



BETHLEHEM STAR

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

TO KNOW CHRIST . . . TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN

BECOMING AN EVANGELIST

First of all, thank you to those of you who kept on reading after seeing the title of this article. The idea of becoming an evangelist or doing evangelism is an uncomfortable thought at best for many people. That, however, is because of the concept we have for what an evangelist is.

Just as many people's idea of what Christianity and Christians are has been skewed by the media, so is the view of many people as to the nature and work of an evangelist: hellfire and brimstone; banging on the Bible; going door to door; or preaching on street corners. These are some of the images that may pop into our heads when we hear the word "evangelist". Certainly there are some evangelists who have made names for themselves or worked to spread the gospel by these means. But these techniques are not the only way to share the gospel.

TWO APPROACHES

For a number of years, my best friend, Pastor Chris Lindstrom and I have attended a conference in San Diego with pastors from many denominations. Pastor Chris is from San Diego and every time we are there we find a few folks to whom we can "show the town." Four years ago, we were at dinner with three ministers from Nevada. I started talking to our waitress about the area where she lived, where she went to church (she didn't), why she had stopped going (her church was too judgmental), and where she might visit to get back to worship (Pastor Chris knows the churches of that area). As she came back to the table and began to talk to me again, one of the pastors from Nevada said to her, "If you were to die tonight, do you know that you would go to heaven?" Immediately, her demeanor changed and she went back to simply waiting on our table.

The question the other pastor asked was a good one (I've used it myself in certain situations), but it was not the right way to approach this woman based on her past history with the church. The other pastor was looking for a decision, while I was trying to create a relationship and a need. His question shut down an opportunity to put Christ into the life of this woman.

INTO LIVES

When I interviewed to be pastor at Bethlehem, I was asked how I would get the preschool families into the church. I said that would not be my focus. Instead, I would look for ways to put the church into the lives of the preschool families. I would seek to create a need in those families to

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

9:00AM – CONTEMPORARY STYLE

11:00AM – TRADITIONAL STYLE

(No Sunday morning education for the summer. Classes will resume on Rally Day, Sept. 13.)

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PASTOR:

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ASSISTANT PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

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know more about God and the church. At the beginning of each of the different school seasons, I send a letter home to the preschool families, telling them the themes for each week's chapel lesson, and encouraging the parents to talk with the children about those lessons. The conversations at home have led to questions from parents. At other times, I send home letters to help parents teach the faith to their children. Always there is an invitation to worship with us or to call on me if they need a pastor.

AN EVANGELISM TECHNIQUE

Sharing the gospel with others is not difficult. It can be as easy as asking questions that will awaken a spiritual need in the other person. It does take a little courage at first, until you get the hang of it. But the questions are door openers that can lead to further conversation about God. "What is God doing in your life these days?" "How is your walk with God lately?" "How can I ask God to bless you?"

I recently asked this last question to the luggage handler at a hotel where I was staying. He was overwhelmed by the question and didn't know how to answer. Clearly though, this question struck a nerve with the gentleman; and though we did not have the opportunity to talk further, I could see that he was thinking deeply about the question—and hopefully about his relationship with God.

"Evangelism" simply is sharing the gospel. There is a spiritual gift of evangelism and there is a call to evangelize. Few people have the gift, but everyone has the call. How might you put God into the life of someone else? It doesn't require door knocking or Bible thumping. A simple question can be enough to do the trick.



Pastor Jeffrey

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER TRAINING

It's always good to refresh ourselves on the work that we do so that we can polish and improve. On three consecutive Sundays, between services (10:15-10:45am), we will offer a "refresher" course for some of our worship volunteers. If you are part of one of the following groups, or would like to learn how to serve in any or all of these capacities, please come to the appropriate training:

- July 19 Assisting Ministers
- July 26 Ushers & Hospitality Hosts
- August 2 Altar Guild



OUTDOOR WORSHIP

As an intentional outreach to our neighbors, and just because it will be fun, Bethlehem will offer an outdoor contemporary Christian worship service on Saturday, July 18 at 6:00pm in the parking lot. This service will be different than our regular Sunday services, though it will feature our R&B service band. Come and enjoy this unique worship opportunity and, more importantly, get to know some of our neighbors and let them get to know you!



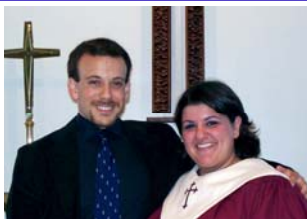
COFFEE HOUSE

Our Coffee House program is back on Saturday, July 18 at 7:30pm, following the outdoor worship service. 2NZ, our R&B service band, will provide music for fun and a pleasurable evening of music and fellowship.



MUSIC NOTES

GARINEH AVAKIAN &
VICENTE DITTO
Directors of Music Ministry



The Children's Choir Father's Day concert was the June highlight for Bethlehem's music department. The kids put on quite a show with musical selections featuring the whole group, soloists, and sing-a-longs with the audience. The Preschool kids appeared as special guests, singing songs on their own accompanied by Ms. Theresa as well as singing with the Children's Choir. Overall, the concert was a wonderful, spirit filled event that was followed by a lovely reception planned by Daleen Gore and beautifully decorated by Sandy Lazaros. The music department is grateful for the generosity of all those who brought food and refreshments to the reception.

Now that it is officially summer, it's time for VBS! This year's theme is "Discovery Canyon" and will last from July 26th-30th. Interested parties for Vacation Bible School should look for the VBS poster board in Chandler Hall which I am sure will direct said parties to where they can find an application form to fill out.

Something new and exciting is happening this July 18th in our parking lot! A new praise worship service is currently being planned which will focus heavily on worship through music. Our very own band and worship team leaders from the early Sunday service will lead the congregation in song and kick it up a notch as we worship the Lord in the great outdoors. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 18th because this will be an event not to be missed.

Garineh Avakian & Vicente Ditto

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

Councilman Greig Smith and the Northridge Neighborhood Councils are offering a FREE movie night at Northridge Park on Saturday, July 11, featuring "MADAGASCAR". Come at 5:30-7:30 for the free pool party and root beer floats, free popcorn, free face painting and free prize drawings. The park is located at 18300 Lemarsh St. in Northridge. Bring picnics, blankets and chairs. The movie begins at nightfall. For more information call 818.756.8501 or visit www.CD12.org.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

THERESA DIMURO-WILBER
Preschool Director
director@bethlehemlutheran.net



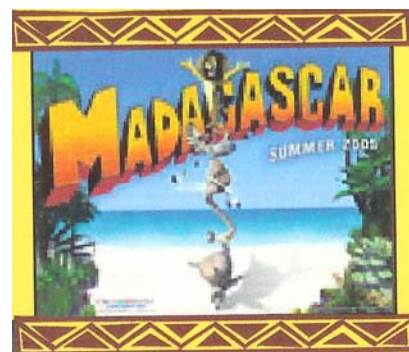
The end of the school year always comes with a little sadness. Saying goodbye is never easy. However, there also comes with this yearly transition the knowledge that Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School and its staff have made a positive impact on the lives of our families who have entrusted the care of their children to us. So we move on to the Summer Camp portion of our year.

Camp is nine weeks this year and we have some fun activities scheduled. Mad Science will be doing a week long Science Camp, Reptile People will visit and we're taking a trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific to name a few. For more information about Camp please call me at 818-368-6947.

I would like to announce the birth of our second Bethlehem baby, Rebecca Rose Zenteno, born to our Ms. Maureen and her husband, Rual, on June 22 at 4:45 a.m. She was 8 lbs./13 oz. and was 20 inches long. Everyone is doing well. I will let you know when Ms. Roxy's baby comes, hopefully this weekend. She is due on July 4th!!

Wishing you happiness and health,

Theresa



YOUTH NEWS

ANITA RUNDQUIST

Director of Youth Ministry

818-813-1775

anita_rundquist@hotmail.com



It's the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer! Since everyone seems to be off to Bible camp this month (Yay, camp!) there aren't any youth events in addition to that.... BUT, it is time to think ahead to August!

In August, EVERYONE – of all ages is invited to “Walk Wet” as we meet at Six Flag’s Hurricane Harbor, 26101 Magic Mountain Parkway, Valencia, CA 91355. The date is Saturday, August 8. Park opens at 10:30 am and closes at 8 pm. Cost is \$13.00 for those under 48” tall and \$17.50 for those 48” tall and above. We need to purchase tickets by July 24! Bring your friends and sign up in the church office TODAY! You don’t want to miss this all Congregational and Preschool event! Questions? Contact Anita at anita_rundquist@hotmail.com or by cell at 818-813-1775.

PS Pastor Jeffrey will be going to Confirmation camp with the kids and I will be popping in to see them both the week of Confirmation camp and the next week when we have kids at camp.

VBS HELPERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help with our Discovery Canyon VBS program from July 26 - July 30. Youth volunteers are also needed to help out. Please either register at www.Bethlehelutheran.net or pick up a volunteer form at the kiosk and return it to the office.

Volunteers are needed for meals , registration, as well as being group leaders, assistant group leaders and assistants for crafts, games, and storytelling. You do not need to be available every night, just let us know what nights you would be available to help, even if it's one night! Everyone can help make this week really special for our children and visitors!

DISCOVERY CANYON VBS

JOIN US FOR THE DISCOVERY:

Sunday, July 26th thru Thursday, July 30th

Daily from 5:45PM – 8:30PM, including dinner
For children 3 years old though entering 6th grade

Come and join us as we enjoy:

- Cavern Crafts
- Gully Games
- Red Rock Rhythm
- Sagebrush Storytelling



You can register online at:
www.bethlehelutheran.net
Click on Vacation Bible School

For more information about VBS or if you're interested in volunteering, please contact the church office at (818) 360-4777 or email: info@bethlehelutheran.net

See you at Discovery Canyon!

IMPORTANT VBS VOLUNTEER DATES

July 22nd – Paint Day at the church beginning at 11AM (including lunch)

July 24th – Meeting with all VBS volunteers, includes pot-luck dinner, beginning at 6:00.

Please RSVP to Lisa Nakata regarding your participation in these 2 events (ldnakata@yahoo.com).

GOING GREEN

Ever wondered what you can put in your **Big Blue Recycling Bin?**



Here are just a few things:

- Clean Styrofoam & Plastic cups & containers.
- Plastic grocery bags, dry cleaning bags & plastic hangers.

Thank you, Linda Dawson, for your great ideas.
If anyone has any recycling ideas to share in the newsletter, just call church or send an email to Kathy Taylor at office@bethlehelutheran.net.

JUNE WORSHIP AND OFFERING STATISTICS

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

1 st Service average, 2008 (to date)	54.0
1 st Service average, 2009 (to date)	52.0
2 nd Service average, 2008 (to date)	94.7
2 nd Service average, 2009 (to date)	95.4
Combined Service ave., June 2008	134.2
Combined Service ave., June 2009	121.8
Total Worship average, 2008	148.4
Total Worship average, 2009	145.4

OFFERING

Budgeted Offering for June, 2009	\$21,753
Actual Offering for June, 2009	\$17,758
Actual Offering for June, 2008	\$20,661
Current Budgeted Offering: Fiscal YTD	\$233,848
Current Actual Offering: Fiscal YTD	\$191,066
2007/2008 Budgeted Offering Fiscal YTD	\$185,920
2007/2008 Actual Offering Fiscal YTD	\$179,323

*Remember first fruits and to give with a generous heart.
Thank you for your gifts.*

ATTENTION SCRAPBOOKERS

July 19th continues of our monthly scrapbook/craft workshop! We will be having a potluck lunch (please bring your own drink) and Ms. Renee Gaudet, preschool mom, will return with her Creative Memories supplies to purchase if desired! Don't scrapbook?... come and learn! If you don't want to learn then just come and hang out. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend, take some time to get away from it all!

Where – Bethlehem Lutheran Church
When – Sunday, July 19th at 1pm to who knows...
What to bring – A dish to share, your own beverage, all of your supplies and pictures, and some friends!

Please R.S.V.P. to Kelli Yribe at (818) 897-7295 to make sure we put up enough tables!

DON'T MISS IT– PLEASE COME !

AUTUMN RENEWAL

SOUTHWEST CALIF WOMEN OF ELCA

“Awakening to New Life”, this fall's Autumn Renewal Retreat in Santa Barbara, will be from Oct. 16th -18th. Spend a serene weekend on the beautiful property of La Casa de Maria Retreat Center in the heart of gardens, rolling hills, and majestic oaks. Renewal for your Mind, Body and Spirit. Awaken your senses with worship, music, prayer walks, stations of the cross meditation and creative, relaxing crafts.

Registrar: Karil Drake, 818-243-9573.

Early Bird before Sept 1st, \$215.00.

After Sept 1st, \$250.00. Saturday only \$115.00.

Commuter \$130.00. Scholarships available.

Pick-up registration forms & info. from the kiosk.

SCOUT SUNDAY THANK-YOU

Thanks to all the families who supported Scout Sunday on June 21.

In particular, appreciation is extended to Mary Fisher for the coordination of all the Girl Scouts and Brownies and Beverly Compton for organizing the Boy Scouts.

Both services were welcomed by a Flag Ceremony with full Color Guard of all Scouts in attendance. Georgia Fisher and Taylor Bentley led the Pledge of Allegiance. Scouts were seen in many aspects of worship leadership and did a great job! All families and their Scouts are especially thanked for attending both services!

CAL-LU SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

This summer's productions are:

“MACBETH” July 2, 3, 5, 10 - 12 starts at 8:00PM and “ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL” July 17 - 19, 24–26, 31, Aug 2. Curtain time is 8:00PM in Kingsmen Park on the CLU campus.

More information about the summer Shakespeare Festival can be found on the CLU website: www.callutheran.edu.

SOJOURNERS

Our Sojourners group welcomes everyone to their monthly potluck who is 55 years or older. July's luncheon will be Wednesday, July 8th at 12:30PM in Chandler Hall! The Lutheran Social Services item for the month is soap. A **BIG** thank you to everyone for all your support for the LSS hygiene project. Please bring a dish to share and join us for lunch and a program concluding at 2:00PM.



NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

Please submit articles for the August newsletter to Kathy at office@bethlehemlutheran.net No later than July 24th.

CONGRAULATIONS TO OUR RECENT GRADUATES:

COLLEGE GRADUATES:

Kim Gundersen from UC Davis
Roxanne Vasquez from UCLA



HIGH SCHHOL GRADUATES:

Andrew Akin
Katie Karzel

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE ABOVE—AND TO THOSE WE MAY HAVE MISSED!

(We will be happy to include anyone we missed in the August newsletter—please let us know.)

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

THE RAJIN CAJUN DINNER IS BACK!!

Saturday, October 24th, 2009

Seating is limited. It's going to be the best event ever, with entertainment, a show, and the most delicious New Orleans food in the State! Make your reservations early by calling Jan Maseda at (818)901-9480 X 110 or e-mailing her at jmaseda@lsssc.org.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Andrew Karzel
- 1 Doris Schindel
- 4 Emily Hofmann
- 5 Chris Lazaros
- 5 Jessika Lazaros
- 6 Barbara Yeager
- 8 Rebekah Nelson
- 8 Linda Zurich
- 9 Richard Hofmann
- 11 Meredith Taylor
- 13 Andrew Bard
- 17 Linda Boyd
- 17 Ron Karzel
- 18 Margo Sommerfield
- 19 Hannah Carpenter
- 22 Caden Chow
- 22 Janet Puchlik
- 22 Ryan Yribe
- 26 Jonathon Perry
- 27 Phil Natwick
- 27 Marilyn Olson
- 31 Julie Sitko



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Neil & Dixie McNinch (1959)
- 11 Ric & Alicia Griffith (1998)
- 14 Michael & Susan Yates (1973)
- 27 Chris & Sandy Lazaros (1968)
- 31 Kim & Betsy Kalusa (1976)



CHURCH WISH LIST

Black Sharpie Markers for Sunday Name Tags
Coffee, especially decaffeinated.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“When you can’t think of anything to do for yourself, do something for someone else.”

JULY 2009 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00 AM R&B Worship 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	29 Church Office Closed	30	1 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Bible Study	2 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 Bethlehem Church and School Closed for 4th of July Holiday	4 4th of July
5 9:00 AM R&B Worship 10:00 AM Social Ministry Team Mtg. 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	6 Church Office Closed	7	8 10:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Sojourners Lunch 7:30 PM Evangelism Team Mtg.	9 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	10	11
12 Confirmation Camp @ ECP 9:00 AM R&B Worship 10:00 AM Social Ministry Team Mtg. 10:00 AM Youth/Education Team Mtg. 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 12:00 PM Stewardship Team	13 Church Office Closed Confirmation Camp @ ECP	14 Confirmation Camp @ ECP	15 Confirmation Camp @ ECP 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	16 Confirmation Camp @ ECP 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 Confirmation Camp @ ECP	18 6:00 PM Outdoor Worship 7:30 PM Coffee House
19 Camp Week @ ECP 9:00 AM R&B Worship 10:15 AM Assisting Minister Training 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	20 Camp Week @ ECP Church Office Closed	21 Camp Week @ ECP	22 Camp Week @ ECP 10:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM VBS Paint Day	23 Camp Week @ ECP 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 Camp Week @ ECP 6:00 PM VBS Meeting & Pot Luck	25
26 9:00 AM R&B Worship 10:15 AM Usher & Hospitality Host Training 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:45 PM Vacation Bible School	27 Church Office Closed 5:45 PM Vacation Bible School	28 5:45 PM Vacation Bible School	29 10:00 AM Bible Study 5:45 PM Vacation Bible School	30 5:45 PM Vacation Bible School 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	31	1

JULY WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP LEADERS - 9:00 SERVICE

Date	7/5/2009	7/12/2009	7/19/2009	7/26/2009	8/2/2009
Assisting Minister	Daleen Gore	Chris Foster	Lisa Chow	Valerie Angello	Todd Akin
Reader	Valerie Angello	Garineh Avakian	Scott Fisher	Collin Gore	Genelle Gore
Acolyte	Timmy Compton	Genelle Gore	Julia Fisher	Kelly Bradford	Maggie Riley
Ushers	Mary Fisher	Kathy Fisher	Linda Dawson	Scott Fisher	Mary Fisher
	Linda Dawson	Barbara Yeager	Chris Foster	Barbara Yeager	Lisa Chow
Hospitality Host	Lisa Chow	Pat St. Michel	Joy Buck	Kathy Fisher	Pat St. Michel
Refreshments	Karen Fouts	Marissa Bentley	Kari Foong Chong	Yvette Carmichael	Marissa Bentley
	Joy Buck	Linda Dawson	Daleen Gore	Karen Fouts	Kari Foong Chong
Altar Guild	Sue Schmidt	Betsy Kalusa	Kay Pushman	Cookie Cline	Daleen Gore

WORSHIP LEADERS - 11:00 SERVICE

Date	7/5/2009	7/12/2009	7/19/2009	7/26/2009	8/2/2009
Assisting Minister	John Cooper	Tom Eggerding	Jill Goddard	Bud Gundersen	Ron Kraus
Reader	Isabella Cross	Gene Denney	Vicente Ditto	Betsy Kalusa	Sarah Karzel
Acolyte	Elizabeth Pearce	Ethan Pearce	Ashley Agbede	Elizabeth Pearce	Ethan Pearce
Ushers	Doyle Stepp	Travis Kalusa	Fred Ophus	Janet Puchlik	Doyle Stepp
	Manny Vasquez	Jan Maseda	Pete Pedersen	Jerry Sitko	Manny Vasquez
Hospitality Host	Meagan Ranger	Margo Sommerfield	Terry Sommerfield	Jayne Stepp	Susan Van Deest
Refreshments	Cookie Cline	Arlene Brooks	Ruth Irwin	Peggy Kossart	Jan Maseda
	Jayne Stepp	Carla Cross	Liz Jones	Sandy Lazaros	Donna Ophus
Offering Counters	Linda Dawson	Meagan Ranger	Dwayne Schmidt	Fred Ophus	Len Resnick
	Phil & Dee Natwick	Gene Denney	Fred Ophus	Janet Puchlik	Phil & Dee Natwick

JULY IS CAMP & VBS MONTH!

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES, PARTICIPATE WHERE YOU CAN, AND PRAY FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED.

JULY 12TH–JULY 17TH: CONFIRMATION CAMP FOR OUR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS AND PR. JEFFREY.

JULY 19TH–24TH: EL CAMINO PINES CAMP FOR OUR OTHER CAMPERS, NOT IN CONFIRMATION OR AT CONFIRMATION CAMP.

JULY 26TH–JULY 30: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2009, “DISCOVERY CANYON”. DAILY FROM 5:45PM–8:30PM, INCLUDING DINNER, AND OFFERED TO CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY FREE OF CHARGE.




Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
12227 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344