



From the desk of Pastor Liz

Newsletter for November 2024

Happy November Family and Friends,

I'm sure you have heard the expression "of mice and men". This is a reference to the best plans of mice and men often go awry. It is a line from the poem *To a Mouse* by Robert Burns. The full quote is "The best laid plans of mice and men oft go awry...and leave us nothing but grief and pain, For promised joy!"

The poem is about a farmer who accidentally destroys a mouse's nest while plowing a field in the fall. The mouse returns to scold the farmer, who apologizes with the line quoted above. The poem conveys that even the most carefully planned plans can turn out differently than expected. The quote inspired John Steinbeck to write his 1937 book *"Of mice and men"* which is a story about failed dreams.

Unfortunately, such is the case with The Dogwood Charter School which will no longer be utilizing our building to educate students. Due to zoning and safety issues the church is not a viable option. The top three reasons Charter Schools have a difficult time is: 1. Bureaucratic red tape, 2. Difficulty in starting and maintaining a charter school and 3. Funding and Transparency issues. We have experienced firsthand some of these issues. This has been a "learning" experience for us all. I hope and pray Dogwood will find a suitable location to meet the municipality's concerns. And we as the Body of Christ will continue to be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves (Matthew 10:16)

See you in Church,

Pastor Liz Mayforth
(412) 977-9392

The Visitor

November 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)



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, November 19th at 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING

Church Council will meet following Worship on November 24th.



IN REMEMBRANCE OF YOUR LOVED ONES
ALL SAINTS DAY – NOVEMBER 3RD



THANKOFFERING SERVICE

Sunday November 24, 2024 at 10:30 A.M., we will hold our Annual Thankoffering Service.



CHOIR PRACTICE

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



DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR TO STANDARD TIME.
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 3RD

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

About the Bishop Election

Our synod will elect a new bishop in June 2025. In anticipation of that election, the synod council formed a discernment team. Their purpose is to: design and carry out a process that allows for care and discernment of nominees invite the people of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod into a time of listening opportunities and prayerful discernment concerning the needs, hopes, and realities of our life together as the body of Christ provide useful information to those who will participate in the election.

SAVE the dates

Informational Meetings

November 9, 2024

9:30 AM

Trinity Lutheran Church, Wexford

November 16, 2024

9:30 AM

Our Redeemer. McMurray

All are welcome to this time of prayer, questions and discussion focused on the Bishop Election.

MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Members and Friends of Bethany Lutheran Church, I have never felt more appreciated during October for “Pastor Appreciation” month in 37 years of ordained ministry as I have this October (and the preceding months) as I have here with you at Bethany Lutheran. Your cards, gifts, prayers, and well wishes are sincerely appreciated. You have certainly fed your shepherd, and I hope to continue to tend the sheep. God’s Blessings.



Did you know there is an AED machine in our narthex? It is on the wall and is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated yet easy-to-use medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock or defibrillation to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. If it is ever needed, do not fear, there are voice prompts spoken once the system is activated. Stay tuned for more information/training on this important potentially life saving machine.



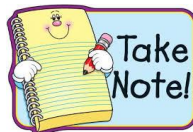
THANKOFFERING SERVICE



Sunday November 24, 2024 at 10:30 A.M., we will hold our Annual Thankoffering Service. The women of Bethany will conduct the great majority of the service with Pastor Melba preaching.

In this season of gratitude we acknowledge and count the many blessings and the amazing grace our Lord has bestowed on the body of Christ and we acknowledge our gratitude and the link between that gratitude and our giving to those in need.

Please plan on attending this very special service.



INTER-GENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our past two Inter-Generational events have been a blast. Please plan on joining us on Sunday, December 1st at 9:15 to create your own Advent Wreath to take home. Material, devotions food, and fellowship will be available as we begin to prepare for this New Church Year. A Sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Thanksgiving Giving

Gratitude is the right attitude for November – the month when we take inventory of our blessings and thank God for them. And how much do you have to be thankful for this year? For many of us, it's a lot – a decent place to live, enough nutritious food, nice clothes and people who love us.

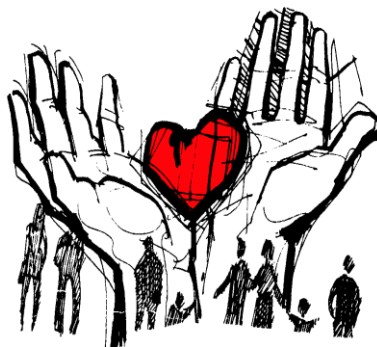
These are the huge everyday blessings that many of us take for granted. Are you one of them?

After all, though many of us sit down on Thanksgiving to a table brimming with turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie and more, lots of our neighbors will have a meager meal.

This Thanksgiving, why not do more than just raise up a prayer of thanks. Instead, express your gratitude with a gift that would benefit someone who has much less than you? No doubt your church could make good use of a special contribution for their feeding ministry or other social outreach. Certainly, there are other community charities that would appreciate a donation.

This year, thank God for your blessings and take the extra step of blessing someone else.
--Robert Blezard

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THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Date	Communion Asst. 10:30 AM	Reader 10:30 AM	Acolyte 10:30 AM
<i>All Saints Sunday</i> 11/3/2024	Elizabeth Hartos	Karen Housam	Colt Wigand
11/10/2024	Jane Scheeser	Ruth Lipinski	Drew Benigni
11/17/2024	Cathy Irwin	James Palmer	Summer Parker
<i>Thank Offering</i> 11/24/2024	Jeannine Stowers	<i>Numerous Readers</i>	Elizabeth Hartos & Katie Hartos

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

USHER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Leigh Brooks will serve as Usher for the month of November

OFFERING COUNTERS' SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

The Offering Counters for the month of November are Nick Kratsas and Chuck Conn



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

*In sure and certain hope of the Resurrection Leo Cernaloger
lease remember Pam and the entire Cernaloger Family*

*Joyce Bruni’s cousin, Bette
Beverly Mueller’s daughter, Dawn-Slow Recovery
Beverly Mueller’s friend’s daughter, Nolan Browning-Slow Recovery
Deborah Wanamaker’s daughter, Rachel
Deborah Wanamaker’s friend, Kim
Deborah Wanamaker’s dad, Eugene, and herself
Dan Volpatti’s aunt, Sharn-Slow Recovery
Ruth McKee’s son, Jeff-Slow Recovery
Prayers requested for Norman, Abby and Dana
Dan Volpatti’s brother, Tim’s wife, Trish
Sharon Brooks’ friend, Susan, struggling with health issues*

MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION



1.
The Evangelism Committee has an exciting Opportunity for Giving during this Season of Thanks.

In support of SHIM clients, we will be accepting gift cards for Aldi, Walmart, Giant Eagle, Shop n Save and Target for distribution to SHIM clients. These gift cards can be in any value of your choice. SHIM is asking that you mark on the front of the card, the value of the card.

Please then please place your gift card in the envelope provided. On the envelope, please mark the Store Name, value of the card and tie it on the tree. We would be very appreciative. The cards will be collected on December 1, 2024 for delivery to SHIM. We thank you for your generosity.

2.
For anyone that may be an investment client of THRIVENT, did you know you are able to annually request a "COMMUNITY IMPACT CARD" that has a value of \$250? You would just need to go on line and choose Bethany as the recipient. There is no cost to you. In the past we have used these cards to purchase meals for First Responders, Vacation Bible School materials, Sunday School Supplies, etc. If you are so inclined, please consider supporting Bethany in our outreach efforts

3.
On December 1, 2024 during the Sunday School hour, we will be creating Advent Wreaths for you to display in your homes. All supplies will be provided. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. If you are planning to participate, please sign up so we are sure to have enough materials on hand for our creations. There will be one wreath provided per family unit.



JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
7:00 PM ON DECEMBER 24, 2024
Join us in celebration of our Savior's birth.



Just a reminder with the Holidays on the way, if you or your loved one is unable to attend church, Pastor Mayforth is available to visit for prayers and the distribution of Holy Communion . Please call the church to arrange a time convenient for you.



SOMEDAY THE SNOW WILL COME!!!

And, when it does, 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 NOVEMBER



Happy Birthday to the following individuals:

1-November Leigh Brooks	8- November Giovanna Wigand	18-November Rachel Wanamaker
2-November Rachel Unger	12-November Adam Benigni	22-November Stephanie Corbett
4-November Shelley Cardimen	14-November Justin Keiser (<i>Moved</i>)	26-November John Woll
7-November Joe Bianco	15-November Sheree Kuehl	27-November Skyler Yarroll



Happy Anniversary to the following individuals:

5- November Janice & Keith Currie	11-November Phyllis & Louis Naples
10-November Doris & John Woll	

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.

Veterans Day



TO ALL THE VETERANS...WE SALUTE YOU!

Thank you for your service and sacrifice! Thank you to all members of our military, in all branches, past and present, living and dead.

Happy Veterans Day to our military and their families, who sacrifice so much to keep our country safe and strong.


Bethany Lutheran Church

November 2024

Bethany Lutheran Church						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 All Saints Sunday 9:15am: <i>Intergenerational</i> <i>Sunday School</i> 10:30am:Worship 	4	5	6 7:00pm: Shamrock Manor Women's Club 	7  7:00pm: Choir Practice	8	9
10 10:30am:Worship 	11 Veterans Day 	12	13	14  7:00pm: Choir Practice	15	16
17 10:30am:Worship 	18	19 7:00pm: Stewardship Meeting 	20	21  7:00pm: Choir Practice	22	23
24 Christ the King & ThankOffering Sunday 10:30am:Worship  Council Meeting following Worship	25	26	27	28 HAPPY THANKSGIVING  [OFFICE CLOSED]	29 [OFFICE CLOSED]	30

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH AND FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH.

