

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dec. 23-29, 2018

WEB SITE: [www.bvlutheran.com](http://www.bvlutheran.com)

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the Gospel lesson today, Mary, already pregnant with Jesus, meets with her aunt Elizabeth. Elizabeth is pregnant with the one who will be called John the Baptist. Still in his mother's womb, John recognizes Jesus at the voice of His mother!

Jesus' incarnation is so profound that it reaches even the unborn. Likewise, Jesus' resurrection is so powerful that it reaches even the dead.

All human creatures, no matter in what stage of humanity, are loved by this Jesus. And in this Advent Season we rejoice as we remember His promise that He is coming soon.

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, Sandy Gaul, Deb Raymond, Craig Peterson, Curly Baehr, Shirley Peshek, Joanne Cline, Rick Benson, Sharon Crandall, Phyllis Munster, Dave Schurman, Libby Dreier, Lewis Watts, Bob Miskimen, Stan Crandall, Pastor Stan Jones, Gene Gnuse, Rick Hebar, Kathy Anderson

**Missions:** Pastor J. P. Cima—Cambodia; Grace Lutheran—Eureka Springs; New Life Christian Church; Hispanic Ministry

## 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 King's Strength" with speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A true king's strength is seen not in vaults and arsenals, but in the loyalty of his people. We celebrate the birth of the King who won the victory, not by taxing His subjects and killing His enemies, but by serving, loving and dying for them. By His resurrection, He destroyed the power of sin and lends us strength to become His loyal subjects.

(Luke 1:26-56)

## THANK YOU

A sincere "thank you" for all of your prayers and cards. They are deeply appreciated. The eye surgery went well. Recovery will take a long time and it is uncertain how much vision will be recovered, so please keep me in your prayers. Rick Hebar

Dear Generous Bella Vista Lutheran Givers:

I received the following note of thanks and appreciation from Shelley Hart, Executive Director of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) of Northwest Arkansas and want to share it with all of you who so generously gave in support of CASA youngsters again this year. Sonja Burkett

*"Dear Sonja, Thank you and all of your small groups for helping us once again give foster children of our area a special Christmas. We at CASA appreciate all of the work your members put into choosing the perfect gifts for each child. We at CASA wish all of you a special and joyous holiday season.*

*Thank you again! Shelley Hart*

## WOMEN'S RESTROOM

I am pleased to report that the women's restroom is now functional and available for use. There are a few painting areas to be addressed and the lighting will be improved. I appreciate your patience during this difficult project. Ron Burkett

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR TODAY

Pastor Hass will lead the Adult Bible Study class today in the Fellowship Hall. The topic will be Advent.

Sunday School for children will meet downstairs.

## SHEPHERD'S FOOD PANTRY

### Merry Christmas

The Shepherd's Food Pantry will not be in operation Friday, December 28<sup>th</sup> but will resume Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. Donations of Peanut Butter, Jelly, and Cereal are always welcome and will be needed when the pantry reopens January 4th, 2019.

## THANK YOU

We sincerely thank you for your generous support throughout the year.

Thank you and God bless all the wonderful volunteers.

Luke 2:20 *ESV* And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## GIVING QUILTS

Please note: Something new has been added between the fireplace and the sofa in the narthex.

The following mission statement will be placed on the wall above the "Giving Quilt" rack.

The BVLC Quilters would like to share the quilts they make by making a quilt available to any member of our church family. The quilt on this quilt rack may be taken to be given to someone they feel is in need. One does not need to ask or tell where it goes. It is our prayer and hope that the quilts that are given from this *Giving Quilt Rack* will touch the lives and hearts of each recipient. If the quilt rack is empty, another will soon be in its place. Please join us in this mission as we seek to *Connect, Grow and Serve* with those around us. May those that receive a quilt feel the blessings of our love and prayer.

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



As our Treasurer completed the accounting for December, she reports the donations for the six Christmas Stocking charities ended up being \$140 each!

We give thanks to our Lord.  
Merry Christmas to all.

**THE LORD'S WEEK**  
Dec. 23-29, 2018

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

**Monday**  
6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
with communion

**Tuesday**  
10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

**Friday**

**Saturday**

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**NEXT SUNDAY— December 30, 2018**

9:30 a.m. **Unity Service with communion**  
12:30 p.m. Lutheran Hour (KURM-FM (100.3) or  
KURM-AM (790)

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**LESSONS FOR SUNDAY, December 30, 2018**

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:22-40  
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The BVLC Financial books will be closed on Monday,  
Decemer 31. So, if you wish to have your donation counted  
in 2018, it must be in by Sunday, December 30.

Ron Burkett, Administrator

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**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**March 31, 2019**

**BVLC 30th Anniversary Celebration**

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**COMMUNION SERVICE & LUNCH**

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

11:30 a.m.

Please remind our homebound members/friends  
of the service.

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**Stewardship**



**Luke 1:45—”And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”**

The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord’s own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord’s commands in

the face of the world’s anger and resistance. The same faithfulness in God gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.



**STEPHEN MINISTRY 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 Stephen Ministers 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 regarding Stephen Ministry, please contact a leader – Pam Benson or Jack Grober.

Your Stephen Ministry Team

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**90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

**TODAY**, after 1st service, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments to honor Vern Gruhn on his 90th birthday.

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**NEW MEMBER INFORMATION for December 23, 2018**

Norma Codling  
22 Metfield Drive  
Bella Vista, AR. 72714  
479-721-3139  
ncodling@cox.net

Regina & Bert Neely  
57 Clevelys Lane  
Bella Vista, AR. 72715  
512-618-9209/512-618-9235  
neelys2011@gmail.com

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**MESSAGE FROM THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM**

Beginning January 1, coffee and treats will be served in the Fellowship Hall before going to your individual classes. A cart will only be provided for Pastor’s Inquirer’s Class. Thank you.

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*Merry Christmas and*

*God’s peace to You and Yours*

*in Jesus Christ!*