

## General Information



**COFFEE, PUNCH & COOKIES** are served in the Friendship Center following morning worship. You are invited to join us. We would like to meet you.

**HAS GOD BEEN SPEAKING TO YOU THIS MORNING THROUGH WORSHIP?** Have you been carrying some burdens that you would like to give to the Lord? Do you want to spend some time in prayer this morning? If so, we would encourage you to linger after worship right where you sit. Spend a few moments in silent prayer. There will also be some members of Bethany's prayer team that are available to pray with you at the front of the sanctuary.

**BETHANY PRAYER CONCERNS** – Please call Pastor Lon at (562) 866-1812 ex. 224 no later than Thursday afternoon to place your praises and needs on the prayer sheet.

**SPECIAL OFFERINGS** — are listed each week in the bulletin. To give to the listed cause, please use a blue envelope available in the pew OR use your regular giving envelope and indicate the amount you are giving toward the special offering. All cash placed in the offering plate goes to the general budget.

**YOU CAN GIVE ONLINE** by logging in at [bethanycrc.ccbchurch.com](http://bethanycrc.ccbchurch.com). If you need assistance call Deanne in the office.

 **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK...AND FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!**  If you would like to use social media to keep up with things happening here at Bethany, then "like" us on Facebook at (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bethany-CRC/468329003279601>) and follow us on Twitter (@Bethany\_CRC).

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP** — will not meet this morning. We will begin meeting again next Sunday, January 7.

## Announcements

**THE GEMS STILL HAVE 10 STICKS OF BANKET LEFT!** You can stop by the church office during the week to buy yours. You may also pick some up from the freezer in the Friendship Center AND put a check (payable to Bethany Church) in Anna Willoughby's mailbox. The cost is \$12.50 per stick.

**END OF THE YEAR GIVING** — We are thankful for the generosity demonstrated by the Bethany family in giving to the Lord's work at Bethany and various needs this past year. As we approach the end of the year, we have a budget shortfall of \$35,000. Please prayerfully consider a donation to Bethany as you reflect on your year end giving. All gifts must be received in the office or postmarked by the end of the day TODAY for them to be considered a donation for 2017.

**COOKBOOKS** — The GEMS Ministry still has cookbooks for sale. You can get them during the week at the church office. The cost has been reduced to \$5 per book. All proceeds will go to help the Esther School in Zambia.

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING** is set for TUESDAY, Jan. 9 at 7:00 p.m.

**TALK TIME** — Are you confused, hurting or grieving? Do you just need to talk? Pastor Jim Kok is available on Friday mornings here at the church. (Other times possible as well). Please call the church office at (562) 866-1812 Ext. 221 to make an appointment.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** — will not meet this Tuesday. We will gather again on Tuesday, January 16 as we study *The Case for Faith* by Lee Strobel as part of Bethany's All Church Study.

**FLOWERS** — If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary please contact Lois Prins.

**ALL CHURCH STUDY** — We are making plans for our 2018 All Church Study which begins in January. Our study this year will be based on Lee Strobel's book "The Case for Faith". This study will run 6 weeks beginning the week of January 14 and will include a sermon series on Sunday mornings, small groups which will form to take the study a little deeper, and an optional (but highly recommended) book to read along with the study. Contact Pastor Lon with any questions you have about this study.

**COMPTON WORK DAY** — Bethany is heading to the City of Compton on Saturday, Jan. 27 to paint a house. But it's more than that...we go to Compton together 4 times a year to serve God by serving others. This is a great opportunity to be used by God to be a blessing to Compton and to a grateful homeowner. Sign-ups for Bethany's team will begin soon...put this date on your calendar now and plan to be a part of this fun and rewarding day.

**BETHANY CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER** We have had a wonderful first semester in our ministries...thank you to all of the volunteer leaders who made that possible! We'd like to appreciate you and have some fun together. So, we're going to gather in the Friendship Center on Wednesday, Jan. 10 from 6:30-8pm for some food, fun, and fellowship. Please RSVP to Lon by Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Child Care is available.

**SPECIAL OFFERINGS DISCUSSION** — For many years, Bethany has supported organizations outside of our congregation, both near and far. The Deacons are currently discussing how we may best use the resources that God has entrusted to us. Join the Deacons for a conversation about special offerings, and the role that they may play in the future. Anyone interested can join us on Sunday, January 7 at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary.

### WEEKLY OFFERING UPDATE

General Fund Offering for 12/24/17 .....	\$18,648.24
<i>(Budgeted weekly offering ~ \$14,473.00)</i>	
Faith Promise.....	\$829.00
Valley Christian Tuition Assistance .....	\$115.00
Zuni Christian School.....	\$2,574.00

**NOISY COLLECTION** - to support our partnership with Lianna Tanis and her work next year with World Renew and the PAG Church in Uganda will be taken this morning.

**BETHANY CHOIR** — will begin rehearsals for 2018 on January 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. This would be a great time to join the choir. Please join us as we make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

**THE JUST CURIOUS BOOK CLUB** will be discussing "Sarah Phillips" by Andrea Lee on January 18 at the Anaheim CRC. Call Stan Cole if you have questions.

**OUR FOOD PANTRY** — is in need of Chef-Boyardee meals, Progresso soup and canned chicken. Donations can be placed in the cart in the foyer on Sundays or brought to the church office during the week.

**LLLL BOOK CLUB** — will be reading *Winter's Solstice* by Elin Hilderbrand. We will meet on Monday, January 15 at 7:15 p.m. at Jan Whitten's home. New members always welcome.

**THE CALVIN COLLEGE JANUARY SERIES** — will begin on January 3, 2018 and continue weekdays through January 23. Each lecture will be shown here at Bethany through live feed from Calvin College from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. This week's topics include millennials & faith, inequality, and making the world a better place for those with disabilities and autism. We are just one of 50 remote webcast sites across the continent, joining a daily audience of about 3,000 people a day. For information on the speakers and topics, pick up a brochure in the foyer or visit the January Series website at [www.calvin.edu.january](http://www.calvin.edu.january). Don't miss out on this chance to hear fabulous lectures and experience a piece of Calvin right here in Bellflower.

**BETH MOORE EVENT** — Over the years, many Bethany women have been blessed to be part of Bible studies using teaching by Beth Moore. There is a 2-day event coming to San Diego on April 27-28 that you may want to consider. It is "LIVING PROOF Live" with Beth Moore and worship with Travis Cottrell. It is happening at The Rock Church. The early bird rate is \$69 if you register by Jan. 30. Go to [www.LifeWay.com/LivingProof](http://www.LifeWay.com/LivingProof) to register or to learn more.

**VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL** is looking for a throwing coach for track. Practices are 3:00-5:00 pm M-F. Please contact Christina Dekker at [cdekker@vcschools.org](mailto:cdekker@vcschools.org) if you have experience with the shot put and discus events and are interested.

**AFFORDABLE TREASURES THRIFT STORE** is in need of volunteers in our store located at 17829 Bellflower Blvd. Please call 562-866-0060 to volunteer or to get more information.

**YOU ARE INVITED** — First CRC of Artesia has a weekly celebration of Christ's presence on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Begin your new week with the infilling and empowerment of the Holy Spirit by joining with the family of God and the body of Christ for worship.

## Children's Ministry

### TODAY

- **Little Lambs** (2 ½ to 4) in Room 9a at 9:30 a.m.
- **Children's Worship** will *NOT* meet this morning. We will see you next Sunday!
- **Sunday School** — will not meet today.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

There will be no Family Dinner, Nursery, Kingdom Kids, Cadets or GEMS until January 17.



## On the Edge, Step Out! & Y.a.

(7th & 8th Grades)

(9th-12th Grades)

(Age 18-28ish)

**Sunday, December 31** — *Weekend Edition* (MS) and *AWAKE* (HS) will NOT be meeting today.

**Sunday, December 31** — *Step Out* (HS) will not be meeting to night. Have a Happy New Year!

**Wednesday, January 3** — *On-the-Edge* (MS) is on break and will not meet. We will begin meeting again on January 17th.

**January 26-28** — Our *Middle School Retreat* will be held at Camp Pondo. Cost is \$200. Go to [bethanycrcyouth.org](http://bethanycrcyouth.org) for more information or to register.

**February 9-11** — Our *High School Retreat* will be held in Running Springs. Cost is \$175 with skiing or \$135.00 without. Go to [bethanycrcyouth.org](http://bethanycrcyouth.org) for more information or to register.

All details can be found at [bethanycrcyouth.org](http://bethanycrcyouth.org).

CONTACT INFO: [cmiller@bethanycrc.org](mailto:cmiller@bethanycrc.org) • Office: (562) 866-1812 ext. 228

### Join us this week or pray for...

<b>Today</b>	Morning Celebration Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary NO Weekend Edition NO Awake NO Step Out
<b>Monday</b>	(Church Office closed) NO BSF
<b>Tuesday</b>	NO Tutoring NO Men's Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	NO Coffee Break NO Community Outreach Dinner NO Family Dinner NO Family Night (Nursery, Kingdom Kids, GEMS, Cadets, On-the-Edge) NO Evening Coffee Break
<b>Thursday</b>	NO Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	

### Opportunities for Service

#### ~ Serving This Week ~

**Pre-Service Prayer:** Dyer, Kamstra  
**Coffee After Worship:** CAMP Unity—Ligtenberg/Martinez  
**Post-Service Prayer:** Terry and Sandy Binns  
**Foyer greeters:** Anna Willoughby, Rick and Ann Wilson  
**Patio greeters:** Sheryl Dielens and Mary Murray  
**Ushers:** Merf Tanis (cap.), Bob Dykstra, John Van Essen  
**Parking Lot:** Ron Van Meeteren, Pete Vande Witte  
**Parking Lot Assistant:** Don Hoekstra  
**Nursery:** Wynnette Bouma (greeter), Ginger De Vries, Brooke Tolen, Linda Onu  
**2 ½ - 4 Yr Olds:** Sue Leck, Noelle Murray, Donavan Hoekstra  
**Library:** CLOSED

#### ~ Serving Next Week ~

**Pre-Service Prayer:** Kruid, Ligtenberg, Mariotti  
**Coffee After Worship:** Camp David — Boerigter/ Slager  
**Post-Service Prayer:** Greta De Young and Mary Jo Van Duyn  
**Foyer greeters:** Fred and Wilma Wind, Henry and Linda Wind  
**Patio greeters:** Brad and Teresa Peterson  
**Ushers:** Rich Rens (cap.), Corwin Schenk, Henry Mariotti  
**Parking Lot:** Bob Vanden Burg, Kent Vander Meulen  
**Parking Lot Assistant:** Todd Huckins  
**Nursery:** Julie Ulstrup (greeter), Jan Whitten, Ann Wilson, Carson Slager  
**2 ½ - 4 Yr Olds:** Breanna Kuyper, Pam Hoekstra, Brooke Tolen  
**Library:** Carolyn Kamstra, Carissa Kamstra

### Church Staff and Council

Jim Kuiper ~ Minister of the Word ..... ext. 223	Janis Westra ~ Worship Leader ..... ext. 225
Lon Wagner ~ Minister of Discipleship ..... ext. 224	Sue Leck ~ Financial Administrator ..... ext. 229
Jim Kok ~ Pastoral Care (leave message) ..... ext. 221	Deanne Grachen ~ Office Administrator ..... ext. 221
Kendall Abud ~ Children's Ministry Director ..... ext. 230	Caleb Miller ~ Director of HS and MS ..... ext. 228
Faith Rietveld ~ Choir Director (leave message) ..... ext. 221	Angel Chun ~ Facilities Coord. (leave message) ..... ext. 221

**Deacons:** Karla Anema, Ed Bakker, Sandy Binns, Chad Bomgaars (Deacon President), Rick Dykstra, Pam Eaker, Gerard Martinez, Art Pena, Todd Pheifer (Vice President), Jon Slager, Cindy Tanis (Secretary), Derek Zondervan  
**Elders:** Ron Anema (Council President), Charlie Boerigter, Stan Cole, Keith Cok, Dave Dyer (Vicar/Clerk), Rob Kamstra (Elder President), Ron Kruid, Dave Ligtenberg, Henry Mariotti

Bethany Christian Reformed Church • 17054 Bixby Avenue, Bellflower, CA 90706

Phone: 562-866-1812 • Fax: (562) 866-1823 • [www.bethanycrc.org](http://www.bethanycrc.org) • e-mail: [office@bethanycrc.org](mailto:office@bethanycrc.org)

## Morning Celebration Worship December 31, 2017 ~ 9:30 a.m.

Prelude  
 Call to Worship  
 Opening Song  
 Greetings  
 Songs of Praise  
 Confession & Assurance  
 Songs of Response  
 God at Work in the World  
 Children's Message  
 Congregational Prayer  
 Message  
**"WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD"**  
 Matthew 20:1-16  
 Offering  
 Special Offering: VC Tuition Assistance  
 Blessing  
 Closing Song  
 Postlude  
 Preaching: Rev. Brian Willats

We provide loving care for your little ones during worship. The nursery is located close to the main entrance of the sanctuary in the southwest corner of the Friendship Center. 2 ½-4 Year-Olds are invited to "Little Lambs" in Room 9A which is located in the Education Building at the north end of the campus.

### Next Sunday at Bethany...

Please join us as Pastor Jim Kuiper leads us in a time of worship and the word.

Special Offering: Faith Promise