

The Visitor

August 2024

The Newsletter for Bethany Lutheran Church
5303 Madison Avenue
Bethel Park, PA 15102
(412) 835-9221

To email messages to the office: bethanylutheranbp@gmail.com
(Please note that the Church office email address has changed)

DONATIONS

DONATIONS TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

If you wish to make a donation to Bethany Lutheran Church, please go to our website or Facebook page and click on the "Donation" tab. Or, if you wish, you could have "Auto Deduction" from your banking account, or pay by check by using your envelope and mailing it directly to the Church.



Friends and Members of Bethany Lutheran Church:
Masks are optional.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE TIME

The Sunday Worship Service will begin at 10:00 A.M.
Please call me with any questions or concerns at 412-977-9392.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Liz

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER AT BETHANY

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Next Meeting is Scheduled for Tuesday, August 20th at 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING

Next Meeting is Scheduled for Wednesday, August 28th at 7:00 P.M.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

*Bishop Kurt Kusserow will be preaching here at Bethany on August 11th.
Please mark your calendars!*

Evangelism Committee will be hosting a light lunch immediately following worship that day in Bethany Hall. We welcome you all to share this meal and fellowship."



WORSHIP SERVICE AND PICNIC – SHELTER 1 IN PETERSWOOD PARK SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 WORSHIP BEGINNING AT 10:30 A.M.

Picnic immediately following

We will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages.

Please sign your name, the number of people attending and the side dish that you will be bringing.

The Sign-up Sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



DOGWOOD CHARTER SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

We will be hosting an Open House inviting neighbors, congregants, representatives in the area and Students and family members to a meet and greet on Thursday August 29th from 5-7p.m.



From the desk of Pastor Liz
Newsletter for August 2024

Dear Friends and Members of Bethany Lutheran Church,

Happy August. Every Sunday at the beginning of worship we try and identify “God Sightings” we have had in the past week. How has God moved you, touched you, nudged you to further God’s Kingdom? Well, Bethany Lutheran has experienced an outstanding God Sighting, where God has invited us into a new mission partnership with Dogwood Charter School. Dogwood Charter School is a tuition -free public school funded by taxpayers and open to all students within the Commonwealth. Currently there are 75 students from Bethel Park and Peters Township who have enrolled. Their curriculum consists of “living books, “living” things, and “living” ideas that meet Pennsylvania’s state standards.

The Church also is a living organism that communicates the Gospel through relationships. We do this all the time, but now we have been given an opportunity to utilize God’s building in an intentional way for children seeking an education. Dogwood Charter offers a curriculum using whole books that are narrative and informational, not just relying on textbooks. Students will read, narrate and converse about “living” ideas that promote analytical thinking and ideas. Much like we do when studying Theology. Real life problems and understanding mathematical concepts will be developed that are meaningful, and understood.

Students have also been invited to participate, share and learn about our ministry with SHIM (South Hills Interfaith Movement) to include hands on experiences.

Dogwoods presence will not hinder Bethany’s mission, but only enhance it. They will typically meet in the Fellowship Hall and utilize 5 classrooms Monday – Thursday 8:30- 3:30 and Friday is a half day. All envisioned scenarios have been carefully looked at through the eyes of Attorneys, the school district, Board of Directors and Church Council. There is a lease agreement available on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church. We will be hosting an Open House inviting neighbors, congregants, representatives in the area and Students and family members to a meet and greet on Thursday August 29th from 5-7p.m.

Stay Tuned and Be open and receptive to our incoming God Sightings.

“Point your kids in the right direction-when they’re old they won’t be lost”. Proverbs 22: 6



The SAD news about nutrition

U.S. medical data present a real paradox: Though we spend more on health care than any other developed country, we are very unhealthy – including shorter life expectancy, the highest obesity rate, and high incidence of diabetes, heart disease and hypertension.

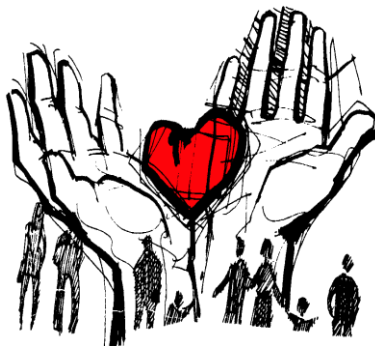
The reasons are complex, but many experts point to the unhealthy “Standard American Diet.” With lots of processed foods, saturated fats and refined carbohydrates, the SAD causes more deaths per year than smoking, and half of all heart-disease related deaths.

In other words, the food we eat is killing us. The culprits are the fried foods, the French fries, hamburgers, chips, donuts, prepackaged entrees, breakfast cereals, sugary soft drinks, pizza, candy, meat consumption and freezer-case meals.

The cure for SAD is simple: Eat less of the bad stuff and more fresh vegetables and fruit. When God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, they were given all sorts of fruits and veggies to eat (Genesis 1:29). So, as you eat more veggies, you can think of it as the Garden of Eden Diet.

August is the ideal time to load up on veggies. The summer harvest brings all the delightfully nutritious foods to your local farm market and grocery store. How healthy is your diet? To learn more, search online for “standard American Diet” and see what the experts have to say.

--*Robert Blezard*





The definition of the word evangelism is “the spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness.” But in the middle of the word Evangelism is the word angel. Angels are sent by God to warn, comfort and guide people by communicating his messages to them.

You may have heard me speak or reference the Evangelism Committee at Bethany as “being all about the food.” And for the most part that has been true. But now it is time to up our game and we need your help. At our last meeting, the Council approved a post card ministry that will begin shortly. The obvious intention is to attract new persons to our congregation. The post card has a photo of the church on the front with an invitation to Worship with us. We will be mailing these to new homeowners in the area. But if you are aware of any family, friends or neighbors that are not worshipping regularly, please drop the name and address in the offering plate and we will send a post card to them or you could invite them yourself. As the dictionary says, “public preaching or personal witness.” I don’t believe we need to don an angel costume as ones that may be left from a recent Christmas pageants but I do believe everyone can use some extra comfort and guidance that could be found at Bethany.

Now, it is time to talk about the food. Bishop Kusserow will be visiting and preaching at Bethany on Sunday, August 11. The Evangelism Committee is planning a light lunch following our regular worship that day to be held in Bethany Hall. So please gather with us and share the delicious culinary creations of the “world famous Bethany church ladies.” There is also a baptism that day. Who does not love little babies? Their family and some extended family will also be gathering with us.

Worship in the park and the church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 8 in Shelter 1 of Peterswood Park. Worship begins at our regular fall starting time of 10:30 A.M. The picnic area includes a covered shelter, a playground and real bathrooms. The church will provide the hot dogs, burgers, paper products and beverages. We are asking that you bring your favorite potluck side (not too large) and your appetites. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex for you to indicate how many will be attending and what you plan to bring.

We look forward to seeing you all for these special events. And, if you have any ideas for church growth or if you would like to become a member or our committee, please do not hesitate to contact me or our other regular committee members, Sharon Brooks, Sandy Burns, Janice Currie, Sheree Kuehl or Jane Scheeser.

Have a great day.
Ruth Lipinski

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Date	Communion Asst. 10:00 AM	Reader 10:00 AM	Acolyte 10:00 AM
8/4/2024	Elizabeth Hartos	RaeAnn McFall	Katie Hartos
8/11/2024	Cathy Irwin	Ruth Lipinski	Aiysha Dibble
8/18/2024	Jeannine Stowers	Beverly Mueller	Colt Wigand
8/27/2023	Jane Scheeser	James Palmer	Drew Benigni

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

USHER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

Auggie Burns will serve as Usher for the month of August

OFFERING COUNTERS’ SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

The Offering Counters for the month of August are Jane Scheeser and Sandy Burns



PRAYER CHAIN

Anyone wishing to be on the Bethany Prayer Chain, please contact Terry Simony by email at bethanylutheranbp@gmail.com , or call the Bethany Church Office at: 412-835-9221.

“I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11:24)

PARISH INFORMATION



LOOKING FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Calling on anyone interested in becoming a Sunday School Teacher for the new Sunday School year, please contact Pastor Elizabeth Mayforth at 412-977-9392.



**SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 – PICNIC IN THE PARK
SHELTER 1 OF PETERSWOOD PARK**

(Immediately following 10:30 a.m. Worship)

We will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION



BETHANY’S GRASS NEEDS CUT!!!

The grass needs cut and trimmed on a weekly basis. There is a schedule posted in the Narthex.

Jeff Volpatti is scheduled for the Month of August.

Thank you for your help!!!



GROCERY COLLECTION

We are collecting groceries for those in need.

We will be collecting the following items for the month of August:

Diapers & Baby Wipes

Hand Sanitizers & Paper Towels

Tuna

Mac-N-Cheese

Please leave the items in the Narthex. Together we can make a difference in the lives of many of our South Hills neighbors in need.

CELEBRATIONS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION IN AUGUST



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following individuals:

1-August Kobe Morris	24-August Kelli McNamara
12-August Robert Yanyo	24-August Brittany Iellimo (Wanamaker)
14 August Joyce Bruni	25-August Joan Anthony
14-August Richard Dowell	25-August Chuck Conn
17-August Megan Turske	27-August Lisa Turske
17-August Lydia Jo Corbett	27-August Ryan & Michael Volpatti



Happy Anniversary to the following individual:

10-August Beth & Joe Hancsak	26-August Eve & LaMonte Yarroll
18-August Jeannine & Ron Stowers	





Bethany Lutheran Church

August 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00pm: Choir Practice	2	3
4 10:00am: Worship 12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship 2:30pm: Keystone Chorus	5	6	7 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	8 7:00pm: Choir Practice	9	10
11 Bishop Kusserow 10:00am: Worship Cooper Boncella Baptism Luncheon to Follow Worship Service for Bishop 12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	12	13	14 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	15 7:00pm: Choir Practice	16	17
18 10:00am: Worship 12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	19	20 7:00pm: Stewardship Meeting 	21 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	22 7:00pm: Choir Practice	23	24
25 10:00am: Worship 12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	26	27	28 7:00pm: Council Meeting 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	29 5:00pm: Dogwood Charter School Open House 7:00pm: Choir Practice	30	31

