



The *Chimes* is published  
monthly by

### **Bethany Lutheran Church**

**A Great Commission  
Congregation**

4644 Clark Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90808  
(562) 421-4711

[www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)



### **Staff:**

Kevin Kritzer  
*Senior Pastor*

Seth Moorman  
*Minister of Outreach*

Carol McDaniel  
*Minister of Music*

Karl Fink  
*Minister of Discipleship*

Mary Fink  
*School Principal*

Nola Seaman  
*Preschool Director*

Submit monthly articles to  
Aimee Coleman, ext. 20  
[acoleman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:acoleman@bethanylutheran.org)

## **THE BETHANY BLUEPRINT**

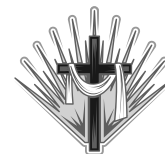
### **The Confinement of Lent**

Lent is confining! Historically, "Alleluias" are eliminated on Sundays. Traditionally, meat is eliminated on Fridays. Personally, an indulgence is forsaken for the entirety of the 40 days. Lent is confining. In that way, Lent is a prison. Everything in prison reminds one of how much they have messed up and how little control they have over their own lives.

In Lent, we behold our Lord in shackles, watching Him punished beyond belief and finally found in the solitary confinement of the cross—friends have fled, Father has forsaken—and He dies alone. As we see our Lord in such a condition, we become keenly aware that it is our sin that is the cause of His suffering. Lent makes it hard to escape. We can't help but realize how much we've messed up and how little control we have over our own lives.

The confinement of Lent ends with the pardon of the governor of heaven. The Alleluias return and the Feast of Easter tastes all the sweeter to those who've walked the yard of this most powerful of seasons.

Lenten worship begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22.



### ***Lenten Worship Schedule:***

Ash Wednesday - February 22

9:00AM (school chapel)

4:00 & 7:00PM - NO Soup Supper

Mid-week Lenten fellowship and worship is  
February 29 and March 7, 14, 21, & 28:

5:00PM - Soup Supper

5:30PM - Family Worship: Beginning on  
February 29 and continuing through the season of Lent, Bethany will have a special worship service for families with young children. The Family Worship Service will begin at 5:30 PM each Wednesday, and last for fifteen minutes. The focus for this time of worship will be the Journey of Jesus from Bethlehem to the cross and back to life. Traditional Lenten services will continue as always at 7:00PM, with Soup Suppers being offered between 5:00PM and 6:30PM. All ages are welcome to attend either service.

5:50PM - Communion Preparation

Class (gr. 5-8) \*see article on p.3

6:00PM - Heart of the Story

7:00PM - Worship

Maundy Thursday - April 5 at 7:00PM

Good Friday - April 6 at 1:00 & 7:00PM

Easter Sunday - April 8 at

8:00, 9:30, & 10:55AM

## **CUNE Chamber Choir to Tour West Coast...**

The Concordia University, Nebraska, Chamber Choir is scheduled for a tour along the West Coast in 2012. One of their stops will include Bethany Lutheran Church, Long Beach.

Join us for:

**An Evening Concert on Saturday, February 11, 2012 at 7:00PM**

AND

**Participation in all three morning worship services on Sunday, February 12, 2012**

The sixteen-voice select choir is chosen from the University A Cappella Choir and conducted by Kurt E. von Kampen.

**Admission to the concert is free; an offering will be taken at the evening concert.**

**Note: Performance at worship services is not complete concerts.**

## February Monthly Devotion...

The 'Cover Story' is what sells the magazine. It may or may not be the largest article but it is the essential one. What do you think would be the cover story of the Bible in magazine form? There is no shortage of candidates that would vie for the honor.

When you think about it, the Bible starts with a cover story. Adam and Eve transgress and though they are naked, and soon to be banished, yet God 'covers' them. He who provides coverings for His creation after the fall, falls on it later in wrath as He 'covers' the face of the earth in water. Soon He 'covers' (or promises to do so) the earth with Abraham's descendants, as many as sand on the sea shores or stars in the sky. Not long after He will, for the sake of Abraham's offspring,

'cover' Egypt with locusts, frogs, and darkness. The Righteous wrath and gift of righteousness that drive this 'Cover Story' reach an incredible climax when God 'covers' His Son in the sins of the world ([II Cor. 5:21a](#)) and then, through faith covers, His people in Christ's own righteousness and holiness ([II Cor. 5:21b](#)).

✠ What others' stories of "covering" can you recall in Scripture?

✠ Whom might God be calling you to cover the topic with?

-Pastor Kevin Kritzer

## Walk in the Newness of Life...



The New Life that Jesus was given when He rose from the dead becomes ours in Baptism. In our Baptism, God gives us new faith clothes.

Some families have a special white gown, bonnet or some other clothing that may have been passed down for several generations of children to wear or use for their Baptism. Some may receive a little pair of socks or new shoes. What we wore for our Baptism is not what is important. What is important is the new faith "clothing" that God gives us when we are baptized.

Our Sunday School doesn't give you new clothes to wear and we can't give you and your children a new pair of shoes. What we can offer is a footprint. That footprint reminds us all to walk as a child of God.

No matter what clothes we wear, we always have our faith clothes with us. And, whether we wear socks or not, wear flip

flops or sneakers, dance shoes or boots, we all have on our faith shoes. We walk following in the footsteps of Jesus.

During Sunday School we walk to places where we can worship and serve God. Our classrooms have room for everyone. Please make 2012 the year that you begin your Walk in the Newness of Life...Join us for Sunday School...there is a class for all ages.

### Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for walking on this earth, walking to the cross; and walking out of the tomb. Help us to walk in the faith of our Baptism. Help us to walk in the newness of life.

### Amen.

For more information about the Sunday School classes available each week, please contact Karl Fink or Debbie Peurrung.

*"I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;  
with my mouth I will make your faithfulness  
known through all generations."*

*-Psalm 89:1*

## Ministry of Discipleship News...

*Karl Fink-Minister of Discipleship, ext. 19*  
[kfink@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:kfink@bethanylutheran.org)

### Sunday School and Confirmation:

A group of 20 youth and adults will be attending LoveFest10 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Arcadia on **Saturday, February 11**. This event has now been going on for 10 years, and is aimed at educating our Junior High and High School students in what God's plan for sex is. We will be attending with close to 1000 youth in the Southern California area and beyond. Please pray that this event is both well attended and that the information received will be taken to heart! Thanks to our Board of Youth for helping to subsidize our attendance!

There will be **NO classes** for Confirmation and Sunday School youth on **Sunday, February 19** due to the President's Day Holiday Weekend. **Classes will resume on February 26.**

### Preparation Class for Receiving the Lord's Supper:

Confirmation at Bethany is the means by which we prepare our youth for worthy reception of the Lord's Supper. This portion of the Catechism is taught on Wednesday evenings during Lent. The class is intended for 5th & 6th graders and will also be attended by those 7th & 8th graders currently in our Confirmation classes that have not yet made it to the Communion Preparation course. The 5-week class is for both the Confirmands and at least ONE parent. This year our sessions will begin on **Wednesday, February 29 at 5:50PM** and conclude on **Wednesday, March 28**. Each class will end in time for the Confirmand and their family to attend our mid-week 7PM

Lenten worship in the sanctuary. Those completing the course will be able to receive their First Communion on either Palm Sunday or Maundy Thursday. **If you plan to have your child attend this class contact Karl Fink by February 26th.**

### VBS 2012:

It is that time of year as we begin making plans for our Vacation Bible School here at Bethany. We have just about selected our theme, and we are busy working on music and craft ideas already! Please pray for this effort and check your calendars as to your availability the week of **June 18-22**, as I will need just over 100 volunteers for this week of ministry. A volunteer form will be included in next month's Chimes along with more details of our theme!

### Golf Tournament News:

We are getting closer to our annual Bethany tourney for 2012! Fliers will be available in Friendship Square on Sundays starting February 5, and in both the church & school offices as well. Cost remains the same, \$100 and is on **Friday, March 16**, at Montebello Country Club. We'll have a shot-gun start at 8AM with plenty of food/beverage, as well as some outstanding raffle prizes. Make sure to sign up your 4-somes, 2-somes, and singles! If you have any questions, contact Karl Fink.

Karl Fink - DCE

## Adult Bible Studies for FEBRUARY...

**\*NO classes on Sunday, February 19, 2012.**

### SUNDAY Morning:

- † Lessons of the Day—Every Sunday morning with John Schinnerer at **9:30AM in the School Library**. 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**.

### WEDNESDAY Evening:

- † Living Way—meets at 7PM in the Parish Lounge. **This class will run through February 15 and then take a Lenten break.** The format of Living Way includes homework in the text of Scripture as you read portions of Colossians, reflect on its meaning, answer questions, then when we gather on Wednesdays, we break into small groups, discuss our reflections, and then finally wrap up our time with conversation/lecture led by a member of Bethany's ministry staff. Pastor Kevin Kritzer is the regular facilitator/teacher for Living Way.
- † The Heart of the Story—Join Pr. Seth Moorman in the Multipurpose Room 215 at **7:00PM on February 1, 8 & 15. No class on February 22**, then on **February 29 we will meet at 6:00PM**.

### THURSDAY Morning:

- † Men's Bible Study meets from **6-7AM in the Parish Lounge**. \*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.
- † Women's Bible Study The Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study meets at **9:15AM in the Parish Lounge**. We are studying Joseph and his coat of many colors and God's sovereignty. All women are invited to attend. This is such a great way to grow in the knowledge of God with many wonderful women. Childcare is provided.

### Other Study Opportunity:

- † Make a New Year's resolution this year that can change your life. **Challenge yourself to read the entire Bible in 2012.** It will take hard work and discipline, but the benefits are eternal. Just purchase **The One Year Bible** in a version that is easy for you to read. These books arrange the text of the Bible into 365 daily readings. Each day in **The One Year Bible** you will find a selection from the Old Testament, one from the New Testament, a portion from the Psalms, and a selection from the book of Proverbs. Each week there will be a study posted on the Bethany blog ([www.bethanylutheran.blogspot.com](http://www.bethanylutheran.blogspot.com)) to help you stay on track and to communicate insights or ask questions. Questions? Contact Pr. Seth ([smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)).

## Ministry of Outreach News...

*Pr. Seth Moorman-Minister of Outreach, ext. 13*  
[smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)

### Thoughts on Chapter 17 of *The Story*

Sally Edwards is a highly esteemed third grade teacher at Jacksboro Elementary in Texas. She was preparing her students for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test and compiled an exam to help them. There were twenty questions. Number eleven on the test was this question: "List in any order the four seasons." A whopping 67% of her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students answered: "Dove season, deer season, duck season, and turkey season."

I don't know what season of life you are in, but I do know this: God has something for you to do. He did for Jeremiah. He told Jeremiah he had a work for him to do. His assignment? Stand in the rubble of Jerusalem and weep. He was also told the people would not listen to him. That was it. And oddly enough, Jeremiah did it. As the people of Judah were leaving Jerusalem in single file as captives, Jeremiah stood weeping and reminding them that God would bring them back with these words: "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness" ([Lamentations 3:21-23](#)).

God had something for Jeremiah to do. And he has something for you to do too. In the New Testament book of Ephesians the apostle Paul writes to the church, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God created in advance for us to do" ([Ephesians 2:10](#)).

In God's employment contract for us today, he does not ask us to be successful by the world's standards but rather to be faithful to him to do good things. God is not so much concerned about your ability as he is your availability. Just like Jeremiah, God is calling you to play a role in his Grand Story. It may be that this is your time to change the direction of your family. Turning from a focus on you alone to a concerning yourself with the things of God. It may be that God is calling you to reach out to a neighbor. Perhaps he is laying on your heart a ministry where there is a need you can't even see at the moment. Whatever season of life you are in God is calling you to make a difference. And he is desiring to equip you to make that difference. Right now. Today. Need some help finding a place to serve? Let me know. I would be glad to help.

**-Pastor Seth Moorman**

## Beutel Scholarship Grant...



Beutel Scholarship Grant Applications are now being accepted for academic year 2012-2013 and are available in the Church Office. These applications are for students attending a college or university of our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in preparation for a full-time career as a pastor, teacher, deaconess, youth director, social worker, lay missionary worker, medical missionary, or parish worker. The purpose of the grant is to encourage our young people to pursue a career in church work and to give them assistance in reaching this goal.

All scholarships are awarded on an annual basis. If a student needs scholarship help for the school term beginning in the fall of 2012, they **must apply between February 1 and March 1, of this year.**

Applications are available in the Church Office for completion in a folder marked BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIPS. In order for students to be eligible, they **MUST RETURN APPLICATIONS** to the Church Office (Elder's Box) **ON OR BEFORE THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2012.**

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Swick at (562) 714-3196.

**"If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen" - 1 Peter 4:11**

## Bethany Lutheran School News...

Dr. Mary Fink-School Principal, ext. 17  
[mfink@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:mfink@bethanylutheran.org)

Do you remember February in school? It's the time for candy hearts and LOTS of red construction paper, of course, but here at Bethany, it's also about the best Valentine of all: **"God showed His love for us in this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."** -Romans 5:8

### Recruitment/Enrollment

You'll see lots of information about this elsewhere in the Chimes from our Admission Director, Kathy Tucker. Just a reminder to continue to spread the good word about our school ministries, Preschool-Grade 8, and let us know if there are any interested families we should contact. Thanks!

### Professional Growth

Our teachers recognize the importance of life-long learning, and are constantly working to work improve their craft. Mrs. Schuldheisz, for example, recently finished her Masters' degree. Several teachers recently participated in math instruction workshops, and our Student Success team attended the International Dyslexia conference. We know we're never a finished product!

### National Lutheran Schools Week

We will celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week **March 4-9** alongside our sister Lutheran schools. Bethany Lutheran School is one of 2485 schools operated by congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, educating over 274,000 students. Our school is served by the School Ministries office of the Pacific Southwest District.

It is joy to serve with you!

Dr. Mary Fink  
Principal



## Bethany's Preschool: Tricycle Tidings

Nola Seaman, Preschool Director, ext. 22  
[nseaman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:nseaman@bethanylutheran.org)

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."

The time has come to register/re-register for the 2012-2013 school year. Current Bethany Lutheran students, their siblings (both preschool and elementary), and children of Bethany members are encouraged to register during the month of February. On March 1, 2012 registration opens to the general public. We are expecting classes to fill up quickly, so get your registrations in early.

February is a short, very busy month at Bethany Lutheran Preschool.

- ♥ On **Wednesday, February 1**, Bethany's sixth graders will come down and take their Pre-K buddies on a Teddy Bear Picnic. A fun time, along with some very special surprises, will be had by all!
- ♥ **Tuesday, February 14** is not only Valentine's Day. At BLP, we will be celebrating "Morning With Mommy," when our mommies will spend the morning with their preschool child. The morning begins at 9:00AM when the Mommies arrive. At 9:15AM we walk to the sanctuary where Pastor Seth and Mr. Frank will lead Chapel for us. After chapel, we enjoy a special snack, and then we return to our class-

rooms and play yard to experience preschool together until 11:00 when it is time for the Mommies to leave.

- ♥ The next evening, **Wednesday, February 15 from 5:30 to 8:00PM** will be the all-school Science Fair. Preschool is all about science. The children spend most of each day learning about their world. They classify relationships between objects. They develop skills in using the scientific method of problem solving, such as observing, predicting, testing predictions and generalizations.
- ♥ **Friday, February 17** will be a half day for all students, because we will be having Parent/Teacher Conferences in the afternoon.
- ♥ **Monday, February 20** is President's Day. School will be closed.
- ♥ **Tuesday, February 21** is Kindergarten Sneak Peek for our Pre-K children. They will actually walk over to Mrs. Dahlin's Kindergarten classroom, and experience Kindergarten for a short time. Parents are welcome to join their Pre-K child.

If you know of a family with young children, tell them about Bethany.

Invite them to visit our web site at [www.bethanylutheran.org](http://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](http://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):

The February High School Event is still in the planning stages watch the weekly Sunday bulletin and website for updates on this coming month's event. -Diana Orr

#### *February - HS Birthdays*

2/13 Shannon O'Neil      2/17 Brandon Baker  
2/22 Patrick Dunn      2/24 Ryan Fink  
2/27 Moriah Ivins

### 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.

#### February Schedule:

Feb. 5 - **POWER Sunday**  
8AM Handbell rehearsal, 8:30AM Celebrate rehearsal, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:55AM worship w/ family

Feb. 12 - **POWER Sunday**  
8AM worship w/ family, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:45AM Handbell rehearsal, 11:30AM Celebrate rehearsal

Feb. 19 - **Power DOWN**

Feb. 26 - **POWER Sunday**  
8AM Handbell rehearsal, 8:30AM Celebrate rehearsal, 9:30AM HS Study, Sing at 10:55AM

#### March Schedule:

March 4 - **POWER Sunday**  
Sing at 8AM worship, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:45AM Handbell rehearsal, 11:30AM Celebrate rehearsal

March 11 - **POWER Sunday**  
8AM worship w/ family, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:45AM Handbell rehearsal, 11:30AM Celebrate rehearsal

March 18 - **Power DOWN**

March 25 - **POWER Sunday**  
8AM Handbell rehearsal, 8:30AM Celebrate rehearsal, 9:30AM HS Study, 10:55AM worship w/ family

### "3to5" for (grades 3-5)

### "MSG" for (grades 6-8)

MSG and 3to5 save the date...**Sunday February 26**. Each group will have their own event. Each of your events is still in the planning stages, so look for information to be posted very soon in the weekly Sunday bulletin and on our website. **But in the meantime...SAVE THIS DATE...FEBRUARY 26!!!**

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."*

## ANCHOR

(Young Adult / College-age Group)...

### *ANCHOR goes Bowling!*

The young adult/college-age group at Bethany will go **Cosmic Bowling** on **Friday, February 3, 2012**. Meet at **Cal Bowl** (2500 Carson St, Lakewood, CA 90712) at 9:30PM for two hours of unlimited bowling and fun.

Cost is \$15 plus shoe rental (\$3.75).

RSVP on the ANCHOR Facebook page or email Pastor Seth ([smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)). Bring a friend!!





## Mission India Tea...

### Save the Date!

Saturday, April 21  
11:00AM - 2:00PM

#### "Tea for Two — I Do"

It has been a long time since we have had a ladies tea at Bethany. This is a fundraiser tea for Mission India - details to follow. Be on the lookout for tickets to go on sale in March at \$15 each.

We are hoping for some women volunteers to host tables - contact Cindy Stock at (562)494-6808 if interested or for any questions. We are looking for donated items for the raffle/ auction - you may contact Tracy Hunter at (310)200-8082.

We are also looking for wedding pictures - these may be emailed to [craigbreit@hotmail.com](mailto:craigbreit@hotmail.com) or you may call Craig at (562)862-5887 to make arrangements to have your picture scanned. All pictures provided will be handled carefully and promptly returned.

## NYG Volunteers Needed...

The 2013 National LCMS Youth Gathering takes place in San Antonio, Texas, **July 1-5, 2013**. The Gathering is in need of people to fill key volunteer roles called Community Life Builders (CLBs). A Community Life Builder is a servant leader who is the hands and feet of the Gathering. These individuals build the community by serving, providing listening ears and wise counsel while sharing the love of Christ in their actions, words and leadership. CLBs love, protect, and serve the Gathering participants by linking Gathering planners with participants. CLBs serve as "HelpLine" representatives, hotel liaisons, crowd managers/greeters, Gathering program assistants and fill other important roles.

The Youth Gathering covers expenses such as Gathering registration, travel, housing, and some meals. Community Life Builders must be at least 25 years old and will serve June 28-July 5, 2013. If you are interested in applying or learning more about serving as a CLB go to [www.lcmsgathering.com](http://www.lcmsgathering.com) and click on "SUPPORT/VOLUNTEER" at the top of the page. **The application deadline is February 21, 2012.** Got questions? Contact the Community Life Leadership Team at [nygclb@gmail.com](mailto:nygclb@gmail.com).

## 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 **February 3 & 17**.

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](mailto:smo17636@yahoo.com).

## Additional News & Notes...

- ⇒ **Deadline for MARCH Chimes is Wednesday, February 15, 2012.** Email articles to Aimee Coleman ([acoleman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:acoleman@bethanylutheran.org)).
- ⇒ **Reminder:** NO adult studies, High School Study, Confirmation or Sunday School on **Sunday, February 19**.
- ⇒ **Church Office Closed: Monday, February 20** for Presidents' Day.
- ⇒ **Bethany's Annual Family Campout Retreat: February 18-20** at Mobiland RV Park, Ocotillo Wells. Bring your special dish for Saturday's pot luck supper, something for Sunday morning brunch, Sunday evening hors d'oeuvres & fire wood for the campfire. A worship service will be Sunday morning at 10AM. Questions/Reservation call Philip Lopez, (562) 925-3542.

## Moms In Touch International has a new name: Moms in Prayer

The mission and vision remain the same: praying for children and schools. Now, the name describes what we do. It brings simplicity and clarity to the mission and vision, and the word "prayer" gives unity to our Moms in Prayer groups around the world since it is more easily translated into other languages. Our purpose is to call moms around the world to meet regularly to pray using the Four Steps of Prayer, in one accord, agreement prayer for God to transform children and schools. The core values and statement of faith are exactly the same. Only the name has changed. Moms in Prayer is working to update online resources to incorporate the new name. They will maintain [www.MomsInTouch.org](http://www.MomsInTouch.org), but the main web address will now be [www.MomsInPrayer.org](http://www.MomsInPrayer.org).

***Moms in Prayer: It's what we do. It's who we are.***

***Join us on Wednesday mornings, 8:45-9:45AM in the Conference Room.***

- Connie Kritzer



**BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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# February CHIMES—Inside this Issue...

**Inside this Issue:**

- Lenten Worship Schedule, p.1
- CUNE Chamber Choir Concert, p.1
- Communion Preparation Class, p.3
- Beutel Scholarship Grant, p. 4
- ANCHOR Event, p.6
- Mission India Tea, p.7

**Important FEBRUARY**  
Dates to Note:

**DATE / EVENT / TIME**

- 2/4 Acolyte/Crucifer Training, 9AM
- 2/7 All Boards, 7PM
- 2/11 CUNE Chamber Choir Concert, 7PM
- 2/14 Church Council, 7PM  
Community Impact, 7PM
- 2/19 NO Studies Today
- 2/20 Church Office Closed, Presidents' Day

**Join us at Worship!**

Sunday: 8AM, 9:30AM, & 10:55AM  
Monday: 7PM

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



**FEBRUARY 2012**