



Bethany Beeline

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

600 West Market Street

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

(610) 868-4441

Hours: Mon, Fri. 9:00-1:00 Wed. 1:00-5:00

Email: bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com www.uccbethany.org

“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 24-1

JANUARY 2024

Sunday, January 7th – Epiphany Sunday

10:45 a.m. Worship with Len Kesselring/
Undecorate the church

Sunday, January 14th – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

10:45 a.m. Worship with Len Kesselring/
Undecorate the church

Sunday, January 21st – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

10:45 a.m. Worship with Rev. Dr. DeRemer
join us as we celebrate the first communion of
2024

Sunday, January 28th - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

10:45 a.m. Worship with Rev. Dr. David
DeRemer



Greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. As we begin a new calendar year, I am privileged to join you weekly for worship and to take responsibility for

some of the administrative tasks of the church.

When Pastor Todd announced that he would no longer be the worship leader at Bethany after the end of 2023, I became concerned. I knew that trying to find a new stated supply pastor would be a challenge. The few pastors on the Penn NE Conference supply list are constantly in demand. Plus, since the June congregational meeting, exploration work has been underway to perhaps join with another congregation. That process complicates things.

Given those factors, I offered to lead worship through Easter. With Pastor Todd being willing to continue providing pastoral care to those housebound and hospitalized members, that would provide a manageable schedule for me.

I love leading worship and preaching. 2024 is my 45th year of serving various congregations. And even during the 10 years that I was Director of New Bethany Ministry, I nonetheless continued preaching nearly every week. (The demand for Sunday Supply, was great even back in the 1980s).

Hopefully, I can continue to provide thoughtful and inspiring messages and worship liturgy that you experienced with Pastor Todd and Pastor Linda.

The next few months will be pivotal for Bethany. I pray that God will provide special guidance to me and you as we walk together through the coming weeks.

Pastor Dave



Musical Notes. . .

Another year of music begins as we say goodbye to 2023 and start again with our rehearsals for the upcoming services. Both the Handbell and Chancel

Choirs will rehearse at their regular times on January 17th and 31st. Anyone who wishes to praise the Lord through music is welcome to do so. Since the music of our services strives to be thematic, ideas and titles are needed in advance for scheduling. Keep in mind the Lenten season is fast approaching.

Many, many thanks to all of those that participated in the Music Ministry during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Bethany is more than fortunate to have

wonderful willing participants that share their time and talents with the congregation. The written Word, coupled with the God given gift of music, resonates in the hearts of those open to receive. In case you may have been absent on Christmas Eve, in addition to voices raised in song, the sanctuary was filled with the sound of instruments...handbells, trumpets, trombones, flute, clarinet, bassoon, alto sax, Native American flute, banjo, piano, and organ to be exact. Add to that the a cappella singing of the entire congregation, and the birth of the Messiah was proclaimed in Bethany Church in the Christmas City of Bethlehem, PA. that evening.

Finally, on Wednesday Jan. 10th twenty-one persons enjoyed delicious food, great fun, and warm fellowship at the After Christmas Choir party in Fellowship Hall. Five persons were absent due to sickness/health concerns and they were missed. Fellowship Hall was transformed into a lovely decorated dining and party area. We are blessed to have such a space...not to mention "support pole" free!

It is not without sadness that we will be losing Pastor Todd and wife Jean in our Chancel and Handbell Choirs. To state the obvious, their voices and musical talent will be gone, but anyone that participates in these groups soon becomes part of the choir family where caring, friendships, and a

sense of community develop. For that reason alone, they will truly be missed.

Joyfully,

Susan Denninger Wright



Many thanks for the Coffee Hour Reception on Dec.31 to wish Jean and me well in Retirement.

Thankyou also for the gift card to Olive Garden! Remember that I am continuing to do Pastoral visitations as Pastor Dave is your Sunday Worship Leader and Preacher.

Information and requests can be made by calling the Church Office. Pastor Todd

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 Debbie Brown no later than the Monday before you want it to appear in the bulletin.





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

Joyce Bergey
Walter and Ann Williams
Ted and Marion Hendricks
Louise Snyder
Carol Haines
Sharon Haines
Ken & Joan Mathias
The Family of Marie Wolfe
Barbara Sigafos
Robert Frankenfield
Roger Wagner
Susan Wuchter
The Tarasuk Family
John Talijan
Ruth Smith
Fred Ackerman
Rebecca and Len Kesselring
Paula Pendrak



Please keep all of our congregation, family and friends in your prayers. As we embark on a new year, we pray that 2024 is a year of happiness and joy.

CHURCH NEWS REMINDERS

Congregational meeting

A congregational Meeting is called by Consistory for Sunday Feb. 11, immediately after church. The agenda is to approve the budget. Committee chairpersons please submit reports by January 29 for inclusion in the Annual Report. Please plan to stay for this important meeting.

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.

2024 Flower and Bulletin Charts are posted on the BB on the left side of the main entrance. Please note two vases will cost \$60. 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.

Any questions, contact the church office.

AUDIO & VIDEO RECORDINGS If you or anyone you know would like to receive the link to the audio recording of the worship service, please let Bill Rumble know at wrumble@ptd.net. A copy of the bulletin is included with the audio link.

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! Thank you, Bill, for making sure we are able to see and hear the services.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Barbara Roberts
Richard Laubenstein
- 6 Robert Ruhe
- 7 Gail Correll
- 13 John Knoll
- 15 Deborah Lee
- 16 Jean Fennell
- 23 Katherine Wright
- 27 Marcie Wolfe
Louise Snyder
- 31 Joanne Walczar

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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

Those Who Serve

JANUARY 14

FLOWERS: and BULLETINS: Kesselring

GREETERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti

USHERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti,

LAY READER: Diane Diefenderfer

JANUARY 21

FLOWERS: Open

BULLETINS: Open

GREETERS: Len Kesselring & Tom Hoffert

USHERS: Consistory

LAY READER: Beverly Rumble

JANUARY 28

FLOWERS: Open

BULLETINS: Open

GREETERS: Corey Tancin

USHERS: Corey Tancin, Gail Correll

LAY READER: Eric Derr

Debbie is making up the 2024-25 worship service schedule and it will be available before January 28. Please contact the office if you would like to be added to the schedule or if you would like be removed. Remember there is always something you can do, just ask.



January Calendar

7th 10:45AM Worship with Len Kesselring

8th 7PM Darts @ Bethany

10th 6PM Choir After Christmas Party

11th 7PM Consistory in FH

14th Second Sunday after Epiphany with Len

15th 7PM Darts @ First UCC

16th 5:30PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

21st 10:45AM Worship with Rev. Dr. David
DeRemer, join

Us as we celebrate our first communion of
2024

22nd 7PM Darts @ Bethany vs. Trinity UCC

22nd DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY BEELINE

28th 10:45AM Worship with Rev. Dr. David
DeRemer

29th 7PM Darts @ Bethany vs. East Hills

31st 5:30PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Bethany UCC
W. Market Street

Bethlehem PA 18018-5242

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

