

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

## WEEKLY NEWS

January 3-9, 2010

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### FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Merry and Blessed Christmas! First, let me thank you so much for your gift that my family received this past Sunday. We were extremely humbled and are overwhelmed by your generosity. While it seems a too small thing to say, we want to express to you all a heartfelt, "Thank you!"

We also want to express our thanks at the wonderful way you have made us welcomed into this community of faith. It is amazing to see the commitment to ministry shared within the family of Bella Vista Lutheran, as we seek to serve those around us in our larger community. Your welcome of our family here has made our transition much easier. Your kindness is especially reassuring and heartwarming as we together welcome those around us.

You are indeed the people of God here, planted here for His purpose. You are a great treasure that we thank God for each day. We together are so blessed, and we have opportunity to bless so many others, through what God has given to us.

Our prayer for you continues to be what we believe your prayer for us has been; that, *"just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, you will continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith, and overflowing with thankfulness."* Colossians 2:6 and 7

This Christmas season we join together with all the people of this congregation in celebrating the awesome and precious gift of salvation, sent to us in the very special wrappings of a baby boy. May God richly bless each of you and your families with the wonder of His love during this Christmas season and throughout the coming year!

In Christ,

*Pastor Hass, Camilla, Isaac and David*

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**In Your Prayers,** please include:

**Our Members:** Bill Brauer, Georgia Roy, Becca Ollek, Les Gatchel, Gerry Rath, Dick Hise, Paul Berndt, Lucille Calkins, Elizabeth Rice, Ivan Hirsch

**Condolences** to Lorna Sperl at the loss of her sister, Audrey

**Missions:** Rev. Ted & Jacqueline Englebrecht and Yung Ting; Pastor J. P. Cima in Viet Nam; Our Redeemer-Berryville; Beautiful Savior Lutheran; Hanna House

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**SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR at 9:45 a.m.**

**Children's Sunday School**—ages 2 up to middle school will meet in Classroom A; middle to high school meet in the Library.

**Adult Sunday School**—Exploring God's Word/Old Testament study is still held in Classroom B. The last class will be next Sunday, January 10, 2010. Today is the last day for "What's So Amazing About Grace" class which meets in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Pfluger will lead the Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall on January 10.

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A new **Adult Bible Class** entitled "Who Me, an Evangelist?" will begin January 17 in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Hass as the leader. (For those presently attending "Overview of the Old Testament", please note that this class will be continued at a later date.)

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Please call Aletha Dammann at 855-6739 or the church office at 855-0272 with information for the Prayer Chain.

### THANK YOU

Our thanks to the many volunteers to the Shepherd's Food Pantry. A special thank you to each of you who have donated food and/or money to this project. May you be blessed for your generosity.

The Shepherd's Food Pantry Team

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### ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to place flowers on the Altar to honor a special person, mark a special event, or to glorify God with praise and thanksgiving, please sign up on the flower chart on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The price is still \$35.00.

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### SWAP News

**Ladies, don't forget our workday Wednesday, January 6!** We work from 9:00 a.m. until about 3:30 p.m. This month we will be making cards for the Meals on Wheels recipients along with our cards to sell. There is something for everyone to do so come join us in a day of fellowship and productivity!

**SWAP card sales will be in the narthex next Sunday, January 10.** SWAP has chosen the Ysleta Mission in Mexico as their next recipient of our hand crafted, one-of-a-kind cards. The money raised will help to buy project materials when the team goes in early February. The cards are also available in the office at any other time with payment on the honor system...look for the envelope at the front of one of the boxes to put your payment in. Thanks to those who have returned the clear protective envelopes as this helps to cut down on our costs.

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**LUTHERAN WITNESS** subscriptions are now due. Renewal forms are in your mailbox and extra forms are on the kiosk in the Narthex. The cost is still \$13.00 for the year. Please complete the form and turn into the office ASAP.

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### MINISTRY CONFERENCE IN NW ARKANSAS!!

A Regional Ministry Conference for our area was added to last year's Mid-South District schedule. This conference is Feb. 6, 2010 and will be held at Faith Lutheran Church in Bentonville.

EVERYONE is invited to this conference. The registration fee will be covered by the church so consider this your invitation to attend this FREE Ministry Conference.

The registration form for this conference is a section of the flyer that is in your mailbox. Please complete the Registration Form section and turn it into the church office by Jan. 17, 2010. (Be sure to indicate on the form which 2 breakout sessions you wish to attend.) If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office at 855-0272.

**THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE**

December 27, 2009

Worship	8:30 a.m.	144
	10:45 a.m.	56
Projected for December Budget		\$39,477.00
Received to date		\$35,626.85
Balance needed for December		\$ 3,850.15

- Jan. 4 Irma and Arlo Miesbach
  - Jan. 11 Faye Miskimen and Esther Meier
  - Jan. 18 Bob Hess and Betty Long
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**THE LORD'S WEEK**

**January 3-9, 2010**

**Sunday**

- 8:30 a.m.** Divine Worship w/communion
- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:45 a.m.** Praise Worship

**Monday**

- 9:00 a.m. JOY I—Barbara Hartwig
- 1:00 p.m. Silver Needle Stitchers
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IIA—Marilyn Ernst
- JOY IIB—No Meeting
- JOY IIC—Mary Lou Zuhlke

**Tuesday**

- 8:15 a.m. JOY IIIB—Esther Meier
- 8:30 a.m. JOY IIIA—Ula Biesterfeld
- JOY IIIC—Diana Watts
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IV—Kay Gaudian

**Wednesday**

- 9:00 a.m. Pray—ers
- 9:30 a.m. LWML Quarterly
- 9-3:30 p.m. S.W.A.P.—FH
- 1:00 p.m. JOY VB—Church
- 1:30 p.m. JOY VA—Diane Howard
- 6:00 p.m. Men's Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Mixed Choir

**Thursday**


- 9:00 a.m. JOY IIID—Library
- Friendly Stitchers
- 1:00 p.m. LWML
- 7:00 p.m. SAC III—Bob & Bev Hess

**Friday**

- 10-1 p.m. Shepherd's Food Pantry
- 1:00 p.m. Emling TLC—Dale & Shirley Emling

**Saturday**

**OFFICE HOURS**  
**MONDAY—THUR. 7:30 A.M.—5:00 P.M.**  
**FRIDAY 8:00 A.M.—12 NOON**



**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS** Ephesians 1:3-14: In Jesus God has chosen us to be His followers and children who do the right things for the right reasons and delight in doing so. What an encouragement for us to grow spiritually in our journey of life and use everything God has blessed us with to His glory and the good of those around us.

**Acts 20:28**

*...Be shepherds of the church of God which He bought with His own blood.*

**Proverbs 10:21**

*The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of judgment.*

As good stewards we should go to church as often as we can to be spiritually nourished by our Lord. I once had a church member complain to me that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. He said, "I've gone to church for 30 years now and in that time I have heard about 3,000 sermons. But for the

life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

I thought about that for a little while and answered him with: "You know, I've been married about 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked more than 30,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today." Thank God for our physical and spiritual nourishment! When you are **DOWN** to nothing...**God is UP** to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!

**The Prayer:** Lord, keep me in your steadfast ways and nourish me spiritually that I might grow as a steward of the church. The Stewardship Committee: Bill Scholten, Chair, Stan Crandall, Roy Knafla, Shirley Wiemers

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**NEW PHONE NUMBER:**

Ashley Brightman — 479-616-3218

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**REMEMBER**—If you have changed or are going to **change your phone number**, be sure to notify the church office! We are now using **One Call Now** to notify members of special events, cancellations, etc. If we do not have your **current** phone number, you will not receive these important messages.

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**RAZORBACK WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAME**

YAC III will be going to its annual Razorback Women's Basketball Game on Sunday, February 7th to watch the Women's game against Kentucky. Game time is 2:00 p.m. We will carpool from Highlands Arvest Bank at 12:30 p.m. and/or Allen's at 12:40 p.m. We will be buying reserved tickets at a price of \$4 each. If interested please sign up at the Kiosk no later than Sunday, January 31. Put money in John & June Lear's box. If you have any questions, please call John or June at 876-6923.