

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

January 10-16, 2021  
WEBSITE: www.bvlutheran.com

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our Gospel lesson takes us to the wilderness today where John is preaching and teaching the people. It is no accident that this is the place where Jesus begins His ministry. God's people have often found themselves wandering in the wilderness. You and I experience a wilderness wandering of sorts because of our sinful flesh. Where is God when we are in the wilderness? He's right there in the midst of it all.

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. At Jesus' Baptism, God the Father speaks from heaven, revealing Jesus to be His beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descends in the form of a dove. All three persons of the Trinity make their presence known at Jesus' Baptism. All three persons of the Trinity made their presence known at our Baptism as well as we are revealed to be God's beloved children.

God was with His children, Israel, in the wilderness as a pillar of fire by night and cloud by day. He was giving them water to drink from a rock, feeding them manna, and rescuing them from deadly snakes. He chose to be with them in their wilderness wandering. He chose us in our Baptism and is with us, for the sake of Christ, every day of our wilderness wandering. In Him, Pastor Gorshe

## 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, Stan Isaacson, Arlo Miesbach, Harlene & Richard Meyer, Wes Pulst, Bill Stuckenbroker, Vicki Hoskins, Pat & Bob Eckart, Bettye Deppeler, Nancy Larson, Howard & Barb Harlson, Claryce Thomas, Shirley Swenson, Jack & Denise Kilsdonk, Bonnie Whiting, Fred Schaap, Rhonda Butz

**Condolences** to Nancy Larson at the loss of her brother, Leonard and her sister, Virginia

**Missions:** Pastor J.P. Cima—Cambodia; Pastor JD Zischke—Restoration Church—Fayetteville; Lives Under Construction; Judson American Baptist; First Lutheran—Harrison

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## THANK YOU

Bethany and I would like to thank the members of Bella Vista Lutheran Church for their kindness and concern, as well as prayers last week as we had a little emergency with Linley. She is doing fine now, but we are awaiting some test results, so we are still seeking your prayers. Thanks especially to Officer Paul for getting the ambulance here, for Deb Raymond for praying for us as we waited, Marie Parvi for offering medical wisdom, for Pastor Hass and Camilla for buying pizza for the rest of our crew as we went to the hospital, and for Megan McDonald and Heather Turner for spending the whole afternoon taking care of our brood! We are SO blessed to be part of BVLC.  
Pastor and Bethany Gorshe

## EDUCATION HOUR SCHEDULE

**Fellowship Hall**—120 Bible Stories series led by Pastor Gorshe

**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**—Marie Parvi 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.

## THE SHEPHERD'S FOOD PANTRY

Happy New Year!

Blessings and thanksgiving to all of you! And thank you for your prayers and continued support of the food pantry. We will currently continue as a 'drive through' food pantry. We cannot do what we do without you!

Psalm 23:6 (ESV) <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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## THANK YOU

The Gorshe family would like to thank the members of BVLC for the amazingly generous gift we received on Christmas Eve. We are truly blessed by this congregation and by our Lord who brought us to such a wonderful place!

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## 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



Now that we have placed our first coin in our Christmas stocking for 2021, let us continue to pray for those who received our money from our 2020 collection. This month keep Loving Choices - Pregnancy resource center offering services at no cost to teenagers and adult women who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies, in our prayers.

**THE LORD'S WEEK**

January 10-16, 2021

**Sunday**

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

**Monday**

- 6:00 p.m. Confidential Caregiving Mtg.

**Tuesday**

- 5:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

**Wednesday**

- 12:00 noon Men's Bunch Lunch
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation/Midweek Classes

**Thursday**

**Friday**

- 10-12 Noon Shepherd's Food Pantry

**Saturday**

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**NEXT SUNDAY January 17, 2021**

- 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)

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**LESSONS FOR SUNDAY—January 17, 2021**

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

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**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 "The Backstory Behind a Bible 'Contradiction' " with speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When you open yourself up to hearing the backstory behind the apparent contradiction, you may encounter what the Bible is all about. (Mark 2:13-20)

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**S.W.A.P.**

SWAP's beautiful, handcrafted, all-occasion greeting cards continue to be on sale inside the front door to Linda's office.

Since I am canceling our Wednesday workdays and Sunday sales days until further notice, I hope you will think to use us as a source when you want a card. We will continue to make cards at home, so new ones will be added regularly.

Thank you and bless you for all your support.  
Bettye Deppeler

**THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**Stewardship**



Mark 1:7—"And (John) preached, saying, 'After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.' " John is right. Jesus is immensely greater than any of us, yet behold how He came to serve! That is the upside down, outlandish grace of God. The innocent Jesus takes our sinner's place. This is the greatest act of giving the world has ever known or will know. The Father gives His Son to die in the place of sinners.

**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.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

This is notice of a single agenda item Congregational Meeting **TODAY**, in the Fellowship Hall between services. This meeting is regarding the potential of delaying the 2022 Synodical Convention to 2023.

As a Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod moves into 2021, it is normal in this year of our regular triennium to conduct a District Convention in each one of the synods 35 Districts. Due to the pandemic, there are several states, in the northeast and on the west coast of our country, that do not at present have the legal opportunity to schedule any large public gatherings in 2021. Since the business conducted at District conventions precedes the Synodical Convention, the Board of Directors for the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod has asked congregations to consider the question of moving the date of the next convention from 2022 to 2023.

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**MEN'S BUNCH LUNCH**

Wednesday, January 13th at noon  
Meet at Razorback Pizza by Macadoodles  
Hope to see you there!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
For information call Loren at 855-3400  
or Bill at 621-3737