

THE WEEKLY
CHIMES
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

TODAY'S FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

to the glory of God:

IN CELEBRATION OF 70 YEARS OF MARRIAGE FOR
CHARLES AND DOROTHY MEYER BY JIM, AMY,
SCARLET, AND FORREST

May God bless your marriage today and always

God's Comfort and Peace to



the family and friends of Rev. Donald Oldenburg, former pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran, who went home to his heavenly father on March 7, 2025. If you wish to send cards and condolences to the family, please mail them to: 920 Chicago Ave. Friendship, WI 53934.

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

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.



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



Worshiping Faithfully Hebrews 10:25

LENTEN DINNER MENU

THE PROPHET AND THE PALATE: **WEEK 3!**

THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26!

ISAIAH 25: 1-7
"THE Death Eater"

STARTING AT 6 PM IN THE GYM



ENTREE

PANDA EXPRESS (CHICKEN, BEEF & VEGGIE OPTIONS!)



SIDES

PANDA EXPRESS: RICE & CHOW MEIN



DESSERTS

POUND CAKE & ICE CREAM



DRINKS

PEPSI & POPPI

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:

4/2
4/9

Isaiah 55: 1-7
Isaiah 12: 1-6

"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 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.

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.

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

Giving Proportionately Luke 21:1-4

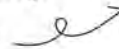
WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN

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 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



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.

GROW YOUR REBATE TIP:

Are you a Starbucks fan? I have a great tip for you! Purchase a physical, reloadable gift card from RaiseRight and add it to your RaiseRight wallet. Then add the same card to your Starbucks app. Whenever you reload it in the RaiseRight app or on the RaiseRight website it will automatically transfer the money to the card that is in your Starbucks app. Now you have earned a rebate and your Starbucks reward Stars too! WIN-WIN!

To learn more:

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



RaiseRight



Thrivent Choice®
Making generosity easy
thrivent®



Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

One good act leads to another. And the impact grows. Thanks to Thrivent, that's what we've experienced through the Thrivent Choice® program. Many of you directed Choice Dollars® to Bethany Lutheran Church or School and by doing so, you have helped to make a difference. In 2023, we received over \$15,000 in Thrivent Choice Dollars® grant funding. The funding we receive from both you and Thrivent helps us to continue our important mission. Thank you for your support.

Reminder... Your remaining 2024 Choice Dollars must be directed by March 31.



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

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL IS

Hiring!



Bethany Lutheran Church and School is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Director of Finance and Operations. This position will oversee the financial and human resources responsibilities of our organization for both the church and the school, along with overseeing some of our operational functions. This is a full-time benefitted position with an anticipated start date in late Spring 2025.

A full job description is available here: <https://bit.ly/BethanyDPO>. If you are interested in this position please submit your name, email address, and a brief summary of your qualifications to jobs@bethanylutheran.org.

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.



SAVE THE DATE



**GAME
DAY
APRIL 1st**



**Bethany Lutheran's
Parish Lounge
11:30 - 1:30 pm**

SNACKS AND DRINKS

CARDS AND GAMES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Easy VBS®

TRUE NORTH

Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

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 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**

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 THROUGH MARCH 30TH!

\$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



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**

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**



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
 562.421.4771 ext. 13
 abrege@bethanylutheran.org
Youth & Young Adult Ministries:
 Kayleigh Lopez
 562.421.4771 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 Lopez*



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!

