

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

## WEEKLY NEWS

January 31-February 6, 2010

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### FROM THE PASTOR

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

In this week's lessons the Epistle stands out. It is the so very familiar words of Paul, in that oft quoted thirteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians: in the words of songsmiths from another generation, All You Need Is Love. While the Beatles are on the Hass household's regular playlist, I think some clarification is in order.

Chapter 13 of the First Epistle to the Corinthians is on the subject of love, principally the love that Christians should have for everyone. In the original Greek, the word *αγαπη* (*agape* - sacrificial love) is used throughout. This is translated into English as *charity* in the King James Version; but the word *love* is preferred by most other translations, both earlier and more recent.

So what is Paul of Tarsus telling us? 1 Corinthians illuminates the early church's efforts to define itself, not only in terms of doctrine, but also allegiances to spiritual leaders such as Peter, Paul, Apollos, and Jesus. The point of this text seems to answer the question, "Who is a real Christian, and who is not?" A significant portion of the preceding chapter (1 Corinthians 12:1-10) focuses on the issue of spiritual gifts, and there appears to have been interpersonal conflicts based upon the possession of such gifts, including speaking in tongues or prophecy. Paul tells his readers that they may have all the gifts of the Holy Spirit, but unless they first have love, these gifts mean nothing. (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

Paul defines *agape*, as the concept of selfless love. Love is tolerant, kind, free of pride, is unselfish, is not overly sensitive or resentful. Love hates evil, it is honest, it protects, has faith in God and trusts His righteousness. Love hopes, perseveres, and triumphs. Paul tells us that *agape* is greater than either faith or hope. That last part has always bothered me until I read why Paul speaks this way. There is a Day coming where we will no longer operate by faith, because on that great and glorious Day we will see our Savior face to face. On that Day all of our hopes will be forever fulfilled. Yet on that Day, and for eternity to follow, we will abide in love.

This love, this *agape*, is what our Lord has gifted each of us with, on purpose, for His purpose: To connect others to Him, to grow into the people He wishes us to be, and to serve others in His name. In Him, **Pastor Hass**

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**In Your Prayers**, please include:

**Our Members:** Bill Brauer, Georgia Roy, Becca Ollek, Paul Berndt, Lucille Calkins, Elizabeth Rice, Marilyn Ernst, Rachel Sanford, Gary Hartwig, Marie Herr, Elaine Schurman, Ed Barnoski, Greta Thiele, Lois Rath, Carol Conrad, Walt Ney

**Missions:** Rev. Ted & Jacqueline Englebrecht and Yung Ting; Pastor J. P. Cima in Viet Nam; Ysleta Mission Team; St. John's Lutheran-Fayetteville; Bella Vista Church of the Nazarene; Korean School Ministry

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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? No Way!" continues in the Fellowship Hall. In this study, we will examine

how to engage unbelievers through acts of service; how to communicate in relevant ways, especially to younger people; and how to find ways to be more open.

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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

Thank you to all the people at Bella Vista Lutheran Church who prayed for me when my husband of 69 years went to his heavenly home. It was a great comfort to read the list of names of the many kind, Christian people who were praying for me. God bless all of you.  
Harriett Moore

Thanks to all who brought the variety of foods to us and to the Gruhns and Baehrs for keeping Bill company while I attended my mom's funeral in Booneville, Arkansas. Thanks for all prayers, monetary gifts and offers to help us. God answers prayers! Thank God for our Bella Vista congregation. "Beautiful view" has to be inside our church as well as outside!  
Bill and Mary Brauer

I want to thank you, my church family, for offering up prayers to our great healer for my son, Don. We are so thankful for his improvement and realize there will be a long and slow recovery. I draw strength from knowing that Don is in your prayers. A special thank you to Pastor Hass for his comforting support. May God's blessings be to each of you.  
Verna McCaffrey

Thank you for your prayers, the get-well cards, phone calls and visits following my recent surgery. The power of prayer is awesome and your loving concerns are very touching. God bless you all.  
Carol Moldenhauer

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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 24, 2010

Worship	8:30 a.m.	192
	10:45 a.m.	72
Projected for January Budget		\$38,074.00
Received to date		\$37,856.85
Balance needed for January		\$ 217.15

- Feb. 1 Bob and Shirley Mierendorf
  - Feb. 8 Carol Sanders and Lorna Sperl
  - Feb. 15 John and Kathy Hughes
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**THE LORD'S WEEK**

**January 31-February 6, 2010**

**Sunday**

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

**Monday**

- 8:15 a.m. JOY IIIB—Peggy Olmstead
- 9:00 a.m. JOY I—LuAnn Roy
- 1:00 p.m. Silver Needle Stitchers
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IIA—Doris Mentink
- JOY IIB—Margaret Gruhn
- JOY IIC—Bev Effinger
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

**Tuesday**

- 8:30 a.m. JOY IIIA—Kae Knutson
- 9:00 a.m. Life Light—FH
- 1:15 p.m. S.W.A.P.—Brookfield Assisted Living
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IV—Lois Sullivan
- 3:45 p.m. S.W.A.P.—Boys & Girls Club

**Wednesday**

- 9:00 a.m. Pray—ers
- JOY IIIC—Judy Walker
- 9-3:30 p.m. S.W.A.P.—FH
- 9:30 a.m. LWML Quarterly
- 1:00 p.m. JOY VB—Classroom B
- 1:30 p.m. JOY VA—Dearl Graupner
- 6:15 p.m. Men's Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Mixed Choir

**Thursday**

- 9:00 a.m. Friendly Stitchers
- 1:00 p.m. LWML

**Friday**

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

**Saturday**

- 9-3:30 p.m. Ministry Conference at Faith in Bentonville
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**OFFICE HOURS**

**MONDAY—THUR. 7:30 A.M.—5:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY 8:00 A.M.—12 NOON**

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Want to see what BVLC activities took place in 2009? The **CHURCH HISTORY BOOK** is now located in the Church library.



**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY** 1 Corinthians 31b-13:13: In our Epistle reading Paul states that he was once a child, talked like a child, thought like a child and reasoned like a child. But God's Spirit moved him to mature as God's child and steward. This same miraculous change is taking place in our lives as we give evidence through words and actions that we are blessed to be blessings to others.

**ATTENTION LADIES**

The LWML meeting on February 4th at 1 p.m. will feature B.V. Fire Capt. Steve Sims. He will be speaking about specific issues for seniors regarding Fire Safety. **For reservations, contact June Lear, 876-6923 today, Jan. 31.**

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**SWAP** will be meeting on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to make cards to sell on February 14<sup>th</sup> and to make the kits for the Boys and Girls Club for March. Please come join in our fellowship...if you don't make cards, we will find a job for you! Bring your

lunch if you plan to spend the day.

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**Meals on Wheels**

A big thank you to each and every one of you who volunteered to deliver meals to the shut-ins in January. This was an unusual month with weather prohibiting some deliveries, but you all were 'ready to go' if and when we were able to deliver them.

We are so thankful for each of you.

Irma Miesbach and Muriel Albers, co-chairmen

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**Razorback Women's Basketball Game**

**TODAY** is the last day to sign up at the Kiosk for the Annual Razorback Women's Basketball Game on Sunday, February 7 vs Kentucky @ 2:00 P.M. Join 35+ friends at the game for only \$4 for each ticket. Pay John Lear today, January 31. If you have questions, please call John or June Lear at 876-6923.

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**HELPING HAITI**

Thrivent Financial has announced a 50% matching gift for contributions up to a maximum of \$250.00 per Thrivent member donation. Donations will be accepted through March 31, 2010. Choose one of the following for your donation:

- Lutheran World Relief
- ELCA Disaster Response
- LCMS World Relief/Human Care
- WELS Committee on Relief

Make your check out to the specific agency you have chosen, on the memo line write in "Helping Haiti" and send directly to: Thrivent 4321 N. Ballard Road Appleton, WI. 54919. Thrivent will send the check on to the appropriate agency. To donate over the phone, call 800-236-3736 between 7 a.m. & 6 p.m. Central time. When prompted, say "directory" and enter ext. 83003.

The Mid-South District LCMS Office is also acting as a collection point for monetary contributions. To contribute in this manner put your donation in a "Special Offering" envelope, make checks out to BVLC, indicate "Haiti Relief" on the memo line and place in the offering. These will be collected and one check sent to the district office.