

BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

1990 Forest Hills Blvd.
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April 26—May 2, 2020
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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Today we are surrounded by special sights. Spring is here; the flowers and trees are blooming! All of us that can see these changes are blessed and reminded that we ought to be thankful to the One that created such beauty and renewal. We are most blessed in seeing our Lord present in the Sacrament, hidden under the forms of bread and wine. The hiddenness of Jesus was experienced by two disciples on the road to Emmaus. But ultimately, their eyes were opened, and they beheld the risen Savior.

In worship, we seek to see Him as He chooses to be known to us, in the hearing of His Word.

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, Fran Bloomer, Lillian Pingel, Craig Peterson, Shirley Peshek, Libby Dreier, Neil Vanderbush, Verna McCaffrey, Mike Dwyer, Marlys Rembold, Tracy See, LuAnn Roy, Helen Weeks, Chuck and Katie Scherz, Jan Poe, Carol Ann Honeywell, Denny Gast, Paul VandenBerge, Bev Effinger, Bonnie Whiting, Deb Raymond, Doug Petersan

Missions: Pastor J. P. Cima—Cambodia; Pastor JD Zischke-Restoration Church—Fayetteville; Hispanic Ministry; St. Theodore's Episcopal Church; St. John's Lutheran Church—Fayetteville

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 Great Pursuit" with guest speaker Pastor Ryan Tinetti. Being pursued is a terrifying place to be. And, unfortunately, we all live there. But the good news is that we're not the only ones being pursued. You and I have a Lord Who pursues the pursuer. We have a Savior Who will not let the enemy of His people have the last word. (Exodus 15)

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Stewardship **1 Peter 1:18-19** —“Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious Blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.” We have been ransomed —bought back from the slavery into which we were born. We do not belong to ourselves, or to the devil, or to the world. We belong to Jesus. Therefore, we live our lives not in accordance with our own wisdom but in line with God's Word.



THE SHEPHERD'S FOOD PANTRY

Please know that our Shepherd's Food Pantry is capable of providing food for someone who is in a food emergency. Call the church office at 855-0272 and let us know of your need, and we will help you.

1 Corinthians 10:31b (ESV) “whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Thank you so much for your generosity with your mites in April. According to the *League Letter*, we are very near completing this biennium's Mission Grant goals, so keep those mites coming so we can complete the current goals and get a head start on next biennium's grants. With next Sunday being the first one in May, please consider including a donation to Mites and the LWML general fund as you make your contribution to church. Linda will keep the donations in the office for our treasurer to pick up and deposit. Our District *League Letter* is now available by going to "midsouthlwml.org" and click on the three bars in the upper right hand corner. From there go down to "Publications" and "League Letters."



THANK YOU

Bella Vista Lutheran Church Family and I do mean family,

I have been in many churches across the country and even started out in college to be a Missouri Synod schoolteacher and never in my life have I run into a family like the Bella Vista Church Family.

Living so many miles away, I never once worried about my beautiful mother and years ago my father. I knew that they were part of a family that helps each other, looks out for each other, worships together and loves each member of that family.

When I would visit, I was welcomed with open arms and depended on that spiritual nourishment, not having a church within 100 miles of where I live.

When I would call my mom there was always a discussion as to the many outreach activities that were going on at the church. Even though she was alone, she had church family to laugh, cry, and socialize with.

The last three weeks have been full of stress, joy, hardships, friends, family, and support that there is no way to express its importance. Mom was not pushing people away; she was using every ounce of strength she had to go to heaven and celebrate the joy of eternal life.

I cannot tell you how much it meant to know that all I had to do was text or pick up a phone and a member of the Bella Vista Church family was there to help in any way they could. For me personally this was such a blessing that it made the darkest times bearable.

I am not going to thank everyone personally since I would surely forget someone, but thank you for being there, thank you for your prayers, thank you for checking in, thank you for the food, and most of all, thank you for being the most important part of my mom's family.

When the virus calms down, we are planning on having a memorial service at the church.

I just want you to know that without your love and support we could not have gone through this. Mom knew you were there and drew on your Christian family strength to get through.

I share the joy of eternal peace and life everlasting with each one of you.

God's Blessings, Becky Austill (Ruth Bruch's daughter)

Psalm 136:1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever." During my recent surgeries and recoveries, thank you for your support and comfort from Pastor Hass, Pastor Gorshe, and my church family and friends. Most important to me have been your prayers! God bless you all for your visits, the prayer shawl, calls, cards, food, and kindness. It is a blessing to be a part of the BVLC family.

Carol Ann Honeywell