



Bethany Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center

March, 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.- 9:30 AM

Sunday School &

Adult Bible Study

Sunday - 10:30 AM

Pastor:

Nicholas Cordt

Early Childhood Center

Serving children ages

One through Five

Program Director

Danita Seamars

316-265-3033

March 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						

March Newsletter

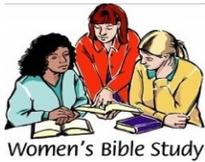
2024 is a 'leap year' which means that February has an extra day at the end of it. Yet I am still writing this article at the last possible moment. I'll spare you the laundry list of excuses. (If you're curious, just refer back to the first paragraph of my previous 6-8 newsletter articles). Life gets busy and things we don't expect often come up at the most inopportune times.

There are some days where I dream of all the free time I'll have in 25 years when I retire. But in talking with many of our retired members, it turns out that many are even busier now than when they were still working full time. Where we run into problems is worrying more about the time we (don't) have instead of what we're doing with it.

The word for that is 'priorities'. When family, coworkers, friends, church members, the dog, all feel like they should be our number one focus, we're forced to decide who is going to get our time and when. I heard a quote recently that I need to print and pin to the bulletin board in my office: "The only people that will remember how much time you spent at the office are your kids." Hearing that was the best reality check I've had in a long time. But it's a great reminder for all of us to take a moment or two and reflect on what really matters and to prioritize the people and things that truly need our attention.

With Easter fast approaching, we can take solace that Jesus made us His number one priority. With throngs of people surrounding Him, He never lost focus on what He came to do. Were people disappointed that He didn't go or do what they wanted Him to? Absolutely! But He never let the world's opinions sway His priorities and neither should we.

In Christ,



Women's Bible Study meets on the **1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Bethany.** Current study is "All Things New, A Study on 2 Corinthians" from The Living Room Series by Kelly Minter. See Jenny Colby or Doris Cannon for more information. Come and join us and bring a friend.

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, David Funke or send an email to pastornick@bethanylutheranwichita.org



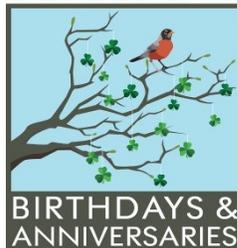
Seniors' Activities: Breakfast: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 9:00am at Country Café, 2804 S. Seneca. **"God's People: Walking and Talking":** Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 1:00-2:00pm, in the Activity Center and the Dining Room. Temporarily walking in the sanctuary while Activity Center is being used for ECC.

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 on Wednesdays, 9:30-11:00am.

Hayes, Jackson C.	3/2
Tucker, Tisha L.	3/2
O'Brien, Julie L.	3/3
Crossman, Dean	3/4
Puls, Linda K.	3/4
Wenger, Patricia L.	3/4
Hampton Jr., Melvin C. (Curtis)	3/5
Stupasky, Emma A.	3/6
Francis, Justyn R.	3/7
Anton, Jason W.	3/11
Bolin, Breeanna M.	3/13
Shipman, Stacy R.	3/13
Owen, David W.	3/14
Bolin Jr., Billy J.	3/15
Zindel, Ashlee L.	3/17
Williamson, Ashley L.	3/18
Brummett, Vera K.	3/20
Cordt, Nicholas R.	3/20
Lang, Nina S.	3/26
Willis, Rosa N.	3/26
Bolin, Alex M.	3/27
Mellard, Megan M.	3/28
Williamson, Kellimarie G.	3/28
Lewis, Ava R. (Ava)	3/29
Terhune, Jaxen C.	3/31
Williamson, Brittanie M.	3/31

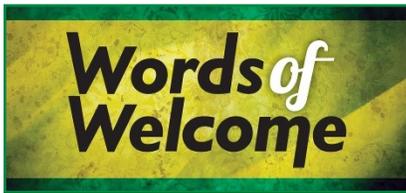


MARCH



Schrahl, Timothy G. and Joni L.	3/3	34 yrs
Mellard II, Richard W. and Shelley L.	3/12	36 yrs
Fisher, Joshua D. and Erlita B.	3/22	27 yrs

Welty, Linda D.	3/5
Shipman, Colt W.	3/13
Edgar, Kelsea N.	3/14
Edwards, Bryli L.	3/14
Taylor, Nicole L.	3/14
Albright, Keely B.	3/18
Willis, Rosa N.	3/18
Kester, Bruce J.	3/20
Parmenter, Rachel A.	3/20
Tucker, Tisha L.	3/20
Wise, Sidney L.	3/21
Cordt, Braden L.	3/25
Lang, Susan M.	3/25
Stupasky, Crystal N.	3/25
Mishler, Glen P.	3/26
Vinroe, Richard L.	3/28
Brockmeyer, Lois L.	3/29



Greeters

March

3: Susan Lang
 10: Denise Lewis & Ava
 17: Vivian Mailly
 24: Jim & Leona Merrick
 31: Ron & Dian Merrick

April

7: Tim Merrick
 14: Doug & Sheri Meyer
 21: Dale & Sylvia Moore
 28: Larry & Mable Moore

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 have, 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, class following and Activity time in Youth room in basement

March 3	Ruth Valdez	April 7	Ruth Valdez
March 10	Deb Welty	April 14	Deb Welty
March 17	Ruth Valdez	April 21	Ruth Valdez
March 24	Deb Welty	April 28	Deb Welty
March 31	No Sunday School		



Altar Guild

Fill

Mar. 3 & Apr. 7	Margaret Baldrige & Marcia Hampton
Mar. 10 & Apr. 14	Doris Cannon
Mar. 17 & Apr. 21	Amy Salazar
Mar. 24 & Apr. 28	Tammie Hatfield & Lois Adams
Mar. 31	Robert Ohmie

Cleanup

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

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



Head Usher – Alan Keimig

March

Bruce Kester
 Doug Meyer
 Larry Moore

April

Bill Fromm
 David Funke
 Roger Obermueller

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.



March

3: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
 10: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
 17: Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty
 24: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
 31: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick

April

7: Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty
 14: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
 21: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
 28: 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.

Spiritual Leadership Team Report

Greetings for March!

We welcome the warm weather.

We work closely (sometimes daily) with Pastor Nick. He advises us on any item that comes across his pastoral duties. He makes very few decisions without our knowledge. This keeps the congregation safe from outside influences that could be harmful. We are so blessed to have him as our Pastor!!

As always, we stand ready to attend to any needs of our members. Peace, SLT

SLT BREAKING NEWS...

We are planning a Men's Retreat for April 26th and 27th. Details...as they become solid... For now... this will be held at the property of Mark Welty. About 70 miles from Wichita, near Sylvia, Ks. He can house 5-6 men for those that would wish to spend Friday night.



Friday...4/26...4pm. Supper/fellowship general hang out.

Saturday...4/27...8-5ish.

Plan to have a car pool from Bethany at 7AM.

Breakfast (provided) Study Topic/leader TBD

Break Fellowship Lunch (provided)

Study Topic/Leader TBD Fellowship for the remainder of the day.

Hopefully, Conditions will allow a campfire...

After Saturday PM Study...

Pistol shooting available. Bring your pistol/ammo. Targets available. Clay targets available. Shotgun/shells will be on hand.

Stay tuned for signup details and more info. Watch for flier!!

Peace! Mark W and the SLT

Management Team Update

This is the Proposed Ballot that will be voted on March 10th after the church service:

Proposed Ballot

President: Robert Bolin

Vice President: Annetta Albright

Secretary: Amy Salazar

Treasurer: Steve Nienke

ECC: Jim Merrick

Stewardship: Bill Bolin Jr.

Outreach: Debbie Welty

Fellowship: Jenny Colby

Trustees: Julie O'Brien

Spiritual Leadership: (Determined by SLT)

Spiritual Leadership Team (Elders)

Robert Bolin

Jim Merrick

Robert Ohmie

Mike Parmenter

Richard Vinroe

Mark Welty

There is also an informational meeting set for March 17th during Fellowship and Sunday School.

This will be the first of regular quarterly meetings to make sure the congregation is kept up to date on what is happening at Bethany.



Early Childhood Center Update

We are finally making progress on our new infant room! The hang-up has been the multi-agency governmental approval and inspection progress, and when one agency lost our paperwork, that took even more time. But they finally did what they are supposed to do, and so things are HAPPENING now! The Toddler class was moved into our Activity Center temporarily to get them out of the construction zone, and construction started on the new Infant/Toddler room. Every step of this has required KDHE and Fire Marshall approval.

So, the demolition has been done, the new wall has been studded-in, the plumbing is done except for fixture installation, the new outdoor sidewalk has been poured, and now the electrical work is being done and the new doorway has been cut. Yes, the expected completion date has been pushed back for several months, but now it won't take "too long" to get the actual work done so we can open the room.



PreK Valentine's Day yummy fun 

Meanwhile, 2 new teachers have been hired to staff the new room, and they are now working as Floats in our other rooms until the new room opens. We need 1 more teacher to fully staff the Infant room, and we need 2 more new teachers for the upper-age rooms to allow us to fill those rooms with more kids than we have now. We are totally confident that as soon as we open the Infant room, it will fill up, as there is pent-up demand for baby care city-wide, and we have a waiting list. The income from the full Infant room will support the 3 teachers who staff it and we project that this will bring older kids into the older-age rooms, too.

A big shout-out to our Trustees who are running the construction process, and a huge THANK YOU to all of you for your continued prayers and support!

For Bethany's Early Childhood Center, *Jim Merrick*

YouthQuake

Quake 2024 was held at the Hyatt in downtown Wichita, Feb. 2-4. It was an amazing weekend and a great opportunity for our middle school youth to share in their faith through worship and praise, and to connect with other youth that are from Wichita and surrounding communities, as well as the Kansas City area. This event provides a retreat to encourage teens in their faith.

The theme for the weekend was "Breathe" with reference to Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." The main speaker, Travis Hartjen, shared relatable stories of his youth, faith and growing up in church. Peder Eide and his daughter, Allison, were the praise team for the weekend and provided music and stories of their faith journey.

One of the breakout sessions was the youth putting together food for the Orphan Grain Train. Jackson looks like he's enjoying it.

Aubrey, Tonya, Jackson and Jeannetta enjoying the weekend.



Easter Eggs Needed: Need Medium-sized plastic eggs and wrapped candy to fit in the Medium-sized eggs. If you'd like to donate, place in bin in Donation Hall. Will use on Palm Sunday for Egg Hunt.



Bethany's Community Garden

March 19 is the official first day of spring. Great News!! Our garden is expanding from 847 sq. ft. to 1127 sq. ft. The additional 280 sq. ft. is the same as 10 feet by 28 feet of new ground. How can you help: donations, planting, weeding, and maintenance. My vision for our garden this year is to add more flowers and herbs. There will be plenty of cut flowers for all us to enjoy. We now have a 43 gallon compost tumbler to make our own compost. The literature says it only takes 2-3 weeks to decompose. This will save money through the season. The composter comes with a wheel barrow that fits under it making it easy to empty Egg shells, coffee grounds, fresh grass clippings, straw, leaves are safe to use. As long as you haven't used any weed killer on your lawn. There's a lot of stuff that cannot be added. Please check with me. Soon the garden will be in its glory, full of life. Keep watching for the wonders God will bless us with.
As Always, Vicky Collins. 316-771-1207

BLESSL

(Bethany Lutheran English Studies as a Second Language): We offer free English classes for students needing help. The six-member family I talked about last month has had to postpone their lessons due to their work schedule. Currently, we have openings for more students. If you know of anyone interested please let me know. We depend, in part, on the congregation to be our eyes and ears for opportunities which are out there. We just need to find them. Please help BLESSL grow to its full capacity.
As Always, Vicky Collins 316-771-1207

Fly Fishing Club

On Monday, Feb. 19th the club went to Sedgwick County Park and fished Slough Creek. Doug, Steve caught trout. Robert caught blue gill. Dwan caught two but chose to use the early release method. Alan enjoyed the fishing. On Wednesday, Feb. 21st, the club took a day trip to Kanopolis Seep Stream. Wonderful day. Doug, Steve, Alan and Mark caught trout. Robert and Dwan enjoyed the day. March meeting date and program has not been set.



Thank You THANK YOU!!! For all the cards, texts, calls, emails, Facebook posts, thoughts and prayers!!! All are appreciated. I just wanted to quietly turn 70 and move on but my family had different ideas. So I feel very blessed.
Thank you everyone! Darlene Nuse

Sunday Mornings

Service 9:00 AM

Fellowship Time 10:00 to 10:30 AM

Sunday School/Bible Study 10:30-11:30 AM

PRAYER CENTER - Robert Bolin leads a study on how the LCMS' understanding of the Holy Spirit differs from other Christian groups, and on which biblical passages it is based. Join the class in the Library.

MEET & EAT ROOM- Mark Dehncke leads a study. They are reviewing Luther's Small Catechism. If you need to refresh your grasp of what Lutherans believe and why, come join the class.

ACTIVITY CENTER- Pastor Nick leads a class. Topic changes. Check the Sunday newsnotes.

YOUTH AND KIDS - SUNDAY SCHOOL includes ages **Preschool to age 17**. Teachers are Ruth Valdez and Deb Welty with assistance of 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.



Lutheran Women in Mission

Lutheran Women in Mission is the longest existing service group in the LCMS. LWML meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:00pm for a short business meeting and Bible Study from the current LWML Quarterly and fellowship. All women are welcome. For more information call Ruth Valdez at (316) 213-0177. Quilting ladies meet on Tuesdays at 10am and on Saturdays at 9am for quilting and fellowship. There have been 64 quilts finished this year so far.

Marcia, Dian and Ruth enjoyed the LWML Prayer Service in Medicine Lodge on Feb. 17th. There were around 40 to 45 ladies attending. Len Dehning, Mission Speaker from MOST MINISTRIES had a slide presentation from one of his trips that was very informative. We took the eyeglasses and sunglasses that had been collected with us. Pastor Seth Meyer, Winfield led the Prayer service, and following the election of LWML Wichita Zone Officers, Pastor Meyer installed them.

March 2, at Holy Cross, is the LWML Women's Retreat "Promised Rest", beginning at 8:30am Registration. See flyer for information. This is for all women in the congregation who wish to attend.

2024 LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION - Wichita, April 12-14. Theme is Jesus is My Anchor. Early registration deadline is March 1. Bethany has submitted a grant for \$1,500.00 to be voted on at the convention. Our grant is one of 9 grants to be voted on and only 4 of the 9 will be granted. If our grant is approved by delegates at the convention, this money will be divided for use for school supplies for 3 apartment complexes close to us this fall. Our prayer is that our grant will be one of the 4 so we can reach out to the children in our neighborhood with school supplies and show them our love of the Savior.

MARCH 2, 2024

PROMISED REST *Women's Retreat*

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
600 N GREENWICH RD, WICHITA, KS

8:30AM REGISTRATION BEGINS
9:00AM-2:30PM RETREAT, LUNCH PROVIDED

GUEST SPEAKER
Michelle Drach

TICKETS
\$25 EARLY BIRD PRICE
\$30 AFTER SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

SCAN TO REGISTER

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." *Psalms 91:1-2*



Valentine's Potluck

Fun, Good Food and
"a lot of Red"!!!

Lent Schedule

Lent Wednesday Evening Services, 7:00pm: March 6, 13, 20
Bell practice at 6:00pm, Choir practice at 7:30pm



Palm Sunday: March 24, 9:00am,
Laying of the palms
Children's program/Easter Egg Hunt
[No Sunday School or Bible Class]



Maundy Thursday: March 28, 7:00pm
Holy Communion and stripping of the altar

Good Friday: March 29, 7:00pm

Easter

Sunrise Service 7:00am

Breakfast 8:00am

Communion Service 9:00am
[No Sunday School or Bible Class]



Trustees Report

You may remember that one of the four A/C units for the sanctuary failed last cooling season. We need to replace that unit before the season to protect the other units from overuse to cool the sanctuary. This is not an item that was in the current work program. The quotes we have range from \$6 to 8 thousand dollars.

I am asking if you might wish to donate to this repair. If so, please leave your donation in the offering plate (noted for A/C replacement) or in the office.

We do have the option of using our line of credit to purchase this unit. We have a current bid of \$6,000 to replace the unit from a reputable company. We would like to hire this company to order the unit and schedule installation in the next couple of weeks. If you choose to donate, please let us know, either by donating or making the trustees aware of your intentions. Mark Welty or Robert Ohmie or Pastor Nick.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Mark Welty, Trustee

Second Saturday: March 9th

Do not know what the project is for this date (maybe Youth Room), but hope you come

Look for more information in the Sunday NewsNotes



Stewardship Report:

Time, Talents & Treasure:

Thanks to all who help with many different things at the church.
Many help! All is very much appreciated!

January 2024

Offerings:	\$20,074
ECC Tuition:	\$18,354
Other Income:	\$1,696
Total Income:	\$40,124
Expenses:	\$42,322
Balance:	-\$2,198



Southwest Neighborhood Association meets the fourth Tuesday of the month, 7pm at Bethany. We look forward to seeing you and bring a neighbor or two. There is plenty of room.
More information: contact Darlene Nuse www.southwichta.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25 ● 9am Sun. Worship/Comm ● 10am Fellowship Time ● 10:30am Bible Class/S.S.	26 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6:30pm MGMT Team Me	27 ● 10am LWML - Quilting ● 7pm SWNA Meeting (So	28 ● 9:30am ECC Chapel. ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6pm Bells - Practice ● 7pm Lent Mid-Week Serv ● 7:30pm Choir - Practice	29	Mar 1 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	2 ● 9am LWML Quilting
3 ● 9am Sun. Worship/Comm ● 10am Fellowship Time ● 10:30am Bible Class/S.S.	4 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	5 ● 10am LWML - Quilting	6 ● 9:30am ECC Chapel. ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 7pm Lent Mid-Week Serv	7 ● 7pm Women's Bible Stud	8 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	9 ● 9am 2nd Sat. Workday ● 9am LWML Quilting
10 ● 9am Sun. Worship/Comm ● 10am Voter's Meeting (E ● 10:30am Bible Class/S.S.	11 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	12 ● 10am LWML - Quilting ● 4pm LWML Meeting	13 ● 9:30am ECC Chapel. ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6pm Bells - Practice ● 7pm Lent Mid-Week Serv ● 7:30pm Choir - Practice	14	15 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	16 ● 9am LWML Quilting
17 ● 9am Sun. Worship/Comm ● 10am Fellowship Time ● 10:30am Bible Class/S.S.	18 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	19 ● 10am LWML - Quilting	20 ● 9:30am ECC Chapel. ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6pm Bells - Practice ● 7pm Lent Mid-Week Serv ● 7:30pm Choir - Practice	21 ● 7pm Women's Bible Stud	22 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	23 ● 9am LWML Quilting
24 ● 9am Sun. Worship/Comm ● 10am Fellowship Time ● 10:15am Easter Egg Hunt	25 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6:30pm MGMT Team Me	26 ● 10am LWML - Quilting ● 7pm SWNA Meeting (So	27 ● 9:30am ECC Chapel. ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6pm Bells - Practice ● 7:30pm Choir - Practice	28 ● 7pm Maundy Thursday S	29 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 7pm Good Friday Service	30 ● 9am LWML Quilting
31 ● 7am Sunrise Service ● 8am Biscuits & Gravy ● 9am Sun. Worship/Comm	Apr 1 ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop	2 ● 10am LWML - Quilting	3 ● 9:30am ECC Chapel. ● 1pm GPWaT (God's Peop ● 6pm Bells - Practice ● 7pm Choir - Practice			



MARCH

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday: March 24, 9am
Maundy Thursday: March 28, 7pm
Good Friday: March 29, 7pm
Easter: March 31, 7am, 9am



Lent Wednesday evening services,
7:00pm: March 6, 13, 20



After Palm Sunday Service and
Children's Presentation.
March 24th, 10:00am (approx.)

Bethany Lutheran Church and School
1000 W 26th St. South
Wichita, KS 67217

Sunday Mornings

Service at 9:00 AM
(also online: Facebook Live)
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.



Like us on Facebook!
Bethany Lutheran
Church & Early
Childhood Center

