

THE BETHANY BROADCAST

📍 4644 Clark Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90808
📞 (562) 421-4711
🌐 bethanylutheran.org
📘 Bethany.Long.Beach
📺 @BethanyLutheran
LongBeach

God's Comfort and Peace to:



THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF
LARRY NEASEL WHO WENT
HOME TO HIS HEAVENLY
FATHER ON DECEMBER 23RD.

*May the love of God surround
you, offering comfort and peace in
the midst of sorrow.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Susan Ansorge
Michelle Baker
Jacob Bazz
Sally Blevins
Nora Borg-Breen
Kevin Dart
David Gamble
Dale Green
Betty Greene
Lynda Kernohan
Myrna Koenigsdorf
Phyllis Lee
Gary McDaniel
Flory Melendez
Keren Raquel-
Melendez
Christy Pierce
Mike Pierce
Suzanne Reed
Elias Rodas
Mary Rosas
Joyce Rose
Joel Melendez-
Sarceno
Kat Totten
Eno Uti

Today we Celebrate the Baptism of:



ISABEL RUBY BAROJAS,
DAUGHTER OF REYNALDO
& ALLYSON (NÉE
HAMILTON) BAROJAS.

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,
the new creation has come: the old
has gone, the new is here.
2 Corinthians 5:17*

Worshipping Faithfully

Hebrews 10:25



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

SERVICE SCHEDULE:

8 am • 9:30 am • 11 am

COMMUNION SCHEDULE:

1ST SUNDAY all services

2ND SUNDAY 9:30 am only

3RD SUNDAY all services

4TH SUNDAY 9:30 am only

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

TIME 10:45 am - 12 pm

ROOMS # 215 & Library

LED BY Mary Kay Esswein (215)
Sheri Esswein (Library)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

TIME 10:45 am - 12 pm

ROOM Parish Lounge

LED BY Bob Lange & David Akins



UNDER GRACE...

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH'S SUNDAY MORNING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM

Potty-trained 3 year-olds through 2nd graders have the opportunity to take part in Under Grace during 9:30 am worship on every Sunday except the last Sunday of the month. The kids will leave the worship area after the children's message with the kids' ministry team in the narthex (or lobby area in the back of the church) and should be picked up from the Parish Lounge (the glass double doors across the courtyard) at the conclusion of the service.

We have also added a new element for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders during the 9:30 am service. On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, they will also leave following the children's message with our kids' ministry team but will come back to Friendship Square to rejoin their families during fellowship, when worship concludes.

Parents, please fill out the yearlong permission form using the QR code in order for your child to come to any children's ministry program.



Questions? Contact Alissa Brege - Minister to Children & Families: 562-421-4711, ext. 13 or
abrege@bethanylutheran.org

Serving Passionately Ephesians 2:10



SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY CHILDCARE POSITION OPENING

Do you love kids and love Jesus? We may have just the position for you!

We are seeking a childcare provider to serve the youngest of our Bethany family during our 8 & 9:30 am Sunday morning worship services.

Our nursery team serves in groups of two on Sunday mornings, welcoming our infants and preschoolers to the nursery and engages the kids in age-appropriate play & stories, sharing Jesus, while the service is livestreamed for everyone in the nursery to worship.

The hours are 7:45-10:45 am, approximately two Sunday mornings a month. Candidates must be 18 years old and satisfactorily complete the employment processes. **Please contact Alissa Brege at abrege@bethanylutheran.org for more info or to apply.**



YOUTH VOLUNTEER Opportunities!

ACOLYTE AND CRUCIFER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

We are once again interested in knowing which youth wish to acolyte for Sunday worship services (8 & 9:30 am)! Training is available to first-time acolytes. Please prayerfully consider this service opportunity and sign up on the google doc.

Questions? Please contact Karl Fink at kfink@bethanylutheran.org.

To volunteer: bit.ly/acolyte-and-crucifer

SUNDAY COFFEE & DONUT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

OPEN TO YOUTH IN GRADES 8-12!

This is a great way to interact with church members, hang out with other youth, and earn funds in your Youth Ministry Account to be used towards any Youth Ministry event.

Questions? Please contact Aimee Coleman at acoleman@bethanylutheran.org.

To volunteer: bit.ly/coffee-and-donuts



Updates

FROM OUR LCMS MISSIONARIES

NEWS FROM THE RICKMAN FAMILY SERVING IN LATIN AMERICA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:5 ESV

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! As we enter this holy season of Advent and prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, we give thanks to God for you and for your faithful partnership in the Gospel. Advent reminds us that God keeps His promises. In Christ, God comes near, entering our world with mercy, forgiveness, and hope. Even amid challenges and busy preparations, we rejoice that the Lord is at work among His people here in Panama.

We recently marked the beginning of the new Church Year with a joyful celebration involving the children of the congregation. Together, they helped decorate the Christmas tree in the church and set up the Advent Wreath. It is a simple but meaningful way to teach them that Advent is a season of waiting, hope, and joy in Christ as we light the Advent candles each week.

The following week, we celebrated Mother's Day (December 8th in Panama), giving thanks for the women God has placed in our families and congregation. It was a beautiful opportunity to honor their love, service, and faithfulness, and to rejoice together as the family of God.

Our congregation is now preparing for our Christmas concert and Christmas services. Rehearsals are underway and hearts are being prepared to hear once again the Good News of Christ's birth. We look forward to welcoming members and visitors to hear the Gospel proclaimed in Word and song.

We are thankful to share that the second deaconess class of the year began during the first week of December. The ladies are now studying the Catechism. Please keep these women in your prayers as they continue their formation to serve Christ's people with mercy and faithfulness.

This month also brought an unexpected challenge. There was a water-main break that resulted in a large hole in the church courtyard between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall as the city workers tried to assess the situation and make repairs. While this was certainly not planned, we are thankful for God's protection and for the patience as we wait for repairs to be completed. Even these interruptions remind us that the Church is not built on bricks and mortar, but on Christ Himself.

We thank all of you for partnering with us and making it possible for us to share the most important message with those in Latin America! Please prayerfully consider supporting the ongoing work here with a monthly pledge or one-time, year-end gift. We are thankful for each of you walking alongside us!

*In Christ - Arthur and Eva, Bethany, Zoe, Noah, Nathaniel,
Mary Anna, Addy, and Hannah*

Giving Proportionately Luke 21:1-4

WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN

At Bethany we know that “our stuff is not our stuff!” All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!

Questions? Contact Pauline Svolos at psvolos@bethanylutheran.org.

THERE ARE MULTIPLE WAYS TO GIVE TO BETHANY INCLUDING:

Online, Text to Give, Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Box, **and now Apple Pay, Google Pay, Venmo, and PayPal!**



Community Connections Acts 2:44

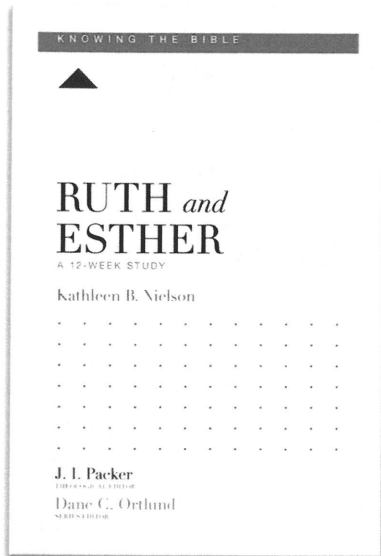
WE'RE HIRING A PART-TIME OFFICE ADMIN FOR OUR CYPRESS CAMPUS!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN ORGANIZED, FRIENDLY MULTITASKER WHO LOVES CHECKING THINGS OFF LISTS, KEEPS CALENDARS STRAIGHT, AND HELPS THE OFFICE HUM ALONG. YOU'LL BE THE GO-TO PERSON FOR QUESTIONS, SCHEDULES, AND DETAILS—MAKING SURE EVERYONE HAS WHAT THEY NEED AND KNOWS WHERE THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE. IF YOU ENJOY BEING HELPFUL, STAYING ORGANIZED, AND KEEPING THINGS RUNNING SMOOTHLY, YOU'LL FEEL RIGHT AT HOME AT BETHANY'S CYPRESS CAMPUS.

TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY, SCAN HERE.



new WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING SOON!



RUTH AND ESTHER: A 12-WEEK STUDY

BY: KATHLEEN B. NIELSON

Starts January 18, 2026
Meets Sundays 10:45 - Noon in the library
Bible Study Led by Sheri Esswein
Questions? Contact Sheri via the church office.
Book available for purchase on Amazon.

The books of Ruth and Esther recount two of the most moving stories in all of Scripture: Ruth, a displaced widow in search of a new home and loving husband, and Esther, a courageous queen intent on saving her people from imminent destruction.

This guide explains the biblical text with clarity and passion - leading us on a journey to discover the God who hears the cries of his people and remains faithful to his promises.



Mom Co.

Date: second Tuesdays
Time: 12:30 pm
Location: LBX

A time for moms to connect with one another, have a time of devotion, learn & grow, build one another up & enjoy lunch together!

Questions? Contact Alissa Brege at abrege@bethanylutheran.org.

JOIN US FOR GAME DAY!

DAY Tuesday, January 6th

TIME 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

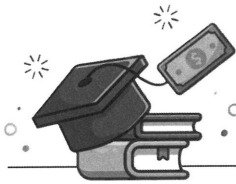
PLACE Parish Lounge

pizza!

snacks & drinks

Christian fellowship

QUESTIONS? Contact Cheryl at magicalviewcp@gmail.com.



BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATIONS HAVE ARRIVED!

Beutel Scholarship Grant Applications are now being accepted for academic year 2026-27 and are available in the Church Office. These applications are for students attending a college or university of our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in preparation for a full-time career as a pastor, teacher, deaconess, youth director, social worker, lay missionary worker, medical missionary, or parish worker. The purpose of the grant is to encourage our young people to pursue a career in church work and to give them assistance in reaching this goal. All scholarships are awarded on an annual basis. If a student needs scholarship help for the school term beginning in the fall of 2026, they must apply between January 15 and March 15 of this year. Application's are available in the Church Office for completion in a folder marked **BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIPS**.

IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE, THEY MUST RETURN APPLICATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE (SLT: SPIRITUAL LIFE BOX) ON OR BEFORE SATURDAY, MARCH 15.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT JIM SWICK AT (562) 714-3196.



Bethany Lutheran Church presents **THE BRIANNA ESSWEIN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT** **FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026**



EARLY REGISTRATION PRICE: \$150 per golfer (before March 2)

LATE REGISTRATION PRICE: \$175 per golfer (after March 2)

WHERE: Navy Golf Course - Cypress, CA

QUESTIONS: Karl Fink - kfink@bethanylutheran.org

DEADLINE: March 13th (or until sold out)

TIME LINE:
6:30 AM - check in begins
7:45 AM - in carts!
8 AM - tee time
1 PM - buffet lunch

THE GOLF COMMITTEE:
Marty Callow Craig Dean
Bob Newell Ted Spaseff
Phil Lopez Marty Platt

Join Us for ROOTED.



HERE'S WHAT BETHANY PARTICIPANTS HAVE SAID:



- *"It helped me to focus my priorities."*
- *"Gracious + welcoming to a very new Christian."*
- *"Loved doing the study with my husband + getting to know other couples."*
- *"Hearing faith stories + discussion helped me grow in my own faith."*

You're invited to take a 10-week adventure discovering a deeper relationship with the Lord and His people. Whether you're a life-long believer or are new to the faith, ROOTED will enliven your relationship with God and equip you to follow Jesus differently.

REGISTRATION OPEN!

DAYS: Tuesdays, Feb. 3 – April 7, 2026

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

LOCATION: Bethany CYPRESS Campus

CLOSING CELEBRATION: Saturday, April 11

GROUPS FOR: Women, Men, and Couples

COST: \$40 (\$20 if reusing workbook)

DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER
REQUEST OR DESIRE
INFORMATION ABOUT A
MINISTRY, MEMBERSHIP,
OR ONLINE GIVING?



WOULD YOU LIKE TO
HEAR TODAY'S OR A
PREVIOUS SERMON
AGAIN?

You can hear them
as podcasts at
bethanylutheran.org



WANT TO SEE IT AGAIN?

Today's 9:30 am service will
be live-streamed on our
YouTube channel:

