

The Herald



Always
give
yourselves
fully to
the work
of the
Lord ...

1 Corinthians 15:58

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

Bryon Hansen

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Bryan Whiteside

OFFICE MANAGER

Joy Johnson

WORSHIP COORDINATOR

Denise Nelson

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

Randi Olson

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Kathy Hamm

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President

James Anderberg

Vice President

Sid Frame

Secretary/Treasurer

Diane Allison

Members at Large:

Debbie Clark

Jaron Latona

Bob Thiessen

Shawn Wakefield

Pastors Page ~ Faith Formation

September is here and it is time to enter a new season of activities. A ritual of prayer and blessing will take place at both services on September 11 to kick-off the Fall programs. In addition, small group or class leaders will be on hand between the services to discuss the various opportunities for faith formation.

Sunday morning opportunities include "Godly Play," our most excellent formation process for children (Check out the "Godly Play" room if you have not already. It is truly sacred space). There will be two adult classes and something for teens. Come to *The Well* on Wednesday eve-

nings and you will find formation for children, confirmation for teens and adult opportunities including "Come and See," an open-ended discussion of Christian faith. "Come and See" is precursor to the Journey of Faith process (Catechumenate) that begins in December. Besides all this, Choir resumes, "Emmaus" for High School youth begins again and much more. You will find information on all the activities in this issue of the *Herald*.

As I write this column in late August, I am thinking about a

sermon for the upcoming Sunday. Here is the phrase from the Gospel text that has captured my attention: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Jesus' summons sounds in my ear and I am reminded, again, why we do what we do.

Faith formation is just that. Our goal is not to

Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs" Matthew 19:14

or even impart knowledge. Formation is for faith. Our call is to make disciples. The aim of formation for children, youth and adults is to call them to the vital center of common worship, teach them to pray, connect them to the story of God's love and show them what it means to care for the poor, serve all in need, and love their neighbors as themselves.

Such formation takes place in and around the waters of rebirth. Some will be preparing for baptism. Others are looking back upon their baptism. Either way, we are called to be in touch with the reality that in Christ we die and in Christ we rise again. Each day we are set free to live in the baptismal rhythm of dying and rising. The ministry of faith formation serves this end – to make disciples.

Peace,

Pastor Bryon



SEPTEMBER 11

Remembrance

Ten years af-

ter the terrible events

of September 11, 2001, we continue to be reminded how our lives were changed on that day. Blood continues to be shed in Afghanistan, Iraq and places around the world. The impact of 9/11 continues to affect thousands of people who lost loved ones or were among the first-responders at the scenes of destruction. The tenth anniversary of 9/11 falls on a Sunday. Along with Christians around the nation, we will take time to remember those whose lives were lost. We will take time to pray and reflect and

discern God's will for ending the spiral of hatred and violence. We will commemorate the anniversary of 9/11 ***at all services on the weekend of September 10 and 11.***

September is Hunger Action Month (hungeractionmonth.org), when everyone in America is asked to take action and help fight hunger in the local community, all month long. Hunger Action Month is your opportunity to join a movement that has a real and lasting impact on our effort to feed more Americans than ever before. Whether it is by advocating and raising awareness, making donations, or volunteering, individuals can find a way to make a difference

FACTS ABOUT HUNGER: A critical component to a healthy life is nutrition. From birth, the intake of vital nutrients is essential to the growth and development of a healthy individual. Good nutrition, particularly in the first three years of life, is important in establishing and maintaining a good foundation that has implications on a child's future physical and mental health, academic achievement, and economic productivity. Unfortunately, food insecurity is an obstacle that threatens that critical foundation. *(Cont'd on page 9)*

The Word "Christian" Means....

The word 'Christian' means different things to different people. To one person it means a stiff, inflexible way of life, colorless and unbending. To another it means a risky, surprise-filled venture, lived tiptoe at the edge of expectation . . . If we get our information from the biblical material, there is no doubt that the Christian life is a dancing, leaping, daring life.

Eugene Peterson



A Celebration!

JOIN US IN CELEBRATION OF PASTOR BRYON'S 25TH ANNI- VERSARY OF ORDINATION

Date: Sunday, **September 4, 2011**

Time: **9:30am**—Single service of worship, with Holy Communion.

A **POTLUCK will follow** this special service and celebration. If your last name begins with:

- ◆ **A - D** bring bread (bread/rolls)
- ◆ **E - K** bring salad/vegetable dish
- ◆ **L - R** bring main entrée dish
- ◆ **S - Z** bring dessert

The 5:00pm Saturday service and Sunday 8:30am and 11am services will resume September 10th and 11th



"Arise!"

September 11, 2011—May 27, 2012

9:45—10:45 am

Arise! and join us for Godly Play every Sunday!

This innovative

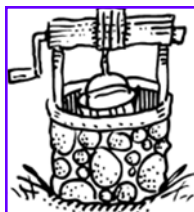
learning draws on the traditions of ancient storytelling. The teachers model how to use the language of the Christian tradition through presentations of parables, sacred stories, liturgy and silence. The Godly Play classroom provides a space to worship God, not just speak about God. Just as adults experience the Sanctuary as sacred space, so do the children experience the Godly Play room as sacred space. For ages 3 years to 5th grade. Nursery care is available for those too young to participate in Godly Play.

Godly Play

Wednesdays at *"The Well"*

September 14, 2011—May 15, 2012

5:30pm Dinner 6:00—7:30 pm Class



Wednesday (K.O.W.) joins Confirmation and "Come and See" on Wednesday nights at **The Well**. We will all gather together for dinner from 5:30 – 6:00 pm. Kids will then participate in blocks of fun and hands-on learning. Topics will include Art, Healthy Living, Cooking and Games. K.O.W. is for ages 3 years through the 5th grade. Nursery care is available for those too young to participate in K.O.W.

FAITH FORMATION FOR KIDS

A Message from Kathy Hamm, Director of Children's Ministry



Spot- light on You!

Mrs.

Kathy Hamm wants to feature Bethlehem's Kids in the Newsletter! See her for a form to fill out

with a few simple questions: What do you want to be when you grow up? If you could be an animal, what would it be?

What is your favorite book? What do you like about Bethlehem? She will choose 1 or 2 forms

each month and feature those kids in the newsletter. We will continue until everyone has had a turn! Pick up a form today!



תודה

=THANK YOU

I want to extend a big Hometown Nazareth thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and talents to make the week a big success. I am still so excited about our week in Nazareth, where Jesus was a kid, listening to God's word, and hearing Mary tell us about what it was like to be the mother of Jesus. We learned that Jesus had a family, a name, a home, went to church, served others and *we do too!* Our delicious dinners gave us energy for each evening's activities. The kids gathered in Hometown Huddle to share God Sightings, explored the Marketplace, played at Fun and Games and opened and closed each evening with song and Bible verses at the Celebrations.

The fantastic week would not be possible without a faithful team of volunteers who

give of their time and talents to make VBS a special time for the kids. This includes the many people who donated items that were necessary for decorating, the Marketplace, Mary's House and fun and games.

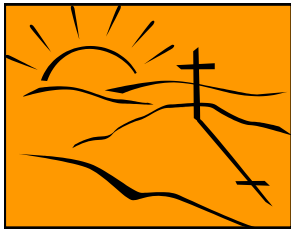
Thank you, thank you, thank you! I am so blessed to be a part of Bethlehem's family!

Mrs. Kathy Hamm, VBS Director

Meals: Marge Johnson, June Hampton, Heather Iezzi, and Delores Roberson **Tribe Helpers:** Kelsey Hamm, Linda Otto, Art Otto, Heather Iezzi, Tia Desplancke, and Kevin Hamm **Music:** Kelsey Hamm **Marketplace:** Joy Johnson, Monica Vega, Kevin Hamm **Mary's House:** Jenn Bayer Darling, Tia Desplancke, Kevin Hamm **Decorating:** Art Otto, Kelsey Hamm **Costumes:** Grace Ewald **Sound**

Booth:
Jaron Lato-
na





ARISE! & Join Us On Sunday Mornings

Wednesday Nights "THE WELL"

SEPTEMBER 11, 2011—MAY 27, 2012

9:45—10:45 AM

SEPTEMBER 14, 2011—MAY 15, 2012

5:30PM DINNER 6:00—7:30 PM CLASS

Age 3 years—5th Grade

Arise! and join us for Godly Play every Sunday! This innovative learning draws on the traditions of ancient storytelling. The teachers model how to use the language of the Christian tradition through presentations of parables, sacred stories, liturgy and silence.

The Godly Play classroom provides a space to worship God, not just speak about God. Just as adults experience the Sanctuary as sacred space, so do the children experience the Godly Play room as sacred space.

Nursery care is available for those too young to participate in Godly Play.

Middle School

Arise! And join us for "*Donuts and Discussion*" - come, hang out and talk about what's important to you

Adults

Arise! And join us for "*The Greatest Story*" - an overview of the Bible and the Gospels led by Christie Sonmez and Pastor Art Otto

Adults

Arise! And join us for "Stories" Led by Pastor Paul Krueger, this class looks at short stories and discusses them from Christian perspective.

This year's book, American Short Story Masterpieces, 1987 Edition, Carver and Jenks editors.

Read "**Sonny's Blues**" for 9/18/11 class.

Age 3 years—5th Grade

K.O.W. (Kids on Wednesday) Kids will participate in blocks of fun, hands-on learning. Topics will include Arts & Crafts, Healthy Living, Cooking and Games..

Nursery care is available for those too young to participate in K.O.W.

Middle School

Confirmation 6th - 8th graders will participate in games, teaching, and worship.

Adults

Join us for classes on a variety of topics led by a variety of leaders, starting with "**Equipping Households of Faith**" led by Sid Frame, and begins 9/21. This class is for anyone, especially parents, wanting to explore faith formation in our homes. New to our Wednesday nights is "**Creative Call**" led by Monica Latona. Explore an Artist's response to the Way of the Spirit, while looking at developing our creative gifts.

Adults

Come and See is an informal time for anyone, but especially those new to Bethlehem, to explore and ask questions about the Christian Faith.

Adults

Journey of Faith A process leading to Baptism or Affirmation of Baptism begins Dec 2011, Date TBD

Wholistic Health For the Soul: Are WE Prepared for God's Work?

We are simply told to take care of our neighbor.

**Walk
in the
Spirit**

Happy Souls Waking Group meets Tuesday's at 5:30 PM in the church parking lot.

Ephesians 6:15 "Put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel."

In the devotional "Christ in Our Home" recently, was the above verse, and a short devotion on choosing the right shoes for proper use and comfort for the activity of the day. It seemed so appropriate and timely because of the trip to Norway from which I had just returned. On that wonderful fourteen day venture, hiking walking were a part of every day! Of course, we were forewarned to not only have good hiking boots, but to be sure to break them in well before the trip by walking and hiking in them several times. We were prepared for blisters by taking moleskin and Band-Aids™ if needed. My sis and I found the old adage "prevention is worth a pound of cure" to be true, and had no problems with our feet. Because of the cool, cloudy and sometimes rainy weather, rain jackets with hoods were also part of our daily attire. Forgetting our jackets in our room or on the bus would have made our sightseeing and hiking uncomfortable to say the least.

Taking care of our bodies and minds assures us of being prepared to use what God has given us. On the trip, the preparation gave us enjoyment of and gratitude for "the God-given" beauty of the countryside and the history that Norway embodies. In our daily lives, we prepare ahead and prevent illness the best we can, and are ready to take up

the cross at any minute and plug in where God needs us. In doing so, the blessings that we feel in return are abundant.

Often we find a part of us to be more vulnerable to problems or trouble than others. Feet seem to take a beating more than other parts of our body, and when one has foot pain or problems, the daily tasks seem to be more difficult to get done. Recently there seems to be an apathy cloud over us which prevents us from stepping up to the serving plate at church or in our community. One could ask, what it is about my feet which don't seem ready to dig in and walk the extra mile to help others? Or why do my thoughts dwell on my problems when I know full well there are others who are worse off than me and need help? Why don't I feel prepared to assist the children's program in church when I know how much my own child loves to take part?

God reminds us in Ephesians to prepare to proclaim the gospel no matter what we are personally experiencing. From a wheelchair, one can go and visit others. From a hospital bed, one can give the hospital personnel a loving smile and a kind word. With an arthritic hand one can lift the phone receiver and cheer a friend or parish member with a good morn-

ing greeting. From a vaca-



tioning hotel, one can write a note to a friend in need back home. From an office desk chair, one can email family invitations to come to Family Night or Godly Play Sunday. From a church pew, one can reach out to the person in front of you with a whisper of welcome. From a comfortable recliner, one can restore living spiritual energy through reading God's word, while praying for that energy to infest all of Bethlehem's family to move and become more active in spreading the Good News.

Preparing ahead, recognizing a need, and ready to heed the call is our responsibility as Christians. We are called to join a spiritual journey where one does not always know which paths will be taken. If we allow God to be our guide on the journey, we are assured that our preparation will be worthwhile and God's Spirit will enhance someone else through us. May your hiking boots be ready to go, and your journey be wonderful!

Randi Olson, FCN

Daily Lectionary for September

Th Psalm 119:33-40
Ezekiel 24:1-14

2 Corinthians 12:11-21

F Psalm 119:33-40
Ezekiel 24:15-27

Romans 10:15b-21

Sa Psalm 119:33-4
Ezekiel 33:1-6

Matthew 23:29-36

Sunday September 4

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalm 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

M Psalm 119:65-72

Leviticus 4:27-31; 5:14-16

1 Peter 2:11-17

Tu Psalm 119:65-72

Deuteronomy 17:2-13

Romans 13:1-7

W Psalm 119:65-72

Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-28

Matthew 21:18-22

Th Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

Genesis 37:12-36

1 John 3:11-16

F Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Genesis 41:53—42:17

Acts 7:9-16

Sa Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Genesis 45:1-20

Matthew 6:7-15

Sunday September 11

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

M Psalm 133

Genesis 48:8-22

Hebrews 11:23-29

Tu Psalm 133

Genesis 49:29—50:14

Romans 14:13—15:2

W Psalm 133

Genesis 50:22-26

Mark 11:20-25

Th Psalm 145:1-8

Nahum 1:1, 14—2:2

2 Corinthians 13:1-4

F Psalm 145:1-8

Nahum 2:3-13

2 Corinthians 13:5-10

Sa Psalm 145:1

Zephaniah 2:13-15

Matthew 19:23-30

Sunday September 18

Jonah 3:10—4:11

Psalm 145:1-8

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

M Psalm 106:1-12

Genesis 27:1-29

Romans 16:1-16

Tu Psalm 106:1-12

Genesis 28:10-17

Romans 16:17-20

W Psalm 106:1-12

Isaiah 41:1-13

Matthew 18:1-5

Th Psalm 25:1-9

Ezekiel 12:17-28

James 4:11-16

F Psalm 25:1-9

Ezekiel 18:5-18

Acts 13:32-41

Sa Psalm 25:1-9

Ezekiel 18:19-24

Mark 11:27-33

Sunday September 25

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

M Psalm 28

Judges 14:1-20

Philippians 1:3-14

Tu Psalm 28

Judges 16:1-22

Philippians 1:15-21

W Psalm 28

Judges 16:23-31

Matthew 9:2-8

Th Psalm 80:7-15

Jeremiah 2:14-22

Colossians 2:16-23

F Psalm 80:7-15

Jeremiah 2:23-37

Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

September Birthday's

Joe Irvin
Chuck Anderson
Joy Johnson
James Greenlee
Debbie Clark
Muriel Raught
Bryan Whiteside
Pearl Schmidt
Allison Magee

Eugene Classon
Carol Lundberg
Kathryn Stoltenburg
Kathye Hamm
Ellen Bjork
Joel Sizemore
Eric Chun
Loren Clark
Patti McDonald

Raff McDonald
Paul Tjornhom
Karen Ciola
Suzanne Heisleman
Claude Eggebraaten
Dave Raught
Zachary McCrary
Jo Reid



Hunger Action Month: cont'd from pg 2.

In the U.S., more than one out of six children lives in a household with food insecurity, which means they do not always know where they will find their next meal. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 17.2 million children under 18 in the United States live in this condition – unable to consistently access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for a healthy life.

Right now, millions of Americans are struggling with hunger. We all know and are in contact with people affected by hunger, even though we might not be aware of it. These are often hard-working adults, children and seniors who simply cannot make ends meet and are forced to go without food for several meals, or even days.

ACTION IDEAS:

1. Support Feeding Amer-

ica (feedingamerica.org), Placer Food Bank (placerfoodbank.org), and/or the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet (auburnfoodcloset.com) by checking their website to see what they need. You can donate money or food or volunteer your time. All are critical.

2. Share information with friends and contacts – send them this article.

3. Participate in a community food drive.

4. Participate in a "workday" at your selected organization (i.e. AIFC).

California Poverty Statistics (2009)

Food insecurity rate: 16.7% or 6,053,470.

Below SNAP threshold of 130% of poverty: 48%

Between 130-185% poverty: 19%

Above other nutrition program threshold of 185% of poverty: 33%

Unemployment Rate: 11.7%
May 2011

Auburn Interfaith Food Closet:
Average Number of Families/
Individuals Being Served Per
Month: Monthly averages Janu-
ary 2011 to June 2011

- Families Served: 1,022
- Family Size: 3.1
- Individuals Served: 3,364
- Children Served: 1,063 (494 *under 10*)
- Homeless Individuals: 120
- New Families 100
- Average Families per day: 48 (not including Saturday)
- Average non-perishable items per family: 28

Take the hunger quiz on pg 10!



Hunger Action Month: cont'd from pg 8.

HUNGER QUIZ -True or False?

1. One in six Americans does not have access to enough food. True False

True. Not having access to enough food to sustain a healthy life is a reality for one in six Americans, including children and seniors.

2. Most individuals struggling with hunger are homeless and out of work. True False

False. Hunger is not an issue with poverty and homelessness. Only 12 percent of the clients are homeless and 36 percent of individuals served by the Feeding America network have at least one working adult in their household.

3. Very few children struggle with hunger because there are programs to take care of them.

True False.

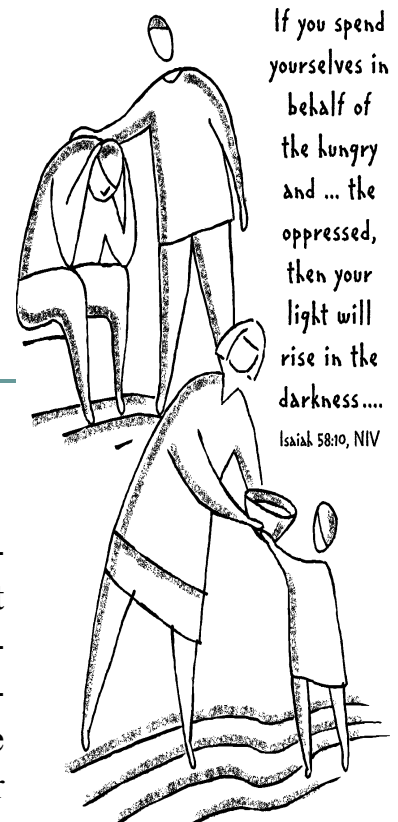
False. According to the USDA, more than 14 million children are living in food insecure households. School lunch programs do help but they don't solve the whole problem.

4. Most people in low income households would be fine if they just worked harder. . True False

False. 36 percent of households served by the Feeding America network include at least one adult who works.

5. Even college educated people struggle with issues of hunger in this country. . True False

True. 26 percent of the adults interviewed during the Hunger Study have attended college or a technical school. Education is extremely important, but sometimes it is just not enough.



If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and ... the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness....
Isaiah 58:10, NIV

Acolyte and Crucifer Training Day Planned:

On Sunday, September 11th, after the second service, an acolyte and crucifer training session is scheduled. This course is offered to

anyone who would like to be of service during our worship services. This session is also a refresher to those that already serve. This is a

wonderful opportunity to be a part of our worship service. Contact Denise Nelson in the church office for more details.

A Message from Bryan Whiteside, Director of Youth Ministry

It is September already, which means a busy month for me. My birthday and anniversary are in September, and of course, confirmation and Emmaus are beginning as well. Aside from these things, this is an especially busy fall since this summer is the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA.

The NYG (National Youth Gathering) is put on tri-annually by the ELCA and this will be the second one in a row that will be held in New Orleans. Although Hurricane Katrina hit NOLA, over five years ago, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. In July 2012, 30,000 Lutheran teens and adults from across the nation will descend upon New Orleans for a week of service. Aside from the service opportunities, there will be workshops, sight seeing, and worship services (held in the Super Dome) for all who attend.

This is the first year, since I have been here, that Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be participating in this great event. We hope to bring any student who will be in, entering, or exiting High School next summer along with us. The dates of the conference will be **July 18—21, 2012** and we will probably add on a couple of sight-seeing days.

There is an **information meeting** for all parents and teens who are interested in attending the NYG on **Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00pm** in the upstairs youth room. All deposits of \$150 are due by October 2, 2011.

Bryan Whiteside

From Our Worship Coordinator

We are starting this month with a celebration for Pastor Bryon's 25 years of service as a pastor! Congratulations to Pastor Bryon! There will only be one service on September 4th at 9:30.

Another date to remember this month is **September 11th**, which is the second Sunday. How has your life changed in the last 10 years? As I think about this day and the meaning of it to me, I wonder if I have done my part to help make this world a better place. Can I do more? As we gather for worship that day, may we find comfort and direction in God's word and meal, and bring that comfort to others that we come in contact with.

(continued on pg 12)

Sept 2011 Bethlehem Lutheran Herald

Cleo Hummel. A Memorial Service was held for Cleo Hummel August 5 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Marianne Rose Williams. A funeral service was held for Marianne Rose Williams on August 11 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.



Stephen Ministry News

You can play an important role in our Stephen Ministry Because you may know of a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who is going through a difficult time and who could benefit from the focused care, encouragement, and support of a Stephen Minister. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders (Susan Christiansen,

Joe Irvin, Joy Johnson, Jo Reid, or Pastor Bryon). They can talk with you about how we can connect the person you know with one of our Stephen Ministers. It's a great way for you to show how much you care!

Love One Another As I Have Loved You

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my command-

ment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is not just the pastor's job--it's something Jesus calls us all to do! Stephen Ministry is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring ministry can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who most need it. If you--or someone you know--are going

Please check the schedule for September, and let me know if you cannot serve on the day that I assigned you to.

Peace,

Denise Nelson, Worship Coordinator

(Cont'd from above; Stephen Ministry News)

through a difficult time contact one of our Stephen Leaders about Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care and to help you experience the healing

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN TO HOST BLOOD DRIVE

One way we can help others in need is by donating blood. BLC would like to host a blood drive in early October but in order to move forward, we need a minimum of 40 donors signed up and ready to go. Please sign up in fellowship hall to indicate your intent to donate blood on the Care Ministry bulletin board. You can call Joy or Tia in the church office to sign up, or if you prefer, you may call Randi Olson, FCN, at 916-663-9589 no **later than September 15th**. If you have questions about special circumstances which could prohibit you from donating blood, check the list of frequently asked questions which are located on the Care Ministry bulletin board. Remember, donating blood can save lives.

Randi Olson, FCN



Oktoberfest: October 8, 2011 at 5:00 PM



OCTOBER

OKTOBERFEST tickets go on sale September 11th. Mark your calendars and get out your accordions and lederhosen for our annual Oktoberfest!!! The Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Faith Lutheran Church 2011 Oktoberfest on October 8th at 5:00 pm will be held at the Gold Country Fairgrounds (Sierra Building). We look forward to another fundraiser for our sister congregations in Tijuana, Mexico. Tickets go on sale Sunday, September 11th after both services for \$15 for individuals and \$40 for families with children and be aware that tickets increase to \$20 per person and \$50 per family at the door, so get your tickets early! **Contact Bryan Whiteside** for more information or if you would like to volunteer in the following areas: Cooking, Bartending, Publicity, Ticket Sales, Set-up (morning of), Clean-up (evening of), Silent Auction

A Note from Men in Mission



**MEN in
Mission**

FALL KICKOFF: Join Men in Mission for the September 27th fall “kick-off” for a "Hansen & Clark" expedition in Italy. Loren Clark and Pastor Bryon will share their experiences of their recent trip to Italy. Enjoy their video presentation of the Tuscany countryside and historic Milan, Venice and surrounding areas. Everyone is invited to a potluck, and that includes women too! The dinner/potluck is at 6:00pm and program begins at 7:00pm.

NEWS FROM KIBUNGO, RWANDA

On Sunday, July 31, 2011 Bethlehem Lutheran was blessed with a visit from Gerard Muvuny from our sister congregation in Kibungo, Rwanda. Gerard is the son of Pastor Mahirane of Kibungo and is our principle communication link with the Kibungo parish. At both Sunday services Gerard conveyed greetings and gifts from our sister-congregation, and presented a slide show between services, followed by a Q & A session during the potluck held after the second service. Pastor Bryon presented Gerard with a quilt and prayer shawl from Bethlehem Lutheran to give to the Kibungo parish. This was a great opportunity to meet Gerard and to learn more about our sister-congregation.

Gerard was one of the adult leaders that brought a delegation of Rwandan youth to Northern California in July. This endeavor was a partnership between The Lutheran Church in Rwanda, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS), Faith Active in Love Program, the Sierra Pacific Synod

Youth Committee, and the Sierra Pacific Synod. The Rwandan delegation was composed of 10 youths (ages 18-35) that attended a youth leadership development program at PLTS and while in Northern California they visited various sister-congregations throughout Northern California.

Gerard’s visit generated so much enthusiasm at Bethlehem that Don Schultze created a “Rwanda-Kibungo group” on Facebook. This is an exciting way to keep informed about our continuing relationship with our sister-congregation. Gerard has interacted with the group on Facebook from Rwanda and is excited that we are now more connected than ever. If you have questions about the new Facebook group, or our sister congregation contact Don Schultze at dps313@sbcglobal.net.

Submitted by: Don Schultze & Tia Desplancke

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Auburn, CA 95603

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Fax: 530-885-2287
bethlehem@yahoo.com

Sharing Christ's Love

BLC is on the Web! Visit our website at www.bethlehemlutheranauburn.org

Worship Services

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sunday Morning 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Evening Service of Meditation , Prayer
and Peace— Second & Last Sunday of
the month at 5:30 PM

There will be no 5:00pm Worship service on Saturday, September 3, 2011.

Regular Worship Services will resume on Saturday, September 10 and Sunday, September 11, 2011

Call the church office 530-885-4514 if you have any questions.

REMINDER



Meditation, Prayer & Peace

The Evening Service of Meditation, Prayer and Peace will continue two times a month. Please join us for this peaceful, contemplative service on September 11th , and September 25th at 5:30 PM.