



Newsletter for February 2025

SIX BRIEF STORIES FULL OF MEANING

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set alarms to wake up. That is hope.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!!

www.facebook.com/EnglishLiterature11

See you in Church,

Pastor Liz Mayforth
(412) 977-9392

The Visitor

February 2025

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)



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE TIME

The Sunday Worship Service will begin at 10:30 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, February 11th at 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING

Church Council will meet Sunday, February 23rd immediately following Worship Services.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Bethany Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be immediately following worship on
Sunday, February 16th.

Join us as we take time to review our past year's ministry and plans for the coming year.
Bethany continues to seek ways to be the hands of Christ in our community and in the world.

The Council is sponsoring the hot ham and cheese luncheon to follow the meeting.

We are asking for the congregation to please bring the side dishes to share.

There will be a sign up form on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Please indicate which sides you are will and able to bring.

Thank you!

Bethany Lutheran Evangelism Committee



CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir Practice is every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. Come join us!!!



Steward healthy relationships

There's no escaping love in February, is there? Everywhere – valentines, red roses, heart-shaped candy boxes and other sweets for the ones we love.

This is all good and right, because ever since God declared that it is not good for a person to be alone (Genesis 2:18), people have found comfort, excitement, safety, companionship, joy, contentment and fulfillment in the company of others.

That's why February is perfect for celebrating healthy, loving relationships of all sorts. Good stewards care for every gift God gives us – healthy, loving relationships especially. And because Jesus commanded us to love our neighbors and our enemies alike, we do well to work on relationships beyond our immediate circles.

Suggestions:

Couples: Give flowers and chocolate, sure, but also spend quality time with one another. Talk deeply and listen intently. Pray and read scripture together. Hold hands during worship. Talk often and listen deeply. Read Gary Chapman's "The 5 Love Languages" together.

Families: Rejoice in the love that holds you together – parents, grandparents, children, siblings, cousins – everybody. Organize Sunday family dinners. Say, "I love you." Talk through problems and work together.

Friends: Enjoy time with buddies, but also cultivate deeper and more-spiritual friendships. Share problems and successes. Grow together in faith.

Church neighbors: Send friendship valentines to everybody in church. As a congregation designate "love your neighbor" Sunday at which you have a potluck. And/or movie night or game night.

Community neighbors: Send a valentine and a piece of candy to immediate neighbors – or everybody in your address book to let them know that friendships and neighbors are important. Start, or revive, block parties, community cleanup days, yard sales or fellowship gatherings.

God gives us relationships of all kinds so that we can have companionship, friendship, security and joy. As stewards of all that God gives us, we can nourish and celebrate healthy, strong relationships.

--Rev. Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2017, 2025, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as web editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Oh no, I don't remember what to do. What exactly does that AED machine do? Am I supposed to give 5 chest compressions and 2 short breaths? Or did the American Heart Association revise the CPR guidelines? 30 chest compressions in a minute and no breaths? Please join us on Sunday, February 2nd, beginning at **9:00 a.m. for our Intergenerational event.** We will address adult and toddler CPR.

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Date	Communion Asst.	Reader	Acolyte
2/2/2025	Andrew Parker	Karen Housam	Katie Hartos
2/9/2025	Cathy Irwin	Beverly Mueller	Colt Wigand
2/16/2025	Jeannine Stowers	James Palmer	Drew Benigni
2/23/2025	Jane Scheeser	Ruth Lipinski	Summer Parker

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

USHER SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

Chuck Conn will serve as Usher for the month of February

OFFERING COUNTERS' SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

The Offering Counters for the month of February are Leigh Brooks and Michael Unger



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)

Prayers Lifted Up This Month

Joyce Bruni’s daughter, Beth and son-in-law, Michael, are in need of prayers.

Prayers needed for Joyce Bruni’s neighbor’s friend, Brian.

Prayers for Ruth McKee’s neighbor, Maddy Schultz, who is recovering from open heart surgery.

Prayers requested for Deborah Wamamaker for a speedy recovery and peace of mind.

Prayers requested for Beverly Mueller’s daughter, Dawn’s future step-daughter, Morgan’s son, Weston, for a speedy recovery. He’s in Ruby Memorial in WV in their pediatric ICU

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



COME JOIN US

Lent, in Western churches, begins on Ash Wednesday and provides a 40-day period for fasting and abstinence. It is meant to be an imitation of Jesus Christ’s fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry.

To honor that tradition, the Council has voted to serve a Meager Meal this year on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025. The meal will include several hot soups, vegetable salads, fruit and rolls. We will begin at 5:30 P.M. in Bethany Hall.

Our Ash Wednesday Worship Service will follow at 7:00 P.M. in the sanctuary.

If you are planning to attend the dinner, there will be a signup sheet for your use in the Narthex.



We invite you to visit/join our Facebook page for monthly calendar events, worship updates, and other inspirational posts.

May the grace and peace of our Lord be with you,
Sydney Hadsell Litzenburger
BLC Facebook Administrator

<https://www.facebook.com/share/14kS5XSVmR/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Congregation Council Training

- Saturday, February 22, 2025
- 9:30 AM 2:30 PM
- Mt Lebanon United Lutheran Church 975 Washington Road
- Pittsburgh, PA, 15234 United States ([map](#))



Being a member of the congregation council is a significant commitment in the life of a disciple. This gathering for congregation leaders is intended to strengthen your skills and your faith. From stewardship and financial management to constitution and bylaws, there will be training for a variety of council interests and duties. Registration will be available soon.

RSVP by Monday, February 17

\$20 Includes Lunch

This year's presenters:

- Barb Nugent (council presidents and stewardship)
- Rev. Bill Shaefer (council secretaries)
- Gary Teti (treasurers)
- Rev. Erin Jones (advocacy in Pennsylvania)
- Rev. Larry Kemp (constitution updates)
- Rev. Melissa Stoller
- Ryan Ebner (Planned Giving)



THE SNOW HAS ARRIVED!!!

The front sidewalk will need shoveled. This would need to be done Sunday morning, and as needed at other times. **If you would like to be added to the list of those willing to help, or if you have any questions, please contact Craig Conn at 412-841-6343 (cell).**

Your help is greatly appreciated.

CELEBRATIONS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION IN FEBRUARY



Happy Birthday to the following individuals:

2- February Barry Bruni	13-February Jane May
2- February Pam Mason	17-February Emily Brooks
5- February Danielle Boncella	18-February Kory Hartbauer
9- February Madeleine Yarroll	19-February Jennifer Plesniak
11-February Gina Monte	20-February Diamond Dibble
13-February Ron Lipinski	

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.



Bethany Lutheran Church



February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00am: InterGenerational Event 10:30am:Worship 	3	4	5 8:30am: Abel- Backflow Test 7:00pm: Shamrock Manor Women's Club 	6  7:00pm: Choir Practice	7	8
9 10:30am:Worship  11:30am: Evangelism Mtg.	10	11 7:00pm: Stewardship Meeting 	12	13  7:00pm: Choir Practice	14 	15
16 Congregational Meeting 10:30am:Worship 	17	18	19	20  7:00pm: Choir Practice	21	22 9:30am:Congregation Council Training Baby Shower 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
23  10:30am:Worship  11:30am: Council Meeting	24	25	26	27  7:00pm: Choir Practice	28	