



## *From the desk of Pastor Liz*

Newsletter for October 2024

Dear Friends and Members of Bethany Lutheran Church,

Our Jewish friends will be celebrating "The High Holy Days" the first two weeks in October; Rosh Hashana ( October 2nd) and Yom Kippur ( October 11th). Some Jewish synagogues charge for seats during this time. Tickets may be required for crowd control, to ensure enough seats for everyone who wants to worship, to raise funds, and to "cover annual dues". To accommodate some members a Synagogue Seating Request Form for High Holy Days is sent out. The following is a humorous example given to congregants:

" During the last holiday season, many individuals expressed concern about the seating arrangements in the synagogue. To place you in a seat that will best suit you, we ask you to complete the following questionnaire and return it to the synagogue office as soon as possible.

1. I would prefer to sit in the...Check one: \_\_\_ Talking section \_\_\_ No talking section
2. If talking, which category do you prefer?(Indicate order of interest: \_\_\_ Stock market \_\_\_ Sports \_\_\_ Medicine \_\_\_ General gossip \_\_\_ Specific gossip (choose from below: ) \_\_\_ The rabbi \_\_\_ The cantor \_\_\_ Fashion news \_\_\_ What others are wearing \_\_\_ My neighbors \_\_\_ My relatives \_\_\_ Presidential Election, \_\_\_ My children/grandchildren \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which of the following would you like to be near for free professional advice? \_\_\_ Doctor \_\_\_ Dentist \_\_\_ Nutritionist \_\_\_ Psychiatrist \_\_\_ Child psychiatrist \_\_\_ Podiatrist \_\_\_ Chiropractor \_\_\_ Stockbroker \_\_\_ Accountant \_\_\_ Lawyer, General Practice \_\_\_ Criminal Lawyer \_\_\_ Civil Lawyer \_\_\_ Real estate agent \_\_\_ Architect \_\_\_ Plumber \_\_\_
4. I want a seat located (Indicate order of priority: ) \_\_\_ On the aisle \_\_\_ Near the exit \_\_\_ Near the window \_\_\_ Near the bathroom \_\_\_ Near my in-laws \_\_\_ As far away from my in-laws as possible \_\_\_ Near the pulpit \_\_\_ Where no one will notice me sleeping during services \_\_\_ Where I can use my phone (additional charge)
- 5.. Please do not place me anywhere near the following people: (Limit of four; if you require more space, you may want to join another congregation. 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Membership pledge/ Dues Submitted. \_\_\_\_\_ "

This was done in a tongue-in-cheek way but it did get people's attention. As Lutherans, we do not have dues or membership fees for Sunday Services but we are always looking to be good stewards of what God has blessed us with. I invite you to prayerfully consider your time talents and treasures. Specifically, We need members willing to serve on Church Council 2025 ( See Kris Volpatti) Two Synod Representatives to attend Synod Assembly June 12-14, 2025 ( see Dan Volpatti), and Volunteers to serve on all our standing Committees. Together we are more.

God's Blessings,

Pastor Liz Mayforth

# *The Visitor*

## October 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](mailto: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, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

#### COUNCIL MEETING

Church Council will meet immediately following the Martin Luther Fest on October 27th.



### *Pastor Appreciation Month*



DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR TO STANDARD TIME.  
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>

## 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.



## Celebrate the miracle of harvest

October is the traditional harvest month for the Northern Hemisphere. We delight that summer produce is still available even as the fall crops are arriving fresh from the farms. It's truly a miracle – one that we too often take for granted, just as we take our food supply for granted.

This fall, spend some time pondering and celebrating the wonder of the harvest and the creative forces that God put in place to make our abundant food supply possible. While celebrating harvest, learn about threats and concerns facing farmers in our age of climate change. Celebrating and learning are appropriate tasks we take on as stewards of our earth and humanity's food supply.

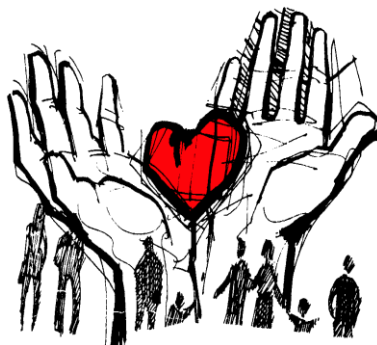
We rightly honor the farmers who diligently plant, cultivate and harvest our fruits and vegetables, but we remember that they don't create the plant life that bears produce. No, it's God who creates all life. Farmers do the important work of optimizing their growth by ensuring the good soil, water and nutrients that plants need, but God is the miracle maker.

We can also think of the miracle of seasons that provide the rhythm for spring's seedtime, summer's flourishing, fall's harvest and winter's rest. Seasons, of course, were created by God, who tilted the earth 23.5 degrees in its orbit around the sun.

This fall, as you enjoy fresh produce from your local farm stand or supermarket, meditate on the miracle of plants, seasons, harvest, and abundant food. Work to help ensure the supply of delicious, nutritious food for generations to come.

*--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
10/6/2024	Elizabeth Hartos	Karen Housam	Katie Hartos
10/13/2024	Jane Scheeser	Ruth Lipinski	Drew Benigni
10/20/2024	Jeannine Stowers	Beverly Mueller	Colt Wigand
10/27/2024	Andrew Parker	James Palmer	Summer Parker

## THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

### USHER SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Chuck Conn will serve as Usher for the month of October

### OFFERING COUNTERS' SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

The Offering Counters for the month of October 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](mailto: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 Cousin, Bette  
Beverly Mueller's daughter, Dawn  
Beverly Mueller's friend's daughter, Nolan Browning  
Deborah Wanamaker's daughter, Rachel  
Deborah Wanamaker's friend, Kim  
Deborah Wanamaker's dad, Eugene, and herself  
Dan Volpatti's aunt, Sharn  
Ruth McKee's son, Jeff*



### CHOIR PRACTICE

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

## MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Join us for worship on **REFORMATION SUNDAY, October 27th.**  
**MARTIN LUTHER FEST**

Pot-Luck (Hot Dogs, Brats, Sausages and Sauerkraut) will be provided following the Worship Service. Please bring a side dish or dessert. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

Church Council will meet immediately following the Martin Luther Fest.

**REMINDER: BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR RED FOR REFORMATION!**



**FALL HAS ARRIVED.....BUT.....THE GRASS STILL NEEDS CUT!**

The grass needs cut and trimmed on a weekly basis.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those interested.

**If you have any questions, please contact Craig Conn at 412-841-6343 (cell).**

Thank you! Your help is greatly appreciated!!!



### **LITTLE LUTHER PANTRY**

As we extend hospitality to our Dogwood Charter School Friends, we are hosting a "Little Luther Pantry" to assist children who may have forgotten their lunch OR came to school hungry.

#### **For Example:**

*Uncrustables*

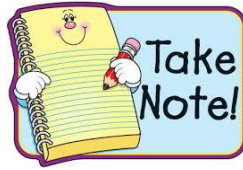
*Lunchables*

*Granola Bars*

*Individual Snack Packs*

*Peanut Butter & Jelly*

*Applesauce*



**INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL**

All are invited to our "Intergenerational Sunday School" time that will meet the first Sunday of the month (**November 3rd**, and December 1st) beginning with a Continental Breakfast at 9:15 A.M. followed by a Teaching Moment.

The Intergenerational Event scheduled for **November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:15** will begin in Luther Hall with a Continental Breakfast and then move across the street to The South Hills Interfaith Movement Center. Following extensive renovation, the upgraded center will enhance and improve the organization's mission of providing food, clothing and services to people in need in Pittsburgh's southern suburban communities to include Bethel Park. SHIM serves about 8,500 people annually and we are invited to a behind the scenes tour. All Welcome.

**CELEBRATIONS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION IN OCTOBER**



*Happy Birthday to the following individuals:*

6-Oct. Karen Housam	16-Oct. Lorraine Stokes	23-Oct. Ron Scheeser
6-Oct. Julie Currie	19-Oct. Matthew Mihalko	26-Oct. Eve Yarroll
16-Oct. Andrew Parker	21-Oct. Sean Keiser ( <i>Moved</i> )	27-Oct. Louis Naples



*Happy Anniversary to the following individual:*

4-Oct. Ruth & Ron Lipinski	7-Oct. Chris & Chuck Conn
6-Oct. Jennifer & Bryan Hucko	

**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.*





# Bethany Lutheran Church



## October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:00pm: Shamrock Manor Women's Club 	3  7:00pm: Choir Practice	4	5
6 9:15am: <i>Intergenerational Sunday School</i> 10:30am:Worship  12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	7	8	9  1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	10  7:00pm: Choir Practice	11	12
13 10:30am:Worship  12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	14  <b>Columbus Day</b>	15 7:00pm: Stewardship Meeting 	16 7:00pm: Shamrock Manor Women's Club   1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	17  7:00pm: Choir Practice	18	19
20 10:30am:Worship  12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	21	22	23  1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	24  7:00pm: Choir Practice	25	26
27 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 10:30am:Worship <b>POT-LUCK</b>  Council Meeting Immediately following Pot- Luck	28  <b>DOGWOOD PARENT COMMITTEE</b>	29	30	31  <b>HALLOWEEN</b>		

