

## LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter Article – August 2019

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony of receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? The offerings are collected in plates or baskets, and they are brought forward and given to the pastor or an assistant. The pastor turns toward the altar, and, as he slightly bows his head, the offerings are raised slightly to the Lord and placed on the altar or an adjacent table.

Why do we have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does – it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion – the bread and the wine – were brought forward with the offerings. The offerings and elements were lifted toward the Lord and placed upon the altar. The altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

Gifts brought to the altar come from the sweat of His people's brow. They are the bread and wine, the fruits of His people's labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people are to bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. Gifts set upon the altar are offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into service for His gracious work.

For what is offered to the Lord from the sweat of His people's brow – the bread of

anxious toil – comes back to us as the bread of life. The bread comes down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup will receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament:

“You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire – oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.” (Deut. 14:22-26)

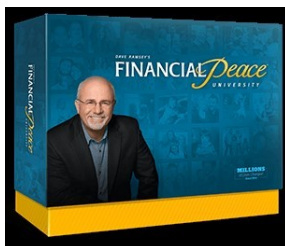
What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows. He receives this from us in the first-fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise, and He turns these into spiritual bread. He gives this heavenly bread – the bread of eternal life – back to us so we might have joy.

So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder. The offerings we have given to Him, the Lord gives back to us in His supper so that we may rejoice in the salvation He won for us upon the cross.



## From the Board of Parish Ed & DCE Jeff Bellach

Coming SOON to FFW Lineup!



### Financial Peace University FPU

We will be holding an FPU Class at Bethel this year. The class will be held on Wednesday nights. **It will start Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm** and will go until 8:00

pm in Room 233. If you are seeking to simplify your finances and make every dollar have a purpose come find financial freedom with FPU. Live like no other so that you may give like no other!

### FUN FAMILY WEDNESDAY



What an amazing start to FFW! It was wonderful to see so many people coming together for fellowship and Bible Study. We look forward to seeing you next time.

**We start** with a meal served from 5:15 to 6:30 with a cost of \$4/person with a max of \$12/family.

**The educational time** will begin at 6:30 pm and the programs include:

**KIDS BIBLE CLUB** in Room 237 for Kindergarten through 4th grade. Games, Devo, Crafts.

**JUNIOR CONFIRMATION** in Room 232 for those starting in 5th Grade.

**7/8 grade YOUTH NIGHT** Junior High will be meeting in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom. Devo/topic, some games, free time

**9-12 grade YOUTH NIGHT** The Senior High will be meeting in the Youth Room. Devo/topic, some games, free time.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** on *Historical Archeology from the Christian Perspective* led by Jake Gaster in Room 240.

Childcare available for children younger than Kindergarten.

\*Adult Class locations are subject to change. We will have signage posted for class locations.

We still need some help with FFW classes. If you are interested please contact DCE Jeff. 913-940-9697

dcejf@blcbcs.org

## YOUTH INFORMATION



Regular youth nights will begin on Wednesday, September 4th. We will be following the schedule of Fun Family Wednesdays, which means, we will have a meal at 5:15 pm and begin activities at 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm. We will be meeting each Wednesday as we are back to our regular Schedule. Please note: Senior High will meet in the youth room and junior high will meet in the junior high classroom.

DCE Jeff looks forward to seeing each of you there.

### FALL BLAST

Camp Lone Star will be holding its Fall Blast November 1-3. Fall blast is for students Grades 4, 5 and 6.

Cost for the Trip will be \$75

Dollars per participant. To hold your spot DCE Jeff will need a \$25 dollar non refundable deposit by Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please Contact DCE Jeff to secure your spot: [dcejf@blcbcs.org](mailto:dcejf@blcbcs.org) 913-940-9697. Note: if you have yet to fill out a participation/medical release form for Bethel this paperwork will be required before we leave in November.



**\*\*SAVE the Dates for VBS\*\***  
**\*\*June 21—25, 2020\*\***

### Sunday School

Regular Sunday School has begun! Sunday School starts at 10:00 am and runs to 11:00 am. Remember to check your e-mail for more information.

We are using Kid Check for both preschool and elementary students this year. The Kid Check station for preschool is by the entry doors on the education wing first floor. The Kid Check station for elementary is located 234 where we drop off for Sunday School opening for 1-4<sup>th</sup> Grade.

**Camp Lone Star**  
Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas

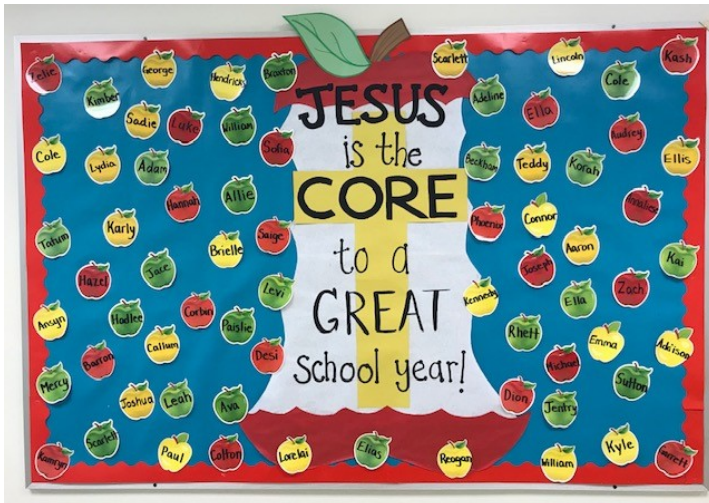
### Family Fun Night at Camp Lone Star

Are you looking for a fun way to connect with your kid(s) or as a family? Look no further! Family Fun Night at Camp Lone Star will provide the perfect opportunity for you to intentionally connect and grow with your family! Each of these FREE events will include dinner and a variety of different Camp games and a devotional. Family Fun Night is once a month on a Tuesday evening from 5:30-7:30pm. Below is the Fall 2019 schedule:

- Tuesday, September 24: Slip n' Slide & Lake Activities
- Tuesday, October 15: Pumpkin Carving

Register: [http://www.lomt.com/rp\\_familyfunnight.html](http://www.lomt.com/rp_familyfunnight.html)

- Tuesday, November 19: Movie Night
- Tuesday, December 17: Gingerbread House Making & Christmas Fun



## We give thanks to God for our Preschool Staff this year:

Julie Mack, Corinne Kornegay and Laura Winkler (teachers for our 2 year old classes); Melisa Thane and Debbie Owens (teachers for our 3 year old classes); LaRee Rodriguez and Sarah Rogers (teachers for our 4 year old classes). Also for our teachers' aides and Extended Care staff: Emily Bard, Sarah Bellach, Melissa Benitez, Mary Grace deKeraty, Martha Delovio, Judy Dunn, Sam Gaster, Natalie Gazda, Hannah Hildebrandt, Cassie Jackson, Sara Love, Katja Mathis, Abbi McClintock, Anni McClintock, Whitney Pratt, Rita Michelson, Natalie Sanchez, Julianna White, Maddie White, and our music teacher, Tammy Lang. We also so appreciate Carolyn Janac's

help as Assistant to the Preschool Director. You may read more information about our staff on our church website (go to the Preschool web page).

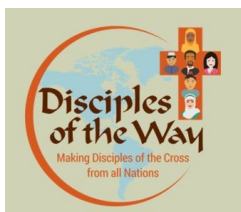
Our first **Preschool Mom's Night Out** for this school year will be October 3, starting at 6:00 P.M. Our Mom's Night Out is a fun evening for the preschool moms (grandmothers or other guests) to have a light meal and then make a craft. This time we will paint a wooden pumpkin for a fall decoration. We have a sample on the bulletin board in the preschool hallway (next to the Preschool Office). We always have a great time and it gives us the opportunity to get to know the moms a little better.

**Just to let you know, our Butter Braid Fund Raiser will happen in October!** Samples and order forms will be available on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 12 & 13, and Oct. 19 & 20. **Butter Braids are great for the holidays coming soon!** Orders will be available for pick up at the church after November 13. This is our big fund raiser for the year and *we so appreciate your support!!*

*We ask for your prayers* for the preschool staff, the children and their families. Please pray for safety for all the children and that this will be a great year of learning and fun. We pray that we can show all the children and their families Jesus every day through the things we say and do.

**Praise be to God as He continues to bless this ministry!**

<http://disciplesoftheway.org>



## Praying to "Our Father" with Our Neighbors

**Too often we forget the shocking fact that we are blessed to be able to approach God through Jesus Christ! No other religion believes in an All-Powerful God who cares about**

**individual people and their daily worries.**

Christians are uniquely blessed to worship our God who **wants** us to pray to Him about our daily problems and small concerns, as well as national concerns and worldwide problems.

You may have heard that Muslims pray 5 times a day in order to please God. These prayers are not for their needs, concerns or desires. Muslims pray ritualized prayers with exact words and postures, even the intonation is memorized.

This time of year can be difficult for many refugee families because of the start of school. Families are in the middle of adapting to a new schedule. Children face the pressure to succeed and do well in school, so they can have a future in America but they struggle with the language and social adaptation. School is difficult for Americans. Imagine how much more uncertain and stressful it is for refugee children and parents.

Disciples of the Way comes alongside families to pray for their individual needs in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. We offer services through our Refugee Service Center to help with school registration and communication with teachers, alongside a class through our English Program focused on teaching American values and culture.

The reason Christians can pray to God Almighty about small daily problems is because of Jesus! Jesus has redeemed our relationship with God, so that He is our loving Father and we are his children! Our Father cares deeply for us in our daily lives and struggles and Jesus knows all our struggles because He walked on the earth!

**"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." - Hebrews 4:15**

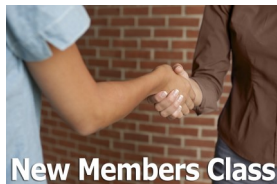
Jesus taught us to pray intimately without fear. Christians do not pray out of guilt but pray "Our Father in Heaven" out of gratitude and love because He loved us while we were still sinners. We pray because God wants us to pray to him and the love of Christ compels us to pray for our neighbors because we love them.

**Please Pray with us** that God will open the hearts of those who come to DOW to receive prayer and that they may come to know God who is our Father through Jesus Christ.



***The Next Bethel's "Life with God @ Bethel"***  
***new member series is underway!***  
***It is not Too Late to Join!***

If you are interested in learning more about our congregation or if you are considering becoming a member, Pastor Bard leads us for 8 weeks immediately following the late service (12:30 pm in Room 232). We always finish by 1:30 pm and snacks are provided. If you are interested in membership, there is an attendance requirement which Pastor will talk about at the first meeting. We would love to have you come and find out more about Bethel. If you or your family are planning on attending, please contact Treva Robertson at [trobertson@gmail.com](mailto:trobertson@gmail.com) or 409-782-5693. Childcare is provided upon request.



**Living with Grief**  
**Sundays, at 4PM in**  
**Room 240**

Bethel is hosting a biblical study for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, following a nationally recognized curriculum sponsored by GriefShare. This program is designed to encourage us to look at our loss and its impact on our lives from God's perspective. We will learn that grief is a natural response to the loss of a loved one and that there is relief, purpose, and joy in the future. Please join us for an upbeat and refreshing understanding of what God has done for us and his plan for our lives.



## From the Board of Stewardship

### Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts . . . Continued

"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" Ephesians 2:10.

As we continue with our series on *Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts*, we ask that you take the 30 minute test online to find out what your gifts are at <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org>. In doing so, you can receive the promise of being "prepared in advance" as stated above, and thus better equipped to do the good works as commanded.

We have explained in past issues of this E-Memo which are the gifts of SERVICE, EXHORTATION, GIVING, TEACHING, EVANGELISM, MERCY-SHOWING, and PROPHECY. In this issue we will explain what the gift of SHEPHERDING entails. The Greek word "poimen" means pastor in Eph. 4:11 although in other references it is used to mean shepherd 16 times. So we are discussing the gift of shepherding and not pastor. Even though a good pastor must have the gift of shepherding, everyone with this gift is not called to be a pastor. This gift can be used in many other positions in the church.

As a gifted shepherd you have the Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by overseeing, training, and caring for the needs of a group of Christians. You are usually very patient people oriented, and willing to spend time in prayer for others. You tend to be a "jack of all and master of one" meaning you are usually dominant in one of the speaking gifts (evangelist, prophet, teacher, exhorter) as well. You are often authoritative, more a leader than a follower, and

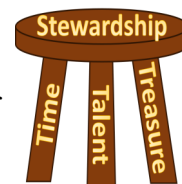
expressive, composed, and sensitive. Your pleasing personality draws people to you.

You have a burden to see others learn and grow and are protective of those under your care. You want to present the whole word of God and do not like to present the same materials more than once. You are willing to study what is necessary to feed your group and are more relationship oriented than task oriented. You are a peace maker and diplomat, ie. very tolerant of people's weaknesses. You tend to remember people's names and faces. You are more concerned with doing for others than others doing for you. You are faithful and devoted and may become a workaholic. You can become an all-purpose person in order to meet needs.

You would be a good Sunday school teacher and group leader because of the desire to go beyond teaching or leading to shepherd and minister to the daily needs of students. Be careful to involve other people; don't try to do it all yourself. Work on making people accountable. Don't be overly protective of others that you lead. Learn to say no. Beware of Satan's attack on your gift, as he will cause discouragement when the load gets heavy, and pride because others look up to you. You may become selfish when your "sheep" feed in other pastures.

#### HOW CAN YOU USE THIS GIFT?

This gift is a great help in many areas. You may serve as a Sunday school/Bible Class teacher, small group leader, special ministry leader, such as youth, etc.



## Hope Pregnancy Luncheon September 24

Bethel has reserved a table at the Hope Pregnancy Luncheon at 12:00 on September 24 at the Hilton in College Station. A lunch is provided and they will ask for donations. The speaker for the event is Mandy Birdsong. If you would like to reserve a place at the table please call Leigh Chips at 979-224-8858 or Judy Dunn at 979-820-1273. Come and show your support for LIFE.



There was a time when Mandy Birdsong didn't think she would graduate. The bonfire collapse of November 1999, during her junior year at Texas A&M, threw her life into a tailspin. Broken, lost, scared, and hopeless, Mandy made choices she would later come to regret.

Please join us **September 24th at noon** to find out how **Mandy found Hope** when she thought she had none!

*A Luncheon Benefiting Hope Pregnancy Center  
of Brazos Valley*

There is no cost to attend, but **reservations are required**.  
**Either reserve a space at Bethel's Table or go online to**  
[\[www.hopepregnancy.org\]](http://www.hopepregnancy.org)

Hilton Hotel and Conference Center  
College Station

*Tuesday, September 24, 2019*

*Program 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.; Doors open at 11:30 a.m*  
[Hope Pregnancy Center | 205 Brentwood Dr | College  
Station ]

### 'AT EASE'

#### Support Group For Military Families Wednesdays At 6:30 pm in the Parlor

Our military service members have a fleet behind them serving too. If you have connections with a service member, ***please join us*** ***Wednesdays in Church Parlor at 6:30 pm for prayer, devotional, support and fellowship AT EASE.*** We will have open discussions, resources and many opportunities to serve both one another and our military service members.



### SAVE THE DATE

#### SOS Ministries 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet

**October 1, 2019 ~ 6:30 pm**

**[SaveOurStreetsMinistries.org](http://SaveOurStreetsMinistries.org)**

**979-775-5357**



## Join Bethel's Ladies and Men in Bible Study and Fellowship

### *LWML Bluebonnet Zone Fall Rally*

#### *Serving the Lord with Gladness*

**October 6th at Trinity LCMS**

1530 Washington Ave., Navasota

Registration—12:45pm

Lunch—1:00 pm

Rally—2:00 pm—5:00pm

Cost: \$8

Speaker: Janis Muller

Service Project for Hospice - Each society, please bring a quilt to be donated to hospice.

If you are interested in attending and/or carpooling, please contact Rosie Schoenfeld at 979-820-0126.

### *LWML Monthly Bible Study*

#### *Monday, October 7*

7:00 pm in the Bethel Parish Hall. All ladies of Bethel and their guest(s) are invited to attend. Please let Rosie Schoenfeld (979-820-0126) know if childcare is needed.

### *LWML Officers for 2019-2020 will be*

President - Rosie Schoenfeld

Vice President/Membership - Joyce Sutherland

Christian Growth - Shay Simpson

**Ladies Lunch Bunch** - meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month (Oct. 2 & 16) at Blue Baker on University Dr. at 11:30 or whenever you can get there. We'll gather for our devotion and have great conversation and food. We hope you can join us for a spiritual respite from your hectic day.

**FIT FOR CHRIST** — Hey Ladies! We still meet on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings (8:15)** upstairs in room 240. Our workout consists of a warm up routine of walking, and then toning exercises which focus on upper

or lower body or sometimes Pilates. We wrap up the time together with a devotion. *Child Care available.*

**LWML Helping Hands will meet Monday, October 14th at 9:00am in the Parish Hall.** All are welcome to come anytime between 9:00am—2pm to help tie quilts. The quilts are shipped to Lutheran World Relief. <http://lwr.org>.

### **Men's Monday Evening Bible Study & Fellowship Group meets at 7:00 PM in Room 232.**

They are doing a study on Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. This study is part of the *LifeLight* Bible study series of in-depth studies of Bible books put out by Concordia Publishing House (cph.org). The goal of *LifeLight* is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ.

**Friday Morning Men's Bible Study/Breakfast Group** each Friday morning at 6:30 AM in the Parish Hall. This group will start this Friday. **Grace-Based Recovery** - overcoming addictions and strongholds.

### *LWML MITE\$ Gathered*

#### *The Weekend of September 28 & 29*

Please make checks payable to Bethel LWML.

#### *Thank You Bethel for your Monthly Mite Donations*

CHECK IT OUT online at <http://www.lwml.org/mission-grants> to see these mission \$\$ at work.



### Bethel *GIRLFRIENDS*

**SIGN UP TODAY for the**

#### **Kitchen Gadget Swap/Salad Supper on Sept. 26th in the Parish Hall**

Bethel Girlfriends will meet on Thursday, September 26th for a night of fun as we **SWAP Kitchen Gadgets and Kitchen Stories!** Just bring a new, \$10.00 or less, kitchen gadget wrapped as a gift. Bring your favorite salad or a dessert to share. We'll eat salad & sweets, swap gadgets and share our worst cooking disaster stories. See You Then, Girlfriends!! (Childcare available upon request) Sign up is in the Information Center on the bulletin board.



### **THANK YOU from RANDY & BETTY**

Betty and I have a heart full of thanks for all the kindness shown to us at the retirement celebration September 8. Words alone cannot express our appreciation for all the thoughts, gifts and kind words we received not to mention the mere presence of so many people that we have such great memories with. There were so many of you that we just couldn't get around to talk to everyone. I think we could have been there for days visiting! Again, our thanks and we look forward to the next chapter in our lives. *Randy & Betty Moerbe*





# Happy Birthday!!

## Our Bethel Family

### September

Sally Coble 19  
Jacob Hoffman 19  
Harold Schroeder 19  
Lorelai Birdwell 20  
Matthew Everett 21

Lance Lindsey 21  
Pete Schmid 21  
Pearl Symmank 21  
Cort Murphy 22  
Desiree Engram 23  
Joshua Theiss 23  
Brian Schoenfeld 23  
Justin Birdwell 25

Malcolm Delovio 25  
Wesley Schroeder 25  
Marcy Ullmann 25  
Colson Wigley 25  
Megan Hausenfluck 26  
Janie Lueckemeyer 26  
Christi Ouellette 26  
Jimmy Dunn 28

Dolleen Hausenfluck 28  
Sasha Janac 28  
Barbara Smith 28  
Chuck Burgess 29  
Gary Shockey 29  
Caralynda Theiss 29  
Jimmie Pottberg 30  
Jan Robbins 30

### October

Jared Harris 1  
Cheyenne Rountree 1  
Judy Wieghat 2  
Rachel Paholek 3  
Phillip Smith 3  
Cathy Davidson 4  
Hadley Harris 4  
Harper Harris 4

Debbie Smith 4  
Pat Bryson 5  
Alex Nipps 5  
Joyce Samford 5  
Milton Catalina 6  
Kay Carrabba 8  
Diedra Centilli 8  
Tim Donathen 8  
Cindi Hannes 8  
Harper Jackson 8  
Anor Byer 9  
John Clark 10  
Miriam Delovio 10

Valerie Markert 10  
Harper Nored 10  
Dennis Davidson 11  
Madison Murphy 11  
Jude Brown 12  
Allen Hold 12  
Shay Simpson 12  
Abby Murphy 13  
Carli Samford 13  
Heidi Janac 14  
Linda Dalchau 15  
Patti Ellis 15  
Melissa McIlhaney 15

Dorothy Herwald 16  
Trish Nipps 16  
Mark Deike 17  
Alice Holik 18  
Jeff Wheeler 18  
Ben Beyer 20  
Danielle Lustick 21  
Steven Klose 22  
Annette Kissman 23  
Ron Lueck 23  
Milton Reim 23  
Becky Sisco 23  
Katrina Whitten 23



#### THE LUTHERAN HOUR

is on KAGC, 1510 AM on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. sponsored by Bethel. If you would like, you can sponsor a week's broadcast for \$25 or a month for \$100. Thank you to all who have given to this ministry.

**The 2019 Sign Up Chart for The Lutheran Hour** is in the Information Center by the elevator.

**The Lutheran Hour** For the Month of **September** is sponsored to the glory of God by  
**Ken & Bobbie Denmark**



**The 2019 Flower Chart** for Altar flowers is in the Information Center by the elevator. The cost is \$30 per sponsorship and we will accept 3 sponsors each Sunday.

**We are needing more small coffee cans** to help us delivery flowers to our homebound members. Please bring them to the church office or place them in the Sacristy. Thank you.

#### Volunteers Needed

We are looking for more people to help in the A/V Sound booth during worship services. If you would like to volunteer or need more information about this, contact Steve Silber at 324-3529 or email [steve@sksilber.net](mailto:steve@sksilber.net).

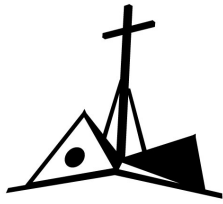
**To All of You, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!** Somehow, just saying "thank you" doesn't seem like enough. But I hope you know how much your kindness has meant to me.

My God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy. Philippians 1:2-4

Dear Bethel Family,

I sincerely thank all of you for the beautiful quilt; daily I am reminded of your love and concern. May the Lord's blessings continue to shower all of mankind.

In Christ's Love, *Millie Parrack*



# Bethel Lutheran Church

4221 Boonville Rd, Bryan, Texas 77802  
Phone: (979) 822-2742 | FAX: (979) 822-4082  
www.BLCbcs.org | office@BLCbcs.org  
Preschool phone: 485-9835 or cell: 446-1578

## Staff:

**Rev. Randall Bard**, Senior Pastor, (979) 422-0046  
**Mr. Jeff Bellach**, Director of Christian Education  
**Mrs. Debbie Sadler**, Dir., Bethel Lutheran Preschool  
**Mrs. Kathy Herwald**, Director of Operations  
**Rev. K. Lynn Stroud**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Mr. Randall Moerbe**, DCE Emeritus  
**Mrs. Ruthann Stroud**, Church Secretary  
**Mrs. Connie Bard**, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
**Mr. Nic Duncan**, Facilities Manager  
**Mrs. Katie Bentley**, Office Assistant  
**Mr. Jeremy Shilling**, *His Praise* Band Leader

## September 19—October 3, 2019



### Join us for .....

#### Saturday Night

Worship at 5PM and Bible Class at 6PM

#### Sunday Mornings

8:30 AM Divine Service (Traditional)

9:30 AM Fellowship Time

10:00 AM Bible Class/SS

11:15 AM Divine Service (Contemporary)

Holy Communion is served on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th weekends of the month.

### Church Office Hours

Mondays—Thursdays	9am - 5pm
Fridays	9am - 3pm