



Dear Bethel Family,

## ***Lent Week 5: Growing in Grace***

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." (John 8:7)

On Sunday we will hear the story often called "the woman caught in adultery." Not sure why the man is never mentioned, but the village elders ask Jesus whether she should be stoned to death as Moses commanded. Jesus turns their judgment around and asks them to look at themselves, he then extends grace to the woman. Imagine a world where we refrain from judging others and give them grace. This is what Jesus does for us and God's invitation to live out each day.

Blessings,  
Pastor Ben

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## Sunday, March 17

*with Pastor Ben Sandin*

**8:45am - Traditional Worship**

**10:45pm - Contemporary  
Worship**

[Click here to see the Bulletins](#)

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## The Week Ahead at Bethel

### ***Sunday, March 17***

**8:45am - Traditional Worship Service**

9:30am - Confirmation Mini-Retreat

9:50am - Sr High Sunday Gathering

9:50am - Kid Connection Sunday School

9:50am - Sr. High Sunday School

9:50am - Adult Ed: Spiritual Growth

**10:45am - Contemporary Worship Service**

1:30pm - Readers Anonymous

6:30pm - Handbell Choir Rehearsal

**Monday, March 18**

9:00am - Men of Monday  
9:15am - Quilters  
12:00pm - Martha Bible Study

**Tuesday, March 19**

10am-1pm Office is open  
7:00pm - Church Council Meeting

**Wednesday, March 20**

10am-3pm Office is open  
10:00am - Women of Wednesday  
6:30pm - Sr High Fellowship  
7:00pm - Lenten Journey with Jesus

**Thursday, March 21**

10am-3pm Office is open  
7:30pm Bethel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, March 22**

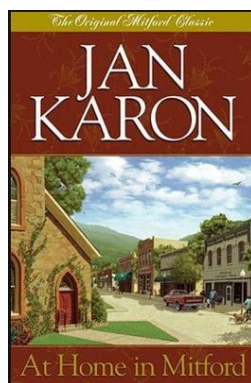
**Saturday, March 23**

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**Out 'n About Goes on a St Paddy's Brewery Tour in Santa Cruz**

*Saturday, March 16 at 10:45am-4:15pm*

Join the fun - a day in Santa Cruz - at our 13th Annual St. Paddy's Day Brewery Tour. We'll make 3 stops to sample beer, enjoy food, and end with ice cream. Meet in the Bethel parking lot at 10:45am. See the info [here](http://www.bethelcupertino.org) and sign up at [www.bethelcupertino.org](http://www.bethelcupertino.org). See Molly Schrey if you have questions.



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**Readers Anonymous**

*Sunday, March 17 at 1:30pm in the Library*

Join us for a discussion of the book "At Home in Mitford" by Jan Karon. Follow Father Tim and his parishioners in the idyllic town of Mitford. This and most, if not all of the series, is available in the Bethel library. All are welcome.

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**OUR LENTEN JOURNEY**

## Bethel Farm Project for Lent

Check out the trifold board in the narthex, and the flyer [here](#), to see all the ways you may contribute to Bethel's Farm Project. Each item on the board that needs funding, indicates a "goal" for the number of that item needed for the whole project to be a success. Items include: Microloan for a woman to start a small business, Latrine (Tom has already volunteered to cover this one), Seeds and gardening tools, Fruit tree seedling, irrigation system, Animals, Simple water well, Water filter, Community Vegetable Garden.



You may write a check to Bethel Lutheran and put it in the Offering plate or hand it to Amanda Laughlin. Money is collected all during Lent and then will be given to ELCA Goodgifts to disseminate.

## Sundays in Lent

*9:50am in the Fireside Room*

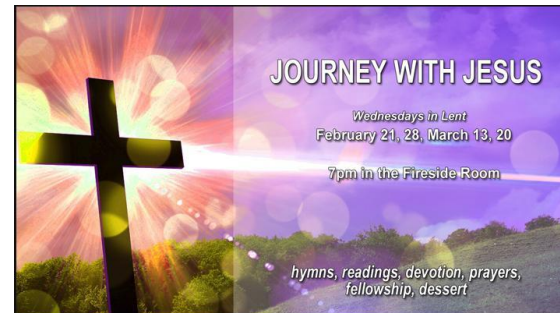
Pastor Ben will lead a 5-week sermon series and corresponding Bible Study on Spiritual Growth during the season of Lent. Each week will feature a different aspect of our spiritual life and how we can grow in our relationship with God and one another.



## Wednesdays in Lent

*7pm in the Fireside Room*

Gather together for worship in the Fireside Room, with a focus on the theme "Journey with Jesus." We will sing hymns, have readings, a devotion, prayers, fellowship, and dessert.



## Holy Week Worship Services

*March 24-31*

Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday**.  
Worship Services at 8:45am and 10:45am.

**Maundy Thursday** Worship Service is March 28 at 7pm and includes First Communion Students.

**Good Friday** is March 29 with Worship Service at 7pm.





## Help Decorate the Sanctuary for Easter

Saturday, March 30

Come to the Sanctuary and help decorate the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday.



## Sing the Hallelujah Chorus

Sunday, March 31 at 8:45am

Attend Bethel Choir rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary to prepare to sing the Hallelujah Chorus with the Choir at the 8:45am Worship Service on Easter Sunday... or just show up on Easter and sing with the choir!  
For more information click [here](#).



## Easter Egg Hunt at Bethel

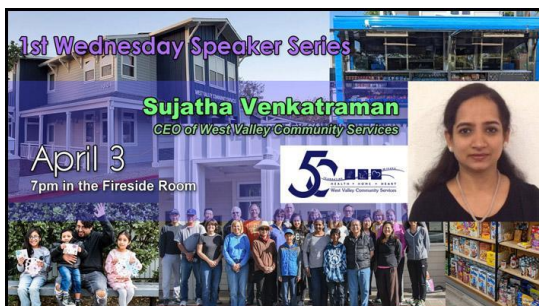
Sunday, March 31 at 9:50am

All kids in 5th grade or younger are invited to join the fun at Bethel for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. No registration is required. Show up on the back playground area at 9:50 to line up and prepare to hunt. The hunt begins at 10am.



## Easter Schedule

Sunday, March 31



## 1st Wednesday Speaker Series

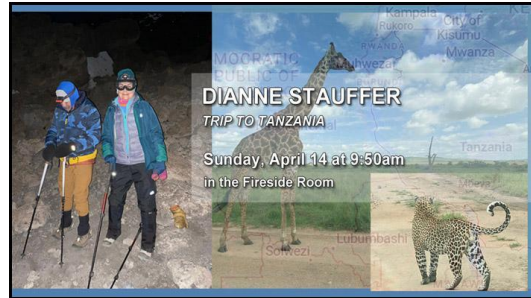
Wednesday, April 3 at 7pm  
in the Fireside Room

Our April speaker is Sujatha Venkatraman, CEO of West Valley Community Services. She will share about the important work WVCS is doing in the community and how we can make an impact.

## Dianne Stauffer's Trip to Tanzania

Sunday, April 14 at 9:50am  
in the Fireside Room

Learn more about Tanzania and hear about Dianne's recent trip.



## Creek Cleanup

Sunday, April 14, 2024, 11:45 am - 2 pm

As part of Earth Day, we will clean up Calabazas Creek between Bollinger Rd. and Blaney Ave. on Sunday, April 14 after church. We will meet at 11:45am in front of the church so that we can carpool to the cleanup site. If you want to meet directly at the cleanup place, let Hella know.

Please wear old clothes, boots, and gloves. Bring a grabber if you have one and some water to drink. Participants must wear closed toed shoes. Children need to be supervised by their parent or another adult at all times. Everybody needs to follow the [guidelines from the Water District](#).

Contact Hella Bluhm-Stieber to sign up.

## Thai Thai Food Truck

Sunday, April 21 at 10am-1pm

Come to the back parking lot for some Thai food (around \$8 per serving). Eat on site or take it home. This is a great time for fellowship for families and singles and kids and friends - for everyone!



## Quilting for Beginners

Sundays, April 21, 28 at 9:50am

Learn about quilting and help the Quilters by tying some quilts to prepare them to be shipped around the world. Stop by the Fireside Room on Sundays, and consider joining the Bethel Quilters.

Contact is Joann Weberg.

## Meet Our Bishop

Sunday, September 8 at 9:50pm

Come to the Fireside Room and meet Bishop Jeff Johnson, our new bishop, as he leads the Adult Ed Forum.



## San Jose Family Shelter Breakfast needs Volunteers

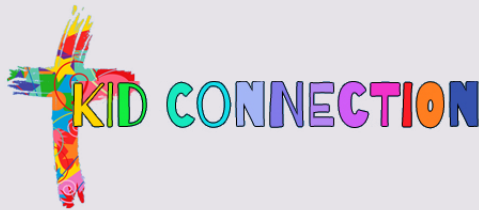
The San Jose Family Shelter needs volunteers to cook or serve, on the follow dates in 2024:

Sunday, April 14, Sunday, June 9, Sunday, August 11,  
Sunday, October 13, Sunday, December 8

Cook Volunteers are needed 5:30am - 7am.

Server Volunteers are needed 6:45am - 8:15am.

Contact is Chris Ford at [chris@island2.com](mailto:chris@island2.com).



**Sunday School**  
Preschool-1st Grade Group  
Children's Choir  
3rd-5th Grade Group  
Parent Fellowship

### Kid Connection Sunday School

**Sunday, March 17 at 9:50am to 10:40am** - Kids will be creating and making The Resurrection Story, with egg cartons.

### First Communion Class

**Sunday, March 17 at 9:50am-10:40am**, during Kid Connection time.

Led by Pastor Ben and Amanda, parents are encouraged to attend with their child. There will be bread baking on Maundy Thursday. Sign up with Amanda.

### Children's Choir

Meets next on **Sunday, March 17**, at 11:45am in Room 2. Childcare is available during the meeting in Room 2, with lunch provided.

### Kid Connection Hangout

KCHO meets this Sunday, March 17 at 11:45am-1:30pm. Kids come for lunch, arts and games. RSVP to Amanda.

### Scuba Vacation Bible School

VBS 2024 is **Monday-Friday, July 8-12** from 9am-noon.

Save the dates! Registration for VBS will open in the spring. There will also be an afternoon program that will be Scuba themed, for children whose parent(s) work full time, or for anyone who would find this helpful. There will be an added cost and it has limited space. Contact Amanda if you have any questions.

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





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

### Sunday, March 17, St. Patty's Day

This Sunday is Saint Patrick's Day on the wall calendar but it is mini-Retreat day on my calendar. We will fill our morning with ... time in Worship, looking at who our Messiah truly is in the beautiful *Seven Last Words*, sharing a meal, (our own homemade pizzas to be exact) and starting to fill eggs for Bethel's upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. It is gonna

be a great day.

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



## Sr. High Students

### Sunday, March 17

Sr High Sunday class.

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](http://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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