



Bethlehem Star

June 2021

From the Pastor's Desk...

One of my favorite books of faith-based poetry is "Seasons of a Lifetime" by Gerhard E. Frost. I return to this beloved book, time and time again, on different occasions, for different reasons. I'd like to share one of his poems for the season of summer, quite appropriate as summer officially begins this month. It's entitled, "Home".

*Home is where you are
even when you're not;
where you unbutton whatever is pinching you,
loosen whatever is choking you,
set down whatever is breaking you,
and tell whatever is bothering you.*

*Home is where someone is expecting you,
where your chair, your plate,
your bed are always kept for you,
where a memory, a plan, a dream, a laugh
or a tear is freely shared with you.*

*Home is where you let up and let down,
where you stop hiding and let yourself be found,
where you quit being someone else
and are just your needy self.*

Seasons of a Lifetime: A Treasury of Meditations (copyright 1989)

Gerhard E. Frost

Many of us have spent a lot more time in our "homes" over these past 15 months and recently, many of you may be venturing outside of your "homes" a bit more these days. There are a variety of emotions and experiences tied to the word "home", our pandemic experiences have added more layers to our understanding of home. There are many scriptural passages that speak of the comfort of home, whether it's a place prepared for us in God's house (John 14:2) or God's home is among mortals (Revelation 21:3) and many others. There is a sense of connection, of relationship; as in Frost's poem and in scripture. I pray that Bethlehem Lutheran is a comforting home for you, where you experience encouragement, love, worth, forgiveness, and so much more...and not only that you experience these yourself but that you feel empowered and encouraged to share these with others. For the home of God is not to be limited to a particular building or feeling but is to be shared with others and the world. As we enter into the summer season, may the home we share as people of God, bring you comfort and joy, mercy and peace, and so much more.

Blessings,

Pastor Jennifer Schultz

Worship Updates

Indoor In-Person Worship has resumed on Sundays at 10:00 am. If you would like to attend worship, please e-mail or call the church office by Friday at 10:00 am. All attendees must follow our current protocols, including wearing a face mask and signing in. You may now park in either the back or front parking lots. We will be celebrating communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We will continue to record worship services and make them available on YouTube (search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos, CA and click on Videos), the website (www.blcla.org), and the Church Facebook page (www.facebook.com search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos, CA). Since we are recording the services on Sunday mornings, the recordings won't be available to view until early Sunday afternoons.

Holy Communion schedule has been adjusted this month, we'll celebrate communion during worship on June 6 and 27.

Would you like to contribute towards and dedicate in honor of a celebration or in memory of a loved one? We have 2 fresh flower bouquets for every Sunday worship service and if you would like to contribute and dedicate a bouquet, please e-mail or call the church office to sign up. Flowers are available to take home following the Sunday service.

Tithes and Offerings: Check out the church website www.blcla.org and there you will find that you can give electronically to the church through Paypal or Debit or Credit Card. You'll find the Paypal Donate button on the Homepage. FYI, PayPal charges a service fee (2.9% + \$0.30) that is deducted from each donation. We are grateful for your continued generous support of BLC's ministries. Your financial gifts sustain these ministries of BLC and beyond. We continue to receive your financial gifts through the mail, in person, and now electronically through PayPal.

Wednesday Zoom Check Ins have resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. These sessions are available to anyone who would like to share in a time to check-in with one another, hear scripture, and pray together. There is no commitment to join every week, join when you can, in the past, these sessions have lasted between 20-30 minutes. For those that have been a part of these Zoom sessions in the past, you'll continue to be on the e-mail list...if you have not been a part of them and would like to join, please talk to Pastor Jennifer and she will e-mail you the Zoom link/sign-in information.

Paper Rollers

Paper Rollers has resumed on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning at 8:00 am in Bachman Hall. Participants are asked to wear a face mask and follow physical distancing and cleaning protocols. If you would like to participate or learn more, please give the church office a call. This group will be busy for quite some time thanks to all of the papers that have been dropped off. Thank you for your donations.

Church Council Meeting

The next council meeting has been changed to Sunday, June 6th following worship.



The next **Bethlehem Men-In-Mission** meeting will be on Saturday, June 5th, 2021, at 9:00 A.M in the Fireside Room. We will continue with a new subject of a study of the **Book of Romans from the Master Builders Bible for Men**. The reading for this week will be Chapters 1:18 through 2:32 with discussion on verses 1:18 through 32 / **The Bad News**. Please note that COVID-19 Protocols will be observed and no refreshments will be served. All men of Bethlehem are invited.

Parish Life invites you to:



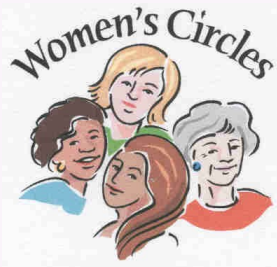
SAVE THE DATE, JULY 11TH
FOLLOWING THE CHURCH SERVICE.
JOIN US FOR A PICNIC IN THE COURTYARD
FOLLOWED BY AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL
WITH LOTS OF ENTERTAINMENT!!!
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



Community service, Bethlehem was represented at First Street Seal Beach

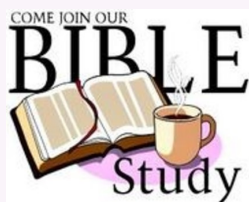


June 2021



Faith Circle: We have been invited to join Phoebe Circle for a joint meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday June 8, at the home of Christina Watson, and led by Erika Gary. A Zoom option will be offered for those who prefer. Offerings can be sent directly to Christina Watson, Treasurer. For questions and details, call Andrea Campbell.

Phoebe Circle: We will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8. Christina Watson will host at her home and Erika Gary will lead the study. A Zoom option will be offered for those who prefer. Offerings can be sent directly to Christina Watson, Treasurer. For questions and details, call Jeanne Sandvig.



The study is in the June issue of Gather magazine.



Sunday Morning Coffee & Cookies

Coffee service will resume when conditions allow.



June 8 -- Joint Faith and Phoebe Circles meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Christina Watson. Zoom option available for those who prefer.

June 19 -- Judy's Kitchen at Congregational Church 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

June 27 — WELCA Board meeting after church service

July 10 — Pacifica WELCA will hold a Zoom event beginning at 1:00 p.m. and Pastor Stephanie Lape from Cross & Crown Lutheran Church in Rancho Cucamonga will be our presenter. She has written a book titled "Beckoned, Hearing God's Call to Deeper Faith".

Aug 10 — Women of Bethlehem BBQ at the home of Melissa Sandvig at 5:00 p.m.

Check out Pacifica Partners on line
www.pacificawomen.org
click on news & events



Join Women of the ELCA on Facebook

Save the date!

Sunday, September 12, 2021

“God’s Work - Our Hands” Sunday

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



Sept. 12
2021

Opportunity to share and participate in another service activity.

Remember 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019?

Well, 2021 is here and once again we shall gather for God’s work.

More information forthcoming as we plan.

Let’s do this work together to make this a day of service!

Thank you, Your Social Ministry Committee

Lutheran Social Services-Long Beach Community Care Center - Monthly Report



Dear Bethlehem Family and Friends,

Thanks, Bethlehem family and friends for nice assortment of items collected for the Homeless Bags this past month!

We are asking you for your continuing help during **June 2021** for **items for HOMELESS BAGS WHICH ARE STILL URGENTLY NEEDED DAILY.**

These items are Cereal, Peanut Butter (small size jars), Cup of Soup, all pop-top lids such as tuna, span, applesauce, Jell-O, puddings, Vienna sausages, Ravioli, Mac & Cheese, soups, canned beans, and granola bars. Even "surprise" food items are welcomed.

Continuous donated items of pasta, spaghetti sauces, any kind of individual cookies, bars or candy, individual size cereal bars, diced fruit cups and juice boxes are always appreciated.

Socks (new or gently used) are always needed for men, women, or children.

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



Double your Gift in a special Fundraiser for
Lutheran Social Services, Southern California

0.5% of your purchase will be donated back to
LSS, just follow the simple directions below
and generate SMILES across LSS Southern
California

Shop Amazon and help generate Smiles across LSS Southern California

Go to Amazon for your next purchase and
a portion of your proceeds will benefit
the programs and projects of
LSS Southern California.

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon Account
3. Choose "Lutheran Social Services of
Southern California" as your
charitable organization

Welcome to
amazonsmile
Prime

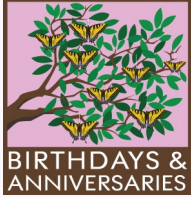
VISIT AMAZON TODAY

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2225798>

Shop Away!

Thank You for caring,
Bethlehem Social Ministry Committee
Andrea, Bob, and Crew

JUNE



6/3	Margie Reynolds	6/9	Irene Cooper	6/9	Rae Kinney
6/9	Brody Sandvig	6/11	Jennifer Schultz	6/12	Laura Clausen
6/12	David Retrum	6/13	Jared Gustafson	6/19	Paul Scott
6/26	Julie Joplin	6/28	Genevieve Jenkins	6/29	Jeff Cooper

6/2/1986	Fritz and Shirley Campbell	6/3/1972	Bob and Andrea Campbell
6/7/1975	Ken and Christina Watson	6/16/1990	Brad and Vanessa Stevenson
6/19/1976	Kevin and Nancy Godfrey	6/19/2004	Darren and Sarah Sandvig
6/21/1958	Paul and Lulu Meyer		



Julie Anderson
Elaine Asbury
Amy Bachman
Kevin Betts
Kate & Steve
John Buezis
Fritz Campbell
Shirley Campbell
Caren Cantafio
Laurie Carpenter
Linnea Clayton
Irene Cooper
Maxine Cornwell
Sara DeWeese
Katrina Gary
Marge Hargrove

Janet Harris
Joe Harris
Diana Hayden
Gaylord Hollister
Jason Jackson
Genevieve Jenkins
Betty Jones
Dean Kinzel
Julie Kizziar
Barbara Krause
Joan Lee
Jill Leverantz
William Lewis
Erin Lope
Patricia Lueckert
John Maio
Lawrence Massey
Jessica McIntire
Hal Miller
Pete Miller

Ethan Mohr
Dan Opoien
Coler Pearce
Retta Rasmussen
Shary Reed
Dale Retrum
Sandy Retrum
Hattie Stretz
Leslie Summers
Ed Sutton
Pauline Taylor
Ann Tegtmeier
Steve Tegtmeier
Candie Toth
Tom Watkins
Jerry Whitmore
Nancy & H.R. Williamson
Marynell Wolfe
Mitsuko Yamamoto
Margaret Ziegler

