

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

## WEEKLY NEWS

January 17-23, 2010

WEB SITE: [www.bvlutheran.com](http://www.bvlutheran.com)

1990 Forest Hills Blvd.  
FAX: 479-876-6097

PHONE: 479-855-0272  
E-MAIL: [bvlutheran@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bvlutheran@sbcglobal.net)

### FROM THE PASTOR

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I want to thank you for your prayers and support this past week as I traveled to and from the Stephen Ministry Leaders Training Conference in Florida. Yes, indeed, by the end of the week the weather in Florida had become much better.

We are blessed at Bella Vista Lutheran to have a vibrant and active Stephen Ministry here at our church, and my trip was in support of this vital ministry. Stephen Ministry is a longstanding organization in our congregation in which trained and supervised lay persons, called Stephen Ministers, provide one to one Christian care to individuals facing life challenges or difficulties.

Stephen Leaders are the ones who oversee and direct our Stephen Ministry. They recruit, select, train, organize, and supervise our Stephen Ministers, identify people in need of care, and match them with a Stephen Minister. Pam Benson is our Senior Stephen Leader. Pam, along with Norm and Thelma Sauer and John Hughes are our current Stephen leaders.

Stephen Ministers are the caregivers. They have been through 50 hours of training in Christian care giving, including topics such as listening, feelings, boundaries, assertiveness, and using Christian resources in care giving. Their training also covers specialized topics such as ministering to the divorced, hospitalized, bereaved, and aging.

Care receivers are the recipients of a Stephen Minister's care. They are people from our church who are experiencing divorce, grief, loss of a job, loneliness, hospitalization, terminal illness, or any of an endless number of other life difficulties. Stephen Ministers usually meet with their care receivers once a week for about an hour for as long as the care receiver will benefit by the relationship.

Stephen Ministers are caring Christian friends who listen, understand, accept, and pray for and with care receivers who are working through a difficult time in their life. Stephen Ministers are not counselors; they are trained lay caregivers. Their role is to listen and care--not to give advice or counsel. Stephen Ministers are also trained to recognize when a care receiver's need exceeds what they can provide. When that happens they work with care receivers to help them receive the level of care they really need.

Trust is essential to a caring relationship, and Stephen Ministers are people you can trust. Confidentiality is one of the most important principles of Stephen Ministry, and what a care receiver tells his or her Stephen Minister is kept in strictest confidence.

If you or someone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, you can talk to Pam Benson, or to me. Either Pam, myself, or any of our Stephen Ministers can also help you receive the care that is requested. If you want to talk about Stephen Ministry for someone else, please make sure you get his or her permission first, always remembering the importance of confidentiality in Stephen Ministry.

This week has been an especially wonderful week of gathering with 379 other Christians to plan, pray and focus on the joy of serving others in Christ's Name.

In Him, *Pastor Hass*

**In Your Prayers**, please include:

**Our Members:** Bill Brauer, Georgia Roy, Becca Ollek, Gerry Rath, Dick Hise, Paul Berndt, Lucille Calkins, Elizabeth Rice, Carol Moldenhauer, Marilyn Ernst, Vera Fenner, Rachel Sanford, Gary Hartwig, Marie Herr, Elaine Schurman, Diana Wickboldt, Ed Barnoski

**Missions:** Rev. Ted & Jacqueline Englebrect and Yung Ting; Pastor J. P. Cima in Viet Nam; Unidos En Cristo-Bethel Heights; Bella Vista Baptist; Lives Under Construction

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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**—"Who Me, an Evangelist?" begins today in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Hass as the leader.

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### PRAYER CONCERNS

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

### THANK YOU

Dear Church Members: Thank you so much for helping us provide Christmas for all the children in foster care in NWA. With your help, we were able to make this the best year yet! Best wishes in the new year  
Shelley Hart-CASA

Helmut and I would like to thank the members of BVLC for the prayers, beautiful cards and condolences after the death of Lorna's sister. We thank our dear Lord that she finally is at peace. What a blessing it is to be members of this caring church.

Lorna & Helmut Spertl

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Dear Members of Bella Vista Lutheran Church,

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the Name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ! Our congregation, as a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, has the opportunity to Nominate Synodical Officers in preparation for the 64th Regular Convention which will be held at the George R. Brown Convention Center, July 10-17, 2010, in Houston, Texas.

Our past practice has been to nominate the current office holders, unless other names are forthcoming from the congregation. In keeping with that past practice here are the names and positions of the current office holders.

<b>President</b>	Gerald B. Kieschnick
<b>First Vice-President</b>	William R. Diekelman
<b>Second Vice-President</b>	Paul L. Maier
<b>Third Vice-President</b>	John C. Wohlrabe, Jr.
<b>Fourth Vice-President</b>	Dean W. Nadasdy
<b>Fifth Vice-President</b>	David D. Buegler

Any member wishing to submit a name, other than the above, should contact the church office no later than January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010. That will allow sufficient time to hold a special meeting, should that become necessary. If no additional nominations are received from the congregation, the above names will be submitted.

BVLC Board of Directors

**THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE**

January 10, 2010

Worship	8:30 a.m.	183
	10:45 a.m.	71
Projected for January Budget		\$38,074.00
Received to date		\$21,705.00
Balance shortage for January		\$16,369.00

- Jan. 18 Bob Hess and Betty Long
  - Jan. 25 Dick Lubeck and Bonnie Quednow
  - Feb. 1 Bob and Shirley Mierendorf
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**THE LORD'S WEEK**  
January 17-23, 2010

**Sunday**

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

**Monday**

- 8:15 a.m. JOY IIIB—Esther Meier
- 9:00 a.m. JOY I—Helen Hise
- 1:00 p.m. Silver Needle Stitchers
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IIA—Nancy Manos
- JOY IIB—Curly Baehr
- JOY IIC—Cheryl Cardin

**Tuesday**

- 8:30 a.m. JOY IIIA—Shirley Swenson
- JOY IIIC—Diana Watts
- 9:00 a.m. Life Light—FH
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IV—Samaritan Center

**Wednesday**

- 9:00 a.m. Pray—ers
- 1:00 p.m. JOY VB—Classroom B
- 1:30 p.m. JOY VA—Sharon Longnecker
- 5:30 p.m. Parent's Night Out
- 6:00 p.m. Men's Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Mixed Choir

**Thursday**

- 9:00 a.m. Friendly Stitchers
- Sonshiners
- JOY IIID—Library
- 12:30 p.m. Bridge
- 2:30 p.m. Highland Rehab

**Friday**

- 10-1 p.m. Shepherd's Food Pantry

**Saturday**

**OFFICE HOURS**

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

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**NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

John & Kathy Hughes: jdhkrhmn@cox.net



**Stewardship**  
a way of life

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY** 1 Corinthians 12:1-11: As God's stewards we are not all the same with the same gifts. Rather, each of us has been blessed with different gifts so that we may work together as parts of one body—the body of Christ. Our stewardship involves using our time, spiritual gifts and financial resources to make a difference in the lives of those around us.

**PASTOR HASS**  
**STEPHEN MINISTRY-**  
**COMMISSIONING**

Pastor Hass has completed Stephen Ministry Leadership Training this past week. We are thankful for his commitment to this valuable asset for our congregation. Today he will be commissioned as a Stephen Ministry Leader by Pastor Ron Pfluger. His training will give him a good understanding of the Stephen Ministry program and how it may be enhanced and utilized at Bella Vista Lutheran Church. Please lift up Pastor Hass, our Stephen

Leaders and our Stephen Ministers in your prayers, asking that God bless their ministry and work through them to bring hope and healing to those they are serving in our congregation and in our community.

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**MINISTRY CONFERENCE IN NW ARKANSAS!!**

A Regional Ministry Conference is scheduled for Feb. 6 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 is in your mailbox. Complete the appropriate 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.

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**Life Light Bible Study**

The Life Light Bible Study of Galatians/Philippians/Colossians has been delayed one week and will start on Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall. If you were planning to attend but haven't registered, there is still time. Just show up on Tuesday morning! It is a nine week study and you are welcome to join us from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. each Tuesday

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**Razorback Women's Basketball Game**

Sign up at the Kiosk by Sunday, January 31 for the Annual Razorback Women's Basketball Game on Sunday, February 7 when they play Kentucky @ 2:00 P.M. Ticket prices are only \$4 each. Questions, please call John or June Lear on 876-6923.

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