

BETHANY CHURCH

The 29th Chapter of Acts... The Ancient Story Continues
May 2025

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This month's newsletter
is sponsored
by Dale & Linda Hinkle
and family in Memory and
with Honor for
Dale C. Hinkle, Sr. &
Samuel M. Grove, Jr.,
Veterans of World War II.

Holy Hike Adventure



Saturday, May 24th at 9:30 AM Location: Spring Valley Park, York County (Parking area at intersection of Potosi Road and Blymire Hollow Road)

We will start the day with a brief teaching at the main parking area at 9:30 AM.

Choose from a variety of trails, including easier maintenance road trails for those who prefer smoother terrain. Enjoy fishing in the serene waters of Spring Valley Park. There's space in the creek for children to splash and play.

Complimentary water provided!

For additional information, please contact Justin Zelger 717-244-7624.

May Meetings

Administrative Council – Monday, May 12th, 7 PM, in the Upper Room/via Zoom







Hey Bethany Family,

It has been a wonderful season of Lent and Easter! Thanks for your part in loving God with your heart, soul, mind, and strength. Thanks for loving your neighbor as yourself. I say thanks but... there is always more we can do to grow in our likeness of Jesus.

One of the passages we did not get to study in our verse-by-verse preaching through the Gospel of Luke is the following passage: Luke 20:25, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the

things that are God's," Jesus is calling us to prioritize our obligations. While we recognize and fulfill our earthly responsibilities, Jesus calls us to give God what is His—all of us; our hearts, attention, devotion, and our best.

Have you ever regifted an unwanted item or received something that you suspect was thoughtlessly chosen? Such gifts feel insincere, reflecting their lack of value to the giver. Similarly, when we offer God our "leftovers," it can show where He ranks in our priorities. Often, after paying bills, indulging in entertainment, and juggling countless obligations, we might only give God what little time, energy, or resources we have left. Yet, our God deserves so much more.

Scripture consistently teaches the importance of offering God our first and best. In Proverbs 3:9, we are encouraged to honor the Lord with the first-fruits of all we produce. This principle should extend beyond material possessions. God wants all of us. It is our time, talent, and energy that God is worthy of. We are called to make a wholehearted and thoughtful offering.

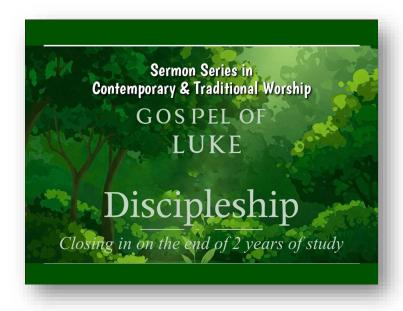
As we enter the late days of spring and the early days of summer, let us consciously prioritize God. Let us shift our perspective. Giving to God the first part of our day in prayer, setting aside time for worship before other activities, or dedicating the best of our resources to serve His purposes—these are acts of love and reverence. They reflect not just what we offer, but the condition of our hearts. When we give God our best, it's not about losing something but recognizing His unmatched worth and deepening our relationship with Him through Jesus.

It's good to be your Pastor! I love you!

Pastor Don

Discipleship Sermon Series in Contemporary & Traditional

Jesus wasn't looking for fans. Jesus wasn't looking for likes or followers. Jesus called us to be His disciples. Join us each Sunday morning, with your Bible, as we study together what Jesus taught about being a disciple from the Gospel of Luke.





Children's Ministry News



EGG STUFFING PARTY!

THANK YOU TO ALL VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED STUFF THE EGGS IN RECORD TIME!

















(EVEN THOUGH THE WEATHER HAD OTHER PLANS FOR THE DAY OF THE BIG HUNT)

PALM SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

PERFORMING FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THEN THE CHILDREN'S PLAY!













UPCOMING EVENTS



VBS 2025!

JUNE 9TH - 12TH 5:30 - 8:00 PM

FAMILY NIGHT ON FRIDAY, JUNE 13th!!

REGISTER NOW!





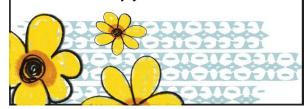
Make these sweet sandwiches for a Mother's Day tea party.

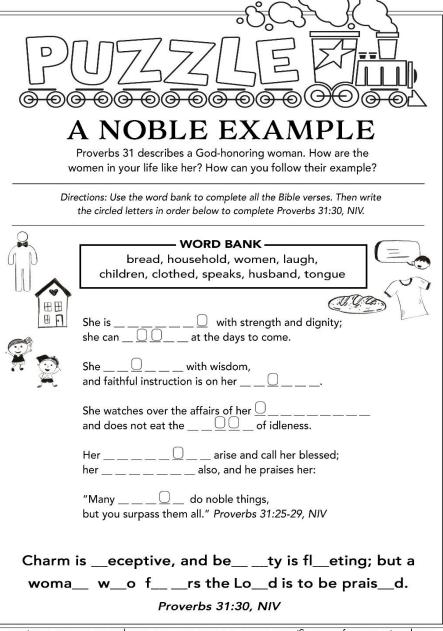
What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help

What you do:

- With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
- 2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
- On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
- 4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
- 5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
- 6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!





Answers: clothed, laugh, speaks, tongue, household, bread, children, husband, women; Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30, MIV



Youth Connections

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in Bethany House Will meet through May 21st and will then take a break for the summer. Youth Connections will resume on August 27th.



The Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations
Committee is looking to hire a Youth
Ministry Director for 10 – 15 hours per
week. For a copy of the position
description or questions, please contact

Pastor Don at 717-244-7624.



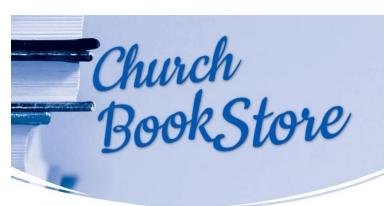
We are thrilled to invite all members of Bethany's esteemed music program to a delightful luncheon celebrating another

wonderful season of music. This special gathering will take place in the Social Hall on Sunday, May 18th, immediately following the 10:30 AM Traditional service. We encourage you to RSVP to Julie Beard at 717-244-7624, so we can ensure an enjoyable experience for everyone. Additionally, please feel free to bring a guest to share in this joyful occasion. Your participation is valuable to us, and we look forward to connecting with each of you as we celebrate the contributions that enrich our vibrant music program.

The sky is the limit as to what these folks can accomplish! We look forward to the special music in Traditional worship this summer!



See Pastor Don if you are interested in being part of Bethany's Praise Team



in the Contemporary Worship Area All are welcome!

open before Sunday School & the 9 AM Contemporary service; after the 9 AM service; and before & after the 10:30 AM Traditional Service. Books are priced at cost; please pay in the church office.





This month, the following devotionals can be accessed through YouVersion (https://my.bible.com/reading-plans/ insert the number listed at the devotional) or click on the link in the Special Bethany Blast on Sundays:

How to Give My Best to God (30063)
Through May 1st

Equipping God's People to Stand Firm (31798) May $4^{th} - 9^{th}$

Understanding the Last Supper (49731) May 11th - 14th

> **Son of Man** (38478) May 18th – 24th

Okay, So Now What? (30993) May 25th – 29th

YOUVERSION BIBLE APP



Download the YouVersion Bible app (or go to our website and click the link on the home page) and join with us as we explore different reading plans and Bible studies throughout the year together as a church. Create an account in the app, go to friends, search for Bethany Church Red Lion, and send the friend request. Once accepted, you're ready to go. Contact Justin Zelger or Pastor Don with any questions or for additional details.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS MAY

1. The Lord will show mercy & Justice

2. Heaven's holy, holy, holy

3. Abraham & Sarah's hospitality to the Lord

4. Jesus appears to the disciples

5. God will preserve your life

6. Ezekiel's vision of God's glory

7. Simon's catch of fish

8. God our shepherd

9. The servants of God are sealed

10. God gathers the people into safety

11. Jesus promises life to his sheep

12. We are God's sheep

13. The healing of paralyzed Aeneas

14. Jesus calls the twelve

15. God's splendor is over earth & heaven Psalm 148

16. An everlasting dominion is given

17. God's reign at the end of time

18. Love one another

19. How good it is to live in unity

20. Love embodied in care for others

21. Love your neighbor

22. Let the nations be glad

23. God gives wisdom

24. Wisdom makes a home in your heart Proverbs 2:9-15

25. The father will send the Holy Spirit

26. God reigns above the floods

27. Vision of the holy city

28. Josiah consults the prophet Huldah

29. Jesus sends the apostles

30. Light dawns for the righteous

31. Mary greets Elizabeth

Isaiah 30:18-21 Isaiah 6:1-4

Genesis 18:1-8

John 21:1-19

Psalm 121

Ezekiel 1:26 - 2:1

Luke 5:1-11

Psalm 23

Revelation 6:1 - 7:4

Ezekiel 28:25-26

John 10:22-30

Psalm 100

Acts 9:32-35

Luke 6:12-16

Daniel 7:13-14

Revelation 11:16-19

John 13:31-35

Psalm 133

Acts 11:27-30

Leviticus 19:9-18

Psalm 67

Proverbs 2:6-8

John 14:23-29

Psalm 93

Revelation 21:15-22

2 Chronicles 34:20-33

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 97

Luke 1:39-57

Articles for the June Newsletter are due in the Church Office by May 15th.



PRAYER REQUESTS

can be made on the Connections Card in your weekly bulletin, through the links in the Weekly Blast and on our website, at the Giving Kiosk or through the Giving App (under "contact us"), or call Jen in the church office 717-244-7624. Watch your email for a special "Prayer Blast" on Tuesdays!

Change of Address

If you are moving, are planning to move, or if the Post Office is changing your address, please notify the church office as soon as possible. The church must pay for all incorrect addresses. We also need the correct mailing addresses of all college students and those attending other schools of higher learning. Thank you!

Praying Hands Day

3rd Sunday of Each Month (May 18th) 8:30 - 8:55 AM, 10 - 10:25 AM and 11:30 - 11:45 AM

> in the hall between Contemporary & Traditional

Please come early to your services or stop by afterward to join us in committing to focused prayer for one another. Prayer is a very important part of our lives together, and we want to highlight it with a nice, welcoming activity that will only take a few minutes. All ages are encouraged to participate.

ATTENDANCE

Date	Sunday School	Sunday Worship	Good Friday
March 23 rd	36	115	-
March 30 th	36	128	-
April 6 th	34	109	-
April 13 th	36	124	80
April 20 th	45	199	-
April 27 th	33	113	-

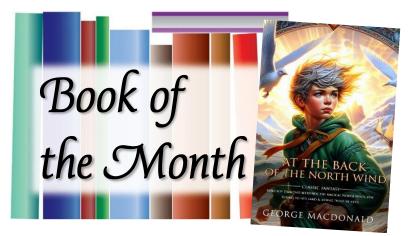
Bible Ouiz

What was the name of the wealthy merchant of purple cloth who met Paul and his companions, was baptized and became a leader in the Philippian church?

- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Dorcas
- D. Joanna



Answer: B (See Acts 16:11-15, 40.)



The "Connecting People with God"
Committee is asking various people in our church what books they have read that have helped them in their walk with God or their understanding of scriptures. Of course, our first recommendation is always the Bible, but we hope you find these others helpful as well. This month's Book of

the Month is At the Back of the North Wind by George MacDonald (copies are available in the church bookstore). This book is a beautiful allegorical tale about a boy named Diamond who is guided by the mysterious North Wind through experiences of suffering, kindness, and eternal hope. Blending fantasy and deep spiritual truths, the story gently explores themes of God's providence, the purpose of pain, and the promise of heaven. Its message can be both comforting and thought-provoking, pointing hearts toward faith in God's goodness even in life's hardest moments. If you have any suggestions to add to our list, please let Justin Zelger know.



In addition to in-person worship, we are also providing two streams to watch online services, both live and archived. All online watching happens through our website. For further information, please contact Pastor Don.



Bethany Church has purchased a subscription for RightNow Media for the purpose of training leadership and volunteers and providing on-going Bible Study materials. What is really exciting is that the whole congregation (members, attendees, and anyone associated with Bethany) will have access to the RightNow Media website. There are literally more than 10,000 videos to choose from. It works much like



Netflix, and there is no additional cost to you. Some of what it includes: training videos, children's TV programs, Bible Studies, Christian Conferences, Leadership Material, and so much more. We can use these online Bible Study courses here at the church; and if a person misses a class, they can view it at home any time they want. You can also use the Bible Studies as an individual, couple, family, or Bible Study group in your own home. Please visit https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/BETHANYUMC and complete your profile to sign up. You can also text "BETHANYUMC" to 49775 to register. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Wednesday evening Fellowship Meal and Bible Studies will continue through May 21st and will then take a break for the summer. Wednesday evening activities will resume on August 27th.



Men's Bible Study Forgotten God

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in the Contemporary Worship Area Coffee Corner

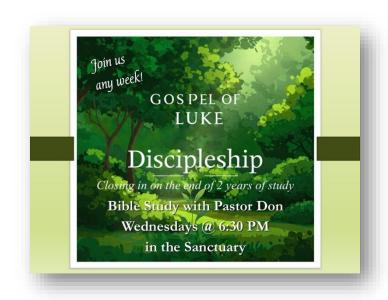
Forgotten God focuses on the Holy Spirit and is inspired by the book of the same name by Francis Chan and RightNow Media videos. Francis Chan reminds us of the true source of the church's power—the Holy Spirit. Chan contends that we've ignored the Spirit for far too long, and that without Him, we operate in

our own strength, only accomplishing human-sized results. As we move from Easter to Pentecost, we will seek to remind ourselves of the importance and power of the Holy Spirit.

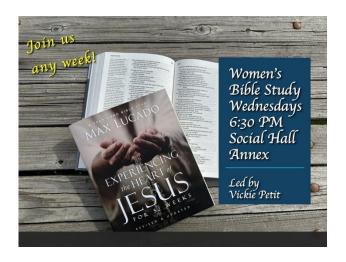
Discipleship Bible Study with Pastor Don

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Join us for Bible Study in the sanctuary with Pastor Don. Discipleship will focus on a verse-by-verse method. We will go in depth each week looking at the passage of scripture that will be used for the coming Sunday's sermon in both services. As disciples, we are to grow in our Christlikeness each and every day. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we peel off layers of this world, and we put on the



mind of Jesus. Our study of Luke will be just that, an exposure of our worldliness and the call to be more like Jesus. Please bring your Bibles and something to write with. Study notes will be provided.



Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in the Social Hall Annex

Although Jesus is familiar, and we know details of his life, could we consider him a companion or dear friend? Do His mannerisms and habits rub off on us because we spend so much time with Him? This study is about walking with Jesus so closely that we become like Him, that we imitate

Him. You will step into Jesus' presence over the course of a year and experience the grace, forgiveness, power, love, and prayer of Jesus. The study is designed that you can start it at any point in the year. It will help you experience Him in fresh and deeper ways, drawing you into the company of our Lord. All you need to do is call on Him, spend time with Him, and you will be changed.



Please register for the meal by the Sunday before on the Connections card in your bulletin, at the Giving Kiosk, in the Giving App (under "events"), or call Jen in the church office.

5:30 PM \$5 Adult (ages 13 & Older) \$2.50 Child (ages 2 – 12)



GriefShare

Thursdays at 1:30 PM in the Social Hall Annex

New Day ~ New Time GriefShare gatherings continue through May 15th. Anyone who is dealing with the loss of a loved one is welcome no matter how long it has been since the loss. Please register online at griefshare.org/findagroup or contact Pastor Larry to register or for more information

(717-244-7624) so that we can have enough participant books available. Walk-ins are welcome for any of the sessions.



Is Celebrate Recovery for me or someone I know?

Living in a broken world, we all deal with life's hurts, hang-ups, and habits. No one has the ability, nor should they attempt to face their hurts on their own. Celebrate Recovery is a beautiful community of strugglers that courageously enter this safe and beautiful space to get honest about our pain, and the negative ways we may see ourselves, God, and others. In this process, we come to accept that some of the habits we may have developed to escape our pain have caused destruction in our life and those close to us. Celebrate Recovery is a biblically balanced approach to help bring sustainable recovery and healing to our hurts. It guides us toward new healthy truths and life-giving habits as we repair our broken relationships. Join more than seven million hurting people across the globe who now walk in freedom through the power of Jesus Christ as we walk through the eight principles of Celebrate Recovery based on the Beatitudes in Matthew 5. These are some of the issues people find freedom from in Celebrate Recovery: Anger ~ Codependency ~ Eating Disorder ~ Love & Relationship Addiction ~ Physical, Sexual, and/or Emotional Abuse ~ Drug Addiction ~ Alcoholism ~ Sexual Addiction ~ Gambling Addiction ~ Grief ~ Mental Health ~ and many other issues we may struggle with.



Those Who Served

In memory of those who have served in the Armed Forces and have passed away, Bethany would like to share their pictures during worship on Sunday, May 25th. Please provide us with a picture of your loved one and pertinent information by Sunday, May 18th. E-mail pictures to Jen in the church office or stop in, and she can scan your picture. No need to send in if you have submitted in the past.



We want to recognize Bethany's high school and college graduates. Please provide the following information to Jen in the Church Office by Sunday, May 25th: Your school's name, your future plans, and a graduation or recent picture. Graduates will be recognized in worship on Sunday, June 8th.

LifePath Christian Ministries offers a great missions opportunity.



Corners of Your Field is a partnership opportunity between local churches and LifePath Christian Ministries.

Corners of Your Field encourages attendees of our partner churches to be intentional about selecting their gently used household items as a donation to LifePath Thrift Stores. The stores then return a portion of the value of these items in the form of gift cards to your church to help those directly in your care.

The above statement is taken from the LifePath website. When you make a donation of gently used items to their thrift stores, you can link your name to Bethany UMC, Red Lion. By doing that, the donations, etc. are kept track of, and LifePath gift cards will be sent to the church quarterly. These can then be given to those in need of clothing, etc. Bethany Church information is already in their system. Just ask them to link your donation to Bethany Church, Red Lion. What a great and easy way to help our community. Questions? Contact Jen in the Church Office.



Did you know that Bethany's Meal Ministry consists of a group of volunteers who pitch in to help our fellow parishioners during challenging times?



If you are in a situation that could be eased by having a meal prepared, please contact us for help.

If you are looking for a way to help serve the church and spread the faith, we invite you to join our ministry.

Please know our meals do not require "top chef" quality but rather your favorite recipe for someone to enjoy from your kitchen.

Questions? Please contact Jill Thompson at 717/244-7624.

Are you or a loved one experiencing a short-term illness, injury, or convalescence and are in need of a piece of medical equipment? The Medical Equipment Warehouse continues to be of service to Red Lion and surrounding areas. The Lord has helped us to serve others by lending out Wheelchairs, Scooters, Walkers, Rollators, Canes, Crutches, and other items for long or short-term use. Just contact Brian Overmiller with your medical equipment needs.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING WAREHOUSE

Would you like to feel the joy of serving both your church family and your community while taking only a small amount of your time? Please consider joining our group. To learn more, contact Brian Overmiller (717) 244-7624.



Check out our options!

9" (\$4.50) & 12" (\$5.50) Subs Italian, American, Turkey, Roast Beef, & Sweet Bologna (9"only) Pretzel Sandwiches - \$4.50 Ham & Cheese, Sweet Bologna, Roast Beef, Turkey, & Chicken Salad Kaiser Roll Sandwiches - \$3.75 Turkey, Roast Beef, Chicken Salad, Ham Salad, Egg Salad, & Tuna Salad

Subs a Sandwiches Sponsored by the Missions Committee

Make Sundays less hectic as you head out of church for the day. If you like to "eat out" after church, then grab a sandwich for supper. The fixings are wrapped separately; no soggy sandwiches! Place

your order by the 3rd Sunday of the month (May 18th). Order forms will be located throughout the church, order in the church office, or order at the Giving Kiosk. Orders may also be placed online using the link in the Weekly Blast or on the Giving App (under "events"). Pick up and pay in the Kitchen as you leave church on the 4th Sunday of the month (May 25th). Pick up also offered on Saturday, May 24th from 11 AM - Noon in the kitchen. Questions? Contact Cinny Attig (717) 244-7624. Benefits the missions of Bethany Church!



\$7/pack of two
See Karen Miller in the Children's Department,
Jane Wiertel, or Jen in the Church Office.
Available on Sundays and during the week!



Visitation Program

Bethany Church's Visitation Program is just one way of staying connected to members who have difficulty getting to services but still want to be a part of the Bethany family. By visiting them, we let them know they are not

forgotten and that as God cares, we care. To do this, though, we need faithful visitors who are willing to commit to one visit or contact a month. If this is something you feel called to do, please contact Carol Urey (717) 244-7624. It is with grateful hearts that we thank both visitors and those being visited for this on-going ministry.



Doran and I were treated to subs and sandwiches by an unnamed warm-hearted individual who purchased our order as a gift for us. We were very surprised but also very appreciative of the kind gesture. Thank you so much! God Bless! Additionally,

we also want to acknowledge all the kindness extended to our family during the month of March. Meals, cards, telephone calls, and prayers for Carol Ann's return to good health showed your Christian love, support, and encouragement. You are all a blessing to us and Bethany Church.

-Doran & Carol Ann Frock

Feed the Hungry

Prep starts at 1 PM; delivery at 4 PM from the church (return by 7 PM)

Please help us through your time, talent, and gifts. Monetary donations may be made through the Kiosk or online giving.

Questions?

Please contact Jared or Deb Olsen at 717-244-7624



May 25, 2025

Blanket Sunday Sunday, May 11th

Offering envelopes are available in your quarterly offering envelopes, in various locations around the church, or monetary donations may be made in the office, through the Giving Kiosk, or on-line giving.







2025 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY

IT IS IN FULL MOTION, Once Again!

I am very excited to report that we did receive one reply from our 2024 shoeboxes. It was written in Spanish and translates as the following:

Hello, I wanted to thank you for the OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD gift, YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW much my girl is happy, you were of much blessing, you are wonderful seriously, I hope you continue blessing many more people.

I responded twice to this mom's message but never received a second reply, so I don't know where this child is from or any other information. But, oh how wonderful it was to receive this information! May God Bless her, her family, and community!

Many thanks to all of you who participated in the M & M Candy Tubes fundraiser. Your monetary donations are always very much appreciated.

Our first workday this year was in early April. Twelve ladies and 2-year-old Ruth all worked together as we began our variety of activities for this year. Our next scheduled workday will be <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>May 20th</u>, at 9:30 AM. Be sure to join us!



A COOKIE PLATE OCC & BAKE SALE will take place on Sunday, May 4th at Bethany! Our Fabulous Bethany Bakers will have numerous treats in store for you to purchase and enjoy!! Thanks...and God Bless You!





Carol Ann Frock, Project Leader

SHINE YOUR LIGHT

Hey Bethany, show us where you are "shining your light." You've shared great photos of your vacations and summer fun, now

we'd like to see where and how you are impacting our community. Please send in pictures (to Jen in the church office) and share a bit about the organizations where you shine!! Can't wait to see where the light of Christ is shining!!

-Sally Roberts



Cathy Leiphart has been volunteering at Catholic
Harvest Food Pantry in York for over three years. Here, she is seen taking food orders.



Bethany Church collects items for the following organizations. Collection containers are located outside the church office and inside the back door. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

Cell Phones
(for ACCESS-York)
Contact: Jessica Castle
(717) 244-7624

Aluminum Tabs
(for Ronald McDonald
House)
Contact: Jane Wiertel
(717) 244-7624



This program has been discontinued. **Also, we no longer collect aluminum cans.**

Mi5510115

The Transportation
Ministry is looking for additional volunteers to help with transportation to church, appointments, and grocery shopping for those who are unable to drive. If you are willing to be on our availability list, please contact Pastor Larry at 717-244-7624.



Is it time to replace your Dishcloths (\$4), Scrubbies (\$1.50), or Wool Dryer Balls (\$6/each or 3/\$15)?

A portion of the proceeds benefits Bethany's Missions Committee.

Contact Becky Hickey to order 717/244-7624



Our Mobile App for Giving Has Changed



Our easyTithe Giving App has been replaced with the "My Church Home" app by Ministry Brands Amplify (see below). Once you download the App, search for zip code, 17356, and Bethany UMC should pop up. Choose as your church. Unfortunately, we've been told, you will have to enter all your information again to register on the app. Giving Online, Text, and the Giving Kiosk saw no change. If you have any questions, please see Jen in the church office.





★★★★☆7

Ministry Brands

!Lifestyle

Christian Symbol

ALPHA MU OMEGA — The Greek letters that begin the words *yesterday*, *today*, and *forever* remind us of Jesus' constant presence with us personally and his eternal nature that transcends time as we

know it. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8, NIV). Dozens of psalms and other Bible passages also proclaim that the Lord's "steadfast love endures forever" (for example, Psalm 100:5, NRSV). What reassurance when life seems tough and fleeting!