



The Bethany Bullet is a weekly capsule of worship highlights and big information that your brain may or may not have 'downloaded' from the prior Sunday. The purpose is to bolster you in faith, build you up in the key Biblical themes shared the previous Sunday in worship, to bring to mind the important issues on Bethany's plate and to broaden your awareness of opportunities of service to your Lord, your church, and your community. Tell a friend about **The Bethany Bullet!** (www.bethanylutheran.org)

FROM WORSHIP:

Sermon: "Scripture Alone!"

Text: [II Timothy 3:16-17](#)

*"The **B I B L E**, yes that's the book for me;
I stand alone on the Word of God, the **B I B L E**."*

It was of monumental, world altering significance that a monk, turned priest, become professor and parish pastor would stand in front of the Sacred and Secular authorities and say,

"Pope's and Councils can make mistakes...and therefore my conscience is captive to the Word of God and unless I can be shown from the **B I B L E** that I am wrong I can't recant – here I stand – God help me."

It is of monumental significance whenever the people of God stand on the truth that never changes, while striving to be a church ever Re-Forming. When we echo those words of Luther or sing that children's song we're not claiming something about ourselves. We're not declaring ourselves right and those who disagree with us incorrect, we are not boasting about having better understanding, **we are actually claiming something about Scripture!** – that we're right and others are wrong, or we understand greater than those who disagree – **rather we are claiming something about Scripture!**

It is, **"all of it"** ([II Tim 3:16ff](#)) **"God-breathed."** The Word is the self revelation of the self existent one. Thus it is, as the apostle states, God's way to **"rebuke, correct, instruct or train"** whatever the case maybe and whatever is needed.

The Word changes us and it impacts us differently as we change. **The Word is active and alive.**

There is a story about a professor of New Testament Studies that had been teaching college students in the states and had them write a personal reflection on the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The professor states that almost 90% of the students, in their reflection, grab hold of the portion of the parable about running out of money. The story continues as the professor the following semester taught as a visiting chair at a sister school on the other side of the globe. He gave the same assignment and found that this set of students, in almost the same percentage, focused on having no food in the country. He looked back over his notes to realize that not one of the American students spent any significant time reflecting upon the famine, whereas none of the students from the third world college spent any significant time reflecting upon running out of money. The professor then wrote a personal reflection upon his assignment and came to the conclusion that neither set of students missed some important part of the text but rather that the text did not fail to miss either set of students. **The Word connects to them where they were. It is living and active. It penetrates. It not only describes reality, it creates it! That Word of Christ, which proclaims we are free,**

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is at the same time that to which we are captive; as a people ever Re-Forming we must ever be captive to the Word of God.

“Oh Lord, let Your Word have its way with us; save us from domesticating Your Scripture, from having our way with it to force it to say what we want to hear. Let Your Word have its way with us and make us expect it to change us, for the sake of You, Your Word and Your truth which changes not. Amen.

-Pastor Kevin Kritzer

FROM THE CHIMES:

Looking for more information? Bethany's website contains up-to-date information on all programs and upcoming events! www.bethanylutheran.org

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Listed in Date Order...

**It's not too late to plan to attend Living Way (Wednesday at 7:00PM)
Join us for ReFuel beforehand at 6:30PM.**

ReFuel

ReFuel is a worship gathering centered around Song & Supper (the Lord's Supper). ReFuel, as its name states, is an opportunity to recharge the spirit which is so easily emptied by the daily grind and chaotic world. Weekly ReFuel hits us right when we need that refreshment most, midweek...3 days removed from the last Lord's Day and 4 days until the next Lord's Day. **ReFuel is on Wednesdays at 6:30PM and ends at 7:00PM.** While the worship components of ReFuel will vary, the constants of Song & Supper will remain a source of ReFueling for wearied spirits needing renewal.

Living Way Bible Study

“It is probably safe to say that nowhere is sin more vigorously renounced than in the Penitential Psalms of David; and nowhere does Christian character shine more gloriously than in David's attitude towards his own transgressions. The depth of his contrition explains the height of his elation and the breath of his relief as he ponders and embraces the promise of deliverance in the Messiah.” Those words were written by the sainted Rev. Arnie Kuntz. Pastor Kuntz is also the author of our Living Way study this year, the Penitential and Messianic Psalms of David. Pastor Kuntz served as President of the Southern California District and Sr. Pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Long Beach. Our FIRST session was on October 4th – **It is NOT TOO LATE to join us! Living Way begins at 7:00PM, following ReFuel worship.** If you'd like to join us for Living Way please email Pastor Kevin, kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org and he will send you the electronic copy of our study.



American Guild of Organists Reformation Hymn Festival

The American Guild of Organists Reformation Hymn Festival **this Sunday, October 15th afternoon at Bethany at 4:00pm**. Composer/Organist Aaron David Miller from Minnesota will be featured along with our Bethany Adult Choir and our two school choirs, Trinity and Troubadour.

**Carol McDaniel will serve as conductor and there is no admission fee.
Come early to get a good seat!**

Men's Breakfast/Bible Study:

I continue to invite all men of the Congregation to our Saturday morning study and prayer breakfast on **Saturday, October 21, 8:00–9:30AM**. We meet in the **Parish Lounge** to enjoy a tasty breakfast, do an hour long study (currently in the Gospel of John), and spend some time in prayer as a group. Thanks for your continued prayers and your participation! – Karl Fink

Raise A Glass for Student Success!

You are cordially invited! Our annual Raise A Glass event is planned for **Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 12 noon to 4:00PM!** RAG is the annual fund raising event for Bethany Student Success Program! Please add this date to your calendar and plan to also extend this invitation to other friends and family to celebrate and support Student Success. RAG 2017's venue is at the Gaslamp Restaurant in Long Beach and it promises to be a great affair! **Tickets will be sold following Sunday worship on October 15 at \$50/person.**

- Jill Moorman at jmoorman@bethanylutheran.org



**Join us from 4:00PM to 7:30PM
on Sunday, October 29th for an Oktoberfest celebration.**

Also, our Kinderfeier at the Pumpkin Patch will be open between 4:00 to 6:00PM on the east side of the parking lot at Bethany. This will include fun and games for the whole family. Come dressed up in your favorite Halloween costume to collect candy and have a great time, but nothing too scary or gory please. Our BierGarten will be open between 4:30 and 7:30PM on the grassy field.

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You won't want to miss the traditional German musical entertainment as well as our Oktoberfest feast. Food will be available for purchase pre sale and at the event which includes bratwurst, bun, potato salad, sauerkraut, apple sauce, and a pretzel. A kid's meal of hot dog, chips and a drink will also be available. Wristbands for beer will be sold before the event ONLY with a limit of two beers per adult (21 years or older with ID). There will be NO beer sales at the event itself.

As we have done for our annual Thanksgiving feast, we encourage you to bring your best dessert to share with all those who attend. Food and beer presale will begin on Sunday mornings in October. Check out the weekly Chimes, the Bethany Bullet, and our Facebook page for more details in the days and weeks to come. You won't want to miss this celebration of the Reformation!

Reformation Festival Tickets

Tickets are available for the **Reformation Festival** featuring the Concordia Choirs on **November 1st**. Carol McDaniel was able to secure some tickets at a discounted price. If you would like to secure some tickets, please bring a check to the church office. Tickets are \$25.84 each or \$48.34. **As of this writing we have about 15 tickets left.**



Even as we anticipate the Lord's transforming work in our souls and sacred spaces at Bethany, He is at work transforming our very body. As more families join Bethany we will see more households joining in commitments to our Renaissance. Currently close to 300 households have committed \$2,460,000 to our Renaissance and after receiving \$39,954 of those committed gifts in August we have received a little over \$750,000 towards our Renaissance and are expecting a little more than \$1,709,000 to be received over the next three years.

★ OCTOBER 2017 ★



Newsletter & Calendar are ready for Download!

The Newsletter is on the website at www.bethanylutheran.org.

There are printed copies of the current newsletter available in the church office and narthex.

Click on Link below to download your copy of the newsletter & calendar:

1. [NEWSLETTER homepage](#)
2. **The deadline for the NOVEMBER newsletter is Monday, October 16th**; email articles to Aimee Coleman at acoleman@bethanylutheran.org.



Electronic Giving

By giving electronically, the amount you designate will be withdrawn automatically from your checking or savings account on the date(s) you specify. You can ensure that Bethany gets your contribution on a regular basis, even when you're on vacation. To sign up for electronic giving, go to www.bethanylutheran.org, click on the word "Giving" on the top right of the home page and then follow the easy prompts.

Stay Connected!

Bethany Lutheran School - Below is the link to the school's newsletter "Bear Facts" page.

- Click [HERE](#) or copy/paste this into your browser (<http://www.bethanylutheran.org/school/bethany-bear-facts-2016-2017/>)

Follow Bethany on...

Bethany App

Download the Bethany Lutheran App on your device from the **App Store** or **Google Play** today and keep up-to-date on what is happening at Bethany.

Bethany Blog:

- Click [HERE](#) to connect to the Bethany Blog.

Twitter:

- Search @Revkevbethany on www.Twitter.com
- Or by going to the church website and clicking on the Twitter button on our homepage.
- (or click here: [Twitter link](#))

Facebook:

- Search "Bethany Lutheran Church, Long Beach" on www.Facebook.com
- Or by going to the church website and clicking on the Facebook button on our homepage.
- (or click here: [Facebook link](#))

Did you know you can hear sermons via pod casts and get congregational information via the Bethany website? Click here for [POD CASTS](#) *If unable to open above link, copy/paste this shortcut to your browser:

<http://www.bethanylutheran.org/ministries/2017-sermons/>