

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

March 22-28, 2020  
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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our text for today tells the wonderful story of a man, blind from birth, miraculously receiving sight. What a great story! *"I was blind, but now I see!"* Jesus gave that man this wonderful story to tell and sends him out to tell it. This is our story, too. We were blind and dead because of our sin before God the Father sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to suffer and die for us. He gives us the Gospel as a powerful story to tell, and He has sent us to be His Great Commission church to *"Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."* We too, are sent!

In Him, *Pastor Gorshe*

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## 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, Clarice Gnuse, Tracy See, LuAnn Roy, Helen Weeks, Chuck and Katie Scherz, Jan Poe, Ron Fant, Carol Ann Honeywell, Denny Gast, Bill Stuckenbroker, Ruth Bruch, Paul VandenBerge, Ron Burkett

**Missions:** Pastor J. P. Cima—Cambodia; Pastor JD Zischke—Restoration Church-Fayetteville; Stamped With A Prayer Ministry; Heritage Baptist Church of Bella Vista

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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 "They Bloom Later" with speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The weed is a stubborn thing, pushing its way up through a crack in the sidewalk. The human heart is a stubborn thing, insisting on going its own way. Dr. Michael Zeigler says God is stubborn, too. (Exodus 9)

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## THANK YOU

Thank you to our church family for the visits, prayers, and cards when I was in the hospital last week. A special thank you to Pastor Hass and Pastor Gorshe for their visits. Thank you, Linda, for putting me on the prayer chain. Prayers do get answered. The caring shown by the BVLC family is amazing. Thank you everyone. George Alter

I want to thank everyone for your prayers and cards. And to Pastor Gorshe for his visits to the hospital and to the Women's Mission for the prayer shawl. God Bless, Byrdine Pickart

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

### **Stewardship**



**Psalm 142:5—"I cry to You, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.'"** The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, and He is in control. We can follow His Word in confidence.

## THE SHEPHERD'S FOOD PANTRY

Dear Church Family,

A great BIG thank you to all who helped collect "Best Choice" bar codes for the pantry. So far, with your help, we have redeemed \$240 worth of codes and are well on our way to more rewards. Good job!!!

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

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## AS WE GATHER IN THIS SEASON OF LENT

Unless we are especially environmentally minded, we may care only about the trees we see on a daily basis. Although we may not see them every day, the Bible's trees are nonetheless relevant to us. In fact, considering them helps us realize why we need a Savior, how God provided a Savior for us in the person of Jesus Christ, and how the saved lives of repentant believers look. During this repentant season of Lent, we consider "Living Among the Bible's Trees." There we realize that although the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil renders us by nature blind, dead, and enemies of God, the fruit of Christ's tree brings us light, life, and salvation.

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## THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE

March 15, 2020

Divine Worship Service 148  
Blended Worship Service 88

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## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



Due to concern over current health issues, it has been decided to cancel our **LWML GENERAL MEETING** on April 2 completely.

We will miss the fellowship with everyone but want to be safe.

Given that we have never operated in a pandemic situation before, we ask that everyone be patient as we grow and develop the ability to continue doing ministry at Bella Vista Lutheran Church without actually meeting at the church.

We have been advised to discontinue meeting in groups of ten people or more, which basically affects every ministry opportunity that we have.

Sunday, March 22 will be a normal Sunday with two worship services and the Sunday School hour.

Starting Monday, March 23, the church building will be closed.

Therefore, all activities at the church are cancelled effective March 23 with the short-term exception of the regular church staff.

Starting with the next Lenten Wednesday worship service on March 25, all worship services will be broadcast via the internet, or recorded for those without internet, on a DVD.

Below is a list of various church events and their status:

- Sunday school for children – Parents to receive weekly lessons to lead at home with the children
- Teen Group classes – Phillip Mevert to lead weekly sessions on-line.
- Teen group monthly Bible Study – On hold
- Various Bible Studies at the church - Cancelled
- Quilting, etc. groups - Cancelled
- Easter Egg Hunt - Cancelled
- Car Show – On hold
- VBS – On hold, may move to a later date if possible.
- Fellowship Hall Bible Study – On hold, may develop something in the future
- Children’s message during worship service – Will continue but not on March 29, will start up on April 5
- Mentors in schools and all school functions - Cancelled
- Youth Group Lock-in for March 20 – On schedule
- **In home Bible Studies and gatherings – None greater than ten people**
- Pastor Hass’ Confirmation class of four: – Confirmation rite on hold until regular church services resume
- Pastor Gorshe’ 6<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation class and Chuck Merriman’s 5<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation class, will hold the final two classes via video recording or a live internet platform.
- Food Pantry – Closed starting the week of March 23.

If you have any questions, please advise.

Blessings,  
Pastor Hass: 479-685-2416  
Pastor Gorshe: 479-295-1416  
Chuck Merriman: 479-644-0374