea so she can take them with her to the March 5<sup>th</sup> Pacifica Women's Spring Event. Hope to see you all there on Tuesday as we had such a good turnout last month!

# Holy Week Schedule



Sunday, March 20th 10 am

Palm Sunday service in the Sanctuary

Thursday, March 24th 7 pm

Maundy Thursday service in Bachman Hall

Friday, March 25th 7 pm

Good Friday service in the Sanctuary

Saturday, March 26th 2 pm - 5 pm (please sign up)

Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil in the Sanctuary

Sunday, March 27th , 10 am

Resurrection of Our Lord service in the Sanctuary

## A HAPPY AND BLESSED DAY

On Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, little Margaret Kay Will was baptized at Abiding Hope Lutheran Church in Littleton, Colorado, home of her parents Matthew and Melissa Will.

Assisting in the baptism was proud grandpa Pastor Mark Will and baby Margaret's uncles who were sponsors. All the grandparents, aunts Joy and Naomi, and cousins Jonah and Avery were also present.



(Grandma Kathleen, Matthew, Melissa, Margaret Kay, Grandpa Mark)

Family, friends and neighbors gathered at Margaret's home where her parents had a luncheon for family and friends.

All present were honored to share in this special time with the Will family and to welcome Margaret into God's family.



**Easter Sunday - March 27th  
after worship service**

Children are invited to the annual Easter Egg Hunt on the patio. Wear your "Easter Best" if you like and come for the fun!

**Easter Egg Helpers - please bring candies and other goodies to fill the plastic eggs (we have a supply of plastic eggs but more are welcome) to the church office in time for the Egg Hunt. Thank you for your help!**

## SAVE THE DATE(S)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church's  
Vacation Bible School July 25 to 29, 2016 9am-Noon  
Bar B Q Friday July 29<sup>th</sup> 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

The tickets are in for the “Pageant of Our Lord” performance at the Rolling Hills Covenant Church. The date is Palm Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 each, please make checks payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Car pooling arrangements will be available for those who would like to drive or need a ride. We will meet at the church at 4:30 pm.

Please be sure to pick up your See’s Easter Candy order forms this Sunday. The final date for turn in of your orders is March 10th. If we receive all orders earlier than that we may receive the candies early but we should have the candy no later than March 20th.

We now have information on the 2016 events at the Hollywood Bowl.

Thanks to all the groups that have hosted the Soup ‘n Salad dinners on Wednesday nights during Lent. Please join us for the remaining Wednesdays in March at 6 pm in Bachman Hall.

The schedule for the month is: March 2<sup>nd</sup> Paper Rollers

March 9<sup>th</sup> WELCA

March 16<sup>th</sup> Parish Life

We really appreciate the food and fellowship (and not having to prepare dinner!), everyone enjoys the time together.

See you on the patio!

Marianne



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.



## W.E.L.C.A. News

March 2016

Women's Bible Study

**Session 3: Christian Citizenship 101 –**

**Paul's Letter to the Philippians**

**Being of One Mind**



### WELCA Board

The next meeting of the WELCA Board will be held **Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> (for March) after service in an education.** For more information, contact Dianna Reynolds.

### FAITH Circle

Meets **Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. The hostess will be Merle Hower and Bible Study leader will be Ginny Gary. For questions and details call Faith Circle leader, Arlene Pollard.

### PHOEBE Circle

Meets **Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Susan Martin, 11301 Weatherby Road, Rossmoor. Susan will conduct our Bible study. For questions and details? Call Dianna Reynolds. All Women of Bethlehem are welcome.



**Sunday Morning**

**Coffee & Cookies**

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

**Women's 2016 Theme**

**"Serving with Joy"**



### **WELCA's Calendar of Events**

March

**March 5<sup>th</sup>** – Pacifica Women's One-Day Event.

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Christ Lutheran in Pacific Beach, "The Power of M" \$25.00 if registered by 2/28. See a board member for more details and a registration form.

**Love Gifts:** Toilet paper, laundry soap, shampoo, soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, baby foods, instant formula, diapers (newborn to size 4).

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** – ALL WOMEN are hosting the Lenten Soup and Salad Supper.

See Erika to volunteer. Set up starts at 5:00 and clean up help is also needed.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> we will hold our Spring Gathering and General Meeting of WELCA, 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. An inspiring program and light lunch will be included.

**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!

*Check out Pacifica Partners on line*

[www.pacificawomen.org](http://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 March for **Pasta, Rice, Box Potatoes and Beans, any kind. Of course any cereals** are needed daily. Continuous donated items of warm clothes, gloves, scarfs and 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







3/9/1957 Vern & Margie Reynolds

3/12/2005 Erik & Melissa Sandvig

3/15/1997 John, Jr. & Susan Buezis

3/26/2005 Jeff & Leslie Moeller

3/10 Elizabeth Carrillo

3/4 Lon Warnock

3/6 Veronique Sohl

3/11 Ron Clausen

3/7 Lee Rolf

3/9 Joyce Ritz

3/17 Ann Tegtmeier

3/10 Sandy Retrum

3/10 Caleb Sandvig

3/22 Jason Sakowski

3/12 Dick Spies

3/17 Shary Reed

3/29 Bill Haglund

3/18 Kevin Gustafson

3/20 Doris Morrissey

3/28 Julie Kizziar

3/28 Susan Martin

3/29 Linda Kirkpatrick

3/31 Cyndi Rollefson



Gladyce Ackerman

Keresey Dillon

Linda Kjenstad

Valerie Sanchez

Julie Anderson

Lynne Estabrook

John La Barbera

Rich Schultheis

Melody Andreoli

Doug Evans

Joan Lee

Mary Seibert

Elaine Asbury

Jean Franz

Erin Lopez

Dorothy Sideris

Amy Bachman

Judy Frazier

Lori Maldonado

Bertram Sohl

Colleen Bidwell

Katrina Gary

Lynn & Noel Miles

Charlotte Sohl

Arthur Brandon

Rick Gary

Sandy Miller

Ed Sutton

Charlie Buezis

Jason Guerin

Michael Murray

James Taylor

Luelle Buezis

Bruce Gustafson

Linda Nygard

Ann Tegtmeier

Elinor Blum

The Bryan Halverson Family

Jeanette Olmstead

Steve Tegtmeier

Bob Campbell

Joe Harris

Andrew Pritchard

Allen Thunselle

Laurie Carpenter

The Hashimoto Family

Dale Retrum

Linda Thunselle

Shirley Carrier

Dennis Hengy

Nick Riley

Hank Van Zant

Maxine Cornwell

Donna Hoffman

Bill Ritz

Sandy Wasky

Jeff Davis

Genevieve Jenkins

Louise Ronchetto

Tom Watkins

Sara DeWeese

Betty Jones

Jason Sakowski

Hal Wolfe



## Thanks to These People for Serving in March

	Reader	Cantor	Ushers	Counters
3/6	Charlotte Driskill	Dick Hansen	Merle Hower Jim & Susan Martin Paul Meyer	Lulu Meyer Paul Meyer
3/13	Alice Roop	Dick Hansen	Lana Dieter Dianna Reynolds Vanessa Stevenson Christina Watson	George Egbert Marsha Egbert
3/20	Dianna Reynolds	Dick Hansen	Alex Carrillo Dianna Reynolds Harold Snell	Andrea Campbell Bob Campbell
3/27	Eric Dobberteen	Dick Hansen	George & Marsha Egbert	Dick Hansen Alice Roop

### Altar Guild

3/6 Alice Roop  
3/13 Marge Hargrove  
3/20 Christina Watson  
3/27 Andrea Campbell

### Altar Flowers

3/6 Ritz, Zarkos  
3/13 Bachman, Sandvig  
3/20 Gustafson, Riach  
3/27 Hansen, Martin

