Bethany Church Missions & Ministries News



December 2026

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!!

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING WAREHOUSE

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.



These medical items were recently donated from Luther Memorial Lutheran Church in York. Pastor Vanessa Storlie let us know that they were downsizing and cleaning house and had heard about our medical lending ministry program through a former client that Bethany had helped. Pictured is Mike, the Council president. Items donated were:

Rollator	Shower Bench	Portable Potty
2 Walkers	3 Canes	Foot Brace
Ankle Brace	2 Raised Toilet Seats	

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.





THE SALVATION ARMY

ANGEL TREE

Don't forget to return your unwrapped Angel Tree gift (with the Angel Tag attached) by Wednesday, December 2nd. Questions? Please see Rachel Zelger. Thank you for your support of this ministry!



TRANSPORTATION Ministry

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.



You can still send us your prayer requests. Call Jen in the Church Office, complete the prayer section of the Connections Card in your weekly bulletin, click on the "Prayer Requests" picture in The Blast (you'll just need to complete the online form), through the Giving App under "contact us," or click on "Prayer Request" in the upper right-hand corner on our website home page (www.bethanyredlion.com). Watch your email for a special "Prayer Blast" on Tuesdays.

FUDGE FOR CHRISTMAS!



Just in time for Christmas, the Missions Committee will again be having a Homemade Fudge Sale as a fundraiser. REMEMBER: It is delicious, and it freezes well, too! Fudge may be picked up on Friday, December 4th from Noon – 4 PM or on Sunday, December 6th (between and after services) in the Social Hall. We will be making Peanut Butter, Chocolate, and Chocolate-Peanut Butter fudge. A limited number of extras will be available for sale on Sundays in the church office and Social Hall until the fudge is gone. Cost will be $10 per pound (sorry, no ½ pound sales).



NOW FOR SOME REAL IMPORTANT STUFF: WE

WILL NEED YOUR HELP MAKING THE FUDGE!! Please consider helping us on Thursday & Friday (December 3rd & 4th) from 9:30 AM – 1 PM on Thursday (lunch will be provided) and 9:30 – 11 AM on Friday. You can sign up to help using the various options listed above. One of the perks is all the fudge you can eat from the scrapings out of the pan!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2026





Yvonne Clutter and Carol Ann Frock attended the York County September meeting for OCC Project Leaders held at the Genesis Church in York New Salem. A variety of craft gift items were on display for all to see and share ideas.



Joni Horne, Carol Ann Frock, Yvonne Clutter, and Samantha Reynolds were honored to listen to Harrison (in the middle with a sweater on) speak about receiving a shoebox as a child. Harrison's father is also pictured here. Harrison and his sister had a five-mile walk to elementary school each day. His father earned between $7 - $8 each month. As a teenager, he attended a school where the classroom was for education in the daytime; and at night, Harrison slept on the desk bench seat. God had a plan for Harrison. He now lives in the USA and is a speaker for Samaritan's Purse.



Caring & Sharing Donation Drive — Hosted by Dallastown High School

Partner with Us to Support Dallastown Families in Need this Holiday Season!

Participate in the Donation Drive

The Caring & Sharing Donation Drive, a Dallastown High School initiative, brings together our school community and partners like **FCA** to support Dallastown families in need during the holidays. Each participating group, classroom, club, or ministry will sponsor a basket from November 23 to **December 9th**. Groups will collect a variety of goods to fill the basket. At the end of the drive, all baskets will be collected, and families will receive a basket full of essentials along with gift cards funded through Caring & Sharing monetary donations.

We have sponsored 10 baskets, lets make sure they are FULL!

What Do We Collect?

We are looking for well-rounded baskets filled with a variety of **holiday food items, personal hygiene products, and non-perishable goods.**

Item Ideas:

- Mashed potatoes
- Canned veggies
- Stuffing
- Mac and cheese
- Canned soups
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Rice
- Biscuit/pancake mix
- Shelf-stable milk
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Toothpaste
- Soap/body wash
- Hygiene products

Together, we can make a difference!

The cost of groceries is rising, but it does have one positive effect. As you spend more at the store, you are contributing more to the missions we support in Red Lion. If you spend $50 a week for groceries (using the gift cards), after 50 weeks, you will have contributed $125 to missions. The store you use reimburses 5% to the church for every dollar you spend. Maybe we should say if you spend $75 a week for 50 weeks, you will contribute $187.50 to missions. If life hands you lemons, make lemonade. Just remember to use gift cards purchased at Bethany Church (for Giant, Weis, or Jerry's Great Valu) to buy the lemons. 😊



There will be no Grab 'n Go Sub/Sandwich Sale in December. Sales will resume in January 2027.

We're collecting....

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





Meal Ministry

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.





LIFEPATH Christian Ministries

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. Did you see that Bethany Church now has a collection bin for LifePath in our church parking lot? Bethany will continue to receive credit for your donations. Questions? Contact Jen in the Church Office.









Liturgists, Communion Stewards, and Ushers needed! Can you help lead worship? Can you help pass out bulletins and direct people, if needed? Can you carry a tray of communion elements? Can you help prepare the communion elements? The answer is yes. The real question is, will you? Pastor Justin is looking for a team of people who will help in the laity's role of leading worship. If you will serve the body of Christ in any or all of these ways, please contact Pastor Justin as soon as possible or add a note to your connections card in the bulletin.

Apple Dumplings

Another successful Apple Dumplings Sale to benefit our Bethany missions. Thank you to over 14 volunteers who worked tirelessly and joyfully for two days to

make 250 Apple Dumplings as well as 15 tasty apple pies. Thank you also to all of you who purchased them to enjoy or give as gifts to friends. This was truly a labor of love with flour and laughter flying throughout our kitchen. We have now added $1,190 to our Missions Committee fund. Can you believe that we are already sold out this year?! Thank you for your support! 😊





















Do You Like Technology?

We need you! If you like technology and would like a way to give back to your church, call or email Pastor Justin (717-244-7624). An IT crew assists in running Sunday morning media presentations for the Traditional worship service.



Calling All Musicians! If you play an instrument or sing and would like to share your gifts during the Prelude of our Traditional Worship Service, please see Julie Beard. Prelude music provides a prayerful opportunity to quiet our hearts, focus on God's presence, and prepare for worship.

Bells of Bethany will rehearse Thursdays in the Music Room at 9:30 AM in December (except December 24th & 31st).



The Praise Team will make their next appearance on Sunday, December 20th and on Christmas Eve at the 7 PM Worship service. The Praise Team will rehearse all Wednesdays except December 30th. Rehearsal time the week of Christmas ~ TBD.







There is a free, seven-part Mental Health Series titled "Mental Illness, Despair, and the Crisis of Meaning" offered online through Focus on the Family (https://www.focusonthefamily.com/mental-illness-despair-crisis-of-meaning-sign/). The format of each session is as follows: seven-minute video presentation, reading and meditating on scripture, questions for discussion, prayer, and additional resources. Topics include: The Restorative Mission of

Jesus Christ; The Recent Decline in Life Expectancy; The Problem (and deals with some alarming mental health statistics); Our Understanding; Redeeming Life Lost; People, Place, Purpose; and The Solution. Throughout the presentations, the speaker constantly reiterates the need for the church to play an important role in finding help and healing for ourselves and others. The presenter points out that the only category of people who did not experience a decline in their mental health during the Pandemic were the ones who attended a church service weekly either in person or online.

Following is list of phone numbers that may be of help during a mental health emergency:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1-800-273-8255
Substance Abuse	1-800-662-HELP(4357)
Crisis Text Line	Text "MHFA" to 741741
Veterans Crisis	1-800-273-8255 (Select #1)
Disaster Distress	1-800-985-5990
Domestic Violence	1-800-799-7233
Sexual Assault	1-800-656-4673



BETHANY CHURCH
BELONG | BELIEVE | BECOME

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