

The Beacon December 2016

Bethania Lutheran Church 603 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463
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Putting the Christ Back into Christmas

Last December a Christian Internet star by the name of Joshua Feuerstein made a YouTube video that went instantly viral. In the video he had just walked out of Star Bucks with his coffee cup and explained that when he ordered his drink and they asked him what his name was, he said “Merry Christmas”. When his drink was ready the person who prepared it called out the name written on the cup. “Merry Christmas, your drink is ready.” Josh Feuerstein saw this as a tremendous victory. He had put the Christ back in Christmas.

The reason for his video was that last December Star Bucks decided to go to a neutral plain red cup during Christmas instead of their traditional Christmas cup from years past. They released a statement saying that they wanted to have a cup that was respectful to all religious views as many of their customers come from different religious backgrounds. But Joshua Feuerstein took this as another strike against Christians in this country.

Christmas, for whatever reason, always includes with it those who are angry that more and more public venues are saying “Happy Holidays” instead of “Merry Christmas”, almost as if the more people that say “Merry Christmas” the more God will bless our country.

I have always struggled with this at a fundamental level and it’s not so much because I disagree with people who want to see “Merry Christmas” put back into the December vernacular. I think my struggle is that if Jesus were here today, this would not be an issue in which he would put much emphasis, especially as homeless men, women, and children struggle during this time to find shelter and food.

I’m not sure if any of you struggle or even care about the “War on Christmas”, but I’m sure all of us are exposed to the commercialism that has become rampant during this month. This time of year seems to be more and more synonymous receiving presents than it does with celebrating a God who is directly present in our lives. We may not all believe there’s a war against Christmas, but I think we can all agree to try and put the Christ back into Christmas.

One thing I will always stick to is the belief that Christ’s primary mechanism for working and being present in this world is through us. To put it plainly, you are Christ. You are the Christ put back into Christmas. You, even in your imperfection are the beautiful child of God that brings God’s love, hope, promise, and grace to those who need it most this season.

If we want Christ to be put back into Christmas this year let’s do it in the ways we show our love to those around us, in the ways we help those in need, in the ways we bring the radical grace of God into our world in both word and action. May you all find joy and blessing this Christmas. May your travels be safe and your time together be meaningful. Most especially, may you find Christ present in each other and reflected in yourselves.

**In His Love,
Pastor Chris**

**THIS CAN'T BE THE
REAL CUP OF CHRIST**



**IT DOESN'T SAY
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Ministry at Bethania

Youth & Family Ministry

Holiday Greetings!!

Confirmation class will return on Wednesday, Dec. 7 from 5-7 pm in the Fireside Room. If you know any other 11-12 year old kids interested in learning more and getting to know others in a fun and educational environment, please invite them. The more the merrier! The Confirmation kids will be participating in the Christmas Angels Project for Iglesia Santa Cruz, which will take place on Sunday Dec. 18 after church.

Youth Group will be meeting for the first time on Sunday Dec. 4 from 3 pm-5 pm at St. Mark's-in-the-Valley. We will have fun activities, interactive games, videos, pizza and more planned. If you know any high school age teens that are looking for a spiritual outlet and want to grow more relationships and experiences they are welcome here.

We are very happy to announce the first Family/Community event at Bethania. It will be Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 from 11 am-2 pm. We will have BBQ style foods, music, face paint, games, and a bounce house. Admission is **Free**. Spread the word to families and the community.

Sign up sheet will be available to those wanting to bring a special dish to share.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Love and respect to all beings,

Livier

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Who Wants to Join the Communion Bread Baking Team?

Join Sheila Mee, Nancy Emerson, Nancy Puder and Kristyl Downey on the Communion Bread Baking Team and bake bread for the worship services. The bread recipe is easy and quick. Anyone with little baking experience and time can do this. Each batch makes 4 "loaves," enough for multiple services. If you join the bakers, you will only bake bread a couple of times a year. If you want to help, please tell let Sheila Mee (688-6120) or Nancy Emerson (693-1386) know. You will get a schedule and the recipe.

The **Christmas Angel Gift Project** has begun, where we purchase Christmas gifts for children in need attending Iglesia Luterana in Santa Maria. This year we are supporting the most children ever: 56 at last count! The church provides the "wish lists" and we provide the Angels who try to fill the requests. Any amount, large or small, is much appreciated so that we can purchase clothing, jackets, blankets, jackets and shoes in addition to toys for these children. Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$320.50 in November's Noisy Offering to help purchase items for these children. Thank you for supporting this ministry. Our "Wrap" Party will be Dec. 18th after church.

Contact Lisa Marzullo (688-5219, 688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net) for more information, especially if you would like to be an "angel" to one of Iglesia's children.

It's Christmas Greetings Time Again....

Once again Bethania Preschool and After School will be offering you the opportunity to wish all your Bethania Family and Friends a "Merry Christmas" by donating to our Tuition Assistance Fund. When you make a donation, an ornament will be placed on both the tree in the Narthex and the tree in the Parish Hall. Your name will be written on the ornament as your "Christmas Greeting" to all. Your donation will benefit our Tuition Assistance Fund which helps low income families from the Valley attend Bethania Preschool and After School. To make a donation simply complete the attached form and return it to the Preschool either by mail, in person, or place it in the offering plate.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Preschool program.

Eileen Knotts, Director

Christmas Greetings

Name: _____

Name on ornament:

same as above other _____

Phone: _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Bethania Preschool

Deadline for name to appear in January Beacon" Sunday, Dec.18, 2016

Ministry in the Community and Around the World

Final 2016 Report on the Produce Table

Thanks to all of the faithful contributors, donors and table "workers" (especially the faithful Jerry Mackey and Nancy Emerson for the paperwork assist)! Considering the lack of rainfall for the past few years, I feel the Produce Table was very successful and thanks to Thrivent Financial's local chapter for once again (and for the last time!) offering to help with a match on both the ELCA World Hunger Appeal as well as the Santa Ynez Valley Extension of the Salvation Army through Deputy Charlie Uhrig. During the time we were gathering for the sheep, goats, mosquito netting, fruit trees and baby chicks, etc. we were able to raise \$1600 and Thrivent gave us a \$1 match for every \$3 donated for a maximum of \$400. This brought our total to \$2000 for the "Good Gifts" ELCA World Hunger Appeal. During the last two months we have been working toward funding our local needs. We were able to raise \$1200 and received a maximum Thrivent match of \$300 bringing that total gift to \$1500.

So many thanks for all the generosity as well as the cultivation and good humor along the way! I am definitely counting my blessings this Thanksgiving and each of you are part of that.

-Carolynn Petersen (still plays in dirt!) for the Produce Table

Food Drive for Iglesia's Pantry begins

You are invited to bring donations to the box in the Parish Hall to help the members of Iglesia. The people who attend Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz in Santa Maria are the poorest of the poor. Iglesia is a mission start-up church based at Bethel Lutheran. We have become partners in their ministry and continue to support their ministry. Pastor Esteban Salazar and his wife Angie, are very enthusiastic and have so many exciting plans to develop the scope and mission of Iglesia Luterana. Iglesia serves many families in their congregation through their food pantry, which is a shed on the church grounds at Bethel. In addition, we contribute gift cards so that families may purchase meat, fresh vegetables, dairy products and other necessities such as diapers.

If you would like to contribute funds to this project and have us do the shopping, you can earmark your donation "**Iglesia Food**" and drop it in the offering plate or at the church office. We have applied for assistance from Thrivent Financial in conjunction with the Christmas Angel Gift Project, which will also help us to purchase food items for Iglesia after the Christmas giving season. (We will continue to help with their food needs through the first half of 2017.) We encourage everyone to become more educated about families who are the "working poor" and who struggle every day to feed their families in our area.

If you would like to donate, the most needed items at this time to re-stock Iglesia's pantry include:

5 lb. bags of white flour	5 lb. bags of white rice	3 lb. bags of Pinto beans
Canned chicken (<i>no tuna, please!</i>)	Peanut Butter	Breakfast Cereal and Breakfast Bars
Canned Vegetables (Corn, Green Beans, Refried Beans, Peas, Mixed Vegetables)		
Large cans of Hominy (<i>very popular and relatively inexpensive if you watch for a sale</i>)		
Canned Soups (Chicken Noodle or Beef)		Diapers (any size, age)
Toilet Paper		

Items for the Youth program:

Packaged Cookies	Microwave Popcorn	Snack Crackers
Juice (Apple Fruit Punch, Lemonade, Orangeade)		

Thank you for making a difference to people who are struggling in our area, and supporting the people at Iglesia. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 688-3059 (home) or 688-5219 (work) or by email: vikingpressprint@verizon.net

– **Linda Marzullo**

Noisy Sunday: Making Change Count on Dec. 18th

"This is the miracle that happens every time to those who really love: the more they give, the more they possess." - Rainer Maria Rilke

November's "Noisy Offering" helped raise funds to support the Christmas Angel Gift project, where we purchase Christmas gift for children attending Iglesia Luterana in Santa Maria. This year we are supporting the most children ever: 56 at last count! The church provides the "wish lists" and we provide the Angels who try to fill the requests. Any amount, large or small, is much appreciated so that we can purchase clothing, jackets, blankets, jackets and shoes in addition to toys for these children. Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$335.50

to help purchase items for these children. Thank you for supporting this ministry. (See information about the Wrap Party, Dec. 18th)

The next “Noisy Sunday” is coming on Dec. 18th. Our donations from the offering will be used to help purchase food items and food gift cards for the families at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz (*see related article*).

We all really “make change for the better” with the Noisy Sunday! So bring your coins and make some noise on Dec. 18th. Together, we can CHANGE a family’s world, right here in our area.

– **Linda Marzullo**

Thank You’s

Recently we received a thank you note from the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal, thanking us for our donations to respond to the the flooding and in Haiti.

Christmas Greens to Deck Your Halls



Boy Scout Troop 41 will be selling Christmas Greens, including Wreaths and Evergreen Garlands before and after services on Dec. 11. Those of you that have already ordered can pick up your wreaths then or if they arrive sooner we will try to get them to you before. Funds raised through these sales support the scouts camping and other activities. For more information, or to request a particular item in advance, please contact Nancy Puder at 805-448-7404 or Ann Boggess at 805-350-1175. Thanks you for your support of our local youth programs!

“Veterans Stand Down” in Santa Maria

On Saturday, Oct. 15, the very successful “Veterans Stand Down” was held for the 5th Year in Santa Maria. The goal of the “Stand Down” is to provide veterans and their families with items that some may be struggling to provide on their own and to connect veterans with organizations that can provide medical, psychological, spiritual and material assistance. Bethania provided 20 pounds of toothbrushes, soaps, shampoo, toothpaste and razors. At least 15 to 20 percent of the homeless population in our area consists of veterans. Thanks to all who provided these items. Perhaps next year we can participate to an even greater extent!

Tom & Carolynn Petersen, the delivery crew!

Church Events

Bethania Preschool & After School

Our preschoolers enjoyed a varied Thanksgiving feast following a lively program for our parents in November. We are now busy preparing for our Christmas program on Thursday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall, to which you are invited. If you have never attended this program, you will love remembering Christmas pasts when it was you or your children on stage singing with all your heart.

All are invited to the dedication of our new building right after worship service on Sunday, Dec. 4. We will be remembering Bernice Dotz as we celebrate this milestone. Bernice's birthday was Dec. 7th. A reception lunch will follow the dedication.



Please join us for the dedication of our new building
“Bernice Dotz’s Dream” Sunday, Dec. 4 at 11:00 am.
The Preschool Board will host coffee after church
and Pastor Chris will bless Bernice’s Building
R.S.V.P. To the Preschool @ 688-7077.

Christmas Schedule

Join us for worship on **Dec. 23, 2016** at 6 pm in the church for the **Danish Little Christmas Eve service.** Pastor Anne-Grethe Krogh Nielsen will be leading the service, preaching in Danish. The entire service, liturgy and hymns will be in Danish. We have **two services on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at 4 pm and 11 pm.** The 11 pm service will be a candlelight service. On **Christmas Day**, we will have our regular Sunday services at **9:30 am and 5 pm.**

Poinsettias Available



We have ordered 25 poinsettias for Christmas Eve. If you would like one, please submit payment to the church via the office. Each poinsettia is \$8.50 and must be enclosed with your dedication which will appear in the bulletins on Little Christmas Eve and Christmas Eve.

*1/we would like _____ # of poinsettias at \$8.50 each. 1/We would like the
dedication to read:*

Payment of \$8.50/poinsettia is enclosed.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Solvang Danish Sisterhood Lodge #177

Is Proud To Present Again This Year

A Traditional Family

Danish Christmas Dinner

Sunday, Dec. 11th (5:30 to 8:00 pm)

Bethania Lutheran Church's Parish Hall - 603 Atterdag Rd

A traditional Danish Meal will be served including Dessert from Olsen's bakery, along with singing carols around the Christmas tree, visit from Santa, and many handcrafted items for sale in the holiday craft boutique.

Doors open at 5:30 pm with dinner served at 6:00 pm

Dinner Cost \$10 Adult and \$5 (Children 10 and under)

Please extend an invitation to anyone who may be interested.

Reservations are encouraged by Dec. 7th *because space is limited.*

Can contact Donna Andersen Ineman 805-705-2118 or email The Home Connection

home.connection@verizon.net

Glædelig Jul og Haaber Vi Ses Der!



Christmas Carol Wrap

Sunday, Dec. 18th

Following worship during coffee hour

Christmas Carols, Coffee & Christmas Gift Wrapping for Iglesia

Bring yourself and your willing hands and singing soul. Everyone is welcome, whether you want to wrap, sing, have coffee and talk...we have 56 children to wrap presents for, and we need your help! We provide the paper, boxes and tape - you help do the wrapping of the gifts our Angels have purchased, and have some fun at the same time.

We will be enjoying Christmas music, coffee, fellowship and singing while we wrap gifts for children from Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz in Santa Maria (*see related article*). The gifts will be going to the children who have been sponsored through the Christmas Angel Project. All wrapped gifts will be delivered to Iglesia, in time for their Christmas party. All members of Bethania are invited to attend: the party will be held Dec. 23. Call the church office for more details.

Sunday School children and confirmands are especially encouraged to come and help us out. We invite everyone to come and help WRAP up some gifts while we "RAP" to Christmas tunes and share some fun, while sharing the spirit of the Christmas!

For more information about this project or to help with delivery or gift purchases, contact the church office or Linda Marzullo at work 688-5219, cell 451-5548 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net.





Elverhoj Christmas Party

You are invited to share in the holiday festivities at the Elverhoj Museum with a Traditional Christmas Party, Sunday, Dec. 4 from 5 pm - 8 pm. Admission is free for members, \$10/person for non-members. The Elverhoj Museum is located at 1624 Elverhoj Way, Solvang.

Read a Good Book and Share Your Ideas!

We are reading and discussing a new book on Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 2 pm, Parish Hall. It is [The Naked Now - Learning to See as the Mystics See](#) by Richard Rohr. To learn more about Richard Rohr, an internationally recognized ecumenical teacher, please visit the Center for Action and Contemplation website, www.cac.org. Those who attend the Sunday morning Forums read part of a chapter from this book when we discussed mysticism.

Theology Pub Meets on a Cold Winter's Night

Theology Pub continues every Second Thursday of the month (Dec. 8) at the Solvang Brewing Company at 7 pm. Keep your eyes open as we may be in the Windmill Room if it's too cold outside. We've had some amazing conversation and everyone is invited to join us. Just a refresher, no one needs extensive knowledge to participate in Theology Pub. Come in comfort, as you are, and join us for refreshing drinks, delicious food, and great conversation!

Halloween Party a Success!

The annual Halloween Party was held on Saturday, Oct. 29th – and it was a doozy! We had the largest attendance ever, over 150 people. Our volunteers really stepped up and made the Parish Hall a magical place and made playing our carnival games so much fun that the kids just kept on coming. We had two bounce houses (thanks to Bridget Cassara and friends), food, contests, games, crafts, fortune telling, photos and so much fun. The “talk of Solvang” on the following Monday was our party and our bounce houses (apparently some adults found them just as much fun as the kids did).

Volunteers of all types and abilities helped to make our party for the little revelers a fun and safe event for all. Donations of prizes, candy, pumpkins and decor were much appreciated. We could not do this without our wonderful volunteers, who are too numerous to list, but thank you all. An extra big thank you to Livier Brown and Donna Hinsbeeck, Betty Petersen, Glenda Madrid, Fred & Nancy Emerson, Emily Abello, Bridget Cassara, Denise Morris, Tom Petersen, Lisa Hess, Caro Stinson, Brenda Knudsen and the Laufer Family, who all went above and beyond.

This is our biggest outreach to families with children during the year – thank you for your help in making this a huge success!

-Linda Marzullo

Gather Bible Study

The Gather Bible study will be held on Dec. 15 at 10:30 am in the Atterdag Lounge. The topic is an Advent Devotional. Read Genesis 1:1-5, John 1:1-5, Luke 1:26-40, and Matthew 1:18-19.

Congregational Business

Annual Meeting, Pt. 1, Nov. 20, 2016

The Annual Meeting was called to order by President Marilyn Larsen, and opened by singing “This Is My Father’s World” and a prayer by Pastor Chris.

The Proposed updates to Bethania’s Constitution were approved by the Congregation.

The Proposed Budget for 2017 was approved by the Congregation.

The following were approved as members to the council and committees:

Congregation Council: Ken Faulk, Ann Tucker and Ron Walsh

Cemetery Committee: Rodney Nielsen and Rikka Rasmussen

Endowment Committee: Rite Lunde and Caro Stinson

Nominating Committee: Kyle Abello, Carol Burtness, Barbara Kargard, Barbara Kovol and Carol Lake

The meeting closed with singing “Lord I Wish To Be Thy Servant” and saying the Lord’s Prayer.

Marilyn Larsen
Council President

Council Meeting - Nov. 17, 2016

- Council wishes to thank Don DeMeyer for his work on repairing the lock on the gate to the Parish Hall patio area. He worked this past week to repair it. Thank you, Don!
- Council discussed the Executive Committee for 2017 and is continuing to speak to members of Council to finalize our group of leaders for next year.
- Council planned the reception for the Interfaith service on Tuesday, Nov. 22nd.
- Council discussed the need for more members on the Property Committee. We are trying to come up with a list of people to contact about helping with that committee. Kevin McConnell, as our Council Liaison to the Property Committee, has been doing a wonderful job of leading that committee for the past several years, but now we need someone new to step forward to lead it, as well as some people who will help be a part of it. **If you would be willing to serve on the Property Committee please contact Marilyn Larsen or Kevin McConnell. We really need you!!**

Marilyn Larsen, Council President

Book Published!

Former interim pastor John Rollefson is delighted to report the recent publication of his new book, [Postils for Preaching: Commentaries on the Revised Common Lectionary, Year A](#). Published by Wipf and Stock, copies are available the publisher's website, wipfandstock.com or as of Dec. 1 at Amazon.com. Subsequent volumes for Year B and Year C are forthcoming.

The Rev. Barbara Lundblad, emeritus professor of preaching at Union Seminary in NYC, writes in a blurb: "If you can read only one new book for this lectionary cycle, [Postils for Preaching](#) will not disappoint you." John himself describes his intention in writing as that of dipping "into a lifetime of that exegetical and homiletical 'bag of tricks' as Jesus himself obliquely recommended when he noted how "every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old" (Matt 13:52). John dedicates the book "To Ruth, my (loving) comrade in arms and to the congregations that gracefully and (usually) gratefully received the Word." That's you Bethania! While aimed at preachers, the book is accessible to all and is a good introduction to the readings for each Sunday and special day of the church year.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thank you, Thrivent Benefit members for directing \$3,360 to our Preschool through and \$1,551 to the church through October. Please be sure to check with Thrivent about Choice Dollars you still have to direct this year by calling 1-800-847-4836 and asking for Thrivent Choice or checking online at thrivent.com. If you have questions, please call Nancy Emerson, 693-1386.



Also, **remember to use your Thrivent Action Team Cards** for fund-raising, publicity or support of a charity of your choice. Kristyl Downey is using one of her \$250 cards for a Playground Update for Bethania's After School Program, Saturday, Dec. 17. From 10 am - 1 pm, Kristyl's team will install a new basketball hoop for the After School age children, paint lines for the basketball area, and check and replace any old play equipment for the newly

refurbished playground. If you would like to contribute to this project (you can donate money, items or time to help), please contact Kristyl at 805-688-4637. Besides the new basketball hoop, we are going to get some new basketballs, soccer balls, tennis balls and Nerf equipment.

Visit thrivent.com for more information.

Treasurer's Report for October 2016

Balance Sheet:

- Cash position has not changed much since September. That is a good sign, as our expenses went up in the month of October, and we were able to retain cash from the previous month.
- While the third quarter endowment report showed good increase in earnings, it will not be reflected on the balance sheet until the end of the fourth quarter, and then be adjusted in January 2017.
- All payables are current, and the only current liabilities are the fund liabilities and the pension liability. (Only the pension liability will impact the operating statement.)

Profit & Loss budget Performance:

Income:

- Offerings for the month of October were up by \$1,475 over the budget; overall offerings for the first 10 months were 103% of budget. However, it should be noted that there were 5 Sundays in October. We also started the second service in October. This reverses the trend of the previous two months where offerings were slightly below budget.
- Total income for the month exceeded the budget by nearly \$1,000; overall income for the first 10 months was 101% of the budget.

Expenses:

- Salaries were up for the month due to the addition of the family ministry director position and the addition of the 5 PM service musician (**Praise God!**).
- Other salaries were within the budget. Overall (even with the addition of the family ministry director and the second service musician position) salaries were at 96% of budget.
- Staff expenses were under budget for the month, and overall for the first 10 months at 80% of the budget.
- Office administration expenses for the month were down by \$363 from the budget, but still remains over budget for the year to date.
- Property expenses remain well controlled at 90% of budget year to date.
- Utilities are slightly over budget for the year to date, largely due to increased water bills.
- All other expenses remain at or below the budget for year to date.
- Overall our expenses for the first 10 months of the year are at 98% of budget, while income is at 101% of budget

Overall: God continues to richly bless Bethania with faithful members, growing numbers of worshipers, and dedicated staff and lay leaders. The addition of the second service and the family ministry director position will help our church flourish and grow as we reach out to our brothers and sisters in not only our congregation, but to the wider community as well. To God be the glory!

- Ron Walsh

Thumbnail Sketch - Ann Tucker



A visit to Ann's home indicates her many interests: walls laden with books, a baby grand piano, an art studio displaying her watercolors and pastels, and photos of her daughters and grandchildren on the mantel. She's a member of a book club and active in the local Art Guild.

She has recently joined the church and is looking forward to adding church council member to her resume. She and her late husband, Bob, attended Bethania for several years but only recently did Ann decide to transfer her membership and become an "official" member.

Ann was born in Memphis, Tennessee and lived there until she finished 9th grade. Her father was with W. T. Rawleigh Company as a salesman, chairman of the board, and later became president of the home products company. As a child, Ann enjoyed art and music, taking piano lessons for many years.

When her father was transferred to California, Ann began 10th grade at South Gate High School while her younger sister, Joy, attended the junior high. She quickly made good friends in school and church and became active in choir, drill team, and continued with piano lessons.

Teaching a second grade Sunday School class opened her eyes to the possibility of becoming a teacher, as she "fell in love with the children!" When the family moved to Santa Barbara, Ann enrolled at California State College, Santa Barbara, later transferring to Westmont College, along with her sister. She earned a California Elementary Teaching Credential and a BA in Education.

She met her husband, Bob, when she asked him to share his slides of Japan at First Baptist Church in Santa Barbara. Bob graduated from Santa Barbara City College and began studies at UCSB.

They were married at Montecito Presbyterian Church in 1956, a year before Ann graduated at Westmont. A move to Redlands enabled Bob to earn a degree in Economics and Business Administrations, as well as a secondary teaching credential. Ann taught at Highland Pacific School, near Redlands.

They returned to Santa Barbara in 1959. Bob joined Sears, Roebuck and Co. and Ann taught for two years at Montecito Union School before their first daughter, Laurie, was born at Cottage Hospital in 1961.

When Bob was transferred to Garden Grove in management with Sears, they bought their first home there, welcoming a new baby girl, Darci, in 1963. Ann taught third grade as part of a Team Teaching Program.

A move to Lake Arrowhead in 1969 brought about a change of profession for Bob. He began a career in Real Estate, opening three RE/MAX Fireside offices in the mountain communities. Ann began teaching at Lake Arrowhead Elementary School, retiring in 1992, but substituting for an additional ten years.

1974 was a busy year. Daughter, Carrie was born, they built a new house, and Ann earned a Masters Degree in Education at Azusa Pacific. Later, Ann joined Inland Area Writer's Project at Cal State, San Bernardino. This experience inspired her to write grants for writing across the school district for students, as well as providing writing instruction for teachers.

In 1996, Bob and Ann retired to their little house on Alisal road (bought by Bob's parents in the 60's.) They rebuilt and remodeled the home and gardens, as well as becoming active in the community. Ann joined P.E.O, and SYV Artist's Guild and both joined SYV Camera Club, and the SYV Presbyterian Church.

Travels have taken them to Hawaii, Scandinavia, Holland, Great Britain, Alaska, France and frequent summers near Mt. Shasta.

Bob passed away in 2015 after a long illness, leaving a large void in Ann's life. She keeps busy with reading, gardening, playing piano, taking art classes and going to concerts.

Ann enjoys her daughters and families, as often as visits can be arranged. Laurie and Mark live in Claremont, where both are architects. Darci and Terry live in Williamsburg, where both are employed by the Williamsburg Foundation. Carrie and Jason both teach high school in Redlands. She has two grandchildren: Addison, who recently graduated from the University of San Francisco and Aubrey, a senior at Claremont High School.

How fortunate we are to add such a caring, active person to our membership. Be sure to welcome her when you see her at church on Sunday!

- Emily Abello

In Our Hearts, In Our Prayers

For the Family and Loved Ones of ...

Rose Skytt - Rose died Nov. 3, 2016. A luncheon celebrating her life was held Nov. 10 in the Parish Hall.

Marilyn Morgan. Marilyn died at the end of October. The service remembering and celebrating her life will be Dec. 6 at 2 pm and held at the Atterdag Village Community Center.

Lois Vind - Lois died Nov. 12. The service and luncheon remembering Lois were held Nov. 17 here at Bethania.

Other Prayer Concerns: Esther Bates, Joe & Pat Bode, Annette Clausen, Nanette Dacuy-cuy, Dolores Dederding, Don DeLaney, Lois De Meyer, George Eckman, Terri Elwess, Armando Franco, Chris Frederiksen, Debbie Fritts, Dolores Gehrs, Chris Gideon, Kathy & Calvin Hackler, Marion Hallum, Arla Hoj, Michael Jech, Robert & Gail Jennings, Chris Kaping, Kim Kenton, Kate Knotts, Richard Lindekens, Ethel Litwiler, Linda & Rick Marzullo, Denise Morris, Roger Myers, Helen Nielsen, Marie Ostertag, Marc & Laurie Owens, Norma Pedersen, Doyle Phillips, Jonathan Poldberg, Audrey Robinson, Lee & Else Statom, Marti & Teddy Steyer, Clay Tremblay-McGaw, Jean & Bill Stelling, Cora Vandecar, Tina Walen, Ann Wallace, Alisha & Anna Marie Wilson and Robert Workman

Welcome to our New Members!

The Whitneys: Amber, Shawn, Kyzer, Jordan, and Cash

Janet Townshend

Jasmine Riley & Aria

Josh Bratt, Caden & Avanel

Dick Fowler

Tom Walton and Leeann Haslouer

Christi Schaeffer and Maria Bellefeuille

Mike and Tone Andersen

Ann Tucker

Seya Ghamari

Nora Ghamari

Teddi and Marty Steyer

Tim and Linda Cline

Ted Brameld

Alan Needham and Theresa Strong, Jeanelle Carper and Alana Needham



December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CH = Church PH = Parish Hall FR = Fireside Room	OFC = Office AV = Atterdag Village of Solvang			1 8 am - 12 noon Piano Tuning: CH, FR & CH	2	3 11 am Juelfest Parade in Solvang
4 9 am - 1 pm Elverhoj Sandwich Making: KIT 9:30 am Worship: CH 9:30 am Sunday School 2 pm Guitar Recital: PH 3-5 pm Youth Group at St. Mark's, Los Olivos 5 pm Evening Worship: CH	5 6 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR	6 11:30 am Chapel: CH 2 pm Celebrating Marilyn Morgan's Life: AV Community Center 7 pm Christian education Mtg: OFC 6-8 pm Art Class: PH	7 3:30 pm Chapel: CH 5-7 pm Confirmation Class: FR 7 pm Choir: CH	8 7 pm Preschool Christmas Program: PH 7 pm Theology Pub: Solvang Brewing Company	9	10
11 9:30 am Worship: CH 9:30 am Sunday School: FR 11 am Adult Forum: FR 11 am Finance Cmt. Mtg: OFC 5 pm Evening Worship: CH 5:30 pm Danish Family Christmas Party:PH	12 6 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR	13 11:30 am Chapel: CH 6-8 pm Art Class: PH	14 12:45 pm Quilting/ Sewing: PH 3:30 pm Chapel: CH 7 pm Choir:FR	15 10 am Communion: AV 10:30 am Gather Bible Study:AV 7 pm Council: FR	16	17 10 am - 1pm Thrivent Action Team for Playground Update
18 9:30 am Worship & Noisy Offering: CH 9:30 am Sunday School: FR 5 pm Evening Worship: CH	19 6 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA:FR	20 11:30 am Chapel:CH 6-8 pm Art Class: PH	21 2 pm Book Discussion Group: PH 3:30 pm Chapel: CH 6-8 pm Art Class: PH 7 pm Choir:FR	22 1:30 pm Preschool Board Mtg: PH	23 6 pm Danish Little Christmas Eve Service: CH	24 4 pm Christmas Eve Service: CH 11 pm Christmas Eve Service: CH
25 9:30 am Worship: CH 5 pm Evening Worship: CH	26 6 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA:FR	27	28	29	30	31

THE BEACON

December 2016



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NON-PROFIT ORG
SOLVANG CA

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Solvang CA 93463

Address Correction Requested

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bethania.lutheran@verizon.net
www.bethanialutheran.net

Preschool/After School
(805)688-7077
bethaniaps@verizon.net

Pastor: Chris Brown
Office Manager: Kristyl Downey
Preschool/After School Director:
Eileen Knotts

Church Council:
Pastor Chris Brown
President: Marilyn Larsen
Vice-President: Robert Laufer
Treasurer: Ron Walsh
Secretary: Robin Gehrs
Nancy Emerson
Tom Dimmette
Barbara Kargard
Alma Lancaster
Kevin McConnell

Sunday Schedule
9:30 am Worship
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Adult Forum

Christmas Services Schedule

Danish Service

Friday, Dec. 23, 2016
6 pm

Christmas Eve Services

Saturday, Dec. 24, 2016
4 pm & 11 pm

Christmas Day Service

Sunday, Dec. 25, 2016
9:30 am