<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside this issue:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mock Trial / Church Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crab Feed/ Auction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February Birthdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship Servers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LWML</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT / LWML</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Group Lock-In</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Volunteer Opportunities**

**Ministry Advisory Team:**
We are looking for volunteers in the following areas: Communion assistants, audio visual assistants, Ushers, Readers, Greeters, Prayer partners and Acolytes. For more information contact Don Henrich at DVSKVV@aol.com

**Worship Committee:**
Members assist the pastor with planning of special services and the liturgical seasons. The members discuss/impliment ways to improve the service (review comments from comment box, members, or personal observation). Members also discuss any issues (technical or otherwise) that have occurred in the service. Worship committee coordinates with Altar Guild and the Music Director. For more information contact Nigel Browne at 707-628-4648

**Youth Ministry:**
Help coordinate / prepare lunch meals for the youth
Assist with mentoring youth during youth events and Bible Study
Help drive youth to meetings

For more information contact Kevin Shaw at nafl@nafl-usa.com
Youth Group—will be having a Mock Trial on Sunday, February 11th from 10:00 am – 11:00 am during Bible study.

All are invited to attend and participate. We have been studying the “Bible on Trial” study and the youth will be doing a mock trial.

Also, our next youth group event will be on that day - Sunday, February 11th from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Lunch will be provided.

### Church Services at Bethany Lutheran Church

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Time</th>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Variety of Traditional and Contemporary (Communion 1st, 3rd &amp; 5th Sundays)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>Variety of Traditional and Contemporary (Communion 1st, 3rd &amp; 5th Sundays)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bible Studies at Bethany

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Study Topic/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Sunday School—Classes for Everyone Adult Bible Studies: “Spiritual Gifts”- <em>Bethany Women; Men’s Bible Study</em> - “Stuff They Didn’t Teach Me In Sunday School – Letters to the Church“ - facilitated by: the MAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>“Be Still and Know that I Am God” by Carole Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>“Ephesians” by Pastor Rittenbach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ticket Prices:

**Early Bird until 2/9/18**

- $55 Individual (Open Seating)
- $105 per couple (Open Seating)
- $440 per table (Includes reserved table with 8 tickets and 2 bottles of wine)

**After 2/9/18**

- $60 Individual (Open Seating)
- $120 per couple (Open Seating)
- $480 per table (Includes reserved table with 8 tickets and 2 bottles of wine)

**Menu:**
Garlic Bread
Caesar Salad
Pasta
Crab
*Chicken Option Available for those who do not eat crab. This must be communicated when you purchase the tickets*
Greetings from your church council,

1 Thessalonians 5:15 says “See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.”

Assistant Pastor Call: Jerry Miller found out that the candidates on our list are no longer able to consider a call. He is leading the call committee to obtain a new list of candidates for Bethany assistant pastor. We pray that the Holy Spirit will lead us to the person God has in mind for Bethany. See the assistant pastor job description posted in the Narthex to determine who you would like to nominate.

Hew Hesterman, Diane Irby, & Pastor Greg are leading efforts to work with staff to plan how Bethany congregation can be more proactive in reaching young families for Christ. One of the first steps they are working on is to place a consolidated calendar for all of Bethany Ministries on GoBethany.com website so everyone can know what is happening in all phases of ministry. Please contact them to offer help.

Praise the Lord for His many blessings! As you heard, 3 Bethany member families anonymously set aside a fund of $15,000 to match other member’s donations to help support Bethany ministries & the assistant pastor. As of December 2017, $10,405 of member donations have been matched! Further designated offerings above tithe will be matched from the fund. Gifts may be designated “Growing to Serve” which is our savings account (as needed) to help pay for the assistant pastor. It behooves all of us to think of ways we can stretch our dollars further & think of new ways of generating income to continue Bethany Ministries work. God works in amazing ways to bless Bethany congregation & keep His work going forward. When missionaries are sent out, the people sending the missionary pay for the ministry provided until the people ministered to are willing & able.

Property maintenance & improvement continues. Volunteers with donated materials work hard & are appreciated. Thanks to Mike McCall, Shawn Sanborn, Jim Witt, & Ron Shively for replacing fluorescent lights & ballasts at Ulatis school. Thanks to Jim Witt for leading the team of Doug Connor, Mike McCall, Keith Kondo, Hew Hesterman, Randy & Zeke Pittman, & Ron Shively to improve Bethany church audio, visual, & lighting systems. The goal is to improve Bethany Audio/Visual/Light quality during services & provide quality audio/video recordings of services for outreach, for shut-ins, & for posting to GoBethany.com website. Thanks to Pat Green for assisting in the church office. Thanks to Mr. Lopez for moving the kindergarten classroom to make space to start another preschool class at Ulatis. Talk to Mike McCall to learn how you can help.

For your information:
As of end of December 2017:
Bethany general offerings are ~152% of the monetary pledges made in January 2017 not including anonymous donations for ministry & repair materials. Thanks for putting the work of Christ first in your finances. Read GoBethany.com, Sunday bulletins, Breeze, & Eagle to learn what’s happening in Bethany Ministries & plan your participation.

Reporting for your church council,
Ron Shively – Congregation President
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>Simmons</td>
<td>02/01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer</td>
<td>Mendonsa</td>
<td>02/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzy</td>
<td>Philip</td>
<td>02/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wanda</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
<td>02/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen</td>
<td>Loewe</td>
<td>02/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>McCall</td>
<td>02/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline</td>
<td>McCall</td>
<td>02/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigel</td>
<td>Browne</td>
<td>02/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia</td>
<td>Dickson</td>
<td>02/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fern</td>
<td>Larson</td>
<td>02/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edna</td>
<td>Auslund</td>
<td>02/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abygail</td>
<td>Campbell</td>
<td>02/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apryl</td>
<td>Young</td>
<td>02/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>Kostka</td>
<td>02/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy</td>
<td>Stoudt</td>
<td>02/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eve</td>
<td>Malchow</td>
<td>02/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsie</td>
<td>Unverferth</td>
<td>02/16</td>
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<td>Nadine</td>
<td>Young</td>
<td>02/17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara</td>
<td>Pittman</td>
<td>02/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kierstyn</td>
<td>Pittman</td>
<td>02/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Miller</td>
<td>02/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy</td>
<td>Irby</td>
<td>02/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trudi</td>
<td>Stringer</td>
<td>02/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald</td>
<td>Shively</td>
<td>02/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernadine</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>02/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Services</strong></td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAT Worship Assistant</strong></td>
<td>Keith Kondo, Rich Dabbert-assist</td>
<td>Rick Martinez, Jon Hammer-assist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ushers</strong></td>
<td>Doug Conner, John Orchard, Marv Braa, and Rose Kondo</td>
<td>Sandy Anderson, John and Mia Weiss, and Dave Grundmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lay Reader</strong></td>
<td>Georgia DeBarr</td>
<td>Trudi Stringer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greeters</strong></td>
<td>Wingards</td>
<td>Kaye Grundmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acolyte</strong></td>
<td>Dani and Katie Johnson</td>
<td>Paden Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prayer Team (Trudi Stringer)</strong></td>
<td>Shively's</td>
<td>Trudi Stringer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/V team</strong></td>
<td>Celli's</td>
<td>Martinez's</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Services</strong></td>
<td>2/18/2018</td>
<td>2/18/2018</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAT Worship Assistant</strong></td>
<td>Don Miller, Bob Johnston-assist</td>
<td>Don Henrich, Lance Langhorst-assist</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ushers</strong></td>
<td>Doug Conner, John Orchard, Marv Braa, and George Williams</td>
<td>Sandy Anderson, Jon Hammer, John and Mia Weiss</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lay Reader</strong></td>
<td>Silas Pock</td>
<td>Mary Jo Weiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greeters</strong></td>
<td>Helen Riggert</td>
<td>Margaret Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acolyte</strong></td>
<td>Makayla and Ashantay</td>
<td>Rachael Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prayer Team (Trudi Stringer)</strong></td>
<td>Marie Adams and Trudi Stringer</td>
<td>Sue Henrich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/V TEAM</strong></td>
<td>Celli's</td>
<td>Martinez's</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What do the Colors in Church mean?

Color is everywhere! Color is God’s way of filling His world with beauty. Christians have used color in divine worship for centuries. The paraments, vestments, altar clothes, banners, traditionally used each Sunday are more than just decorations. They have a message to emphasize the redemptive action of God through His Son. Traditionally, five basic colors have been used (white, red, green, violet or purple.) In recent times, three additional colors have been added (blue, scarlet and gold.)

The symbolism behind the traditional colors is somewhat arbitrary, but the primary source and guarantor of their meanings is tradition.

The important thing to remember is why we retain this traditional liturgical standard. The value of the color scheme rest in their purpose: to serve God’s worshiping community. In every age, the beauty and symbolism of color in the church continues to serve us exceptionally well!

Here is a look at our time-honored custom: Blue: Used during Advent. A more contemporary color conveys the color of the sky. Our faith rests on Christ, who will return on the last day from the blue sky He ascended into long ago.

Green: Used during Epiphany and Pentecost. Epiphany because it is a time of extending Christ’s kingdom through missions. A symbol of growth. Pentecost because it is about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Black: Used only twice; on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday. A sober reflection on the cost of our redemption.

Gold: Gold represents value and worth. It is the optional color for Easter Sunday or the last Sunday in the church year.

Scarlet: (A vivid red or orange.) Used during Holy Week; from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday. Scarlet is a color associated with the passion…the color of blood.

Purple: Used during Lent and Advent. Purple is a penitential color and represents somberness and solemnity, penitence and prayer.

White: The color of purity and completeness. Used during Easter. White bears the message that “though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow.” White reinforces the message of joy.

Red: Red is a power color and is appropriate for use on Pentecost Sunday. The Holy Spirit gives strength and power in order for God’s people to call on the name of Jesus Christ and share that powerful name with others.

Adapted from: The Colors of the Liturgical Seasons, by Rev. Douglas K. Esc
FROM THE MAT

“Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.” (Psalm 96:11-12)

I recently went on a hike in the northernmost grove of giant sequoia trees in the Central Sierra. While I did not hear the trees of this forest singing, one would need to be spiritually blind not to perceive the wonder of God’s creative hand in these magnificent trees. These sierra redwoods are the largest trees in the world, reaching heights up to around 300 feet and diameters of around 30 feet. In addition, some of the older trees in the forest are 800 to 3,000 years old. It is amazing to think that when the oldest of these trees were seedlings, Elijah and Elisha were alive!

So much of what we perceive these days is through the filter of a big-screen television, the medium screen of a laptop monitor, or the small screen of a “smart” phone. It is quite a (common) sight to see people – in restaurants and coffee shops, on walks around the neighborhood, or seated on a downtown bench – absorbed by the words and images displayed on screens.

The Apostle Paul warns against being blind to, and ignorant of, the evidence of God’s power and divinity around us: “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.” (Romans 1:20) God has revealed himself in the wonders of His creation, which point to Him. It is healthy to disconnect from our devices from time to time and direct our attention to God’s handiwork all around us.

Ministry Advisory Team

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BUNKO PARTY NIGHT – March 17th at 5:30 pm
Get ready for a fun night out! LWML is hosting a Bunko Party with corned beef and cabbage for dinner. There will be prizes and fun for everyone! The cost is $15 per person. Tickets are on sale now!

MONDAY NIGHT WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY
We meet each Monday at 7:00 pm. Terri Denton hosts it in her home at 521 Walnut Avenue, Vacaville. We are starting a new study entitled, “Worship.” Come! Join the group, we always have room for more.

MITE CHALLENGE – 2016-2017
MITES are sent to the LWML CNH District for 2016-2018 grants totaling $115000. The challenge to Bethany is $3500. Our current total is over $2200! The deadline is March 2018. The list of grants is on the LWML bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall entry.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
February 10th  LWML Valentines meeting, 10:30 in Fellowship Hall.
February 11th  Congregation will help make Valentines during Coffee Hour
March 17th  Bunko Night – 5:30 in Fellowship Hall

If you have an idea for a mission project, please come to one of the LWML meetings. Many joyful hands are an asset and doing the Lord’s work is rewarding. Praise God daily. Encourage a fellow sister in Christ through the spoken word, cards, emails and prayers!

Carole Wilson – LWML President
Bethany Youth Group Update – Lock-In

Late on Sunday Night on January 14th, the Bethany Youth Group got “locked in” and was trapped in the Fellowship Hall. This was not a bad thing, because it meant that it would be a night of fun, food, games, bible study, and more fun.

The night started with some great fried chicken. We then played a game of “Never have I Ever” and “Four on the Couch”. The winners were the Girls, so the Boys had to leave the room for Bible Study.

We did two bible studies during the night where we learned, “How do I know what God wants of me” and “Guys and Gals living for Jesus”. Next we enjoyed some Ice Cream and then played a fun game of Foam Ball! Foam ball is like soccer, with the girls against the guys. This time, the guys won the game.

We finished up the night with some popcorn and snacks and finished in the wee hours of the morning with some prayer and worship. Some of us wanted to continue through the night, but at 2:00 am, it was time to go home. Overall, everybody had a great time and we learned more about ourselves and our relationship with God.

Bethany Youth Group Event Calendar

February 11th – Help the Body Event – Help out Preschool / Church – (Times 1 – 4 pm)
March 11th – Honor God Event – Games and Bible Event (Times 1 – 4 pm) Event specifics TBD.
April 1st – Easter Breakfast – Youth Group will make Easter Breakfast for the Congregation. Times approximately 6:30 am – 11 am. Planning TBD.
April 8th – Fellowship Event – Movie Night or Volleyball (Event Specifics, date and times TBD).
May 4th, 5th, 6th – Youth Camping / Fishing Retreat (End of Year Event) – Looking at going to a Lake Oroville Campground. Specifics TBD
## 2017 Statistical Report
December 16, 2017 to January 15, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Worship Attendance</th>
<th>Communion</th>
<th>Sunday School</th>
<th>Weekly Totals—Adult Bible Class</th>
<th>Offerings of Hours</th>
<th>Weekly Giving (General Offering)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>12/17</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$2627</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average *Weekly* Worship Attendance for Current Calendar Year: 142

** Not all Bible Study Classes take attendance

### Total Membership

- 300 Confirmed
- 345 Baptized
- 196 Households

Numbers indicate totals for the year. Names refer to recent additions during the past month.

- **2 Children Baptisms**
- **0 Adult Baptisms**
- **3 Adult Confirmations**
- **0 Profession of Faith (Reaffirmation)**
- **1 Transfers In**
- **2 Transfers Out**
- **0 Jr Confirmation of Members**
- **2 Jr Confirmation of Non-Members**
- **1 Funeral of Members**
- **0 Funeral of Family or Friends of Members**
- **0 Funeral for non-member**

- **0 Received from Other Lutheran Churches**
- **0 Released to Other Lutheran Church**
- **2 Moved without Transfer**
- **0 Joined Non-Lutheran Church**
- **0 Removed from Roster at Own Request**
- **20 Removed from Roster at Own Request**
- **1 Marriages**

*He loved us first.*
Let’s revitalize our Sunday School.

We can’t do it without you!

Children need Sunday School ministry. Consider the reasons listed below.

**Sunday School helps children respect, appreciate and utilize the Bible.** Reverence for God’s written words doesn’t come naturally. A healthy Sunday classroom environment, centered around the Bible, will elevate its importance in a child’s life.

**Sunday School teaches children how to navigate the Bible.** Sunday School teachers don’t just teach Bible stories, they show a child how to utilize the concordance and give a basic understanding of the Bible’s books and overall format.

**Sunday School gives kids a chance to ask questions.** Sunday School is the perfect format for in-depth discussion, even debate. This format allows teachers to give kids more good food for thought.

**Sunday School develops a community of believers.** A community of children, worshipping, learning the Bible and discovering God together creates a bond that single study can’t accomplish. Sunday Schools are the Petri dishes for the future church.

**Sunday School plants spiritual seeds.** Some of my greatest revelations concerning God’s love and plan are received quietly in Sunday School. Sunday Schools are like plant nurseries, they may look unimpressive at first, but under the soil, miracles are happening.

We need Sunday School!
Bethany Lutheran Church

MAT Mtg. .............................................. Feb. 6
Worship Comm. Mtg.......................... Feb. 8
Preschool Sings in Worship .............. Feb. 11
Youth Group: Honor God Event .......... Feb. 11
Priority School Registration ............. Feb. 12
ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP (12 & 7) .... Feb. 14
Wednesday Lenten Services (12 & 7) .... Feb. 21
....................................................... Feb. 28
Baby Shower .................................. Feb. 25

Open Enrollment ............................ March 1
BLS Crab Feed/Auction .................... March 2