

BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Dec. 6-12, 2020
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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This year, the holy evangelist St. Mark leads us through a new Church Year. He does not, however, greet us as we might expect. For one thing, he seems to have forgotten all about Christmas! At least Matthew and Luke tell of Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger and of angels and shepherds. But Mark? While Christmas is the earthly “beginning” of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, this preacher means that his entire Gospel, the whole biblical story, is but “the beginning of the Gospel.”

It is as if Mark means to say that John the Baptist’s call to repentance comes to us *In the middle of things*, that is, in the middle of everything else, in the middle of the biblical story and in the middle of our lives and activities, right now.

Mark is in effect saying, “*Stop what you’re doing. Repent again and welcome the Greater One, Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*” The Christian faith, and living life as a Christian, is nothing short of a life of continual repentance and faith.

We watch and listen as our Lord comes to us again, now, by His Spirit in His Word and Sacraments.

In Him, Pastor Hass

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please call the church office at 855-0272 with information for the Prayer Chain.

Prayers, please include:

Our Members: Marcella and Carroll Casey, Shirley Peshek, Neil Vanderbush, Verna McCaffrey, Chuck and Katie Scherz, Jan Poe, Doug Petersan, Jessica Anderson, Barbara Hartwig, Jim Breen, Nita McKelvey, Stan Isaacson, Sharon Crandall, Arlo Miesbach, Pat McKelvey, Harlene Meyer, Rhonda Butz

Missions: Pastor J.P. Cima—Cambodia; Pastor JD Zischke—Restoration Church—Fayetteville; Confidential Caregivers; Bella Vista Community Church; Faith Lutheran Church—Bentonville

LUTHERAN HOUR

Listen to the Lutheran Hour each Sunday over radio station KURM-FM (100.3) or KURM-AM (790) at 12:30 p.m. Today’s program is “Seek My Face” with speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We sometimes hear the voice before we see the face that goes with it. Seek God’s face where you hear God’s Word. (Daniel)

THANKS

Our sincere thanks to so many of you who sent sympathy cards after the recent passing of our dear mother, Lucille Burkett.
Ron & Sonja Burkett

A *Thank You* from June Hanson’s family to her Bella Vista Lutheran Church family. June’s church family meant so much to her. The church provided her with a sense of belonging, purpose, love and happiness and so much more. June lived a Christian life. You were all too special to her. Blessings to all, Mary Bergan and family

EDUCATION HOUR SCHEDULE

Fellowship Hall—120 Bible Stories series led by Pastor Gorshe

Chapel Meeting Room—Parenting Class. This DVD series is a very professional, fun and engaging Bible Study enhancing your parenting skills. You will follow along with your own workbook.

Library—Christianity 101—Pastor Hass leads this class which will discuss what we believe, teach and confess as Lutherans, and especially how this congregation seeks to be a missionary enterprise in northwest Arkansas.

Confidential Caregiving Class—Jack Grober will lead this class which will meet in the Multi-Purpose Room

All children and teen youth will have Sunday School Classes downstairs in their appropriate classroom.

SHEPHERD’S FOOD PANTRY

The Shepherd’s Food Pantry, as a precaution for the month of December, will be operating as a drive through pantry due to the concern with rising case numbers. We will be distributing a special Christmas bag along with their regular food distribution. We hope and pray to be able to return to person to person operation in the new year.

A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk for table decorators in the Fellowship Hall for 2021. The sheet has a brief explanation with months. Please help.

There are decorations in the left front closet in the Fellowship Hall to use or add to, or you can do your own thing! There is a small budget available.

Questions? Call Irma Miesbach at 479-619-7511.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2021 offering envelopes are on a table near the Fellowship Hall entrance. Please be sure to pick up your envelopes for next year.

LUTHERAN WOMEN’S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



MITE BOX and GENERAL FUND BOX are on the kiosk today. Ballots for charities to receive our Christmas Stocking contributions have been placed in mailboxes. Please prayerfully consider your six choices and return the ballot and your money one of the next two Sundays.

THE LORD'S WEEK

Dec. 6-12, 2020

Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. **Divine Worship Service w/communion**
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship
- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:45 a.m. **Blended Worship**
- 12:30 p.m. Lutheran Hour KURM-FM (100.3) or KURM-AM (790)

Monday

- 9:30 a.m. JOY I—Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Caregivers Support Group—Library
- 6:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study—Camilla Hass

Tuesday

- 9:00 a.m. JOY IIIC—Chapel
- JOY IIIA—Library
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IV — Barb Dahl

Wednesday

- 1:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study—Classroom 3
- JOY VB—Multi Purpose Room
- 6:00 p.m. Advent Service
- 6:45 p.m. Confirmation/Midweek classes
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study—Classroom 3

Thursday

9-12 Noon Shepherd's Food Pantry Setup

Friday

10-12 Noon Shepherd's Food Pantry

Saturday

NEXT SUNDAY December 13, 2020

- 8:30 a.m. **Divine Worship Service**
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship
- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:45 a.m. **Blended Worship w/communion**
- 12:30 p.m. Lutheran Hour KURM-FM (100.3) or KURM-AM (790)

LESSONS FOR SUNDAY—December 13, 2020

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

NEW ADDRESS: Vern Gruhn
 P. O. Box 423
 Pineville, MO. 64856

Men's Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, December 9th at noon
 Meeting at Razorback Pizza [by Macadoodles]
 For information call Loren at 855-3400
 or Bill at 621-3737

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Stewardship



2 Peter 3:11—"Since all these things are thus to be dissolved what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness..." All the things of earth have an expiration date: "Good Until the Last Day." On that Day, all these things will be dissolved. The things that seem so important now will simply cease to be. Peter issues this to us as a challenge. Since this is so, what kind of life should we be living? What should your priorities be? On things? Or on the things of God?

CONFIDENTIAL CAREGIVING PRAYER TIME



The *Prayer Time* prayer requests are in the card holders on the backs of the pews. Completed prayer requests can be placed in the marked boxes at the back of the church or at the Welcome Center. The requests are collected after the service, and Confidential Caregivers pray and then shred the requests immediately after the prayer. All requests are kept confidential. You can be as general or as specific as you want. God knows the needs before we even ask.

If you have any questions about Confidential Caregiving, please contact a leader, Jack Grober, Pastor Gorshe or Marie Parvi.

CONFIDENTIAL CAREGIVING CLASS

Another session of Confidential Caregiving begins today, December 6, 2020. Training will be held during the Bible Class hour in the Multi-Purpose Room. .

Confidential Caregiving is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place here at Bella Vista Lutheran Church. Confidential Caregiving training equips and empowers lay caregivers to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

Confidential Caregiving lessons are open to anyone who wishes to learn skills to help them minister to others in need. Participation in this class does not require you to become a member of the Confidential Caregiving team.

Please speak to Jack Grober, Pastor Gorshe or Marie Parvi if you have any questions.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

will have our first meeting on December 7th at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. Those of you who provide care for loved ones are welcome to attend. Call Diana Wickboldt, 479-202-2417 with questions.