



# HERALD

**December 17, 2017  
Third Sunday in Advent**

On behalf of the family of Bethany Lutheran Church & School, we welcome our members and our guests in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. If you are a visitor, we ask you to fill out the guest registration card in the pew. We also invite you to stop by our welcome center in the Narthex for a gift and more information about our church.

## **A Baby Playing on his Mother's Lap**

“Let us, then, meditate upon the Nativity just as we see it happening in our own babies. I would not have you contemplate the deity of Christ, the majesty of Christ, but rather his flesh. Look upon the Baby Jesus. Divinity may terrify man. Inexpressible majesty will crush him. That is why Christ took on our humanity, save for sin, that he should not terrify us but rather that with love and favor he should console and confirm.

Behold Christ lying in the lap of his young mother, still a virgin. What can be sweeter than the Babe, what more lovely than the mother! What fairer than her youth! What more gracious than her virginity! Look at the Child, knowing nothing. Yet all that is belongs to him, that your conscience should not fear but take comfort in him. Doubt nothing. Watch him springing in the lap of the maiden. Laugh with him. Look upon this Lord of Peace and

your spirit will be at peace. See how God invites you in many ways. He places before you a Babe with whom you may take refuge. You cannot fear him, for nothing is more appealing to man than a babe. Are you affrighted? Then come to him, lying in the lap of the fairest and sweetest maid. You will see how great is the divine goodness, which seeks above all else that you should not despair. Trust him! Trust him! Here is the Child in whom is salvation. To me there is no greater consolation given to mankind than this, that Christ became man, a child, a babe, playing in the lap and at the breasts of his most gracious mother. Who is there whom this sight would not comfort? Now is overcome the power of sin, death, hell, conscience, and guilt, if you come to this gurgling Babe and believe that he is come, not to judge you, but to save.”

*Martin Luther*

*(An excerpt from The Martin Luther Christmas Book, translated by Roland Bainton, p. 39-40)*

## This Week's Calendar

### Sunday, December 17

#### Third Sunday in Advent

8:30 am—Worship w/communion  
 10:00 am—Bible Class/Sunday School  
 11:00 am—Worship w/communion  
 4:00 pm—Sunday School Christmas Program  
 4:30 pm—Confirmation Mentor Night

### Monday, December 18

9:30 am—LWML

### Tuesday, December 19

7:00 pm—BLS Christmas Program

### Wednesday, December 20

8:50 am—BLS Chapel  
 9:00 am—Woman's LifeLight  
 3:30 pm—Schola Cantorum  
 5:30 pm—Praises Ring  
 6:00 pm—Non-Day School Confirmation  
 7:15 pm—Advent Vespers/Evening Prayer  
 8:00 pm—Proclaim

### Thursday, December 21

### Friday, December 22

No School—Christmas Break—School Office Closed

### Saturday, December 23

7:30 am—Saturday AM Men's Basketball  
 5:00 pm—Worship w/communion

### Sunday, December 24

#### Christmas Eve

8:30 am—Worship w/communion  
 No Bible Class/Sunday School  
**No 11 am service**  
 5:00 pm—Christmas Eve Carols & Lessons  
 7:15 pm—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
 11 pm—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

## Prayers

### *In Our Prayers.....*

**All of Our Members, especially:** **Dudley Lusk**, hospitalized at Edward. *(please renew after four weeks).*

### **All of our Family Members & Friends, especially:**

**Raymie Centell**, (cousin of Amy Schumacher) breast cancer;  
**Imelda**, (friend of Maria Simpson) guidance during family crisis;  
**Julia**, (friend of Amy Schumacher) diagnosed with breast cancer;  
**Deb Strand**, (friend of Maria Simpson) effective healing and peace during chemo treatments. *(please renew after two weeks).*

Prayers that the Lord be with **Peter Johnson** as he continues to serve in the Air Force. Prayers for **Shalyn Martinek** as she continues to serve in the Marines and **Matthew Hinze** and **Michael Hinze** as they continue to serve in the US Army.

For **Samuel Simpson**—guidance during final exams.

### **Advent Devotions Available in Tract Carousel**

Help yourself to Higher Things Advent Devotion booklets located in the tract carousel, next to the Welcome Center.

### **If you're wishing to send our newly retired staff a Christmas greeting, here are their addresses:**

Pastor and Phyllis Rossow  
 PO Box 121  
 Ocean Shores, WA 98569  
 Pam Mueller  
 87 Cammeron Ct.  
 Aurora, IL 60504

### Stewardship

#### Weekly Contributions - Week of 12/10/2017

Actual	Budget	Surplus/Deficit
\$20,811	\$20,333	\$478

#### Year to Date Contributions 07/1/17 - 12/13/17

Actual	Budget	Surplus/Deficit
\$447,297	\$455,066	(\$7,770)

### Attendance

**Dec 17                      Dec 16**

	Dec 17	Dec 16
Avg Weekly Attendance - Dec	415	355
YTD Attendance July - Dec	9,647	9,462

### **School Financial Aid**

We have a BLS Financial Aid Fund that is used to fund scholarships to help families attend Bethany Lutheran School. There are families who want their children to learn in a Christ-centered environment, but need financial assistance for that to happen. If you are in a position to make an over-and-above gift to the Bethany Lutheran School Financial Aid Fund, it will be put to good use.

### **Don't Forget Your Campbell Soup Labels!**

With Christmas break approaching and everyone extremely busy, please try to remember to bring in any Campbell Soup labels you still have. Deposit your labels in the container in the narthex across from the MPR. The deadline is December 31. Bethany Lutheran School thanks you!

## News

### **Come to the Sunday School Christmas Program!**

This Sunday, December 17 at 4 p.m., join the kids and teachers of Bethany Sunday School for our annual Christmas program! **We welcome everyone and hope you'll also enjoy refreshments with us following the program.**

### **Texas Work Group Mission**

The mission to Southeast Texas to rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey has now achieved over \$17,500 in contributions. A big THANK YOU to everyone who has donated toward this worthy cause. A special thank you to the DuPage Children's Museum for donating space for our adult social event and to the following who donated toward the silent auction: Peter Hynes—Cargill Protein Products, Miskatonic Brewing Company, the Bethany's office, the Hannenberg family, and the Tatar family. While we will continue to accept donations, the building material costs and trip expenses are now fully funded. As we approach Christmas, we now ask that you prayerfully consider the needs of Bethany in your giving plans.

The mission trip is planned for Saturday, December 30 to Saturday, January 7. We currently have 20 people who have indicated they will participate. If anyone still has interest in joining the mission, please send an email by December 18 to Pastor Clemmer or Rich Tatar at [rmtatar428@gmail.com](mailto:rmtatar428@gmail.com).

### **Youth Take One Year Break from Garage Sale**

The leaders of the Youth Program have decided to take a year off from the annual garage sale in favor of other fundraising paths. If there is another group within Bethany that would like to take on the garage sale this year, please contact Donna Linnemeyer at [dlinnemeyer@bethanylcs.org](mailto:dlinnemeyer@bethanylcs.org) by December 17, 2017.

### **It's Time to Defend Our League Championship!**

Bethany is again forming a women's volleyball team (high school and up) to play in the Lutheran Athletic Association of Great Chicago League. The season is January 7 through March 11. Games are on Sunday afternoons and are played at the various churches in the league. For more information and to express interest in joining, please contact Kari Janetzke at [kjanetzke@bethanylcs.org](mailto:kjanetzke@bethanylcs.org).

### **Youth News**

December 17—Jr. High Mentor Night, 4:30 to 6 p.m.  
(If you are involved in the Sunday School Program, come to Mentor Night after)

### **School Staff Openings**

Bethany Lutheran School is seeking applicants for teaching and instructional aide positions in our preschool for the 2018-2019 school year. Early Childhood Degrees are preferred but all applicants will be considered. Interviews will be set up in January. Please forward resumes to Patty Compton in the school office by January 8, 2018.

### **Theology on Tap Set for December 19**

Theology on Tap will meet on Tuesday, December 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Hopvine Brewing Co. (4030 Fox Valley Center Dr.). We are studying Luther's Large Catechism. Please see Bethany's website for the reading assignment and to register. We hope you will join us.

### **Where Everybody Knows Your Name**

The Cheers Club is working out details for the January 20 adult bowling event and looking for a date for a progressive dinner. We just got word of a good deal on tickets to see "Hamilton" in late spring. If you are interested in this event, please place your name on the interest sheet on the tower in the narthex. Watch for details on all of our upcoming events!

## **Christmas 2017/New Year's Worship Schedule**

**Sunday, December 17, 4 pm**—Sunday School Christmas Program

**Tuesday, December 19, 7 pm**—Day School Christmas Program

**Wednesday, December 20, 7:15 pm**—Advent Evening Prayer

**Saturday, December 23, 5 pm**—Divine Service

**Sunday, December 24**

8:30 am—Divine Service

No 11 am—Divine Service

5:30 pm—Family Service of Lessons /Carols

7:15 pm—Christmas Eve Divine

Candlelight Service

11 pm—Christmas Eve Divine

Candlelight Service

**Monday, December 25, 10 am**—Christmas Day Divine Service

**Saturday, December 30**—Divine Service

**Sunday, December 31, 8:30 and 11 am**—Divine Service

## Staff

### Program Staff

Vacant.....Pastor (Team Leader, Administration)  
 Rev. Stephen Schumacher.....Pastor (Mercy)  
 Rev. Seth Clemmer.....Pastor (Witness, Youth)  
 Neal Kaspar.....School Principal  
 Michael Giuliani.....Cantor  
 Linda Fox.....Admissions Director  
 Erin Dunwell.....Assistant Principal/Fifth Grade Teacher  
 Donna Linnemeyer.....Program Administrator

### Faculty

Jennifer Gutzwiller.....Preschool Teacher  
 Angela Hess.....Preschool Teacher  
 Jamie Rogoz.....Preschool Teacher  
 Diana Guebert.....Preschool Teacher  
 Beth Schultz.....Preschool Teacher  
 Nadine Parmenter.....Preschool Teacher  
 Justine Kaczmarek, Heather Schmidt.....Instructional Aides  
 Kristin Gemkow.....Kindergarten  
 Cyndi Niccolai.....First Grade  
 Kari Janetzke.....Second Grade  
 Carole Staunch.....Art/Kindergarten Aide  
 Chad Baganz.....Third Grade  
 Michelle Stehle.....Fourth Grade  
 Nancy Yendrejczyk.....Library  
 Debby Buckman.....K-5th Phys. Ed.  
 Josh Schultz.....Sixth Grade  
 Rob Johnson.....Seventh Grade  
 David Bremer.....Eighth Grade  
 Glenn Sonlitner.....Eighth Grade English/Sixth Grade Math  
 Jill Diriltan.....Teacher/Speech  
 Holly Fletcher.....Special Education  
 Kevin Zorena.....Assistant Cantor  
 Chad Baganz/David Bremer.....Athletic Directors

### Administrative/Support Staff

Pam Kolzow.....Finance Administrator  
 Patty Compton.....School Administrator  
 Melanie Colt.....School Secretary  
 Agnes Giuliani.....Confirmation/Sunday School Coordinator  
 Lynn Hart.....Worship Secretary  
 Jean Martinek.....Youth/Evangelism/Membership Secretary/Printer  
 Jake Mathley.....Facilities Manager  
 Pam Splitt.....Herald Editor  
 To e-mail any staff member: First initial of first name last name  
 @bethanylcs.org (ex. sschumacher@bethanylcs.org)

## Board of Trustees

Dave Groth      Dave Humphrey      Joshua Janetzke  
 Steve Lindenmeyer      Jon Roberts      Mike Teske  
 Mike Walsh, Chairman      Jeff Williams

## Our Sunday School Teachers

PreK – Kindergarten.....Nicole Kaim  
 1/2 grades.....Traci Downs  
 3/4 grades.....Sue Sreniawski  
 5/6 grades.....Kimberly Burnell  
 7/8 grades.....Matt Krock

## Bible Studies at Bethany

### Our Feature Bible Study in the Gym

Our feature Bible Class, taught by Pastor Schumacher, is called “*Luther’s Essentials...Insights into the Christian Faith by Dr. Martin Luther*”. These classes meet in the gym at 10 a.m. **No class December 24 and 31.**

### Adult Instruction Class

If you’re interested in joining Bethany or learning more about the Lutheran faith contact Pastor Schumacher at [sschumacher@bethanylcs.org](mailto:sschumacher@bethanylcs.org) or Pastor Clemmer at [scllemmer@bethanylcs.org](mailto:scllemmer@bethanylcs.org) or call 630-355-2198. New Member Classes are taught in conjunction with the *Luther’s Essentials class in the gym*. **No class December 24 and 31.**

### Sunday School

All classes meet each week at 10 a.m. in our school wing and grade levels are marked on the doorways. **No classes December 24 and 31.**

### Ladies Wednesday Morning LifeLight

The Ladies LifeLight Bible Study is studying Ezra and Nehemiah. Join us to see how God brought His people Israel back from exile in Babylon and renewed His covenant with them. All women are welcome to join us for this in-depth Bible study on Wednesday mornings, 9 to 11 a.m. in the boardroom. Lifelight books are available in the church office. **There is no Lifelight on December 20, 27 and January 3. Lifelight resumes on January 10.** Contact Karen Perry (630-904-1043 or [ksperry62@gmail.com](mailto:ksperry62@gmail.com)) with any questions.

### Evening Lifelight

The Thursday Evening Lifelight Bible Study meets with Pastor at church one week and in a home the next. We are studying the book of Genesis. For more information, please call the church office.

### Saturday AM Men’s Bible Breakfast

All men of Bethany are invited to the Men’s Bible Breakfast which meets on the first and third Saturday of each month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. We are studying Luther’s Large Catechism.

### Bethany Lutheran Church & School

1550 Modaff Road      Naperville, IL 60565  
 Church: (630) 355-2198      School: (630) 355-6607  
[www.bethanylcs.org](http://www.bethanylcs.org)

### Service Times

Saturday      5 p.m.  
 Sunday      8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
 (Communion at all services)

Sunday worship is followed by Coffee Fellowship time. Sunday School, Adult and Youth Bible Study begin at 10 a.m.

**Nursery** The nursery is staffed during worship and Bible Study hour on Sundays. You are welcome to use it as a cry room at the 5 p.m. service.

**The deadline for the Holiday Herald  
 is Tuesday, December 19.**