



Benicia Lutheran Church

# GRAPEVINE



MAY 2025

The mission of Benicia Lutheran Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and serve members of the congregation and surrounding community through worship, education, witnessing, fellowship and service.



Benicia Lutheran Church  
and  
Noah's Ark Preschool  
201 Raymond Drive  
Benicia, CA 94510

Church: 707-746-0201  
[BLCOffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:BLCOffice@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.benicialutheranchurch.com](http://www.benicialutheranchurch.com)

**Rev. Phil Kohlmeyer**  
Pastor

Preschool: 707-746-1868  
[BLCNoahsArk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:BLCNoahsArk@sbcglobal.net)  
Preschool Director  
Heba AbuGhazaleh



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 AM Worship Service

Those unable to join us in person for worship may join us on our Livestream Service or watch the YouTube recording. The link is on our website.

## BLC to Participates in National Day of Prayer

May 1 is the National Day of Prayer. BLC is leading a service at The Lodge at Glen Cove at 2:00 PM that Thursday. The Lodge address is 140 Glen Cove Marina Rd, Vallejo, CA 94591



## Ascension Day Celebration May 29

Ascension Day will be Thursday, May 29. We are having an Ascension Day Celebration including Leaven Kids at 4:00 PM that day. It will be informal, with video, music, a brief message, craft project, prayer and fellowship. All children, family members and adults are invited. *See page 5.*

## Couples Group/Mothers and Parenting Group Interest Survey

Do you have any interest in a couples group (in person or on Zoom) or a couples weekend retreat?

We are gathering a list of couples who are interested. We are also gathering interest in a Mothers and a parenting group. Call or text Pastor Phil if you have any interest in such groups or concerns in this area, 925-586-2575.



**First Video Gaming Night at Benicia Lutheran Church!**

**May 24 at 6:00-8:00 PM.**

*See page 6.*

# Noah's Ark News



## Thank You Teachers!

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 5–May 9. Let's show our amazing teachers how much we love and appreciate them! Thank you Teacher Katie, Teacher Isabel, Teacher Dyllan, Teacher Princess, Teacher Kirstie, and Teacher Heba!

Graduation pictures will be taken on Monday, May 5, 9:00–10:00 AM. This will be the only day so Tuesday/Thursday students who are graduating will need to come on Monday.

### Important Dates

**Monday, May 26:** No School for Memorial Day

**Wednesday, May 29 and Thursday, May 30:** Last official days of school.

**Monday, June 2:** Graduation Ceremony 9:00–10:00 am

## Mother's Day Tea.

MWF Class: **Wednesday, May 7 at 11:30 AM–12:30 PM**

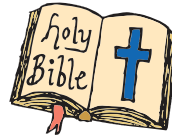
TTh Class: **Thursday, May 8 at 11:30 am–12:30 PM**



We'll celebrate picnic-style! Muffins, fresh fruit, and lemonade will be served. Family members welcome! Grandmas, Aunties, and Dads are invited.

Get ready for sunshine, laughter, and sweet memories! Grab your blanket, small beach chair, or towels, and come join us out on the lawn for a cozy afternoon. (And don't forget the sunscreen — you'll thank us later!) In the case of rain, we will move indoors.

After the tea party, all children will be dismissed early.



# Bible Bookmark

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

## Bible Study & Discussion

### Monday Women's Bible Study group with Liz Barriga

The Women's Monday Bible Study meets at 10 AM. They have finished their Study on Genesis. Liz will let everyone know what the next Series is and when it will begin.

### Monday Zoom Bible Study with Pastor Kohlmeier

Pastor's Zoom group meets Mondays 7:00 PM. The group has started a new series—The Chosen. This is a popular series that started several years ago with the birth of Jesus and continues with his ministry and chosen disciples. Please let Pastor know if you are interested and have not been receiving the weekly Zoom link.

### Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Kohlmeier

Tuesdays from 2:00-3:30 PM Pastor Phil leads an in-person discussion at church. They have started a new Series—The Exodus. This 8 week series covers the Old Testament's major event and is taught by Dr. Jusin Jackson of Hillsdale College who also taught the course on Genesis.

### Wednesday Zoom Bible Study with Pastor Kohlmeier

Has begun again on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM on Zoom. It's a repeat of The Exodus Series on Tuesday afternoon. Please let Pastor know if you are interested and have not been receiving the weekly Zoom link.

We are now in the Easter Season. The significance of the Resurrection never goes away. We've been stating that deathbed quotation by the renowned Christian Church Historian, Jaroslav Pelikan.

***“If Christ is risen, nothing else matters. And if Christ is not risen—nothing else matters.”***

That quotation seems to be a good summary of the implications of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It indicates that most of—or perhaps all of us—should be living our lives with different values than we are currently doing. It's so easy to live by the world's standards even though God has so transformed things by the life, death and Resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ.

There are a lot of things coming up. May 1 is the National Day of Prayer so this Thursday we are having a Prayer Service at 2:00 PM at The Lodge at Glen Cove.

We have also now scheduled our first Gaming Night for Youth. It's Saturday, May 24, 6:00–8:00 PM. The focus is on High School Youth. We have limited space available this first night so if you or a teenager you know is interested, we encourage you to check with us to make sure of space availability. See the flyer in this newsletter.

Enthusiasm is growing for the Thursday, May 29, Ascension Day Celebration, 4:00–5:00 PM. This is Celebration is designed for children and adults are welcome. Grandpa Ralph (Mick McCoy) is leading the Leaven Kids Singers in this, their premier performance for the Celebration.

On Sunday, June 1, we will celebrate the Ascension in our Worship Service. We celebrate Pentecost the following Sunday.

Be sure and keep our Bible Day Camp, July 14–18, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM in mind for children Pre-School through 5th Grade.

As adults we have multiple Bible Study groups available. Liz will resume her Monday morning in person group shortly.

Mondays at 7:00 PM we have a Zoom group discussing The Chosen series, Season 1.

We meet at the church on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM as we are go through a study of The Exodus the second book of the Bible. We do the same material on Wednesdays, at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

**Please note that we have changed the Monday and Wednesday Zoom times to 7:00 PM.** Please contact Pastor if you are not on the email list getting the Zoom links and would like to be, or if you have any questions.

In Christ,

*Pastor Phil*



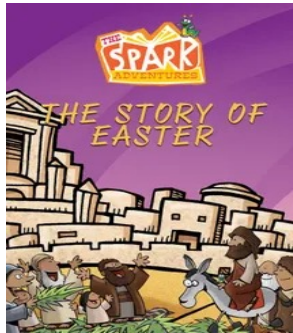
## WINGS Knitting & Crochet Group

The knitting/crochet group is back to meeting on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. The dates in May and June will be at different houses. May 7 will be at Sally Engbrethson's house, May 21 at Suzanna Sally's house, June 4 at Sally's house, and June 18 at Sally's house. Talk to Sally at 415/250-6728 for more information.

## RightNow Media Study of the Month:

### The Story of Easter The Spark Adventures

The Story of Jesus' resurrection comes alive for children in this animated show. Based on the award-winning Spark Story Bible, The Story of Easter will captivate children as they learn about God's love for the world through the miraculous life and ministry of Jesus.



Go to <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/518095>

Don't have access to RightNow Media yet? Sign up for free at <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/benicialc>

## Lutheran Women in Mission Convention This June



Please join your LWML sisters and brothers at the Lutheran Women in Mission Convention in Omaha this summer. Registration opens March 1. At the convention there will be bible studies, worship services, Mission Grant selection, mission impact luncheons, Mites in Action speakers, and more! Go online to [LWML.org](http://LWML.org) for detailed information.

**What:** Lutheran Women in Mission 41st Biennial Convention

**When:** Thursday, June 26 - Sunday, June 29, 2025

**Where:** Omaha, Nebraska

LWML CNH will have a group traveling by train for only \$291.00 round trip. The group will be leaving Monday, June 23, 10:23 AM, Sacramento (Valley Station) and arriving home Tuesday, July 1. Contact LaVada Terrell at 408-893-3367 for details.

## Bible Day Camp

July 14-18

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

We are looking good for a super week of meaningful and fun activities. We are not charging for the Bible Day Camp, but we are encouraging donations by the participating families who have adequate financial resources.



# Ascension Day Celebration



**Hear what the Ascension of Jesus is all about**

**Thursday, May 29, 4:00—5:30 PM**

Featuring Leaven Kids Singers led by Grandpa Ralph (Mick McCoy)

Music - English and Spanish Songs - Crafts - Refreshments

**Benicia Lutheran Church, 201 Raymond Dr.**

Have questions? Call/text Pastor Phil 925-586-2575



# BENICIA GAMING NIGHT

Please join us for an incredibly fun Video Gaming Night. We will have pizza, soft drinks and of course GAMING!

Oculus  
Nintendo Switch

Contact:  
Tony Colafrancesco (443) 928-5158  
Nolan Sinats (707) 373-5638

Saturday Night May 24  
6-8 PM | Benicia Lutheran Church  
201 Raymond Drive  
Benicia, CA 94510



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 5/11 Nita Tyree
- 5/11 Debbie Weirich
- 5/12 Kim Weirich
- 5/14 Donna Noska
- 5/25 Elfriede Adams
- 5/25 Tony Barriga
- 5/26 Kelsi Snyder
- 5/31 Nancy Stiltz

### Parkinson Support Group **May 3**

10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
(Moved to the first Saturday for May only.)

### Parkinson's Care Partner Support Group **May 17**

Meets every third Saturday of the month, at the church from 2:00 PM-4:00 PM.

### Meetings Reminder

**1st Friday of the month:**

**May 2, 2025**

Worship Committee: 10:00 AM

**Tuesday, May 6, 2025**

Church Council: 6:30 PM

**4th Thursday of the month:**

**May 22, 2025**

Elder's Meeting: 2:00 PM

### Tithes, Offerings and Prayer Requests

Please drop off your Tithes, Offerings and Prayer Requests in the mail slot under the church office window or mail them to BLC, 201 Raymond Drive, Benicia, CA 94510. Prayer Requests and Updates can also be emailed to [blcoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:blcoffice@sbcglobal.net).

### Ongoing BLC Food Drive

Bring in cans of food (no glass please) to fill up our bin in the Narthex so that we can take them to our local food bank. Supplies are low and the need is always high. Thanks so much to those that have already contributed.



**May 4**

**"An Old Place, A New Beginning"**

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

God is the Searcher Who will not stop looking for us. In our lonely hiding place, He says, "I knew I would find you here."

**(John 21:1-19)**

**May 11**

**"How to Be Happy"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Lasting happiness is found in surrender, rather than control.

**(John 15:11)**

**May 18**

**"Truth That Takes Us In"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus is the Truth Who will take you in to live like He lives, planted in God His Father's love.

**(John 15:9)**

**May 25**

**"What's Your Story?"**

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Gregory Manning

Our difficulties often become the backdrop against which God reveals His faithfulness. Each challenge is an opportunity for Him to display His power.

**(John 9:1-11)**



## Benicia Lutheran Church

### 2023-2024 OFFICERS

- Doyle Tyree . . . . . *President* . . . . . (707) 745-6495
- Jean Gannett . . . . . *Vice-President* . . . . . (925) 980-2735
- Rodger Engebretson . . . . . *Treasurer* . . . . . C (707) 567-6814
- Tony Barriga . . . . . *Financial Secretary* . . . . . H (707) 745-4111
- Liz Barriga . . . . . *Recording Secretary* . . . . . H (707) 745-4111
- Brad Miller . . . . . *Head Elder* . . . . . C (707) 515-9216
- Roger Keller . . . . . *Head Trustee* . . . . . H (707) 746-5011
- Barbara Keller . . . . . *Worship Committee Chair* . . . . . H (707) 746-5011

Listen to The Lutheran Hour on KCBC, AM 770, at 7:30 AM on Sundays, or anytime at [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org). Also available on the web are Spanish and Armed Forces versions as well as MP3, Podcast and Sirius XM Satellite radio. A mobile app is available for your convenience.