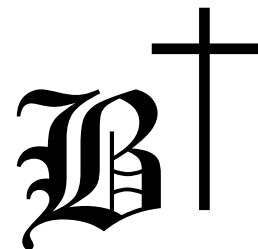


*Bethany Lutheran Church
2900 Parkview Drive
Longview, WA 98632*

November 2025

God's Blessings to . . .



**November 2025
Newsletter**

Bethany Lutheran Church



Bethany Lutheran Church

Church: 360-577-8240

2900 Parkview Dr. Longview, WA 98632

Pastor Susan Dollinger

Church Musician: Dorothy McMillan

Admin. Asst: Ginger Garner

Bethany website: www.bethanylongview.org

Office Hours: Tuesday -Thursday 9:30am - 3pm

Office email: secretary@bethanylongview.org

Pastor email: pastor@bethanylongview.org

Sunday Morning Worship Time

9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15: 13

Dear Bethany,

Each fall, we enter into a time of stewardship, not just to raise funds, but to renew our shared commitment to what God is doing in and through our church. Pledges are the practical expression of our hope for the future of Bethany and in fact they are essential to creating a faithful budget for the upcoming year.

You should have received a letter, a pledge card, and an update of information in the mail in the last week or so. We would appreciate you turning the pledge cards in by **November 23rd**, there will be a box with envelopes that you can put the pledges in, along with your update of information. We have had some birthdays that were incorrect so please double check the information that is currently in the directory. And if you need a new photo taken please let me know and we will update it.

November is also, of course, a month to be thankful. I am thankful for all of you and for Bethany. I pray that this holiday season is filled with joy, and with kindness for you. I am also very thankful for the beauty of the fall trees. I personally love fall. I love seeing the artistry of God in each tree, in the reflections in the lake, and in the crisp air.

I hope you are able to find something to be grateful for each day of this month and that you are able to enjoy the beauty of God the Creator in all the fall colors that surround you. I hope that you have a wonderful thanksgiving and it is filled with hope and blessings.

Warmly,

Pastor Susan

Council Meeting Minutes Continued

- **Annual Meeting Schedule-** Jan. 6 Council/Budget 2:00-5:00; Letter Jan. 8; Distribution Jan. 18; Meeting January 25 11:00am;
- **Distribution of Candy at the Lake for Halloween-**Pastor Susan After discussion it was decided not to do it this year.
- **Synod-**The council has decided to request that all members of council should get the ENews for the SWWA Synod.

Staff Report –

- **Facility Use Reminders-** Ladies of the Lake Quilting Sew Fun Days Friday, Oct. 24-25, All That Jazz Hospitality Fundraiser
- **Ginger** gone Nov. 25-6; **Dor** back from her road trip.

Adjournment-Barb Clausen adjourned the meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.

Next Scheduled Meetings: Executive Committee Wednesday, Nov.5 12:15; Council – Thursday, Nov. 13th 3:00 pm;

The Lot: You may have noticed a large hole behind the shed on the northeast corner of our property—just below the lot! There is a sewer problem and the neighbor asked for access to bring in equipment, and we granted it. We were not aware the digging would be on our property. We will work to assure that the property is returned to its prior state and any soil damage, etc. gets repaired. What a surprise late last week and just before the rain!

Name/Position/Term
1.
2. Barbara Clausen President (2027) 2ndTerm
3. Susan Shiu (2028) 1st
4. Phyllis Cavens (2025) 1st
5. George Obermeyer (2026)1st
6. Beth Grambo (2027) 2nd
7. Tori Gosch (2028) 1st
8. P. Susan Dollinger (Pastor)

Council Meeting Minutes Continued

- **Women's Bible Study**-Meeting every Tuesday, 10:30 with prayer and the *Gather* magazine;
- **Education-**
 - ◇ **Confirmation**- Several students will finish
 - ◇ **Bible Study** -Studying Romans every Friday on zoom and Sunday in person at 11:15;
- **Minister's Report:** Pastor Susan
- ◇ **Manage Time/Tasks-(project prep/personal time)**-Meeting with Ginger to put tasks together for the next few months;
- ◇ **Strengthen spiritual growth (members/outreach)**- New bishop met with Lower Columbia pastors in Sept. and expressed a need for resources to be healthy small churches.
- **Other-Goal/Action Plan Progress Report:** 2025-2026: To strengthen our spiritual growth so that God's promises come alive & Christ's love is shared with others. Summer Events- 7/16-4 guest, 12 total; 7/23- 1 guest, 10 total; Heavenbound Workshops have about 25 members from Bethany, Emmanuel, and the Mormon church attend all three sessions.

Unfinished Business:

- **Endowment Committee**- Money finally deposited? Include in the Stewardship Drive?
- **Sound System Report**-working on a list of minor adjustments, but everyone loves it! **Cost to complete the Fellowship Hall is \$23,350.42-** (This quote is from March and may need readjusted) The cost of the previously purchased speakers has been subtracted. So far \$4,380 is in the designated fund for this purpose.
- **Clipboard Volunteer Sign Ups**-Reminder to please mark your calendars
- **Fire/Safety Security Plan**-Fire drill was held on Sunday, 28th and some reminders were given that the left side exits out the main church door—not the stairs;

New Business:

- **Power Church Contract** (financial program) cost will increase the first of the year. **It was moved and seconded to pay before the first of the year to get the old rate of \$455 for 2026. Motion carried.**
- **Partial Parking Lot Wall**- An updated quote in the amount of \$15,000 as additional sections of the wall are buckling, so now it needs 110 of repair. Both companies has shown proof of insurance and licensing. We need to get clarity on the quotes. **Tabled definitely to next week. (Council will then vote electronically.)**

Bethany's Corner



Shelly Limpach is our prayer chain contact. You may contact her with your prayer concerns through email at **BethanyPrayer247@gmail.com**. If you have an urgent prayer request, please call the church office.

Continued Prayers & Healing

Barbara Bley	Barb Clausen	Duane Thompson
Judy Bailey	John Mullaney	Kim Isakson
Barbara Price	Gail Obermeyer	Jennifer Nance
Takko family	Custer family	Gilchrist family
Krista & John Croy	Thibodeau family	David & Dana Hughes
Xander Gireth	Audrey Schauer	The Newtons
David & Dana Hughes	Bob Baldwin	

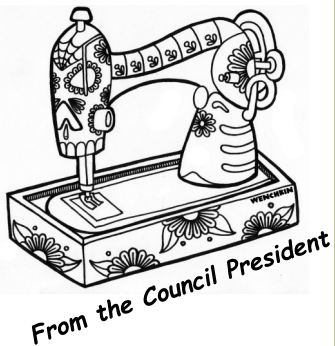


OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01	Beth Milhiser	18	Dor McMillan
04	Dorothy Blair	19	Don Wallin
10	John Baumberger	20	Deone Munn
11	Lee Limpach	22	Jonah Pelster
		30	Russ Gilchrist

ANNIVERSARIES

01	Gunars & Suzanne Arnits
18	John & Renee Pelster
20	Dean & Debra Takko
27	Justin and Ginger Garner



Plan Ahead for the Holidays

The Family Advent time will sneak up on us as we roll into November. Mark your calendars for decorating the church on **Sunday, November 30th** during coffee hour. Thank you to our wonderful Duct Tape and other helpers who will help get the supplies down so we can make the Lord's house beautiful as we await the birth of Jesus. Hot chocolate and donated cookies would be welcome for this event!

EMERGENCY FUND

LEXINGTON AND COLUMBIA HEIGHTS FOOD

This month we are asking you to consider second-mile giving to the Bethany Emergency Fund to help families in need at Lexington and Columbia Heights as they prepare for a nearly two week winter break without free/reduced breakfast and lunch.

(Last month the donation went to the food boxes for Thanksgiving break and this month it goes for Christmas. Then in December we do the Angel Tree—trying to spread out the giving in a time there is great need!) Please mark your checks in the memo ER Food Schools and Financial Secretaries will know where to put it!)

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH—Youth Service and FISH

Youth and Service Committee, including the FISH team, are recognized this month for the service they provide for members in need in our community as well as the educational/fellowship opportunities. This team not only does the Seeds/Spouts activities, the school event, the food boxes, and the Angel Tree. In addition, enormous service is done by the FISH team who serves about 100 people with food boxes every six weeks. Thank you to Pam van den Driessche, Shelley Limpach, Pat Reistroffer, Bob Reistroffer, Pastor Susan Dollinger, and Barb Clausen, as well as the many members & friends who help in so many ways! You are such a blessing to others! Thank you!

Council Meeting Minutes Continued

- Saturday, Nov. 15th-- a wine sipping with jazz event has been cancelled. Celebration of life will be Oct. 18 11:00am ? for Noah Custer—please sign up to bring casseroles.
- **Memorial:** Joyce Croy No report
- **Worship/Music:** Next meeting not scheduled;
- ◊ Lily Fiscus was baptized and the family joined the church on Sept. 14th;
- ◊ Pet Blessing Sunday, Oct. 5th brought many animals & pictures for a lively service!
- ◊ Beth Grambo is preaching on Oct. 12th—thank you, Beth!
- ◊ Approve Lay lead service Nov. 16th instead of Nov.9; **It was moved and seconded to approve the date change as recommended by W/ M. Motion carried.**
- ◊ Reformation Sunday at Trinity on Oct. 26th at 10:30 - Come and meet the new Bishop Keith Marshall who will be preaching; Wear red! Potluck TBD
- ◊ Advent services will be at noon on Dec. 3, 10, 17; Christmas Eve will be 4:00pm;
- **Youth/Service:** Barb Clausen-the committee will meet soon;
- ◊ Grant money: October: Refuge \$400; EAT \$400; Peace Health grant Refuge \$1,000; This next month will be the end of the grant monies for hungry kids, except the Peace Health grant;
- ◊ FISH- Sept. 2 Served 93 people (15 seniors, 34 adults, 42 children, & 2 babies) this month with a wide variety of needs. Thank you, Bethany, we are blessed to be a blessing! Next Fish is December 26
- ◊ Small seeds blessed the animals with joy!
- ◊ Youth met on Oct. 11th studying the New Testament and several will be confirmed this year;
- **Duct Tape Crew:** Pastor Susan Dollinger, George Obermeyer;
- ◊ Life Works-Jeremy Harris on Wednesdays 1:00-2:00 working well with the adult;
- ◊ Thank you to Dan Lane, George Obermeyer, Russ Gilchrist, Sandra Hubert— Smith keeping up with our facility needs is deeply appreciated!
- ◊ Boards-The boy scouts cannot repair but the board was cut down;
- **Stewardship:** Pastor Susan, Dan Lane, and Phyllis Cavens have been meeting and planning with a theme of “Nurturing Growth, Grace, and Generosity.” Using Romans 15:13 as the main verse. The campaign begins Oct. 19-Nov. 23rd;
- **Mutual Ministry:** No report

October Council Minutes

Bethany Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Agenda— Thursday, October 9, 2025 3:00 p.m.

Attendance -Phyllis Cavens, Susan Shiu, George Obermeyer, Pastor Susan Dollinger, Beth Grambo, & Barb Clausen. Absent-Tori Gosch;

Devotions and Prayer – Susan Shiu led us in devotions.

Call to Order and President's Report – Barb Clausen called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

- **Decisions made between council meetings-none**
- **Agenda Changes**-Changed date of Jazz, Synod Newsletter; Power Church contract;
- **Devotions for November 13**-Tori Gosch;

Secretary's Report – Beth Grambo

- **Special Congregational Meeting Minutes**-June 1, 2025 (Endowment Special Meeting)-postponed;
- **Council Minutes**-Sept. 11, 2025 filed as printed;

Treasurer's Report – Susan Shui

September		2025 YTD		September 2024		2024 YTD	
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
\$20,949	\$13,102	\$111,840	\$118,578	\$ 10,219	\$17,830	\$165,804*	\$112,063
Exceeded by \$7,847		fell short by \$6,738		Fell Short by \$ 7,611		Exceeded by \$ 53,741	

The 2025 YTD amount does not include the check to Design Sound. The breakdown is as follows:

\$25,842 Paid to Design sound; \$14,670. Contributions and fund balances moved to sound system fund including rummage sale; \$ 9,758 balance paid from the lot money. *2024 income includes land sale \$63,842.65

- **Synod Remittance** -\$727
- **Emergency Fund Report**- \$326 (\$65.20 discretionary fund) to the F.C.R.C. in Kelso-Longview Schools
- **Attendance Average**- 48
- **August Audit Report** The audit team had a couple questions reviewing August statement which were answered by Ginger. Everything looked to be in good order.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report at printed. Motion carried.

Ministry Reports –

- **Hospitality:** Thank you to the committee for the wonderful appetizers and birthday celebration at the Heaven Bound workshops! There were rave reviews! We are grateful for members who have provided funds/ food if they cannot host the coffee hours—Hospitality has really helped out this summer—thank you!

Helping Others by Giving

The Service and Youth Committee is sponsoring two families for Christmas—different than the Thanksgiving families. We have one family from Columbia Heights Elementary, one large family from Lexington Elementary and one family from Family Promise. Our Giving Tree in the Fellowship Hall holds tags for one toy and one clothing item for each child. Please staple your store receipt to the tag, giftwrap the item with the tag attached to the outside and return by Sunday, December 14 under the Angel Tree. Then we will add money so the families are able to buy the food for Christmas dinner and the long winter vacation.

The Wall

We searched high and low to get landscaping quotes to rebuild the sagging sections of the wall. The 92' section needed to be repaired by re-using the current stone as it is not replaceable. After three offers, the council selected B & B Landscaping and they will be working in the north parking lot Monday, Nov. 3-6th. Please avoid that lot for safety and pray that the work goes well for the amount quoted 8923.12! Donations to the “wall” fund are welcome as we are having to use our capital improvement and more...!

Office Hours: This week our wonderful Ginger has flexed her office hours to be there Monday to Wednesday so that a person will be able to keep watch over the work and answer any questions they have. If they go beyond Thursday, accommodations will be made.

Festival of Nativities

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints each year sponsors a Festival of Nativities for the community. There is usually music, cookies, and many, many unique nativities that celebrate the season. It is amazing to see. The public is welcome and there is no charge. If you wish to enjoy, mark your calendar for Dec. 5-7 from 3:00-8:00pm and go to 900 11th Avenue, Longview.

Upcoming Events

All Saints Day

November 2

Daylight Savings End

Baily Harris Service

November 8 at 1:00

East Hills Alliance in Kelso

Baily attended Bethany and was a member of the youth group

Council Meetings

Executive Meeting (zoom) November 5th at 12:15

In Person Meeting November 13 at 3:00

Small Seeds and Sprouts

November 8 at 12:30—2:15

Veteran's Day

November 11

Office Closed

All That Jazz

November 15 at 5:30

Hospitality fundraiser for future projects.

Tickets are \$15.00/ person. Appetizers, wine or Italian soda, jazz and big band music and dancing the night away

Annual Reports and Budget Requests Due

November 16

Thanksgiving

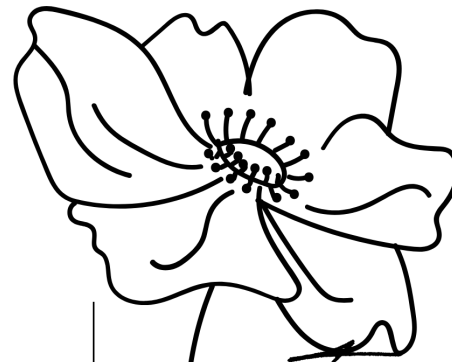
November 27

Office Closed

Family Advent lunch

November 30

Soup and S'mores following service and decorate Bethany for Christmas.



Thank you!

Dear Bethany,

Thank you for the beautiful Pastor Appreciation Day. I was really touched by your outpouring of kind words, gifts. It means a lot to me.

Thank you!

Pastor Susan



Longview Mobile Library at Bethany Lutheran Church

November 8 1:30-2:30 If there is a church event during the scheduled
November 22 1:30-2:30 time, the mobile library will be at the end of
Parkview

Longview Mobile Library Homebound Delivery

If you are confined to your home and reside within the library's mini rural delivery service, you may benefit from free home delivery of library material. 360-442-5300



Thank You

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CAME TO THE OCTOBER REFORMATION SERVICE. IT'S ALWAYS A GREAT TIME TO BRING THE CHURCHES TOGETHER AND BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE A MOMENT OF HISTORY - THE BIRTHDAY OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - THE BIRTHDAY OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCH.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME TOGETHER BRINGING FOOD OR BEING A PART OF THE NOAH CUSTER SERVICE. IT WAS VERY APPRECIATED.

Reminder

Pledges are due on November 23rd. There are envelopes by a box in the Narthex. Please turn pledges in there. If you hand them to a person, please make sure they are to a financial secretary. This ensures confidentiality. Council and Pastor do not know individual contributions or pledges.

Family Advent



November 30 following service
We will have a soup and S'more
lunch and together we will
decorate Bethany for the
Christmas Season

Luncheon

ALL THAT JAZZ

NOVEMBER 15

5:30 PM

APPETIZERS
ITALIAN SODA/WINE
DANCING

Tickets \$15.00 /person
See a member of Hospitality



Opportunities to Gather and Learn

Women's Bible Study

We gather for prayers, cares, concerns, challenges, and celebration in the Faith room & on Zoom



November 4, 18, 25 at 10:30 am

No Women's Bible Study on Veteran's Day

Women's Bible Study is based through Gather Magazine, Gather Magazine is \$9.95 for new subscribers.



Breakfast Group

Tuesday mornings at 8:00 am.

Corner Cafe

796 Commerce Ave. Suite 103 in Longview



What a great opportunity to enjoy good food and fellowship!

Moments at the Lake Bethany

Wednesdays @1:30

This is a wonderful opportunity for people to sit in the Word and have holy conversation while we discuss the scriptures for the following Sunday.

During the colder months and inclement weather, we meet in the faith room at Bethany

Ministry Volunteers

November 30– Communion

Greeter	_____
Ushers	Karen Langworthy/ Peggy Winston
Reader	Carol Lane
Communion Setup	_____
Communion Assist	_____
Powerpoint	_____
Live Service	_____
Financial Secretary	Mary Storm
Coffee hour	Family Advent Soup and Smores

Advent Soup lunch volunteers are needed the month of December.

The signup sheet is available in the Narthex next to the Worship service signup sheet.

Thank you to all the volunteers that keep Bethany running smoothly each week. We deeply appreciate your service.

ATTENDANCE		Offering to date October	
October	TOTAL	2024	2025
5	50	\$173,175 Includes land sale \$63,689	\$119,822
12	52	Expenses to date October	
19	51	2024	2025
26	TLC	\$122,259	\$138,614 Includes \$14,842 sound system
Avg	51		

Ministry Volunteers

November 2– All Saints/Communion

Greeter	Don Wallin
Ushers	_____ / _____
Reader	Nancy Skora
Communion Setup	_____
Communion Assist	_____
Powerpoint	_____
Live Service	_____
Financial Secretary	Barb Wilson
Coffee hour	Robin Siragusa/Nancy Skora

Sunday, November 9 Communion

Greeter	Small Seeds
Usher	_____ / _____
Reader	Small Seeds
Communion Setup	Nancy Skora
Communion Assist	Robin Siragusa
Powerpoint	Carol Thompson
Live Service	_____
Financial Secretary	Mary Storm
Coffee hour	Barb Utto/ _____

Sunday, November 16 Lay Led

Greeter	Peggy Winston
Usher	_____ / _____
Reader	_____
Powerpoint	_____
Live Service	_____
Financial Secretary	Pam van den Driessche
Coffee hour	Tori Gosch/Joyce Croy

Sunday, November 23 Communion

Greeter	_____
Usher	_____ / _____
Reader	Duane Thompson
Communion Setup	_____
Communion Assist	_____
Powerpoint	_____
Live Service	_____
Financial Secretary	Barb Wilson
Coffee hour	Carol Thompson/ Deone Munn

SMALL SEEDS and Sprouts

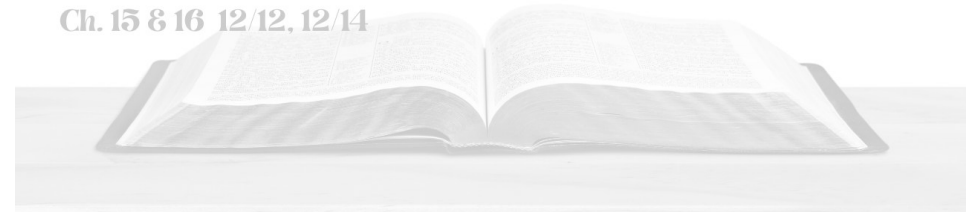
NOVEMBER 8 @ 12:30



BIBLE STUDY Book of Romans

Online Fri @ 10:00 am/ in person Sun @ 11:15 am

Ch. 8 10/31, 11/02
Ch. 9 & 10 11/07, 11/09
Ch. 11 & 12 11/21, 11/23
Ch. 13 & 14 12/05, 12/07
Ch. 15 & 16 12/12, 12/14



Volunteers Needed

Please sign up for Sunday worship slots. We need people from Greeter to Coffee Hour every week. (We also could use a Volunteer Coordinator). Sunday worship is at the heart of what we do here at Bethany. There are many roles available. Thank you so much.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02 All Saints 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:15 Bible Study Daylight Savings end	03 Ginger in office	04 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	05 12:15 Exec Meeting 1:30 Moments at Bethany	06 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct tape Ginger out of office	07 6:00 Girl Scouts	08 12:30 Small Seeds and Sprouts 1:00 Baily Harris Memorial service 1:30 Mobile Library
Wall Construction– Please use lower parking lot 360-577-8240 to call office if you need assistance						
09 Sunday Service 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:15 Bible Study	10	11 8:00 Breakfast Group OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 Boy Scouts VETERANS DAY	12 10:30 Mutual Ministry 1:30 Moments at Bethany	13 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct tape 3:00 Council	14 6:00 Girl Scouts	15 5:30 All That Jazz
16 Sunday Service Lay led 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour Annual Reports/ Budget requests due	17	18 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	19 1:30 Moments at Bethany	20 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct tape	21 6:00 Girl Scouts	22 1:30 Mobile Library
23 Sunday Service 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:15 Bible Study Pledges due	24	25 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts Ginger out of Office	26 1:30 Moments at Bethany Ginger out of Office	27 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED	28 6:00 Girl Scouts	29
30 Sunday Service 9:30 Worship Family Advent Soup and S'mores	01	Notes:				