

THE WEEKLY
CHIMES
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Ash Wednesday Worship Services
March 5, 2025

"Savior, when in dust to Thee low we bow the adoring knee; When, repentant, to the skies scarce we lift our weeping eyes; O, by all Thy pains and woe suffered once for us below, Bending from Thy throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!"

With these words the hymnists bids us begin our Lenten pilgrimage to the Cross of Christ, our Savior and Lord. **The journey begins annually on Ash Wednesday.**

- + Bethany will have two Ash Wednesday worship services this year:
1:00PM and 6:30PM.
- + Our **9:00AM day school chapel service** will also include the Imposition of Ashes.
- + From **10:00-11:00AM** the Sanctuary will be open for meditation, reflection, prayer and private Imposition of Ashes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Pat Demetri
- David Gamble
- Betty Greene
- John Lightle
- Phyllis Lee
- Marge Lorenz
- Tom Mooney
- Larry Neasel
- Suzanne Reed
- Kat Totten



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES
at Bethany Lutheran Church

PALM SUNDAY:

Sunday, April 13th at 8 and 9:30 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY:

Thursday, April 17th at 6:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY:

Friday, April 18 at 1 pm OR 6:30 pm

EASTER FESTIVAL:

Sunday, April 20th at 8, 9:30, and 11 am



Worshiping Faithfully Hebrews 10:25

BETHANY LUTHERAN IN CYPRESS,

Holy Cross Campus update!



Escrow has closed on the Holy Cross school campus sale!!! Funds have been allocated for Cypress facility redesign, site mission and ministry work on Bethany's Holy Cross campus, future staffing support, school scholarships, general fund assistance and mission tithe.

The initial stages of construction have begun. If you drive by our Holy Cross campus you'll see Delta construction crews hard at work, behind the construction fencing. About 2 dozen members of Bethany helped on our final clean up moving and storage day. (A big thank you). We even helped the buyer, Sycamore school, with some heavy lifting...they are very appreciative and look forward to our relationship as neighbors.

To date, Over 80% of the traditional, weekly worshippers at the Holy Cross campus have attended worship on Bethany's main campus. Whether you're a historic worshipper on the Long Beach or Cypress campus make sure you do all you can to get connected to one another during this time that our Multi-Site congregation is reduced to a single site. Midweek Lenten Gatherings will be a great opportunity to do so as we'll not be spread out over three services.



IMPORTANT SUNDAY WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Updates!

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

BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE:

"Lessons of the Day" will be led by a member of the ministry staff at 9:30AM in the Multi-Purpose Room (# 215) located at the top of the south side staircase in Freedom Square.

Women's and Men's studies will be led by congregational members at 10:45AM. Location varies. Please contact the church office for more information.

* The 8 am service will be livestreamed weekly on our YouTube channel.

MIDWEEK LENTEN GATHERINGS:

The Prophet and the palate

In both prophetic utterance and descriptive reflection The Prophet, Isaiah, employs meal metaphors when speaking of the rebellion of the Lord's people and the redemption and deliverance He has worked on their (our) behalf. So that we might again taste and see the goodness of the Lord, this Lent we will gather together, connect over a meal and conversation, and hear the Word of the Lord through the mouth of Isaiah: The Prophet & the palate.

The gym will open at 6pm on Wednesday evenings in Lent. We'll share a light meal, connect with our brothers and sister and then reflect upon a text of Isaiah, sing, pray, discuss and be heading home by 7:30pm.

ARE YOU ABLE TO HOST A MIDWEEK MEAL?

If your small group or rooted group, buddies from Bible study or bunco, your service or ministry team, the group you sing or scout with, the group with which you toss darts or hit balls (golf or pickle) ... you get the picture ... would like to host one Lenten gathering let RevKev and our office administrator Kasey Loya know. (Pastor Kritzer: kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org / Kasey Loya: kloya@bethanylutheran.org)

Hosting an evening includes picking up the entree, sides and drinks (we have a fund that is covering costs), setting up tables, chairs, table clothes, and food station and then participating in clean up. In good ole Bethany Lutheran fashion we'll count on those attending to help put up tables and chairs for a quick clean up.

THE LENTEN SCHEDULE FOR "THE PROPHET & THE PALATE" IS:

- 3/12 Isaiah 5:1-7
"Good Grapes Planted...bad fruit yielded"
- 3/19 Isaiah 42:10-21
"The False Fast vs Factual Fasting"
- 3/26 Isaiah 25:1-7
"THE Death Eater"
- 4/2 Isaiah 55:1-7
"The Menu: wine, milk and bread"
- 4/9 Isaiah 12:1-6
"Belly Up to the Well of Salvation"



Serving Passionately: Ephesians 2:10



Updates FROM OUR LCMS MISSIONARIES

NEWS FROM REV. DR. ARTHUR, DEACONESS EVA, AND THE RICKMAN FAMILY SERVING IN LATIN AMERICA

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God." 1 John 4:7

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ whose love is eternal and whose grace sustains us each and every day! While many of you in the United States are still in the midst of winter, here in Panama we are coming to the end of our summer. We were able to celebrate the last week with one of the most exciting events of summer, before the children return to school in March—Vacation Bible School!

During VBS, the children had the opportunity to hear Bible lessons, play games, make crafts, sing songs, eat together, and make new friends. The little ones sang, laughed, danced, played and most importantly heard the Good News of Jesus who loves them with an everlasting love. Coinciding with Valentine's Day (the day of love and friendship, here in Panama), we had the perfect opportunity to share the greatest love of all with the children in our community—the love of God in Christ Jesus!

Many of these children are very poor and come from unchurched homes in a nearby housing development. What a privilege it is to bring them the hope and peace of Christ. Please join us in praying that the Holy Spirit will work in their hearts growing the seeds of faith in their lives. Please also join us in giving thanks for all of our church members and volunteers that worked together to make this event possible.

With school resuming in a few weeks, we have also been planning on expanding our outreach to the children in the community. We plan to continue music classes, have been assessing the needs of the children in the area and are working towards incorporating English and technology as well as an afterschool program.

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!

In Christ -

Arthur and Eva, Bethany, Zoe, Noah, Nathaniel, Mary Anna, Addy, and Hannah



Updates

FROM OUR LCMS MISSIONARIES

NEWS FROM THE ODEMBA FAMILY SERVING IN KENYA

Dear Friends in Christ,

Warm greeting from Kenya! We are writing to personally thank you for your ongoing support over the past year. Britt has continued to work alongside the director of Project 24, helping provide more children with access to education and fostering connections with the Lutheran church here in Kenya. Micah has kept his tour company running, ensuring that short-term missionary teams from around the world arrive safely at their ministry locations in Kenya and Tanzania. Additionally, he has overseen two school building projects in Kibera.

Both Rael and Silas have completed their first term in second grade. Rael remains passionate about swimming, while Silas has taken up motocross and made great progress in soccer. Thank you for your faithful partnership in our work. We are grateful to have you alongside us as we continue serving.

In His Grip - Britt, Micah, Rael, and Silas

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)! Please prayerfully consider this service opportunity and sign up on the google doc where you will find all available openings. Contact Karl Fink at kfink@bethanylutheran.org with any questions.

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



SUNDAY MORNING 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. Contact Aimee Coleman at acoleman@bethanylutheran.org for details.

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

Giving Proportionately: Luke 21:1-4

BETHANY'S ALTAR FLOWER FUND!



Flowers are used to decorate the altar every Sunday and you are able to make two types of donations to support this ministry: a general donation and a special request with recognition.

- **A SPECIAL REQUEST WITH RECOGNITION**
This type of donation comes with a special message printed in the Weekly Chimes, Sunday Bulletin, and Bethany Bullet.*
Suggested donation of \$75.
- **A GENERAL DONATION TO THE ALTAR FLOWER FUND**

* If you are making a **Special Request with Recognition**, please let us know two weeks in advance and specify which Sunday as well as the message you would like printed.

MAXIMIZE YOUR REBATE!

1. **Tap the heart next to any brand to save it to "My Favorites"**. Bonus emails are personalized to show your purchased or favorited brands first. And, if you opt into push notifications, you'll receive updates if your brands run limited-time flash bonuses!
2. **Download the RaiseRight Earnings Extension**. Don't miss an earning opportunity! Add the RR Earnings Extension to your web browser or iPhone and get real-time reminders to earn, whether from buying gift cards, shopping online, or both!

To learn more:

Ruth Lopez
BLS Scrip Coordinator
rlopez@bethanylutheran.org
562-420-7783 ext. 58



RaiseRight.



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 Maralee Shaeffer at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org.



There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:

Giving Online, Text to Give, Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Box



Community Connections Acts 2:44



Mark your calendars for a night of fun, food, and festivities at the **LCMS Youth Gathering Auction on Saturday, April 5, 2025!**

WHERE: POA Park (behind Long Beach Town Center)

TIME: Check-in starts at 4:00 PM | Auction runs from 5:00–8:00 PM

This year's theme is **Mardi Gras**, celebrating our youth's journey to New Orleans this July! Enjoy the smooth tunes of **The Beach Dixieland Ramblers**, indulge in fresh **made-to-order beignets** and **Southern Creole cooking**, and join us in raising funds for an unforgettable spiritual formation experience for our youth.

TICKETS:

\$20 for adults

\$10 for kids (10 and under)

Tickets go on sale March 2 and close March 23, 2025.

DON'T MISS THIS EVENING OF JOY, COMMUNITY, AND PURPOSE!

Easter EGGS-TRAVAGANZA



**JOIN US FOR AN EGG HUNT, CRAFTS,
SNACKS, AND A DEVOTION!**

DATE: SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH

TIME: 11 AM

PLACE: BETHANY LUTHERAN GYM

COST: FREE!

HOW TO GET IN ON THE FUN: SCAN THE QR CODE AND **REGISTER BY APRIL 8TH**

SO THAT WE CAN PREPARE FOR THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF PEOPLE!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL ALISSA AT ABREGE@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG



Superkids The Musical!

**Presented by Bethany Lutheran's
Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade**

Thursday, March 13, 9:00 am

Friday, March 14, 6:30 pm

Bethany Lutheran's Gym



Bethany Lutheran Church presents

THE BRIANNA ESSWEIN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025



PRICE: \$175 per golfer

WHERE: Navy Golf Course at
5660 Oranewood Ave, Cypress 90630

QUESTIONS: Karl Fink - kfink@bethanylutheran.org

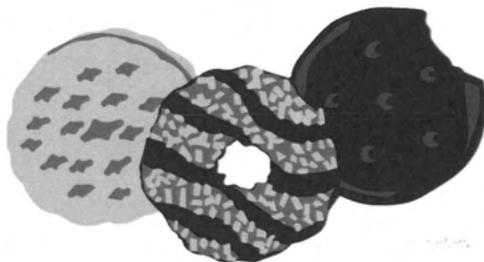
DEADLINE: March 12th (or until sold out)

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

IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME!

Get your Girl Scout Cookies between services now through March 9. There are 9 fantastic flavors to choose from! Thank you for supporting your Bethany Lutheran Girl Scout Troops in 1st, 3rd, 5th, 8th, 9th, and 11th grades!



Mom Co.

Date: second Tuesdays

Time: 8:30 - 9:30 am

Location: Youth Center

A time for moms to connect with one another, have a time of devotion, learn & grown, build one another up & snack on breakfast treats together.

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





GRANT APPLICATIONS *Available Now!*

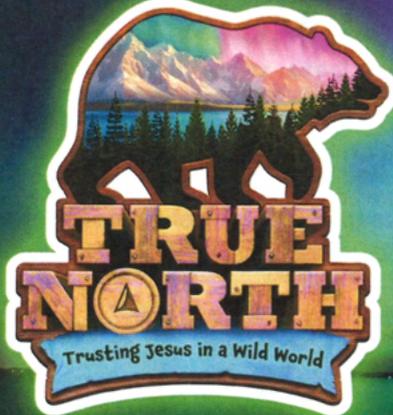
MINISTRY OF MUSIC GRANT:

The Music Ministry of Bethany Lutheran is offering grants to qualified applicants who plan on taking some type of music lessons or are majoring/minoring in music at the college level. Music Ministry Grant Applications can be picked up in the church office. **All applications must be received by May 15th**; grant awards will be announced on May 18th. Questions? Please call the church office and speak with Mara Widmann at 562-421-4711 ext. 55.

BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

Beutel Scholarship Grant Applications are now being accepted for academic year 2025-2026 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 2025, 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 for students to be eligible, they **must return applications** to the church office (Spiritual Life box) **on or before March 15th**. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Swick at (562) 714-3196.

The Easy VBS®



JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING WEEK!

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA
90808

JUNE 23-27, 2025, 8:30 A.M. - NOON

THIS **FREE** VBS IS FOR AGES
3 YEARS OLD AND POTTY-TRAINED
THROUGH ENTERING 6TH GRADE.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN
APRIL 13TH THRU JUNE 20TH

Join us for
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
ON
GAME DAY

March 4, Tuesday, 11:00 to 1:30 Bethany Lutheran Parish Lounge

question magicalviewcp@gmail.com

snacks and drinks

cards and board games

**TAKE ME OUT TO
THE ANGELS GAME!**
WITH BETHANY LUTHERAN

**SUNDAY, MAY 4TH
1:07 PM GAME TIME
AT ANGEL STADIUM
COST: \$20 PER TICKET
TICKETS ARE LIMITED**



QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALISSA BREGE AT ABREGE@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP DATES

Scan the QR code to learn more about our youth ministries and to see a full list of upcoming events!



QUESTIONS?

Children & Family Ministries:

Alissa Brege
562.421.4711 ext. 13
abrege@bethanylutheran.org

Youth & Young Adult Ministries:

Kayleigh Lopez
562.421.4711 ext. 18
klopez@bethanylutheran.org

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR THE BETHANY BULLET?



The Bethany Bullet is a weekly capsule of worship highlights and big information that your brain may or may not have 'downloaded' from the prior Sunday. The purpose is to bolster you

In faith, build you up in the key Biblical themes shared the previous Sunday in worship, to bring to mind the important issues on Bethany's plate and to broaden your awareness of opportunities of service to your Lord, your church, and community.

DO YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE FOR THE CHIMES?

Please submit all articles by **Wednesday** to kloya@bethanylutheran.org to be printed the following Sunday's Chimes. *Please note: Articles may be edited and reformatted in order to fit within the space available and all submissions will be sent to a pastor for final approval. Thank you for your understanding.*

*Blessings,
Kasey Loya*



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 8 am service will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel:

