

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

May 2025								
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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		

Bethany Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center

May, 2025

He is risen! And so is the grass. But instead of complaining about needing to cut the grass, I need to be thankful that I have grass to cut. It's all about keeping things is the proper perspective.

Speaking of perspective, next week, Tonya and I will join the club of parents who remember their oldest child being born yesterday and now is about to graduate high school. As I'm sitting at my desk typing this, I'm looking at a picture from the night Tonya and I got married convinced that it was taken a few years ago and not the almost 21 years that it actually was.

While it doesn't seem like it, I was installed here at Bethany a few months over 2 years ago. In that time, I've heard countless stories about the now-sainted Pastor Studtmann (who was called to glory almost 24 years ago) told as if they happened last year. Same goes for memories of the great renovation and expansion of 1988 over 36 years ago.

When we're waiting, the minutes seem to drag on forever but looking back, the years just flew by. Time (along with everything else in our lives) changes, but one thing remains constant throughout it all. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8). He was there at creation, is here right now, and will be with us for eternity. None of us know what the future holds, but we can live our lives in joyful hope and expectation knowing that the same God who is sustaining us right now will be waiting for us when days no longer exist. Christ has risen! And because of Him, so will we.

Your fellow servant along the journey,

1/ha



Women's Bible Study: meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Bethany in the Library. The study is Donna Snow's "Unshakable". Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the focus currently. Ask 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).

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. Join us for exercise and fellowship.

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, or send an email pastornick@bethanylutheranwichita.org

Thanks to all for a wonderful Easter service. The Easter Lilies were beautiful.



Birthdays					
Aubrey Cordt	5/6				
Vicky Collins	5/7				
Jeanetta Bolin	5/8				
Kathleen Hasenbank	5/9				
Gage Shipman	5/15				
Mark Welty	5/25				
Kim Stark	5/27				
Vivian Mailly	5/29				
Dean Lang	5/31				



Anniversaries					
Linda & Dwan Welty	5/4				
Robertt & Melanie Schreffler	5/18				
Roger & Sherri Obermueller	5/26				
Sid & Sandy Wise	5/31				

Greeters



4: Denise Lewis

- 11: Vivian Mailly
- 18: Jim & Leona Merrick

May

25: Ron & Dian Merrick

June

- 1: Tim Merrick
- 8: Doug Meyer
- 15: Dale & Sylvia Moore 22: Larry & Mable Moore
- 29: Laurie Carrell & Jackson

You are the first point of contact for our quests! 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

May 4 Tonya Cordt, Helper-Deb Welty

May 11 Deb Welty, Helper-Julie O'Brien

May 18 Julie Obrien, Helper-Jeanetta Bolin

May 25 Jeanetta Bolin, Helper-Tonya Cordt

June 1 Tonya Cordt, Helper-Deb Welty June 8 Deb Welty, Helper-Julie O'Brien June 15 Julie O'Brien, Helper-Jeanetta Bolin June 22 Jeanetta Bolin, Helper-tonva Cordt June 29 Julie O'Brien, Helper-Deb Welty



June 29

Altar Guild

Fill May 4 & June 1 Margaret Baldridge & Marcia Hampton May 11 & June 8 Mable Moore May 18 & June 15 Amy Salazar May 25 & June 22 Lois Adams & Tammie Hatfield Doris Cannon

Cleanup

Julie O'Brien Toni Bolin Barb Ohmie & Linda Firshing Rhonda Dehncke & Vivian Mailly Laurie Carrell

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



Head Usher – Alan Keimig

May Bill Fromm Roger Obermueller Curtis Tucker

June 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 vou're not on the list, contact Doris.



May

- 4: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
- 11: Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty
- 18: Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
- 25: Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick

June

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



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		Bethany Luthe	eran Church		Early Childhood Center				
Report									
Time, Talents and		March	Year To Date		March	Year To Date			
Treasure	Revenues	\$28,810.55	\$74,643.58		\$36,913.14	\$95,939.43			
March and	Expenses	\$29,124.96	\$72,049.38		\$44,229.88	\$113,261.41			
Year-To-Date	Balance	-\$314.41	\$2,594.20		-\$7,316.74	-\$17,321.98			
16	NOTE #1:	\$10,000 was drawn from the Line of Credit and is included in							
Give		the ECC's reve							
Thanks	NOTE #2:	The entire supplemental insurance for the building was paid in							
With a		March (\$8,550)							
Cirateful &	NOTE #3:	Monthly payments are currently being made to repay the \$30,000							
Secont A		borrowed through a Line of Credit.							
Hunny	NOTE #4	Bethany was or							
		March and in April received a refund check for \$1,858.34.							

Trustees Report

Mowing season has arrived. Our Zero turn mower seems to be working well so we will run it until it wears out. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers that keep the grounds looking great!

We have received insurance info RE: our roof. They have responded favorably but missed a vital component for replacing the roof. We are in contact to include that component and cover expenses. Awaiting their response. Roofer is poised to act on repairs with a response. More details to follow, as we are aware.

Our boiler has been shut down. Plans are it will now be decommissioned. Also, plans are in the works to install new units in the classrooms. More pieces to put in place to move forward.

With the addition of "Facility Improvement" portion of Bethany, One can donate to that fund to offer financial backing as time presents needs for our facility. We have the offer to match donations for that fund. Details to follow when we finalize that offer. All for now, Peace, Trustees



Fellowship would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Wednesday evening dinners during Lent and our Easter Breakfast. This group includes those people who provided food, served the meals, washed dishes, set up and took down tables and chairs, and all who enjoyed the fellowship. Attendance at the five Wednesday dinners averaged between 40-60 people and Easter Breakfast was served to 80-90 people. Not only was the fellowship wonderful but we were able to raise funds for our church. A special thank you goes to those members who obtained Thrivent grants to offset expenses. Funds raised includes \$402 to the Youth Fund for convention expenses, \$130 to the ECC, and \$284 to the general fund for bills.

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

LIBRARY: Robert Bolin leads a study "The Mission Journeys of the Apostle Paul and his Epistles" covering the books of Acts through 2 Timothy.

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. Currently continuing a study on the Book of Romans. **YOUTH AND KIDS - SUNDAY SCHOOL includes ages Preschool to age 18.** 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. After the music, Lesson and Activity is in the Youth Room in the basement.

Early Childhood Center



DAYCARE UPDATE By: Bethany Staff Reporters Wichita, Kansas

We caught Jim Merrick coming out of the exciting Management Team meeting Monday night and he paused to give us a quick update on the situation with our Early Childhood Center:

Merrick said that right now, it's a bad news / good news situation. Catching his breath from the fast-paced action of the Management meeting, he went on to elaborate: "So our financials for the ECC for the first quarter are in. We were in the red over the quarter that just ended (January through March.) Oh, the bills have been paid, but the church side of Bethany's operation had to carry the ECC side the last several months, and that situation has to turn around so that our Daycare can be fully self-supporting as we had planned, and so the congregation can pay for their share of the new roof AND cover all the regular bills. But wait -- there is good news."

"As I said in my last 2 monthly updates, we have been working to make our financial situation better: We have raised tuition rates and we've implemented better overtime controls (mostly by Danita sending Teachers home every chance she gets). The increase in rates AND our INCREASED ENROLLMENT (we are up to 47 kids now, as of just this week) both combined to increase our income for April and will make for a slightly bigger increase in May. (Good news!) We won't know until next week's financial report just how that turned out --- how our income balanced against our expenses during April. My prayer is that we break even. With the 2 new kids we JUST got this week, May should be even better.", Merrick said, after gulping down some cold water. He went on: "You see, our budget was based on having 50 kiddos in Daycare. So, since we haven't had that many, our outgo has pretty much been on budget, but our income has been under budget. Not good, I know that. But now that our enrollment is slowly increasing --it was down around 40,42 several months ago, and it just now got up to 47-- we are closing in on that magic "50" number, which would symbolize "getting over the hump", if you will, budget-wise."

"And here's another thing," Merrick said. "We should start getting the food reimbursement from the State sometime soon. We have spent the last three months applying for, and basically being pre-approved for, the State program that gives money for food to Child Care centers...up to \$3,000 a week. That's kind of like free money -- it reimburses us for the expenses we already pay for to buy the food we feed our kids, and for the preparation and administration work of that food....it pays for our Staff labor hours that go to feeding the kids. So once we get that, it will be a financial shot in the arm. We thought we were done with the application and approval process several times, but we keep getting asked for some other kind of information documentation, and we have submitted everything they asked for. So, we are waiting in an interminable bureaucratic holding pattern to get this new source of income. If -- no, WHEN, this comes in, and combined with the healthier enrollment numbers, then we will be in a fairly groovy situation, financially. I know you may be tired of hearing about more delays that we cannot control concerning our daycare operation, but rest assured that we have been working to make all of this hard work and investment come together to bear fruit."

Taking a deep breath, Merrick looked our reporters in the eye and finished by saying: "We all know that our Child Care ministry is at the heart of our mission here at Bethany. It has been built to not only provide a much-needed service to our community, but to be THE outreach mission of Bethany. And we all know that any Church without outreach and service is a DEAD Church. By providing Christ-centered child care to the families we serve, by giving those kids what may be their very first exposure to the Word of God, or their first structured exposure to the Word of God, we are planting seeds that may well take root in those kids and their families, and beyond. We do not know what fruit these seeds may bear. Jesus told us the parable of the sower to inform us on what He wants us to do -- Jesus told us to spread His Word, and that Word will take root where His Holy Spirit wills it to. We may never know when or in whom the seeds we sow will sprout and grow and increase God's kingdom.....our mission that Jesus commanded us is to sow those seeds. And that is what we are doing here with our Daycare."

(No by-line from me this time. That's it. That's the point that needs to be made.)

With that, Mr. Merrick pushed through the crowd of fawning admirers and hurried off, saying, "As if the workout from this thrilling Management meeting weren't enough to wear a body out, I need to go hike several miles with my Dogs and get them fed, and it's already getting dark. THANK YOU all for your constant support!"



Movie Night Saturday, May 10th, 6:30pm

Based on the real journey of Afghanistan's trailblazing all-girls robotics team. In a nation where educating girls is seen as rebellion, a visionary woman dares to teach young minds to dream.

Bethany's Garden - Come Grow with Us!



April 22 was Earth Day. I celebrate Earth Day every day by working in the garden every day. The garden is off to a good start. It's an exciting time. Crops that thrive in cooler temperatures are looking better with the break in the 90 degrees and strong winds. I have had to cover the tomatoes when it's been too cold for them. They are a warm natured

crops. Their optimum temperature is 75-85 degrees. Surprisingly the garden has recovered. The sunflowers are all over the garden from last year's seed. Irises are blooming.

There are 22 ballots and the votes have been counted. Green beans came in first place with 18 votes. I have 22 ballots. That means everyone but four people voted for green beans. Based on this information I will plant double what I planted last year. Most of the tomatoes are getting taller. Last year for the first time I had success growing the large slicers. This year I am growing tomatoes anywhere from a pound and larger. It won't be long before we will be enjoying those tomato sandwiches. There will be loads of cherry tomatoes too.

I'm having fun with adding color to the garden. More so than ever. Touches my heart and soul. As Always, Vicky Lynn Collins 316-771-1207







Fly Fishing Club



Fly Fishing club went to Yates center on Wednesday, April 23. Weather was great and not many big fish but all six caught fish. Among the fish caught were Crappie. Bass and Blue Gill. Pictures are from that outing. Then on May 7th they will be fishing again but the location has not been decided. Any questions please talk with Doug Meyer, Robert Bolin or Dwan Welty.





Lutheran Women in Mission

As we head into May, the grass is getting green and the flowers are beginning to bloom. Spring is here and new life is popping up all around us. We just celebrated Easter Sunday! Speaking of flowers blooming, it's once again time for the flowers to start appearing in the Sanctuary. If you wish to supply flowers on any given Sunday during the remainder of this year, all that is needed is to add your name to the flower calendar in the Narthex next to the mailboxes, and let Ruth Valdez (316) 213-0177 know if you wish to get your flowers on your own or have LWML get them for you. Thank you in advance for helping to beautify the Sanctuary.

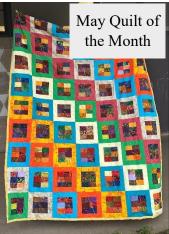
BETHANY'S Lutheran Women in Mission's new program "LWML Mailbox Member Program" is a way for any lady in our congregation to be a part of LWML who wishes to participate but is not able to attend our regular monthly meetings for any reason. If you are interested in finding out more about this program, you can reach Jeanetta Bolin, our program coordinator, by leaving her a message at (316) 207-2023. She will be happy to discuss this with you in further detail. Our next regular meeting is on May 8th in the Library at 4:00 PM. Our meeting is open to all ladies of the congregation, where we meet to hear about any business items upcoming on the district, zone and national level, join together for Bible Study from the current LWML Quarterly and enjoy fellowship with each other.

OUR EYEGLASS CHEST is once again empty. If you happen to have any eyeglasses, sunglasses or soft glass cases you no longer use, please drop them in the chest to help with our mission project as we continue to assist those in need. A mission trip is planned for December by Holy Cross

Wichita, with eyeglasses being collected to be taken on this trip.

THE NATIONAL LWML BIENNIAL CONVENTION is fast approaching. It will be held in Omaha, Nebraska June 26-29. Ruth Valdez has been selected to be the voting delegate to represent the Wichita Zone at the convention. She will help to nominate the incoming National LWML leaders who will serve for the next two years. Ruth is asking for Prayers as she helps to make these decisions.

OUR QUILTING LADIES have been hard at work, meeting each Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am, and again on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am until noon in the quilting room at the end of the back hallway to assemble quilts and other kits for Lutheran World Relief. 93 quilts have been completed since October. Come and join us. They feature a "Quilt of the Month" at the back of the Sanctuary. If you are interested in purchasing this chosen quilt, speak to Amy Salazar or Jenny Colby. AJ will be announcing the chosen quilt during a church service.







Second Saturday Cleaning

May 10th, 9:00am

Will continue cleaning kitchen cabinets and maybe outdoor needs

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.

Food Donations

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.

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 (88.7FM). For more information, visit www.lhm.org or call 1-800-876-9880.

> Book of the Month: The Magdeburg Confession In 1550, imperial forces besieged the German town of Magdeburg, seeking to reestablish the Catholic faith following the Lutheran losses in the Schmalkaldic war. In

response, Magdeburg's pastors and theologians wrote the small treatise on Justified resistance to tyrannical power known as the Magdeburg Confession. Discover a nuanced, Christian approach to a resisting the government when faithfulness to true religion is jeopardized - an invaluable study for anyone. This new translation impresses upon us the importance of

scriptural doctrine; those who hold authoritative offices have the duty and the jo of advocating for what is good and right, what supports and extends the Gospel. https://issuesetc.org/

> Address: 3815 E. 17th St. N., Wichita, KS 67208, Phone: 316-684-5224 www.fairmountministries.org info@fairmountministries.org

Fairmount is a place for anyone and everyone. Their passion has been campus ministry for over 60 years! They offer ways for local college students to connect in fellowship, grow in the Word, serve alongside their friends, and walk together in Faith.

The "College Age Bible Study" will be meeting each Tuesday combined with the "Young Adults Group" at 6:47p m. Last meeting of the spring semester will be April 30th. Look for summer activities in the next newsletter.

Faith 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. About Theology On Tap: This is a Social time and a discussion about a theological or spiritual topic. Some of our topics that we have discussed at most recent events are: Social Justice, End Times and the book of Revelation, Gender & Identity, Consumerism, Angels and Demons, and a fan favorite-Ask the Pastor Night!

The evening of May 12th, the Helge family who serve in Czech Republic will give a presentation on their ministry.

Keep a lookout for summer activities on Socialmedia at Fairmount Ministries. Call them or send them an email: 316-684-5224 info@fairmountministries.org







10am - Fellowship Time @ 10:30am - SS & Bible Class @ 9am - Sun. Worship w/ 10am - Fellowship Time @ 10:30am - SS & Bible Class @	9am - Sun. Worship w/	9am - Sun. Worship w/ 10am - Fellowship Time @ 10:30am - SS & Bible Class @	=	4 9am - Sun. Worship W/ 10am - Fellowship Time @ 10:30am - SS & Bible Class @		9am - Sun, Worship w/	Sun 27
26 Ipm - GPWaT (God's People 6:30pm - MGMT Team	19 1pm - GPWaT (God's People	1pm - GPWaT (God's People	12	1pm - GPWaT (God's People	6:30pm - MGMT Team	1pm - GPWaT (God's People	Mon 28
10am - LVML - Ouilting @ 7pm - SVNVA Meeting	10am - LWML - Quilting @	10am - LVML - Ouilting @. 4pm - LVML - Meeting	13	10am - LVVML - Ouilting @		10am - LWML - Quilting @	Tue 29
9:30am - ECC Chapel . 1pm - GPV/aT (God's People 6pm - Beils - Practice 7pm - Choir - Practice 28 9:30am - ECC Chapel . 1pm - GPV/aT (God's People 6pm - Beils - Practice 7pm - Choir - Practice	9am - Senior Breakfast	9:30am - ECC Chapel . 1pm - GPWaT (God's People 6pm - Bells - Practice 7pm - Choir - Practice	14	7 9:30am - ECC Chapel . 1pm - GPWaT (God's People 6pm - Bells - Practice 7pm - Choir - Practice	Peop	9:30am - ECC Chapel	Wed 30
	10am - Gary - Internment @	9am - Men's Fellowship 7pm - Women's Bible Study	15	cc	men's Bible Study	9am - Men's Fellowship	Thu
1pm - GPVVaT (God's People	1pm - GPWaT (God's People	1pm - GPWaT (God's People	16	1pm - GPWaT (God's People		1pm - GPWaT (God's People	Fri
9am - LVVML Ouiliting	9am - LVML Quilting	9am - LVML Ouilting 12pm - Kitchen & A.C.	17	10 9am - 2nd Saturday Work Day 9am - LWML Ouilting 12pm - Kitchen & A.C.		9am - LWML Quilting	Sat



May 29th

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.



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



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

