

The Beacon March 2016

Bethania Lutheran Church
603 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463
805-688-4637
www.bethanialutheran.net

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Greetings and Blessings!

With the beginning of March comes the beginning of spring! I'm not sure how many of you know, but the word, Lent, is simply the Latin word for spring. The connection is Lent's theme of renewal. As we see creation around us renew itself from the depths of winter, we discover the renewal of our very selves from the Cross and the Resurrection.

This renewing spirit is also present in the very fabric of Bethania. This will be my first Easter with all of you as your pastor and so we have a "newness" as we celebrate the promise of this season for the first time together. We also have a new pianist and music director, and a renewed energy in our choir, so Holy Week and Easter are sure to be musically invigorating this year! There is also a renewed spirit of fellowship and ministry at Bethania. We are discovering that we are a body of Christ – brothers and sisters united in Christ's death and resurrection! Brought together in this radical act of love, we are learning that through our call to share that love with others we can affect real change in our community!

I want to invite you to be a part of this exciting time, especially during the services of Holy Week and Easter. Join with us and discover the renewal we receive through Christ's unconditional love within the Easter story as we experience it in the services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday! If you haven't been to church in a while, perhaps this is the perfect time to simply come and reflect on the ways God is renewing all of us and renewing the Church! Our service information is below, and if you know anyone looking for a place to be this season, feel free to invite them! All are welcome!

Palm Sunday

9:30am

March 20th

We will gather outside with palm branches to herald the triumphant entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem!

Maundy Thursday

6:00pm

March 24th

As always, we invite our members to join at St. Mark's for their Maundy Thursday Supper Service. However, this year it will be more of a joined effort as Father Day and I are officiating together. St. Mark's address is 2901 Nojoqui Ave, Los Olivos.

Good Friday

7:00pm

March 25th

Join us at Bethania for our Tenebrae service. This is always a powerful service as we reflect on the ultimate act of love, Christ's death on the Cross.

Easter Sunday

9:30am

March 27th

The darkness of the Cross is illuminated with the light of Christ's resurrection! Come celebrate Easter with us through word, music, and Holy Communion! Invite anyone you want to join the celebration!

As always, if you have any questions or needs, please feel free to call me. I look forward to seeing you all during these incredible services!

**Gratefully Yours,
Pastor Chris Brown**

Easter Worship Service at Bethania



**Sunday, March 27, 2016
9:30 a.m.**

Pastor Chris Brown, preaching

**603 Atterdag Rd, Solvang
805-688-4637
www.bethanialutheran.net**

Annual Meeting Highlights - Feb. 21, 2016

- Congregation accepted the Annual Reports as presented.
- Congregation approved Marilyn Larsen as President of Bethania Church Council for the year 2016.
- Congregation approved Robin Shatan and Rikka Rasmussen as delegates to the Synod Assembly in June 2016.
- Congregation approved Council's nomination of Tom Dimmette to a 3-year term on Church Council.

Council Highlights - Feb. 18, 2016

- Council approved a request from Atterdag Village to allow staff to use the back parking lot for parking space Monday through Friday to create more parking for residents and visitors to Atterdag Village. Atterdag Village will make a donation to Bethania for this privilege.
- Council accepted the donation of a 50" plasma TV from Pastor Patricia Muran of Iglesia Lutherana. It was agreed to send a donation to Iglesia Lutherana in appreciation.
- Council is looking into the possibility of using LED lighting in the church sanctuary to improve lighting and save in costs. Council is also working with Hans Duus to create a new light for the entrance to the church as the current fixture is failing and needs to be replaced. The new fixture would be slightly larger and will have the same look as the current one.
- Council approved the request from the Cemetery Committee to move ahead with their plans for gates for the entrance arch and service entrance to the cemetery.

Bethania Preschool & After School News

Touch a Truck, a Valley-wide, family fundraiser for the Preschool & After School, (See flier on next page...) will fill our campus on Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Tickets at the gate are \$5/person or \$20/family. Tower pizza, beverages and snacks will be sold in the Parish Hall.

All kinds of trucks, safety, construction, farming and specialty vehicles plus a helicopter will be available to learn about, climb and sit on during the event.

Proceeds will go to playground equipment, classroom equipment and materials.

For more information, visit [facebook.com/syvtouchatruck](https://www.facebook.com/syvtouchatruck).

Our thanks to Lisa Petersen Keukawa and her parent team for a terrific job of planning and executing this exciting and educational event.

Other Activities

The final total raised for the Preschool & After School Tuition Assistance Fund by Christmas Greetings was \$3,907. The board and tuition assistance recipients thank you for your generosity and Thrivent Financial for its Care in Communities contribution.

Preschool students, their parents and grandparents enjoyed a lavish, old-fashioned Ice Cream Social on Feb. 19. The children presented lovely poems and songs celebrating families.

A family event for all ages!



Saturday
March 5
10am-2pm
@ Bethania Preschool
611 Atterdag Road
Solvang

- Dozens of safety, construction, farming, military, specialty trucks
- Bounce house by M&J Jumpers • Face painting by Prismatic Body Art
- Live music by Dylan Ortega Band • Food concessions
- Rain or shine event - everything is more fun with rain boots anyways!
- No horn hour 10-11am (for sensitive ears)
- Bring your favorite stuffed animal for a "check-up" & "groom"

**KIDS WILL CLIMB ON, SIT IN, EXPLORE & LEARN ABOUT
THEIR FAVORITE BIG TRUCKS AND VEHICLES!**

TICKETS:
\$5/person
\$20/family of 5
@ gate

For More Information:
✉ SYVTouchATruck@gmail.com
f www.facebook.com/syvtouchatruck

To Benefit Bethania Preschool & Afterschool

BLCW Career Coffee

Saturday, March 12 beginning at 2 pm the women of Bethania and their friends are invited to attend an afternoon gathering at which several women members of the congregation will speak about their careers. This is a chance to become better acquainted with the women of Bethania. Refreshments will be served and an offering taken. All are welcome!

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will meet March 23, 2016 at 2 pm in the Parish Hall. The group is reading and discussing Bonhoeffer Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy by Eric Metaxas. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Changes at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz

Big changes happened during February at Iglesia Luterana in Santa Maria. Below is from a letter received from Pastor Patricia Muran, who presided over her last worship service on Feb. 14th.

Dear Friends and Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Warm greetings to you from all of us at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz. I'm writing to let you know some important news. As God's word says in Ecclesiastes: "...there is a time for every event under heaven..."

In 2001 I was called to start a new Hispanic ministry in Santa Maria. Starting out with two families we soon added more and more members. With God's leading and hard work and trust in His strength, Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz continued to reach out to many unchurched people to share with them the redeeming grace of Jesus that offers salvation to all.

Today, we can truthfully say that a new Hispanic Lutheran church is well established and poised to grow even more. We have over 200 members! God has blessed us abundantly and the faithful contributors to this church have also been a blessing. A huge thank you to Bethel Lutheran Church, Santa Maria, led by Pastor Carl Nielsen, that continues to host us with unparalleled hospitality.

My time was for a season and this season is ending. I love my call and the members that I serve but I've discerned that the time has come for me to retire and rest and spend time with my family, especially my grandchildren...

Pastor Ron Geikow will serve as interim pastor [through October] as we await a permanent one. Please lift him up in prayer.

Thank you all for your precious financial gifts and prayers that sustain us. I pray that the support will continue and that the Lord will bless you fully in the future.

**Amor en Cristo, With Love in Christ,
Pastor Patricia Muran**

Danish Girls Choir - Sunday, March 13 Concert 7 pm in the Sanctuary



Elverhoj Museum of History and Art invites you to a special evening of music with the award-winning Copenhagen Girls Choir, Sunday March 13. Considered one of the best girls' choirs in the world, the singers will be performing along with internationally renowned Danish pianist Katrine Gislinge. The homogenous voices of these 32 highly trained girls, accompanied by a world-class soloist, will fill Bethania Lutheran Church for a free concert at 7 pm.

Through a strong focus on educating children and youth in the choir tradition, this elite ensemble of girls ages 14 to 16 covers a broad repertoire encompassing modern compositions, classical composers and pop songs without losing its musical spark and infectious enthusiasm. The concert also features piano and choral music, both together and separately.

The homogenous voices of these highly trained girls, accompanied by a world-class soloist, will fill the church for a free concert at 7 pm on March 13.

Decorate Empty Bowls - March 6

Here is your chance to be creative and helpful! On **Sunday March 6**, members of the congregation are invited to decorate bowls for the annual Empty Bowls event held on March 23 in Lompoc. Alice Laufer will supply bowls, paint and other items necessary to decorate bowls which will be used in this event which serves as a fundraiser for the Food Bank. Bowls will be decorated in the Parish Hall from 11 am until 1 pm. For more information see Alice Laufer or Brenda Knudsen.



Dinner Church

Dinner Church continues on Wednesdays during Lent. Dinner Church is a weekly Lent service that will be offered for anyone who would like to come. It is a worship service that will be held as a simple supper with soup, salad, and bread. We enjoy fellowship, sing a few hymns, hear a short reflection, and have communion in a special, more intimate way. Dinner Church services will be on the Wednesday in between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. The dates and times are:

March 2 - 6:00 pm **March 9** - 6:00 pm **March 16** - 6:00 pm

Lent is traditionally a time of continual devotion and meditation on Christ's sacrifice on the cross, which is why we're offering this every Wednesday during Lent. Come every week, or only one week – it's meant to be flexible to your schedules. You can participate when you want. You may also volunteer to make soup, salad, and to provide bread and water. There will be a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall. There are only a couple of spots left.

And of course, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call or email me. I'm very excited for this and am looking forward to seeing you there.

- **Pastor Chris**

Food Drive for Iglesia's Pantry

You are invited to bring donations to the box in the Parish Hall to help the members of Iglesia. Iglesia is a mission start-up church based at Bethel Lutheran. *(See related article about Pastor Patricia's retirement.)* Iglesia serves many families in their congregation through their food pantry, which is a shed on the church grounds at Bethel. The people who attend Iglesia Luterana in Santa Maria are the poorest of the poor in the area. In addition, Bethel occasionally uses our food donations to help other people with unmet food needs. We will be continuing this ministry with the support of the new interim pastor at Iglesia, the church staff and the lay leaders.



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 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, items most needed at this time to re-stock the pantry for Iglesia families include:

5 lb. bags of white flour	5 lb. bags of white rice	3 lb. bags of Pinto beans
Canola Oil	Canned chicken (<i>no tuna, please!</i>)	Peanut Butter
Canned Vegetables	(Corn, Green Beans, Refried Beans, Peas, Mixed Vegetables)	
Large cans of Hominy	Canned Soups (Chicken Noodle or Beef)	
Breakfast Cereal and Bars	Diapers (any size, age)	Toilet Paper
<i>Other items which help with young children and youth:</i>		
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 other Christians involved in a young, vibrant mission church. We hope to help keep the church members strong as they struggle through the transition of losing Pastor Patricia's guidance.

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**

Holy Week Activities

On Palm Sunday, March 20, enjoy the **John Doan concert** at 7 pm later See the flier later in the Beacon.



The Worship and Music Committee will have buckets of water available in the church on Good Friday and Saturday morning for anyone who brings calla lilies. The calla lilies are used to adorn the church for Easter.



The Outreach Committee hosts the **chalk drawing** on **Saturday, March 26 at 1 pm** in front of the church. Use your artistic and creative expression to beautify the sidewalk for Easter.



The **memorial cross** will be in front of the church on **Easter, March 27**. Please bring flowers from your yard or garden, or the store to fill in the cross. What a beautiful way to remember beloved family and friends.

The **Outreach Committee** is providing **Hot Cross Buns** for refreshments after the service.

If you would like an **Easter lily**, please fill out this form and return it to the church office with \$8 per lily.

I/we would like #___ lily (lilies) at \$8/each. I/we would like the dedication to read:

Given by _____ in memory of/in honor of _____.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Payment of _____ enclosed.

Gather Bible Study

The monthly Bible study will be held March 17 at 10:30 am in the Atterdag Lounge, part of Bldg 14 at Atterdag Village of Solvang. The topic is "Being of One Mind". In his letter to the people of Phillipi, Greece, Paul urges the early church to be "of the same mind" as that of Christ and to care about others' interests. Young Timothy joins Paul as well as Epaphroditus and 2 women named Euodia and Syntche. This study is printed in the March GATHER magazine. For a copy, call Anabelle at 688-4687.

IRA Charitable Rollover

Congress finally made permanent the IRA Charitable Rollover. Every IRA owner over age 70 1/2 may transfer part or all of their RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) or up to \$100,000 per year to a qualified charity. IRA charitable rollovers are tax free and not included in your adjusted gross income. Since the rollover is not taxable, there is also no tax deduction. To make your IRA Charitable Rollover to your church of favorite ministry, simply contact your IRA plan administrator. For further information tor questions, contact our eICA Regional Gift Planner, Greg Shepherd at gregory.shepherd@elca.org or call 1-909-910-6823.

Mark your Calendar:

April 24th - Hike for Hunger

BBQ, Hike, Fun & Fellowship at Nojoqui Falls Park

Memorial/Tribute Gifts Fund

ALERT!!! A reminder to all committee chairs and members that March 31, 2016 is the deadline to submit applications for possible funding from the **Memorials/Tributes Fund** committee. Application forms, printed on card stock, are available in the church office. The proposals will be considered at the April quarterly meeting of the committee and recommendations will be forwarded to the church council for final approval. The applications are reviewed by many people and then filled, hence the durability of the card stock forms.

To enhance the possibility of your application being selected, be sure to answer every question with complete responses and submit on time. Currently, approximately \$5,800 is available for grant funding. Everyone is encouraged to create diverse, creative ideas that will help achieve Bethania's goals.

For questions please call Liz Beeler 686-4783.

New Idea for Birthday Party Gifts

This inspiring idea from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Oakland was published in the ELCA's "Seeds for the Parish."

Every parent has faced the "party invitation" dilemma - you or your child have been invited to a birthday party and you have no idea what to give for a gift. And when it is you or your child sending the invitation, you know no more toys or other potential gifts are needed.

Cecil Carpenter first solved this problem for his parents and for all invited to his 8th birthday party. Instead of presents for himself, he requested his friends bring something for him to put in the food barrel at his church.

"I'm not sure why I asked for food the first year, but I wanted to help other people and wanted to be kind," Cecil explained. He and his friends have contributed more food, and cash, each year. This year they collected \$63 and 109 food items for the food barrel.

They still enjoy the birthday party and the good feeling from knowing they are helping someone else.

This idea has caught on at St. Paul. Other parents have told Cecil's mother that they are having an "alternative birthday gift for their child. One family collected books to donate, another took up an offering for the local animal shelter, and a third family asked for donations to the St. Paul food barrel. Cecil's church family and his birth family have been inspired by his example and generosity - and are more than just a little proud of him.

Noisy Sunday: Making Change Count

February's "Noisy Offering" benefitted Pastor Chris' discretionary fund. Our beautiful noise gave him \$290.50 to use towards emergencies or whatever is required, with his judgment. This fund helps him continue to do his pastoral work without having to break the office budget or dip into his own pocket. Thank you to everyone who contributed - it will be used wisely!

Continued =====>

The next “Noisy Sunday” is coming on March 20th. Our donations from the offering will be used to support Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara County.

What will our donations be used towards? \$50 allows 10 teens to attend a Workshop on Healthy Relationships in a Junior High or High School. \$100 buys one day of food, shelter and support for a mother and her two children. \$250 provides one woman with domestic violence counseling for 3 months. \$500 allows a Shelter Advocate to respond with police to all 9-1-1 domestic violence calls for a week. \$750 provides 3 months of outings and activities for 10 children living at the shelter. \$1,000 keeps their Hotline Service running 24-hours a day for one month.

Last year, Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara County:

- Provided **10,676** nights of emergency shelter for women and children.
- Answered **4,080** crisis calls.
- Helped **887** victims get legal assistance.
- Responded to **459** calls from local police.
- And much more.

Your donation is not only helping save lives now, it's helping to prevent domestic violence in the future.

March 8th is **International Women's Day**: a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. At Bethania, we have recently supported educational scholarships for PACE in India, continue to contribute notions to the women's shelter and to victims of domestic violence, and recently gave socks and snacks as support for homeless women.

Concentrating on women's issues here in our Santa Barbara County, Domestic Violence touches the lives of women and children daily. You can help by learning more about domestic violence through visiting the Domestic Violence Solutions website. If interested, you might consider attending the 40-Hour DV Advocacy Certification. This is a series of classes that prepares participants to work directly with victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. A new class begins this March (see website for more details).

We all really “make change for the better” with the Noisy Sunday! So bring your coins and make some noise on March 20th. Together, we can CHANGE a woman's world!

– **Linda Marzullo**

In Our Prayers, In Our Hearts

For the family and loved ones of Lisa Demeter, great-granddaughter of Frede & Barbara Kargard. Lisa died Feb. 20, 2016.

Immediate Prayer Concerns: Caylin & Katy Corlee, Armando Franco, Marjorie Mee

Other Prayer Concerns: Esther Bates, Jim Blanton, Joe & Pat Bode, Annette Clausen, Brian Coover, Kay Corlee, Dorrie Crooks, Nanette Dacuy-cuy, Dolores Dederding, Don DeLaney, Robin Denny, Lois De Meyer, George Eckman, Terri Elwess, Chris Frederiksen, Debbie Fritts, Jack Fujimoto, Dolores Gehrs, Chris Gideon, Arla Hoj, Jacqueline Hunter, Michael Jech, Robert Jennings (friend of Fred & Genie Machetanz), Jennifer Juel, Chris Kaping, Melissa Kargard, Richard Lindekens, Rick Marzullo, Ellis McDaniel, Denise Morris, Roger Myers, Ned Nelson, Helen Nielsen, Marie Ostertag, Marc & Laurie Owens, Jensen Paulus (baby), Bryan, Jennifer & Jayce Petersen, Doyle Phillips, Audrey Robinson, Scotty Sexton, Rose Skytt, Lee Statom, Jeanie Stelling, Clay Tremblay-McGaw, Cora Vandecar, Tina Walen, Ann Wallace, Joan White, Betty Wilkes, Alisha & Anna Marie Wilson, Robert Workman

PACE Scholarship Fund Drive

We more than met our goal of \$1,275 for 5 PACE scholarships for 2016 during our fund drive in January and February. We anticipate sending any additional funds raised to help fund Kristine Petersen's salary while she completes her work as the American administrator at the Piyali Learning Center. Many thanks to all who contributed. I will be contacting you to take a photo for our scholarship recipients.

Nancy Emerson
BLCW-PACE chairperson

Scholarships for 2016 Graduates

In 2015 the Endowment Fund was able to award four \$1000 scholarships for education beyond the 12th grade, be it community college, university or trade school.

We are pleased to announce that scholarships will once again be available to 2016 graduates. Application is open to persons who will be attending college this fall and who are also active in the church life of Bethania. We invited you to apply by writing an essay introducing yourself to the Endowment Fund Committee. The content should include a description of your past and present church participation with Bethania, the influence your faith has had in making everyday life decisions, ways your faith has determined educational and future goals and examples of your community service. Please also share your strongest memory of being part of the community which is Bethania Lutheran Church and why that one memory holds significance.

Applications are due March 16, 2016. They may be mailed or e-mailed to the church office. Scholarship recipients will be selected at that time and the funds distributed upon submission of proof of enrollment in the school of your choice.

For anyone who does not have a standard application form, some will be available at the church office and also at Santa Ynez Valley Union High School.

Carolynn D. Petersen
Chairman, Endowment Fund

Thrivent Choice \$s

It's a new year and you Thrivent Financial benefit members will have the opportunity to direct new Thrivent Choice Dollars between now and March 31, 2017. We encourage you to donate as soon as you are notified that you have funds so the money can be put to work. Local non-profits are Bethania Church, Bethania Preschool and Solvang Lutheran Home (name listed with Thrivent). Your Lutheran college or non-profit agency + other non-profits are listed online, too.

If you use a computer, you can visit www.thrivent.com, go to your account, see your Thrivent Choice \$s, and direct them. It may be more convenient for you to call Thrivent at 1-800-236-3736, ask for Choice \$s and talk with a representative.

In the first reporting period, you donated \$467 to the church and \$755 to the Preschool & After School.

Nancy Emerson
Thrivent Congregational Advocate



Spring Forward...

Remember to turn your clocks forward at bedtime on Saturday, March 12. Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 13.

Thank You Notes

Dear Bethania Lutheran Church,

Thank you for all of your hard work in raising money to support ELCA World Hunger! We are so grateful for your faithful generosity in raising money to support ELC World Hunger funded projects around the world and for becoming passionate about this very important work! Specifically, we would like to thank you for raising money and awareness for Gp'd Global Barnyard that ELCA World Hunger helps to support. These projects make a major impact on out communities both hear and far, and generous congregations like yours at Bethania ensure that we are able to continue to support this important work this year! Thank you.

With this donation (\$2,000 from the Produce Table), the church will be able to support animal projects that ensure that people in communities around the world receive access to sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty. As you have learned during this fundraising and educational venture, having access to animals is a wonderful solution that helps to break the chains of poverty and hunger for families and communitues. whether it is a goat, a checkin an ox or honey bees, cha of these animals produces wonderful opportunities for food and nourishment for the families who receive the animals as all as resources to sell in markets to make money.

Included in this envelope is a DVD (The videos are also on-line at <http://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-World-Hunger>) with a few different stories of people and communities whose live saga changed thanks to the support of ELCA World Hunger. I would encourage you (if you have not already) to teach the story of the Lingson Family, a family in Malawi who received a few different animals (specifically goats and pigs). The Lingson's lives changed dramatically after they received the animals, and as you think about the donation that you made, think about the Lingsons (and the thousands of other families) whose lives gave been impacted now that they received animals and training.

In all of our work, we strive to support sustainable projects that seek to address the root causes of these major issues. Our hope is that by supporting this type of ministry, we are changing lives and breaking cycles of poverty for good.

As the evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we do more together than any of us could ever do alone. Thank you for your support, and for not only providing help to those who are in need, but also hope.

Blessings to you at Bethania Lutheran Church and peace be with you!

Sincerely,

Iain Chester

ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

www.elca.org/hunger

8765 West Higgins Rd

Chicago IL 60631

Dear Bethania evangelical Lutheran Church,



On behalf of the Santa Ynez Valley Salvation Army Service Extension Committee, I would like to thank you for your continuous and generous contributions to our annual Kettle Drives. Your donation of \$1,205.00 enabled us to continue our work here in the Valley by sending 20 local kids to the Salvation Army's Camp Gilmore last summer, provide 240 gift packs to seniors, over 250 food certificates to needy families, and shelter 3 families of domestic violence. It also helps fund the Emergency Assistance Voucher program allocated through our local Sheriff's Department and CHP offices.

This past year's Kettle Drive total was our second "best ever" collected, and your contribution helped considerably to make that happen.

Thank you so much for your generosity and may God bless you throughout the year.

Charlie Uhrig
Community Resource Deputy, City of Solvang
Chairman, SYV Salvation Army Service Extension

In addition to the typed letter above, Charlie also hand wrote the following:

Thanks so much for your time in organizing the Produce Table. I truly appreciate all of the efforts of everyone involved.

*Take care and God bless,
Charlie*

Dear Pastor Chris, Kristyl and Church Members,

On behalf of the Solvang School PTO we'd like to thank you for your very generous donation of school supplies for our "Fill the Bus" drive. Our teachers receive very limited funds for supplies and they have been deeply touched by the support that they have received.

We value your partnership and support all year long!

Sincerely,
Fill the Bus Committee
Pam Nelson
Kristen Thomsen
Megan Ricci

Theology Pub

Theology Pub will meet at the Solvang Brewing Company on the Third Wednesday of every month and will next meet March 16, at 7 pm. We'll either be in the Windmill Room or out in the patio by the fireplace. This is also a great way we can support one of our local businesses so bring your appetites and feel free to order some of their delicious food. For questions, call or email me! I look forward to seeing you!

Pastor Chris



Thumbnail Portrait - Ruth Korbin

Ruth was born and raised in Jackson, Minnesota, one of six children plus four cousins that made a living from a 160-acre farm homesteaded by her Norwegian grandfather. The land was planted in flax, oats, corn, and wheat. The livestock and large garden ensured that all were fed during the scarcity of the Depression. It was a busy life, with everyone pitching in to keep the farm going.

All the children went to a one-room schoolhouse in the country. Ruth's favorite subject was art, a hobby she still pursues today. Upon graduation from high school, she went into Nurse Cadets training in Mitchell, South Dakota from 1943-1946. She earned her RN degree in 1955. She married John Nation in 1945 and lived in Mitchell for 10 years. Their children, Judy and Jerel, were born there. Her husband was suffering from stress disorder brought on by serving in WWII and had to have long-term treatment at the Vet's Hospital.

After earning her RN degree, Ruth and the children moved to Jackson, Minnesota where she worked for five years at Jackson Medical Center. She recalls this period of single parenthood as "growing up together."

Her oldest brother convinced her to move to Long Beach, California, where he lived, in order to make a better living for the family. She packed up the 1949 Plymouth with two small children, her mother, and their luggage and headed cross-country.

Ruth rented a house and found work at Harrimen Jones Clinic Hospital in Long Beach. Her hours were such that she was able to take the children to school each day and her nurse roommate helped out by meeting them after school.

Ruth met her second husband, Walter Korbin, at a friend's home. After their marriage, they moved the family to the San Fernando Valley and bought a new house. Walter worked in Sylmar at Lockheed for 32 years.

When Walter retired, they moved to a new home in Morro Bay. They toured by motorhome in the US, Mexico, and Canada. They particularly enjoyed a trip on the Inland Passage to Alaska. They lived in Morro Bay for 30 years.

When Walter died of a stroke, Ruth sold the house and decided to move to Atterdag Village. She had previously visited her cousin, Pearl Tone, there several times. After living at Atterdag for two years she considers it "Home."

Ruth's daughter, Judy McCaslin lives in Santa Barbara after retiring from a career at UCSB. Her son, Jerel Nation, lived in Bend, Oregon. She has one grandson, Gabriel who works as a music teacher in Munch, Germany. He has identical twin sons.

Ruth enjoys every aspect of life at Atterdag: exercise classes, meals, art classes, activities off campus, and the conviviality of the people there. "There's never a dull moment!" she declares.

She recently joined Bethania because she has "been a Lutheran every day of my life." Welcome Ruth to our church family when you see her on Sunday.

- **Emily Abello**

Treasurer's Report

January 2016 Financial Statements

Balance Sheet:

- The balance sheet continues to be strong with over \$52,000 in general checking and over \$78,000 in the money market fund
- All liabilities are current with the exception of the pension liability of \$2,328
- During the month, there was an increase of net income of \$10,079

Profit & Loss Budget Performance: (Please note that the P & L has now been divided. What you see below reflects only the church operations. The Pass Through accounts now stand on their own P & L and it is included with this report.

Income:

- Offerings are up nearly \$1,000 over the budget. This is meaningful in that January tends to be a down turn in giving.
- Other receipts are lower, primarily due to the budget line for endowment gifts
- Child care utilities are up over budget
- Overall, income is at 115% of budget

Expenses:

- Synod support is up due to offerings being up
- Pastor benefits are up, but that is largely due to paying some of the 2015 benefits in 2016 (keep in mind we did not write checks the last week of the year)
- Bookkeeper expenses are up due to the tax filings (W-2's, 1099's etc.) that she had to prepare by the end of January
- Water/sewer is up as that amount represents two months of billing
- Worship and music is up due to organ maintenance (it is budgeted for \$1,000 for the year, but it was not factored in for the month of January)
- Outreach committee is up due to the radio advertising we agreed to in December 2015.
- Overall expenses are up by \$1,842 (109% of budget, but that is offset by 115% over income budget)

Overall

January financials statements look very good. Giving is up and expenses are well controlled and only slightly over budget due to the reasons listed above. God continues to bless Bethania and He is providing the resources for us to do even greater things in our ministry.

- Ron Walsh

Upcoming Concert - March 20, 2016

John Doan "Beyond 6-Strings"



John Doan has performed in various concert halls throughout Asia as well as festivals across the US and Europe and his pioneering efforts - the first in modern times to compose and perform the twenty -string harp guitar have resulted in his recently being designated "**World's Leading Harp Guitarist**" by the Brand Laureate Awards.

His harp guitar supplements the standard guitar's six fretted strings with six unfretted sub-bass strings and eight super treble strings, which ring with bell-like clarity. John explains, "it has almost the range go the piano but it is a lot easier to carry with you!"

Don't miss this wonderful concert on March 20 at 7 pm!

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 11:30 am Chapel:CH 6:00 pm Dinner Church: PH	3 2 pm Chapel: CH 7:00 pm Choir Practice: PH	4	5 Touch-a-Truck Event in the Parking Lot
6 9:30 am Worship: CH 9:30 Sunday School: FR 11 am Adult Forum: FR 11 am - 1 pm Bowl Painting for "Empty Bowls":PH	7 8 pm AA: FR	8	9 11:30 am Chapel:CH 12:45 pm Swing/Quilting Group: PH 6 pm Dinner Church: PH	10 2 pm Chapel: CH 4:30 pm Organ Tuning: CH 7:00 pm Choir Practice: PH	11	12 2 pm BLCW "Career" Coffee: PH
13 D. S. Time 9:30 am Worship 9:30 Sunday School: FR 11 am Adult Forum: FR 11 am Finance Cmt. Mtg: OFC 7:00 pm Copenhagen Girls Choir Concert: CH	14 8 pm AA: FR	15	16 11:30 am Chapel:CH 6 pm Dinner Church: PH 7 pm Theology Pub: Solvang Brewing Company	17 10 am Gather Bible Study:AV 10:30 am Communion: AV 2:00 pm Chapel: CH 2:30 pm Preschool Board Mtg: FR 7 pm Council: FR	18	19
20 9:30 am Worship & Noisy Offering: PH 9:30 Sunday School: FR 11 am Adult Forum: FR 7:00 pm John Doan Concert: CH	21 12 noon Beacon Deadline: OFC 8 pm AA:FR	22	23 2:00 pm Book Discussion Group: PH	24 Maundy Thursday 2 pm Chapel: CH 6 pm Joint Maundy Thursday Service at St. Mark's 7:00 pm Choir: Practice PH	25 Good Friday  7 pm Tenebrae Service: CH	26 1 pm Chalk Drawing in front of the Church
27  9:30 am Worship: CH	28 8 pm AA:FR	29	30 11:30 am Chapel: CH	31 2 pm Chapel: CH 7 pm Choir: PH		CH = Church PH = Parish Hall FR = Fireside Room OFC = Office AV = Atterdag Village of Solvang

THE BEACON March 2016

Bethania Lutheran Church
603 Atterdag Rd
Solvang CA 93463

Address Correction Requested

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(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

Easter Worship Service at Bethania



Sunday, March 27, 2016

9:30 a.m.

Pastor Chris Brown