

The Herald



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OFFICE MANAGER

Joy Johnson

WORSHIP COORDINATOR

Denise Nelson

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

Randi Olson

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Kathye Hamm

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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James Anderberg

Vice President

Sid Frame

Secretary/Treasurer

Diane Allison

Members at Large:

Debbie Clark

Jaron Latona

Bob Thiessen

Shawn Wakefield

Pastors Page ~ Reflections

• As I reflect upon our journey through Lent and Holy Week, I give thanks for many things. I am grateful for:

- the midweek Lenten gatherings at the Lord's table and the lunch table
- the shared Wednesday evening services with other Christians in Auburn
- those who embraced spiritual disciplines
- the artists who fashioned the "Stations of the Cross" and those who prayed them
- our 40 Day Lenten calendar with its special emphasis on Rwanda, Mexico, the ELCA World

Hunger Appeal, the Gathering Inn and the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet

- those in the "Journey of Faith" and their sponsors and all who responded to God's continuing call to conversion
- the group that met each week to contemplate for givenness
- the confirmation students and children who illumined our journey in many ways
- the Three Day task force – their prayer, creativity, hard work and

dedication in making the days before Easter a truly holy week

- the musical setting composed by Owen Myers for the 11:00 service
- the wonderful moments to pray with the music from Taize'
- the pilgrimage to Mexico made by youth and adults from Bethlehem and Faith Lutheran
- the presence of our sisters and brothers from Faith on Maundy Thursday
- the grand Easter Vigil and party
- and much more

Reflections & Expectancy

Now, as we move into the Fifty Days of Easter we do so with great expectancy. We look forward to:

- receiving new members on May 1st
celebrating the affirmation of Baptism for several young persons on May 22nd
hosting a community forum brought to us by Placer People of Faith Together
sending delegates to our Sierra Pacific

Synod in the middle of the month

- taking in the sights, sounds, and wonders of the great 50 Days of Easter
looking to the great celebration of Pentecost on June 12 and the affirmation of Christian vocation by those who affirmed their Baptism on Easter Eve

I am grateful for God's Spirit moving in and among the people of Bethlehem and the Church of Christ in all places. Such movement of the Spirit is truly the sign that Christ is risen. Risen indeed!

Peace,
Pastor Bryon+



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 22

One Service on this Sunday at 9:30 AM

Join us and worship all together as we Confirm the following Confirmation Students:

- Daniel deValk
Jillian Sizemore
Megan Tribur
Laken Porter
Tommy Dillon
Parker Houston

On May 21st the Confirmation Students and their families will be honored with a Dinner prepared by the Church Council.

Serving Us in Worship

Confirmation Sunday

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Includes Greeters (Rose & Terry Mornin), Ushers (Elfrieda Branch, Kathy Ryan), Acolyte (Katie), Crucifer (Desplancke, Marie-Claire D.), Asst. Min. (Roberta Forbes), Reader (Ruth Dugan), Comm. (Marge Johnson), Asst (Virginia Ward), Healing Sta, Prayer Rdr. (X), Baker (Denise Nelson (4 rounds)), Screen (Devin), Tech. (McFarland).



CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Page 3

To Benefit our Sister Congregation in Rwanda

May 7, 2011

8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

We are looking for helpers - All Day Friday to help Set Up

Sunday Morning During the sale

Contact– Tia Desplancek at 530-268-1068

We also need your rummage- Drop Off Times

Wednesday May 4– 1:00-5:00 PM

Thursday May 5-1:00 7:00 PM

Friday 1:00—On into the evening

OUR Journey of Faith News



The 6 candidates in BLC's Journey of Faith continue in their walk towards discipleship and Affirmation of their baptisms at the Easter Vigil. On April 23, Heather, Suzie, Erin, Jennifer, Phyllis and Laura will profess and renew their faith, surrounded by our congregation. With their sponsors and team leaders, they have been journeying towards this moment with weekly small and large group prayer, Scripture study and presentations (including the meaning of the renunciations and confession). On April 9, they participated in a full-day retreat at the Mercy Center in Auburn, focusing on the Triduum—the 3 days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and

Easter. Enjoying the peaceful and lovely grounds of the retreat center, they learned about the significance of these final days of Lent and the Easter Vigil.

In May, the final full month of the Journey, candidates will learn about the Eucharist, ministry in daily life and their vocations in the outside world. Please pray for our candidates, ask them how their journey is going, and welcome them into our community of faith. *Virginia Ward*

Women's Retreat Recap

"What a wonderful time to relax and enjoy interaction and discussion with other Godly women."

"I so enjoyed the time just to 'be.'"

"The discussion on the fruit of the spirit really prompted me to think."

"The environment created was so sacred - it allowed me to escape the world for a bit."

These are just a few of the responses from the women who attended the Retreat in April. We hope you can join us in the fall for the next Women's Day of Rejuvenation and spend half of a day allowing God to tend to you.

Save the Date: Saturday, October 1, 2011.

Stephen Ministry Update



Join us the weekend of May 21-22 as we commission our new Stephen Ministers!

- Suzi Buse - Jeff Riswold - Jan Rumbut - Dave Scherman -

Virginia Sizemore

Serving Faithfully ... Working Hard ... Standing Firm in Christ

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



I act with
steadfast
love,
justice, and
RIGHTEOUSNESS
in the earth,
for in these
things I delight,
says the **LORD**.
Jeremiah 9:24

Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Their mission is to end poverty, injustice and human suffering. At the same time they begin planning long term programs that will strengthen communities and the future. Christ's promise to be "with you always, to the end of the age" inspires their mission work. LWR is able to promise the same to the thousands of people it works with. "We're here to give you a warm quilt and some soap to clean your self with. We're here to help you find meaningful work to support yourself and your family and we will not abandon you." (maybe a new paragraph?) The first thing LWR does is assess the situation, working with our partners we survey the situation and the local communities to determine the situation, what do people need? Is the area secure? What resources are available? LWR coordinates with other professional organizations, coordinating meetings are critical. There they divide labor as to food, water, sanitation, medical care and other important issues. Each organization that has responded has different expertise. LWR has expertise in food and water distribution, as well as addressing the need and challenges of rural communities. Others excel at medical support or shelter. LWR adheres to a variety of codes and international standards. They do monitor results and report. Their overhead is about 1%. A very worthwhile organization to support when there is a need anywhere in the world.

FAMILY FUN WEEK

I have a dream... In my dream the entire Bethlehem family comes together for 5 nights of meals, fun, fellowship, learning and more. Each evening families of all sizes (from 1 to 10) eat together with other families. Everyone joins together for a celebration to sing and learn about a Bible story. Then some people go to a class to dive deeper into the lesson for the day. Others gather in Tribes of all ages and talk together about where they've seen God that day, visit Mary's House to learn more about Jesus, go to the Marketplace and spend their coins to make something, play games and tell people about Jesus! Then everyone gathers again for a celebration to share what they've learned, sing songs and say goodnight. **It's an excellent dream...**

"That sounds a lot like Vacation Bible School," you might say. And I would say, "Yes! But also so much more. It's **Family Fun Week**. It's not just for kids and a few volunteers – it's for **EVERYONE!**"

Do you share my dream? Do you like my dream? I sure hope so, because this dream needs cooperation. It will take a church to build this dream. Would you like to help? Here are the people we will need to make Family Fun Week: *Hometown Nazareth* come true:

Meal Coordinator: find people to shop, prepare and clean up for 5 meals (menus available)

Decoration Team: people to help turn the church into Nazareth

Costume Team: people to sew basic tunics for the volunteers (and maybe even the children...)

Registration Team: check in participants and register newcomers each evening

Photographer: document the fun all week long

Sound and Screen: run the mics and powerpoint at opening and closing celebrations

Nursery Attendant: take care of those too young to participate

4 Tribe Leaders and 4 Tribe Assistants: you will guide the Hometown Huddle and lead your tribe to the daily stations

1 Music Leader: teach/lead songs during opening and closing celebrations

Mary and Eunice: play the parts of Mary and her neighbor and tell the tribes about Jesus in Nazareth

Tax Collector: wander through the marketplace warning about taxes

Adult Jesus: at the end of the week, visit closing celebration with Mary

Fun and Game Leader and Assistant: lead the tribes in simple, fun games

6 Marketplace Shopkeepers

Carpenter: create an easy project the kids can build and "keep shop"

Bead Maker: help kids make a bead bracelet

Olive Oil Seller: help kids make olive oil scrub

Farmer: help kids plant seeds

Rock Quarrier: help kids dig for rocks and make a necklace

Teacher: help kids assemble school kits for LWR



Wow – it's a big dream, an amazing dream, a scary dream – but I still want to make it come true. LCR in Granite Bay had an incredible experience last year with a similar program. The kids left each day telling the stories they had learned instead of showing the crafts they had made. They were more excited about the Bible than crafts!!!! The curriculum is excellent. Everything you need to know is included. I will help as much or as little as you want. I'll be asking, e-mailing or calling **OR** tell, e-mail or call me if you want to help!

I have a dream....

Mrs Kathy Hamm

Wholistic Health For the Soul ~ Healing Through Worship

**You Lift
Me Up.**

"Because of Christ, you have put your trust in God. He raised Christ from the dead and gave Him great honor. So now your faith and hope are in God." 1 Peter 1:22

Last Sunday as the choir was singing those wonderful words, "You lift me up" my eyes soared up to the high window on the right side of the cancel cross. As if it was an extension of the cross itself, the very top of a towering evergreen tree was swaying in the breeze outside. It seemed to go forever, filling the entire window with its branches. As the words about Christ giving us hope continued to swell from the voices in the choir, I was reminded that our chancel cross made of the wood from a common tree symbolizes our suffering Christ who keeps His promise to lift us all up when we are ill, depressed, confused, struggling and afraid. He knows how it

feels....He has been there, done that! I was overwhelmed with joy, to the point of tears.

Then the thought came upon me...(as I counted the nine members sitting in the pews at different locations in front of me...) these souls are living God's promise every day as they grieve loved ones who have died these past two years. They depend upon Christ to keep them afloat by lifting their spirits. And then I whispered a prayer asking God to clear the minds of those with different kinds of dementia, that they may identify with Christ in his suffering and agony on the cross, even for only a mystical moment.

In last months Alzheimer's Aid Society's, "Forget Me Not" peri-

odical, Virginia Daniel, a peer counselor wrote about her husband's gradual decline into Lewy Body Dementia. After his death, she became a volunteer to support caregivers who face the challenges she knows so well. She has based her strength on hope as well as remaining active in her church. Now in her retirement after eighteen years, her final statement is, "I am not quitting! I will keep working until God tells me no!" She has come out of her bondage by helping others. She has followed God's commands to look to Him for strength and be lifted up. She has used her sadness to glorify God. She soars to the heavens like the evergreen tree, awaiting God's call. Alleluia!

Randi Olson, FCN

REMINDER :

Enjoy a light meal and talk, **"IN OUR OWN VOICE"**

Monday, May 9th, 2011 in the Fellowship Hall

Meal at 5:00 PM, Presentation at 5:45 PM.

This program puts a face onto mental illness by bringing folks living well with their illnesses to our Church Family. It will be a Multimedia Presentation and Two-Way discussion, so see you there!



Daily Lectionary for May

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31
M Psalm 114
Judges 6:36-40
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Tu Psalm 114
Jonah 1:1-17
1 Corinthians 15:19-28
W Psalm 114
Jonah 2:1-1
Matthew 12:38-42
Th Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Isaiah 25:1-5
1 Peter 1:8b-12
F Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Isaiah 26:1-4
1 Peter 1:13-16
Sa Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Isaiah 25:6-9
Luke 14:12-14
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35
M Psalm 134
Genesis 18:1-14
1 Peter 1:23-25
Tu Psalm 134
Proverbs 8:32—9:6
1 Peter 2:1-3
W Psalm 134
Exodus 24:1-11
John 21:1-14
Th Psalm 23
Exodus 2:15b-25
1 Peter 2:9-12
F Psalm 23
Exodus 3:16-22; 4:18-20
1 Peter 2:13-17
Sa Psalm 23
Ezekiel 34:1-16
Luke 15:1-7
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10
M Psalm 100

Ezekiel 34:17-23
1 Peter 5:1-5
Tu Psalm 100
Ezekiel 34:23-31
Hebrews 13:20-21
W Psalm 100
Jeremiah 23:1-8
Matthew 20:17-28
Th Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Genesis 12:1-3
Acts 6:8-15
F Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Exodus 3:1-12
Acts 7:1-16
Sa Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Jeremiah 26:20-24
John 8:48-59
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14
M Psalm 102:1-17
Exodus 13:17-22
Acts 7:17-40
Tu Psalm 102:1-17

Proverbs 3:5-12
Acts 7:44-56
W Psalm 102:1-17
Proverbs 3:13-18
John 8:31-38
Th Psalm 66:8-20
Genesis 6:5-22
Acts 27:1-12
F Psalm 66:8-20
Genesis 7:1-24
Acts 27:13-38
Sa Psalm 66:8-20
Genesis 8:13-19
John 14:27-29
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21
M Psalm 93
Genesis 9:8-17
Acts 27:39-44
Tu Psalm 93
Deuteronomy 5:22-33
1 Peter 3:8-12

May Birthday's

Jan Rumbut
Donald Williams
Jack Tjornhom
Betty Battino
Dottie Franze
Ed Seffern
Jesse Ramirez
Parker Houston
Lara deValk

Sydney Brooks
Jolene Kirk
Nanci Brieschke
Mary Johnson
Robert Classon
Les Gregersen
Emily Sizemore
Rosanna Everson
Susan Christensen

Paul Krueger
Jillian Sizemore
Jenna Tribur
Sheryl Cramer
Kara Sizemore



A Message from Bryan Whiteside, Director of Youth Ministry

Easter has arrived and I am just getting back from our annual spring break trip to Mexico. What an awesome experience!!! All together we took forty- two adults and teens to build three homes for two families (one family was very large). More importantly we strengthened our relationships with our friends of Tijuana and made many new ones. We got to hear the stories of life from our brothers and sisters across the border as we ate, laughed, worked cried, and worshiped alongside of each other. It was truly a Holy Week!

One of the high points of the trip was seeing so many new families in the churches where we were working. This year we got meet Fidel, Jesus, Israel, Sulema, Judy, and many more. Young and old people moving from southern Mexico in search of work and the hope that some day they will make it to the United States. One of the highs (and lows) of our trip was climbing to the top of a mountain where we could see across the border into San Diego. For being only a few miles away, San Diego was as far away as the stars in the sky for our Mexican friends. I now understand the look that was on Moses' face as he stood on the mountain looking into the Promised Land knowing that he would never get there.

Arriving home has been more difficult for me this year than it has ever been in the past. I am not sure if it is because we drove straight home from Tijuana without a day to acclimate back in the U.S. or if it is because I have genuine relationships with many of the people down there and when they hurt, I hurt. Perhaps it is because for one-week I was apart of something much greater than myself. I was apart of a community that devoted each day to the breaking of bread, service, forgiveness, justice, and worship. For one week I got to live into the reality of the resurrection and I miss it.

Resurrection is contagious. You cannot help to be overwhelmed with joy when it is participated in. The resurrection is not simply a historical event that once happened 2000 years ago, but it is a reality! As my partner Joel from Faith Lutheran said to me, "Nails, wood, and hammers were used to crucify Christ. We had the opportunity to use these tools to give new life to two families!" Every once in a while my actions, life, and heart get to proclaim, "Christ is risen indeed!!!"



Kibungo Sister-Congregation

Following is a portion of Gerard's last report to Bethlehem Lutheran Church received by Don Schultze:

"We thank to Almighty God for the past period achievement, and we ask for his guidance and blessings in this New Year 2011. Dear Don, all Brothers and sisters at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Auburn, please receive our very warm greetings from Rwanda, in above all from Kibungo. We thank you all for the financial input in our Parish. May God continue to bless your parish and your wonderful parishioners, and your generosity continues for the sake of Christian task here in Kibungo parish. Indeed, we continue to thank God for many blessing Kibungo parish has continued to receive even in this New Year 2011. In December last year Kibungo parish reached 2 years old: our parishioners has continued to increase; our total membership stands at 16 families, totaling to 38 parishioners (23 are women and 15 are men). On Easter we are preparing to baptize 5 babies.



GOOD NEWS GIRLS Good News Girls will meet Thursday May 26th at 10 a m in the fellowship hall. Delores Amaro is study leader. Carol Lundburg is hostess. The Study is the last of our, "The People of God, Unity in the Midst of Diversity". Our lesson is witnessing and evangelism. Main text is Acts 1:4-8. All women are welcome. Please join us for a morning of fellowship and study

QUILTING PLUS Quilting Plus has been busy making quilts ,sewing stoles and polishing brass this past month. We have only three more sessions left in our nine month period of quilting. Our next quilting plus session will be, Tuesday, May 2nd at 9 am. We plan on packing and shipping the school kits. In the month of April we packed and sent 22 quilts to Lutheran World Relief. If you are interested in joining us we meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month, right now we are in desperate need of people to cut squares and sew. Our quilts are very basic no need to feel as if you don't have enough talent, you do. Try us for a morning of fellowship and service.

Facilities Project Update- And a Big Thanks!

Your contributions are needed to accomplish our Facility Improvement Plan for this year. The heating and air conditioning units for the fellowship hall and office and the updating of the office computer network are scheduled for this year. All this equipment is old and inefficient. Cost for these projects will be about \$30000. The computer network has been installed and plans are to do the heat-

ing/air this summer. Note "Facilities Repair" or "Building Fund" on your contributions. Thanks for giving!



THANKS TO WORK DAY HELPERS

Thanks to all helped on work day in April. The church, particularly the sanctuary, had a spring cleaning in preparation for Easter. Thank Rod, Bob, Ron, Frank, Terry, Kathryn, Gene, and Ken when you see them! All are invited to join in on the second Tuesday of the month for a morning light work and coffee.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Over the centuries, shawls have come to symbolize shelter ,peace, and spiritual sustenance. Now, thousands of knitters and those that crocheted are creating handmade shawls being given to grateful recipients around the globe. We are very proud to be a part of this great need. I would like to thank all that contribute to our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Many shawls have gone to our church family, and Hospice. If you would like to be a part of this Ministry please call me or see me in church for the simple pattern. 530-308-2836. Thank you Jean.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Endowment Fund Update

The Endowment Grants for 2011 have been recently awarded to the following people for identified program needs:

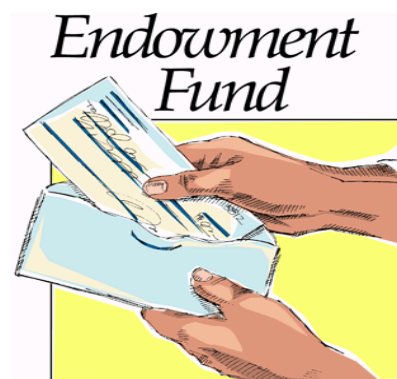
- Jeff Riswold for a grand piano dolly in the amount of \$800.00
- Tom Larson for heating and air conditioning equipment in the amount of

\$1,975.00

- James Anderberg for church technology upgrades in the amount of \$ 1,500.00

Our congratulations to these recipients for recognizing and pursuing areas of our facilities which need improvements and with these grants will benefit and contribute to the spiritual environ-

ment of our church. The total grant money for this year was \$ 4,275.00



Lenten Calendar Donations

Thank you for your donations throughout Lent and participating in our Lenten Calendar. The following were donated:

- Food Closet- \$5.00 and a full closet.
- Gathering Inn-\$75.00 and
- 1/1/2 Large Trash Bags of Toiletries.
- God's Global Barnyard for \$134.62
- 2 Letters to our Missionary in Guyana
- 10 items and \$5.00 for Mexico.
- 3 bags of Rummage for the Rummage benefiting Rwanda.

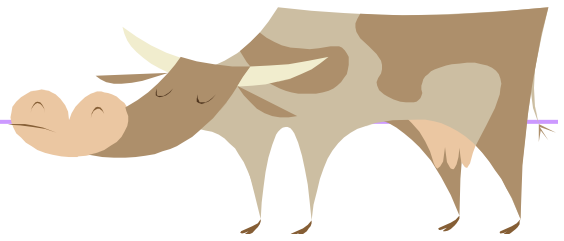
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS!

From the Worship Coordinator– Denise Nelson

We had a great Holy Week here at BLC. I want to take this time to thank all of you who served during Holy Week. There were many people who served in many different ways, from stapling bulletins to greeting to serving communion. I want to thank each one of you for being a part of our church community.

I also want to thank Ralph Roper who donated money in Helen's name, which was used to change all the wax candles on the chancel to oil candles.

Peace, Denise Nelson, Worship Coordinator



God's Global Barnyard

You are amazing! Thanks to your Lenten donations - \$134.62 in one day – plus donations that keep coming in, we have a total of \$665.72, enough for a cow, a sheep and two ducks. Watch the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall to see our progress. We are only \$85 from a cow and a fish farm. Could we even make it two cows?

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

THE VERGE.....Adult Fellowship

BLC Taco Throwdown Fiesta

Saturday, May 28th 5:30PM Verge Hosts: Patricia and Joe Irvin

In the long standing tradition of fun competition, let's see the Verge's culinary talent emerge when groups *throw* together the best taco meal.

Here's how it works...

We will have two or three teams that will work together to prepare a Taco Meal Extravaganza and present it to a prestigious panel of judges.

You can start your own team or just let us know and we will find you one.

Each team will create:

- 1. Tacos (your choice of meat, tortillas and fixin's)**
- 2. Beans (your choice of type, style, etc.)**
- 3. Salad (your choice of type, style, etc.)**
- 4. Salsa and chips—made to award-winning specifications**
- 5. Beverages—tea, beer, margarita—which pairs the best with your menu?**

We will have a BBQ available for cooking the taco fillings if needed, but all other items should be pre-prepared and brought to the contest in crock pot or bowl, or any appropriate vessel.

Put on your thinking caps along with your best culinary skills and work on your best recipes to serve up the award winning taco dinner. Judges will make decisions based on taste, presentation and originality.

Fun guaranteed! Prizes awarded! Join The Verge for this culinary caper.

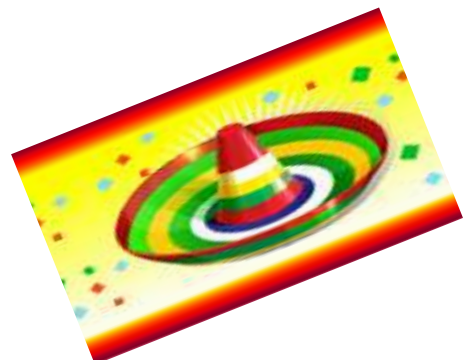
One last item: As we celebrate food and break bread together, let's remember those without.

Please bring a canned item to donate to Interfaith Food Closet.

Join us at the Irvin home at 2357 Newcastle Rd , Newcastle 916-663-1563

Please RSVP today so we can make this throwdown a reality!

developtalent@gmail.com or irvinjj@gmail.com



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1279 High Street
Auburn, California 95603

Phone: 530-885-4515
Fax: 530-885-2287
E-mail: bethlutheran@yahoo.com

Sharing Christ's Love

We Are on the Web

www.bethlehemplutheranauburn.org

Worship Services

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sunday Morning 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

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



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 22

One Service on this
Sunday at 9:30 AM