



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 24-4

APRIL 2024



Sunday, April 7

10:00AM Worship in the Sanctuary
followed by Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 14

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary as we
bid farewell to Rev. Dr. Dave Deremer

Sunday, April 21

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 28

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary

Dear Bethany Family,



**FROM OUR
PASTOR**

Thank you for your hospitality during the past several months. I have enjoyed preaching and sharing in worship with you. I will conclude my time with you on April 14. I want to share an observation with you. Since I am “new” to Bethany, I look at things with “new” eyes. So, I may see things that many of you no longer notice.

It appears to me that so much of Bethany’s life is oriented to the past, with very little pointed to the future. A symbol of that perspective is represented by the “stuff” that fills the Bethany building. You have an encyclopedia published before the moon landing. You have a set of Bible Commentaries from before the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, a find that substantially shifted Bible understanding and interpretation. There were closets stuffed full of financial records—receipts, cancelled checks, offering envelope lists—from the 1980s, 90s, and 2000s. I found old wedding information sheets, monthly financial reports, and all sorts of committee meeting minutes that were 20 years old. People hold onto old things as a reminder of special times—ticket stubs from a first date, a child’s first report card, a lock of baby’s hair. They mark a date or an event that is unique and memorable. Bethany (and many other churches) accumulates “stuff” because you can. You can pile closets, cabinets, and even entire rooms with things that haven’t been used in decades. Vital, growing congregations continue to “weed” what is stored because the space is needed for all the new events and new groups that are occurring. A year ago, at a meeting of Bethany leaders, I was told that Bethany needed to do more to grow and survive. It seems to me that would be difficult when you are surrounded by so much that is focused on the past.



Easter came early this year. As a church musician, as soon as Christmas is over and the New Year begins, the calendar gets flipped through to see the date that Easter “falls on”. It’s a habit...that planning ahead thing! One piece of music that I don’t need time to think about is the opening hymn on Easter Sunday morning. Every year we begin our congregational singing with “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”. It is a magnificent affirmation that our Lord defeated death, and has opened paradise for all believers. ALLELUIA!!! It’s that one word that even the smallest child can sing with exuberance. Did you know that the meaning of Alleluia is Hallelujah, and Hallelujah means 10,000 praises to God? It is the highest praise that we can give, and a great way to express our profound joy. It is the highest praise that we can give for the best gift ever given...the gift of our salvation.

Thank you, Bethany congregation, for always making that hymn a truly joyous moment on Easter Sunday...congregational singing at its best! I also want to thank our Chancel and Handbell choirs, as well as Bethany’s talented musicians, for making our Lenten season, Holy Week, and Easter services especially meaningful. Your time and dedication is always appreciated by all.

Now we continue our rehearsals for the month of April as follows:

Wednesday April 3rd and 17th. No Rehearsals

Wednesday April 10th and 24th. Handbell Choir 5:00 pm. Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Handbells play at worship April 28th

Joyfully,

Susan Denninger Wright

2024 Flower and Bulletin Charts are posted on the BB on the left side of the main entrance.

Please note that the prices for fresh flowers will be - 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.

As in the past, contact the office with your information for the bulletin no later than the Tuesday before your sponsored date. Thank you. We are now working with Country Rose Florist @ Westgate Mall. Any questions, contact the church office.

Please consider signing up to support these programs. For \$20 you can celebrate someone's special day or something as simple as you saw the first robin of spring. With so much bad news let's look for the good.

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.

OUR PRAYER LIST

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

Walter and Ann Williams
Ted and Marion Hendricks
Louise Snyder
Carol Haines
The family of Sharon Haines
Ken & Joan Mathias
Barbara Sigafos
Robert Frankenfield
Roger Wagner
Ruth Smith
Rebecca and Len Kesselring
Paula Pendrak
Steve Tarasuk
Kelly Wetzel
Deanne and all the family of Gary White
Roger and Mary Knauss



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 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.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Ina Denninger
George Morgan
- 8 Rebecca Kesselring
- 11 Jonathan Reiniger
- 12 Melissa Tarasuk
- 14 Debra Brown
- 17 Jan Smith
- 22 John Albaugh
- 23 Maria Williams
- 30 Matthew Miller



ANNIVERSARIES:

- 23 Diane & Jack Brunner
- 26 Wendy & John Glassic

If I missed anyone, please call the church office.

Congratulations Bethany Members! As of this week we have raised \$548 for Alzheimer's Disease Research. We will be collecting until April 7th, and this gift will be doubled. A heartfelt thank you to all who gave so generously.

**A
worthy
CAUSE**

DEADLINE FOR MAY BEELINE IS April 22.

2023 Consistory

Matt Miller – President
Dan Sabetti – Vice President
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		
Barry Smith	610-509-3642	Bebop317@cs.com
John Talijan	484-767-8882	talijan@ptd.net
Tim Rumble	484-274-0857C	trumble@ptd.net



ST. THOMAS UCC SPONSORING BUS TRIPS – Register now for a bus trip to Sight & Sound to see *Daniel* on July 16. The cost is \$150. Registration is also open for a bus trip to Washington, D.C. from Sept. 27-29. The cost is \$630 per person. Please contact Carol at 610.791.5545 or Karen at 610.868.9167.

50PLUS – Join us for a time of fun and fellowship at 10am on Tuesday, April 9, at St. Thomas UCC, 902 East Macada Rd., Bethlehem. We will be doing Canvas Painting. Bring a snack to share. To register, call the church office at 610.868.9167.

THOSE WHO SERVE

APRIL 7

FLOWERS: Open

BULLETINS: Jerry Miller

GREETERS: Barbara Backensto

USHERS: Corey Tancin, Barbara Backensto

LAY READER: Barbara Reiniger

ALTAR GUILD: Cindy Beck

APRIL 14

FLOWERS: Wendy Glassic

BULLETINS: Wendy Glassic

GREETERS: Tom Hoffert

USHERS: Tom Hoffert, Len Kesselring

LAY READER: Len Kesselring

APRIL 21

FLOWERS: Open

BULLETINS: Open

GREETERS: Judy & George Morgan

USHERS: Dan Sabetti, Eric Derr

LAY READER: Michael Reiniger

APRIL 28

FLOWERS: Marcie Wolfe

BULLETINS: Marcie Wolfe

GREETERS: Ina Denninger, Cindy Beck

USHERS: Cindy Beck, Corey Tancin

LAY READER: Diane Diefenderfer

April

- 7th 10:00AM Worship followed by Annual Meeting
- 8th Darts @ Bethany vs College Hill
- 10th 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal
7PM Chancel Choir
- 11th 7PM Consistory in FH
- 14th 10:45AM Worship with Communion
- 15th Darts @ Star of Bethlehem
- 21st 10:45 AM Worship
- 22nd Darts @ Bethany vs Fritz Wesleyan
- 24th 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal
7PM Chancel Choir
- 28th 10:45AM Worship

From the Secretary

*The office will be closed the week of April 14th.
I am heading to the shore. I will see you all
on the 21st. Please plan accordingly.*



Bethany UCC, Bethlehem 2024 Annual Meeting Ballot



- To vote for a person, make a check mark or an **X** next to their name.
- To NOT vote for a person, do NOT place any mark next to their name.
- You may vote for no more than 8 candidates. You may vote for less than 8.
- In order to be elected, the person must receive a majority of the votes cast. The total votes cast is equal to the number of ballots submitted.

Elder (3 year terms 2024 to 2027)

- Tim Rumble
- Phil Haines
- Bob Ruhe
- Gail Correll

Deacon (3 year terms 2024 to 2027)

- Tom Wright
- Lisa Nguyen
- Corey Tancin
- Tom Hoffert

The Consistory of Bethany UCC Bethlehem declares that this year's Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held on April 7, 2024 in the sanctuary.

Worship on that Sunday will begin at 10:00 AM

The Annual Meeting will immediately follow the conclusion of worship.

Enclosed are three actions items that the congregation will be asked to vote on at the Annual Meeting:

1. 2024 Annual Budget
2. Resolution to cease worship and program activities
3. Election of Elders and Deacons

Welcome Lyla Joanne!

Laura and Douglas Sutter welcomed baby Lyla Joann on March 22, 2024. She weighed 7lbs 14oz and was 20 in long. Ella Jane is loving her new role as the Big Sister!



It's a Girl!

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED