



Bethany Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center

December 2024

Bethany Lutheran Church
1000 W. 26th Street South
Wichita, KS 67217
Church Phone 316-265-7415
BECC Phone 316-265-3033
www.bethanylutheranwichita.org

Worship Service
Sunday - 9:00 AM
ECC chapel -
Wed.- 9:15 AM
**Sunday School &
Adult Bible Study**
Sunday - 10:30 AM
Pastor:
Nicholas Cordt

Early Childhood Center
Serving children ages
6-Weeks through
Five Years
Program Director
Danita Seamars
316-265-3033

December 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Turns out, a great way to force myself to get my monthly newsletter article is done in a timely manner is to take the family on a cruise. I'm typing this less than 5 hours before our flight to Florida departs. We won't return until 3 days after the Newsletter needs to be sent out so it's either write my article now or face the wrath...

Another challenge has been getting the hymns, readings, and bulletin done for 5 services (3 while I'm gone and 2 right after we get back). All this work didn't seem so daunting when my parents, brother and his family, and my family scheduled this vacation over a year ago. Now that it's crunch time, I've decided I'm never scheduling a 10-day family vacation right before Advent.

But as much as I like to worry and stress about things, I need to remember that this is God's church and He has an admin assistant, elders, guest pastor, and lay leaders that are more than capable of ensuring that things run smoothly in my absence.

That's something we all need to remember as this Advent and Christmas season begins to ramp up. This is God's church and He is the one that is in control. That doesn't mean that we can ignore our vocations or shirk our responsibilities. Our job is to trust in God and look to Him for strength as we strive to accomplish all that He has called us to do. So plan, prepare, celebrate, and always remember the reason for the season.

Yours in Christ our Savior,



Women's Bible Study meets on the **1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Bethany in the Library.** We are finishing the current study on Dec. 5th. Meeting again in January with new series. See Jenny Colby or Doris Cannon for more information.

Men's Bible Study: 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 9:00am at the church. Will meet in the Meet and Eat Room. Motivational/Inspirational Gathering. All welcome! For more information, contact Curtis Tucker (316-942-5060) or David Funke (316-516-7775)

Seniors' Activities: Breakfast: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 9:00am at Country Café, 2804 S. Seneca.
Walking and Talking group: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 1:00-2:00pm, in the Activity Center.

Pastoral Visits and Contact: Pastor Nick Cordt is delighted to visit: to get acquainted, have devotion and prayer, and talk and pray over matters of concern in life. Please, feel free to contact the church office between 9:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday, to arrange a day and time to do so. If Pastor is not available at the time you call, leave a message with the office secretary, Julie O'Brien, or send an email to pastornick@bethanylutheranwichita.org



Merrick, Jacob J. (Jacob)	1-Dec
Obermueller, Roger A.	2-Dec
Horn, Andrew J.	3-Dec
Pasewark, Vicki L. (Vicki)	6-Dec
Ohmie, Robert R. (Robert)	6-Dec
Parmenter, Michael G. (Mike)	6-Dec
Obermueller, Erik A. (Erik)	15-Dec
Schrahl, Timothy G. (Tim)	15-Dec
Schrahl, Chelsea A. (Chelsea)	19-Dec
Hasenbank, Scott C.	19-Dec
Kahmeyer, Harriette	22-Dec
Zindel, Troy A. (Troy)	23-Dec
Obermueller, Marilyn M. (Marilyn)	25-Dec
Parmenter, Leah M. (Leah)	26-Dec
Vinroe, Dorisann L. (Dorisann)	26-Dec
Bolin, Toni	29-Dec

Miller, Archer	18-Dec
Shipman, Bailee R.	15-Dec
Dehncke, Rhonda E.	23-Dec
Schott, Joshua M.	11-Dec
Obermueller, Roger A.	18-Dec
Ohmie, Robert R. (Robert)	26-Dec
Baldrige, Margaret D.	14-Dec
Tucker, Michelle (Michelle)	4-Dec
Nienie, Doris A. (Doris)	29-Dec

 **DECEMBER**
 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Lang, Dean A. and Nina S. 1-Dec



Greeters

December

1: Lois Brockmeyer
 8: Jim & Vera Brummett
 15: Doris Cannon
 22: Jenny Colby
 29: Dean & Diane Crossman

January

5: Laurie Carrell, Marilyn & Arlee
 12: Vickie Collins
 19: Linda Firsching
 26: Esther Fisher

You are the first point of contact for our guests! Welcome them by smiling. If this is their first visit to our church, thank them for joining us in worship. Alert one of our ushers that they are first time visitors so that any questions regarding our service can be answered. If you cannot be greeter on the Sunday you are scheduled, please talk to Doris Cannon and she will contact someone else. If you would prefer not to be a greeter, please tell Doris.

Children's Sunday School Teaching Schedule



Opening in the back of the Sanctuary / Lesson and Activity time following in the Youth room in the basement

Dec 1 Tonya Cordt, Helper-Deb Welty	Jan 5 Tonya Cordt, Helper-Deb Welty
Dec 8 Deb Welty, Helper-Julie O'Brien	Jan 12 Deb Welty, Helper-Julie O'Brien
Dec 15 Julie O'Brien, Helper-Jeanetta Bolin	Jan 19 Julie Obrien, Helper-Jeanetta Bolin
Dec 22 Jeanetta Bolin, Helper-Tonya Cordt	Jan 26 Jeanetta Bolin, Helper-Tonya Cordt
Dec 29 Julie O'Brien, Helper-Jeanetta Bolin	



Altar Guild

Fill

Nov 3 & Dec 1	Margaret Baldrige & Marcia Hampton
Nov 10 & Dec 8	Mable Moore
Nov 17 & Dec 15	Lois Adams & Tammie Hatfield
Nov 24 & Dec 22	Laurie Carrell
Dec 29	Doris Cannon

Cleanup

Julie O'Brien
 Toni Bolin
 Melanie Schreffler & Fern Neumiller
 Rhonda Dehncke & Vivian Mailly
 Vicki Pasewark

Anyone who would like to help with Altar Guild, please contact Doris Cannon.



Head Usher – Alan Keimig

December

David Funke
 Roger Obermueller
 Eric Schieber

January

Braden Cordt
 Bruce Kester
 Doug Meyer

If you cannot be usher on the Sunday/month you have been assigned, please talk to Alan Keimig. If you would prefer not to be an usher, please tell Doris Cannon. Or if you would like to be an usher and you're not on the list, contact Doris.



December

1: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
 8: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
 15: Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty
 22: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
 29: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick

January

5: Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty
 12: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
 19: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
 26: Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty



There is a lot of **behind the scenes work** that is done for our *worship services, Bible Studies, Children's and Youth Ministries, greeters, ushers, altar guild, music ministry*, and so many more ministries that we need help with. Most of these do not take much time out of our busy schedules to be part of. **Is God calling you to be part of something but you don't know where to start?** Be an usher! Prepare the communion! These are very important jobs that only require a little bit of you. Please contact an elder listed in this newsletter to see where YOU can be of service to God's kingdom.

Stewardship Report:



October and Year To Date				
	Bethany Lutheran Church		Early Childhood Center	
	October	Jan. - Oct.	October	Jan. - Oct.
Revenues	\$20,932.81	\$249,017.97	\$27,440.46	\$236,976.55
Expenses	\$26,629.72	\$239,500.19	\$48,492.37	\$279,119.83
Balance	-\$5,696.91	\$9,517.78	-\$21,051.91	-\$42,143.28
TOTAL CHURCH BALANCE AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2024				-\$32,625.50

The Management Team was aware of the financial difficulties faced by the ECC due to the construction, inspection, and final clearance of the new infant room all being late. Those delays caused the loss of several children and infants that were waiting for the infant room to open. The Team planned to address the problem by requesting the congregation approve using a Line of Credit to serve as a safety net for the ECC. That net is in place and as of last week some funds have been drawn down.

Trustees Report

Thanksgiving is upon us! We truly have many things to be thankful for and praise Him!

As you enter/exit the south doors, you might notice freshly painted doors and trim. Another item to update and elongate our aging building. This has been funded through your gracious giving to the “ Legacy “campaign. New guttering is scheduled post Thanksgiving, weather permitting. Guttering on the south canopy and Narthex.

We have 11 more months of giving not needed for the original scope. Prayerfully, donations will continue throughout.

Upon working through the painting preparation, we have found the entrance door frame is terribly rusted. This opening was new in 1989. This needs to be addressed in the near future. Stayed tuned for updates. Efforts now go inside to attack needed repairs and maintenance.

Thanks go out to those that donate time and talent!

Sunday Mornings:

**Service 9:00AM Fellowship Time 10:00 to 10:30AM
Sunday School/Bible Study 10:30-11:30AM**

LIBRARY: Robert Bolin leads an in-depth study from CPH on the Book of Revelations.

MEET & EAT ROOM- Mark Dehncke leads a study. Currently studying other religions and how they differ from the Lutheran church beliefs.

ACTIVITY CENTER- Pastor Nick leads a class. Topic changes. Just finished study on Reformation.



YOUTH AND KIDS - SUNDAY SCHOOL includes ages Preschool to age 17. Teachers are Deb Welty, Julie O’Brien, Jeannetta Bolin and Tonya Cordt. An opening is held at 10:30 in the back of the Sanctuary with music led by Sandy Tope. Lesson and activity is in the Youth Room in the basement.



Early Childhood Center

Things continue to improve in our ECC here at Bethany. Enrollment has ticked slightly upward, currently giving us 5 babies in our Infant room, which has 8 spaces total. We expect this situation to improve after the holidays. We recently lost our cook, who moved on to other things, but we are not hiring anyone for that job right now -- we are covering those cooking duties with other staff. This saves a few dollars on expenses. We are losing one of our Teachers in the Infant room as she moves on to a better-paying job that's closer to home. We will begin the hiring process to replace her in January, so we are temporarily moving a couple of other Teachers around to cover that position for the next few weeks. You need to know that in her exit interview,

that Teacher praised our ECC as "...an amazing place to work, with the best management!" She would like to come back if her family finances improve, and we would like to have her back.

You may have noticed our new fence around the expanded playground. This new, better-quality fence both replaces worn-down fencing AND it includes more area for a bigger playground. Being taller, it gives us more security against fence-jumpers. This fence was paid for by the daycare expansion grant we got from the Children's Cabinet & Trust Fund, along with \$500 added by a memorial gift.

Please keep praying for our continued enrollment growth. THANK YOU for your support!

Jim Merrick, Team Leader, Early Childhood Ministry Team of Bethany



Today was our Thanksgiving dinner. Teachers made the food and it was soo yummy.

What do you do when it's rainy and gloomy outside? You have a glow in the dark dance party!!!



Movie Night and Second Saturday Cleaning (*First Saturday in December*)

Second Saturday Cleaning will be *First* Saturday in

December: December 7th, 9:00am

Movie Night will be December 7th, 7:00pm

Will be a Christmas movie!

If you have suggestions of movies for future months, contact Deb Welty.





Bethany's Garden - Come Grow with Us!

Fall is almost over and the official first day of winter is December 21. The transition into winter can cause uncertainty of what is to come. I was harvesting gallons of cherry tomatoes up to November 20. For the growing season to last so long I was able to harvest more. I will be picking eighteen cabbages the last week in November. Toni and I planted a total of 102 daffodils, irises and tulips. The daffodils will bloom in February and March as the first sign of spring.

The history of the garden started on April 2, 2016 with six raised beds. The following members dug the well including: Mark Welty, Dwan Welty, Chuck Payne, Robert Ohmie, David Funke, Bruce Kester and Dale Kester. Dale Kester made the Community Garden sign over the entrance of the garden. Robert Ohmie and Mark Welty built the six raised beds. In the beginning, 2016, the garden was 126 sq. ft. For the past four years (2021-2024) we have expanded each year and now the garden is 1,413 sq. ft. of growing space. Now it is time for the soil to rest through the winter. So, it can rejuvenate for the next growing season. Next month I'll write about my history working in the garden.

As Always, Vicky Collins 316-771-1207

Fly Fishing Club

The fly fishing club met on Saturday, November 16, and spent the time practicing casting for accuracy. Those present were Doug, Dwan, Robert, Mark and Alan and when finished we were all quite good at casting to somewhere close to our target. Trout season begins December 1 so our next outing will be chasing trout. The location will be either Slough Creek (Wichita), Pratt or Kanapolis. The weather will determine the location. We are planning on Wednesday, December 4 and/or Wednesday, December 18th.

Any questions please talk with Doug, Robert or Dwan.

December 8th



**Church Service at 9:00am
followed by Voters' Meeting
and Sunday School**

Potluck at 11:45am

Main Dish (Ham) Provided

Bring Side or Dessert

Enjoy the Fellowship

Lutheran Women in Mission

No meeting in December. ON SUNDAY, December 15, LWML will be having a **BAKE SALE** following our Worship Service in the Activity Center. Proceeds from the sale will be split between helping our youth toward their expenses for next years National Youth Gathering and Mites. LWML will again have cake, cookie, muffin and brownie mixes available the week before for anyone who wishes to do some baking for the sale. Aluminum pans will also be made available. Any other donations to the bake sale are also welcomed. Your contributions of baked items can be brought to the church on Saturday, the 14th between 1:00-3:00pm or on Sunday before church service.

LWML continues to collect eyeglasses, sunglasses, reading glasses and soft glass cases for our empty box. If you have any glasses to contribute, please bring them and place them in the chest across from the church office. We sent another box of 18 eyeglasses, 5 sunglasses and 11 soft cases the end of November. Thank you to all for your continued contributions to MOST Ministries.

THERE ARE STILL openings on the altar flower calendar if you wish to furnish flowers. Just pick a date, write it on the flower calendar and let Ruth Valdez know (316)213-0177.

MITES - Please feel free to check out our table in the Narthex and pick up your own MITE box to help support our missions.

QUILTING GROUP has been busy. There have already been 34 quilts finished for this year - that's after the 169 that were sent to Lutheran World Relief in October!



HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

Lutheran Hour Ministries

is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nations - and the Nations to the Church*. Lutheran Hour Ministries produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries. LHM's flagship program, **The Lutheran Hour**, is the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It airs weekly on nearly 1,800 stations. **Tune in locally Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM (88.7AM)**. For more information, visit www.lhm.org or call 1-800-876-9880.

Westside UMC Food Pantry

1313 W Lydia St. We are still collecting non-perishable food items for Westside United Methodist's food pantry. If you would like to donate, place items in the chest on the table in the "Donation Hall" or in the large tub just under the table. Food is handed out at Westside Church on Wednesdays, 9:30-11:00am.



Southwest Neighborhood Association meets the fourth Tuesday of the month, 7pm at Bethany except November and December. We look forward to seeing you and bring a neighbor or two. There is plenty of room. *Contact Darlene Nuse for more information.*



SWNA Annual Neighborhood Breakfast

8am to 11am

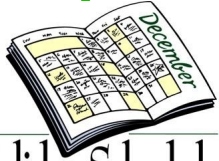
FREE BREAKFAST

Bethany Lutheran Church
1000 W 26th St South

December 14th

SouthWichita.com

316-260-0223



Holiday Schedule

Upcoming Holiday Schedule

(Events happening in addition to regular Sunday morning schedule)

Tue. Dec. 3	8:45 AM	Circuits 10 & 11 Winkel (Monthly gathering of Pastors)
Wed. Dec. 4	5:45 PM	Advent Soup Supper
	6:00 PM	Bells Practice
	7:00 PM	Wednesday Evening Advent Service
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed. Dec. 11	5:45 PM	Advent Soup Supper
	6:00 PM	Bells Practice
	7:00 PM	Wednesday Evening Advent Service
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice
Sat. Dec. 14	8:00 AM	SWNA Neighborhood Breakfast
Wed. Dec. 18	5:45 PM	Advent Soup Supper
	6:00 PM	Bells Practice
	7:00 PM	Wednesday Evening Advent Service
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice
Tue. Dec. 24	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/ Holy Communion
Wed. Dec. 25	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Service w/ Holy Communion (Office/ECC Closed. No other activities scheduled)



Bethany Youth Will Be Serving Advent Meals on:

December 4 Vegetable Beef

December 11 Chili

December 18 Chicken Noodle

Freewill offering for youth gathering in 2025.



The "College Age Bible Study" will be meeting each Tuesday combined with the "Young Adults Group" at 6:47pm. They will be studying Romans. T.O.T.(Theology On Tap) meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 6:00-8:00pm at Old School Tap House, 210 E. Kechi Road, Kechi, KS 67067. T.O.T is a Social time and a discussion about a theological or spiritual topic. Some of the topics that have been discussed recently are: Social Justice, End Times and

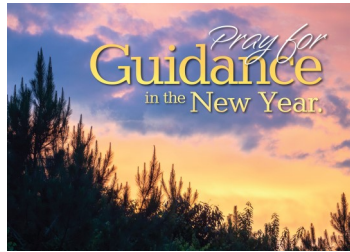
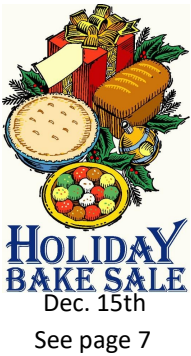
the book of Revelation, Gender & Identity, Angels and Demons and Ask the Pastor Night! Operation Christmas Child donations needed: Shoes, small toys, hygiene supplies, school supplies, flashlights, sewing kits. Drop off your items at Fairmount!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Dec 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sun. Worship w/ C 10am Fellowship Time 10:30am SS & Bible Cl 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Circuit Winkl 10am LWML - Quilting 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am ECC Chapel . 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 5:45pm Soup Supper 6pm Bells - Practice 7pm Worship - Advent 7:30pm Choir - Practic 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Men's Fellowship 3pm KCSL - Kansas Ch 7pm Women's Bible St 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am LWML Quilting
8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sun. Worship w/ C 10am Fellowship Time 10:30am SS & Bible Cl 11:30am Congregation 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am LWML - Quilting 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am ECC Chapel . 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 5:45pm Soup Supper 6pm Bells - Practice 7pm Worship - Advent 7:30pm Choir - Practic 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Men's Fellowship 7pm Women's Bible St 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 6pm A.C./Kitchen Rese 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6am SWNA Breakfast 9am 2nd Saturday Wor 9am LWML Quilting
15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sun. Worship w/ C 10am Fellowship Time 10:30am SS & Bible Cl 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am LWML - Quilting 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am ECC Chapel . 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 5:45pm Soup Supper 6pm Bells - Practice 7pm Worship - Advent 7:30pm Choir - Practic 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Men's Fellowship 7pm Women's Bible St 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am LWML Quilting
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29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sun. Worship w/ C 10am Fellowship Time 10:30am SS & Bible Cl 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am LWML - Quilting 	Jan 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE/ECC Closed 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Men's Fellowship 7pm Women's Bible St 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm GPWaT (God's Pe 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am LWML Quilting



Sunday Mornings
Service at 9:00 AM
(also online: Facebook Live, YouTube)
Fellowship time:
10:00AM to 10:30AM
Sunday School/Bible Study
10:30AM to 11:30AM

Church Office Hours
Open: 8:30am
Closed for Lunch: 12:00 - 1:00p.m.
Closed: 5:00 p.m.



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 Wichita, KS 67217



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 Bethany Lutheran
 Church & Early
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