

BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Dec. 20-26, 2020
WEBSITE: www.bvlutheran.com

PHONE: 479-855-0272
E-MAIL: office@bvlutheran.com

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We stand at the threshold not only of an old and familiar story but also that of an old yet familiar mystery, the greatest mystery ever!

It does not appear on any list of greatest novels or plays written by earthly authors. It is the mystery of God. More specifically, it is the mystery of His love for the salvation of the world.

But, as we review and contemplate this mystery, the mystery of God sending His only Son who takes on our humanity, being born of the Virgin Mary, we also recall the mystery of how He looks over your shoulder right now in the retelling and hearing of the Christmas narrative.

The greatest part of this mystery is that you not only know the old, familiar story but also that you believe it. And believing brings about the best mystery of all, that your sins are forgiven, that you have a new, eternal life, that you are forever a child, a son, a daughter born of God. The Gospel, the very wisdom and mystery of God, is not a secret. For it is told by your own mouth singing of God's love and salvation in Jesus Christ!

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, Stan Isaacson, Arlo Miesbach, Harlene Meyer, Rhonda Butz, Wes Pulst, Bill Stuckenbroker, Vicki Hoskins, Bettye Deppeler, Katy Krause, Nancy Larson, Howard Harlson

Missions: Pastor J.P. Cima—Cambodia; Pastor JD Zischke—Restoration Church—Fayetteville; Friendly Stitchers; Fellowship Missionary Baptist; Unidos En Cristo-Springdale

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 "Experience God" with speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We will never fully grasp the idea of God, but that doesn't keep us from experiencing God's love for us in Christ. (John 1:1-18)

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the kind words and cards after the death of my brother, Jim. They were all much appreciated.

Vern Howard.

EDUCATION HOUR SCHEDULE

**THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
WILL BE HELD DURING THE EDUCATION
HOUR TODAY IN THE SANCTUARY.**

PLEASE JOIN US!

THE SHEPHERD'S FOOD PANTRY

Merry Christmas!

We sincerely thank you for all your support given to the pantry. We have truly been blessed to have the help of our congregation and community, thus making us a blessing to those who come to us in need. In these uncertain times, so many have stepped up, showing their love and giving unselfishly. We couldn't be there for others if it weren't for our giving and sharing friends. We and you are *The Shepherd's* instruments.

Christmas Blessings, The Shepherd's Food Pantry

Luke 2:11 (KJV) For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.

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



This is the last Sunday the BOOT to deposit your Christmas Stocking donations will be on the kiosk. And the BALLOT BOX to vote on which six charities will receive our donations is on the shelf under the mailboxes M-Z. There are Christmas stockings on the kiosk also if you are new or just want a new stocking. The instructions are inside.

THE LORD'S WEEK
December 20-26, 2020

Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. **Divine Worship Service w/communion**
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship
- 9:45 a.m. Children's Christmas Program
- 10:45 a.m. **Blended Worship**
- 12:30 p.m. Lutheran Hour KURM-FM (100.3) or KURM-AM (790)
- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drive Through Christmas Story

Monday

- 9:30 a.m. JOY I—Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study-Camilla Hass
- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drive Through Christmas Story

Tuesday

- 9:00 a.m. JOY IIIC—Chapel
- JOY IIIA—Library
- 1:30 p.m. JOY IV — Not meeting

Wednesday

- 1:00 p.m. JOY VB—Multi Purpose Room
- 6:45 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Friday

- 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service

Saturday

NEXT SUNDAY December 27, 2020

- 8:30 a.m. **Divine Worship Service**
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship
- 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 27, 2020

- Isaiah 61:10-62:3
- Galatians 4:4-7
- Luke 2:22-40

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT



2 Samuel 7:4 — “But that same night the Word of the Lord came to Nathan...” Nathan thought David’s idea was great, so he blessed it with the Lord’s name. But, later that night, the Word of the Lord set him straight. The Word of the Lord must be the basis for what we think, say, and do in God’s Kingdom—not our own desires or whims.

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.

S.W.A.P.

SWAP card sale is cancelled for TODAY. I apologize for having to do this. You can purchase these handcrafted cards that are always on sale in the entryway to the church at Linda’s office. Thank you for your continued support.

Bettye Deppeler

Merry Christmas

And

God's Peace to You and Yours

in Jesus Christ!