



# Bethany Beeline

Published twelve 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 22-12

DECEMBER 2022

## **Sunday, December 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

10:45 AM      Worship

## **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

10:45 AM      Worship

## **Sunday, December 18<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

10:45 AM      Worship

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

7:30 p.m.      Musicians arrive

8:00 p.m.      Prelude

8:30 p.m.      Candlelight Service

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

10:45 AM      Worship





Dear Bethany Church Family,

Believe it or not, Christmas is a month away! Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year as it does every seven years.

Bethany will be having a Christmas day Service at 10:45 and I hope you can attend. The theme of the service will be "stories and Carols" I will invite you to share a story of "What was a most memorable Christmas for you?" or "What special gift did you receive this year or in a memorable year past?" We will sing Christmas carols in between our story telling. Christmas is a time for storytelling as we gather with family and friends this Holy Season. Of course, we celebrate God's Wonderful Story in the Birth of the Christ Child born to redeem us and to call us to new life in Him. I hope to see you Christmas day – even in your bathrobe. I'll have mine!

### Love Came Down at Christmas

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for the sacred sign?  
Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;  
love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

See You at Bethany!

Pastor Todd

The Advent and Christmas season is now upon us, but the Bethany musicians have been preparing for weeks now. We prepare to be ready for events ...as Christians we prepare, during Advent, for the biggest event ever ... the birth of a savior. The members of the Music Ministry hope that you will be present at worship to listen to our musical offerings that enhance our services during this time of



preparation and celebration. Included are anthems by our Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, Instrumental pieces, 4 hand piano and piano organ duets. Please remember that on Christmas Eve, Bethany musicians present a pre-service prelude that begins at 8pm. Worship is at 8:30pm.

In addition, this is the 11<sup>th</sup> year that Chancel Choir members have participated as the pageant choir at the Live Nativity help at the 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Rose Garden in Bethlehem. Thanks, and appreciation to all those that have participated in the past and will do so again this year on Sat. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> & Sun. Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Costuming time at the cabin begins at 12:30pm and the pageant prelude by the choir begins at 1:45pm. The camels will be in attendance this year along with the horses, donkey, goats and sheep. Bring the young children for this lovely live presentation of the Christmas story.

Rehearsals for the month of December are as follows:  
Wed. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 5:30 Handbells Choir, 7pm Chancel Choir.

Rehearsals with instrumentalists will be scheduled with the participants at their convenience.

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:** 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.

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

Rebecca and Len Kesselring  
Joyce Bergey  
Sandy Ackerman  
Walter and Ann Williams  
Ted and Marion Hendricks  
Robert Frankenfield  
Rundle Kesselring's family and friends  
Lisa Harris  
Linda Kelly  
Roger Wagner  
Louise Snyder  
Carol Haines  
Sharon Haines  
Ken & Joan Mathias  
Marie Wolfe  
Barbara Sigafos  
Darlene Yocum  
Noel and her Parents



*Please keep all those who are unable to be with family during the holidays whether by choice or circumstances. Wrap them in Your loving spirit and keep them safe in this most wonderful time of year.*



**BULLETIN & FLOWER CHART** - The Bulletin and Flower charts for 2023 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 and silk flowers is \$10.00 each. 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). 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**

**Our first volunteer night at The Bethlehem Emergency Shelter will be here before you know it. Thank you to all of the volunteers who already signed up for our nights this season! You are truly awesome! At this time, we are looking for donations to purchase the items to make our first dinner. I have not made my final decision on the meal at this time so if anyone has any suggestions on recipes to feed 70 people, please feel free to share them! Donations in ANY amount are greatly appreciated. You can either see me before or after church or drop off your donation at the church office. Please make sure it is clearly marked for the "BES dinner". I would like to have a very brief meeting after church on December 4th with the volunteers to fill you**

in on new details for this season and to have you complete the Volunteer Application for this season. All volunteers must complete one prior to your scheduled shelter night. Thank you again and I look forward to working with you at the shelter!



**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

## **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 11<sup>th</sup>**. Your name will appear in the bulletin on December 18<sup>th</sup> and Christmas Eve. Please make the check payable to "Bethany UCC" with greetings in the memo line. Thank You.

### **Poinsettias**

**Order forms are now available as we start thinking about how lovely our church looks on Christmas Eve. The cost of these lovely flowers will be \$10 and the orders are due by Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>.**

### **FUNDRAISERS**

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

Martellucci's Pizza gift cards will be sold until Sunday Dec. 11<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**

***We will do our nut prep on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> with orders due by November 28<sup>th</sup>.***

***Please mark your calendars and talk to your friends and relatives. We need orders as well as workers. Due to rising costs, we will be charging \$5 per 8oz. bag for Peanuts, Cashews, and Almonds. Any questions please call me @ 484-358-3735.***

***Thanks, Debbie***



## December Calendar

- Dec. 3rd 9AM-1PM Nut Prep in FH
- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 10:45 Worship Second Sunday in Advent
- Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> 9AM-? Nut Prep in FH
- Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal  
7PM Chancel Choir  
8PM Live Nativity Rehearsal
- Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> Consistory 7pm
- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 1:45 Prelude Live Nativity
- Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 10:45AM Worship Third Sunday of Advent  
Candy Pickup in Snyder Chapel  
1:45 Prelude Live Nativity
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 10:45 Worship Fourth Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 21<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. 25<sup>th</sup> 10:45 Worship Christmas

Watch your bulletin for weekly updates



## Those Who Serve

### DECEMBER 4 – Second Sunday of Advent

FLOWERS: Linda Hollabaugh  
BULLETINS: Linda Hollabaugh  
GREETERS: Gail Correll  
USHERS: Gail Correll, Tom Hoffert  
LAY READER: Sue Wright  
ALTAR GUILD: Jan Smith

### DECEMBER 11 – Third Sunday of Advent

FLOWERS: Rebecca Kesselring  
BULLETINS: Rebecca Kesselring  
GREETERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti  
USHERS: Bob Ruhe, Cindy Beck  
LAY READER: Margy Sabetti

### DECEMBER 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

FLOWERS: Rebecca Kesselring  
BULLETINS: Rebecca Kesselring  
GREETERS: Barbara Backensto  
USHERS: Len Kesselring, Steve Tarasuk  
LAY READER: Mike Reiniger

### DECEMBER 24 – Christmas Eve

BULLETINS: Open  
GREETERS: Open  
USHERS: Tom Hoffert, Len Kesselring, Corey Tancin,  
Steve Tarasuk

### DECEMBER 25 – Christmas

FLOWERS: Rebecca Kesselring  
BULLETINS: Rebecca Kesselring  
GREETERS: Volunteer  
USHERS: Volunteers  
LAY READER: Len Kesselring

**DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY BEELINE IS DECEMBER  
19<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 10 & 11. Anyone is welcome to join  
the Chancel Choir when we sing at the Live Nativity on  
Saturday Dec. 11 and Sunday Dec. 11. Rehearsal for the  
pageant will be held on Wednesday Dec. 7 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 25<sup>th</sup>.

Envelopes for 2023 will be placed in Snyder Chapel as soon  
as they are received.



# POINSETTIA PLANTS



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 11.**

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## RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO CHURCH OFFICE

\_\_\_\_\_ Red 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:

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\_\_\_\_\_ 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*