Hosted by the Vacaville Fire Department!

In the early morning hours of August 22, 2018, a fire broke out at Bethany Lutheran Preschool on South Orchard Avenue in Vacaville California. The fire damaged an entire wing, the playground and other areas of the school. Students arrived to find their beloved school burned beyond recognition. Having served the community for 43 years, there were tears from parents, neighbors, friends, and first responders alike.

Let’s gather as a community to show our support for this beloved school at a fundraiser BBQ. All proceeds will go towards school supplies, books, toys, etc. to replace those lost.

We appreciate your support!

You can also contribute to: www.gofundme.com/bethany-lutheran-preschool-fire-vv

Great Food!

Exciting Raffle!

A Great Time!
Thank you Pastor Greg and Trudi Stringer for touching the lives of so many. We pray nothing but the best for you and hope that God leads you to many adventures.

Don’t be strangers! Come and visit us from time to time.

Come and get a wonderful meal and help Bethany School at the same time!
Greetings from your church council,

"This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24

Welcome Pastor Dann Ettner to Bethany as intentional interim Senior Pastor. Farewell & God’s blessings to Pastor Stringer.

Your congregation officers are elected for 2018-2019 term. Secretary is Carol Wilson. Treasurer is Curt Johnston. Vice President is Shawn Sanborn. President is Ron Shively.

K-8 School started August 16 – 98 enrolled. Preschool started August 20 – 92 enrolled.

Hew Hesterman & Diane Irby lead efforts to work with staff to plan Bethany congregation proactive outreach to young families for Christ. Thanks to Jim Witt for planning & hosting the very interesting Sunday morning (9am) Bible study series on “Journey from Unbelief to Faith”. All members and School families are invited. Kevin Shaw is leading youth program efforts for 7-12 grade youth (check Breeze for schedule). Please contact Hew or Diane to offer your help with outreach efforts.

Thanks to all who visit shut-ins, serve with the fellowship team & help with Sunday morning worship.

God works in amazing ways to bless Bethany congregation & keep His work going forward. 3 Bethany member families anonymously set aside a fund of $15,000 in November to match other member’s donations above tithe to help support Bethany ministries. Total matched so far is $10,955! You may still participate for a match by designating your gift above tithe to be matched.

Green Stock Solar completed the Solar Power installation for Ulatis. Vacaville fire department approved completed project. Green Stock is obtaining Vacaville building department approval & PG&E approvals to operate. Expected savings is >$20,000 per year for electricity bill (return is >10% on investment the first year). Green Stock will monitor & maintain the solar system for Bethany. FYI. US Bank reduced Bethany transaction fees due to savings interest rate increases. Talk to Curt Johnston if you have any questions or ideas how to help with Bethany finances.

Property maintenance continues. Volunteers donate materials, work hard & are appreciated. Special thanks to Mike McCall, Shawn Sanborn, Hew Hesterman, Jerry Miller & Ron Shively for front yard tree removal, cleanup, spreading bark, installation of wall hooks for backpacks & sandbox, remove toilet door to help prepare Warren House for preschool use. Thanks to Cindy Miller, Jim Witt, Barbara Herman, Amy Shively, & Ron Shively for repairing vandal damage to Orchard preschool, fellowship hall, & barbeque area. Church office roof vent covers still need repair.

Thanks to Mike McCall, Shawn Sanborn, Scott Ledford, & Ron Shively for installing & anchoring new picnic tables, tree trimming, playground & trash cleanup at Ulatis. Thanks to Shawn Byrd, Vern Wetzel, Nigel Browne, John & Delores Orcher, Hew, Cathy, Karl, & Lee Hesterman, Mike & Jacque McCall, Amy & Ron Shively who helped at the August 18 workday at Orchard property: trees & bushes trimmed, windows cleaned, spider webs removed. Thanks to ~30 youth & adult volunteers who helped prepare rooms & playgrounds for preschool on August 26: Shaws, Hestermans, Nichols, Duncans, Janss, Millers, Mc Calls, Herman, Greens, Wilson, Brownes, Irby, Shivelys. Thanks to Carole Wilson, Kay & Jake Grundman, Jim Witt, Bob Johnston, Mike McCall & Ron Shively who helped organize fellowship hall rooms B7 & B8 & added new storage cabinets. Talk to Mike McCall to learn how you can help.

Continued on Next page...
President’s Report Continued from Previous Page

The tragic preschool building fire resulted in no injuries, but affected power, data service, natural gas, & landscape water. The fire was limited thanks to quick response of Vacaville firefighters, some of whom are Bethany Preschool alumni. Thanks to Preschool & church staff who worked long hours of triage to prepare rooms to accommodate preschool students. Church Mutual Fire Insurance adjuster & structural engineer are assessing damage & investigator is working with fire & police departments to determine cause of fire. Wulff Electric quickly tested electrical service & found feeders undamaged, data fiber undamaged. Wulff disconnected preschool building feeders, ordered a new breaker & is coordinating with PG&E to return electrical service. Data service is available daytime with temporary power. The data fiber optic cable will be rerouted to a more permanent location where power is available for internet/phone transceiver. Aweau landscape quickly repaired sprinkler valves to return landscape water to service with temporary daytime power. PG&E capped off gas at Azalea Street to prevent leaks. Gas line must be rerouted to enable building heat before winter.

Stewardship:
Through week 29 of 2018, Bethany congregation offerings (at the current rate) will reach 172% of yearly pledges promised Jan 28 towards financial support of Bethany Ministries in 2018. 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 & to plan your participation.

Reporting for your Church Council,
Ron Shively – Congregation President

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<tr>
<th>WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 2018</th>
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<td><strong>Sunday Services</strong></td>
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<td><strong>10:00 AM</strong></td>
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| **MAT Worship Assistant**                | Don Henrich  | Rick Martinez | Jerry Miller  |
| **John Hammer-assist**                   |              |              | Bob Johnston-assist |

| **Ushers**                               | Doug Conner, John Orcher, Marv Braa, and Kirsten Vitrakas | Allen Owens, Anna Dohse, Carol Ruiz, and Karl Hesterman | Sandy Anderson, Jon Hammer, Kevin Shaw and Marv Braa |

| **Lay Reader**                           | Sue Henrich  | Cassie Browne | Sandy Anderson |
| **Greeters**                             | Ten Denton   | Barbara Herman | Shirley Helmich |
| **Acolyte**                              | Rachael Nichols | Rick Martinez | Jerry Miller |

| **Prayer Team**                          | Sue Henrich  | N/A            | Shively's      |
| **(Trudi Stringer)**                     |              |                |               |

| **A/V team**                             | Celli's      | Duncan's       | Martinez's     |

| **Sunday Services**                      | **9/3/2018** | **9/30/2018** |
| **10:00 AM**                             | 10:00 AM     |               |

| **MAT Worship Assistant**                | Jim Witt     | Don Miller     | Mike McCall-assist |
| **Assistant**                            |              |               |                   |

| **Ushers**                               | Allen Owens, Devon Duncan, Barbara Herman and Jon Hammer | Sandy Anderson, Kirsten Vitrakas, Doug Conner, and John Orcher |

| **Lay Reader**                           | Carol Schmidt | Delores Orcher |
| **Greeters**                             | Ken Celli    | Betty Olsson  |
| **Acolyte**                              | Jim Witt     | Rachael Nichols |

| **Prayer Team**                          | N/A          | Martinez's     |
| **(Trudi Stringer)**                     |              |               |

| **A/V TEAM**                             | Browne's     | Duncan's       |
Preschool Praises

We just completed our first week of preschool! Our first two days were very exciting. Our children were ready for school, our teachers were prepared to greet them with smiles and plenty of fun and activities to help make them feel welcome.

Tuesday evening around 12:30am we received a call that our beloved preschool was on fire. How scary and shocking all at the same time. How did this happen? Lots of questions still need to be answered. We had fire fighters from all Vacaville stations on site and the fire was quickly under control. A few of the fire fighters have children that attend our school. Also we had a few that are actual alumni. We had staff arrive, Pastor Greg came to pray and give us support. We moved into action the wee hours of the morning contemplating how we could open our doors to our students in just a few short hours. God provided the strength.

The fire fighters asked how they could help make it happen. They began moving furniture and items that we could move over to the house so we could set up a classroom. They truly have a soft spot for our preschool. We can't thank them enough.

Cathy Mathews spent the remainder of the night keeping watch, contacting the insurance company so that we could get the claim started immediately (she was suppose to be getting ready to leave for Hawaii). She has been amazing through this process.

Thanks to a wonderful staff who are giving countless hours during this difficult time, to make sure our school is a safe and a happy environment for our children.
On another note, We want to thank Ron Shively, Mike McCall, Hew Hesterman, Doug Connor, Shawn Sanborn and several others who helped us turn the garage room in the Warren House into a classroom. It is beautiful. These gentlemen also gave of their time and talents over at the Ulatis Campus as well. If you haven't been in the Warren House recently come visit. Ms. Mercy's class is call "The Barnyard"

I also want to thank the quilting group who gave us their room in the Warren House so we could convert it to a classroom. You are a blessing to this ministry.

Please keep Bethany in your prayers during this time of transition. His word says in Jeremiah 11:29 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

In His service,
Cindy Miller, PS director
Humpty Dumpty Tragedy

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 2 Cor. 5:17

We know Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall and had a great fall, but who was this egg? It is believed that Humpty Dumpty was a huge cannon from the English Civil War. This great weapon was struck by a cannon ball, knocked off the tower wall, and blasted into so many pieces that all the king’s horses and all the king’s men could not put it back together again.

We may feel we are in pieces, too! Strong and secure one minute when suddenly the world just falls apart. We just can’t get it back together. Some of us are either unwilling or unable to help, and we wonder if there is hope. Good news! We are not like Humpty Dumpty!

There is hope for us. No matter how broken and splintered, we can be put back together by the King of Kings Himself. His love and forgiveness heal us from the most devastating fall of all, the fall into sin. Though we are fragile, God can make us new again.

Everyone responds to tragedy differently. Some give up, some curse God, and some amaze us with their resilience. People feel all sorts of emotions when they face crisis, such as fear, anger, worry, depression, resentment, helplessness, grief.

Through crisis, God can teach us that we may lose our homes (our preschool), our careers, our marriages, or our health, but we will never, ever lose our relationship with God. He promised to never leave us or forsake us and that’s an eternal security we can build our lives on.

Bethany is at a fragile time, but we are not alone! God is our strength and salvation. He will restore us and make us strong. Trust in Him and work together to build Bethany to praise His name.

MONDAY NIGHT WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

September 10th at 7:00 pm, our Monday night Bible Study will resume. Terri Denton hosts it in her home at 521 Walnut Avenue, Vacaville. This is a great time for getting to know other ladies while learning God’s word.

MITE CHALLENGE – April 2018-March 2020

Our new district list of mission grants for 2018-2020 totals 100,000. Bethany’s new mite challenge will be $3,100. A new progress board will be posted on the LWML bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Let’s fill those Mite Boxes and continue God’s wondrous work!

LWML TEA

Hats Off to You!
Where: Bethany Fellowship Hall
When: Saturday, September 8, 2018
Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
Donation: $10
Contact: Carole Wilson (thewilsons1976@gmail.com)
Be Sure to wear a hat!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

September 13th – Our Fall Meeting 10:30 am in Room B-8. We have lots of work and planning to do!

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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 and encourage a fellow sister in Christ through the spoken word, cards, emails and prayers!
September Babies

At print time we were unable to access church database to get names.

**Ladies Birthday Luncheon**

*When:* The 2nd Tuesday of each Month.

*Where:* BJ’s in Vacaville

*Time:* 11:30 A.M.

*Reservations:* By 2:00 pm on Monday

*Shirley Helmich* - 707-454-0413

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**LWML Tea: Hats Off to You!**

*Prizes, Tea, Food, Fun and Entertainment!*

*Where:* Bethany Fellowship Hall,
621 S. Orchard Ave., Vacaville

*When:* Saturday, September 8, 2018

*Time:* 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

*Cost:* $10

*Contact:* Carole Wilson
530-867-7078 or
Email: thewilsons1976@gmail.com

*Be Sure to wear a hat!!!*

*"There is a bin in the Narthex for the hats, Please label your hat, so we can return it to you."*
Bethany Breezes

Bethany Youth Group Update – Mud Pit

*Mud, Mud, and More Mud*..... But it was very fun! The Bethany Youth group on August 12th had a BBQ and fellowship event at the Hesterman’s by doing the infamous mud pit. We all got on very old clothes and shoes so we could get dirty. At first we did some short skits to learn about God. These are the type of skits that are done at the National Youth Gathering. We divided into two teams and did the skits. The skit about the babies was pretty funny.

We then went into the mud pit. At first we were a little nervous (some of us). We did a game of tug-of-war where the boys won. However, Leland Hesterman joined the girls for the second game and the boys went into the mud. The next game was volleyball. But that did not work out so much as we were stuck in the mud, literally, as some of us lost our shoes and got stuck. We then ended up playing in the mud and shooting water balloons at each other. It was a lot of fun.

At the end of the day, got hosed down and we realized we were all hungry. So we enjoyed some hamburgers and hot dogs, chips and drinks. Thank you to the Hesterman’s for having us over and enjoy your mud pit. When are we doing it again??

On August 4th the Bethany Youth Group assisted the LWML in selling snow cones at the parking lot sale from 10:30 am – 1:30 pm. It was a lot of fun and we also sold some with Ice Cream! We helped raise some money and assisted the LWML in a hot but fun day.

The Youth group agreed to do a short skit for the Children’s Sermon on Sunday, September 30th. We will be practicing the skit during our bible study.

**Youth Group Bible Study:** We will be doing a new bible study during the month of September, plus practicing our children’s sermon skit. Our bible study is on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 am. All Youth are free to join us. Some Sundays we even have Donuts!!!

Bethany Youth Group Event Calendar

September 9th – Help the Body – Car Wash / Youth Group Room Cleanup at Fellowship Hall 1 pm – 5 pm

September 30th – Honor God – Children’s Sermon Skit 10 am

October 14th – Fellowship Event – Dixon Corn Maze 5 pm – 9 pm

November 27th – Help the Body - Merriment on Main - 4:30 – 8:30 pm, Youth Group will help out hand out cookies, set-up and breakdown.
Depending On a Sure Thing

Promises are something we make and sometimes break. Promises are what we hold on to that keep us going, and what we doubt as we let them slip away, stalled by fear of failure. When we make promises we usually make them with every intent of trying our best to be true to our word. Perhaps we strive so hard to keep them because we remember how much broken promises hurt. God’s word is jammed packed full of promises that He has made to us which gives us hope to keep on going even when someone hurts us by breaking a promise. God does not break promises period. He keeps his word always. When we hold on to His promises, we have the strength and the courage not to be stalled by fear of failure. In Isaiah 26:3-4, we find a great promise, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust yee in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." Perfect peace, now that is a great promise and something I am sure we all long for. Depend on God and keep at it because in the Lord God you have a sure thing. How many sure things do you have in your life that you can depend on? With the knowledge that even our next breath isn’t promised, it is great to know we have the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior. Keep your mind on Christ always. Trust Him. He is the only sure thing we have that we can depend on forever!

Blessings in Christ
Ministry Advisory Team

Church Services at Bethany Lutheran Church

Sunday Services: 10 am Variety of Traditional and Contemporary (Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)

Bible Studies at Bethany

Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School—Classes for Everyone
Adult Bible Studies: "Psalms"; Bethany Women; Men’s Bible Study - “Visit Israel" - facilitated by: the MAT

Monday 7:00 pm “Worship” by Carole Wilson

Wednesday 9:30 am Bible Study “Job” - Narthex
5:00 pm “Ephesians” by Pastor Rittenbach

All Sunday Services—10am
Bible Studies and Sunday School—9am
Bethany Lutheran Church

Labor Day Church Office Closed ........ Sept. 3
All School Candle Fundraiser ............... Sept. 5
.................................................. Fliers in the Narthex
Ladies’ Tea ........................................ Sept. 8
Spirit Night (Chick-fil-a dine out) ........... Sept. 18
BBQ Fundraiser hosted by VVPD ............. Sept. 30