

# THE SCRIBE



From Pastor Ken

November 2023

## Discipleship

If you continue in my Word  
you will truly be my disciples  
and you will know the truth  
and the truth will make you free. Jesus. John 8:31

Jesus calls us to be his disciples, to know him, learn from him, and to follow him. To help with this, I invite you to consider several opportunities:

1. Joining Jesus as a Family class: Sunday's @ 9:30a upstairs
2. Pastor's Bible Study – Living Your Faith: Starts Sunday, November 5 in the Sanctuary
3. Life to Life Discipleship: We have 14 gathering each Tuesday evening to discuss our daily bible readings as well as learning how to encourage others to grow in faith. (Interested? We'll do another in 2024)

## Stewardship: You Can't Out Give God

Life is sometimes pictured as a pie divided into pieces. We often consider it my time, my money, my life...my pie.

Yet God is our maker who entrusts to us everything we have, "ourselves, our time, and our possessions." He is our Lord who has come in Jesus Christ to save us and give us new life. So, if He is Lord, then He, not me, is the center of our life, our pie. And we are learning to look to him to decide how we spend and invest our selves, our time, and our possessions.

On each Sunday in November, we will hear a member share how they have experienced this fact: "You Can't Out Give God."

In your church mailbox, you will find pledge cards for 2024. Begin to please consider how you will use what you have as disciples of Jesus Christ.

## Thanksgiving Eve Worship Wednesday, November 23 @ 7:00p

Join us as we gather to thank God for his goodness. Bring non-perishable food to bring up to the altar in our processional offering.

## November Announcements

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- **Craft Day.** Saturday, November 4 @ 10:00a- Fall Pumpkin Decor. A choice of wording will be available: You can customize your piece by choosing a different background and/or pumpkin color. Please bring some old puzzle pieces to paint for your pumpkin. Different accent ribbons will be available. Signup sheet on bulletin board. Contact: Sue Wetzel

Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour on  
Saturday, November 4.



- **Mom's Group.** We meet every third Wednesday of each month from 4:00-6:00p. This month's meeting is on November 15. We do a Bible Study, crafts, chat about life and be supportive of one another. Contact: Karina Isley.
- **Office closed** Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24.
- **Olive Wood Hand Carved from Bethlehem.** Once again, it's time for the olive wood table to be set up in Fellowship Hall, displaying many beautiful hand carved olive wood pieces made in the Holy Land. We will be offering these beautiful olive wood pieces between services on Sunday, November 12, December 10, and December 17.
- **Fair Trades.** We are including Fair Trades products, which will be available on the same dates as Olive Wood. So, for all you coffee and chocolate lovers, please check out the products on the FAIR TRADES TABLE. These make great gifts for friends, family and even yourself.

### Reminder

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**Life Groups.** We are starting up 3 new Life Groups, we would love for you to join in! A life group is when you get together with 8-12 fellow Christians, perhaps bring a friend, and prepare to make new friends or deepen relationships with existing ones. Once a month we pray, eat, discuss what Jesus is up to, have a bible study and a really good time. I do have people that would like to get one started so please let Lisa know if you are interested in joining one.

### Operation Christmas Child Samaritans Purse

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#### Shoe Boxes

Shoeboxes will be distributed at BFLC to those wishing to pack their own box on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> between services. Instructions, suggestions and labels will be available. Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, packed shoeboxes **must be returned to BFLC. NO SHIPPING FEES REQUIRED.** Shipping costs are paid by the Evangelism Committee and the Social Ministry.

If you want to participate in donating a shoebox (or two or three), but are unable to pack one/them yourself, Chris Cooper will pack one/them for you online for a mere \$15 per shoebox.. Please make out a check payable to "BFLC" for \$15 for each shoebox you wish to send. In the memo area write "OCC Shoebox". Cash is accepted, too.

#### The Greatest Journey

If you add \$6, children receiving shoeboxes will be able to attend a twelve-week Bible study program called "The Greatest Journey". After the twelve weeks they will receive a diploma and a New Testament Bible of their own, written in their language. Evangelism at its finest!



## Announcements December

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- **Men's BBQ.** Friday, December 1 @ 6:00p at David Klein's house. 'Meet and greet' at 6:00p; dinner at 6:30p. Signup sheet on bulletin board. Contact: Dave Havelka.
- **Christmas Tea.** December 2 @ 10:00a. Take some time away from the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season to enjoy food, fun, fellowship, music and door prizes. Please feel free to bring your mothers, daughters, granddaughters and other friends and family. You have the option to adopt a table and it will be yours to decorate. Also, if you create a centerpiece, it will be donated to someone at your table. Invites are in your church mailbox. Contact: Paige Summerfield.
- **2023 BFLC Annual Quilt Drawing.** The Quilter's Group will offer a handmade quilt to be won in a drawing on Saturday, December 2 during the Christmas Tea. Beginning November 5 through November 26, anyone may purchase a ticket and receive a pencil. Also, our handmade plush dogs are available to purchase. Stop by one of our tables to see the quilt and get your ticket(s) between church services.
- **Christmas Family Craft Day.** Saturday, December 9 @ 10:00a. Details to follow. In the meantime, donations of pinecones, and paper towels would be greatly appreciated. Please drop off in box labeled "Christmas Craft Day" in the laundry cart. Sign-up sheet on bulletin board. Contact: Sue Wetzel.
- **Gingerbread Guys and Gals!** Calling all candy decorators! Anyone that can pick up a piece of candy is invited to participate in our Gingerbread People Decorating Party Saturday, December 16 @ 2:00p. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Come decorate your gingerbread guy or gal with your BFLC family! Space is limited so sign-up soon!
- **Children's Christmas Program.** Adult volunteers needed for this year's Children's Christmas Program! Our program needs a director as well as volunteers. The director would choose a program or script, assign parts, lead other volunteers, and run rehearsals. Please contact Andrew Koetsier to volunteer!



### Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24

**One Morning Service @ 9:00a**

**Candlelight Services**

3:30, 5:30, 7:30p

## Volunteers Needed

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- **Sunday Volunteers.** Sunday Worship is successful with the help of many volunteers. Many of these opportunities to serve don't entail a huge commitment and are a great way to connect with the other members of our congregation. These include assisting ministers, ushers, greeters, readers, recorders, uploaders, altar guild, and sound. If you would like to help out or have questions about any of these opportunities for our 8:00a and /or 10:30a services, please contact Lisa Regennitter.
- **Nursery Helpers.** This ministry allows children to be cared for in a fun and safe environment and gives parents an opportunity to worship freely as well. This is a paid position. We need at least one adult and one student (9<sup>th</sup> grade and up) per Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Regennitter.
- **Crossing the Neighborhood.** In teams of two we go out home to home, giving away crosses and invitations with the message of God's love for whomever we come across. For most this will be a surprisingly rewarding experience, particularly if you like seeing smiles. We typically go Saturday and Sunday afternoons for a couple of hours, with each Messenger usually committing to one afternoon a month. Interested in becoming one of these 'Messengers' and doing the work of Jesus. Contact Dave Havelka.





- ✝ From Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp: "Thank you so much for your recent gift of \$246.00 to Rainbow Trail's Annual Fund. Your support of the day-to-day operations of this ministry allow us to provide high quality programs throughout the year and provide life changing experiences for all that come to Rainbow Trail."
- ✝ From Cam Regennitter with Rainbow Trail: "Thank you so much for lending us your church van. This small act of kindness really made a huge difference in our week 10 ministry providing transportation to the Joshua Station families."
- ✝ From Our Deployed Military Members (Ben Turecheck, Mary Benson, and Matthew Brooks): Thank you for all the military care packages and prayers.
- ✝ From Orphan Grain Train: "We Thank you for your very generous gift of \$500.00. Thank you for helping keep Orphan Grain Train's wheels rolling towards those who need God's mercy."



Duane Steinke	5	Janeen Anderson	17	Fritz & Leah Pfalmer	8
Courtneyanne Kvale	7	Colin Schmeisser	17	Kurt & Stephanie Strasner	10
Vincent Anderson	8	Trinity Herrin	19	Jack & Donna Yonce	19
George Cooper	8	Andrew Wurster	19	Ray & Linda Sherrier	20
Stephen Makowsky	8	Barbara Gurnett	20	David & Betsy Wintermute	20
Ruth Ann Regennitter	8	Abigail Mobley	22	Don & Wendy Crist	21
Vonda Dowdy	9	Monty Sappenfield	23	Bill & Kris Partridge	22
Jim Hormann	9	Judith Jergensen	24	Carson & Kirsten Bush	23
Kurt Strasner	9	Shane Swenson	24	Cliff & Christina Collier	26
Dylan Gould	11	Wilda Nussbaum	25	Jerry & Ginny Johnson	30
Luke Leland	11	Jim Kent	29		
Cody Buttermore	12	Luanne Spencer	29		
Freya Coughlin	12	Amy Churchill	30		
Matthew Kleine	12	Andi Lockwood	30		
Raegan Petch	12				
Steve Lord	13				
Julia Botvinik	16				
Kelsey Mobley	16				



## Youth & Family Ministry

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### Greetings BFLC Family!

As we approach the holidays, we are turning our focus with BFLC Youth to opportunities we have to serve others. Our students are being encouraged to fill an Operation Christmas Child box to bless a boy or girl who need help this Christmas. We also have an opportunity to serve some families in need locally by helping with Crossfire Ministries' annual Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution. Further every week, we have an opportunity to invite others to join the family of God at Sunday worship and/or Youth Group.

As we enter a season that can easily become over-filled with activity, I pray that our hearts would be filled with both gratitude and service. May your family keep Jesus at the center and may He give you eyes to see others around you that would welcome an invitation to join us as we give thanks to God for His indescribable gift (2 Corinthians 9:15; Ephesians 2:8).

By His Grace,  
Andrew Koetsier

### Upcoming Activities:

**Youth Group continues on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8pm.** Youth Group is a space for our students to connect with each other and with Jesus. We play games, hang out, share snacks, and study/pray together. Confirmation continues from 5:45-6:45pm on Wednesdays as well.

**Sunday, November 12 - Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due at Church-** we are asking all students to consider putting together a Christmas box for children in other parts of the world. Through Operation Christmas Child, we have the opportunity to bless boys and girls from ages 2-14 with both gifts for Christmas and the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Grab a box and instructions at church and see <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> to learn more.

**Monday, November 20 @ 1:00p - Volunteer/Serve Day at Crossfire Ministries.** We will be helping Crossfire Ministries in Colorado Springs (<https://www.crossfireministries.org/>) with their annual Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution. We have limited spots for this opportunity so please RSVP to Andrew at [youthbflc@bflchurch.org](mailto:youthbflc@bflchurch.org) or 719-822-4610 if you/your student would like to participate!

**Saturday, December 2 @ 5:00p - "Youth United" Gathering at Saint Luke's Lutheran Church (Colorado Springs).** We will be joining together with a couple of other youth groups in our area for a night of fun, games, an Episode of the Chosen, and worship together. Dinner will be included and the event is free. Please plan to come and invite a friend!

### Summer 2024 Save-the-Dates

**July 1-4- NALC Continental Youth Gathering:** we will be taking a group from BFLC to the first ever NALC Continental Youth Gathering in Boerne, TX. This four-day gathering will provide opportunities for NALC youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the body of Christ. This trip is open to MS/HS students and young adults. We also tentatively plan on adding 1-2 days at the beginning or end of the trip for a "mission" service opportunity. Reach out to Andrew if you are interested!

**July 21-26- VBS:** we look forward to counselors from Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp joining us once again for VBS (July 22-26 for pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) and VBS Night Camp (July 21-25 for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade).



# November



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:45p Confirmation 6:30 Youth Group Choir Practice Everyone's Bible Study 7:30 Cont. Worship Practice	2 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Worship Cmte. Mtg. 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg Al-Anon Mtg	3	4 7:00a Men's Bible Study 10:00 Craft w/ Sue Wetzel 
5 8:00 & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages 12:00p Education Cmte. Mtg.	6 1:00p Women's Bible Study	7 6:30p Life to Life Discipleship 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	8 12:00p AARP 5:45p Confirmation 6:30 Youth Group Everyone's Bible Study Choir Practice	9 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:30p AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	10 12:00p Executive Mtg. 	11 8:30a Cantata Rehearsal 9:00a Property Cmte. Mtg.
12 8:00a & 10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages Fair Trade Olive Wood Sale Operation Christmas Child Boxes due	13 1:00p Women's Bible Study	14 6:00p 4-H 6:30 Life to Life Discipleship 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon	15 4:00p Mom's Group 5:45 Confirmation 6:30 Youth Group Everyone's Bible Study Choir Practice 7:30 Contemporary Worship Practice	16 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:00p Council Mtg. 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon	17 9:00a BF Community Garden Club Mtg.	18 7:00a Men's Bible Study
19 8:00a & 10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages	20 1:00p Women's Bible Study 12:00p Youth Volunteer Event	21 6:30p Life to Life Discipleship 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	22 9:30a Staff Mtg. 6:00p Choir Practice <b>7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Worship</b>	23 <b>Office closed</b> 7:30p AA Mtg. <b>Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!</b>	24 <b>Office closed</b> 	25
26 8:00a & 10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages	27 1:00p Women's Bible Study	28 9:30a BF Community Garden Club Mtg. 7:00p Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	29 5:45p Confirmation 6:30 Youth Group Everyone's Bible Study Choir Practice 7:30 Contemporary Worship Practice	30 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 6:30 Men's Peer Group 7:30p AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.		



November 2023 SCRIBE

#### **OUR STAFF**

Pastor – Ken Hohag

Youth and Family Director – Andrew Koetsier

Director of Ministries – Lisa Regennitter

Administrative Assistant – Stephanie Strasner

Organist – Barbara Gurnett

Choir Director – Melanie Hohag

Handbell Choir Director – Bill Fitzpatrick

Keyboard – Landra Decker/Alexandra Cullen

Ministers – All Members

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Weekday Hours

9:00am-2:00pm Tuesday-Friday

Sunday Worship 8:00a & 10:30am

#### **OUR MISSION**

Black Forest Lutheran Church glorifies God through worship, prayer, education, and service as ambassadors of Christ.

#### **CONTACT US**

Phone: 719-495-2221

Fax: 719-495-2222

E-mail: [bflc@bflchurch.org](mailto:bflc@bflchurch.org)

Web site: [bflchurch.org](http://bflchurch.org)

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#### **BLACK FOREST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

12455 Black Forest Road

Colorado Springs, CO 80908

#### **Recipient Name**

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code