

BETHANY BEACON

“Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:3

LENT ALL YEAR LONG

by Pastor David Locklair

*“Turn away from evil and do good;
so shall you dwell forever.”*

Psalm 37:27

Especially as a Lutheran, you hear it again and again throughout your life: “Lent is a time of repentance.” Of course, this does not mean that Lent is the *only* time of repentance. Indeed, the Christian’s entire life is one of repentance. Yet, Lent focuses us particularly on what repentance means (pull out last month’s Beacon for a review of Lent and Repentance from Pastor Pittenger). In this way, the Christian walks in the Lenten season all year long for his entire life.

Consider then the words of the Psalmist in our text. The Psalmist declared, “*Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever.*” In this short verse the Psalmist describes the life of the believer by describing repentance. The believer’s life is one of repentance.

To repent is to have one’s mind changed. It includes contrition over sin and faith in the Savior for forgiveness. It is God’s Word of Law and Gospel which works this repentance in us. In other words, it is God’s Word that preserves us as believers.

“*Turn.*” The root for this Hebrew word has the idea of leaving or keeping away from something – in this case, evil. The Christian is at the same time righteous and wicked, at the same time saint and sinner. This means that there is a conflict within us, a conflict between our old sinful nature and our new believing nature.

Yes, the Christian struggles with sin but the difference between the repentant and the unrepentant, the Christian and the unbeliever, is that the repentant struggles to push off that sin while the unrepentant has no such struggle but instead embraces sin. If there is no struggle against sin, then there is no faith present.

No one can claim to be sorry for a sin and yet intend to continue in that sin. Imagine a teen who has just been caught breaking curfew and while being rebuked by his father is at the same time texting his friends plans to do the same thing the next night. Is such a person sorry for their actions? Certainly not!

It matters not what the sin is – sexual activity outside of marriage, or disobeying authorities, or theft – sin becomes faith destroying when there is no repentance. There is no such thing as an “unrepentant Christian.” One who is unrepentant is not a Christian. One who is repentant is a Christian.

“*Do.*” The repentant bring forth fruits of repentance, evidence of their repentance. These are thankofferings of life born out of gratefulness to God. Do thank God for his gifts of forgiveness and life. Do come to God’s house to receive those gifts in Word and Sacrament. Do extend lives of love to others just as Christ has given His own life for us.

Join us throughout this Lenten season and beyond as we are led in repentance by our Savior through His precious Word. In that Word and in His Sacraments we have the forgiveness of our sins, the strengthening of our faith, and the power to live in repentance. Join us Sunday mornings in April and May when we will resume our Bible class examining this important doctrine.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL SPRING CLEANING DAY!

Saturday, March 24th
8:00 AM – NOON

Refreshments provided.

*Please come out to help beautify
God's House in advance of
Confirmation & Easter!*

Questions?
Call Coordinator Nancy Busek



SCHOOL EVENTS

Friday, March 2

SKSD Vision/Hearing Screenings @ BLS

Tuesday March 6

K-2 Field Trip to "Gravity Catastrophe" @ Admiral

Thursday–Saturday, March 8–10

Jr. Eagle Classic Basketball tournament @ ELHS

Friday, March 23

Family Movie Night & Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, March 30

Good Friday - NO SCHOOL

— 2018 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE —

03/25 PALM SUNDAY

8:15 AM | **Worship w/ Communion**
11:00 AM | **Confirmation Service**
(no Communion)

03/29 MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 PM | **Worship w/ Communion**

03/30 GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 PM | **Worship**

04/01 THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

7:00 AM | **Easter Sunrise Service**

8:00–9:30 AM | **Fellowship Easter Breakfast**

Celebrate our risen Savior with fellowship over a delicious full buffet breakfast prepared and served by our Youth Group families. Free-will donations gladly accepted; all proceeds assist our teens with activity costs, including fees for summer Youth Convention.

10:00 AM | **Easter Festival Worship**

**MARCH
ANNIVERSARIES**

03/07
Matt & Katie Hoefler

03/17
Todd & Bev Walker

03/22
Mike & Leigh Snyder

SERVING YOU IN MARCH:

GREETERS

- 8:15am**
 4 Mary Erickson/Vickie Veach Jerry & Karanne Harless
 11 Dennis & Dolores Morrison Paul & Julietta Hokanson
 18 Jayson & Dawn Elliott Tim & Donna Matthes
 25 Kip & JoAnn Johnson 2018 Confirmands

USHERS

- 8:15am**
 4 Team 7 (Miller) Team 13 (Dahlke)
 11 Team 8 (Gaskins) Team 14 (Nesseth)
 18 Team 1 (Seals) Team 10 (Nelson)
 25 Team 2 (Ronholt) Team 11 (Harless)
 29 **Mauudy Thursday 7pm** Team 3 (Roembke)
 30 **Good Friday 7pm** Team 4 (Crider)

Wednesday Lenten Ushers (3/7, 3/14, 3/21) to be determined

ACOLYTES

- 8:15am**
 4 Ethan/Brendan Kemp, Cayenne/Gus Burleson, Callahan Gaskins, Becky/Lizzie Riedel, Rory Alonzo
 11 Micah/Jack/Nika Pittenger, Sarah/Emilie Circelli, Ben Eileen Lee
 18 Sarah Overfield, Logan Audrey Amiling, Zach/Levi Bowman, Lexi Elliott, Baur, Ethan Sickler, Laurey Hoefer
 25 Ethan/Brendan Kemp, Cayenne/Gus Burleson, Callahan Gaskins, Becky/Lizzie Riedel, Rory Alonzo
 29 **Mauudy Thursday 7pm** TBA
 30 **Good Friday 7pm** TBA

ELDERS

- 4 Dave Roembke 18 Spencer Gaskins
 11 Doug Seals 25 Earl Miller

FLOWER SPONSORS

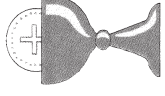
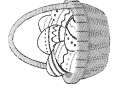
- 4 E. Gonzalez 18 D. Olsen
 11 S & K Gaskins 25 R & M Comstock

ALTAR CARE

~Kathy Seals, Arin Starkel~



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MARCH 2018						
4 8:15 AM & 11AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 9:45 AM Youth Group Meeting 11:00 AM Gr. 1-8 Sing in Church	5 7:00 PM Worship	6 7:00 PM School Board	7 2:30 PM & 7pm Lenten Worship 3:30 PM Jr. Confirmation 5:30 PM -6:30PM Lenten Fellowship Supper 6:00 PM Church Choir Practice	8	9	10
11 8:15 AM & 11AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages <i>Daylight Savings Begins</i>	12 7:00 PM Worship	13 5:30 PM Elders Meeting 7:00 PM Church Council	14 <i>1:00 PM Juanita's Bible Study</i> 2:30 PM & 7pm Lenten Worship 3:30 PM Jr. Confirmation 5:30 PM -6:30PM Lenten Fellowship Supper 6:00 PM Church Choir Practice	15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>
18 8:15 AM & 11AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages	19 7:00 PM Worship	20 6:00 PM Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM Ladies CONNECT	21 <i>1:00 PM Juanita's Bible Study</i> 2:30 PM & 7pm Lenten Worship 3:30 PM Jr. Confirmation 5:30 PM -6:30PM Lenten Fellowship Supper 6:00 PM Church Choir Practice	22	23 Movie Night & Flashlight Egg Hunt	24 8:00 AM - Noon Congregational Spring Cleaning Day
25 8:15 AM & 11AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages Confirmation @ 11:00AM <i>Palm Sunday</i>	26 7:00 PM Worship	27	28 8:20 AM BLS/ELC Chapel <i>1:00 PM Juanita's Bible Study</i> 3:30 PM Jr. Confirmation 7:00 PM Church Choir practice	29 7:00 PM Mauudy Thursday Communion	30 7:00 PM Good Friday Worship <i>Good Friday</i>	31



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BETHANY LUTHERAN

CHURCH, SCHOOL, & EARLY LEARNING CENTER

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 & 11:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 AM

MONDAY WORSHIP

7:00 PM

REGULAR MEETINGS

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

Sundays | 9:45 AM

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Third Tuesday | 6:00 PM

JUANITA'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays | 1:00 PM

LYS (YOUTH GROUP)

First Sunday | 9:45 AM

LADIES CONNECT

Third Tuesday | 7:00 PM

CHURCH CHOIR

Wednesdays | 7:00 PM

You have received this publication because you belong to our Bethany family, or you recently visited us/participated in one of our activities (such as VBS). If you feel you have received this publication in error—or no longer wish to receive it—please call us at 360-876-1300 or send email to: Bethany.Lutheran@wavecable.com

The Bethany Beacon is published monthly **Sept–May** and at least once each summer. Members may submit items for consideration to the attention of Pastor Pittenger, Pastor Locklair, or the office by the 15th of the month. Items will be considered for publication as space allows and may be edited.