



The *Chimes* is published
monthly by

Bethany Lutheran Church

**A Great Commission
Congregation**

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THE BETHANY BLUEPRINT

Only two of the four Gospels contain the Christmas story. Only one of the two tells the story of angels singing to shepherds in the Judean countryside. The other one is the only Gospel to record the story of Magi making their way from the east, guided by a star, arriving at Bethlehem. Though not given as much ink as one might think in Scripture, it is probably safe to say that no event in human history has inspired the creation of more art or song than has the birth of Christ.

Perhaps for no other reason than this: While only two of the four Gospels record the story of Christmas, all four have at their core the story that God has come to us in the person of Jesus Christ; thus, people are free to come to God through this same Jesus.

- ✦ Where might one feel more welcome in God's presence?
- ✦ Where might one feel more safe in God's company?
- ✦ Where might one feel more secure to lower their fences and drop their pretences before God than here, at the manger?

Here, at the manger, God Himself requires a welcome and it is given in a feedbox and straw; workers of the field and heralds in the sky; virgin mother and earthly father; and all who, from generation to generation, shall come to adore Him. Here, at the manger, God Himself knows the need for safety — safety from the elements of nature and then from the armament of nation — such is given in a barn, in the arms of Joseph as the family flees to Egypt, and in the hearts of all who shall enshrine Him as Lord from age to age. Perhaps most awe-inspiring of all is the truth that here, at the manger, God Himself drops all “*post-tences*”^{*} and humbly lies in mean estate. Here, at the manger, God Himself lowers His fence and He who cannot be beheld by His creation lest they perish, here reveals His lovely face.

So, though only recorded in one Gospel, how can we not, in this season and throughout our lives, “hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;” and how can we not come to Him even as we pray, “O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel.”

*A pretence is a false picture that someone presents about themselves, and before all the facts are known, the impression is given that they are much better than they really are. “*Post-tence*” is a word Pr. Kritzer made up. God must be wonderful, right? He is God! Yet, after all the facts are found out, He is far greater than we ever imagined! Yet, He “drops” His majestic *unknowableness* and holy *unapproachableness*; (also words PK made up) that is, He conceals His true glory, holiness and “*otherliness*,” and takes on human nature in the form of a servant whom we can come to, cling to, and adore. (Phil. 2)



At the manger moments this Advent/Christmas season at Bethany:

November 30:

Wed. evening Advent worship at 7:00PM

December 4:

*Advent worship “Come Isaiah”, Sun. morning
Preschool Christmas Service 6:00PM*

December 7:

Wed. evening Advent worship at 7:00PM

December 11:

*Advent worship “Come Isaiah”, Sun. morning
Christmas Concert, “Star of Wonder...Star of Light” at
1:30, 4:00, & 7:00PM*

December 14:

Day School Christmas Service at 7:00PM

December 18:

*Advent worship “Come Isaiah”, Sun. morning
Sunday School Advent led worship at 10:55AM*

December 24:

*Christmas Eve Family Services at 5:00& 7:00PM
Christmas Eve Candle Light Service at 11:00PM*

December 25:

*Christmas Morning Worship 10:00AM **ONLY***

December 31:

New Years Eve Worship 7:00PM

January 1:

*Sunday morning worship 8:00 & 10:00AM **ONLY***

December Monthly Devotion...

The **Story of a Savior** to come, the **Story of God** come in the flesh is the most inside of all stories; 'twas known inside the Godhead before the foundations of the world. The story first told inside a garden, "...and I will put enmity between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head and you will strike his heel." (Genesis 3: 15) This story was held inside the community of Israel, "The Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14) **The Story** was conceived in Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." (Luke 1:35)

This Story rests inside Christmastide and has come to rest inside of us as well. "O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!" (O Little Town of Bethlehem.) Yet, this most inside of stories that remains

inside of us always cannot be contained inside of us especially during these days, "Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born." (Go tell it on the Mountain)

- ✠ What does it mean to have the "inside story" in any situation?
- ✠ What does it mean to have permission to share the inside story?
- ✠ How do both of the above heighten in import when the Inside Story is that Word conceived inside the womb of a virgin and born inside a barn in Bethlehem?

From the Board of Discipleship...

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Your values serve as an important foundation for how you manage your money. They're the things that are most important to you—for example, your faith, family, friends, health, education or giving back. These values give you a rock-solid sense of who you are and what you believe in. Your values come from experiences in life. They also drive your decisions and actions. For example, if you value your health, you may exercise daily. If you value learning, you may continue your education by attending classes.

Developing a clear and compelling list of your values makes it easier to choose how you want to use your time, talents and treasures. When it comes to your money, you have three choices:

Share Save Spend

As a steward of your resources, having a guideline for how you use your money can be helpful. What's more, your values can be a clear, consistent guide to who you are and what you want to become. Investing time and energy to define your values and then aligning them with your actions is a powerful way to help you achieve your financial goals and live the life of your dreams.

We encourage you to sit down with your spouse, parents, kids, or whomever is important in your life to discuss your values and review your current plan, or put together a new one, that can help guide your decisions and actions in line with what's important to you.

Bethany Christmas Concerts...



Invite your friends, neighbors and family to our annual Christmas Concert.

Star of Wonder...Star of Light

Sunday, December 11, 2011

1:30PM, 4:00PM and 7:00PM



Bethany's 42nd Annual Christmas Concerts



Petal Pushers...

Make your plans now to join the fun of decorating floats for the 123rd Tournament of Roses Parade. We have been scheduled for a prime work shift on **Saturday December 31st** and space is limited. **Our shift begins at 8:00AM and ends at 3:30PM.** All volunteers must have a Petal Pushers sweatshirt (any year is fine).

RSVP to Pastor Seth (smoorman@bethanylutheran.org). Petal Pushers is a group of 4,000 volunteers coordinated by Lutheran Hour Ministries who decorate floats in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. Lutheran Hour Ministries has been proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Pasadena Rose Parade for over 60 years.

Ministry of Discipleship News...

Karl Fink-Minister of Discipleship, ext. 19
kfink@bethanylutheran.org

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is coming back to Bethany!

Financial Peace University empowers churches to train their congregations to handle God's money according to biblical principles. Dave Ramsey, a Christian personal money management expert, devotes himself full-time to helping people understand the forces behind their financial distress and how to set things right-financially, emotionally, and spiritually. You're cordially invited to attend a free class preview of the materials to be presented. **The preview date is Sunday, December 18, 1PM in the Parish Lounge.** We will watch a short promotional DVD, discuss materials, the cost involved, and starting date. If you want more information on Dave Ramsey, please check out his website at www.daveramsey.com. It is our hope and prayer that many of our families will take an interest in this opportunity. If you have any questions prior to December 18, please contact Ben Koehlinger, Jim Kurkowski, or Karl Fink. The class will be starting in early January on Sunday afternoons, so please watch your weekly Chimes for more details!

Acolyte/Crucifer Update: Thanks to all of you who sent in the information we were looking for as we make up the new schedule. Mr. Ted Martin is in the process of contacting a number of you to see if you are still interested in serving, and we will get the schedule together and out by mid-January. If you are interested in serving and have not let me know, please contact Karl Fink just as soon as possible. Thanks!

Sunday School and Confirmation News: The Sunday School led Advent Worship service is happening on **Sunday Morning, December 18, at the 10:55 AM service.** The children will be presenting for worship "Light A Candle". This will be a delightful experience which will enhance your Christmas preparations, so we look forward to seeing many of you worshipping with us as we share the

Good News of Jesus' birth!

Please note that Sunday School and Confirmation classes will take a 2-week break over the Christmas holiday. **We will not meet on December 25 or January 1.** My continuing prayer for all of you is that you will find ways to worship the King during this Holy Season.

Gifts for the King: Boxes were distributed the last Sunday in November. Please continue to put your spare change (or dollar bills) into these boxes throughout this Advent Season, then bring them with you to worship on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, and place them into the blue box in the narthex. Funds collected will go to help mission projects which Bethany supports. If you were unable to get your box, please kindly pick one up from the Church Office.

One Final Thought: Like many of you, I am involved in the Church-wide study of "The Story...His Story". I continue to be amazed in the early part of the Old Testament how God used people who were far less than perfect to accomplish His plan in the "Upper Story". What a great God we have who still makes use of those who are far less than perfect (of course, I am only speaking of myself)! Thanks be to God for this; and thanks be to Him for the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Perfect One! Christmas Joy to you and yours...

Karl Fink
 Minister of Discipleship



Adult Bible Studies for DECEMBER...

SUNDAY Morning:

*No Studies on Sunday, December 25 and January 1.

† **Lessons of the Day**—Every Sunday morning with John Schinnerr at 9:30AM in the Conference Room. This study highlights the readings/lesson of the day.

† **Pastor's Class**—The pastors continue with the Parish Theme Bible study "**The Story...His Story**" and will meet throughout the year, **Choir Room**, 9:30-10:30AM. Please be sure to get your books, which have been made available since August. Please plan to join us anyways even if you do not have a book. Please be sure to bring a Bible!

WEDNESDAY Evening:

† **Living Way**—normally meets at 7PM in the Parish Lounge. This class will take a Christmas break and resume on January 11, 2012.

† **The Heart of the Story**—meets in the Multipurpose Room 215 the time for the month of December is TBD

as of this writing, call Pr. Moorman for details. This class will meet on Dec. 7, 14, & 21. No class on Dec. 28th.

THURSDAY Morning:

† **Men's Bible Study** meets from **6-7AM in the Parish Lounge.** We'll be studying **The Story...His Story**. *If you need to leave earlier for work, no problems! We're always looking for new men to join us, so as your schedule allows consider meeting with us as we study God's Good Word, fellowship, & pray together. ***We will not meet December 29 and will resume January 5, 2012.**

† **Women's Bible Study** meets from **9:15-11AM in the Parish Lounge.** We're studying **Joseph: Beyond the Coat of Many Colors.** All women are invited to attend. Child care is provided. Questions? Meg Velez, (562) 426-4262. ***We will not meet on December 22 & 29, but will resume our study on January 5, 2012.**

Ministry of Outreach News...

Thoughts on Chapter 11 of "The Story"...

Imagine the scene: a scrawny sixteen year old shepherd boy takes out a 9'9" tall giant with one rock and a sling. You may not have a gigantic giant taunting you to come out and fight. But you are probably facing a few giants of your own. Giants like the stack of past-due bills glaring at you; the divorce papers waiting on your signature; the depression that looms over you like the Hulk. It could be low self-esteem or insecurity or child abuse in your past. But you have your giants. And so do I. We would do well to learn from David.

He could face his "giant" because he had spent time in the quiet with God. When he arrived at the place of the standoff between the Israelites and the Philistines, he talked about God. He told Saul that "*The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine*" (1Sam.17:37). He did not hesitate to confront Goliath, saying he came "*in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel.*"

David was God-focused instead of giant-focused. He mentions Goliath two times and God nine times. He knew the giant was there and recognized his presence. But his thoughts were twice as much on God. That focus led him to confront his giant rather than run away. For forty days Goliath continued to challenge Israel's army. For forty days everyone hoped he would just go away. But giants don't typically go away until we face them. So David stepped into the gap and slung one well-aimed stone at him.

It helps to have someone in your corner that believes in you. David had his Jonathan. You need yours. You need at least one person who believes in you and that also believes in God; someone who can encourage your faith—give you courage—when you most need it. You will need it, because after you slay one giant, there will be more. You may wonder why David picked up five stones from the river bed. Was he afraid he might miss? Not likely. He was skilled in his use of the sling. 2 Samuel 21:18-22 hints that Goliath may have had four brothers. David was ready. He could take on one giant. You might say he knew how to get a *head of his giant*. Then he

Pr. Seth Moorman-Minister of Outreach, ext. 13
smoorman@bethanylutheran.org

was ready for more. You can too. Just follow the shepherd from Bethlehem.

Perhaps your giant is apathy or procrastination. Deep down you have a desire to serve God, to help others, to live out the Bethany Blueprint. It is fashionable during the Holiday season to look for ways to help others. Let me give you some encouragement to do something this year. Perhaps this can be your New Year's resolution—begin a season of service and face your giants. Here are some ways to help:

Invite our Neighbors to Bethany

Join us on Saturday December 3rd at 9 AM to pass out door hangers to our neighbors at Bethany inviting them to our Christmas concerts and to worship with us on Christmas Eve. It will only take an hour of your time. Bring your walking shoes and a bottle of water.

Christian Outreach In Action

COA is the largest provider of meals and food to downtown Long Beach community members in need and is a nondenominational, 501c nonprofit organization that has been serving the community for 27 years. COA provides a stable, daily environment for the homeless and poor, including women and children, by providing shelter, food, clothing and spiritual guidance. COA also provides transitional housing and counseling that leads to the attainment of skills necessary to reach and sustain self-sufficiency through cooperative programs with teaching institutions and other agencies. Mark your calendars now to help COA at their Children's Christmas Party on **December 17th**. Call Eileen at COA to volunteer (562) 432-1440.

Greeters Needed:



Welcome! Bienvenue! Aloha! Willkommen! Bienvenidos! Bethany seeks to be a place where people feel welcome. One way we do this is by having a friendly

face greet people at the door as they come to worship. We're looking for individuals & families who would like to offer a hand of welcome to members & guests alike. Interested? Contact the church office or Pastor Seth (smoorman@bethanylutheran.org).

Bethany's MOMS Group...

Are you a mom of young children and would like to meet other Bethany moms? Join the Moms' Group on the first/third Fridays of each month for a playdate. This month it's **December 2, & 16** We meet in the church nursery around **10:00AM** and the kids play and the moms talk for a few hours.

More information is to follow in the weekly chimes. Questions or for more information please contact Sarah O'Conner at smo17636@yahoo.com.

Annual Campout Retreat...

Bethany's Annual Family Campout Retreat is **February 18-20, 2012** at Mobiland RV Park in Ocotillo Wells.

Bring your special dish for Saturday's pot luck supper, something for Sunday morning brunch, Sunday evening hors d'oeuvres and some fire wood for the campfire. A worship service will be held Sunday morning at 10:00AM. Maps are available in the church office. For questions or reservation please call Philip Lopez, Wagonmaster at (562) 925-3542.

Bethany Lutheran School News...

Dr. Mary Fink-School Principal, ext. 17
mfink@bethanylutheran.org

I challenge anyone to find a more exciting place to be in December than a school...if we could bottle the excitement and joy of kids at Christmas, we'd have a new source of clean energy!

Amazing

It's hard to believe that last year at this time, we were putting in a new gym floor! The floor has been a true blessing, and we want it to last a LONG time, so that means regular cleaning/sealing. We'll be doing that between **December 21-27**, so the gym will be off-limits during that time. Thanks for your cooperation!

School Services

Bethany's Third, Fourth and Fifth Graders are preparing a special Advent/Christmas service, "B is for Bethlehem, a Christmas Alphabet." They will share the story of Jesus' birth through word and song on **Wednesday, December 14, at the 7:00 PM worship service.**

Gifts

We are so blessed, and we want to help our students develop servant hearts, so we do not exchange gifts at our Christmas

parties. Instead, we each prepare a hygiene kit for distribution by Lutheran Social Services of Long Beach. LSS and the people they serve warmly welcome these kits. Would you like to make a kit, too? Simply fill a Ziploc bag with these items: a bar of soap, washcloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo and a comb. Drop off your kit in the school office before Dec. 15 and we'll make sure it gets to LSS.

Christmas Vacation

The **final day of school in 2010 is December 20** (which is also a minimum day: dismissal at noon.) The **first day of school in 2012 is Wednesday, January 4.** We pray all our staff, students, and families have a safe and blessed Christmas break.

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

Dr. Mary Fink, Principal



Bethany's Preschool: Tricycle Tidings

Nola Seaman, Preschool Director, ext. 22
nseaman@bethanylutheran.org

MISSION STATEMENT: Bethany Lutheran Preschool exists, "To provide quality Christian early childhood education in a safe, loving and caring atmosphere; daily teaching God's forgiveness and love through our Savior, Jesus Christ."

We only have one television in the preschool, and we use it for teacher-training when we review the Conscious Discipline® DVD series each year. We use Conscious Discipline®, the emotional intelligence program consisting of "Brain Smart" strategies for responding rather than reacting to life events. We take advantage of many professional development opportunities as they come up, so that we can continue to learn and grow as Early Childhood Educators.

Last July members of Bethany's ministry team attended the National Children's Ministry Conference at St. John's, Orange. The conference was an incredible learning time. We all came away, uplifted by the Holy Spirit and anxious to share the awesome things we had learned and experienced. Early this fall several of us attended an excellent Gesell Institute Webinar entitled "Learning to Speak Five." We got some new (at least for me) insights on early development that we then shared with the rest of the preschool staff at a staff meeting.

Also this fall our two new teachers, their mentors and I attended the New Teacher/Mentor Workshop presented by our own Rachel Klitzing of the Pacific Southwest District School Ministries Department. We each received a huge packet of valuable information for the teacher, her mentor and their supervisor. A couple of weeks ago our two Pre-K teachers, attended a Handwriting without Tears workshop. This program is being used in a number of our PSD Early

Childhood Centers. It was recommended by our Student Success teachers. Handwriting Without Tears is an easy-to-teach, easy-to-learn curriculum that makes handwriting mastery joyful for students and their teachers. I went into Mrs. Lofton's classroom and observed as her class used materials and teaching tools she learned at the HWT workshop.

Thanksgiving week we attended the Lutheran Educator's Conference and CAPSO. Next March we will attend our annual one-day Early Childhood Spring Conference where we will again have the opportunity to learn from keynote speakers and workshop presenters. In April we will host a Zoo-Phonics workshop. Zoo-Phonics is a method intended to help children develop phonemic awareness, the ability to differentiate sounds. According to Wikipedia, "**Phonemic awareness** is a subset of [phonological awareness](#) in which listeners are able to hear, identify and manipulate [phonemes](#), the smallest units of [sound](#) that can differentiate meaning. Separating the spoken word "cat" into three distinct phonemes, /k/, /æ/, and /t/, requires phonemic awareness." The members of Bethany Lutheran Preschool staff are "Life-long Learners!"

We will be **closed December 21-26 for Christmas vacation.** We will be open for full-day children only December 27-30. We will be **closed Monday, January 2**, and will re-open Tuesday, January 3.

The staff of Bethany Lutheran Pre-school would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a Blessed Christmas season. We would like to thank you for the prayers and support that you give to your Pre-school as we spread the Gospel message to His littlest ones and their families! We still have space in our Pre-K program. If you know of a family with young children, tell them about Bethany. Invite them to visit our web site at www.bethanylutheran.org or to call the school at 562) 429-7335.

BLC Youth Ministry News...

ALL YOUTH...check out Bethany's website, www.bethanylutheran.org. We will be posting event details, pictures, and if you need a permission/medical release form for an event...this is the place to find it! Go to "Ministries," then to "Youth" and click on the group you are interested in!

High School (grades 9-12): Annual Holiday Progressive Dinner



Saturday, December 10th...we will meet at Bethany at **5:15PM to carpool** to our three host homes! The first home (Cerulle's) will host appetizers, the second home (Graham's) is dinner, and the third home (McGrath's) will be desserts PLUS our white elephant gift exchange game! Remember to bring a wrapped \$10 white elephant gift. These are supposed to be 'gag' type gifts for the humor & fun they bring to the party. **We should be back at Bethany for pick-up at 10:30PM.** Please RSVP to Diana Orr so we can plan accordingly for the food. Call or text Diana at 714-745-3678.

Parents, we need a few drivers; driver forms are on the website, so if you don't have one filled out, please bring a completed form with you.

Youth, if you have not already filled out the yearlong permission form, these are also on the website, so bring this completed form with you too. This is always a fun and festive night and it is sure to be another memorable event.

—Diana Orr (dorr@bethanylutheran.org)

High School Sponsored Scholastic Book Fair



Set-up will be **Friday, December 2** and the fair will run **Sunday through Friday, December 4-9.**

This is a great way to add to your home library and if you're a volunteer, it is a great way to earn some funds for your youth account.

Book Fair Hours will be:

Sunday from 9:00AM-12:30PM, Monday/Tuesday from 8:00AM-5:00PM, and then Wednesday through Friday, before and after school. Take-down will begin immediately at the close on Friday.

Gemma Andersen is the Youth Board contact for this and is coordinating the volunteer schedule. If you are able to help or can't remember what you signed up for, contact Gemma at sevenandersens@aol.com.

December - HS Birthdays

12/2 - Brandon Ballhagen 12/3 - Ricky Winfield
12/4 - Hannah Liedahl 12/4 - Alyssa Ivins
12/6 - Michael Hinrichs 12/11 - Donald Ishikawa
12/18 - Aaron Migliaro

High School Music Ministry

HS Handbells and the HS Celebrate! Choir will continue to have a modified POWER Sunday model. The schedule for our next two months looks like this—contact Dr. Carol McDaniel and/or Sara Cerulle.

December Schedule (updated*):

Dec. 3 - **NO Rehearsal***
Dec. 4 - **Power Sunday*** - 8AM sing at worship, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:45AM Handbell rehearsal, 11:30AM Celebrate rehearsal
Dec. 10 - **Christmas Concert Rehearsal** in AM...Details TBA
Dec. 11 - **Christmas Concerts:** 1:30, 4:00, & 7:00PM
Dec. 18 - **Power Sunday** - 9:30AM sing at worship
Dec. 24 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** at 11PM worship
Dec. 25 - **Power Down**

January Schedule:

Jan. 1 - **Power Down**
Jan. 8 - **Power Sunday** - 8AM Handbell rehearsal, 8:30AM Celebrate rehearsal, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:55AM worship w/ family
Jan. 15 - **Power Sunday** - 8AM Handbell rehearsal, 8:30AM Celebrate rehearsal 9:30AM HS Study, Sing at 10:55AM
Jan. 22 - **Power Sunday** - Sing at 8AM, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:45AM Handbell rehearsal, 11:30AM Celebrate rehearsal
Jan. 29 - **Power Down**

"3to5" for (grades 3-5)

"MSG" for (grades 6-8)

MSG and 3to5 will take a Christmas break this month. May your Christmas and New Year be blessed.

Look for information in next month's Chimes and in the Sunday Chimes for info on our January Event...**ICE SKATING!!!** This is always a fun event to start off the New Year. Looking forward to seeing all of you in 2012!

-Pastor K

Matthew 19:14 - Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

Making it Hard to Train Up a Child in the Way that He Should Go...

Proverbs 22:6

The **Fair Education Act** (SB 48) is an amendment to the California education code that *goes into effect January 2012*. This will mandate social science instruction on the contribution of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in public schools. In other words, children will be unnecessarily exposed to the homosexual agenda that is contrary to biblical principles. An attempt was made to keep this bill from going into effect. You may remember that Community Impact Committee reported that 497,404 signatures were gathered, but 504,760 were needed to place a referendum on the ballot.

ALERT: There are 8 laws having to do with sexual indoctrination impacting children in California public schools. You can read these at: rescueyourchild.com; click "Fact: See the Bad Laws". There are no opt-outs and no child is exempt.

BE INFORMED: The same website will help you gather more information. In addition: Have you reviewed the public school textbooks to know what is being taught? Know what is going on in your child's public school.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF: Bethany's ministry to children and young adults by encouraging your child's participation in Sunday School, confirmation, activities and events where God's Truth is taught and practiced. Changes in attitudes toward homosexuality have changed in the world, But God's Word, His Truth has not.

CONSIDER CHRISTIAN SCHOOLING: Some good reasons for this are given on this same website. They include:

God's Truth is taught ~ The school shares your values
 Safety ~ Academic achievement
 Teachers love and fear the Lord ~ Individual attention
 Success after graduation

(For further information on Bethany Lutheran School, contact Kathy Tucker, ext. 54)

CONSULT: God for wisdom to help all of us "Train up a child in the way that he shall go..."

-Community Impact Committee

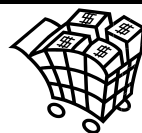
Travel Club News...



Potluck and Party will be Friday, **December 2 at 5:00PM in the Parish Lounge**.

Join us for a night of fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite main dish or salad. We will be playing the dice game after dinner. Please bring a wrapped \$10 gift (one per person) for our Christmas exchange. Sign up at the travel table on Sunday mornings in Friendship Square.

Laughlin is **January 22-24, 2012**. we have one room left for this trip, if you would like to join us, stop by the travel table or give me a call. \$130 per person for a double or \$160 for a single. Questions contact Alice Kroll at 714-995-6973 or email her at aliceandclint@yahoo.com.



SCRIP News...

SHOP WITH SCRIP Bethany Benefits!

Thank you to everyone that is bringing us Fresh & Easy receipts. Turn in receipts \$20 & over, dated between Sept.15 - Dec. 31, we earn \$1 for every \$20 on a receipt. Ask everyone you know that shops at Fresh & Easy for their receipts and put them in the Fresh & Easy box in Friendship Square on Sunday mornings.

Please don't buy gift cards at retailers or grocery store! Gift cards purchased from Bethany SCRIP help provide funds for the ministry of your choice. We purchase the gift cards at a discount, and you can give the profit from your purchase to Mission Alaska or India, the Bethany Music Ministry, Student Success, or Bethany Youth. If you check the "Church" rebate box the profit from your purchase is used for maintenance or items that other wise could not be included in the budget. The retailers want to share this money & if we don't take advantage of their generosity they will give the money to another church. Make every dollar count, buy SCRIP/gift cards and help us sustain Bethany ministries.

We are Grateful for Memorials...

Given in memory of:

+ Kip Holasek +
 C.R. Snider

"In him was life, and that life was the light of men." - John 1:4

Additional News & Notes...

- ⇒ **Deadline for the JANUARY Chimes** is on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011**. Email articles to Aimee Coleman (acoleman@bethanylutheran.org).
- ⇒ **Church Office Closed:** The office will be closed **December 26 & 27, 2011** and **January 2, 2012**.
- ⇒ **Announcement:** With great thanks and praise to God, we are pleased to announce our new grandson & granddaughter, Liam Sean born: 8/14/2011, 6 lbs/11oz., parents: Sean & Jennifer Riordan. Hannah Christine, born: 11/1/2011, 9 lbs/9 oz., parents: Ryan & Kelly Riordan. Ryan and Sean are both graduates of Bethany Lutheran School and the proud grandparents are Mike and Marilyn Riordan.



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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December CHIMES—Inside this Issue...

Inside this Issue:

- Petal Pusher/Rose Parade Floats, p.2
- Peace Financial, p.3
- Gifts for the King, p.3
- Outreach Opportunities, p.4
- Annual Campout, p.4
- Book Fair, p.6
- Community Impact Update, p.7

Join us at Worship!

Sunday: 8AM, 9:30AM, & 10:55AM

Monday: 7PM

***For Christmas & Advent
Worship Services, see p. 1**

**Important DECEMBER
Dates to Note:**

DATE / EVENT / TIME

- 12/5 Evangelism, 6:15PM
- 12/6 Youth Board, 6:30PM
All Boards, 7PM
- 12/11 Christmas Concerts, 1:30, 4, 7PM
- 12/13 Church Council, 7PM
Community Impact, 7PM
- 12/26 NO Vespers, Church Office Closed
- 12/27 Church Office Closed

***An updated weekly calendar is printed in each
Sunday bulletin!**



DECEMBER 2011