





THE WEEKLY
CHIMES
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

To My Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Bethany:

"I always thank God for all of you as I remember you in my prayers. In the presence of our God and Father, I never forget that your faith is active, your love is working hard, and your confidence in our Lord Jesus Christ is enduring." *(Adapted from 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)*

After much prayer, discussion, and deliberation, I have been led to accept the call to be Campus Pastor at Concordia Lutheran High School in Tomball, TX.

I want you all to know that this was a VERY difficult decision for us. Bethany has been a HUGE support and blessing to our family. You have encouraged us, laughed with us, wept with us, prayed with and over us, and served beside us here in Long Beach. I can say without reservation that, at Bethany, Jesus blessed us.

I cannot convey how much I have appreciated you all and our ministry together. Long Beach will always have a very special place in our hearts.

Though it will be hard to leave this place, we are excited for where God is leading.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers over the next few months as we end the school year here and then transition from Long Beach to Houston.

In Christ,

Pastor Kyle Blake

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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



Worshiping Faithfully Hebrews 10:25



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.

LENTEN DINNER MENU

THE PROPHET AND THE PALATE: **WEEK 5!**

THIS
WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 9TH!

ISAIAH 12: 1-6
"Belly Up to the
Well of Salvation"

STARTING AT
6 PM IN
THE GYM



IT'S A **POTLUCK** FOR OUR FINAL LENTEN DINNER! BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE AS WE SING, PRAY, DISCUSS AND THEN HEAD HOME BY 7:30 PM!





HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

at Bethany Lutheran Church

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE:

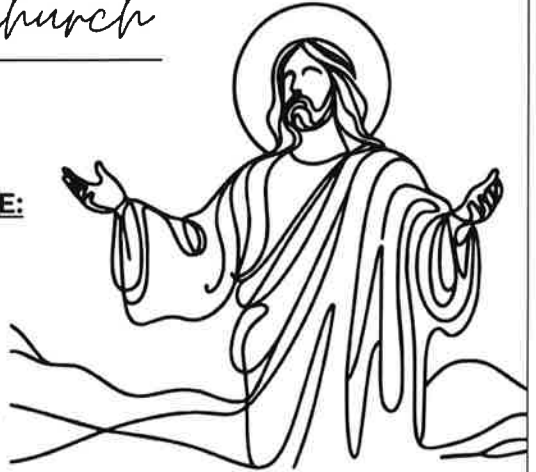
Thursday, April 17th at 6:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE:

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

EASTER FESTIVAL WORSHIP SERVICES:

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



JOIN US FOR THE WAY OF THE CROSS!

Bethany Lutheran's middle school students will be leading a special chapel service on Wednesday, April 16th. "The Way of the Cross" follows Jesus through Holy Week and His journey to the cross for us.

Guests are welcome to join the 9:00 AM group which starts at the lunch tables and takes a guided walk around campus while visiting stations from Palm Sunday through Christ's victorious resurrection. The walk takes 30-40 minutes.

"It's hard to believe isn't it? First a hero in a parade and in a few short days a man hated by all and punished unjustly...for you and me. Let's take a walk down the way Jesus took for us...THE WAY OF THE CROSS."



FRIENDSHIP GROUP!

Bethany's middle school would love to invite you to join their "The Way of the Cross" chapel service on Wednesday, April 16th!

Where: starting at the lunch tables

When: 9:00, 9:05, or 9:10 am



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.

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.)

Giving Proportionately Luke 21:1-4

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT YOU CAN NOW GIVE USING DIGITAL WALLET!

- **Apple Pay**
- **Google Pay**
- **Venmo**
- **PayPal**



Simply scan the QR code or visit our website (bethanylutheran.org) to give securely from your smartphone.



Thank you for supporting our ministries and mission! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Maraley Shaeffer at mshaefter@bethanylutheran.org.

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.



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 mshaefter@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



DONATE TO BETHANY'S ALTAR FLOWER FUND!

Flowers are used to decorate the altar every Sunday, for special seasons such as Christmas and Easter, as well as other important dates during the year. You are able to make two types of donations to the Altar Flower Fund: a general donation and a special request with recognition.



- **A SPECIAL REQUEST WITH RECOGNITION*** is a special type of Altar Flower donation. This request will be printed in the bulletin. For example, it could be given in memory of a person who has gone before us, for a wedding anniversary, baptismal birthday or a birthday celebration, etc. **This recognition has a suggested donation of \$75.**
- **A GENERAL DONATION TO THE ALTAR FLOWER FUND** enables Bethany to have flowers in worship and for our shut-in and hospitalized members to receive flowers from our flower ministry team, even when no one has ordered flowers for Sunday. **This General Donation is for any amount you wish .**

*If you are making a **Special Request with Recognition**, please use this form to let us know of your donation **for a specific Sunday date** and what the significance of that donation is towards. **IMPORTANT:** Please complete this form at least **2 weeks prior** to that date, so that information regarding your donation can be printed in the Sunday bulletin for the date requested.



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.

We are sad to lose our beloved Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Blake, but we wish her God's blessings in Texas! Now we are praying and looking for Bethany's next Kindergarten teacher:

Position Description:

Teach full-day Kindergarten, providing a classroom environment that is Christ-centered, engaging and developmentally appropriate. Develop strong relationships with TK teachers and students/families to build a smooth transition from preschool to K-8 school.

Candidates must possess excellent communication and collaboration skills, the desire to work cooperatively with team-mates (including a full-day aide) and a whole-parish understanding of ministry. Teaching credential a must. A rostered teacher is preferred. Contact: Principal Mary Fink at mfink@bethanylutheran.org.

BETHANY LUTHERAN SCHOOL IS HIRING FOR

Fall 2025!



Earnest



Volunteers

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION IS
NOW OPEN!



**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.



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 15TH THRU JUNE 20TH

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



BETHANY *on the go!*

A 7-NIGHT ALASKAN CRUISE

DEPARTING JUNE 23, 2026

Bethany has had a rich heritage of traveling together to all parts of the globe through it's travel group. A final choice for the 2026 trip has been made!



Join us for 7- Night Cruise **from \$3,650**

COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES & AMENITIES

- Welcome bottle of champagne
- Butler Service in every suite and guest room
- 24-Hour in-suite dining
- Unlimited beverages* (alcohol and soft drinks)
- Specialty Dining at Umi Uma and Osteria d'Ovidio*
- Turndown service
- Shoeshine service
- Assistance with packing and unpacking
- Pillow menu
- Unlimited standard wifi
- And more

*Restrictions apply.

We're thrilled to invite you on a breathtaking journey through the untouched, majestic landscapes of Alaska aboard the luxurious Crystal Symphony. Set sail on June 23, 2026, and experience nature like never before, with Crystal's renowned all-inclusive amenities ensuring your voyage is nothing short of extraordinary.

We have secured group rates aboard this sailing averaging \$1000 off per person when compared to current pricing.

This isn't just a cruise, it's a call to find your wander in the captivating embrace of Alaska. Stay tuned during the booking process for details on our optional land extension to Denali National Park. Scan the QR for more info.



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



WANT TO BE A BETTER NEIGHBOR? *There's an app for that!*

The "Bless App" is an application to support missional living in communities. It helps users pray for, listen to, and build relationships with their neighbors to be a blessing in that neighbor's life. The app challenges its users to show neighbors authentic community, hospitality, and create spaces where they feel comfortable wrestling with life's biggest questions.



Through the app, they provide all the tools you need to get to know your neighbors by name, helping you build genuine relationships with them. Use their dashboard to track your interactions and spiritual journey with each neighbor. Optionally, receive daily reminder emails or app notifications with a prompt to take simple steps to bless five neighbors each day.

Scan the QR code to learn more and download the app from the App Store or on Google Play.

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:

