



# 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 21-12

DECEMBER 2021

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## **Sunday, December 5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

10:45 AM      Worship

## **Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

10:45 AM      Worship

## **Sunday, December 19<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

10:45 AM      Worship

## **Friday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

7:30 p.m.      Musicians arrive

8:00 p.m.      Prelude

8:30 p.m.      Candlelight Service

## **Saturday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

## **Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> – First Sunday after Christmas**

10:45 AM      Worship





Dear Bethany Family,

One of the titles or names given to Jesus is Emmanuel. It means "God With Us".

We hear this name of Jesus in the Holy

Season of Advent as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of His Birth and His coming again. The world in which Jesus came 2000 years ago was a dark world when the people of God yearned and hoped for the coming of the Messiah. As I lament over the conditions of our present time with the sins of humanity and the darkness and evil that seems to prevail, I can be overwhelmed with despair and hopelessness. And then I am reminded that Christ still comes as He did before, offering spiritual gifts of wisdom and justice and abiding love. The birthday celebration of Jesus at Christmas is not one that is one day a year but one that is a birth within us all our days. One of my favorite carols is "O Little Town of Bethlehem" We sing "O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray: cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. O come to us abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel." Come Lord Jesus! Jean and Blossom join me in wishing you all the blessings of Christmas.

Pastor Todd

## OILS OF THE BIBLE

All are invited to attend a presentation on "The Oils of the Bible " by Jean Fennell. The focus will be on the scriptural accounts of oils connected with the Christmas Story of Jesus. This will be held in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 19 at 930. Come and be inspired with the meanings and fragrance of these gifts in nature.



As the days get shorter and the nights grow longer, we know that the Christmas season is upon us. As Christians, we not only celebrate the birth of our Savior, but we also prepare for His arrival during the four weeks of Advent. The Chancel Choir anthems were chosen to help us do that with selections entitled “How Will We Know Him”, “Hark the Glad Sound”, “Prepare the Way”, and “O Jesus Grant Me Hope and Comfort”. Then, as Christmas Eve finally arrives, we will celebrate that birth we have been waiting for with voices, chimes, handbells, and instruments. In preparation for that joyous evening, we will have the Handbell and Chancel Choir rehearsals on Wednesday Dec.1st, 15th, and 22nd during our regularly scheduled times. There will be additional rehearsal time scheduled for Bethany’s Instrumental Ensemble. Individuals will be contacted when availability dates are confirmed. In addition to the above, the Chancel Choir and guests will provide the music for Bethlehem’s Live Nativity Pageant on Sat. December 11 and Sun. Dec. 12 at the 8th Avenue Rose Garden. The prelude begins at 1:45 PM and the program is about one hour in length. Early arrivals for costuming begin at 12:30 pm. The rehearsal for this event is on Wed. Dec.1st at 8:00 pm. We will run thru the program in 30 to 45 minutes. You must attend this rehearsal to participate. There WILL be an After-Christmas gathering for our choirs. Details will be coming, but the date is Wednesday January 12th, 2022. As always, a heartfelt thank you is extended to all of Bethany’s singers, ringers and instrumentalists. Your gifts of time and talent have been such a bright spot for many during a very difficult year.

Joyfully,

Susan Denninger Wright

## 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.

**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 in 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. At the end of the year we will be purging the list and starting over for 2021. You will need to contact the office if you want a name to stay on the list by December 21<sup>st</sup>.



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

Joyce Bergey  
Lillian Connors  
Dorothy Kraemer  
Louise Snyder  
Dolly Ackerman  
Carol Haines  
Sharon Haines  
Ken & Joan Mathias  
Marie Wolfe  
Barbara Sigafos  
Mike & Barbara Reiniger  
Robert Frankenfield  
Barbara Brunner  
Peggy Stettner  
Kat & Nicole Lutsko  
Micah Leib (granddaughter of Al Leib)



## **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1 Pastor Todd Fennell  
2 Roger Wagner  
6 Cindy Cressman  
    Marion Hendricks  
    Brian Ziegler  
7 Bryan Roberts  
10 Suzanne Miller  
17 Eugene Learn  
19 Mary Auer Ziegenfus  
20 Richard Roberts  
22 Sandra Ackerman  
25 John Talijan  
26 Matthew Brunner  
27 Jacob Miller  
30 Lisa Nguyen

## **DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

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

**BULLETIN & FLOWER CHART** - The Bulletin and Flower charts for 2022 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 \$45.00 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.

### **Bethlehem Emergency Shelter**

**As the weather grows colder, we need to remember those who have no home and rely on the shelter for a place to stay and a warm meal. Bethany has signed up to provide and serve a meal on Friday February 11 and Tuesday March 8. We need 10 – 15 people each night so please let Wendy Glassic or the office know if you are willing to help. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.**

### **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

We are continuing the tradition of donating money to Bethany in lieu of sending our Bethany Friends Holiday Cards. This Holiday Season, a \$10 donation to Bethany will forego sending out cards to Bethany Members/Friends wishing them a Merry Christmas. Your donation must be received by **December 12<sup>th</sup>**. Your name will appear in the bulletin on December 19<sup>th</sup> and Christmas Eve. Please make the check payable to "Bethany UCC" with greetings in the memo line. Thank You.

## **WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:**

11/7 Attendance 46 Weekly member envelope \$1716  
11/14 Attendance 42 Weekly member envelope \$752  
11/21 Attendance 41 Weekly member envelope \$1222  
11/21 Joyful Noise \$200  
11/22 Attendance ? Weekly member envelope ?

2022 Giving Envelope boxes will be available in Snyder Chapel for pick-up as soon as they arrive.

## **The Return of Dart Baseball**

The Bethlehem Interchurch dart league is having a season. Have you ever wondered about the doors in fellowship hall that are on the wall? That is our dart Baseball board. Our matches are on Monday nights at Bethany and other churches in the city. It is a get together for fun and fellowship with a little bit of competition. Our Bethany team has a new Captain/Manager this year so if you have any questions contact Steve Tarasuk, (610) 554-0125 (call or text), [steve.tarasuk@gmail.com](mailto:steve.tarasuk@gmail.com). Watch the bulletin for more information about a fun get together after the holidays to meet the team and have a chance to throw against them. The last time our guests beat the team.

## **FUNDRAISERS**

### **HELP BETHANY RAISE SOME DOUGH!**



Martellucci's Pizza gift cards will be sold on Sunday Dec.

12<sup>th</sup>. The cards cost \$25 and

Bethany will get \$5 for each card sold. This is a

great idea for Christmas.



**1419 Easton Avenue Bethlehem, PA 610-865-2013**



## December Calendar

Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal 7PM Chancel Choir 8PM Live Nativity Rehearsal
Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Office Hours
Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	9AM-3PM Nut Prep in FH
Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:45 Worship Second Sunday in Advent
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	9AM-? Nut Prep in FH
Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Office Hours
Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Consistory 7pm
Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	1:45 Prelude Live Nativity 4pm-? Event in FH
Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:45AM Worship Third Sunday of Advent 1:45 Prelude Live Nativity
Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal 7PM Chancel Choir
Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Oils of the Bible 10:45 Worship Fourth Sunday of Advent
Dec. 22 <sup>rd</sup>	5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7PM Chancel Choir
Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Prelude Music 8pm Worship Service 8:30pm
Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:45 Worship First Sunday After Christmas



## Those Who Serve

### DECEMBER 5 – Second Sunday of Advent

FLOWERS: Barbara Backenstoe & Family

BULLETINS: Debbie Brown

GREETERS: Gail Correll & Kathy Knoll

USHERS: John & Kathy Knoll, Gail Correll, Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Debbie Brown

ALTAR GUILD: Jan Smith

### DECEMBER 12 – Third Sunday of Advent

FLOWERS: Rebecca Kesselring

BULLETINS: Rebecca Kesselring

GREETERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti

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

LAY READER: Margy Sabetti

### DECEMBER 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

FLOWERS: Rebecca Kesselring

BULLETINS: Rebecca Kesselring

GREETERS: Cindy Beck

USHERS: Tom Hoffert, Len Kesselring, Cindy Beck, Bob Ruhe

LAY READER: Mike Reiniger

### DECEMBER 24 – Christmas Eve

BULLETINS: Open

GREETERS: Open

USHERS: Tom Hoffert, Len Kesselring, Corey Tancin, Steve Tarasuk

### DECEMBER 26 – First Sunday After Christmas

FLOWERS: Debbie Brown

BULLETINS: Debbie Brown

GREETERS: Kathy Knoll and Gail Correll

USHERS: John Knoll, Gail Correll and Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Gail Correll

**DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY BEELINE IS DECEMBER  
20<sup>th</sup>.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO GREET, USHER AND READ  
IN THE UPCOMING YEAR. PLEASE CONTACT THE  
OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED OR  
REMOVED FROM THE LIST.**

**Bethlehem Live Nativity**

**Join us as we celebrate Christ's birth in the Rose  
Garden December 11 & 12. Anyone is welcome to join  
the Chancel Choir when we sing at the Live Nativity on  
Saturday Dec. 11 and Sunday Dec. 12. Rehearsal for the  
pageant will be held on Wednesday Dec. 1 from 8 - 8:30  
PM, following Chancel Choir. Please sign up with Sue  
for the event. The prelude begins at 1:45 pm and the  
program concludes in approximately one hour. Come  
see us perform!**

**Remember that all giving to be credited to 2021 must be  
received by December 26<sup>th</sup>.**



## POINSETTIA PLANTS



Poinsettias

Anyone wishing to place a poinsettia plant in our Sanctuary to help decorate and beautify our church for the Christmas holidays, is asked to fill in the necessary information below and return it to the church office accompanied by your payment. Checks are payable to "Bethany UCC" marked Poinsettia in your memo area. **The deadline for all orders is Sunday, December 12.**

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### RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO CHURCH OFFICE

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias @ \$10.00 a plant

IN MEMORY OF

or

IN HONOR OF

(circle one)

Please place in bulletin as follows:

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Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ DONATION ONLY (Money is given directly to the church)

\_\_\_\_\_ I want the poinsettia plant(s)

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

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

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



*Please join us for Advent*