

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Hours: Mon, Tues and Thurs. 9:30-1:30

Church Office: 610-868-4441

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



August 6, 2023 Healing Service

“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.”

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 6, 2023

10:00 AM

We encourage our visitors to include their name, address, and phone number in the Guest Book at the top of the steps and come again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to become part of the community of faith and mission here at Bethany.

**(*) PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE
(Bold Text is said or sung by everyone)**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "There is A Balm' in Gilead" ...African American Spiritual Harmonica/Vocal Jerry Lee Miller

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God of Life,

C: you are as near to us as our breath.

L: Touch our eyes

C: that we may see you;

L: Open our ears

C: that we may hear your voice;

L: Enter our hearts

C: that we may know your love.

L: Grace our souls and bodies with your presence,

C: that we might feel your strength and your healing.

Come, God of breath and wholeness, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*HYMN: #449 Day by Day

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God we come to You expectantly. Remind us of the healing power of Your love. We long to seek Your protection from our fears and our sins. But far too often, we try to brave our problems alone. We lay before You our burdens, tattered hopes and shattered dreams. We remember the terrible sacrifice You suffered for us, and are humbled by Your fierce love – Your word made flesh, given for us, that we might live. Love us, forgive us, and protect us O God. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #638 O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come vs.1&2

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends?

From every ailment flesh endures our bodies clamor to be freed; yet in our hearts we would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 103:1-5, 13-19 1-11

James 5: 13-15

*Mark 10: 46-52

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

INTRODUCTION TO THE RITUAL OF HEALING

Receiving today: Barbara Backensto
Gail Correll
Eric Derr
Sherri Gangewere
Sharon Haines
Rebecca Kesselring
Ruth Smith
Corey Tancin

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: We give you thanks, wondrous God, for the mystery of creation, for the miracle of life, and for the seeds of renewal you plant deep within all living things. We praise you that you continue to create and recreate forever, mending what is broken, and making all things new.

C: Holy God of mystery, love, and power, we bless you for your child Jesus Christ, who has come among us to restore all things to your purpose, to heal the sick and feed the hungry, and to offer all people a destiny as your daughters and sons.

P: Remembering Jesus, we offer you our love, our praise, and our thanksgiving in joy and suffering, in sickness and health, in union with Christ in life and death.

C: By Your Spirit anoint us for a ministry of care, that we who have known Your healing touch may share Your love with those in need of Your grace.

P: Holy, Living God, with our whole hearts we praise you and with our lives we give you glory through Jesus Christ the Healer, and the Spirit who labors to bring forth new creation.

ALL: Amen

SONG OF INTERCESSION: Chancel Choir

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Lay Your Hands Upon Me, Gently Lord" ...
Carol Murray Chancel Choir

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #34 Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him,
all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly
host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

**Holy One, we thank you for revealing yourself to us
and through us with abundance and flourishing. Give us
generous hearts. May our offerings offer a testimony
honoring your provision and giving glory to your name.
Receive these gifts and magnify them for the needs of
your creation. Amen.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER – PASTORAL PRAYER - THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive
us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

*HYMN: #636 Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

*BENEDICTION

L: May the touch of Christ bring you healing,

C: May the love of Christ bring you hope.

L: May the life of Christ bring you insight as you go forth with new vision.

ALL: Amen.

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: #451 Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side! Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to order and provide- in every change he faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are passed, all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS: are dedicated in honor of the 4th wedding anniversary of Gail and David Correll. They have been together for 27 years and have 5 children and 8 grandchildren

GREETERS: Judy & George Morgan

USHERS: Corey Tancin, Lisa Williams

LAY READER: Diane Diefenderfer

Scriptures

Psalm 103: 1 – 5, 13 -19 NRSV

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

² Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and do not forget all his benefits—
3 who forgives all your iniquity,
 who heals all your diseases,
4 who redeems your life from the Pit,
 who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live
 so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
13 As a father has compassion for his children,
 so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.
14 For he knows how we were made;
 he remembers that we are dust.
15 As for mortals, their days are like grass;
 they flourish like a flower of the field;
16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
 and its place knows it no more.
17 But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to
everlasting on those who fear him,
 and his righteousness to children's children,
18 to those who keep his covenant
 and remember to do his commandments.
19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
 and his kingdom rules over all.

James 5: 1 – 15 NRSV

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14 Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Mark 10: 46 - 52 NRSV

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. 47 When he heard

that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵² Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Blessing Bags

For the summer we are collecting items to be used at the shelter. The most urgent needs are Travel size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, face wipes, washcloths, razors, shaving cream, tampons, pads, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste.

Task Force

Bethany now has a Task Force to work on the Futuring Project. Serving are Eric Derr, Matt Miller, Lisa Nguyen, Dick Roberts and John Talijan. Please keep the Task Force in your prayers. They will hold their next meeting on August 20th.

Thinking of You

Please send thinking of you cards for Darlene and Ken Yocum. I think it would mean a lot to them to know that we are thinking of them. Maybe include a memory of something you shared with them.



Bethany Dart team will be defending its Championship title for the 2023-24 season. If you are interested in some fun and fellowship, and a little bit of friendly competition against other local churches, contact Steve Tarasuk team captain. stephen.tarasuk@gmail.com
Talk or text (610)554-0125



August Fun Event

If you like music, especially the oldies, then we invite you to Bethany's Bandstand, Friday, August 18, Fellowship Hall starting around 6:30PM. All types of music will be featured - ballads, polkas, country, rock and roll, etc. Participate in the dance crazes from the Charleston to the Electric Slide and in musical fun games. Test your 1950' 1960's and musical knowledge with various quizzes. Join in the dancing or just listen to the great music of decades past. No charge. (Bring your own snacks and drinks). Join us for a night of fun.

Dick

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Day by Day

1 Day by day and with each pass-ing mo - ment, strength I find to
 2 Ev - ery day the Lord him - self is near me with a spe - cial
 3 Help me then in ev - ery trib - u - la - tion so to trust your

meet my tri - als here; trust-ing in my Fa - ther's wise be - stow - ment,
 mer - cy for each hour; all my cares he fain would bear, and cheer me,
 prom - is - es, O Lord, that I lose not faith's sweet con - so - la - tion

I've no cause for wor - ry or for fear. He whose heart is kind be - yond all
 he whose name is Coun - sel - or and Power. The pro - tec - tion of his child and
 of - fered me with - in your ho - ly Word. Help me, Lord, when toil and trou - ble

mea - sure gives un - to each day what he deems best—lov - ing - ly, its
 trea - sure is a charge that on him - self he laid: "As your days, your
 meet - ing, e'er to take, as from a fa - ther's hand, one by one, the

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TRUST & ASSURANCE

part of pain and plea-sure, min-gling toil with peace and rest.
 strength shall be in mea-sure," this the pledge to me he made.
 days, the mo-ments fleet-ing, till I reach the prom-ised land.

Chords: Fm7/Ab, Bb, Bb7, Eb

Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

636

1 Heal me, hands of Je - sus, and search out all my pain;
 2 Cleanse me, blood of Je - sus, take bit - ter - ness a - way;
 3 Know me, mind of Je - sus, and show me all my sin;
 4 Fill me, joy of Je - sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease

re - store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
 let me for - give as one for - given and bring me peace to - day.
 dis - pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
 and heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

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THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

10AM Worship with Healing Service in Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

5:30PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

10AM Worship in Fellowship Hall



Please remember to provide the office with any address changes as I would like to issue a new directory. Please email the office or write the information on a paper and leave it in the office. Thanks!