



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 23-2

FEBRUARY 2023



Sunday, February 5 – 5th Sunday after Epiphany

10:45 a.m. Worship

Sunday, February 12 – 6th Sunday after Epiphany

10:45 a.m. Worship

Sunday, February 19 – Transfiguration Sunday

10:45 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, February 22 - Ash Wednesday

7p.m. Worship

Sunday, February 26 – 1st Sunday in Lent

10:45 a.m. Worship

Dear Bethany Family,



As I thought about discipleship the other day, I remembered a choral anthem that asks, "Would I Have Answered When You Called" by Roy Hopp. Here are the verses for you to ask yourself:

Would I have answered when you called,

"Come, follow, follow me!"?

Would I at once have left behind both work and family? Or would the old, familiar round have held me by its claim and kept the spark within my heart from bursting into flame?

Would I have followed where you led through ancient Galilee, on roads unknown, by ways untried, beyond security? Or would I soon have hurried back where home and comfort drew, where truth you taught would not disturb the ordered world I knew?

Would I have matched my step with yours when crowds cried, "Crucify!", when on a rocky hill I saw a cross against the sky?

Or would I too have slipped away and left you there alone, a dying king with crown of thorns upon a terrible throne?

O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways, nor can I with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise. I only pray that when you call, "Come, follow, follow me!", you'll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.

Are you a disciple of Jesus? Do you hear His call? Will you follow?

See you at Bethany.

Pastor Todd

Musical Notes . . .



We now begin the year of 2023. How is it that 2022 moved by so quickly? It certainly was a year of the worst of times and the best of times for many Bethany members...ups and downs and sometimes in the middle...yet we remained faithful. As a worshipping community we supported and encouraged one another while holding fast to the promises of God and putting our trust and hope in Him. Is that not what “the church “is to be? I am proud to be a member of Bethany Church and I hope you are too. I am grateful for all those that support the Music Ministry and keep it alive. Music has a special place in worship and over and over and over again His Word speaks of offering praise through voices and instruments. Nothing fills my heart more during worship than to hear vibrant congregational singing. That certainly occurred this Christmas Eve. What a joyful sound emanated from our sanctuary! I am also grateful for all those that work hard and support this congregation in so many other ways. It was everyone pulling together that allowed Bethany to remain a vibrant place of worship in 2022.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our music program participants for the gift I received at our annual “After Christmas “party held on

Wed. Jan. 11th in Fellowship Hall. Twenty-four persons attended...all enjoyed an evening of great food and fun fellowship. Thanks to all those that helped with set-up and clean-up. Special thanks to Debbie Brown for the festive paper products and her great assistance, and to Rebecca Kesselring, our prize provider.

Now it's back to business as the month of February starts the beginning of the Lenten season. Rehearsal dates for February are Wed. Feb. 8th and Feb. 22nd. The schedule on the 22nd will be 5:30 pm. Handbells; 7:00 pm. Ash Wednesday worship; Chancel Choir after the service. Special musical selections will be presented as we move throughout the month.

Joyfully,

Susan Denninger Wright

2023 Flower and Bulletin Charts are posted on the BB on the left side of the main entrance. Please note two vases will cost \$40. A rectangular arrangement will cost \$30. Silk (S) flowers will be \$10. Bulletins will cost \$10. Be sure to indicate what type of flowers you want – real or silk. We are now working with Country Rose Florist in Westgate.

Any questions, contact the church office.

As in the past, contact the office with your information for the bulletin no later than the Tuesday before your sponsored date. Thank you.

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.



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

Rebecca and Len Kesselring

Joyce Bergey

Walter and Ann Williams

Ted and Marion Hendricks

Robert Frankenfield

Roger Wagner

Louise Snyder

Carol Haines

Sharon Haines

Ken & Joan Mathias

Marie Wolfe

Barbara Sigafos

Please keep all of our congregation, family and friends in your prayers. As we embark on a new year, we pray that 2023 is a year of happiness and joy.

CHURCH NEWS REMINDERS

Ash Wednesday

The Holy Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. These 40 days till Easter call us to a time of self-reflection and our need for the mercy and grace of God in Jesus. Join us for worship at Bethany at 7 pm. The imposition of ashes and Holy Communion will be administered.

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.

FUNDRAISERS -

Gift Cards from Martellucci's

\$25 gift cards for Martellucci's Pizza are available for purchase the 1ST Sunday of every month from Margy Sabetti.

We will be selling Easter Candy from Chocolates on Broadway, please watch for the flyers.

We will be selling flowers for Easter from Cierach's Greenhouse. If you enjoyed the flowers at Christmas, be ready to order from their spring offerings.

Due to the offers of help from outsiders to continue our Nut Sales we will have an Easter Sale. We will be taking orders for a sale the last weekend in March. Mark your calendars.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Lauren Correll
- 11 Lisa Williams
- 18 Ashley Tarasuk



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

3 Lisa & Minh Nguyen

14 Sharon & Philip Haines

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

2023 Consistory

- Matt Miller – President
- Dan Sabetti – Vice President
- Jenna Nguyen – Secretary
- Tom Hoffert - Treasurer

ELDERS		
Dan Sabetti	484-281-3630	danielpsabetti@yahoo.com
Walter Williams	610-868-2993	wawilliams65@ptd.net
Matt Miller	415-827-5359C	Tusculum76@gmail.com
Steve Tarasuk	610-691-7595	fourtarasuk@verizon.net
DEACONS		
John Talijan	484-767-8882	talijan@ptd.net
Jenna Nguyen	484-264-8240C	Jenna.nguyen29@gmail.com
Tim Rumble	484-274-0857C	trumble@ptd.net

- 1/1/23 Attendance:29 Offering: \$785
- 1/8/23 Attendance:47 Offering: \$1511
- 1/15/23 Attendance:38 Offering: \$842
- 1/22/23 Attendance:40 Offering: \$1156
- 1/29/23 ?

THOSE WHO SERVE

FEBRUARY 5

FLOWERS: OPEN

BULLETINS: OPEN

GREETERS: Judy & George Morgan

USHERS: Steve Tarasuk, Lisa Williams

LAY READER: Sue Wright

FEBRUARY 12

FLOWERS: OPEN

BULLETINS: OPEN

GREETERS: Cindy Beck

USHERS: Cindy Beck, Bob Ruhe

LAY READER: Diane Diefenderfer

FEBRUARY 19

FLOWERS: Brunner

BULLETINS: Brunner

GREETERS: Corey Tancin

USHERS: Tom Hoffert, Corey Tancin

LAY READER: Jean Fennell

FEBRUARY 22 Ash Wednesday

GREETERS: Barbara Backensto

USHERS: Dan, Steve, Tim

LAY READER: Debbie Brown

FEBRUARY 26

FLOWERS: OPEN

BULLETINS: OPEN

GREETERS: Len Kesselring

USHERS: Len Kesselring, Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Bev Rumble

AED INSTALLED

As you enter the sanctuary from the narthex you will see to your left a new AED unit installed on the wall. This equipment was given as a Memorial Gift by Fred Ackerman and family in memory of Dolly Ackerman, who passed away last March. A Dedication of this gift will be scheduled at a later date.

Congregational Meeting

The Congregation with a quorum present met on Sunday, Jan.22 to approve the proposed 2023 budget, even with a projected deficit of \$16,000. Matt Miller and Tim Rundle made presentations including the call for increased giving and fundraising efforts. The budget was approved. There may be the need to free up restricted funds in order to pay bills. This matter will be visited at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 5. Please prayerfully consider increasing your giving to help Bethany in this time of challenge and need.

FUN NIGHT AT BETHANY

Dick Roberts will serve as the DJ for a Fun Dance Hop in Fellowship Hall on Friday, Feb.10 beginning at 630. All are invited to come and why not invite a friend or other family member? You are asked to bring a snack and beverage to share. See you on the dance floor.

BETHANY OUTREACH

Bethlehem Emergency Shelter

Just a friendly reminder that we are scheduled to prepare the dinner meal at the shelter on Tuesday, February 14th, Valentine's Day and again two weeks later on Friday, March 3rd. At this time we are looking for any monetary donations to offset the cost of the meals for these two dinners as well as the breakfast bags we prepare for our guests to take with them the next morning when they leave the shelter. We are also looking for bakers for both nights. Since we are preparing the Valentine's Day meal, I am hoping our bakers would consider that theme when making their goodies. I am so happy to report that our remaining two nights at the shelter are fully staffed for both nights and a huge thank you goes out to our wonderful volunteers. We could not do this without you. I would like to have a brief meeting with our volunteers on Sunday, February 12th after church to go over some changes this month and to provide you with the volunteer applications for completion. Thank you again for your continued commitment to this very important philanthropy!

Blessing Bag Donations are being collected at St. Thomas UCC and here at Bethany from now until June to benefit students (ages 11-15) at a Charter School in Allentown. Items needed are travel size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, face wipes, washcloths, razors, shaving cream, tampons, pads, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, Look for the basket in our narthex.

CALENDAR

- 1st 5:30pm Handbell rehearsal**
7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
- 5th 10:45am Worship in the Sanctuary**
- 6th 7pm Darts @ Trinity UCC**
- 7th 7pm New Member Class**
- 8th 5:30pm Handbell rehearsal**
7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
- 9th 7pm Consistory in FH**
- 10th 6:30pm Fun Night /Dancing in FH**
- 12th 10:45 Worship in the Sanctuary**
- 13th 7pm Darts @ home vs. Holy Cross**
- 14th Valentine's Day Serving Shelter Dinner**
- 19th 10:45 Worship in the Sanctuary as we welcome new members**
- 20th Office Closed for Presidents Day**
Darts/All Star Match
- 21st Deadline for March Beeline**
- 22nd 5:30pm Handbell rehearsal**
7pm Ash Wednesday Service
Chancel Choir rehearsal
- 26 10:45am Worship in the Sanctuary**
- 27 7pm Darts @ East Hills**

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



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED