



THE BEACON

September
2015

BETHANIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, SOLVANG CA 93463 805-688-4637 bethania.lutheran@verizon.net



Bethania's First Annual Day of Service

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." - Matthew 25:40

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." - Matthew 28:19-20

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." - John 13:34

"In all things, preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words."

- St. Francis Assisi

Sharing God's love through service is an integral part of our identity as Christians. The above quotes represent a few of the many places we read and hear about the necessity for service as a part of our faith. Christ commands that we love each other, not just in how we treat one another, but also in how we take care of one another.

What I find so beautiful about our Lutheran tradition is that we experience God's grace in our lives through Christ's death on the cross, an action that frees us to serve others. We do not serve because we get points from God by doing so. Jesus took care of that! Jesus earned all the points we could possibly hope for, and thus, frees us to respond to that love by serving others. Not because we need it to be saved, but because we're already saved. Serving is as integral to our identity as Christians as is Christ's death on the cross!

This month we are joining our national church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), in a day of service. The ELCA is calling it "Gods Work, Our Hands Sunday", but at Bethania we're hoping to start a tradition of a "**Day of Service**". In addition to the important ministries we do at Bethania, we're going to have a day focused on serving others, by gathering together to take part in five different little service projects.

Sept. 13th is our annual Æbleskiver Breakfast, and it will also be Bethania Lutheran Church's first "Day of Service". Everyone is invited to come enjoy a delicious æbleskiver breakfast immediately following our 9:30 worship service, and then participate in any or all of our five service projects. None of them are difficult or time consuming so each person will have the opportunity to take part in each one. And they are all kid friendly so no matter the age, everyone can help!

This will be an incredible day where we, as the Bethania Family, can gather together and celebrate God's love and grace in our lives by helping others! There is such renewed excitement at our church for the ministries we are already a part of, and the ones we'll be starting. So please come join us for a "Day of Service"! There's no cost in coming and everyone is invited! If you have any questions, please contact the church office (805) 688-4637. I look forward to seeing you there!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Chris Brown

Council Highlights—August 20, 2015

*Council hired Kathryn Imani, local pianist and music teacher, as Church Pianist. She will play 2-3 Sundays a month, augmented by a Sunday with Loretta McConnell on the organ and a Sunday with the Bethania Band. She is looking forward to working with the choir and sharing the talents of her music students at the “Song in My Heart” studio.

*A heart felt thank you to all who contribute regularly to the ongoing work of the church. In July your gifts surpassed the amount budgeted. Recent improvements to the parsonage, office and church buildings have been moved to the Balance Sheet to reflect the increased value of our facilities. All are asked to begin thinking about the 2016 budget. Work on it will begin in September.

*Pastor Chris reported on the upcoming Day of Service, which he plans to work with Christian Education and Social Ministry Committees on developing as an expanded annual event. (See related articles.) He continues to work with the national Armenian church on placing a bust of the Danish heroine, Maria Jacobsen, at our church.

*Church Council approved holding two concerts at the church - a Danish church’s Girls Choir on October 16, 2015, and a 20-string harp guitarist concert on Palm Sunday evening, March 20, 2016. Please save these dates for two unusual opportunities to enjoy inspiring music.

Nancy Emerson
Council Secretary

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 2 pm in the Parish Hall. The group will be discussing Luther the Reformer: The Story of the Man and His Career by James M. Kittelson. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Change of Address

Lorna Hansen, 636 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463
Curtis & Elizabeth Lee, 636 Atterdag Rd #503, Solvang, CA 93463
Erwin & Marie Ostertag, 636 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463
Bill & Myra Petersen, 636 Atterdag Rd, Solvang, CA 93463
Margaret Rasmussen, 636 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463

Confirmation

Confirmation Classes will resume in September. We will notify families when the classes begin.

Danish Days Parade



Join us in the 2015 Danish Days parade!!! The theme this year is “Saluting our parents’ children”. Call Marilyn Larsen or Carol Lake (805-688-6796) for details.

Danish Days Organ Concert—Saturday, Sept. 19th at 1 pm

Bach's Lunch: An Organic Smorgasbord
James Welch, Organist, with Nicholas Welch, Pianist

James Welch is a world-renowned concert organist, but don't let that scare you. His concerts are full of fun, with something for everyone. This year's concert on the Phelps pipe organ at Bethania Lutheran Church will feature the "lighter side" of the organ, with lively tunes from across the centuries, folk melodies, and some hits from Baroque to Broadway. You'll go out tapping your toes, ready for the big parade on Copenhagen Drive! He will be joined on the program by his son Nicholas, a dynamite pianist and organist.

Gather Bible Study for September

The topic for this month's discussion is based on the commandment "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy". See Exodus 5:12-15. Work is to be set aside for a time of rest. "Keep it holy" implies a time of worship. See the September Gather magazine pp. 26-31. The meeting will be held in Atterdag Lounge of Bldg. 14 at the Atterdag Village of Solvang. on Thurs., Sept. 17 at 10 am. For information or a copy of this lesson, call Anabelle Dalberg at 688-4687.

Your Help Needed for Bethania's Halloween Party!

The annual Halloween Party will be held on Saturday, October 24th – and it's coming soon. (Hard to imagine with the hot weather!) We need volunteers of all types and abilities, to help make our party for the little revelers a fun and safe event.

Please consider if you are available to help in any of these areas:

Decorate/Setup

Friday, Oct. 23 – 6:00-7:30 pm
Saturday, Oct. 24 - 9:00-11:00 am

Party Helpers

Saturday, Oct. 24th - 5:30-7:30 pm

– We need your help with running **Booths & Games - Pizza Dinner - Taking Photos – Donation of Bags of Wrapped Candy or Dessert items – your Attendance at the Event!**

Clean Up Crew

Sunday, Oct. 25th after Coffee time



We will be having a meeting in October to talk about our plans for this year's event – watch the bulletins for more info. Other needs include taking posters out for publicity and personally inviting people with children to attend.

If you can help or would like to make a donation towards party costs, please contact the Church Office at 688-4637 or bethania.lutheran@verizon.net or Linda Marzullo (688-5219 W; 688-3059 H; 451-5548 C) or [vi-kingpressprint@verizon.net](mailto:kingpressprint@verizon.net)

This is our biggest outreach to families with children during the year – please help us make it fun for all!

LWR Kit Assembly Day: Sept. 13th

Help us at the ELCA's "Day of Service" Event

Personal Care & School Supply Kit Items Still Needed!

As part of the ELCA "Day of Service" on Sept. 13, we will be assembling both School Kits and Personal Care Kits in the Parish Hall. All ages and abilities are welcome to help – you can be a part of the "assembly line" no matter what your age or skill level. There are plenty of spaces for willing workers! You can count, gather, wrap, tie, box...fun for all ages as we see the piles mount and boxes fill up.

Our collection of the required items continues to grow as we head towards the finish line – but don't stop just yet! We will continue to collect items for the final assembly day through Sept. 13th. Donation boxes are in the Parish Hall by the Sunday School office, or you may drop items off at the Church Office.

Why Personal Care Kits? When LWR distributes these kits, it's often to people who have lost everything. Around the world people suffer each day because of lack of basic hygiene. In refugee camps and in the world's poorest communities, a few simple items can mean the difference between sickness and health, and life and death.

Why School Supplies? Your donations reach places like Syria, where LWR recently distributed 6,350 School Kits to families affected by the ongoing conflict. To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies mean the difference between getting an education or not. The purchase of the backpacks (which are what the items are packed into) was made possible through funds received from Thrivent Financial.

Here are the items we are collecting. Keep up the good work!

Items needed are:

1. Bath size towels (light weight, between 20"x40" & 27"x52"), dark colors preferred
2. Bars of soap (4-5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping – 2 per kit)
3. Toothbrush (adult size, in original packaging – bulk buys can be repackaged by us)
4. Comb, sturdy wide toothed
5. Nail clippers (with or without nail files)

For School Supply Kits:

1. 70 sheet College ruled Notebooks (spiral bound) – *Each kit needs 4 of these*
 2. Rulers with centimeters and inches
 3. Pencil sharpeners
 4. Blunt tip scissors
 5. #2 Pencils – *Each kit needs 5 of these*
 6. 2-1/2" Erasers
 7. Black or Blue INK pens (not gel) – *Each kit needs 5 of these*
- Box of Crayons (16 or 24 count)

We also need cardboard boxes, bankers size or larger, to pack Lutheran World Relief Kits in. Boxes can be dropped off at the church office or in front of the Sunday School closet between the Parish Hall and Fireside Room.

If you have any questions, contact the church office or Linda Marzullo at work: 688-5219 or via email: vikingsprint@verizon.net

Noisy Sunday is coming: Sept. 20th

Making Change for the Better

The next “Noisy Sunday” is coming on Sept. 20. The “Noisy Offering” will be used to purchase supplies to complete Personal Care Kits and School Kits that we will be sending to the Lutheran World Relief Warehouse. **(Assembly day is a week earlier, on Sept. 13th, and all hands are needed! See related article.)**

Instead of paying for shipping this year, we will deliver the boxed kits to Mt. Cross Lutheran Church in Camarillo for the LWR In-Gathering. Our quarters, dimes and nickels (and hopefully some dollars!) will help us complete more kits, which are desperately needed right now, according to LWR.

The Aug. 16th Noisy Offering total was \$184.80, which was split for use to help meet the needs of Solvang School teachers and other SYV children through People Helping People. Thank you for helping meet the needs of children and teachers, right here in the valley.

We continue to “make change for the better” with the Noisy Sunday offerings. So bring your coins and make a noise on Sept. 20th. Together, we can CHANGE the world!

– Linda Marzullo

+Pray for God’s Good Care and Keeping to be with+

The family and loved ones of Deanna Jacobsen. Deanna died Aug. 22.

Short-Term or Recent Health Issues

Lisa Demeter, Barbara Kargard, Jensen Paulus (baby), Mike Stinson

Chronic or Long-Term Health Issues

Mark Anderson, Esther Bates, Jim Blanton, Joe & Pat Bode, Annette Bredall, Chris Frederiksen, Katy & Kay Corlee, Lois De Meyer, George Eckman, Terri Elwess, Dick Fowler, Debbie Fritts, Dolores Gehrs, Chris Gideon, David Hollrah, Arla Hoj, Karena Hvingelby, Michael Jech, Robert Jennings (friend of Fred & Genie Machetanz), Janet Johnson, Chris Kaping, Richard Lindekens, Debi Littlejohn, Rick Marzullo, Marjorie Mee, Denise Morris, Patricia Myers, Ned Nelson, Helen Nielsen, Marie Ostertag, Marc & Laurie Owens, Grete Parma, Bo Pedersen, Larry Rasmussen, Ann Reading, Audrey Robinson, Scotty Sexton, Lee Statom, relatives of Stephanie Statom’s friend, Bill Stelling, Steffany Thomas, Clay Tremblay-McGaw, Cora Vandecar, Tina Walen, Ann Wallace, Steve White, Betty Wilkes, Alisha & Anna Marie Wilson, Robert Workman

Other Prayer Concerns

Ben Bettencourt, Brian Coover, Jose Diaz & Family, Melissa Kargard

Produce Table is Growing - like our Tomatoes

As of Aug. 23, thanks to the generosity of our growers, buyers and helpers, you have donated \$1,734.70 towards our fight against World Hunger.

We have in the past gifted a goat, pig, mosquito netting, a grove of fruit trees, 7,000 water purification tablets, a community fish farm, sheep and 65 baby chicks. Your gifts carry God’s love to others, making a differ-

ence in their lives and in the world. More than 90% of your gift goes to this work, with less than 10% used for administration and fundraising costs.

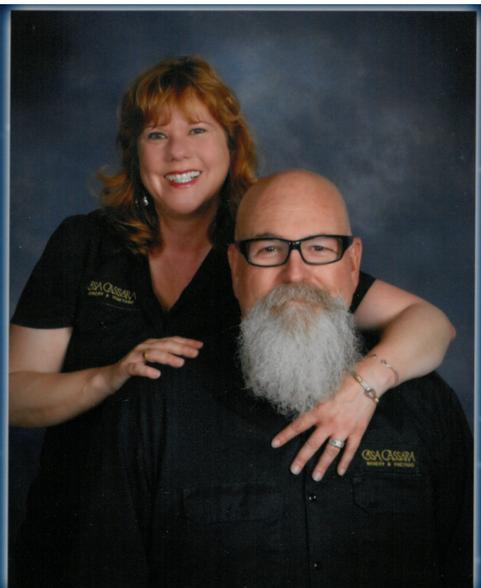
Now we have \$715.15 more to distribute and this will go towards more animals and more life-sustaining projects. Mid-September we are going to concentrate on the SYV Salvation Army, and Deputy Charlie Uhrig's local projects.

Any questions? Do you want to help? I will need some help covering the table, Sundays in September and October. Give me a call to help!

Please continue to share your bounty (and talk to your neighbors to share theirs, too!).

- **Carolynn Petersen 688-6243**

Thumbnail Portrait—Dan & Bridget Cassara



Pastor Chris and Livier can breathe a sigh of relief – they are no longer the newest members of Bethania. That honor now goes to Dan and Bridget Cassara who have just transferred their membership from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Garden Grove, California.

But let's go back to the beginning. Bridget Cassara has three brothers and two sisters. She was born and raised in Garden Grove, moved to Minnesota for one school year during the elementary grades, and then returned to Garden Grove. She has two daughters, an 18 year old living at home, and a 23 year old living in Westminster (Orange County). Bridget studied cosmetology post high school, and then worked as an administrative assistant at a masonry company in Santa Ana. She met Dan at work and says he was "Very colorful!" They share the same birthday (Aug. 28) and were married in 2000. After their wedding they purchased Bridget's childhood home in Garden Grove. This sounds normal enough, but wait. The house was entirely PINK. Actually Bridget says it was pink and white with gingerbread scallops, as her father was a painter at Disneyland by profession. Bridget's mother was an athletic attendant for Garden Grove High School. Bridget's hobbies are reading westerns and Christian-based stories written to entice non-believers to become believers. Bridget loves her three rescue dogs – a Chiweenie (Chihuahua/dachshund mix), a Papillon (butterfly dog), and a German Shepherd lab mix. Bridget also loves to ride her Harley motorcycle – a 2009 trike! She says she grew up around motorcycles with her brothers so the fact that Dan rode Harleys when she met him seemed totally natural to her! They have together been three times to the legendary Sturgis bike rally in South Dakota. Another memorable trip for Bridget was when they went to the Albuquerque hot air balloon festival. While living in Garden Grove, Bridget worked with the homeless, helped with blood drives, the PTA, and various church events. Here she has assisted with the Fourth of July parade and Meals on Wheels. She also joins with the Wednesday Humpday Hikers on night hikes.

Dan Cassara was born in Chicago but raised in Long Beach where he came with his parents in 1952. Dan's father was a brick mason and his mother a stay at home mom. He attended Catholic grade school in Long Beach and high school in Bellflower. He followed in his father's steps as a brick mason for 15 years, crafting "handbuilt fireplaces in Southern California where you don't need them!" He owned the company with his cousin, and it was one of the larger masonry companies in the area. Dan has one brother who is a pharmacist by trade and lives in Santa Maria. Some of Dan's favorite childhood memories include car trips every other year back to Chicago to see relatives. He has three daughters and six grandchildren – one daughter lives in

Long Beach and has two girls, one in West Virginia and has a son and a daughter, and the other in Billings, Montana also with a son and a daughter. Dan looked very happy as he told me of his early love affair with motorcycles. "I got my first bike when I was 15 years old. My brother had a 250 Enduro which he stripped down for the weekends and then I put it back together and rode it during the week!" Dan's current wheels are a 2009 Harley Davidson Screaming Eagle Ultra Classic. Dan has been active as Governor of the Long Beach Police Motor Patrol Association and spent six years as President of the Orange County Harley Owner's Group (HOG). Locally he is the current President of the Santa Ynez Valley Wine Country Association and a new member of the Solvang Vikings.

Together Dan and Bridget are Casa Cassara Winery and Vineyard. Their winery is located high above Highway 246 in the Drum Canyon area. They enjoy a 360 degree view and have "wind to beat the band"! Dan's dad bought the land in 1981, and three years later Dan built the house on the property. It served as a wonderful family vacation home for 30 years until four years ago when Dan and Bridget moved in full time. Two years ago they moved Dan's parents in with them but sadly lost Dan's mom a year later. Dan's kids grew up riding horses on the property. In 1986 Dan's dad planted 6 ½ acres of Chardonnay there, and in 1992 switched the vines to Pinot Noir. Wine has been made under the current label since 1999. Andy Kahn made their wine in the early years. In 2007 the Cassaras opened a tasting room in Buellton, and from 2012 to present their storefront has been located on Mission Drive at Atterdag. They currently have three part time employees, and the majority of their wine is sold from their tasting room. They produce less than 1,000 cases annually. Their winemaker for the pasts three seasons is Kyle Knapp. They make Chardonnay, Rose of Pinot Noir, Sam's Dago Red, Estate Pinot Noir, and Tempranillo. Dan says "The winery was Dad's dream. I am living my Dad's dream." (His dad by the way is 92 years young!) Their tasting room is both kid and dog friendly.

And to close the circle, back to Bethania. Dan says that Pastor Chris reminds him of his former Pastor Tim – young and very personable. He says "It's kind of neat to be back involved in church again!" Dan and Bridget, we are so glad you are here. Your warmth, laughter, and enthusiasm are just exactly what make Bethania so special! Welcome to the clan!

- Robin Gehrs

What Will Be Your Legacy?

"Legacies are footprints we leave behind after we die. They prove that we were here: we lived, we mattered, we made a difference". Rachel Freed

A legacy can come in many forms. It can come from the way you lead your life, the way you share the word of God, and by the way you share your resources given to you by God. For those who walk in faith, all three of these ways of leaving a legacy are important. To learn more about how you can leave a legacy from your resources, contact our congregation's Gift Planner.

Greg Shepherd
ELCA Financial Gift Planner
909-910-6823
gregory.shepherd@elca.org

Your Gifts to the Lord through Bethania Lutheran Church

While I am sure that many of our faithful members are aware of the various funds that we have at Bethania, I would like to explain these funds and how they are used.

GENERAL FUND: This is the mission and ministry that Christ has called us to here at our church. Gifts to the general fund support all of the programs and ministries that happen at Bethania. Our pastoral services, music and worship, outreach, Christian education, visitations to our home-bound members, plus many more. This is the core funding for Bethania Lutheran Church.

PROPERTY FUND: This special fund is used for general property improvements to our campus. Maintenance and repairs and upgrades to our facilities all come from this fund.

ENDOWMENT FUND: This fund, (under the guidance of the Endowment Fund committee) invests its money in long-term funds that can be used for outreach and for special projects that are approved by the committee. This fund also awards scholarships to students in our Congregation to pursue higher education.

HERITAGE FUND: This fund is used specifically for the upkeep, maintenance, and improvement to the church building itself. Gifts to this fund insure the future of our sanctuary.

MEMORIAL FUND: These are usually gifts in remembrance of someone and are designated for a specific purpose. However, gifts may be made to the memorial fund to recognize a birthday, birth of grandchild, significant accomplishment of a relative and are typically undesignated and can be used to support one of the many ministries of our church.

PRE-SCHOOL & AFTER CARE PROGRAM FUNDS: Our pre-school and after school care program receives many requests for tuition assistance and they do budget for this on an annual basis, however the requests are usually greater than the funds available. Gifts to this fund will help increase the amount of tuition assistance available, or provide additional program supplies for the Pre-school.

YOUTH FUND: This fund is primarily for the youth program at Bethania. We need to continually reach out to our youth to engage them in our congregational life. Gifts to this fund help with our programs to attract and hold young people in our Church.

- Ron Walsh, Treasurer

Protect Your Identity Workshop—Sponsored by Thrivent Financial

Sept. 26, 2015

10:30 am at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, San Luis Obispo

1:30 pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Santa Maria

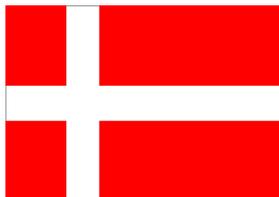
Learn how identity theft can occur.

How you can take steps to prevent it.

What to do if your identity is stolen.

Document shredding will also be available from 10 am—noon at Mt. Carmel and from 1-3 pm at Gloria Dei. Refreshments and a drawing for a cross-cut shredder.

Contact Julie Heavener at 805-773-2764 or ken.mccall@thrivent.com to reserve your spot.



September 2015
 Church Office: 805-688-4637
 FAX: 805-688-7927
 email: bethania.lutheran@verizon.net



**Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America**
 God's work. Our hands.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd'y	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CH = Church OFC = Office Conference Room FR = Fireside Room PH = Parish Hall AV = Atterdag Village ACC = Atterdag Care Center		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:30 am Worship Service: CH 10:45 am Coffee Hour: PH 11 am Adult Forum: FR	7 Labor Day— Church Office and Bethania Pre & After School closed. 8 pm AA : FR	8 7 pm Christian Education Mtg: FR	9 11 am & 3:30pm Chapel : CH 12:45 pm Sewing/ Quilting	10 9 am Organ Tuning: CH 2 pm Preschool Board Mtg: PH	11	12
13 ELCA Day of Service 9:30 am Worship Service: CH 10:45 am Coffee Hour: PH 11 am Service Projects: PH	14 7 pm Finance Cmt: OFC 8 pm AA: FR	15	16 11 am & 3:30pm Chapel : CH	17 10 am Gather Bible Study: AV 10:30 am Communion Service: ACC 7 pm Council Mtg: OFC	18	19 1:00 pm Danish Days Organ Concert—Jim Welch: CH
20 9:30 am Worship : CH 9:30 am Sunday School: FR "Noisy Offering" 10:45 am Coffee Hour: PH 11 am Adult Education: FR	21 12 noon Beacon Deadline: OFC 8 pm AA: FR	22	23 11 am & 3:30pm Chapel : CH 2:00 pm Book Discussion Group: PH	24	25	26 Thrivent Protect Your Identity Workshop
27 9:30 am Worship Service: CH 9:30 Sunday School: FR 10:45 Coffee Hour: PH 11 am Adult Education: FR	28 7 pm Worship & Music Mtg: OFC 8 pm AA: FR	29	30 11 am & 3:30pm Chapel : CH			

SEPTEMBER 2015

THE BEACON

Bethania Lutheran Church
603 Atterdag Rd
Solvang, CA 93463

Address Correction Requested

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We're on the web!
www.bethanialutheran.net

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

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

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

Danish Days Organ Concert Featuring Jim & Nicholas Welch



**Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015
1 pm**