

# The Good NewsBreak

Evangelical News of Bethany Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We **INVITE** all; We **GROW** in faith; We **GO** to share God's love and grace.

Vol. 23, Issue 11

www.bethanyricelake.org 715-234-9028

November 2023

November —Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

## All Saint's Weekend November 4-5



### Lefse Workshop

Nov 16 & 17

### Lefse Sale

Nov 18 & 19

See p. 3 for details

### Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA

### Thank Offering Weekend

Nov 18 –19

Everyone will receive a loaf of quick bread as a special gift from the Women of Bethany

### Thanksgiving Service

Nov. 22 at 7:00 p.m.

A service of praise and thanksgiving featuring Organ, brass, bells and our Mass Choir.

Prepare Ye! Event Wednesday, Nov 29 at 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited ~ Activities for all Ages

~ Meal served by BLC council ~ Christmas Crafts ~

~ Help decorate the church ~ Take home Advent Pack ~

~ 6:15 p.m. Glow Dance ~

~ 6:45 p.m. Carol Sing and Closing ~



## A Message from Pastor Arthur Bergren

### Stewardship 2023: Grow 10%

As we approach the final stages of this year's stewardship campaign "Grow 10%", I'd like to share some great news. Over the weekend of October 21-22, everyone was encouraged to attend worship and prayerfully consider increasing their giving by 10%. At the time of this printing Bethany has received 76 pledges. 41 of those pledges took the "Grow 10%" giving challenge – that means 54% of all pledges increased their giving. This is only our first weekend's results!

If you were unable to attend worship that weekend, there is still time to participate. You can stop in and pick up a pledge card at the church office or contact Jenny Landes, Bethany's Business Coordinator at 715-234-9028 or [jennyl@bethanyriclake.org](mailto:jennyl@bethanyriclake.org).

Bethany holds a bright future because this congregation has heard the call to carry out the ministry of Jesus Christ. As you read through this newsletter, look at all we are doing...*together*. **Shine Jesus' Light!**

## A Message from Pr. Sue Eidahl

### "Keep Shining"

Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others." (Matthew 5:16a) He explained that no one lights a lamp just to hide it under a basket. A lamp is meant to be placed on a stand to give light to everything around it. Whether you're timid or outgoing, you're called to be a light to the people around you.

It has been said that when people are filled with the Holy Spirit, have a thriving relationship with God, and/or seek each day to follow the example of Jesus Christ, there is a significant glow about them. There is a difference in their steps, personalities, service to others, and handling of problems. Think about the candle we give to the newly baptized. It is a symbol of that light that comes to us when God names us and claims us as God's own. God forgives our sins, redeems us from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation in that little bit of water and strong word. Why would we hide what God has done for us? Why not "Shine Jesus' Light?"

In John 8:12, Jesus applies the title to himself while debating with the Jews and states: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." In a world that is filled with darkness, we are to be the lights shining through the darkness to lead people not only to safety but to the arms of Jesus the true light. Because Jesus is the light, our wicks are lit inside and shine through us for others to see.

**Matthew 5:16** is one verse that has been treasured and loved by many for years, explaining who we are in Christ and how what we do for Him brings glory and love to God. Take a dry board marker and write this verse on your bathroom mirror. Or write it on a sticky note and stick it someplace you will see it often. REMEMBER: SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

## Six-Week Grief Class on Mondays

This grief class will be offered by Laurie Carlsen, LMFT, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, grief specialist, over six sessions on Mondays, October 23, 30, November 6, 20, 27 and December 4 from 5:00—6:30 p.m. in Bethany's Library.

Class objectives: learn the stages of grief, create a safe space to talk about grief, offer and receive support, make meaning of grief, and instill self compassion.

For information, contact Laurie Carlsen: [LCarlsenmft@gmail.com](mailto:LCarlsenmft@gmail.com),  
Pastor Arthur: [pastorarthur@bethanyriclake.org](mailto:pastorarthur@bethanyriclake.org) OR call the church office, 715-234-9028.

## Happenings—Get Ready—Mark Your Calendars!

### Christmas Cookie Sale

Our New Orleans bound youth will be rolling up their sleeves and rolling out the dough so you don't have to!

Required pre-ordering of assorted cookies runs November 5 through December 3.

Pick up your orders on December 10

Cookies are \$8/doz.

Students will be available to take orders between services in the Narthex.

### December Highlights Mark your calendar

Dec 6 Wed Advent Service 12 & 6:30 pm  
Dec 10 SS Program 8 & 10 am  
Dec 13 Wed Advent Service 12 & 6:30 pm  
Dec 17 BLC Christmas Concert 4 pm  
Dec 20 Blue Christmas 12 & 6:30 pm  
Dec 24 Christmas Eve—1, 3, 5 p.m.  
Dec 25 Christmas Day— 11 am  
Dec 25 Christmas Dinner—Noon  
Dec 31 One service at 9:00 am

### Lefse Workshop

*Volunteers needed.*

November 16 8:00 a.m.

Peel, cook, & rice

November 17 8:00 a.m.

Roll, fry, & pack

Sign up in the Narthex  
Call Andrea in the main office  
Contact Audrey Kusilek

*Uff da!*

### Lefse Sale

\$9 for 3 Rounds  
November 18 & 19  
before & after services

Preorders Available  
Sign up in the Narthex

*Volunteers needed to help sell.*

*For the L♥ve of Lefse!*

## Concerts at Bethany

**Red Cedar Symphony**  
Celebrates 40 years of beautiful music  
with *Music of Dreams*  
Under the direction of Adam Bever.

**Sunday, November 5 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**Bethany Sanctuary**

General Admission \$15 21 and under FREE

**Northwoods Brass Band**  
**Thursday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m.**

Enjoy an evening concert at Bethany following the Main Street Christmas Parade. This concert will feature area brass musicians performing music of the season under the direction of Ana Traicoff-Stratitoui.

## Youth Happenings from Angie Buchli

### Yummy Cinnamon Rolls!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
NOLA Youth Gathering Group  
will be selling Cinnamon Rolls again  
the weekend of  
November 4-5th.



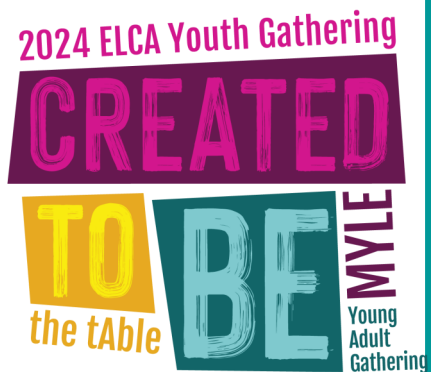
### KWIK TRIP CARD SALES

The NOLA group will be selling Kwik Trip Cards between services on Sundays. You can also purchase them from Angie during the week.

We purchase Kwik Trip Gift cards at a 5% discount. You buy the cards at face value. The cards can be used for fuel, groceries, and pretty much anything at Kwik Trip.

## 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

We are excited to announce that we have a group of 19 (16 youth and 4 adults) embarking on a journey to New Orleans, LA, July 14-21, 2024 for the ELCA Youth Gathering. These events are only held every three years. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our youth to come together with other ELCA youth from all of the country to build on their faith journey. We will participate in a three-day activity rotation that includes a day of service learning in the New Orleans area, a day of exploratory learning with other groups from our synod, and a day of interactive learning in the Convention Center.



The theme for the 2024 Youth Gathering is, “Created to Be.” We have been created to be ourselves. Created by the Holy One. Since the last time the ELCA came together for an ELCA Youth Gathering, our young people have experienced several major life events. Still today, we are experiencing an ongoing public health crisis mixed with an economic and political crisis. However, we can rest assured that we are created to be in relationship with one another.

We are *created to be brave*, to show up with an open mind and heart, willing to be challenged. We are *created to be authentic*, to bring our whole selves and know that we are loved by our Creator. We are *created to be free*, to be transformed by the gospel.

We are *created to be disruptive*, to work for justice for all our siblings.

We are *created to be disciples*, to be sent out into the world to love our neighbor just as we are loved by God.

The city of New Orleans has always been its true, authentic self. The theme, “Created to Be,” highlights the arts, music and soul of this beautiful, vibrant and resilient city. New Orleans was built to host and be a city where all God’s children come together.

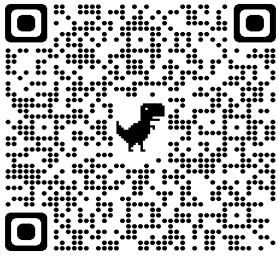
Please keep this group in your prayers as we prepare for this journey and fundraiser. Thank you for all the support!



# Youth Happenings from Angie Buchli

Parents—Easy sign up!

Scan the QR code for  
**ONE STOP  
REGISTRATION**  
Sunday School, Here  
We Stand, Club 9,  
and High School  
Youth Group.



Sunday school 9:00am-9:50am  
Preschool meets in Room 101  
PK-5th Grade begins in Room 108/109 for music  
K-3rd Grade meets in Room 107  
4th-5th Grade meets in Room 105



## Club 9

November 12 - Core Values  
Confirmation Journey Lesson - Faith



Open to all 9th-12th grade students  
Tuesday mornings 7-7:30 a.m.  
Meet in the Narthex for coffee, donuts,  
and devos.



## Wednesdays 6—7 p.m. Gathering Room

November 1 Lesson – Moses' Birth & Call  
November 8 Lesson – Moses and Pharaoh  
November 15 Lesson -Ten Commandments  
November 19 (Sunday) 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students/  
Guides – worship assistants  
November 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship  
7 p.m.  
November 29 Prepare Ye Event 5-7pm

Sunday School  
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
December 10 at both 8  
a.m. & 10 a.m. worship  
services.



A huge THANK YOU to everyone  
who donated items for our  
HWS annual Food drive!

On Wednesday, October 4th, our  
HWS students and guides went out  
in Rice Lake collecting  
non-perishable food items for the  
We-Share Food Pantry.

The collected 377 items and \$126  
for the food pantry.



## Worship & Music Happenings from Amy Brekke

**Thanksgiving Eve Mass Choir Singers Needed** for an intergenerational arrangement of *This Little Light*. This beloved tradition just got easier. Email/text/call me, Amy Brekke, and I will send you the music and a recording so you can learn it in your own time. Parents and grandparents, invite your kids to do this with you! Come to only one rehearsal on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Choir room. Sing at the Thanksgiving Eve service on November 22 at 7:00 p.m.



### *Jesus, The Light of the World*

Bethany's Christmas Concert Sunday, December 17, 2023– 4:00 p.m.

**Friends, students, families, small groups are needed to light the Advent wreath.**

During the Advent season, we begin our services with a short reading and lighting of the Advent candles. What a meaningful way to contribute to worship. Please sign up on [Bethany's web page](#) under sign ups or in the Narthex.



### Worship Assistants Needed

Readers, Greeters, Ushers & Communion Assistants are needed at all services. Sign up at [bethanyricelake.org](http://bethanyricelake.org) under sign ups or call the church office 715-234-9028.





## Shine Jesus' Light Spotlight

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Ring a Bell This Christmas!

It's time to sign up to ring the bell for The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. REGISTER NOW to get your preferred day or time at [www.registertoring.com](http://www.registertoring.com).



**Attention Knitters!!**  
**Your Talents are Essential!**  
White Baptismal blankets are in need of replenishment. Please contact Marlene Thurs with any questions: 715-234-5902



### THE TABLE IS READY... WHERE IS THE FOOD?

All are invited and encouraged to bring nonperishable foods and canned goods to the Thanksgiving Eve service on Nov. 22 at 7:00 pm for the Rice Lake Area Food Pantry. They are in need of many items.



Blood Drive  
Rice Lake Community  
Bethany Lutheran  
Church  
Friday, Dec, 1, 2023  
10 am—4 pm  
Please call  
1-800-733-2767  
or visit  
[RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
and enter Rice Lake  
to schedule an  
appointment.

## Gifts

### **Flower Garden Fund**

*In memory of Ted Eby*

By: Marie & Jolene Anderson

By: Jim & Maxine Williams

By: Dewayne & Susan Finstad

By: Sylvia Eby

### **General Fund**

*In memory of Elaine Gonske*

By: Norma Bergum

### **Global Health**

*In memory of Elaine Gonske*

By: The Family of Elaine Gonske

By: Mary Ann & Erick Holman

By: Dave & Renee Swanson

By: William & Lucille Gargulak

By: Ione & Bruce Gohl

By: H K Miller

By: Lloyd & Sylvia Leitz

By: Bun & Paulette Hanson

By: Judy Dahlgren

By: Edith Olson

### **Memorial Fund**

*In memory of Mike Messner*

By: Ray & Gloria Vaughn

### **Mission Outreach**

*In memory of Elaine Gonske*

By: Donna Sockness

### **Radio Fund**

*In memory of June Hoff-Ross*

By: Terry & Dawn Westphal

### **Quilting Fund**

*In memory of Elaine Gonske*

By: Danny & Carol Johnson

### **Stained Glass Fund**

*In memory of Mike Messner*

By: Donna Sockness

*In memory of Ted Eby*

By: Bob & Judy Gonske

By: Joyce & Amy Kringle

By: Sylvia Eby

By: Donna Sockness

By: Constance & Don Johnson

### **Music Fund**

*In memory of Stanley & Alyce Paulson*

By: Carol Paulson

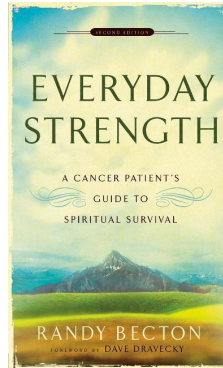


## Pastoral Acts

*Baptism: Clay Wayne Lorenz*

*Wedding: Jason McCullough & Angela Televandos*

## A Gift from Bethany



Cancer has touched us all. It can be especially difficult when someone close to you is struggling. If you or someone you know is battling cancer, whether the patient, a care giver, a concerned friend, or family member, we would like to give you a book written by a cancer survivor entitled, **Everyday Strength: A Cancer Patient's Guide to Spiritual Survival** by Randy Becton. If you are interested, please stop in or call Pr. Sue. She will share a bit about this book and pray with you. Know that you are not alone, your Bethany family loves you and wants to help.



**Remember to set  
your clocks back  
on Nov. 5**



Articles and information for the December Newsbreak are due by Monday, November 13

## Thank you

Thank you to our twenty five volunteers who helped load the Lutheran World Relief trailer on Oct 14.

A special thank you to Gary and Jane Dvorak and the United Parcel Service for use of their loading equipment. And, a special thank you to Deb Stange for tracking all the boxes and churches. In all, the volunteers loaded over 2,000 quilts, 108 personal care kits, 36 fabric kits, and 500 school kits! Wow!

Thank you to all who donated to Project Comfort, a special program that pays the shipping costs of the quilts and kits. Bethany raised \$1,364.00!



# Committees, Council & Staff

## Altar Guild

Audrey Kusilek, *Chair*

715-205-8843

## Caring Community

Gail Weber, *Chair*

715-736-0887

Pr. Sue Eidahl, Staff Rep.

## Education

Angie Buchli, *Acting Chair*

715-205-2009

Tami Bowman, Kari Donze, Mackenzie Narins,  
Jennifer Nelson, Amy Pelle, Sara Scheu, Jan Wilking

## Finance

Wendy Markgren, *Chair - Treasurer*

715-651-0905

Audrey Kusilek - Council Rep.

Joe Erickson, Pr. Arthur Bergren - Staff Rep.

## Mission Concerns

Amy Brekke, *Acting Chair*

715-651-6991

Pat McCann - Council Rep., Joan Gerland, Carol  
Kohlmeyer, Shirley Peterson, Lenae Sovacool

## Personnel

Tom Lundquist, *Chair*

715-234-4270

Mike Diercks - Council Rep., Gary Chilson,

Jolene Anderson, Bob Halverson

Pr. Arthur Bergren - Staff Rep.

## Stewardship

Kevin Jacobson, *Chair*

715-822-2966

Ted Hakala - Council Rep.

Mal Bailey, Jennifer Jenkinson

Pr. Arthur Bergren - Staff Rep.

## Trust Fund

Roxie Olsen, *Chair*

715-651-7816

Jack Berkseth - Council Rep.

Chick Feather, Carol Sevals, Don Storm, Warren

Dorrance, Stefani Fiedler - Advisor

## Welcome Team

Kayelon Campbell Murphy, *Chair*

715-651-7843

Tammy Roberg—Council Rep.

Laurie Carlsen, Con Eastwold, Bea Evans, Mikey

Seymour, Lee Shores, Lynn Sulackow

Pr. Arthur Bergren - Staff Rep.

## Women of Bethany

Gail Weber, *Chair*

715-736-0887

Jodi Babineau—Council Rep.

Angie Buchli - Staff Rep.

## Worship & Music

Paul Hanson, *Chair*

715-234-6530

Bun Hanson - Council Rep.

Andy Denison, Con Eastwold, Bun Hanson, Linda Mullikin,  
Tammy Roberg, Carol Sevals, Julie Stephens,  
Amy Brekke - Staff Rep.

## Property Management

Eric Roethel, *Chair*

608-475-0441

Dave Myre - Council Rep.

Shirley Bergthold, Ric Brekke, Dave Jacobs, Joel  
Kohlmeyer, Lynn Koob, Wendy Markgren, Keith Moffatt,  
Russ Schnacky, Josh Weinstock

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pastorsue@bethanyricelake.org

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*Director of Education, Youth & Congregational Ministries*

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Jenny Landes

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jennyl@bethanyricelake.org

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Andrea Stackson

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bethany@bethanyricelake.org

*Building Custodian*

Leatha Shores

715-234-9028



## Shine Jesus' Light ~ 30 days of Thankfulness

1. Thank your employer for providing a job.
2. Thank the person bagging your groceries.
3. Thank your pastor for leading the church and preaching the Gospel.
4. Thank someone who has been kind to you this week.
5. Thank your garbage collector.
6. Thank someone who isn't expecting thanks.
7. Thank someone living with you (cookies are always a nice touch).
8. Thank the next customer service representative you speak with.
9. Thank someone who has prayed for you.
10. Thank an author whose books have impacted you.
11. Thank your elementary school teacher.
12. Thank someone who's been on your mind but you haven't thanked yet.
13. Thank someone who has watched out for you in the past.
14. Thank a custodian for tirelessly cleaning other people's messes.
15. Thank the person who taught you to cook.
16. Thank your Sunday School teacher (either yours from childhood or your kids').
17. Thank the person who first taught you how to handle your finances.
18. Thank someone who has been mean to you.
19. Thank your family doctor.
20. Thank your neighbor for the first thing that comes to mind.
21. Thank someone who doesn't hear a lot of thanks.
22. Thank the person who helped you get your first job.
23. Thank an usher or a greeter in worship.
24. Thank the person who first introduced you to Jesus.
25. Thank your mail delivery person.
26. Thank your congress representative.
27. Thank your worship leader.
28. Thank a friend for being your friend.
29. Thank your local police or fire department.
30. Thank someone who has nurtured your faith.

