

The Beacon

Bethania Lutheran Church
1-805-688-4637
www.bethanialutheran.net

October 2019

621 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463
email: bethanialutheranch@gmail.com



Every time summer starts I'm ready for it. I'm ready for the feeling of lesser obligations, the fantasy of laying out at the beach with a good book and the anticipation of backyard barbecues with good friends. As much as I love summer and as nostalgic as it always makes me when I think back to summers as a child, there's something imperceptibly magical about the feeling when fall approaches.

Fall brings the joy of routine out of the depths of the chaos of frivolity in summer. It carries with it the knowledge that as life gets back to normal, there's beauty and joy in routine as much as there is in vacation. I look forward to traversing the pumpkin patch, roasting seeds, dressing up for Halloween, sitting around the Thanksgiving table, being mesmerized by the beauty of candlelight, and of course, watching the Dodgers win the World Series.

As I think about what I look forward to in this space of life, I'm looking forward to being able to gather as a church through worship and community life. We've already experienced the community gathering of Danish Days, but that's only the beginning. Oktoberfest, Blessing of the Animals, the Halloween Party, All Saints Day, and the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service are still approaching.

Summer is a tough season in which to gather because of vacations and trips, but fall is when we find ourselves connected once again. I look forward to those gatherings. I've read (and talked a lot about) two books recently, *Lost Connection*, and, *The Righteous Mind*, both of which deal with shortcomings in the quality of life, but from two different perspectives. One author comes from experiencing depression for many years and the other comes from a moral psychologist, but both end up getting to the same conclusion: community is a key to fulfillment. Being enveloped in communities curbs ego, combats depression, and lends to the fulfillment of the human being living the way they were created to live, as part of a tribe.

I truly believe in the power of community. I also, unfortunately, believe we're not very good at this. Churches, like our society, have adapted to individualistic ways of living. And churches, like society, are experiencing the shortcomings of living this way. For probably various reasons, churches have either become unable to be places where community is experienced or people don't trust that authentic community experiences can happen and church, and thus have checked out.

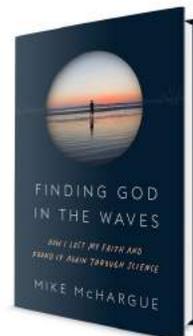
This is why I put such an emphasis on creating community spaces and events at Bethania. "Where two or three are gathered, I am there among them." These words of Jesus point to the divine attributes of community. We are meant to share this life together. Jesus knew this and invites us into these spaces because there's something heavenly to be experienced there. Science is just now catching up and affirming what the ancients knew intimately.

As we enter into fall and bask in Pumpkin Spiced Everything, meals around tables, football parties and World Series celebrations, my prayer is that we will look at all these communal spaces with new eyes, seeing the divinity inherent in all of them. May your path find you at Bethania in all the ways that community is expressed and experienced here. May they be spaces where you are authentically seen, heard, and loved, and may you see God present in all of it.

**Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chris**

Book Group Starts New Book

Starting this month our book group will begin a new book called "Finding God in the Waves" by Mike McHargue. Mike is part of the Liturgists podcast and is planning on being one of our speakers for Farstrup-Mortensen Presents The Solvang Folk School Talks (The Folk School Talks). We will be reading the first three chapters for our discussion on the third Tuesday of the month at 2 pm. All are welcome to join.



Youth and Family Ministry

Hello Bethania,

Acolyte: noun - an altar attendant in public worship

We **need acolytes!** Parents and guardians please contact me to help fill the upcoming Sundays.

Youth meeting is rescheduled from Oct. 13th to Sunday, Oct. 27th @ 11 am -1 pm. Any student in 6th grade through high school is welcome to join. Whether looking to expand their education in faith or make friends, they are welcome!

Bethania's Annual Halloween Party will be Saturday, Oct. 26th at 5:30 pm - 7:45 pm. Set-up on Thursday, Oct. 24th and Friday, Oct. 25th at 6 pm. Clean-up will be Sunday, Oct. 27th at 10:30 am. Please RSVP. Admittance is \$5/person or \$20/family and a donation of socks or canned food item. Costumes are encouraged. We will have pizza, salad, drinks, crafts, prizes, games, popcorn, cotton candy, and bounce houses. We need bags of candy and small prizes (you may drop off in the Church Office), volunteers to set up, clean up, serve dinner, monitor games and prizes

Youth are going on various trips in the fall and a Lock-In around November in our Fireside Room.

Sunday School is during the 11 am - 12 pm service. We have dedicated classrooms set for ages 2, 3, 4, 5 and Grades 1st - 5th.

I am expecting our second child and the due date is Jan. 26, 2020! This is right around the time of the Annual Youth Rummage Sale. So I've moved it up to Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019. We need lots of help to organize and sell. Please reach out to me if you can offer any assistance.

Livier (Liv-EE-air) Ghamari-Brown
Director of Youth & Family Ministry

[\(909\)962-9366](tel:(909)962-9366)

livierghamari@yahoo.com

Preschool & After School Program

The new school year is well underway! We are once again at full capacity with students and a few new staff members as well. The children have been focused on learning all about themselves, the school and their new friends. We have moved onto apples, Johnny Appleseed and more. This month we will be learning about Fall and Halloween Fun.

We will have school pictures taken on Oct. 1st. Always a fun and interesting day trying to get everyone to smile!

We will be taking our annual trek to the Solvang Farmer Pumpkin Patch to learn about pumpkins, walk through the corn maze and of course pick the best pumpkins. Each child will get a pumpkin and each classroom will get one as well.

On Oct. 31 we will have our annual Halloween Parade to Atterdag Village to share our costumes and sing some songs for the "Grandmas & Grandpas" there. Always a fun time! We will return to the Preschool and each class will have a Halloween party. Watch for us walking up the hill around 9:30.

The Preschool will be having its annual Tupperware Fundraiser the beginning of October, if anyone would like to support us please come see me at the Preschool!

Remember...If things don't seem right...try going left...

Blessings
Eileen

Ministry in the Community and Around the World

Report from Your Produce Table!

The Produce Table has been blessed by those who pick up fresh fruits and vegetables from the table and make a donation, as well as those who have provided the variety of delicious food, produce and garden items to keep our table filled.

So far this year (through 9-22-19) the table has raised \$2,396.49 to fight hunger both in our Valley and in our world through the ELCA World Hunger-Good Gifts Program.

To date \$1492.00 of those funds have been disbursed, evenly split between the ELCA World Hunger Program and Bethania's Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Please continue to support the table through the rest of the season. Bring your produce (and that of your neighbor!) to church on Sundays. Don't forget to check out what's available on the Produce Table before you head home from church or on your way to the coffee hour after the service. Donate whatever you choose towards the produce and other delicious items available.

And, if you have been operating on "credit" (which we are always happy to do), this next month might be a good time to start playing catch up...

Any questions, please contact **Carolynn Petersen: 805-688-6243**.

Helping Hands + Donated Supplies = A Huge “Day of Service”!

As part of the ELCA “Day of Service” on September 8, we assembled 186 School Kits and 112 Personal Care Kits in the Parish Hall. We also put together 536 Brown Bag breakfast items for seniors already being served by Meals on Wheels, who need a little food ready eat with medications in the morning.

All ages and abilities were able to be involved in some way. It was fun for all ages as we saw the piles build and boxes get taped up. The stage was piled high with all of our completed projects by noon that day.

Everyone who contributed in some way to the completion of these many projects is making a difference. Thank you all for your support of this important annual event. Our Bethania members will directly touch those in need, by sending supplies and our compassion through Lutheran World Relief, and reaching out to assist local seniors in need.

If you have any questions, contact the church office or **Linda Marzullo at work: 805-688-5219** or via email: vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Noisy Sunday: Oct. 27th Bethania’s Annual Halloween Bash Make Change for the Better

The next “Noisy Sunday” is coming on Oct. 27. The offering from that day will be used to help cover some of the costs associated with the annual Halloween Party.

Why do we need to ask for donations for the Halloween Party? Here’s why: Bethania has no line-item budget to cover the expenses of the Halloween Party. This is one of the biggest outreach events to children and young families that we hold doing the year. While we usually “break even” (and sometimes even manage to make a few dollars), we would like help from the congregation in furnishing the food items and some of the prizes for the children.

At the Halloween Party, we also support some type of community service project as part of the “entrance fee”. This helps the attendees remember that we are a church of outreach, to many different types of situations.

At the party, each child receives a special treat bag that has information about Bethania, our worship services, Sunday School, and more. Everyone is invited to this party, regardless of their ability to pay. We also offer scholarships to Preschool families who may need the assistance.

We continue to “make change for the better” with the Noisy Sunday offerings. This offering will help make a child’s day fun and also educate them a little about what we offer at Bethania, and what we do for the community and the world.

So bring your coins and make a noise on Oct. 27th. Together, we can change so many things!

– Linda Marzullo

Brown Bag Senior Breakfast Packing Day is coming: Mark the Date: Sunday, Nov. 3 at coffee hour

Mark your calendar to help us pack brown bag breakfast items for needy local seniors on Sunday, Nov. 3rd during the coffee hour.

These little brown bags get delivered to low income seniors in the Santa Ynez Valley. Our little brown bags are for those seniors who need to take medications in the morning with food, and would otherwise have nothing to eat with their pills.

You can also help out by packing and by donating any of the following items:

Soft Granola/Cereal Bars	Protein Bars
Oatmeal Packets (Protein type)	Instant Cup of Soup/Lunch or Noodles
Muffins or Baked Goods (individually plastic sealed, such as Hostess)	Pudding (non-refrigerated)
Small Juice Boxes or Plastic Bottles of Fruit Juices (such as Apple, Cranberry, Orange)	Fruit Cups or Applesauce
	Protein Drinks (such as Ensure or Atkins)

A big **thank you** to SYV Rotary for their recent support, and the Viking Charities of Solvang for helping to support our packing needs at this event with their grant.

Make a difference in the health and happiness of someone living right here by packing a bag or donating a few items. Thank you!

–Linda Marzullo
Chairman, Social Ministry Committee
805-688-5219, 805-688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Coming Up at Bethania!!!!

Bethania's New App



Bethania now has its own smartphone application that you can get from any smartphone. Just go to either the App Store or Google Play on your phone and search for "Bethania Church". You should see this logo. It's free to download and will have regular information about worship, giving, upcoming events, and other resources. If you have any questions about how to download it or operate it, please talk to Pastor Chris.

Theology Pub

Theology Pub gathers the second Thursday of every month at 7 pm at Solvang Brewing Company. The topic on Oct. 10 will be "Community." Theology Pub is a safe and relaxed space for dialogue and community. Please join us and feel free to invite a friend.

Oktoberfest is Oct. 13



**Bethania
Lutheran Church**
603 Atterdag Rd, Solvang
October 13, 2019
12:00pm - 4:00pm

Admission - \$15
Tickets available at the door
Includes brat sandwich,
side salads, dessert & beverage
of lemonade, tea or water
Wine & Beer Sold Separately

Featured Breweries:
Figeroa Mountain Brewery
Solvang Brewery

🌀 Silent Auction 🌀 Music
🌀 Games 🌀 Photo Booth



Blessing of the Animals

Every year around the birthday of St. Francis of Assisi, we bless the animals who have become family members in our lives. This year Council will be hosting the Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 20 at 5pm. Bring your fur babies of all varieties, pictures of animals no longer with us, or a stuffed animal that is special to you. We will have some light refreshments and snacks to accompany our fellowship.

Join us for Our Halloween Party, Invite Your Friends



Bethania's Halloween Party
Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019
5:30-7:45 pm
\$5/person \$20/family
and a donation of new socks
or a canned food item
Wear your costume!
Pizza, salad and dessert
Games, prizes popcorn and cotton candy
Bounce Houses
Bethania is located at 603 Atterdag Rd, Solvang
RSVP 805-688-4637 or
bethanialutheranch@gmail.com

Gather Bible Study

The Gather Bible Study will be Oct.17 at 10:30 in the Atterdag Lounge at Atterdag Lounge. The topic is "The Ache of Grief" based on Lamentations 2:10-22. The study is found in October issue of Gather Magazine, pp. 22-28.

All Saints' Sunday on Nov. 3

We will remember people from our community who died between Nov. 1, 2018 and Oct. 31, 2019. During the last two weeks of October we will be contacting family and loved ones to light a candle in the service on Nov. 3.

Gustavus Adolfus Scholarship Info

If anyone is attending Gustavus Adolfus, Emmy Abello can recommend that student for an alumni scholarship. Please contact Emily for details.

Church Business

Church Council - September 2019 Meeting

The monthly Council meeting was held at 7 pm on Sept. 19, 2019. Members present were Emily Abello, Wendy Bevier, Pastor Chris, Stewart Fries, Carolyn Schuit, Ann Tucker and Ron Walsh. Bridget Cassara, Denise Johnson, and Carol Lake were not present for the meeting. Also attending was Rikka Rasmussen.

Council members received reports from the Worship & Music committee council liaison, Wendy Bevier, and from the Cemetery committee member, Rikka Rasmussen, as part of the on-going program of inviting committee chairs to make presentations about their committees to the church council.

Council members present discussed a variety of topics including:

- Financial audit sub-committee
- Plaques on pews
- Update on Code of Conduct Inventory
- Update on Push-Pay Contract
- Update on October Fest celebration scheduled for 10/13
- Review of Council Member terms
- Review of new landscaping proposals
- Appointment of Shane Silva to Christian Education Committee
- A review of the procedures for acceptance of bequests
- Development of Food Pantries around the valley

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019.

**The Peace of Christ be with you all,
Stewart Fries, Bethania Council President
805-245-0041**

Treasurer's Report for August 2019

Balance Sheet:

The cash position at the end of August was a negative \$2,433. All liabilities were paid and the checks that were written had not cleared at the end of August, but will rely on September cash to insure that our checks will not be rejected. This is a serious concern.

The money market fund has \$147,554 on deposit, but most of that is restricted to particular accounts (e.g., youth, property projects, Farstrup Mortensen, etc.).

The only outstanding liability is the pension fund liability of \$2,564 which is normal.

In spite of the shortfall in cash, the balance sheet remains strong.

Profit & Loss Budget Performance:

Income:

Offerings for the month were \$4,207 below budget, but remained over budget for the first 8 months of the year by \$2,914.

Miscellaneous receipts were under budget by \$787.

Overall income was \$5,453 below budget for the month.

Expenses:

Salaries and benefits were on budget for the month, but over budget for the first 8 months by \$7,000. Office administration expenses were under budget for the month and over for the first 8 months by \$800.

Property expenses were on budget for the month, but over for the first 8 months by \$4,800.

All other expenses were at or under budget for the month and for the first 8 months.

Overall expenses were \$7,695 over income for the month, and \$12,039 over budget for the first 8 months.

Social Ministry Meets Oct. 14 @ 6 pm

Our next Social Ministry Committee meeting will be Monday, Oct. 14 at 6 pm in the Fireside Room.

Agenda items include: Implementation of Brown Bag Breakfast plans, Packing day for BBB (Nov. 3) Update on community food need/plan, Report on donations to Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz, Bridge-house and Lompoc Food Pantry, and Christmas Angel plans.

If you are able to help or have any ideas, please contact me and let me know. Everyone is invited to these planning meetings – we are all involved in being the hands and feet of Jesus to the world.

–Linda Marzullo

Chairman, Social Ministry

805-688-5219, 805-688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Thank You

June 26, 2019

To Bethania Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$2,288.44 to ELCA World Hunger. Your generous gift is enabling transformative works of love here in the United States and in 60 countries round the world, providing what is needed to end hunger and poverty: access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our neighbors around the world.

**In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations.**

Thank-You's from Two of Our Endowment Scholarship Recipients

Dear Bethania Lutheran Church Endowment Fund,

Thank you again for supporting me throughout my college experience at Cal Poly. I was able to dedicate more focus towards my academics, and averaged a 3.3 GPA. I am very grateful for your aid, and am excited to put it to good use this coming school year. Thanks again for everything!

- **Eddie Lundberg**

Dear Bethania Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the recent scholarship. I appreciate all your support. I'm enjoying myself at Cal Poly and I am looking forward to another great year.

**Thanks again,
Owen Andersen**

In Our Hearts, In Our Prayers

We uplift in prayer the following people in our congregation and community. May we minister and bless all who need God's help.

Andy Blanton, Barbara Boyd, Brianna Ceballos, Denise Chaboya, Annette Clausen, Caylin, Katy & Kay Corlee, Kerstin Emerson, Ida FitzGerald, Chris Frederiksen, Debbie Fritts, Jenie Galindo, Chris Gideon, Sheldon & Pat Green, Kathy Hackler, Marion Hallum, "Hank," Belle Hoger, Jennifer Howell, Glen Jacobsen, Michael Jech, Robert & Gail Jennings, Alma Lancaster, Betsy & Steve Logan, Joe Martin, Loretta McConnell, Shawn McConnell, Brian Merrick, Stella Miller, Denise Morris, Mike Murray, Denny Norrenbrock, Barbara & Charles Osborn, Marie Ostertag, Kate Pearsson, Bob Petersen (brother of Tom), Chèle Ludwig Petersen, Doyle Phillips, Joyce Purvis, Tim Reed, Craig Schorr, Jesse Tovar, Lou Vitelli, Robert Workman, David & Yolanda Yanez, and those who serve our country both at home and abroad



Photos

Danish Days Parade Pictures by Marion Hallum





2018 Halloween Photos
by Kristyl Downey





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat'day
<p>FR = Fireside Rm OFC = Office PH = Parish Hall CH = Church BPSAS = Preschool & AfterSchool</p>	<p>AV = Atterdag Village SME = St. Mark's Episcopal</p>	<p>1 7 pm Yoga:PH 7 pm Mankind Project: FR</p>	<p>2 9:30 am Staff Mtg:OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 9:30 & 11am Worship:CH 10:30 Coffee Hour & Produce Table 11 am Sunday School</p>	<p>7 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 7 pm Worship & Music mtg:OFC 8 pm AA: FR</p>	<p>8 7 pm Yoga:PH</p>	<p>9 9:30 am Staff Mtg:OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 12:45 pm Quilting:PH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH</p>	<p>10 9:30 am Conf. Clergy Mtg 2 pm BPSAS:PH 7 pm Theo Pub: Solvang Brewing Co.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:30 & 11am Worship:CH 10:30 Coffee Hour & Produce Table 11 am Sunday School 12-4 pm Oktoberfest:PH</p>	<p>14 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR</p>	<p>15 2 pm Book Group: PH 7 pm Christian Ed Mtg:OFC 7 pm Yoga:PH 7 pm Mankind Project: FR</p>	<p>16 9:30 am Staff Mtg: OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH</p>	<p>17 10:30 Bible Study:AV 11 am Communion:AV 7 pm Council Meeting: OFC</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9:30 & 11 am Worship:CH 10:30 Coffee Hour & Produce Table 11 am Sunday School 5 pm Blessing of the animals</p>	<p>21 5:15 pm Grief Group: SME 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR</p>	<p>22 12 noon Beacon Deadline: OFC 7 pm Yoga:PH</p>	<p>23 9:00 am Support the Troops:PH 9:30 am Staff Mtg: OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 11 am Service for B.Klaasen: CH Reception at SME Halloween Party: PH & FR</p>
<p>27 Reformation Sunday - wear red. 9:30 & 11 am Worship & Noisy Offering :CH 10:30 Coffee Hour & Produce Table 11 am Sunday School</p>	<p>28 6:30 pm Tai Chi:PH 8 pm AA: FR</p>	<p>29 7 pm Yoga:PH</p>	<p>30 9:30 am Staff Mtg: OFC 11:30 am & 3:30 pm Chapel:CH 7 pm Choir Practice:PH</p>	<p>31</p>		

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Preschool/After School
1-(805)688-7077
bethaniaps@verizon.net



*Come to Bethania's
Halloween Party, if you dare!*

Saturday, Oct. 26

5:30 - 7:45 pm

*\$5/person \$20/family
And a donation of socks or
canned goods*

RSVP: 805-688-4637