

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 6-12, 2015

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Advent is a time to focus on what ultimately matters. Amid all of the other "must-dos" of this season, the endless shopping lists, parties, Christmas concerts, and everything else on our calendars, the one thing that matters most is receiving what Jesus gives and then sharing these gifts with others.

This Sunday each of our Lessons prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus, opening our eyes and hearts to receive His saving grace and His perfect peace. Our Savior shows us what truly is "excellent" and what matters most.

In Him, *Pastor Hass*

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## PRAYER CONCERNS

Please call Ula Biesterfeld at 855-6840 or the church office at 855-0272 with information for the Prayer Chain.

Prayers, please include:

**Our Members:** Marcella Casey, Fran Bloomer, Marv Henning, Marie Herr, Marlys Rembold, Jerry Lundwall, Al Gruenewald, John Brack, Ron Fant, Gary Nelson, Doreen Lubeck, Buz Moxon, Betty Long, Deb Roesener, Gary Hartwig, Gary Aaron, George Albers, Mary Loveless, Stan Isaacson, Ken Meyer

**Condolences:** Elaine Schurman at the loss of her niece, Pam; Dale Wandrie at the loss of his father, Leslie

**Missions:** Pastor J. P. Cima—Viet Nam; Peace Lutheran — Prairie Grove; Heritage Baptist Church of Bella Vista; Quilting Outreach

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## THANK YOU

I want to thank all the ladies and men who helped prepare the Church for the Advent and Christmas Season. Your help was very much appreciated AND needed. The Altar Guild

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## ATTENTION: PRAYER SHAWL MAKERS

December 15<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Beginners welcome!

Call Elaine Schurman at 531-3395

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## PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

December 16, 2015

5:30-8:00 p.m.

Friendly meal, games, crafts & music

Children ages 3-12

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Check out the new shipment of **all occasion and Christmas Cards with Scripture Verses!** This is an LWML project and all cards are only \$ 3.00 a box. **The display is located in the church Library.** Just place the money in the envelope provided and put it in Elaine Schurman's church mailbox. Make checks payable to LWML.

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The Family Life Ministry Team is again collecting **CAPS AND MITTENS** for the Gravette School children. The collection box will be in the narthex through December 13, 2015. Purchased items are always welcome.

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Be sure to pick up a **"Keep Christ in Christmas"** yard sign if you need one to place in your yard. They are located by the Welcome Center.

## SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR at 9:45 a.m.

December 6, 2015

### Adult Bible Study

- Fellowship Hall: "Digging Deeper" with today's scripture lessons will be led by Pastor Hass.
- Choir Room: The study, "Christian Life Today: Health and Well Being" is led by Dick Munster.

### Sunday School

All children and youth Sunday School classes will meet in the lower level of the new building.

## THE SHEPHERD'S FOOD PANTRY

**Each One – Bring One** requests *au gratin* or *scalloped* potatoes, fruit cocktail, gelatin, and dessert as part of the holiday meal. Guests will receive their regular groceries in addition to the special bill of fare each of the 3 Fridays in December. The menu for Christmas will be ham, potatoes as listed, fruit cocktail, sugar free gelatin, and cake & frosting or fruit pie filling & crust.

*Luke 2:10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."*

## SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR at 9:45 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE  
**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**  
RIGHT AFTER THE FIRST SERVICE  
IN THE SANCTUARY.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED IN THE  
FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM.

ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CLASSES WILL NOT MEET ON DEC. 13th.

## THE LWML MITE BOX IS ON THE KIOSK TODAY.

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



### CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

It's Christmas Stocking time again. Each year our LWML selects a number of charities, mostly local, with whom to share our blessings. You will find a ballot in your mailbox with the charities listed. This is your opportunity to choose the ten charities you would prefer to help. Place your gift in the big stocking by December 20. The big Christmas stocking for your donations is near the mailboxes.

**THE LORD'S WEEK**  
December 6-12, 2015

**Sunday**

**8:30 a.m.** **Divine Worship w/communion**  
9:30 a.m. Fellowship  
9:45 a.m. Christian Education  
**10:45 a.m.** **Blended Worship**  
11:45 a.m. New 537 Worship Arts Team Meeting

**Monday**

9:00 a.m. JOY I—Kathy Wilkins  
Backpackers—Chapel  
1:00 p.m. JOY IIB—  
1:30 p.m. JOY IIA— Highlands  
JOY IIC—Bev Effinger  
5:30 p.m. SAC I & III—Pat & Bob Eckart (Clubhouse)

**Tuesday**

8:30 a.m. JOY IIIA—Margaret Kuehn  
Granny's Christmas Brunch—FH  
9:30 a.m. JOY IIIC—Coleen Gast  
Perfect Harmony SFP Delivery  
11:00 a.m. United Way SFP Delivery  
1:30 a.m. JOY IV—Lois Sullivan

**Wednesday**

8:30 a.m. Quilting  
1:00 p.m. JOY VB— Church—Classroom 3  
JOY VA—Church—Library  
Writing Group—Classroom 5  
6:00 p.m. Advent Service

**Thursday**

11-12 Noon SFP Harps Delivery  
12-1:00 p.m. HOPE/Food Pantry Delivery

**Friday**

10-1:00 p.m. Shepherd's Food Pantry

**Saturday**

10:00 a.m. Christmas Program Choir Rehearsal

**NEXT SUNDAY—December 13, 2015**

**8:30 a.m.** **Divine Worship**  
9:30 a.m. Fellowship  
**9:45 a.m.** **Children's Christmas Program**  
**10:45 a.m.** **Blended Worship w/communion**  
3:30 p.m. "Agnus Dei" Christmas Concert

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

This year's **Children's Christmas Program** will begin immediately after the first service on **December 13** in the Sanctuary. Coffee and donuts will be available at the conclusion of the program at about 10:10 in the Fellowship Hall. Please join in singing Christmas carols before and after the children's program.

**BACKPACKERS**

will meet tomorrow, December 7th  
at 9:00 a.m.  
in the Chapel (former Fellowship Hall.)  
Come & join us!

**Stewardship**



**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.'" (Luke 3:4 ESV) God makes long range plans: Isaiah lived more than seven hundred years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously God sees farther into the future than we do! That's yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives: He knows what's coming and we don't..

**BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN GOLF**

Friday 18 Holes  
Singles & Couples  
Call Ron Burkett 268-3303



**STEPHEN MINISTRY**

Stephen Ministry is having Circle of Life Hospice on Dec. 14th 6:30 p.m. They will share information on the benefits of hospice and their grief support.

Hospice care is a team-oriented approach to expert medical care, pain and symptom management, as well as spiritual support. It provides comfort and quality of life for patients and their families during life's final transition, with little to no out-of-pocket expense. Hospice also offers bereavement support for individuals who have experienced the loss of a family member, friend or loved one, regardless of whether they had a hospice experience. Join us as we share about the benefits which have helped so many.

**"AGNUS DEI" CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Will be held next Sunday, December 13 at 3:30 p.m. here at Bella Vista Lutheran Church. **JOIN US!!! INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!!**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BOOKS**

Children's Christmas books are now available in the library. Please take time to look over these Christmas books and take them home to read during the Christmas Season. These books do not need to be 'checked out'. When returning the books, please put in the book basket.

**MEN'S COFFEE & LUNCH BUNCH**

Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at noon, the Bella Vista Lutheran Men's Coffee and Lunch Bunch will gather **with spouses or guests** for lunch at the recently re-opened Fred's Hickory Inn. Those needing help with transportation contact: Loren Thiele (855-3400) or Bill Powell (621-3737)