



**Bethel
Lutheran
Church**

Making Disciples!

February 4—25, 2021

E-Memo To the Saints

Lent is Fast

Approaching

Bethel offers Lenten Devotional Worship

each Wednesday night starting with **Ash Wednesday Worship and The Lord's Supper on February 17th at Noon (masks required) and 6:45pm.**

Ashes will be offered at the front of our sanctuary a half an hour before the Noon worship and 45 minutes before the 6:45pm worship. All our Pastors will have their masks on for this. "Imposition of Ashes" is simply the marking of the forehead with palm ashes.

The imposition of ashes on the forehead of the worshipper signifies that a period of prayer, fasting, and "sitting in sackcloth and ashes" has begun.

We especially encourage parents to bring your children as the marking of the ashes offers you a wonderful teachable moment.



God Bless Our Lenten Time

The Church Season of Lent offers the Christian an opportunity for a special encounter with ourselves and with Jesus. It's purpose is to lead to repentance and renewed trust in Him. This is good, since repentance and renewed faith are vital as we prepare to receive the Good News which Holy Week and Easter will bring us.

Accordingly, we seek this self-examination which comes through the application of the Word of God to our hearts and lives. We allow that Word to show us our sinful condition and need. God's Gospel offers us God's plan to remove our sin: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." John 1:29. It also works to empower us to live our lives for and with Him.

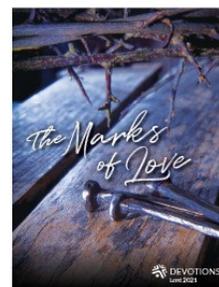
It is in the Word that God speaks to us of His gracious forgiveness. It is in the Word He calls us to Himself. It is in His Word we hear most clearly every promise. Listen to the Word, and make this the most blessed Lenten season yet.

Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

The Marks of Love

Following the narrative of Mark's Gospel, *The Marks of Love* explores the life and ministry of Jesus. The tragedy of Golgotha is met with the triumph of the resurrection on Easter morning. Along the way, we learn of Jesus' deep compassion for those He loved and served, including those who put Him to death.

These devotions are available to [read online](#) or to hear as a [podcast](#), receive them as an [e-mail subscription](#) throughout the Lenten season. **Just go online to www.lhm.org/lent to sign up.** **OR pick up a printed copy in the narthex on the Elders Credenza.**



**FACE MASK
REQUIRED**

ATTENTION!! For the foreseeable future, the first Saturday worship service of every month will be Bethel's "mask required" service. This will be Starting Feb. 6th the rest of the dates are: March 6th, April 10th (no worship on April 3 Holy Saturday), May 1, June 5, July 3, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4. **All worshippers will be asked to maintain their masks throughout this once a month service.**

Also, masks will be required at all Noon Wed. Lenten Devotions, including Ash Wednesday.

Director of Music Ministry Search Update



After working through a total of 43 candidate names given to us over the past few years; after narrowing that group down to 3 candidates for further consideration; after various and significant changes occurred *since* our Nov. 2020 Voters Assembly (e.g. candidates removing themselves from consideration; a candidate unwilling to visit Bethel in person), the call committee met on Jan. 12 to decide how to

proceed. After considering multiple options, the committee decided to **discontinue** the current call process and restart the call process anew.

Therefore, we are asking for the **congregation to submit nominations to the call committee for consideration.** Copies of the request form are available to the congregation in the narthex on the Elders Credenza. Any additional nominations will go through the same initial screening process as the original list. If the nominee is open to a call, they will be added to the candidates list for the call committee to consider. The deadline for returning these forms is February 28th. We are seeking **“rostered Director of Parish Music”** candidates.



Bethel's "Life with God @ Bethel" new member series began last Sunday, So there is still time to join.

If you are interested in learning more about our congregation or if you are considering becoming a member, Pastor Bard leads us for 8 weeks immediately following the late service (12:30 pm in the Parish Hall). We always finish by 1:30 pm and snacks are provided. If you are interested in membership, there is an attendance requirement which Pastor will talk about at the first meeting. We would love to have you come and find out more about Bethel. If you or your family are planning on attending, please contact Treva Robertson at 409-782-5693 or treva.robertson@gmail.com. Childcare is provided upon request.

Bethel Hand-bells



The Hand-bell Choir has started rehearsing again! We are always looking for more ringers. We practice on **Thursdays** at 6:00—7:00 pm in the balcony.

Any Questions? Email Josh Ninke at jmininke@gmail.com.

Individual Holy Communion Signup

On Sunday, February 21, 2021 starting at 1:00 pm, we will offer Holy Communion to individuals or households that would like to sign-up for a 10-minute slot. This is intended for those who have not been able to comfortably come receive the Lord's Supper during our regular worship time. This will take place under the portecochere at church ONE family at a time. **If you are interested, please contact Pastor Eden by phone (822-2742) or by email at PastorTim@blcbs.org and he will sign you up for the next available time, or answer any questions you may have.**

Is God leading you to service in the church?

Check out Concordia Seminary, St. Louis' upcoming online events designed to help reveal God's plan for your future

Feb. 20: Green & Gold Day—*For prospective residential pastoral and diaconal students.* This one-day event for those considering the Seminary's residential pastoral or deaconess programs provides a quick opportunity to see all the Seminary offers. The deadline to register is Feb. 5.

March 12: Contemplate—*For men and women college-age and older.* This event provides an opportunity to learn more about life at the Seminary and the preparation for church work. The deadline to register is March 5.

Visit Concordia Seminary, St. Louis | Tours and Events (csl.edu)
For more information, contact us at admit@csl.edu or 800-822-9545.

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study Meets at 10AM in Room 232, studying the book of John, led by Pastor Bard. Child Care is Provided.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT BETHEL

Confirmation, Adult Bible Class and Senior High Youth All start at 6:30 pm. Child Care is available. Pastor Eden leads the Adult Bible Class in a study of Jesus' Parables.

Confirmation is for those in 5th/6th grade. Senior High Youth is for those in 9-12 grade

Our next break from regular scheduled Wednesday Night Activities will be for Lent. Ash Wednesday is February 17th. Make sure to mark your Calendar.

Calling All Youth! To a Camp Lone Star Retreat!

All youth in seventh grade through twelfth grade are encouraged to sign up. This is an overnight event over Valentine's day weekend. (You are welcome parents!) The event will include leaving on Friday evening, February 12th and returning on Sunday afternoon February 14th. The cost of the event will be \$90 per student. Please know that scholarship is available for this trip. Paperwork required for the event is Bethel's Medical Release and Liability waiver and Camp Lone Star's Liability Waiver form. Registration or paperwork will be due by January 10th and Money will be due by January 31st. Please Contact DCE Jeff if you would like to attend this event.

Youth Event—Holy Cross will be hosting a youth event on **Saturday February 20th**. This is going to be a great event where youth from local Lutheran churches will be able to gather and celebrate our faith. All youth who are interested need to contact DCE Jeff and let me know you would like to attend. Ignite BCS youth event: "Fan the flame of faith that hearts may be on fire for Christ Jesus."

Youth Confirmation Parents Meeting
February 14 at 12:30pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday School

We are still providing online and in person Sunday School. If you would like to participate in reading scripture for our online Sunday School let DCE Jeff know. We would love to have members of our congregation willing to record themselves for our online Sunday School. Please contact DCE Jeff to get more instructions.

Sunday Adult Bible Classes

Our Adult Bible Classes On Sunday mornings begin at 10:00AM.

The Book of Acts is being studied in the Sanctuary, led by Pastor Randy Bard. This is the same study on Saturday evenings at 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

The Book of Exodus is being studied in Room 232, led by Pastor Tim Eden. They have picked up part way through Exodus. *Whether you attended previously or not, please join us.*



Devo and Games
FEBRUARY 26th

Friday, February 26th at 7:00pm will be the Devo and Games night. If you would like to be on the e-mail list for this group please let DCE Jeff know. Also, if you would like the zoom link for the event send an e-mail to dcejef@blcbcs.org. I look forward to seeing you online!

JOB OPPORTUNITY - We are looking to add a part time position to the Bethel Lutheran Church staff. This job will mostly be dealing with website, social media communications, and Power-Point slide creations for Worship services. If you or someone you know is interested please email Katie Bentley for more information, kbentley@blcbcs.org.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter article – February 2021



“I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:8-9).

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: “But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving” (2 Corinthians 8:7). In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It’s not so much that we stop giving, but we

don’t put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God’s Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service. Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also.

The 2021 Flower Chart for Altar flowers is in the Information Center by the elevator. The cost is \$30 per sponsorship and we will accept 3 sponsors each Sunday.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR is on KAGC, 1510 AM on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. sponsored by Bethel. If you would like, you can sponsor a week’s broadcast for \$25 or a month for \$100. Thank you to all who have given to this ministry.

The 2021 Sign Up Chart for The Lutheran Hour is in the Information Center by the elevator.



2021 Offering Envelopes!

Praise the Lord! It’s 2021! **ONLY USE your NEW 2021 envelopes.** Be sure to pick them up in the narthex the next time you are at church. Thank you.

Don’t Forget to Fill Out Time & Talent Surveys!

Bethel’s Board of Stewardship encourages everyone to complete the new Time and Talent Survey to have up-to-date information for all our members. Here is a link to take you to the survey <https://ncv.microsoft.com/QvX8tPJaqE> and here is the QR Code to use with your cell phone. Or fill out the paper survey available in the Narthex.



The Souper Bowl is February 7th!

There will be a special collection bowl at the back of the sanctuary at each service. We'll also have a table in the Information Center for non-perishable food item donations. All donations will go to Brazos Church Pantry.

So as you stock up on snacks for the big game, remember your neighbors who are hungry."



tacklehunger.org

FUDGE IS BACK for Valentine's Day!

After raving reviews from many family gatherings over the holidays, our BEE fudge is back for pre-order only!

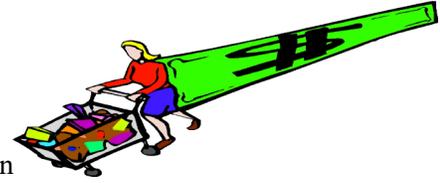
Pre-orders for Valentine's Fudge are now available **and will close on February 4th at midnight.** Orders are only available for LOCAL pick-up (Sorry! No shipping yet!). Pick-up times are available between February 10-12th.

We are offering TWO new flavors for Valentine's Day Fudge made with LOVE:

Dark Chocolate Pecan or Chocolate Vanilla Swirl

Go online to <https://thebeecommunity.com> to order yours TODAY!

BRAZOS CHURCH PANTRY ACTIVITY



PARENTS, here's a great lesson to teach your child on

giving and how to make a dollar stretch a long way.

Take your children to the grocery store and tell them they have \$1.00 or \$5.00 or \$10.00 to spend for the Church Pantry

How many bags can they fill for their money?

Some items to buy:

Tuna, tomato sauce, soup (kid friendly), peanut butter, canned fruit, canned vegetables, boxed cereal, macaroni and cheese, rice (small bag), dried beans, canned meats, small sugar or flour

A box is on the cart in the Donation Location!

THE BEE COMMUNITY

is a **GOD-CENTERED**, post-secondary, vocational program that provides a place of **BELONGING, MEANINGFUL WORK, AND LIFELONG LEARNING** for adults with disabilities.

The BEE Community is a place for people **WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES** to enter into **AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS**. We want people of all abilities and talents to use their gifting for the glory of God and good of others.

Living with Grief

Learn how to cope with Grief

SUNDAYS at 4:00PM At Bethel in Room 233

This is a 13-week face-to-face Bible study that includes helpful video testimonies from those who have suffered loss and how they were able to deal with their life changes. Pat Wallace will be the host for this series and can relate to those facing grief after loss of his wife of 43-years. We learn what the Bible says about grief and from shared experiences.



There is no cost to the participant and there is no long-term obligation. You may join us at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons here at Bethel for an hour and half to relax and see what others have done to get through their grief journey. This program is upbeat and helps to release guilt, disappointment, regrets, and typical emotions of grief – they are natural. Invite a friend or family member who is hurting or struggling with this life changing event. We can help!

Happy Birthday!! February

To Our Bethel Family

Evan LoBello	1	LeeAnn Pali	6	Samuel Moravec	12	Mike Deike	21
Greg Montgomery	1	Gage Goodenow	7	David Fleeger	13	Rachel Jungklaus	21
Heath Hausenfluck	2	George McIlhaney	7	Meaghan Anderson	14	Mitchell Dill	22
Mike Lenz	2	Jim Holste	8	Susan Neitsch	14	Bobbie Denmark	23
Nikki Smith	2	Beckham Kouba	8	Jonathan Bentley	15	Robert Pali	23
Kathy Herwald	5	Peggy Chase	9	Pastor Tim Eden	15	Rosie Schoenfeld	24
Shianne Lenz	5	Dottie Garrison	10	Addison Markert	15	Jade Fajkus	25
Pierce Young	5	Lee Goehring	10	Debbie Sadler	15	Velma Black	26
David Baumann	6	Annie Perez	10	Dustin Samford	15	Genevieve Birdwell	27
Everett Dahmann	6	Angela Shockey	10	Art Kaspar	16	David Hildebrandt	27
Margaret Johnson	6	Noah Ramirez	10	Joalla Shilling	17	Jessica Fuller (Pfeffer)	27
Randy Moerbe	6	Jayce Wilder	10	Sarah Hildebrandt	17	Lois Erickson	28
		Spencer Wilder	10	Gerry Hartmangruber	18	Sally Kaminski	28
		Connie Bard	11	Bobby Lenz	19	Christopher Byer	29
		Kira Hoffzimmer	11	Anastasia Lewis	19		
		Julie Maly	12	Sharon Cowart	21		

The Lutheran Witness Magazine

IS HERE AT CHURCH in the narthex.

It will no longer be delivered to your residence in the mail. It is available for you to pickup here at Bethel in the narthex for you or your friends.

Engaging Truth Evangelical Life Ministries AGAPE LOVE

True Christian love, as so vividly described by Paul in the 13th chapter of his first letter to the Corinthians, isn't the love of docudramas and movie screens, but the Christ-centered self-sacrificial love that binds together couples, families, and companions throughout our worldly journey.

From the excitement and the bond felt by a newly married couple expecting their first child, to the economic uncertainty precipitated by career and job changes, to the challenges of serious illness and on to the anticipation of retirement and finally to the sometimes painful circumstances of the end of our physical lives, true Christian love is the gift given to us by a caring Heavenly Father to see us through.

It's the assurance of His love for us manifested by the sacrifice of His Son that carries us in troubled times and gives us true hope for the future.

At Evangelical Life Ministries we're thankful for the opportunity to share the love of God through our Engaging Truth broadcasts on Houston radio station KKHT-FM 100.7 (kkht.com).

Also, we are thankful to have listeners and supporters like you to help us bring the good news of God's unconditional love and the eternal salvation that only He gives.



Listed below is our February 2021 programming:

February 7, 2021

7 p.m. - Pastor and Author Rich Villodas - "A Deeply Formed Life"

7:30 p.m. - Michael and Liz Steele - "True Love Looks Like"

February 14, 2021

7 p.m. - Pastor David and Diane Bahn - "Valentine Love"

7:30 p.m. - Seth and Emily Gehrke - "1 Corinthians 13 Love"

February 21, 2021

7 p.m. - Randall and Deidre Mooney - "Mature Love"

7:30 p.m. - Hector and Paula Flores - "Expecting a New Son Love"

February 28, 2021

7 p.m. - Pastor Mark Wuggazer - St. John Lutheran Church

7:30 p.m. - Author Donna Snow - "Chosen: A Study of Esther"

You may give to help us broadcast nationally and worldwide by sending a donation to ELM, P. O. Box 568, Cypress, TX 77410 or simply click the "Donate" button below.

[Houston Christian Talk Radio from ELM \(elmhouston.org\)](http://elmhouston.org)

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SAVE THE DATE



LCMS Life Conference

Making Disciples > Valuing Life

MARCH 19 & 20, 2021

Dozens of experts in Life Ministry will present throughout the conference

Featured Speakers Include:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison

President of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Deaconess Tiffany Manor

Director, LCMS Life Ministry

Timothy Goeglein

Focus on the Family Vice President of External and Government Relations

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN US

- ✓ Be equipped to speak up for the sanctity of life within your community and our society
- ✓ Gain ideas on how to care for all human life
- ✓ Interact with fellow Lutherans on Life Ministry topics
- ✓ Be a part of the LCMS Life Ministry community
- ✓ Multiple video presentations will be available for immediate on-demand viewing as soon as you login
- ✓ Engage in live Question and Answer sessions with experts in Life Ministry
- ✓ Watch dozens of video presentations on-demand

There is still time to register and buy your pass. Just go to

[Life Conference March21 \(lcms-life.org\)](http://LifeConferenceMarch21(lcms-life.org))



Disciples of the Way Ministries

A Ministry of People of All Nations
reaching out to People from All Nations

THE COMFORT BLANKET MISSION

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all COMFORT, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to COMFORT those who are in any affliction, with the COMFORT with which we ourselves are COMFORTED by God."

II Corinthians 1:3-4 (ESV)

This Mission Begins...

"The story of the 'Mission Begins...' below as written and told by the daughter of Ronnie & Katy Schnell, Wendy Schnell Wagner."



This mission was written in the promise of one man sitting alone in ICU, teetering on his death bed in 1996. Unbeknownst to his family, he vowed that if God allowed him to live, he would dedicate the remainder of his life to helping others. When he could no longer work his garden, the Holy Spirit inspired Ronnie Schnell along with his wife, Katy, to create a comfort blanket in 2012.

It began simply with a baby blanket. But the need was greater. Larger blankets were created, and soon there were three. Ronnie was always in search of machines and tools that would innovate and increase productivity, so that limited resources would touch more and more people. God always opened doors and provided opportunities which allowed for

the unattainable to be reached. The family's eyes were not blind, this was God's mission, and these simple machines were offering the peace and comfort only Jesus Christ can provide.



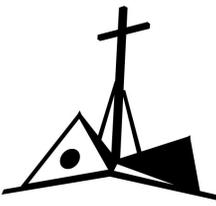
Years before Ronnie and Katy began the comfort blanket project, Pastor Karim Baidaoui came to preach at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Warda, Texas. His sermon was powerful as he witnessed to our congregation. The Disciples of the Way's mission to bring Jesus Christ the Son of God to Muslim refugees was awe-inspiring. I loved the sewing ministry and thought how wonderful it was. Over the years, continued prayers went out that our Muslim brothers and sisters would know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Never did I believe that God's plans would have woven such a wonderful story of love and answered prayers.

We knew that these machines would continue to do God's work, and our prayers were answered when Disciples of the Way Ministries accepted to receive and continue the mission of comfort. May God's blessings pour out on this mission of comfort, and continue to blanket those in need, so that they too may receive everlasting life through our Savior, Jesus Christ. *"But Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"*

Matthew 19:26 (ESV)

Help DOW continue to bring the Gospel of Comfort and Peace of Christ to our Muslim Neighbors in Dallas, Texas!

[**www.disciplesoftheway.org**](http://www.disciplesoftheway.org)



Bethel Lutheran Church

4221 Boonville Rd, Bryan, Texas 77802
Phone: (979) 822-2742 | FAX: (979) 822-4082
www.BLCbcs.org | office@BLCbcs.org
Preschool phone: 485-9835 or cell: 446-1578

Staff:

Rev. Randall Bard, Senior Pastor, (979) 422-0046
Rev. Tim Eden, Associate Pastor
Mr. Jeff Bellach, Director of Christian Education
Mrs. Carolyn Janac, Dir., Bethel Lutheran Preschool
Mrs. Katie Bentley, Director of Operations & HR
Mrs. Kathy Herwald, Finance Manager
Mr. Dave Lewis, Facilities Manager
Mrs. Ruthann Stroud, Church Secretary
Mrs. Connie Bard, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Mr. Jeremy Shilling, *His Praise* Band Leader
Rev. K. Lynn Stroud, Pastor Emeritus
Mr. Randall Moerbe, DCE Emeritus

February 4—25, 2021



Church Office Hours

Mondays—Thursdays 9am - 5pm
Fridays 9am—3pm

Join us for

Saturday - Worship at 4pm (*Please wear a Mask the First Saturday of the month. Thank you.*)

Bible Class at 5pm

Sunday Mornings

8:30 AM Onsite Divine Service (Traditional)
Also Live Streamed

10:00 AM Onsite Sunday School
& Bible Class (Also Online)

11:15 AM Onsite Divine Service (Contemporary)
Also Live Streamed

Ash Wednesday Worship with the Lord's Supper /Ashes
February 17 at Noon and 6:45pm

Go to www.blcbs.org for more information