



BETHANY CHURCH

BELONG | BELIEVE | BECOME

The 29th Chapter of Acts...*The Ancient Story Continues*

January 2026

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This month's newsletter is sponsored in honor of our grandchildren: Margaret, Gianna, Beatrice, Nina, Daniella, Reid, and Layla by Brian & Lori Overmiller.

Bethany
Bowling Night
Saturday, January 31st
5 – 7 PM
Lion Bowl
(90 Martin Street, Red Lion)
\$15/person
(includes bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and a drink)

RSVP by Sunday, January 25th with Justin or Rachel Zelger or sign up online (through the link in the weekly Blast or through the Giving Kiosk or Giving App under events).



January Meetings

Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, Monday, January 26th, 7 PM,
Upper Room/via Zoom



From the Pastor

My Dear Bethany Family,

It is with such overwhelming gratitude that I give thanks to God for all of you and your response to the Holy Spirit's leading in giving to the Capital Campaign. The Organ was funded in about 2½ weeks! God gets all the credit. When we trust Him and follow Him, He leads and guides and provides! Your continued giving, as we stated in our initial letter and request, will be used

to address other significant infrastructure needs in our aging building. Namely the heating and air conditioning system.

Let me tell you a true story, that points to God. A year ago, at the start of 2025, the Trustees were looking at significant costs. The organ was in need of repair, the HVAC system needed new control boards, the door locking system had reached end-of-life, the screens in the sanctuary had reached end-of-life, and the current parking lot blacktop, which was over 40 years old, had reached end-of-life. All total, we were looking at about \$500,000 in infrastructure repairs and replacement. The Trustees did not panic. They knew we didn't have those kinds of funds, so we prayed and trusted and waited on God. Trust, obey, wait on God's timing!

Now a year later, someone has stepped up and paid for the new screens [which are beautiful]. Many of you gave to the organ, and the new one was installed the week of December 15th. The door locking system was replaced at significant savings with improvements. The Trustees inked a deal with local businesses to lease some parking spots in return for a complete replacement of our parking lot [happening spring of 2026]. The only thing left on our list is the HVAC system, and we are already 35% of the way there for paying for that! Bethany Family, the power of God has been put on display right in front of our eyes! If that doesn't bring tears to your eyes....

Brothers and sisters, as we head into this new year, God is doing amazing things and we simply need to trust and obey! Our Father has all of this worked out; and while we may not understand at the moment, we still are expected to trust! Who better to trust than the one who came to save us, gave His love for us and saved us!

Bethany, it's good to be your Pastor!

Blessings,

Pastor Don

SUNDAY WORSHIP SNOW POLICY

1. Please be safe! If you don't feel safe navigating the roads, sidewalks, and parking lots, please stay home and join us online by going to www.bethanyredlion.com and clicking on the "watch live stream" blue button.
2. Pastor Don will be here to lead worship. If you can join us, great; if not, again join us online.
3. Please be patient with our maintenance team - they will do their best to make the areas as safe as possible.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS!

Reindeer Games 2025

Last month's Parents Night Out was a wonderful blend of fun, faith, and festive excitement! Children enjoyed reindeer-themed games and crafts while learning about the greatest gift of all—Jesus. Thank you to all the volunteers and families who made this joyful evening possible!





Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in the Youth Room
(join us for the Fellowship Meal in the Social Hall at 5:30 PM)

Sunday Mornings
10 – 10:20 AM in the Youth Room
(3rd Floor)

Please encourage your youth to stop into the Youth Room on Sunday mornings to chat about the sermon they just heard or are about to hear and make connections to their daily lives.

CARING & SHARING COLLECTION

The Youth want to express their heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your generous contributions of non-perishable food items for our Caring & Sharing Collection for the Dallastown Senior High School. Your kindness and willingness to give have blessed many families in need and truly reflects the spirit of Christ's love and compassion. Because of your support, we were able to share hope and nourishment with our community during this holiday season. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus and for making a difference in the lives of others.



YOUTHSGIVING

The youth had a wonderful time at the Youthsgiving event on Wednesday, November 26th. It was an evening filled with fellowship, fun, and games. The youth meditated on God's call



toward grateful hearts and shared a meal together. After that, they made a craft as well as some thank you cards for loved ones in their lives. Then they all had some fun playing games together. All-in-all, a great night!



Everyone is welcome!

The Sanctuary Choir is hopeful you will join us for some wonderful singing opportunities during the 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service.

We rehearse on Sunday Mornings at 10 AM in the Music Room.

Come see what it is all about!
Questions? See Julie Beard (jbeard@bethanyredlion.com).

Our Music Department elves brought the joy of the season to our community and our shut-ins by sharing carols and heartfelt fellowship. Their voices were filled with the warmth of Christmas cheer, spreading love, hope, and the true spirit of the holidays.



This happy group (Kim Farmer, Mary Hake, Bill & Sue Ritz, Jill Thompson, Gail Beckum, and Karen Miller) sang Christmas songs at the Red Lion Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 6th. They have been invited back to sing at the Easter Breakfast and next year's Christmas Breakfast!



Jill Thompson visited Wanda Doverspike (below). They sang Christmas carols and had a great visit!



More caroling and cheer by Linda Henshaw and Lori Overmiller as they visited Linda Fisher (l), Jean Herman (middle) and Dean Snyder (r). Elaine (Dean's wife and former Sanctuary Choir member) joined in with the caroling too! 😊



On Sunday, December 7th, Julie Beard, Kim Farmer, and Mary Hake spent the afternoon at Pappus House, sharing music and making friends at the Christmas Open House.

Pappus House is a homelike setting for hospice residents and opened its doors in the beautiful Thomasville facility in 2023.



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!



Church Directories (July 2025) are located at various locations around the church and can be picked up at your convenience. Please doublecheck your information and let Jen in the church office know if there are corrections/additions (address, cell phone, email, etc.) that need to be made.

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!

Articles for the February Newsletter are due in the Church Office by January 15th.



"All right, Ms Henley, we'll turn up the heat."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

JANUARY

1. God takes on human form Philippians 2:5-11
2. Abraham's faith Hebrews 11:1-12
3. Prayers for the king Psalm 72
4. God with us John 1:[1-9] 10-18
5. Surrounded by a cloud of witnesses Hebrews 11:32 – 12:2
6. Christ revealed to the nations Matthew 2:1-12
7. Gifts to Solomon from Sheba 1 Kings 10:1-13
8. Gifts according to Christ Ephesians 4:7, 11-16
9. One who is to rule Israel Micah 5:2-9
10. The voice of God upon the waters Psalm 29
11. Christ revealed as God's servant Matthew 3:13-17
12. God anoints David to be a son Psalm 89:5-37
13. Philip preaches and baptizes Acts 8:4-13
14. Through water God's people cross over Isaiah 51:1-16
15. Doing the will of God Psalm 40:1-11
16. The promise of the Holy Spirit Acts 1:1-15
17. Elijah calls Elisha to follow him 1 Kings 19:19-21
18. Christ revealed as the Lamb of God John 1:29-42
19. Peter confesses: You are the Messiah Matthew 16:13-19
20. Not sacrifice, but divine mercy Psalm 40:6-17
21. God saves the people through water Isaiah 48:12-21
22. God is light and salvation Psalm 27:1-6
23. Saul anointed by Samuel as king 1 Samuel 9:27 – 10:8
24. The call of Levi Luke 5:27-32
25. Christ revealed as a prophet Matthew 4:12-23
26. Paul received a revelation of Christ Galatians 1:11-24
27. Take courage in God Psalm 27:7-14
28. Christ, the light dawning Luke 1:67-79
29. Abiding on God's holy hill Psalm 15
30. Do not deprive others of justice Deuteronomy 24:17- 25:4
31. The new commandment John 13:31-35

ATTENDANCE

Date	Sunday School	Christmas Eve	Sunday Worship
November 30 th	28	-	105
December 7 th	37	-	127
December 14 th	20	-	56
December 21 st	43	-	129
December 24 th	-	232	-
December 28 th	25	-	94

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from 2 Corinthians:
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new _____.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."



- A) Creation
- B) Beginning
- C) Season
- D) Covenant

Answer: A (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV)



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:

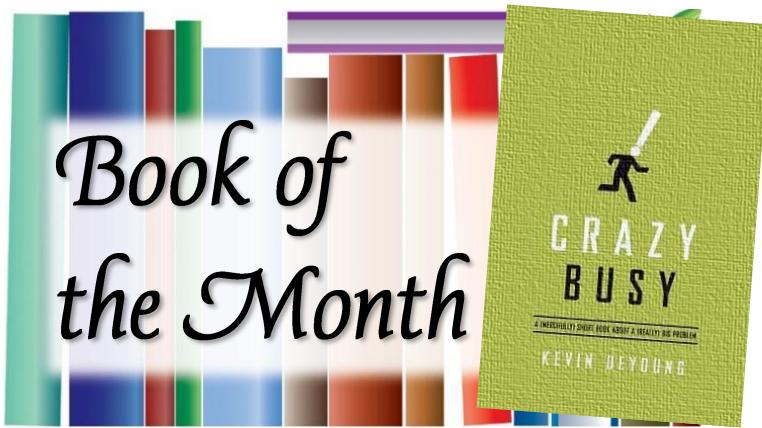
New Year, Same God (22987)
Thru January 1st

On the Son of God (27121)
January 4th – 10th

Tongues of Fire (15430)
January 11th – 13th

Jesus' Unique Relationship (34125)
January 18th – 20th

I Surrender All (24857)
January 25th – 28th



BUSY!" We've all heard it. We've all said it. All too often, busyness gets the best of us. Just one look at our jam-packed schedules tells us how hard it can be to strike a well-reasoned balance between doing nothing and doing it all. That's why award-winning author and Pastor Kevin DeYoung addresses the busyness problem head on in his newest book, *Crazy Busy*—and not with the typical arsenal of time management tips, but rather with the biblical tools we need to get to the source of the issue and pull the problem out by the roots. 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.



YOUVERSION BIBLE APP

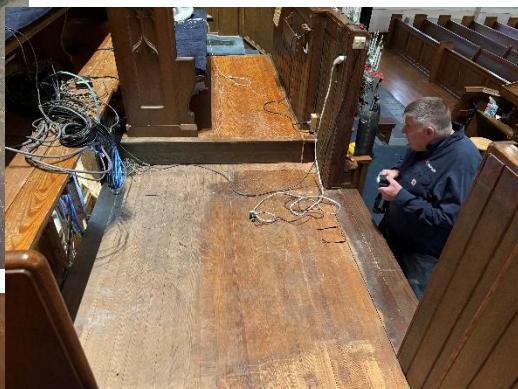
Download the YouVersion Bible app (or go to our website and click the link on the home page) and join with us as we explore different reading plans and Bible studies throughout the year together as a church. Create an account in the app, go to friends, search for Bethany Church Red Lion, and send the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

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. January's Book-of-the-Month is *Crazy Busy: A (Mercifully) Short Book about a (Really) Big Problem* by Kevin DeYoung. "I'M TOO

Capital Campaign News

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow! This is that we sing each week in our Doxology (found on page 95 of our UMH). Our new organ is fully funded! Thanks be to God! But our need continues as our 18-year-old HVAC system is facing failure in the coming year. The Trustees have been doing their best to patch it and keep it running. Your continued giving and pledges will help us reach the final price tag of \$120,000. Drop your commitment card in the offering plate or in the church office. Or you can make your donation through our regular options of ACH, debit, credit card, or online giving. Thank you for your sacrifice and giving!

Our old church organ was carefully dismantled to make way for a new, state-of-the-art instrument. The process involved removing all pieces with precision to preserve the historic elements. The new organ, featuring modern craftsmanship and enhanced tonal range, now stands as a centerpiece for Bethany's Traditional worship and music ministry.



all of his work preparing for the new organ installation!



It was a bittersweet day for Julie Beard, Bethany's Organist, as she watched the old organ being dismantled ☺.



Bethany Church accepts a \$1,000 donation for the new organ from Jere Matthews on behalf of Rutter's Children's Ministries. Thank you!



 Great
is Thy
faithfulness

Julie with the new organ.
It sounds great!



Check out this little bit of history that was in the Saturday, April 12, 1986 York Dispatch when our Bethany Congregation dedicated its new organ. Don Warner was our Organist then.

THE YORK DISPATCH, SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1986.

Red Lion congregation 'dedicates new. organ



The York Dispatch/Bob Lenz

DON WARNER, organist at Red Lion's Bethany United Methodist Church, plays a hymn at the church's newly renovated organ.

RED LION - Bethany United Methodist Church, 121 W. Broadway, will have a service of celebration and dedication at 10:20 a.m. April 20 in recognition of the 50th-year anniversary of Don Warner as church organist and dedication of the new \$125,000 renovation of the church pipe organ.

Warner has been church organist and choir director for a period of time which spans the past 50 years.

Bethany's newly renovated pipe organ which Warner says makes the organ one of the most versatile and truly colorful in the area, consists of a composite of 13 ranks of pipes from the original organ and

the Allen A. DC 9000 digital computer organ of 129 equivalent ranks played on a four manual console.

The combination of pipes augmented by the Allen computer produces a total of 105 stops and all organ sounds are heard not only from the openings in the front of the church but also from the antiphonal organ located at the rear of the sanctuary.

In addition to the 13 ranks of pipes, the Allen A. DC 9000 is a 24 channel organ, utilizing 24 100-watt amplifiers and 75 speakers cabinets located in various organ chambers throughout the sanctuary.

The April 20 service will feature a mini-recital by Warner.

COFFEE & Donuts

Sunday Mornings in the Contemporary Worship Area at the Coffee Bar - All are welcome!

before Sunday School & the 9 AM Contemporary service; after 9 AM service & before the 10:30 AM Traditional Service

Praying Hands Day

**3rd Sunday of Each Month
(January 18th)
Before & After Services**



at the table located outside the church office. 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.

Church Book Store

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.



Bethany Church has purchased a subscription for RightNow Media for the purpose of training leadership and volunteers and providing ongoing 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.



5:30 PM

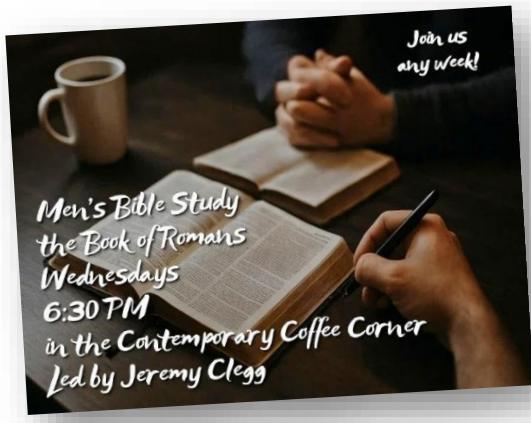
\$5 Adult

(ages 13 & Older)

\$2.50 Child

(ages 2 – 12)

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

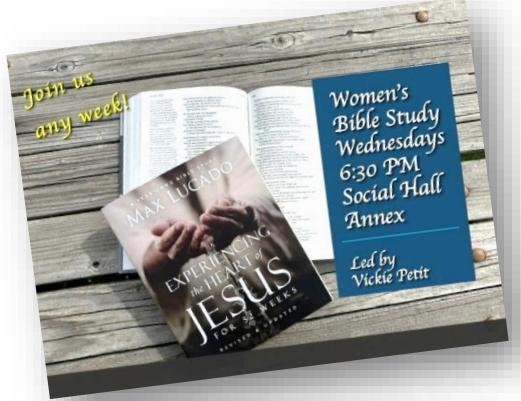
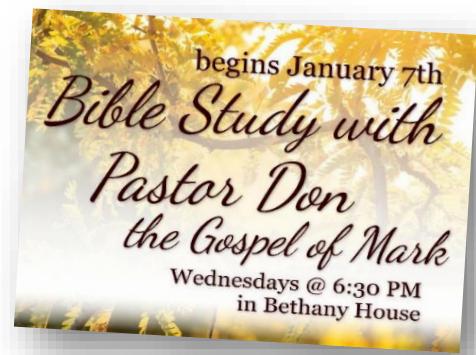


Please join us as we study **the Book of Romans**. This book of the Bible provides a foundational and systematic understanding of core Christian doctrines, including human sinfulness, salvation by grace through faith, justification, sanctification, and the unity of Jews and Gentiles in God's plan. Often considered the clearest presentation of Christian doctrine in the Bible, it is a deeply theological and practical letter from the Apostle Paul to the church in Rome.

Bible Study with Pastor Don – the Gospel of Mark

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
in Bethany House

Come hang out with us as we dive into the Gospel of Mark! This is a relaxed, welcoming Bible Study where we'll explore who Jesus is and what His message means for our lives today. No prior experience needed—just bring your curiosity and join the conversation! **Will not meet January 21st.**



Women's Bible Study Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
in the Social Hall Annex

We will be studying Unit 4 – Experiencing the Freedom of Jesus (1/7 – Freedom from Want; 1/14 – Freedom from Hopelessness; 1/21 – Freedom from Fear; 1/28 Freedom from Shame). Memory Verse – John 8:36 – "So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

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.



Thursdays | 6:30 PM

Dinner at 6 PM



New Sermon Series Begins January 4th The Gospel of Mark

Discover the fast-paced, action-filled account of Jesus' life and ministry in the Gospel of Mark. This series invites us to encounter Christ's power, compassion, and call to discipleship. Through vivid stories and profound truths, we'll learn what it means to follow Him wholeheartedly in a world that needs hope.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to drive for others in need. People with a ride need, or who would like to volunteer to transport folks, can call the church office or call or email Pastor Larry at 717-244-7624.



GRAB 'N' GO

Subs & Sandwiches Sponsored by the Missions Committee

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



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

Check out our options!
9" (\$4.50) & 12" (\$5.50) Subs
Italian, American, Turkey, & Roast Beef
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, & Sweet Bologna (NEW!)

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 third



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!!



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.

Knitting & Crochet Ministry



1st & 3rd Mondays
2:30 - 4 PM
in Bethany House

Get your Apple Dumplings and/or Apple Pies before they are gone!



\$7/pack of two Apple Dumplings
\$10/Pie

See Karen Miller, Jane Wiertel, or Jen in the Church Office. Available on Sundays and during the week!



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.

Meal Ministry

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



More pictures from the OCC Packing Parties in November. We packed 342 shoeboxes!! What a blessing! Thank You, all! Praise God!





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.

This 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 straightforward way to help our community. Questions? Contact Jen in the Church Office.

We're Collecting:

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

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

The man who goes into the new year without some priorities governing his life and without some principles guiding his behavior, is prey to the tempting, unimportant and destructive things in life.



The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different, and better. — C. Neil Strait



Our Mobile App for Giving Has Changed

Our easyTithe Giving App has been replaced with the "My Church Home" app by Ministry Brands Amplify. Once you download the App, search for zip code, 17356, and Bethany UMC should pop up. Choose as your church. Online Giving, Text, ★★★★★ and the Giving Kiosk saw no change. If you have any questions, please see Jen in the church office.



My Church Home
by Ministry Brands Amplify

Open

[Ministry Brands](#)

[Lifestyle](#)