



Dear Bethel Family,

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. (John 15:1-2)

I am not a gardener by any stretch, but I do understand the concept of pruning. Cutting down the plant allows for new, vibrant growth to occur. If the plant is left unpruned, the health of the plant begins to decline. Spiritually, this suggests that our faith has natural ups and downs, with the low moments

creating opportunities to grow. Most of us would not volunteer to be pruned, rather the pruning happens to us. In Christ, we know the power of resurrection, that death is not the end of our story and that God can always do something new in our lives.

Blessings,
Pastor Ben

Sunday, April 28

with Pastor Ben Sandin

8:45am - Traditional Worship

9:30am - Confirmation Class

9:50am - Kid Connection

Sunday School

9:50am - Sr High Gathering

10:45pm - Contemporary Worship

6:30pm - Handbell Choir Rehearsal

[Click here to see the Bulletins](#)



The Week Ahead at Bethel

Sunday, April 28

8:45am - Traditional Worship Service

9:30am - Confirmation Class

9:50am - Kid Connection Sunday School
9:50am - Sr High Gathering
10:45am - Contemporary Worship Service
6:30pm - Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Monday, April 29

9:00am - Men of Monday
9:15am - Quilters

Tuesday, April 30

10am-1pm Office is open

Wednesday, May 1

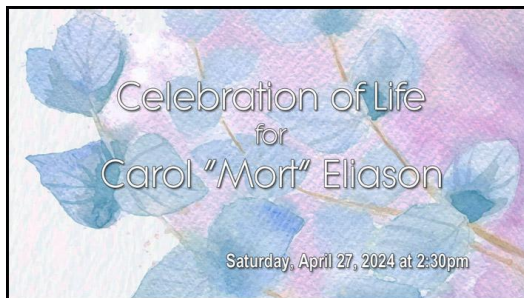
10am-3pm Office is open
10:00am - Women of Wednesday
6:30pm - Sr High Fellowship
7:00pm - Speaker Event

Thursday, May 2

10am-3pm Office is open
7:00pm - Bethel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 3

Saturday, May 4



Carol Eliason
Celebration of Life Service
Saturday, April 27 at 2:30pm

Everyone is invited to join in the remembrance and celebration of the life of Carol "Mort" Eliason, in the Bethel Sanctuary. Reception in the Fireside Room follows the service. Click [here](#) to watch the Service online.

1st Wednesday Speaker Event
Wednesday, May 1 at 7pm
in the Fireside Room

On the last Speaker Series event this season, Pamela Wu, Cupertino's new City Manager, will share information about current and future developments in the city of Cupertino.





Street Tacos at Bethel

Sunday, May 5 at 10am-1pm

Taquizas C-Jiménez will be serving Street Tacos for \$3.50 each, Quesadillas for \$7 each and Huaraches for \$10 each in the back parking lot from 10am-1pm. You may eat on site or take home. Great time for fellowship for families and singles and kids and friends - for everyone!



Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 5 at 11:45am-12:15pm

Bethel's church council is calling another special congregational meeting. We expect this meeting to be brief, only 10-15 minutes, but it is important.

The sole purpose of this meeting will be for a vote to amend our articles of incorporation to align with California state requirements for a particular type of tax exemption known as a Welfare Exemption.

We currently have a Religious Exemption, but adding a Welfare Exemption grants Bethel permission for a greater range of activities without jeopardizing our property tax exemption. More details about the proposed amendment will be posted on the [Bethel website](#) and also emailed to members. Our treasurer, Dave Tribby, is available to answer questions.

Sacred Heart Community Service Layette Kits

Drop off donations at Bethel between Sunday, May 5 and 26

Bethel is once again holding a collection drive starting May 5. Donate what you can. For each layette bag we need: diapers (newborn or size 1); wipes; receiving blankets (pack of 3 or 4); 3 onesies; 3 sleepers; shampoo; socks; bottles. Bring your donation to Bethel or contact Mark Evashenk to arrange a delivery to his house



Requesting Mother's Day Photos

Let's Celebrate Moms on May 12! All are invited to send in photos of your Mom: Mom alone, Mom with you, Mom with grandkids - what ever you prefer. Send photos by May 10 to be included in the slide show during Sunday services. Include a note that it is for Mother's Day, and the first name(s) of those in the photo.

Also, if you wish, please bring a photo to church on Mother's Day and place it in the Narthex with names of

who-is-who for all to see.

Out 'n About Goes Sailing

Saturday, May 18 at 8:45am-4:15pm

Bethel has obtained 22 reservations for the Saturday, May 18 Wildlife & Ecology Cruise at 10:30am on the Chardonnay. This is a 2-hour expedition in search of whales and other marine life. There is complimentary champagne, orange juice, coffee, pastries and fresh fruit.

Bethel has previously cruised on the Chardonnay a number of times. Each time was a memorable experience. The cost is \$85 which includes transportation from Bethel to the Chardonnay dock. The bus will promptly leave at 8:45am. The plan is also to stop for lunch at Beer 30/Carpos after the cruise. So come along with other Bethelites for an exciting time.

Meet: Bethel Parking lot at 8:45am

Cost: \$85 which includes the bus and the sail (Cash or check made out to "Bethel Lutheran Church")

Other Costs: Lunch Food Options: We'll be stopping at Beer 30 / Carpo's after for some delicacies and beverages

Return: Back to Bethel by 4:15pm

Contact: Paul Baldwin

Sign-up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bethel-lutheran-church-out-and-about-chardonnay-sail-tickets-876415330847>



Out 'n About Adventure in Monterey

Saturday, June 22 at 8:15am-5:30pm

Join us for a day in Monterey where you can make your own adventure. Enjoy the world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium, kayak in the bay, or ride a bike or surrey on the beautiful pathway along the ocean. There are plenty of shops and restaurants to round out your visit. Bring your family and friends!

Meet: in the Bethel Parking lot at 8:15am.

Fuel Cost: \$10 pp or \$30 for family of 4 or more, (Cash or check made out to "Bethel Lutheran Church").

Food: Find a favorite restaurant on Cannery Row or bring your own sack lunch.

Return: Back to Bethel by 5:30pm.

Contact: Marianne Nadell.

See the Flyer [here](#).

Scuba VBS 2024!

Monday-Friday, July 8-12, 9am-12noon
Afternoon care program at noon-5pm

Register your kids today for SCUBA VBS!
This year there is also an afternoon program at noon - 5pm, for an additional cost and limited space.

HUG (Help Us Go) Scholarships are available if this would be helpful for your child to attend.
Contact Amanda Laughlin.

Register here:

https://www.bethelcupertino.org/children/2024_vbs/index.php



Bethel Serving the World



Bethel 'bought the Farm!'

We are thrilled to announce that Bethel raised close to \$10K for our Bethel Farm project during Lent!

ELCA Good Gifts will receive our "order form" for 20 chickens, 8 roosters, 8 goats, 8 piglets, 2 cows, 3 fish farms, 13 honeybees, 2 safe water wells, 6 water filters, 4 irrigation projects, 2 latrines, 5 microloans for women's businesses, 12 fruit tree seedlings, 1 community vegetable garden, and 2 sets of gardening tools and seeds - a grand total of \$9,895 changing lives where it is needed most. Thank you so much for your generosity!



Thank you Creek Cleaners!

Message from Hella Bluhm-Stieber

Thank you to all who helped with the creek cleanup last week. Since we did not find that much trash on the southern part, I was really astonished to see how much the others found towards Bollinger Road.

We collected 124 pounds of trash including glass, 2 pounds of recycling, and 80 pounds of metal scrap (a shopping cart, wheel, etc.). We were a small but mighty crew!

Hella

M2M April 2024



Thank you to those who worked with Esperanza to build homes and help create community in Mexico: AJ Aist, Ellen Aist, Jessica Burkhart, Linda Campana, Ashish Das, Madeline Dobbins, Grace Douglass, Paul Baldwin, Rick Bryson, Erik Edstrom, Grant Edstrom, William Edstrom, Tom Hoegel, Jenell Laughlin, Janice Martinson, Ricardo Miura, Ohana Miura, Jacob Riedell, Manuel Retamoza, Rich Teed, Rick Westwick.

In case you missed the videos of the trip, shown last Sunday, you may view them by clicking on the movie title here:

[DoingLife Interview](#)

For more information and to receive the Kid Connection emails, contact Amanda Laughlin.



Confirmation Class (6th, 7th, 8th graders)

Sunday, April 28

This week we look at Esther, yes, a woman has the lead. (Not to take away from Mordecai) A Jewish woman becomes Queen of Persia and is not one to sit back and just watch what happens. Esther is a woman of faith, conviction and action. Though God is not specifically mentioned, you can see His presence in who Esther and her uncle Mordecai are and how they respond to life's choices. How do we respond to life choices when risk is involved? ... When our core

character is called upon? ... Who do we turn to for help and guidance? 10 Chapters 107 Verses. Maybe a nice and quick read again.

For more information about the Confirmation program at Bethel, contact Robyn Winegardner.



Sr. High Students

Sunday, April 28

9:50am - Sr High Gathering

Wednesdays at 6:30pm - dinner and discussion.

For more information on Sr. High activities and to get on the email list, contact Tom Hoegel.

Your Giving

Here are the monthly Benevolence Giving Reports:

<https://www.bethelcupertino.org/insideBethel/index.php#Benevolence>

Ways to give to Bethel:

Contact Fara Brock in the church office at 408-252-8500

or visit <https://www.bethelcupertino.org/giving>

For more information on Bethel Cupertino
visit bethelcupertino.org

Lead Pastor: Pastor Ben Sandin
Council President: Doreen Baldwin
Congregational Life: Tom Hoegel
Children's Ministry: Amanda Laughlin
Adult Ministry: Mary Deutscher
Business Administrator: Fara Brock

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