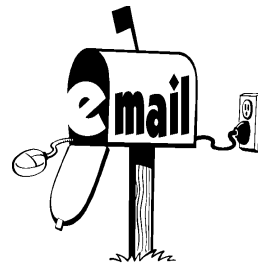




Sharing Christ's Love

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1279 High Street
Auburn, California 95603

If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail please send an e-mail stating so to the church office at bethlutheran@yahoo.com. You may also view it on our **NEW** website at www.bethlehemplutheranauburn.org.



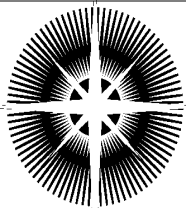
CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President - James Anderberg
Vice President - Sid Frame
Secretary/Treasurer - Diane Allison
Members at Large:
Debbie Clark
Richard Reid
Bob Thiessen
Kathy Ryan

1279 High Street, Auburn, CA 95603
PH: 530.885.4515 FAX: 530.885.2287
bethlutheran@yahoo.com
www.bethlehemplutheranauburn.org

Worship Services

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM
Sunday Morning 8:30 AM & 11:00AM
Evening Service of Prayer, Meditation and Peace— Last
Sunday of the month at 5:30



WE ARE CELEBRATING GODLY PLAY!

The Godly Play program at Bethlehem has begun another year. We have added new stories and new art materials into our beautiful Godly Play Room. The Godly Play leaders have met and done some planning about the year ahead. We had 7 children experience the wonder on the first Sunday! Now we want to share that wonder with everyone. On Saturday and Sunday, November 13 & 14, Godly Play will be the focus of our worship and faith formation time.

On Saturday we will have our first quarterly Adult's Only Godly Play Session from 10:00 - 11:00 am. This will give all adults the chance to experience the full Godly Play wonder - a story and wondering, playful work (art response, working with story materials, caring for the room, rest or silence), the feast and the blessing.

Then during each worship service on Saturday and Sunday, the message will be a Godly Play story. After worship, the Godly Play story and art materials will be available for everyone to see and touch. You will also have the opportunity to "sponsor" a story, part of a story, or art materials by helping to cover the cost of the amazing, high quality materials. This Godly Play celebration will take the place of the regular Sunday "Arise" classes.

The goal of Godly Play is to provide an environment that fosters discovery learning in which children feel safe and welcomed; where they can learn the art of using religious language to encounter the mystery of God and to use that language to find meaning in their lives. We believe that is can be true for everyone as well as the children. **Come and Worship with Wonder!**

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev 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



*Please remember in prayer
those in our Faith commu-
nity who are celebrating a
birthday*

Peggy Dunievitz, Linda Greenlee, Sharown Brower, Nancy Bender, Sarah Aderberg, Moe Stevens, Anne Marie Holt, Donetta Barnhart, Kylie Bowman, Mary Kay Gregersen, Karen Stein, Reinhard Riedel, Jack Baird, Larry Dugan, Elizabeth Ridolfi, Marie-Claire Desplancke, Kathy Ryan, Britt Olson, Dave Erickson, Carol Lundberg, Jason Lee, Collin Houston, Sean Vandenhoff, Edie Jensen, Russ Stein, Terry Mornin, Juliane Houston, Hal Nielsen, Jan Riedel, Amanda McFarland, Tim Twietmeyer. *(Please call the church office for exact dates if you would like them)*



Women's Fellowship

Please join the Good News Girls for Bible study on Thursday, Nov. 18 in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am. The study is taken from "**Lutheran Woman Today**" and is titled "Stewardship" and the theme verse is 1 Corinthians 4:2. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. The main text is 1 Corinthians 4:1-5. The study will be led by Delores Amaro and hostess for refreshments is Donna Larson. This is a wonderful time of fellowship and study. If you do not have a copy of "**Lutheran Woman Today**", don't let that keep you from coming. We will have extras and also let you know how to order your own subscription of you so choose. This magazine holds some very inspiring and wonderful stories. It is study time where if you just want to listen that is alright too. No one is forced to make a comment. Just come and enjoy the company of other Food News Girls."



LETS GO CAROLING

The leaves are turning, the days are shortening, and the Christmas Caroling song list is developing! Yes, we'll form a hardy band of people who just love to sing the yuletide favorites, hop on board the Good Cheer Express, and go spread some merriment to others.

Three things to do:

1. Plan to Practice– we will practice together at least one time– tentatively after church on Sun. Nov 28, or on Thurs. evening, Dec. 2; then we will kick off our 1st even on Sat. Dec. 4 at 5 pm at BLC's parking lot, prior to the Auburn Light Parade.
2. Let Joe know– a) if you want to "be in that number" and join the Express; and b) Performance requests– do you know a church member or shut-in that would appreciate a visit at their door? Let me know, and we will work hard to get there! (Joe's cell: 916-417-9537 or email: irvinjj@gmail.com)
3. Watch the Bulletin and December Herald for specific caroling dates– we will likely gather on Sat. or Sun. afternoons to take our Good Cheer Express to the streets and homes, and possibly provide "Gathering Inn" entertainment in late December.

Join the fun and lift the Spirit of the Season.

During a recent Sunday School Class we looked at the Calendar of Lesser Festivals and Commemorations in our worship book. Distinct from Sundays and big days like Christmas and Easter, the so called lesser festivals celebrate biblical events like the Presentation of Jesus in the temple or biblical people like the Mary or the apostles. Commemorations honor all kinds of people through the ages – Catherine of Sienna, Francis of Assisi, Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Julian of Norwich, Oscar Romero, Martin Luther King, Jr. and many more.

We spoke about the importance of remembering these people of faith on these special days. One of the obvious reasons is that they serve as examples of faith for us to emulate. Does that mean that these people were morally a cut above everyone else? Hardly. The people we read about in the Bible or in church history books are ordinary people with flaws and shortcomings. So why do we celebrate the saints?

I recently found these words from Samuel Wells, Dean of the Chapel at Duke University, very helpful. In his book *God's Advocates*, he makes a distinction between hero and saint:

The hero is in many ways still the model we look up to in contemporary society ... We all feel it's our job in our generation to make the story come out right, which means stories are told with heroes at the centre of them ... for if the hero failed, all would be lost. By contrast, a saint can fail in a way that the hero can't, because the failure of a saint reveals the forgiveness and the new possibilities made in God, and the saint is just a small character in a story that's always fundamentally about God. So the saint's story is a very different story from the hero's story ...

We begin the month of November with the celebration of All Saints Sunday. (One of the lesser festivals) This is a deeply moving day. On this day we celebrate not only those whose names appear on the calendar, but all the baptized people of God, dead and alive who form the body of Christ in heaven and on earth. As we look forward to this day, perhaps you will find the distinction between heroes and saints a helpful one. When we think of those people of faith who have made a difference in the life of the church or in our individual lives, we look not to perfect people but those whose lives have become transparent for something greater than themselves. We celebrate the presence of the Risen Christ whom we meet in the lives of ordinary people like you and me.

Happy All Saints Sunday!

Peace, Pastor Bryon+



From Bryan Whiteside-Director of Youth

The Oktoberfest is over and it was a tremendous success. The numbers are still coming in but it looks like we raised close to \$7000. It was truly an awesome event filled with dancing, food and drinks, and great music. The true celebration takes place when we remember where that money is going.

Last winter when a group of us went to visit our friends in Tijuana, Pastor Romelio showed us a problem. Their second church, which recently had been planted, was desperately in need of a retaining wall. The church is built into a hill where there is very little vegetation. During the rainy season mudslides threaten their sanctuary with only a wooden fence to protect it.

Romelio is also approaching retirement and needs to prepare this congregation for a new pastor. However, the only way for this community to receive a pastor is if the church can provide housing. The plans are to place a home on the roof of the church, turning it into a two-story building. None of this, however, is possible without a proper retaining wall to provide protection for the congregation.

With the amount of money raised at the Oktoberfest we will be able to provide two homes and the retaining wall. From all of the support of Bethlehem, we will help ensure that the church of Principe De Paz will continue to provide a beacon of light in that community. My hope is that Bethlehem can bring a group of adults down to Tijuana in February (President's weekend) to work along side of their church members to secure their churches future.

-Bryan



Grow One Step Summary

On September 26th we celebrated Grow One Step Sunday. In total we had 91 Estimate of Giving cards filled out. Of that number, 56 households committed to Grow One Step in their giving for the ensuing year. Thanks to everyone who participated in this endeavor, and special thanks to Pastor Bryon for his thoughtful stewardship messages. Our challenge now is to fulfill our Estimate of Giving intentions so that we can support our ministries and mission at Bethlehem. Thanks be to God for our many blessings!

"THE VERGE"

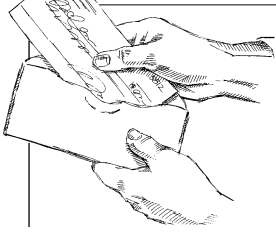


"The Verge"
BLC Adult Fellowship

Adult Fellowship

This month our Adult Fellowship group will be volunteering for the Nov 26 Gathering Inn to feed the homeless. Many hands will be needed to cook, set up, clean up, and serve. Come and enjoy some fellowship and service! Please sign up with Janet Riswold.

*Endowment
Fund*



UPDATE

As of October 7, 2010 the Endowment Fund total is:

Stock index	\$32,787.28
Value Index	\$27,388.53
Term Bond Index	\$16,900.90
Total Bond Index	\$20,283.93
Money Market	5,034.11
TOTAL	\$102,394.75

With continued support, market stability, and God's Blessing we will be able to provide our first Endowment grant in excess of \$4,000.00 on January 1, 2011.

September Income-Expenses

Income \$29030	YTD	
Expenses \$38758	Income	\$264564
Balance -\$8828	Expenses	\$300450
	Balance	-\$35887



FACILITY REPAIR FUND UPDATE Thank you for your generous response to our request for money to help repair and repaint our church this fall. To date we have received \$16,751.00 Thank you! Please continue your contribution as you can as nearly \$25,000.00 is needed for this project.

DISCRETIONARY FUND The Discretionary Fund, administered by Pastor Bryon, assists friends and members of Bethlehem in times of need or personal crisis. Gifts to this fund are always welcome and appreciated. Should you give to this fund, please note this on your gift.



Faith Community Nurse Randi Olson

CARE AND COMPASSION

"Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers and sisters, be tenderhearted, be courteous" (1 Peter 3:8)

Last month in a meeting with our Bethlehem Visitation Ministers who volunteer many hours giving love and sharing communion with our church members in their homes and living facilities, we listed what were the positives and what were the concerns we have in this calling. Some people stated they had difficulty dealing with those being visited having a hearing loss, keeping the conversation private when in a facility, not knowing how to deal with different levels of dementia, respecting the family's feelings about their loved one, and sometimes getting over-emotional, or not being able to leave the emotion at the door. When asked what felt good, some said they felt grateful for their own health and situations, a lift in spirit, thankful that the prayers they shared relaxed all involved, and that it was important to let our members know they are not forgotten.

Christianity urges believers to be compassionate toward one another. Jesus heard the cries of people many times, stopped, healed them, comforted them, and ministered to them, eating a meal and reassuring them. He entered into their suffering and became the embodiment of compassion.

We, as caring people may not be able to heal others as Jesus did, but we certainly can take time to stop, listen and respond with compassion. Our Bethlehem ministers do this...and do it well. They also share meals, provide transportation, and advocate to outside resources when needed. We find each visit to be different, some easy and some not so easy, but always see relief and gratefulness in the eyes of those being visited.

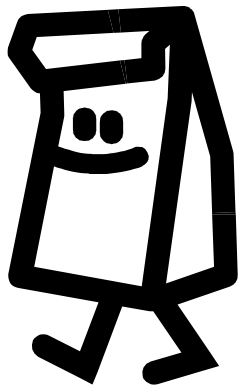
Bethlehem is fortunate to have members who have felt the spirit and have said, "Here am I, send me." So often persistent and repetitive media displays of pain and suffering, compounded by one's own personal tragedies, have resulted in a society where neglect ("I can't handle this so I will look the other way"), willful violation of one's conscience ("It's not really my problem"), and chronic suffering ("my body and mind are too heavy with pain already") are commonplace.

Yet, when a person's life explodes in a storm of disease or crisis, the only potential source of true compassion might be a church pastor, nurse, Stephen minister, or Visitation minister, who may or may not know the person well. It is then that there is need for a touch of the divine through the hands and heart of a compassionate Christian. The positives in "being there" for someone outweigh the concerns and difficulties one may encounter in these situations because God is truly holding our hand and opening our hearts to be non-judgmental, to connect, to respond with empathy and wisdom to say the best words and comfort in a way that truly helps. Christ is the ultimate spiritual link to compassion and true example of caring. Aren't we fortunate to have Him as our mentor!

KIDS KORNER

12 Things You Don't Know About Mrs Kathye Hamm

Number 6: I have moved 28 times! My Dad was in the Army and we moved 19 in 18 years. Then Mr Kevin Hamm was in the Army when we got married, so we made several moves with that career. It was hard to get me to move after we settled in Kansas, but after 10 years we decided to come to California. It will be many years before we move again!



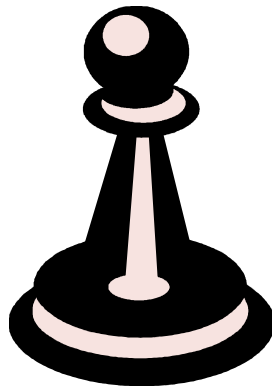
Family Game Night!
Saturday, November 13 6:30
8:30 pm

Calling all families with kids up to 5th grade!

Join us for a fun evening of playing games.

Bring a snack to share and your favorite games. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall, eat snacks, play games and just have fun!

Questions? Talk to or e-mail Kathye at BethlehemKids@yahoo.com or call the church at 530-885-4515



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR NOVEMBER

M Psalm 50 Nehemiah 13:1-3, 23-3 1 Corinthians 5:9-13	Tu Psalm 50 Zechariah 7:1-14 Jude 5-21	W Psalm 50 Amos 5:12-24 Luke 19:11-27	Th Psalm 17:1-9 Deuteronomy 25:5-10 Acts 22:22—23:11	F Psalm 17:1-9 Genesis 38:1-26 Acts 24:10-23	Sa Psalm 17:1-9 Exodus 3:13-20 Luke 20:1-8	Sunday <u>November 7</u> Job 19:23-27a Psalm 17:1-9 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38	M Psalm 123 Job 20:1-11 2 Peter 1:16-21	Tu Psalm 123 Job 21:1, 17-34 2 John 1-13	W Psalm 123 Job 25:1—26:14 John 5:19-29	Th Psalm 98 1 Samuel 28:3-19 Romans 1:18-25	F Psalm 98 2 Samuel 21:1-14 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12	Sa Psalm 98 Ezekiel 10:1-19 Luke 17:20-37	Sunday <u>November 14</u> Malachi 4:1-2a Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	M Psalm 141 Ezekiel 11:14-25 Ephesians 4:25—5:2	Tu Psalm 141 Ezekiel 39:21—40:4 1 Corinthians 10:23—11:1	W Psalm 141 Ezekiel 43:1-12 Matthew 23:37—24:14	Th Psalm 46 2 Chronicles 18:12-22 Hebrews 9:23-28	F Psalm 46 Zechariah 11:1-17 1 Peter 1:3-9	Sa Psalm 46 Jeremiah 22:18-30 Luke 18:15-17	Sunday <u>November 21</u> Jeremiah 23:1-6	Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43	M Psalm 24 Jeremiah 46:18-28 Revelation 21:5-27	Tu Psalm 24 Isaiah 33:17-22 Revelation 22:8-21	W Psalm 24 Isaiah 60:8-16 Luke 1:1-4	Th Psalm 122 Daniel 9:15-19 James 4:1-10	F Psalm 122 Genesis 6:1-10 Hebrews 11:1-7	Sa Psalm 122 Genesis 6:11-22 Matthew 24:1-22	Sunday <u>November 28</u> Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44	M Psalm 124 Genesis 8:1-19 Romans 6:1-11	Tu Psalm 124 Genesis 9:1-17 Hebrews 11:32-40
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Learn, Grow, and Serve by Becoming a Stephen Minister

Do you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening? If so, please prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. Bethlehem will be training another class of Stephen

Ministers in January 2011. Stephen Ministers provide emotional and spiritual support and care to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness.

You hear a lot these days about on-the-job training or OJT. This is training that is very specific to the job one is going to do. Stephen Ministry offers IMT: in-ministry training. No matter what kind of training you've had before, Stephen Ministry will teach you what you need to know about how to do a good job of caring for others. Even as 50 hours seems like a big commitment, it is a rewarding journey—just ask any of those who have been through it!

To find out more about becoming a Stephen Minister or how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: *Susan Christensen, Joe Irvin, Joy Johnson, or Jo Reid.*



We pray for—Bernie Tupper, Larry Dugan, Pearl Schmidt, Caroline Davis, Ruth Faia, Cindi Bowman, Bee Toomey, Dori Dralle, Paul Krueger, Suzanne Heisleman, Jim Hesse, David Ramirez, Jolene Kirk, Bonnie Gibson, Joshua Kalisa, and Tom Anderberg. **We continue to pray for**—Cheri Rinn, Dora Sather, Irvin Sather, Dale Buse, David Iezzi, Inez Larson, Agnes Bensley, Sandra Weller, Jolene Kirk,

Cleo Hummel, JoAnn Anderson. **We pray for these ministries**—Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, Bishop Mark Holmerud, Sierra Pacific Synod, Dr. Richard Young (our missionary in Guyana), BLC's Church Council, Children's Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Pastor Gerard Mahirane at our sister Church in Kibungo Rwanda and Curtis Lee. **We pray for the Faithful Departed**—Dennis Greenlee, Riley Lane, Jonathan. **Those who mourn**—Families of Jim Greenlee, Jack Baird, and Louise Lane.

God's Global Barnyard

Our Sunday "Arise" classes are collecting offering to give to the ELCA's world hunger program:

God's Global Barnyard.

There are several ways to help us "buy" animals that provide

long-lasting solutions to hunger:

Bring you offering to class each Sunday!

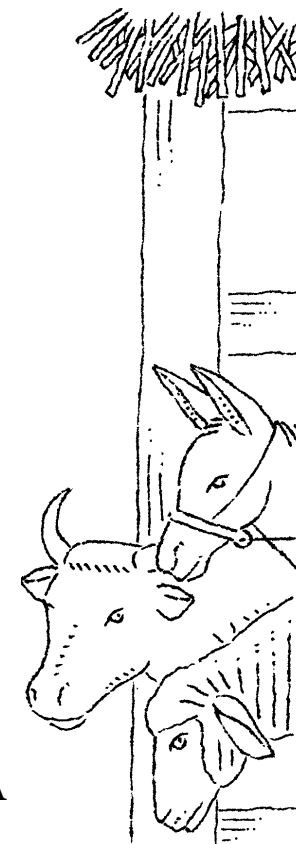
Take a "barn bank" home and fill it up!

or

Give your donation to Kathye Hamm!

We have already collected \$74.20. That's enough for a pig, a duck and 5 chicks! Watch the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall to see our progress. A cow costs \$500, do you think we can "buy" a cow by May?

See Kathye Hamm if you have questions or need a "barn bank"



Thanksgiving
Worship



Thanksgiving Service

The Thanksgiving holiday is celebrated again with a special Eucharist on the eve of Thanksgiving with our sisters and brothers from St. Luke Episcopal Church in Auburn.

This year we will worship at St. Luke's. The service begins at 7:00 PM on Wednesday November 24th.



MONTHLY SERVICE OF MEDITATION, PRAYER AND PEACE

This service takes place the last Sunday of every month. Our November service will be held on the first Sunday in Advent, November 28th. This truly inclusive and enriching experience combines ancient traditions with modern styles, including Taize' music and quiet reflection.

"ARISE"

Every Sunday Faith Formation Opportunities for All!

- "Godly Play" - ages 3-5th grade
- "Reel Faith" - Middle and High School Students
- **Adult Formation opportunities:**
 - "Stories Class" taught by Pastor Paul in the Garden Room
 - "Worship 101" exploring the basics of our worship life with Pastor Bryon in the sanctuary.

"THE WELL" Join us on Wednesday nights for "The Well." Join us for dinner at 5:30 PM followed by Confirmation, K.O.W. (Kids on Wednesdays). participate in fun hands on learning including music, art, healthy living, cooking and games. Adults are invited to our "Come and See" sessions.

DINNERS REQUESTED Dinner is served at "The Well" every Wednesday night at 5:30. We are looking for volunteers to help with a simple meal or part of a meal. If you would be willing to help in this way please see the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Jan Whiteside.



FOOD DRIVE

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Bethlehem Lutheran Church will have a food drive
November 14 & 21

Please bring non perishable food items
For the Thanksgiving food basket program.
We will gather the items on the chancel in the sanctuary.

All food will go to the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet.

Special Days **in**



On the weekend of **All Saints Sunday**, November 6 and 7, we will take time, as we do every year, to acknowledge those who have died. We will name those from the Bethlehem community who have died. We will also give people opportunity to name aloud all the departed who have been part of their individual faith journeys. In addition, to expand our sense of "saint" beyond those who have died in Christ, we will name those who have been baptized at Bethlehem since last All Saints Day. There will be opportunity to light candles, in prayer, to acknowledge the saints.

The church year comes full circle with **Christ the King Sunday** (celebrated November 20 and 21) when we celebrate the wonderful paradox of one who reigns from a Cross and whose kingdom is marked by mercy and service. Also: **Advent** begins November 28.