



Benicia Lutheran Church

GRAPEVINE



AUGUST 2022

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
Fax: 707-751-0873
BLCOffice@sbcglobal.net
www.benicialutheranchurch.com

Rev. Phil Kohlmeyer
Pastor

Preschool: 707-746-1868
BLCNoahsArk@sbcglobal.net

Preschool Director
Sara Barron



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Bible Study with Pastor
8:30 AM

9:30 AM Worship Service

Sunday School

Preschool – Grade 5
Time and date TBD

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.

Call Process Update

As we prepare for the next stages of filling our pastor vacancy it is important to look at opportunities we have as a congregation to improve how we present ourselves to candidates. One way to demonstrate our viability and health is having all of our council positions filled. Currently we have a Vice President vacancy which if filled would help a great deal in showing that we are a healthy and viable congregation. The council positions are rewarding opportunities and typically do not require a great deal of time. There is an immediate need to fill the Vice President role but it would be good to also have some new faces in the other positions which have been filled by the same people for an extended time. We expect to receive our candidate list soon and everything we do now to help show our congregation and church in a good light will help with filling our vacancy. We have done many things in recent months with activities and we need to continue on that momentum. Resuming old activities like VBS along with new endeavors like Griefshare show that we continue to move forward as a congregation. If we continue on that road with healthy attendance at the services, keeping up to date on giving, increased giving if able, support of the ongoing and upcoming activities, and in general stepping up our support in all areas that will demonstrate the health of our congregation at church. That will help get the vacancy filled. With that pastor in place it will help ensure growing our congregation and church and ensuring our continued success. There are a lot of vacancies currently and we want to make sure we stand out and entice candidates to want to be our pastor. Thank you for your ongoing, continued, and future support and efforts. That will ensure our ongoing and continued success as a congregation.

Upcoming Events

Aug. 11 — Noah's Ark Preschool and BLC at Farmers Market

Aug. 27 — Now Showing "Chosen" video plus Ice Cream Social, flyer coming soon, contact Liz Barriga

Aug. 31 — Luncheon for Kenyan missionaries, details coming soon, contact Elfriede Adams

Sept. DATE TBD — Family Feud Pasta Feed, contact Brad Miller

Sept. 18 — GriefShare Potluck, contact Pastor Kohlmeyer

Oct. 8 — Oktoberfest, contact Barbara Keller

Nov. 5 — Senior Options Seminar, contact Pastor Kohlmeyer

Nov. 13 — GriefShare, Surviving the Holidays, contact Pastor Kohlmeyer

Noah's Ark News



August is Back to School!

Noah's Ark Preschool has added a Monday-Friday option class available for 4/5 year olds next year. Let Sara know if interested. Our school has been in business for 30 years in our community. We offer low staff turnover. We were able to continue to teach class during Covid and offer a very high quality of education. For more info call 707/746-1868, or log onto our web site at BeniciaLutheranChurch.com.

Class options:

For 4/5 year olds:

- 1) Monday-Friday 9am-noon \$630/month (part time, 5 days a week)
- 2) MWF 9-12 \$360/month (part time 3 days a week)
- 3) MWF 9-2pm \$570/month (full time 3 days a week)
- 4) MWF 9-2 pm+ TTh 9-12 \$800/month (full time 3 days+part time 2 days)

For 3/4 year olds:

TTh 9am-11:45 \$270/month

August Schedule

August 15-17 are Teacher work days to get the Preschool ready for the new school year. August 18 and 19th will be their "Sneak Peek" with a Teacher Luncheon from 11:30-12:30am on the 18th. August 22 and 23rd are the 1st official days of school.

Kenyan Missionary Presentation & Luncheon

Christ's Care For Children: Kenya is a child sponsorship program that matches individuals, families or groups in the United States with children who are living in one of the Project 24 boarding facilities in Kenya. The children live at one of the Project 24 facilities while attending school and church during the academic year. BLC will host an informational presentation by Kenya Missionary Britt Odemba, Wednesday, August 31, at 11am. Lunch will be served following the presentation. Elfrede is asking for donations of salads and desserts. For more information about this program, or to donate, visit this link: <https://www.lcms.org/make-a-gift/christs-care-for-children-kenya>

Summer Church Cleaning Schedule

AUG	6	Open
	13	Debbie & Dave Weirich
	20	Open
	27	Open
SEPT	3	
	10	
	17	
	24	
OCT	1	
	8	

More volunteers are needed to help clean the church. The Church Cleaning list is located in the kitchen and is being organized by Nita Tyree. The key and instructions are in the Narthex next to the Mailboxes and should be picked up the Sunday before your cleaning date. To volunteer for a week, please sign up on the list in the kitchen and contact Nita at 707/980-4352 or at 2jntyree@gmail.com. Thanks for providing this precious service for our church.

Summer time is “off time”—vacation time or planning time. We are making plans for the fall. Please note the articles in this Grapevine of coming “attractions.” We are doing a number of activities to help us to grow as Christians, to share the Good News of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ and to serve the community outside of our congregation.

We also want to reach out more effectively to children and youth. Please keep us in your prayers.

We hope to start an informal Sunday late afternoon worship service at Benicia Lutheran this fall that would be designed for younger families with elementary and preschool children.

We also want to encourage Christian after school programs. One such group doing that in our area is The Leaven nonprofit organization based in Fairfield. Their strategy is to offer after school and summer programs using the meeting rooms of apartment com-

plexes serving lower income residents. They are looking for part time paid site managers who could work with elementary school children in a multifaceted program to help children develop well. No degree is required, but basic competence and Christian compassion is essential. They are also looking for middle and high school students or graduates as volunteers to assist in working with the children. Check out <https://www.leavenkids.org/> and consider helping them—in prayer, in person, and even financially.

Thanks for your participation in our worship services and your prayers. The Lord is on our side. I pray you all are on His side as well.

Peace be with you in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Phil



Bible Bookmark

ADULT BIBLE STUDY LED BY
PASTOR PHIL

Bible Gathering will be from 8:30–9:15 AM each Sunday. Join us in person, we encourage new participants to join us anytime.

In-person Bible Study: Immerse Bible Study, in-person at the church, Mondays at 10:00 AM with Liz Barriga and Tuesdays at 2:00 PM with Pastor.

Wednesday Zoom Series: Immerse Bible Study at 6:30 PM. The current link is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85817626082?pwd=bVNHa2FCQ0lpUElBUmI5OERBK0tLUT09>
Meeting ID: 858 1762 6082, Passcode: 054365



Noon Hour Prayer Thursdays on Zoom 12:15–12:45 pm

Do you have a “prayer need?” Do you have a desire to pray for others? For the church? For our country? For our world? Then consider joining in on the Zoom Prayer opportunity.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82295045524?pwd=eTRpSk1CSWVL a1FMSFVGakNXRvduQT09>

Meeting ID: 822 9504 5524 Passcode: 684382

Immerse Bible Discussion Groups

Want some help in Reading the Bible? It’s not too late to join the “Bible Reading Book Club.” It’s really called Immerse Bible. Three groups have already read through and discussed the New Testament (Messiah). Alright, that’s true it was not a thorough study, but a number of us read or listened to every word of the New Testament. We have now begun the Old Testament (Beginnings). We’re going through it at a slower pace and YOU CAN JOIN US. Liz Barriga leads an in person women’s group Monday mornings at 10:00 am at BLC. Pastor leads a mixed in person group Tuesdays at 2:00 pm at BLC. And on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm we have a Zoom group which includes a number of people outside of our congregation and even outside of the Bay Area. Please check in with Pastor Phil for more information. Seize the Day! This is a great opportunity to get regular support, motivation and discussion time with others who are interested in better understanding the Scriptures which are able to make us wise unto salvation.



GriefShare participants are having a Potluck Social at BLC on Sunday, September 18, 1:00-3:00. Many individuals grieving the loss of loved ones find that oftentimes friends and relatives find it difficult to listen and relate to those who are grieving. Consequently our current GriefShare group decided to have a potluck where they and others who have been involved in GriefShare would have an opportunity to visit with others in a more comfortable setting. While we are not having our normal 13 week series this fall we will start a new series on Sunday, January 8, 2023. We are also having our one session "Surviving the Holidays" session on Sunday, November 13, 1:00-3:00. GriefShare has been a blessing to numerous people as they grieve the loss of loved ones in recent months or multiple years. The current GriefShare continues until August 7th.



WINGS Knitting Group

Next meetings are August 10 and 24 at Sally's house. Please contact Sally if interested and she will provide you with details, 415-250-6728 or by email at Sally.Engbrethson@sbcglobal.net

Senior Options Seminar (SOS) Coming to BLC Saturday, November 5

As we get older we have a number of changes that we must consider. For example, one of them is death. We know it is inevitable and yet we often are not prepared for it with its multiple facets. Some options that Seniors have to deal with are related to health or the lack thereof, finances, living arrangements, caregiving, etc.



Consequently we are planning on an event at BLC from 9:00-2:30 pm with multiple speakers and exhibitors that will be resources for the broader Benicia Vallejo area. We hope to have 80-100 attending. We would charge a fee to exhibitors so that it would be free to attendees. This is following the precedent done at Faith Lutheran, Pleasant Hill, for eight years under the leadership of Pastor Pete Woodward. It is meant to "break even" and be a service to the community.

Our interest in doing it grew out of comments made by some of our GriefShare participants who said there was a need for such a multifaceted seminar at one place on one day.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN
TO BE CHOSEN?
COME AND SEE!

“THE CHOSEN”

FAMILY* WATCH PARTY & ICE CREAM

Saturday, August 27 7:00 pm

Benicia Lutheran Church

201 Raymond Drive

707-746-0201

The Chosen is a multi-season television drama about Jesus Christ. Its intention is not only to dig deeper into the people who encountered Jesus and to see Jesus through their eyes, but also to show him in a way that is more personal, intimate, and immediate.

**Best for children over ten.*

FREE!



FREE!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 8/3 Susan Hovorka
- 8/6 Ramone Noska
- 8/6 Sierra Rybarczyk
- 8/7 Doyle Tyree
- 8/7 Russell Werner
- 8/8 Laura Sinats
- 8/10 Kimberly Collins
- 8/11 Jessica Baumberger
- 8/12 Shane Irwin
- 8/12 Heather Graves
- 8/17 Lawrence Collins
- 8/20 Mike Biro
- 8/20 Aaron Bell
- 8/24 Elivia Lewis
- 8/24 Lou Alfeld
- 8/29 John Tyree

Parkinson Support Group August 13

Meets every second Saturday of the month, in-person at the church from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM!



Benicia Lutheran Church

OFFICERS

- Belinda Miller *President* C (707) 515-8063
- Rodger Engebretson *Treasurer* C (707) 567-6814
- Tony Barriga *Financial Secretary* H (707) 745-4111
- Barbara Keller *Recording Secretary* H (707) 746-5011
- Brad Miller *Head Elder* C (707) 515-9216
- Roger Keller *Trustee* H (707) 746-5011

The Grapevine is designed and produced by Alioop Graphics
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Meetings Reminder

- Monday, August 1**
Ministry/Idea Team Meeting: 6:30 pm
- Thursday, August 9**
Worship Committee: 6:30 pm
- Thursday, August 11**
Elder's Meeting, 1:30 pm
- Tuesday, August 16**
Church Council: 6:30 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

ASSISTANCE NEEDED?

Call the church and leave a message on the answering machine if you need assistance 707/746-0201



August 7

"These Are Not Our Kind of People"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Prejudice says, "These are not our kind of people." Charity says, "These are all people for whom Christ died."

(Matthew 5:43-48)

August 14

"Everything Is So Expensive"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Everything is so expensive-but do we really need everything?

(Luke 12:15)

August 21

"Facing the Worst"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Are you prepared to face the worst, as one day we all must? Live without fear through faith in Christ.

(John 11:25-26)

August 28

"The Vision We Need"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

God grants us the vision to see what lies ahead, with hope, through faith in Christ.

(Romans 8:18-23)

Listen to The Lutheran Hour on KCBC, AM 770, at 5:30 PM on Saturdays, 7:30 AM on Sundays, or anytime at www.lhm.org. Also available on the web are Spanish and Armed Forces versions as well as MP3, Podcast and Sirius XM Satellite radio. **An updated mobile app is now available also.**