

# Bethany Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center Newsletter

February 2023

February

#### Bethany Lutheran Church

1000 W. 26th Street South Wichita, KS 67217

Church Phone 316-265-7415 BECC Phone 316-265-3033 www.bethanylutheranwichita.org

#### **Worship Service**

Sunday - 9:00 AM ECC chapel -Thur.- 9 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

Sunday - 10:30 AM Vacancy Pastor: Tim Meyer

## Early Childhood Center

Serving children ages
One through Five
Program Director
Danita Seamars
316-265-3033

February 2023								
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28						

There is a bit of a holiday desert between the celebration of Christmas and Easter. The "relief" comes this month on the 14 th as we celebrate St. Valentine's Day. The stores already display the candy and cards for us to peruse and find just the right one for our "Valentine." The day even shows up in our liturgical calendar as "Valentine, Martyr."

Yes, St. Valentine was a real person. There are actually three men might have served as the origin of the commemoration. The most likely is Valentinus of Rome. The celebration that the world around us holds tends toward the sentimental and the sensuous – toward romantic love. It pretty much ignores the notion of martyrdom.

It's easy to connect Valentine and love, especially through the events surrounding Valentine of Rome's execution. He wrote a letter of love – in Christ – to the jailer's daughter. That letter even has another legend surrounding it – it was written on a heart-shaped document and was signed "your Valentine."

In contrast to the world around us, our celebration of St. Valentine's day is not about romantic love; it is about love of Christ. It is about death being a defeated enemy because Christ defeated it in His own death. Here are the three stanzas of LSB hymn #706. Though this hymn was written recently (1978) for a wedding it is far removed from romantic sentimentality.

Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giving. May His will in us be done.

Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ's humility, Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring, Reaching out in charity.

Love in Christ abides forever, Fainting not when ills attend; Love, forgiving and forgiven, Shall endure until life's end.

Husbands, it is okay to buy a box of chocolates for your rib (Genesis 2:24). Wives, it is good to find just the right card for your lord (1 Peter 3:6). Widows and widowers; rejoice in thanksgiving for the gifts that God gave you in marriage to those who now sleep in the Lord. Only remember to look at all of these gifts through the love of Christ. He is the foundation from which we are receiving all of this love.

Christ defines love in His life and in His Word. It is long suffering. Emotions are tamed. It is kind. Paul lists eight things that love is not (1 Cor. 13:4b-6a). Love isn't jealous, doesn't brag, and is not puffed-up with self-importance. It doesn't act in an unbecoming way, as in the behavior of homosexuals (Rom. 1:27). Hardest of all, love is not self-seeking, easily provoked, and doesn't keep a ledger of wrongs. Finally, love will not give approval to wickedness or even delight in hearing of it. Why? Because love delights—and rejoices in the good and the true. These are given to us by our Lordan.

Pastor Meyer

(with grateful acknowledgement to Rev. M. Brockman)



Women's Bible Study meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Bethany. The study is "A Bible Study on Patience, Hope, and Trust" by Sharla Fritz. See Jenny Colby or Doris Cannon for more information. Come and join us and bring a friend.

**Pastoral Visits and Contact: Vacancy Pastor Tim Meyer** is delighted to visit: to get acquainted, have devotion and prayer, and talk and pray over matters of concern in life. Please, feel free to contact the church office between 9:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday, to arrange a day and time to do so. If Pastor is not available at the time you call, leave a message with the office secretary, David Funke.

In the event of an emergency or urgent matter outside of church office hours, call Pastor at 316-214-9638.



**Seniors' Activities: Breakfast**: Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 9:00am at Country Café, 2804 S. Seneca. "God's People: Walking and Talking": Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 1:00-2:00pm, in the Activity Center and the Dining Room. Games will begin again starting on Wednesday, February 8th at 2pm. Everyone is welcome!

McMullin Melissa R.	2/2
Larson Sydney E. (Sydney)	2/4
Schnelle Jansen	2/6
Schreffler Robert (Robert)	2/8
LaRouche Tyler L. (Tyler)	2/9
Moore Kristen M. (Kristin)	2/9
Vinroe Hailey N. (Hailey)	2/10
Shipman Colt W. (Colt)	2/12
Nuse Darlene (Darlene)	2/13
Schnelle Aaron D.	2/14
Kuehn Arthur W. (Art)	2/17
Vinroe Christopher L. (Chris)	2/19
Kester Bruce J. (Bruce)	2/20
Moore Joseph D. (Joe)	2/21
Nowak Vrailihstulighn Y.	2/22
Castillo Modesto (Modesto)	2/24
Lang Susan M.	2/24
Storck Junior L. (Junior)	2/24
Mishler Glen P. (Glen)	2/26
Fritz Jodi K.	2/27



Meyer Douglas W. (Doug)	2/1
Owen Teresa A.	2/1
Sommerhauser Eugene M. (Gene)	2/1
Tope Sandra (Sandy)	2/2
Obermueller Erik A. (Erik)	2/5
Stewart Ariauna K.	2/7
Stewart Elias R.	2/7
Dehncke Marcus J.	2/14
Horn Arlen J. (A.J.)	2/19
Welty Jordan T. (Jordan)	2/19
Welty Mitchell R. (Mitchell)	2/19
Parmenter Caleb M. (Caleb)	2/23
McMullin Melissa R.	2/24
Ohmie Barbara S. (Barb)	2/25



Crossman Dean (Dean) and Diane (Diane)	2/14	55 yrs
Tucker Curtis E. and Michelle (Michelle)	2/18	56 yrs
Dehncke Mark D. and Rhonda	2/26	28 yrs



#### **Greeters Febr**uary

- 5. Scott & Kathleen Hasenbank
- 12. Alan Keimig
- 19. Bruce Kester
- 26. Art Kuehn

#### March

- 5. Dean & Nina Lang
- 12. Dolores & Susan Lang
- 19. Denise & Ava Lewis
- 26. Vivian Mailly

You are the first point of contact for our quests! Welcome them by smiling. If this is their first visit to our church, thank them for joining us in worship. Alert one of our ushers that they are first time visitors so that any questions regarding our service can be answered. If you cannot be greeter on the Sunday you have, please talk to Doris Cannon and she will contact someone else. If you would prefer not to be a greeter, please tell Doris.



#### Children's Sunday School Teaching Schedule

Opening in the back of the Sanctuary, class following in 3rd classroom

Feb. 5	Deb Welty	March 5	Deb Welty
Feb. 12	Ruth Valdez	March 12	Ruth Valdez
Feb. 19	Deb Welty	March 19	Deb Welty
Feb. 26	Ruth Valdez	March 26	Ruth Valdez



#### **Altar Guild**

Margaret Baldridge & Marcia Hampton Jan. 1 & Feb. 5 Jan. 8 & Feb. 12 **Doris Cannon** 

Jan. 15 & Feb. 19 Lois Adams & Amy Salazar

Jan. 22 & Feb. 26 **Doris Cannon** 

Jan. 29 Robert Ohmie

#### Cleanup

Toni Bolin Jeanetta Bolin

Rhonda Dehncke & Vivian Mailly

Vickie Pasewark

Melanie Schreffler & Fern Neumiller

Anyone who would like to help with Altar Guild, please contact Doris Cannon. This is help with organizing or help with Filling and Cleanup.



#### Head Usher - Alan Keimig

February March Bill Fromm Mark Dehncke Bruce Kester David Funke Larry Moore Doug Meyer

If you cannot be usher on the Sunday/month you have been assigned, please talk to Alan Keimig. If you would prefer not to be an usher, please tell Doris Cannon. Or if you would like to be an usher and vou're not on the list, contact Doris.



#### **February**

- 5. Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
- 12. Richard Vinroe / Mark Weltv
- 19. Mike Parmenter / Robert Ohmie
- 26. Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick

#### March

- 5. Richard Vinroe / Mark Weltv
- 12. Mike Parmeneter/ Robert Ohmie
- 19. Robert Bolin / Jim Merrick
- 26. Richard Vinroe / Mark Welty



There is a lot of **behind the scenes work** that is done for our worship services, Bible Studies, Children's and Youth Ministries, greeters, ushers, altar guild, music ministry, and so many more ministries that we need help with. Most of these do not take much time out of our busy schedules to be part of. Is God calling you to be part of something but you don't know where to start? Be an usher! Prepare the communion! These are very important jobs that only require a little bit of you. Please contact an elder listed in this newsletter to see where <u>YOU</u> can be of service to God's kingdom.

#### Spiritual Leadership/Management Team Report

There is a voters' meeting scheduled for **Sunday**, **February 5**, to continue the Call process. The congregation will vote on one of the pastors the Call Committee has selected. The meeting will be held at **11:30am** and *Pizza will be provided*.



There is a Valentine Potluck scheduled for Sunday, February 12th, 11:30am. See the information on page 8 of this newsletter.

It is encouraged that those who have keys to the church and are not using them, turn them in to the church office. We are working on getting keys to those who need them.

It is requested that all members prayerfully look at the Stewardship report and if there are any questions contact Roger Obermueller, Steve Nienke or Robert Bolin for more information.

#### **Trustees Report**

We pray all is well with you and your family!

Progress continues on the east parking entrance. Warm weather needed to apply final paint. Security notice...

Please be aware of your surroundings when entering/leaving the church. If you are unsure stay in your vehicle and wait for others to arrive or drive away. Try to arrive/leave in pairs. Please report any unusual activity.

Property... we have had a large tree fall at the NW corner of the property. Fortunately, it fell on our property saving our neighbors fence. It is too large for us to cut/remove. Joe Moore has agreed to handle the job. Cost will be \$850. This expense does not fit into our annual budget. If you desire, you may donate to this expense. Mark your donation "Tree Removal".

All for now! Trustees



#### SUNDAY HAPPENINGS

Service 9:00 AM Fellowship Time 10:00 to 10:30 AM Sunday School/Bible Study 10:30-11:30 AM

- ACTIVITY CENTER- Pastor Meyer leads a study on the logic of Christianity.
- **PRAYER CENTER Robert Bolin** leads a study on Baptism.
- SECOND CLASSROOM— Mark Dehncke leads a study of the book entitled "Why I Believe" by Chip Ingram, in the second classroom of the west wing, accessible from the back hallway. The book examines 5 questions of belief: Life after death, resurrection, the Bible, creation and the God of the Bible. Join the group for discussion on these topics.
- THIRD CLASSROOM Sunday School is lead by Ruth Valdez and Deb Welty. An opening is held at 10:30 in the back of the Sanctuary with music led by Sandy Tope and Small Catechism items presented weekly. "Enduring Faith" curriculum is being used. This begins with creation and continues weekly with God's plan of salvation throughout the entire Bible—pointing students to Jesus, their Savior.

# Early Childhood Center

#### **Early Childhood Center Update**

Bethany's Early Childhood Center continues to make its way in the world, which is what we prepare our children to do. We prepare the children entrusted to us to make their way in the world, with a foundation in Christ.

We are finally fully staffed once again with the hiring of a new full-time Assistant Teacher and a part-time Assistant Teacher. Jennifer Gallacher joined our staff at the very end of the year as a full time Assistant. She is qualified to work as a Lead

Teacher, so we are ready to address any new staff shortages that may arise. In early January, we added Alyssa Davis on a part-time schedule as an Assistant in training, with the goal of having her complete her certifications so that she can launch her chosen career in child care and so that we can develop a fully certified Teacher, something that is not easy to come by in these modern times.

These two additions came right in the nick of time, as Taryn gave birth to her baby two weeks ago, so she will be out for an undetermined period of time. Taryn has been filling the "float" position as a fully-qualified Lead Teacher, so we will continue to be adequately staffed during her absence. Meanwhile, our new staffing level means that we are ready to accept more children who need daycare services. We are ready for growth!! As always, we appreciate your continued support and prayers! --Bethany's Early Childhood Ministry Team





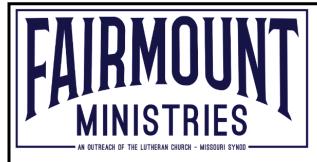


#### **Stewardship Team update:**

We made it through 2022 thanks to the set aside funds for a new Pastor and Assistant to the Pastor which totaled a little over \$45,000. We also benefitted from some daycare assistance grant funds of \$30,000 which helped pay salaries & benefits for daycare workers. For 2023 we will start out with a

small reserve due to the reduced salary and no benefits that Pastor Meyer is receiving. When a new Pastor accepts our call, the expenses will go back to a similar amount we were paying Pastor Schnelle which could be difficult due to our current income situation. Any suggestions or any questions, contact Roger Obermueller, Steve Nienke or Robert Bolin.

2022	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Line Total	Budget 12 mo
BASE OPERATIONS	\$12,347	\$35,036	\$28,138	\$12,706	\$25,082	\$14,894	\$12,833	\$14,819	\$21,204	\$11,183	\$13,986	\$12,442	\$214,669	\$159,046
WORD & SACRAMENT	\$10,274	\$9,415	\$9,477	\$9,595	\$10,868	\$13,695	\$9,301	\$9,350	\$9,734	\$9,370	\$2,382	\$5,094	\$108,556	\$129,045
EARLY CHILDHOOD CTR	\$15,649	\$16,038	\$20,726	\$18,883	\$18,585	\$24,310	\$17,707	\$19,021	\$17,592	\$19,422	\$17,241	\$28,713	\$233,887	\$210,493
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$38,301	\$60,489	\$58,454	\$41,185	\$54,535	\$53,024	\$39,841	\$43,190	\$48,529	\$39,975	\$33,610	\$46,249	\$557,381	\$456,679
OFFERINGS	\$20,652	\$17,498	\$19,524	\$20,718	\$17,923	\$20,668	\$29,429	\$17,056	\$19,227	\$21,290	\$20,059	\$16,906	\$240,949	\$280,000
ECC INCOME	\$17,316	\$16,079	\$29,259	\$15,521	\$21,360	\$19,043	\$21,270	\$18,941	\$12,658	\$20,982	\$19,588	\$16,047	\$228,064	\$180,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$63,277	\$46,417	\$48,852	\$36,344	\$39,439	\$39,741	\$50,699	\$52,932	\$34,861	\$57,779	\$46,853	\$34,114	\$551,308	\$494,500
MONTHLY BALANCE	\$24,976	\$14,072	\$9,602	\$4,841	\$15,095	\$13,283	\$10,858	\$9,743	\$13,669	\$17,804	\$13,243	\$12,136	\$6,074	
CHK ACCT BALANCE	\$24,976	\$10,904	\$1,302	\$3,539	\$18,634	\$31,918	\$21,059	\$11,316	\$24,985	\$7,181	\$6,062	\$6,074		
ECC PROFIT/LOSS	\$1,667	\$41	\$8,533	\$3,362	\$2,775	\$5,268	\$3,563	\$80	\$4,934	\$1,560	\$2,347	\$12,666	\$5,823	
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Located directly between WSU & Fairmount Neighborhood, our community ranges from all ages and backgrounds. 316-684-5224 l 3815 E. 17th St. N. l Wichita, KS 67208

#### Dear Bethany,

We are excited to share a delicious and filling way to support Fairmount Ministries ... Any guesses?

That's right, it's time for Bierocks! Our Annual Bierock fundraiser is right around the corner! Sales are now open, as

well as the sign-up for volunteers. We need several volunteers to make this possible and have a few training opportunities to lead up to the event so you can learn the ins and outs of making a bierock (both are delicious)! What is a bierock, you ask?

#### According to the somewhat reliable source at Wikipedia:

- A Bierock is a yeast dough pastry pocket sandwich with savory filling, originating in Prussia.
- The dish is common among the Volga German community in the United States and Argentina. It was brought to the United States in the 1870s by German Russian Mennonite immigrants.
- It has developed strong cultural associations with the cuisine of the Midwestern United States [such as Kansas & Nebraska (Runza)]

[Traditionally] The soft yeast rolls contain some sugar, butter and eggs, and either warm water, milk, or a mix of both. The filling is a basic mix of onion, ground beef and cabbage[1] which can be made more complicated by the addition of different cheese blends, condiments and seasonings like caraway seeds.

Our chef and local caterer, Ashley Mayes has perfected a recipe with delicious fillings of groundbeef, sausage, cabbage and cheese. We hope you will consider joining us by purchasing some delicious bierocks and volunteering for our event! Details are below.



#### Pre-Order for Pickup February 20-25

We are now taking pre-orders for bierocks for \$30 per dozen + tax. Pick up your orders between the designated times Monday (2/20) - Saturday (2/25) at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita. Bierocks are made FRESH daily by local caterer & chef, Ashley Mayes, and our volunteers! Be sure to pre-order quickly as we do expect most days to sell out! Pre-order at the link below!



#### **Volunteer Information**

There are several shifts with a variety of times between **February 19-25. We need approximately 10-15 volunteers a day** to make the Bierock Fundraiser for Fairmount Ministries & Coffee Co. a huge success! Shifts are available for a variety of roles in the kitchen, packaging, and curbside delivery! Even if you do not love to cook, **there is a job for everyone!** Sign-Up at the link below!



#### **Training Dates & Times**

While training is not required, it is encouraged to help our volunteers to become more familiar with the bierock-making process and to allow our operation to run more smoothly. We have a few options available for training, including this Wednesday morning from 8-10:30am! Training is at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in the church kitchen. Sign up at the link below.

To pre-order bierocks, sign up to volunteer, or a sign up for training, visit our website at:

#### www.fairmountministries.org/bierocks

Help us to foster a ministry of presence to students and young adults through Fairmount Ministries & Coffee Co. today!

#### **Board of Parish Ed Update**

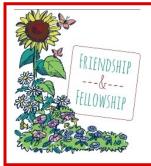
"God's People: Walking & Talking"

Mondays and Wednesdays *AND Fridays*, *too*, 1:00-2:00pm, Activity Center and Dining Room. Getting some exercise and fellowship at the same time. Have been 5-12 in attendance. We have music playing. A time to get to know each other and keep active, too. We usually have a short devotion or discussion.



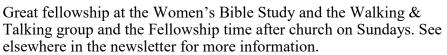
**Women's Bible Study** meets in the Prayer Center on 1st and 3rd Thursday nights at 7:00pm. New study is "Waiting: A Bible Study on Patience, Hope, and Trust." by Sharla Fritz. All women invited and encouraged to bring a friend!

Children's Sunday School is continuing. Encouraging members to bring their grandkids and great grandkids.



#### **Fellowship Update:**

Valentine Potluck on February 12th. See page 8 for more information. Pizza will be served on February 5th, 11:30 before the voters' meeting.







Concordia Academy-Wichita 909 S Market St Wichita, KS 67211 https:// www.concordiaacademywichita.org Will be hosting their Enrollment Open House for the 2023-2024 school year on Saturday, February 4th from 10am to noon. You are welcome to stay for a light lunch and a showing of the film "The Miseducation of America" beginning at noon. CAW is located in the education wing.

**Issues, Etc.:** is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. LPR streams 24/7 at lutheranpublic radio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

**Lutheran Hour Ministries** is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nations - and the Nations to the Church*. Lutheran Hour Ministries produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries. LHM's flagship program, The Lutheran Hour, is the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It airs weekly on nearly 1,800 stations. Tune in locally Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM (1070AM) or 9:00 AM (88.7AM). For more information, visit www.lhm.org or call 1-800-876-9880.

Westside UMC Food Pantry: We are still collecting non-perishable food items for Westside United Methodist's food pantry. If you would like to donate, place items in the tub beneath the "Food Contributions" sign located in the hall between the office and Prayer Center at Bethany.



We meet the fourth Tuesday of the month. Our next SWNA Meeting will be February 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. here at Bethany in the Activity Center. Come join us and see what is going on in the neighborhood. Generally our Community Police Officer, the Firemen and the elected officials attend, along with others in the area.

We look forward to seeing you and bring a neighbor or two. There is plenty of room.

More information: contact Darlene Nuse www.southwichita.com



#### Lutheran Women's Missionary League

For February, LWML will meet on Tuesday, Feb.14 at 4pm for the regular meeting and Bible Study. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Women's Retreat 2023: March 4, 2023. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 600 N. Greenwich. Love Rules: A Study of the Ten Commandments, Guest Speaker: Christina Hergenrader. Early-bird Tickets: \$25, \$30 after February 17. https://HolyCrossLutheran.net/LwMLretreat. Doors open at 8:30am for registration & breakfast, retreat begins at 9 and ends at 2:30, lunch is provided.

Quilting Ladies meet on Tuesday mornings, 10:00-12:00am and Saturday mornings, 9:00am-12:00pm. Contact Amy Salazar, Lois Adams or Jenny Colby for more information.



OUILTING GROUP

**Continuing Prayer:** We pray for guidance and wisdom to be granted to the call committee and to our District President as we continue the call process; for Christians throughout the world who in obedience to our Lord take up their crosses for His sake, and that by His grace all may endure. That God's wisdom and courage be given to those who govern. For the staff and the children in our Early Childhood Center, that the staff may teach well and the children may hear with joyful hearts about Jesus, and that all may grow strong in Him and in service to each other.



### Bring a Main Dish and a Side or Dessert! Sunday, February 12th, 11:30am









#### Voters' Meeting

Call Process Continuation February 5th, 11:30am



Sunday, February 12th, 11:30am

See Page 8 for more information

#### **Sunday Mornings**

Service at 9:00 AM
(also online: Facebook Live)
Fellowship time:
10:00AM to 10:30AM
Sunday School/Bible Study
10:30AM to 11:30AM

#### **Church Office Hours**

Open: 8:30am Closed for Lunch: 12:00p.m. - 1:00p.m. Closed: 5:00 p.m.



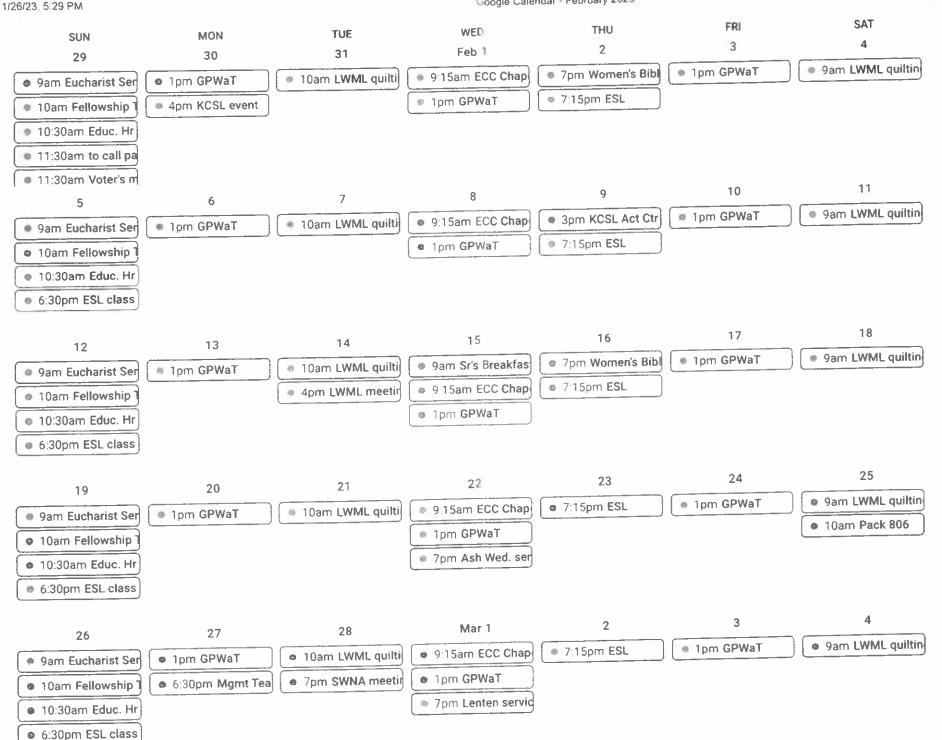
Wednesday February 22nd 7:00 pm

Bethany Lutheran Church and School 1000 W 26<sup>th</sup> St. South Wichita, KS 67217



Like us on Facebook! Bethany Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center





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