

THE WEEKLY
CHIMES
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Long Beach, CA 90808
-  (562) 421-4711
-  bethanylutheran.org
-  [Bethany.Long.Beach](https://www.facebook.com/Bethany.Long.Beach)
-  [@BethanyLutheran
LongBeach](https://www.youtube.com/@BethanyLutheranLongBeach)

*Please Join Us for Shirley Gisson's
Memorial Service!*



A celebration of life and faith is scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd at 12 pm with a repast to follow. Both the service and repast will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church.

A Celebration of Life for Alice Dokter

The celebration of life at Peace Lutheran of Tustin, for Alice Dokter will be in Santa Ana on Saturday, March 29th at 11:00 A.M. The address is 18542 Vanderlip Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES
at Bethany Lutheran Church

PALM SUNDAY:

Sunday, April 13th at 8, 9:30, and 11 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

LENTEN DINNER MENU

THE PROPHET AND THE PALATE: **WEEK 2!**

THIS
WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 19!

ISAIAH 42: 10-21
"THE FALSE FAST VS.
FACTUAL FASTING"

STARTING AT
6 PM IN
THE GYM



ENTREE

PEPPERONI AND
PLAIN CHEESE
PIZZA FROM
VALENTINO'S PIZZA



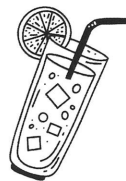
SIDES

SALAD OF
PRODUCE



DESSERTS

PALMIER
COOKIES



DRINKS

PINK
LEMONADE

JOIN US AS WE SHARE A LIGHT MEAL AND CONNECT WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS. WE'LL REFLECT UPON A TEXT OF ISAIAH, SING, PRAY, DISCUSS AND THEN HEAD HOME BY 7:30PM.

COMING UP:

3/26 Isaiah 25: 1-7
4/2 Isaiah 55: 1-7
4/9 Isaiah 12: 1-6

"THE Death Eater"
"The Menu: wine, milk, and bread"
"Belly Up to the Well of Salvation"

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 tithes.

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.

Serving Passionately Ephesians 2:10

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN THE SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER TEAM!



During this Lenten season, consider joining the Sunday prayer team that meets every Sunday at 8:30 am, in the conference room (in person or by conference-call) to pray for our pastors, staff, ministry teams, members and visitors, as well as for our community and nation. We pray from a pre-printed guide to stay on track and to ease fears of praying aloud in a group. Bring your bible and give our informal setting a try.

For more information, contact Dan/Mary Kay Esswein, Randa Pearson, Deloris Mayuga, Pat Gagan, or Jim/Kahana Smith. (Choir members meet 30 minutes prior to Sunday call time.)



PRAISING GOD FOR A RECORD-BREAKING COLLECTION OF SHOEBOX GIFTS!

The numbers are in! Incredible efforts in 2024 yielded over 11.9 million shoebox gifts to children world-wide, including 10.5 million in the U.S., an all-time high. This milestone would not have been possible without the collective sacrifice of people like you. On behalf of the ministry of Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, THANK YOU! 2024 Shoeboxes from the West Coast warehouse in Fullerton were shipped to Mongolia, Thailand, Philippines, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Cook Island, and Benin.

If you would like to contribute supplies for Bethany's school packing party in November 2025, please drop items off in the large metal OCC box outside the church office. Suggested supplies: **school items** (pens, pencils, calculators, colored pencils, markers, pencil holders), **hygiene items** (washcloths, toothbrushes, hairbrushes, combs, nail clippers), **toys** (yo-yos, small lego kits, slinkies, dolls, balls, stuffies, hot wheels), **other** (flashlights, sunglasses, t-shirts, socks). Donations are collected year-round! Contact an OCC committee member for more information (Aleina Smith, Deloris Mayuga, Louana Dean, Ruth Lopez, and Kahana Smith).

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. (Ephesians 3:20-21)



Updates

FROM OUR LCMS MISSIONARIES

NEWS FROM THE ODEMBA FAMILY SERVING IN KENYA

Last month, I had the privilege of traveling to our newest Project 24 site in Wamba, a town in Kenya's north-central high desert region. All the key stakeholders involved in Project 24 gathered there to discuss the program and present their annual reports, covering progress, education outcomes, and financial updates. Fostered strong support for our collaboration, dedication, and strong leadership, we are able to further the mission of Project 24, bringing hope and support to children in need. It was a joy to reconnect with the site managers, not only to hear updates from their locations but also to share in a few recreational activities. Since many Kenyans have never visited this region, we incorporated cultural experiences into our meeting, including a trip to an elephant orphanage deep in the arid landscape. Reaching the site required 4x4 vehicles, making the journey an adventure in itself. This experience provided a meaningful opportunity for locals to explore another part of their country and appreciate its diverse culture. A highlight of my visit was meeting the newest students from Wamba. It was heartwarming to see how well they were settling in. Since they were on school holiday, they were relaxing at the site, and I had the chance to chat with them about America and watch them practice the long jump—a favorite pastime among the children. Overall, the trip was a wonderful mix of fellowship, learning, and fun, making it a truly rewarding experience.

One of my key responsibilities is working with short-term mission teams from the U.S. who travel to Africa for ministry work. These teams typically spend one to two weeks partnering with local Lutheran churches, assisting with various ministry activities. I help my colleague coordinate their travel, plan their program, and often accompany them during their time on the ground. Last month, I traveled with my colleague to Tanzania, where we met the bishop of the Lutheran Church and several pastors who will be working with the short-term team. We visited the church that will serve as the central hub for their door-to-door evangelism and after-school children's program. Though our trip was brief, we were able to finalize the schedule and visit the guesthouse where the team will stay during their time in Tanzania. While these arrangements could have been made over the internet, the relational nature of this culture makes face-to-face meetings invaluable. Being present allowed us to witness the ministry firsthand and strengthen our partnerships. We are deeply grateful for our partner churches and strive to embrace their culture and traditions as we work together to share the Gospel in their communities.

In His Grip - Britt, Micah, Rael, and

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.

NEW RAISERIGHT BRANDS!

1. **Brit Box** 8% - Shop eGift cards in \$25 - \$250 amounts, then stream the best British TV, all in one place.
2. **Outdoorsy** 7% - Rent an RV, motorhome, trailer or campervan from Outdoorsy for your next adventure. eGift cards in \$25 - \$500 amounts
3. **Ray Ban** 7% - Whether you're looking for timeless, on-trend, or high-tech glasses there's a pair of Ray Bans for you. Earn an additional 3% when you shop online through RaiseRight.
4. **Tommy John** 10% - Great days start with great underwear! Get premium quality that lasts. Available as eGift cards in \$10 - \$500 amounts. Earn an additional 3% when you shop online through RaiseRight.

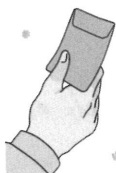
To learn more:

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



WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN

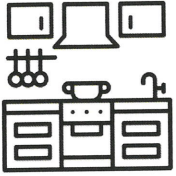
At Bethany we know that "our stuff is not our stuff!" All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. 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 Maraley 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





BETHANY'S KITCHEN REMODEL

Updates!

Under Construction: That's right, Bethany's kitchen is indeed under construction. A generous thank offering from a family, the gifts given by many on "Giving Tuesday," and our continued generosity to the Renaissance line item is funding our kitchen remodel.

In 2017 when Bethany engaged in a capital campaign for a "Renaissance" of our campus, we accomplished a great deal of needed enhancing, updating and refining of our facilities. Our kitchen however was not addressed due to a lack of funding. Our continued giving to the Renaissance results in the ability for our facilities team to address campus needs. While most of the cost of our kitchen remodel is being covered by a generous thank offering and our "Giving Tuesday" gifts, your continued generous funds directed to the Renaissance fund is covering the rest of the expenses. The Renaissance fund remains in place, and will retain its title and purpose as it enables our Servant Leader Team: Facilities (the artists formerly known as Trustees) to tackle campus projects outside and beyond our budget.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Community Connections: Acts 2:44

JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING WEEK!

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

JUNE 23-27, 2025, 8:30A.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 our VBS Team in an Ultimate Alaskan Adventure
as we explore the Faithful Friendship of Jesus!**

Vacation Bible School is June 23-27, 2025

Volunteers for those entering 7th grade - Adults Needed!

IMPORTANT - The VBS Program runs 8:30AM to Noon June 23-27; but **we ask for volunteers to arrive by 8:00AM each day.** Coffee & treats will be available every morning.

VBS Staff Training -

- We have two dates for you to choose from for **In-Person Training Dates: Tuesday, May 20 from 5:30-6:30PM** and **Wednesday, May 28 from 5:30-6:30PM** in the Youth Room.
- **If you are 18 years or younger**, you need to make every effort to attend In-Person Training!
- If you are unable to make the In-Person Training, there will be an online training option for ALL roles.

VBS WORKDAY & SET-UP - Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 21 from 9:00AM to 1:00pm** to help decorate and set up for our VBS week! More hands make for lighter work. We could really use your help.

VBS Volunteer Staff Commissioning - Sunday, June 22 at each of the morning services on Bethany's campus. The commissioning will happen at the beginning of the service. Volunteers will be invited forward at whichever service they plan to attend.

Questions? Contact Kayleigh Lopez at klopez@bethanylutheran.org or 309-397-6583.

**DEADLINE
EXTENDED**

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 19th (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 FRIENDSHIP
 GROUP TIME!**

**Friendship Group meets
 Wednesday, March 19th at
 11:30 am in the Parish Lounge.**

Our theme will be St. Patrick's Day! Please bring your lunch; coffee, tea, and dessert will be served. Karl Fink will have a devotion and then we will play bingo - a favorite of all!

Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship!



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.





YOUTH GATHERING

*Live and Silent
Auction*

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 ON SALE NOW!

\$20 for adults

\$10 for kids (10 and under)



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



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS:

“ESTABLISH THE WORK OF OUR HANDS” A WOMEN’S RETREAT with special retreat leader DR. CAROL McDANIEL

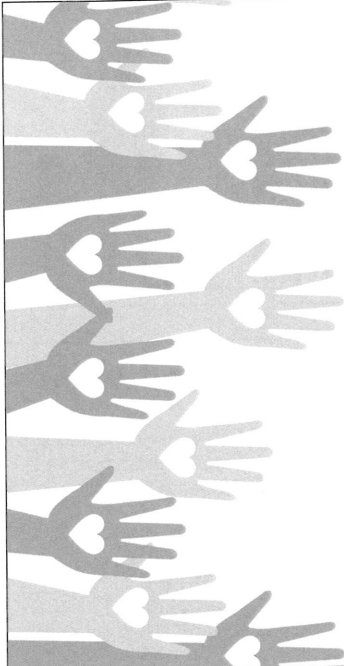
Friday, June 6 - Saturday, June 7
at Concordia University in Irvine

*Event begins with dinner on Friday
and ends after dinner on Saturday!*

**RETREAT COST IS \$180.
CONSIDER JOINING THE
40 WOMEN WHO HAVE
ALREADY REGISTERED!**

**SAVE YOUR SPOT
WITH \$20 DEPOSIT!**

Use this QR
code to
Save your Spot
or
Fully Register



SAVE THE DATE



GAME DAY



April 1, 2025

Bethany Parish Lounge 11:30 to 1:30

SNACKS AND DRINKS

CARDS AND GAMES

Christian Fellowship

JOIN US AT THE STAND!

Join us for a fundraising event to support Bethany Lutheran's 8th Grade DC trip! *

When: Wednesday, April 2nd
11 am - 9 pm

Where: The Stand - Long Beach
7511 E. Carson St. LB

*Grab a flyer from the school office or show one on your phone! Check out this week's Bethany Bullet for a copy of the flyer. You may also enter the code COOKSNIGHT at checkout.

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



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:

