

## From the Board of Elders

**At their January 8, 2019 meeting, the Board of Elders voted to initiate the process, as specified in Bethel's By-laws, to Call a Senior Pastor.**

We will be hosting an informative **town hall meeting, scheduled for 19 & 20 JAN 2019** during Bible class. Specifically, we are going to discuss the Senior Pastor Calling process and the timeline, along with the ministry description. The Ministry description is available for you to pick up at church on the Elders' credenza.

Additionally, we are requesting nominations from the congregation. The Senior Pastor Nomination form is attached to this email or can be found on the Elders' credenza in the Narthex. The deadline for nominations has not yet been finalized, but is tentatively set for the week of 21 JAN 2019 (approximately 2 weeks).

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR CALL PROCESS

In an effort to call the best possible Associate Pastor, Bethel's Board of Elders has requested assistance from DCE Randy Moerbe and some of the sisters of the congregation. In partnering with the Board of Elders as the "Call Committee," they will be responsible to meet with the Board during all call meetings, participate in all pastoral packet evaluations, and participate in the pastoral interviews. While they will not be able to participate in official votes, their opinions on each candidate will carry tremendous weight.

The sisters of the congregation are:

1. Nancy Yung
2. Liz Burnett
3. Katie McCallum
4. Taryn Scholz
5. Fran Beard
6. Valerie Markert

**For those who may be new to the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, here is an article from [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) to help understand the Divine Call.**

**QUESTION: Could you please explain a "divine call" to me? Is there a biblical reference, or is it a man-made concept?**

**ANSWER:** Article 14 of the Augsburg Confession (one of the formal Lutheran Confessional writings) says, "It is taught among us that no one should publicly teach or preach or administer the Sacraments in the church without a regular call." Traditionally in the Lutheran church this has been described as a "divine call" because:

- It is God who has instituted the pastoral office in order that the Word might be preached and the sacraments instituted in an orderly way (Luke 10:16; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-2; 1 Timothy 3; Titus 1; Eph: 4:11, 14; Col. 4:17; 1 Cor. 4:1; 1 Cor. 14:40; 2 Cor. 2:17);
- It is God who has given congregations the right to call a pastor to carry out this work in their midst and on their behalf (Matt. 28:18-20; Matt. 16:13-19, 18: 17-20; John

20:22, 23; 1 John 4:1; 1 Peter 2:5-6, 4:11; Acts 6:6; 1 Tim. 3:10, 4:14, 5:17; Titus 1:5; Acts 1:23; Heb. 13:17; 1 Thess. 5:12).

The specific process by which a congregation extends a call to a pastor is not set forth in the Scriptures, and so this process may vary from time to time and place to place.

In the interest of doing things "decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:40), however, the various districts of the Synod have established a set of procedures which is intended to help congregations: 1) identify potential candidates for a call, and 2) follow the steps by which the congregation may extend a call to the individual whom they believe would be best suited to ministry at that place.

Other Resources:

[www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org)

<https://txlcms.org/call-process/>

The CTCR booklet on The Divine Call found at <https://www.lcms.org/about/leadership/commission-on-theology-and-church-relations/documents/lutheran-doctrine-and-practice#church-ministry-menu>

# From the Board of Community Service



**HOPE Pregnancy Center Invites You!**

**To their BBQ Lunch Fundraiser**

**January 20, 11am—2pm**

**Bryan High Cafeteria**

Join us as we celebrate the gift of LIFE!  
We will be serving BBQ & fixin's and have a Bake Sale all for a **Donation at the Door.**

Dine-In or Take it to Go.

HOPE Pregnancy Center has been serving the Brazos Valley for 33 years, providing pregnancy testing, options consultation, ultrasounds, material assistance and parenting education completely FREE OF CHARGE. We are able to do so only because of your support!

**Your donation on this blessed day to honor the Sanctity of Human Life will give HOPE to our community!**

For more information about Hope, call us at (979) 695-9193 or go online to [www.partnerwithhope.org](http://www.partnerwithhope.org).

**Hope Pregnancy Center has been selected to participate in a charity competition with *Tiff's Treats* to celebrate their 20th Anniversary!**

Help us **win** by placing an order with Tiff's Treats, and sharing our charity code **HOPE2019**

*Make sure you enter this code at checkout in the charity promotion code box each time you order!* (The code will deduct a penny off each order as your indication that this sale been recorded.)

**10% of sales that use charity code HOPE2019**

**throughout the entire month of January will go to Hope Pregnancy Center!!!**

**The organization with the most sales by January 31st will win \$20,000!  
OUR CODE: HOPE2019  
Valid 1/4 - 1/31 Only**



**tacklehunger.org**

## **The Souper Bowl is February 3!**

There will be a special collection bowl at the back of the sanctuary at each service. We'll also have a table in the Information Center for non-perishable food item donations. All donations will go to Brazos Church Pantry. So as you stock up on snacks for the big game, remember your neighbors who are hungry."

## **Radiothon for Still Creek**

**Tune in to Peace107**

**The week of Feb. 11-15**

**To show your love to the kids of Still Creek!**

### **Tangible Needs at Still Creek**

Our agricultural programs bring so much enrichment to our kids. We have 23 kids showing animals this spring at 4H shows—7 showing pigs, 4 showing heifers, and 13 showing broiler chickens. Things are already well on their way with our pig and heifer programs, but as we prep for our broiler program, we need a few things to adequately care for and feed them.

6 bags of turkey starter pellets

26 bags of turkey starter crumbles

35 bags of show broiler feed

8 Honor High Octane Champion Drive

8 Honor High Octane Power Fuel

40 Bags of Large Flake Shavings

50 Heat lamp bulbs

Monetary donations can be made at [stillcreekbranch.org](http://stillcreekbranch.org)/ donate with "broiler program" in the comment section.

If you'd like to purchase any items from the list, they can be bought at most feed stores.

## **A Night of Building HOPE Benefiting Bryan/College Station HABITAT for HUMANITY**

**Saturday, January 19th ~ 7:00-9:30PM at**

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

**1001 Woodcreek Dr., CS**

Join us for a night with some of the best music, poetry, and entertainment in the Brazos Valley in a coffee house setting. Performances including classical and sacred to Broadway and jazz. Let selections by Miguel Sousa and the Marian Anderson String Quartet inspire you while the Greg Tivis Trio featuring Kelsey Taylor put you in a great mood.

Suggested \$20 donation at the door. There will be free coffee, food, and a silent auction with items from some of the best businesses in town.

**A NIGHT  
OF BUILDING  
HOPE**

**BENEFITTING**



## Join Bethel's Ladies in Bible Study and Fellowship

### Calling all Girlfriends!

We are having DINNER & a MOVIE night on Thursday, January 31st. Please join us for dinner at 5:30 at Papa Perez in downtown Bryan (or as soon as you can get there after work). We'll eat some great Mexican food and talk about what type of events you would like to see the Girlfriends do in 2019. Be thinking of some ideas for service and fellowship events that you would enjoy. We will head over to the Queen before 7pm to catch their feature classic movie, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. We ask that you please RSVP by email at least a few days before the 31st to

[BLCgirlfriends@gmail.com](mailto:BLCgirlfriends@gmail.com), or use the sign up sheet by our bulletin board. We want to give Papa Perez a head count estimate for dinner so they are prepared to serve us quickly. Wouldn't want to miss the start of the movie.....Hope to see you!



**Ladies Lunch Bunch** - meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month (Feb. 6 & 20) at Blue Baker on University Dr. at 11:30 or whenever you can get there. We'll gather for our devotion and have great conversation and food. We hope you can join us for a spiritual respite from your hectic day.

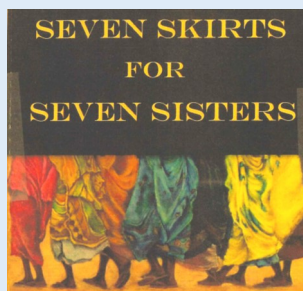
**Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Study** meets 10:00-11:15AM in room 232, led by Pastor Bard. Child care is provided upon request only.

### LWML Bible Study—February 4, 2019 *Lutheran Women in Mission* Bible Study and Valentine Crafts/Treats for Bethel's Confirmands At 7 pm in the Parish Hall

All ladies of Bethel and their family and friends are welcome to join us. If childcare is needed, please contact Rosie Schoenfeld at 979-820-0126.

**FIT FOR CHRIST** — Hey Ladies! We still meet on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings (8:15)** upstairs in room 240. Our workout consists of a warm up routine of walking, and then toning exercises which focus on upper or lower body or sometimes Pilates. We wrap up the time together with a devotion. *Child Care available.*

**LWML Helping Hands** will meet **Monday, February 11 at 8:30am** in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to come anytime between 8:30am—2pm to help tie quilts. The quilts are shipped to Lutheran World Relief. <http://lwr.org>.



## Join Bethel's Men in Bible Study and Fellowship

**Men's Monday Evening Bible Study & Fellowship Group** meets at 7:00 PM in Room 232. They are studying LHM's Men's Network study titled: *Out of Nothing: The Word, Creation and Faith* by Rev. Steve Misch.

**Friday Morning Men's Bible Study/Breakfast Group** each Friday morning at 6:30 AM in the Parish Hall. The Journey from Unbelief to Faith. A DVD series with Rev. Dr. John Nunes. This Bible study conveys in frank language the lives of individuals who traveled from the outer edge of unbelief and apathy to the Christ-centered faith they now devotedly embrace.



### Howdy Men of Bethel

Winter weather puts the Men of Bethel in the mood for Chili! Cook, judge and participate in the eating!

Join us on **February 2, 2019**

at Morris Guyton's Home—  
2595 Peach Creek Road, CS.

Cooking onsite can begin at Noon

And Judging at 4pm.

Fritos, Crackers, Bowls, Spoons provided - Bring your own beverages, lawn chair and appetite! You don't want to cook or be a judge, that's NO problem! Come out with your appetite and enjoy the fellowship. Sign-ups will soon be up on the bulletin board near the water fountains.

Questions? Contact

Chris Rutledge or Morris Guyton

[chris@casadelrut.com](mailto:chris@casadelrut.com)    [modg001@yahoo.com](mailto:modg001@yahoo.com)  
(979) 777-9228                      (832)-477-7307

### Women's Retreat

February 23, 2019

Bethel Lutheran Church

8:30-4:00

\$15.00 (includes lunch)

Speaker will be Donna Coppersmith

Author of

*Seven Skirts for Seven Sisters*

Real-Life Lessons on Prayer

And Listening to God.

## From DCE Randy & Board of Parish Ed

**LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**— We have been blessed with some generous special gifts from some of our members toward this event this summer. As we have some families with multiple children going, and also some single parents with a child attending we're going to need all the help we can get!. Again, thanks for your continued support. **YOUTH PECAN SALES**—We still have a few 1 lb packages of new crop, locally sourced pecans for sale. As part of our fundraising for the 2019 National Lutheran Youth Gathering we're asking \$14 each for them – but some of these parents might be ready to cut a deal! If you would still like some please see DCE Randy and he'll direct you to the parents who still have some to sell. As always thank you for your support of our 26 youth heading to Minneapolis next summer.

**TAMALE FUNDRAISER FOR THE NATIONAL GATHERING** - We do have a fundraiser in the works to sell tamales, taking orders March 3 through April 7, with delivery Easter Saturday. More details will be coming soon.

**DCE CALL PROCESS** -The DCE Call Committee has been given 16 names by the District to add to the name suggested by a member of Bethel. Starting January 22<sup>nd</sup> this committee will dig into these names and start the process. As always we solicit your prayers for guidance as we move forward.

**2019 YOUTH QUAKE WHEN AND WHERE:** The 2019 Youth Quake is coming February 22-24, held this year at the DoubleTree Airport Hotel in San Antonio. **WHO IS THIS FOR?** This event is open to 6th graders through High School (in addition we need a few willing adults to assist. **HOW MUCH?** Cost for the event is \$95/person. This (plus some assistance by

the church) takes care of your registration, housing and transportation. (Bethel picks up the cost for the adults who attend with our youth). **SO WHAT IS THIS**

**EVENT?** Bethel has sent youth and adults to Youth Quake even before I came on the Bethel scene! The event offers a great mix of music, speakers, Bible study and fellowship/fun time. This is a unique event and I strongly encourage our youth to take part. (Don't forget that for the same cost your child can invite a friend – maybe this is someone whose presence helps your child attend, or someone who needs to hear the message of Christ in a fun setting. **WHAT NOW?** To reserve your space (and these spaces are limited) please contact DCE Randy either via email ([dcerandy@blcbcs.org](mailto:dcerandy@blcbcs.org)) or text him at 979-255-0824. **WE ALREADY HAVE A NUMBER OF YOUTH WANTING TO GO** and currently have 17 of our 25 reserved spots asked for (however, we can probably add more – but need to know ASAP). We could also use one or two more female and one or two more male adults to attend (and we pay your way for this!).

**FUN FAMILY WEDNESDAY** Fun Family Wednesday continues with our usual schedule. The MEAL will be served from 5:15 to 6:30 PM. The cost remains \$4/person with a max of \$12/family. **KID'S BIBLE CLUB, JUNIOR CONFIRMATION, YOUTH NIGHT AND THE SMALL GROUP STUDY ON MARK** all begin at 6:30 PM. You are also invited to join in for **HANDBELL** practice at 6 PM and the **SANCTUARY CHOIR** at 7 PM.



### YOUNG COUPLES SUPER BOWL WATCH PARTY

**Sunday, FEB. 3, 5 PM until Game end.**

**Please Bring a SOUP or Party Dish to share.**

**Childcare is Provided.**

**Remember, the "YOUNG" in YOUNG COUPLES is how you feel, not your age!**

**You can sign up in the Narthex.**

## HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS NEEDED

One of Bethel's very regular attenders is having to start out from scratch in an efficiency apartment this weekend. We are collecting items to help her set up this small household. So far we have been blessed with the following items:

Pots and pans, Set of dishes, Towels and washcloths, Pillows, Futon, Pantry food

However, we still have a way to go for her have a somewhat furnished apartment. Items we still need include:

A small table

Chairs

Bed – whatever size we can get

Bathroom supplies

Kitchen utensils

Silverware

Glasses

This isn't an exhaustive list – if you can think of anything we're missing that would be helpful, great!

Please contact Connie Bard at 979-422-0138 (text) or email her at [connie@blcbcs.org](mailto:connie@blcbcs.org).



## Bethel's Preschool News

**Happy New Year!** It is amazing to think that we are starting a new year and that our school year is almost half over! Time is really flying by! We are having a great year and God is blessing us each and every day.

We currently have 70 children in our preschool! Our average daily attendance is 53 (some children come Monday/Wednesday/Friday, some come Tuesday/Thursdays and some Monday – Friday). That is 53 opportunities we have every day to share God's love with the children and to tell them the good news that Jesus loves them! What a wonderful outreach opportunity we have! Your prayers and very generous support make this possible and for that, we are truly grateful.

**Our thanks to the Peggy Kindt family** as the preschool received memorial money in honor of Peggy. This money will be used to purchase Bibles for our 4 year olds who will "graduate" our program this coming May and the balance will be added to our Good Samaritan Fund. **Again, our thanks and appreciation to this family!**

**What is our "Good Samaritan Fund"?** It is our preschool scholarship fund that allows us to help any preschool family that needs temporary assistance paying their tuition (due to a job loss, family crisis or other such circumstances). The scholarship is a one-time gift that only goes toward their tuition. It is a way for Bethel to show that we not only educate/care for the child but also

are concerned about their entire family. The money in this fund is from church member donations earmarked for the scholarship fund and/or memorial gifts.

**It soon will be is time to register for our Fall Preschool Program** for the 2019-2020 School Year. **We are offering the available spots to those currently in our program and to our church families and friends first** (during the month of February). In March, we will open registration to the community. Our program offers several options for the days of the week and the times you may need. Preschool classes are from 8:30-12:00 noon. We have an "Early Bird" time from 7:15-8:30 and Extended Care pick up times of 1:00, 3:00 or 5:30 P.M. We follow the Bryan school calendar (so we are closed during the summer months).

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A POSSIBLE SPOT FOR YOUR CHILD NEXT FALL**, please check out the preschool on the church website or call Debbie Sadler (485-9835 or 446-1578). We'd love to have you come tour the preschool and get more information. **We are always happy to answer any questions you may have.**

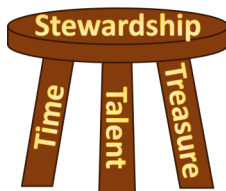


## Stewardship of Our Lives

*Bethel Lutheran Church is not only a beautiful church building, it is a wonderful family of believers. We are so very blessed to have this church and each other. These are true gifts from God!*

*As we begin another new year together, take time to reflect. Reflect on your own personal time, talents, and treasures and those that you give back to our church. Instead of making new year's resolutions and work out plans start making plans as to what gifts and talents you have and what you can do to serve the Lord and your church. Do focus on growing stronger...stronger in your faith, relationship, and service to God.*

*Give it purposeful thought over the next few weeks.*



## CHURCH CHOIR LOFT RENOVATION

Renovation of the Church Choir Loft began this Tuesday, January 15. The contractor has placed protective flooring on the first floor near the elevator and on the second floor between the Choir Loft and the elevator. They have also encapsulated the Choir Loft with plastic to prevent dust migration.

While the entire balcony will not be roped off, Church members would be best served to not sit in the balcony until the work is complete. The contractor expects to have the demolition portion of the work including removal of carpet, concrete, steel reinforcing and plywood complete by Friday, January 25. Finish work will then begin which includes new walls and flooring. The entire project is planned to be completed by the end of March.

If you have questions, please contact a member of the building committee: Pete Schmid, Tim Donathen, Pat Kasper, Jimmy Dunn, John O'Neil, Greg Montgomery, Milton & Beverly Catalina and Preston Kissman.

Thanks for your patience.

## BETHEL'S MUSIC MINISTRY

There are many ways to get involved in Bethel's Music Ministry? Singing, ringing, playing—all give glory to God and raise our spirits in worship. Please think about participating in one of these groups:

### ADULT CHOIR

Meets in choir room for practice weekly on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Sings frequently during early service and special services. All singers, High School and older, are welcome. Contact Greg Montgomery for more information.

### HAND-BELL CHOIR

meets on Wednesday in the hand-bell practice room at 6:00 p.m. All ringers, high school and older, are welcome. The ability to read music is a plus. Contact Beverly Catalina for more information.

### PRAISE BAND

The Praise Band leads the congregation in contemporary music during the late service each Sunday. The Praise Band needs accomplished instrumentalists and strong lead vocalists. Contact Jeremy Shilling for more information.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGERS

1st through 4th graders meet in room 234 at the start of Sunday School, 9:45-10:00 a.m. They learn to praise the Lord through music. Contact Trish Nipps or Rebekah Zehnder for more information.

### BETHEL BRASS

meets when scheduled. Good instrumental ability and willingness to practice at home are needed. Contact Greg Montgomery for more information.

# Happy Birthday!!

## Our Bethel Family

### January

Nancy Benfer	17	Heidi Martini-Stoica	20	Brandy Scott	25
Virginia Billig	17	Karen Beesaw	21	Kristy Anderson	26
Saundra Lorenz	17	Jason Chipps	21	Tobey Lindsey	27
Les Olson	17	Jeremy Drager	22	Lynn McIlhaney	27
Gary Dean Shockey	17	Heather Segrest	22	Sarah Jochen	29
Meagan Brown	18	Zachary Yeager	22	Martin Erickson	29
Russ Hoskens	18	Bill Duncan	23	Brittney Birdwell	30
Rusty Pfeffer	18	Terrance Hoagwood	23	Jacob Gaster	30
Jace Palasota	19	Brighton Lenz	24	Barbara Petty	30
Alyssa Pannkuk	19	Philip Matthews	24	Benson Brocksmith	31
Lynn Barnes	20	Al Bell	25	Tanya Hackney	31
		Leslie Janac	25	Kyle Kasper	31
		Mark Jones	25	Craig Murphy	31

### February

Evan LoBello	1	George McIlhaney	7	Samuel Moravec	12	Rachel Jungklaus	21
Greg Montgomery	1	David Bronstad	8	David Fleeger	13	Mitchell Dill	22
Heath Hausenfluck	2	Jim Holste	8	Susan Neitsch	14	Bobbie Denmark	23
Mike Lenz	2	Peggy Chase	9	Jonathan Bentley	15	Robert Pali	23
Nikki Smith	2	Dottie Garrison	10	Addison Markert	15	Ben Zucker	23
Cindy Koebnick	3	Lee Goehring	10	Debbie Sadler	15	Rosie Schoenfeld	24
Kathy Herwald	5	Annie Perez	10	Dustin Samford	15	Bill Benfer	25
Shianne Lenz	5	Angela Shockey	10	Art Kaspar	16	Jade Fajkus	25
Pierce Young	5	Jayce Wilder	10	Joalla Shilling	17	Velma Black	26
David Baumann	6	Spencer Wilder	10	Sarah Hildebrandt	17	Genevieve Birdwell	27
Margaret Johnson	6	Connie Bard	11	Gerry Hartmangruber	18	David Hildebrandt	27
Randy Moerbe	6	Kira Hoffzimmer	11	Bobby Lenz	19	Jessica Pfeffer	27
LeeAnn Pali	6	Erica Gusewelle	12	Anastasia Lewis	19	Lois Erickson	28
Gage Goodenow	7	Julie Kasner	12	Madison Thompson	20	Sally Kaminski	28
				Sharon Cowart	21	Christopher Byer	29
				Mike Deike	21	Justin Zaragoza	29

#### THANK YOU BETHEL LUTHERAN The Bryan ISD's Pregnancy Related Ser-

**vices** are designed to support and encourage teenagers to remain in school and pursue post-secondary educational goals, empowering them to become productive citizens send their most heartfelt appreciation for the abundant gifts and outpouring of giving they received this Christmas.

The Angel Tree is a blessing for us to be able to participate, and the fact that our children had such wonderful presents to open on Christmas morning was truly a Christmas miracle.

The mothers and children want all of you to know how touched and blessed the season was made by your generosity. Please know your show of love will warm our hearts beyond the season.

Very sincerely,

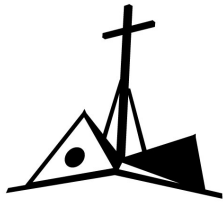
Mothers and Children of the Angel Tree Blessings and  
Joyce Jones

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** is on KAGC, 1510 AM on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. sponsored by Bethel. If you would like to sponsor a week's broadcast for \$25 or for a month for \$100. Thank you to all who have given to this ministry.

**The 2019 Sign Up Chart for The Lutheran Hour** is in the Information Center by the elevator.

**The 2019 Flower Chart** for Altar flowers is in the Information Center by the elevator. The cost is \$30 per sponsorship and we will accept 3 sponsors

**Coffee cans needed** - If you have small coffee cans you can donate, please leave them in the church office. These will be used for flowers for our shut-ins.



# Bethel Lutheran Church

4221 Boonville Rd, Bryan, Texas 77802  
Phone: (979) 822-2742 | FAX: (979) 822-4082  
www.BLCbcs.org | office@BLCbcs.org  
Preschool phone: 485-9835 or cell: 446-1578

**Staff:**

**Rev. Randall Bard**, Pastor, (979) 422-0046  
**Rev. Steve Wiechman**, Care Ministry  
**Rev. K. Lynn Stroud**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Mr. Randall Moerbe**, Director of Christian Education  
**Mrs. Debbie Sadler**, Dir., Bethel Lutheran Preschool  
**Mrs. Kathy Herwald**, Director of Operations  
**Mrs. Ruthann Stroud**, Church Secretary  
**Mrs. Connie Bard**, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
**Mr. Nic Duncan**, Facilities Manager  
**Mrs. Katie Bentley**, Office Assistant  
**Mr. Jeremy Shilling**, *His Praise* Band Leader

## January 17—February 7, 2019



### Join us for .....

#### Saturday Night

Worship at 5PM and Bible Class at 6PM

#### Sunday Mornings

8:30 AM Divine Service (Traditional)  
9:30 AM Fellowship Time  
10:00 AM Bible Class/SS  
11:15 AM Divine Service (Contemporary)

Holy Communion is served on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th weekends of the month.

### Church Office Hours

Mondays—Thursdays	9am - 5pm
Fridays	9am - 3pm