



# Bethany Beeline

Published nine times a year by  
**BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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***“Moving Forward United in Faith.”***

*Committed to Christ, United by Love. We are about God, Christ, the Word, and the Future. No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here. We are Bethany United Church of Christ.*

VOLUME 61-27

DECEMBER 2018



**Help Us, Help Others – Every Sunday in December we will be collecting specialty items for New Bethany Ministries (see list later on in the bulletin)**

**Sunday, December 2nd – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent “Hope” –**

9:30 a.m. Advent Series SS in FH

10:45 a.m. Worship    Mission Moment – Speaker from New Bethany Ministries

Joyful Noise for New Bethany Ministries

**Sunday, December 9th – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**“Peace”**

9:30 a.m. Advent Series SS in FH

10:45 a.m.    Worship

1:45 P Live Nativity Prelude, 2 P Pageant – at 8<sup>th</sup> Ave Rose Garden

**Sunday, December 16 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent “Joy”**

9<sup>30</sup> a.m. Advent Series SS in FH

10:45 a.m. Worship

**Sunday, December 23 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent “Love”**

9:30 a.m. Advent Series SS in FH

9:30 a.m. Orchestra rehearsal

10:45 a.m. Worship

**Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve “Christ”**

7:30 p.m. Musicians arrive

8:00 p.m. Prelude

8:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

**Tuesday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

**Sunday, December 30**

10:45 a.m. Worship with Lessons and Carols

Come, Lord Jesus

As we approach the church season of Advent and preparing for Christmas, I would like to encourage you to give yourself a gift this year.

I would like to invite you to set aside a little time each week to quiet

yourself in prayer, to sit in solitude and invite God into that time with you. One of my favorite authors shared this reflection in his book, “Preparing for Christmas, Daily Meditations for Advent”, a resource I will use to guide my quiet time with God this season:



Richard Rohr writes this, “Come, Lord Jesus’, the Advent mantra, means that all of Christian history has to live out a kind of deliberate emptiness, a kind of chosen non-fulfillment. Perfect fullness is always yet to come, and we do not need to demand it now. This keeps the field of life wide open and especially open to grace and to a future created by God rather than ourselves. This is exactly what it means to be ‘awake’ as the Gospel urges us.”

The author continues, “Come, Lord Jesus, is a leap into the kind of freedom and surrender that is rightly called the virtue of hope. Hope is the patient and trustful willingness to live without closure, without resolution and still be content, even happy because our Satisfaction is now at another level, our Source is beyond ourselves. We are able to trust that he will come again, just as Jesus has come into our past, into our private dilemmas and into our suffering world. “Come, Lord Jesus” is not a cry of desperation, but an assured proclamation of hope.”

This season, give yourself the gift of time with God, listening for the hope God is speaking into our lives, into the church, and into our world. Be aware, and awake to the ways God has already gifted us with the assurance of his presence. Receive anew this gift of love.

God’s blessings this holy season and always,

Blessings,

- Pastor Linda



Advent, in anticipation of the Holy Birth, has a way of building excitement within. Even though there’s lots to do, there is a mounting joy that overtakes our anxiety. We want to be ready, we prepare, we look forward to that one miraculous night. “One Miraculous Night” is the theme of our Christmas Eve service this year, and the four weeks leading up to that beautiful evening will be full of inspirational music by all of our musical groups and talented musicians. Please join us each Sunday to prepare your

heart for the coming of the Christ.

Dates to remember in December:

Weds. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir 8:15 Nativity Rehearsal

Sat. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, Sun. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Live Nativity Pageant at 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Rose Garden 1:45 Prelude 2:00 Pageant (approx. 50 minutes)

Sun. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Handbell Choir Anthem

Wed. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir

Sun. Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 AM Orchestra rehearsal

Mon. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM Musicians arrive 8:00 X-mas Eve Prelude 8:30 Candlelight Service

**No rehearsal** Wed. Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>

Sun. Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> Lessons & carols with Chancel Choir anthem.

Moving on to January 2019 . .

Wed. January 2 – Choirs TBA

Wed. January 9 – After Christmas Choir Party at Palace Restaurant 5:30 Cocktails 6:00 Buffet Please bring a \$2 gift exchange. Sign up sheet in Choir room.

Wed. January 16 & 23 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir

Wed. January 30<sup>th</sup> – No Choirs

Many, many thanks to all of our dedicated musicians for their hard work and willing participation in Bethany's Music Ministry.

*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year*

Joyfully,  
Susan Denninger Wright

*Dear Congregation,*

*I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to you for recognizing my 45 years of service as Director of the*



*Music Ministry at Bethany UCC on November 11.*

*It was a complete and much appreciated surprise. It has been a privilege to have a life career that allows me to serve our Lord through music and work with such wonderful people year after year. I thank you for the monetary gift, and I thank all who planned, organized and carried out such a wonderful tribute.*

*My love and thanks to all.*

*Sue Wright*



**OUR CHURCH IN MISSION –**

*Community Outreach & Christian Service*

**MISSION –Day of helping**

“I needed clothes, and you gave me something to wear...”

**STAND UP BETHLEHEM**

Serving Those in Need in Our Community

December 8, 10 A – 1 P

Christ Church UCC

75 E. Market St, Bethlehem PA 18018

**SIGN UP SHEET ON BB IN NARTHEX**

**New Bethany Ministries Mission Moment and Joyful  
Noise – December 2nd**

Join us on December 2<sup>nd</sup> for a time to learn about New Bethany Ministries and the services they provide locally to people in need. We will hear from a staff member of New Bethany and receive a Joyful Noise offering that day as well. Please remember to bring your nonperishable food items throughout the month of November to worship. These items will help stock the shelves of NBM food pantry.



## **New Bethany Ministries Needs List**

**WE WILL BE COLLECTING THESE ITEMS IN DECEMBER**

**for New Bethany Ministries**

### **December 2**

Full Size: Soap (travel size as well for showers)  
Shampoo (travel size as well for showers)  
Conditioner (travel size as well for showers)  
Towels & Wash Clothes

### **December 9**

Lotion  
Deodorant  
Toothpaste  
Band-Aids & First Aid Cream

### **December 16**

Paper Products - Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Tissues,  
etc.  
Feminine Hygiene Products  
Socks  
Ladies & Men's Underwear

### **December 23**

Dish Washing Liquid  
Laundry Detergent  
Comet Type Cleanser

### **Christmas Eve**

Wipes & Diapers All Sizes – Especially 3, 4, 5  
Diaper Rash Cream

**THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING  
YOU DO! God Bless You All**

# ANIMAL FOOD BANK



Remember our furry friends. Just drop your donation in one of the bins in the Narthex. I will deliver the items to the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley, a non-profit organization that assists people in need of help feeding their pets. Thanks again to everyone. - Brian Ziegler



## FELLOWSHIP & FRIENDS

### Sunday School Series!

Join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for an informal time of learning together:

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Advent Series: Join us for learning and friendship during this special season in the weeks leading up to Christmas!

Anyone interested in joining the fun and fellowship of the Bethlehem Inter-Church Dart Baseball League for 2018-19, should call Bob Ackerman at 610-797-7842. All games start at 7:30 unless otherwise noted.

Weekly results posted on BB in Narthex.



Come  
Decorate for  
Christmas

Help is needed Sunday, December 2 after worship to help decorate the church. All are welcome and your help is much appreciated.

**REMINDER:** ALL announcements made before worship must pertain to the life and ministry of Bethany. Community and family announcements can be placed in the bulletin and/or Beeline.

Please contact Susan Wuchter no later than the Monday before you want it to appear in the bulletin.

## CHURCH MEMBER NEWS

*Gracious God, help me face life's struggles with the love of Christ, who strengthens me. Amen*

Kenneth Bender  
Charles & Joyce Bergey  
Ruth Bowers  
Amy Campbell  
Lillian Connors  
Lauren Fehr  
Roland Greitzer  
Sharon Haines  
Lisa Kosetti  
Joyce Macbeth  
Ken Mathias  
Esther Nelson  
Karin Sparling  
Jean Thrash  
Marie Wolfe



**PRAYER LIST:** We ask that you check this list and let us know if there are any persons that no longer need to be on this list. Also, if you know of someone that needs our prayers, you can submit their name to Debbie Brown at 484-358-3735 or the church office. Remember, because of the privacy to individuals; please be sure you have their permission before submitting their names for the prayer list.

### GET YOUR PEANUTS, CASHEWS, AND ALMONDS HERE!

Below are the nut preparation dates and order dates for 2018- 19.

Mark your calendars! You don't want to miss an order date. We sell Almonds, Cashews, and Peanuts. Call Debbie Brown at 484-358-3735 or

Linda Wieand at 610-868-3719. Everyone is invited to help on nut





preparation days. Saturdays from 9 AM-Noon (Attention Youth – this can be Community Service time) and Mondays from 8 AM until finished. It's a time of fun and fellowship. Lunch is served on peanut prep Mondays.

**Order Dates**

- Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>
- Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>
- Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>
- Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>
- Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> and Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>
- Apr. 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>
- June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Peanut Making**

- Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>
- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>
- Mar. 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>
- Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>
- May 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>
- June 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>

Peanuts \$3, Cashews & Almonds \$5



**FUNDRAISERS -**

*Gift Cards from  
Martellucci's*

\$25 gift cards for Martellucci's Pizza are available for purchase the 1<sup>ST</sup> Sunday of every month from Debbie Brown. The Sunday in December would be **12/2**.

This year we are trying a **Christmas Candy sale** from Chocolates on Broadway in Bangor. Delivery will be Sunday, December 16. Any questions, contact Susan Wuchter at 610-868-4441



Committee chair persons please submit your annual report for the Congregational meeting ASAP to Susan Wuchter.

**BUDGETS FOR 2019** SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DEBBIE KERETZ.

## CHURCH CANCELLATIONS

If worship is cancelled due to weather conditions, announcements will be on TV Channel 69 – WFMZ. Also, if we have your email address, an email will be sent out.



## CHURCH NEWS REMINDERS

### Pastor's Office Hours and Contact Information

Pastor Linda is in the office on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings. Scheduled visits will be on those days according to her schedule. Emergency pastoral care will be offered as needed. Please call the office to schedule a visit. Feel free to see me on Sunday mornings or email me directly as well.

Email: [pastorlinda.bethanyucc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlinda.bethanyucc@gmail.com)

Bethany Worship Service Digital **AUDIO RECORDINGS** are available. If interested contact Bill Rumble at [wrumble@ptd.net](mailto:wrumble@ptd.net).



**BULLETIN & FLOWER CHART** - The Bulletin and Flower charts for 2018 are posted on the bulletin board by the main entrance (double glass doors). Just sign your name on any available date.

The minimum cost for bulletins is \$10.00. The cost for fresh flowers is \$40.00 for two vases. Another fresh flower option is one low rectangular vase to be placed on the altar at a cost of \$30.00. If you prefer this option, please sign up on the flower chart and indicate your preference by placing an R in a circle after your name for the Rectangular arrangement. I need to let the florist know what type of flower arrangement we want, so please mark the chart. If you prefer the seasonal Silk flowers and would like your donation to go directly to Bethany, please write the word "silk" behind your name or put an (S). PLEASE NOTE The minimum cost of silk flowers is \$10.00. As in the past, contact the

office with your information for the bulletin no later than the Tuesday before your sponsored date. Thank you.

## **Bethany Social Media Buzz**

This fall, Growth Committee has relaunched the church's Facebook page as a place to grow our online community and share news of the church. If you are on Facebook, please "Like" and "Follow" our page at [www.facebook.com/BethanyUCCBethlehem](http://www.facebook.com/BethanyUCCBethlehem). If you have an Instagram account, you can follow us @BethanyUCCBethlehem.

We also invite you to tag the church in your posts and use the hashtag #BethanyUCCBethlehem to share posts and photos on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter!



## THE CHRISTMAS FUND for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

You have the opportunity to be a part of this ministry that cares for the active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ through your participation in this year's Christmas Fund Offering. This offering will be on Sunday, December 23. Envelopes will be distributed a week prior to the collection. Envelopes will also be available on the radiator at the rear of the church.

## **Bethany Needs Your Help**

We need everyone to pitch in and help take care of our church home. We all have a little time in our busy lives to do one of the jobs listed below occasionally. If you or your group holds an event or meeting at the church, please make sure all trash is put in the furnace room and the rest rooms are stocked with toilet paper and paper towels. Be sure that floors and tables are clean.

On Sunday before you leave your pew look around and make sure all trash goes with you and all items are returned to their proper place.

If you see something that needs to be done, do it. Or bring it to the attention of someone who can address the concern.

Please look into your heart and help your church in its time of need. If you have any questions on where to find supplies or further instructions, please ask either a consistory member or a member of the property committee.

Thank you,  
Your church

*Be a small part of something big!*

**Susan will be making up the 2019-20 worship service schedule. If you would like your name added or taken off the list, please let her know by December 16.**

**DEADLINE FOR JANUARY BEELINE IS DECEMBER 26.**

**ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS & FRIENDS OF BETHANY**

We would like to send a Beeline to college students and friends of Bethany, but to do that we need an email address or mailing address. Please call the church office (610-868-4441) or email the church (bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com) with that information. Thank you.

**NEXT MEETING DATES:**

Consistory – Dec. 13 @ 7P

Church Growth – Dec. 2 after worship

Stewardship and Finance

Worship Jan. 16 @ 5:30

Staff – Feb. 20 @ 5:30 (if not the 13<sup>th</sup> - watch weather))

**Please note:** As part of our ongoing commitment to be a safe place for all who gather at Bethany, the doors to the church will be locked on Sunday mornings once the worship service begins. There will be an usher at the door to allow latecomers entry into the building. If you arrive to a locked door, please be patient until someone lets you in. It is difficult to be the Church who follows Jesus example of openness and freely welcoming all people, and at the same time, to be the Church in today's world, who remains committed to safety. Thank you for your understanding.



**December 1 – 8:30 AM 53<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY ADVENT BREAKFAST** @ Moravian Village main dining room (526 Wood St.) \$15 Adults, \$9 youth under 16 - see notice on BB in Narthex for ticket locations thru 11/26

**December 2 – 7 P Advent Lovefeast Candlelight Worship** with special music – West Side Moravian Church. See flyer on BB in Narthex

**December 8 10 A – 1 P – Stand up Bethlehem** at Christ UCC. Sign up sheet will be on BB in Narthex.

**December 8 & 9** - The Live Nativity will be held in Bethlehem's Rose Garden. Bethany's Choir will once again participate in this event. Anyone interested in joining should contact Sue Wright. Rehearsal will be Wednesday, December 5 at 8:15 P. The pageant will be December 8 & 9 at Bethlehem's Rose Garden. Prelude at 1:45 P – the Nativity will start at 2 P and last approximately 50 minutes.



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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- 2 Roger Wagner
- 4 Charles Bergey
- 6 Cindy Cressman  
Marion Hendricks  
Brian Ziegler
- 7 Bryan Roberts
- 17 Eugene Learn
- 19 Mary Auer Ziegenfus
- 20 Richard Roberts
- 22 Sandra Ackerman
- 26 Matthew Brunner
- 30 Lisa Nguyen



**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

28 Sue & Earl Stralo  
29 Patricia & Alan Hale



DID I MISS ANYONE? If so, call the church office

**2018 Consistory**

Brian Ziegler – President  
Dan Sabetti – Vice President  
Debbie Keretz – Secretary  
Tom Hoffert - Treasurer

<b>ELDERS</b>		
Dan Sabetti	484-281-3630	danielpsabetti@yahoo.com
Walter Williams	610-868-2993	wawilliams65@ptd.net
Brian Ziegler	610-861-7501	bziegler12649@gmail.com
<b>DEACONS</b>		
Gail Hoch	C-610-759-7135	mom2jnl@ptd.net
Joan Hottle	610-417-3224C	joaniern77@gmail.com
Debbie Keretz	484-767-6382C	dkeretz@FinancialGuide.com
Becky Sullivan	610-866-0367	rebeccaannkish@yahoo.com

**WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:**

	Budgeted Member Envelope	\$2,143.00
11/4	Attendance 59 Weekly member envelope	\$1,665.00
	Special offering in memory of Donald Esslinger by Doris Esslinger	\$45.00
11/11	Attendance 75 Weekly member envelope	\$2,461.00
	Special offering in memory of parents wedding anniversary by the Sabetti's	\$25.00
11/18	Attendance 51 Weekly member envelope	\$991.00
11/25	Attendance 50 Weekly member envelope	\$2,143.00

**DECEMBER 2 –1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**

FLOWERS:

BULLETINS:

GREETERS: Ina Denninger, Diane Brunner

USHERS: John Knoll, Barbara Backensto, Gail Hoch, Tom Hoffert

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

LAY READER: Debbie Brown

ALTAR GUILD: Jan Smith

**DECEMBER 9 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

FLOWERS:

BULLETINS:

GREETERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti

USHERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti, Cindy Beck, Bob Ruhe

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

LAY READER: Joyce Hammer

**DECEMBER 16 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

FLOWERS:

BULLETINS

GREETERS: Cindy Beck, Roger Wagner

USHERS: Roland & Phyllis Greitzer, Marion Hendricks, Wendy Glassic

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

LAY READER: Mike Reiniger

**DECEMBER 23 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

FLOWERS:

BULLETINS:

GREETERS: Dolly Ackerman, Linda Wieand

USHERS: Fred Ackerman, Bob Ackerman, Mackenzie Scott, Tom Hoffert

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

LAY READER: Bill Rumble

**DECEMBER 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

FLOWERS:

BULLETINS:

GREETERS: :Len Kesselring, Corey Tancin

USHERS: Jack Brunner, Tom Wright, Steve Tarasuk, Lisa Williams

ACOLYTE: Volunteers

LAY READER: Len Kesselring

**DECEMBER 30**

GREETERS: Barbara Backensto, Gail Hoch

USHERS: John Knoll, Kathy Knoll, Gail Hoch, Tom Hoffert

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

LAYREADER: Gail Hoch

**Bethany UCC  
600 W. Market Street  
Bethlehem PA 18018-5242**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



*ease join us for Advent*