BETHANY CHURCH

BELONG | BELIEVE | BECOME

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

December 2026

***Read About*:**

- *New Sermon Series ~ Carols*
- *Christmas Eve Sermon ~ Change of Plans*
- *Would You 'Bee' a Volunteer?*
- *Youth Ministry News*
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- *Apple Dumplings*
- *Church Conference*



This month's newsletter is sponsored in loving memory of my husband, Milton, by Vonetta Grove.



4 PM
Contemporary Worship Area

(Infant to Pre-school childcare available)
A joyful, family-friendly celebration of Christmas designed for children and adults to experience the wonder of Jesus' birth together.

7 PM
Contemporary Worship Area

Celebrate the birth of Christ with the Bethany Band leading us in Contemporary Christmas worship music, an inspiring Christmas message, and the joy of the season.

11 PM
Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Welcome Christ with a beautiful traditional worship experience featuring beloved Christmas carols, Scripture, and special music presented by the Bethany Church Choir. Together, we'll celebrate the timeless story of Christ's birth as we welcome Christmas Day.

At all three services, Pastor Justin will share a special Christmas Eve message exploring what the Christmas story can teach us about handling life's unexpected moments when things don't go as planned. Discover how the birth of Jesus reminds us that even when life takes an unexpected turn, God's presence, promises, and purpose remain. The tradition of candle lighting also takes place at all three services, with safe, child-friendly lights available so even our youngest worshippers can participate in this beautiful moment.

Come as you are. Bring your family. Invite a friend. This Christmas Eve, discover the peace, hope, love, and joy that came into the world through Jesus Christ. And be reminded that even when life doesn't go according to our plans, God is still at work. We can't wait to celebrate Christmas with you at Bethany Church!

One Savior. One Christmas Story. Three opportunities to Celebrate!

December Meetings

Stewardship & Finance – Monday, December 7th, 7 PM, Upper Room
Connecting People with People, Monday, December 7th, 7 PM, Social Hall
Administrative Council – Monday, December 14th, 7 PM, Upper Room/via Zoom
Board of Trustees – Thursday, December 10th, 7 PM, Upper Room/via Zoom



Dear Bethany Family,

As another year draws to a close, I want to take a moment to say how grateful I am for each of you and for the privilege of being part of this church family. This year has brought its share of joys, challenges, changes, and unexpected turns. Perhaps most notably you said goodbye to Pastor Don, Sarah, and their family; and you graciously welcomed Sarah, Logan, and me into your family here. In the short time we have been here, we've celebrated together, faced difficult moments together, and continued learning what it means to be the church together. Through it all, we have been reminded again and again of God's love and faithfulness.

One of the things I love most about Christmas is that it reminds us that God doesn't wait for everything in our lives to be perfect before showing up. In fact, the very first Christmas was filled with uncertainty, interrupted plans, and ordinary people trying to make sense of extraordinary circumstances. Yet right in the middle of it all, God was doing something wonderful.

Perhaps that's a reminder we all need as we look back on this year. Things haven't always gone as we expected or hoped, but God's grace has continued to meet us along the way. Sometimes that grace has come through answered prayers, sometimes through the kindness of others, and sometimes simply through the quiet assurance that we are not alone.

As we work through Advent, we will be looking at ways in which God reveals himself to us through His Word and through music. Then, as we celebrate Christmas and prepare for a new year, my hope is that we will continue to be a congregation where people experience that same grace—a place where everyone is welcomed, where hope is renewed, and where Christ's love is lived out in meaningful ways.

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, your willingness to serve, and your commitment to sharing the Gospel. I am grateful for where God has brought us, and I look forward with hope to where God will lead us next.

From my family to yours, I wish you a blessed Christmas filled with the peace, hope, joy, and love of Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas!



Pastor Justin



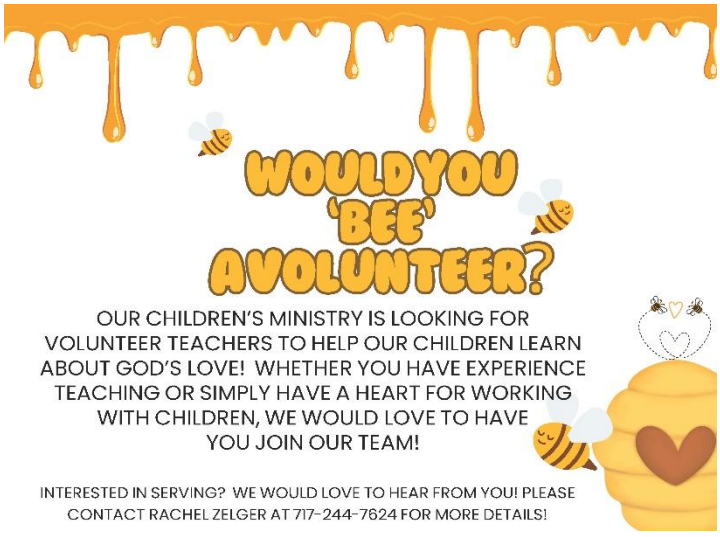
When we think of the Christmas story, we often think about the Bible passage Luke 2. In that book and chapter, we find the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We also enjoy music around this time of year, and it's often an opportunity to sing hymns (carols) that we don't necessarily sing the rest of the year. We get so excited about singing them that we often miss where God is speaking to us through the Carols. During the four Sundays in Advent, we are going to look at four familiar Carols and not just sing them, but see how God is speaking to us through them as well.

November 29th – O Holy Night (Lamentations 3:20-26)
December 6th – O Come, All Ye Faithful (2 Corinthians 5:11-21)
December 13th – Away in a Manger (Ephesians 2:1-10)
December 20th – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:13-17)

Christmas Eve
Change of Plans
Scripture Luke 2:1-20

The Holidays bring out the best and worst of planning. Some folks have Christmas planned to the minute, others do not do any planning at all. But even the best-laid plans don't go as we envision. Join us this Christmas Eve as we see how sometimes God interrupts our plans for His purpose and how we can be more in tune to God's greater purpose in our lives.





The Heart of Christmas

The spirit of Christmas is annual; the Spirit of Christ is eternal. —Stuart Briscoe

Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love. —Hamilton Wright Mabie

Youth Ministry

Youth - Sunday Mornings

10 – 10:20 AM in the Youth Room (3rd Floor)
Please encourage your youth to stop in 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.

Youth Connections

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
in the Youth Room (3rd Floor)
Join us for a fellowship meal in the Social Hall at 5:30 PM.
Will not meet on December 23rd & 30th.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS



HEY PARENTS! IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO ENJOY A PEACEFUL EVENING WHILE WE TAKE CARE OF THE FUN!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
5:30 - 8 PM

ages 3 - 12 only, please!

Pre-register by Sunday, December 6th to ensure enough food and supplies!

LOOK WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO!





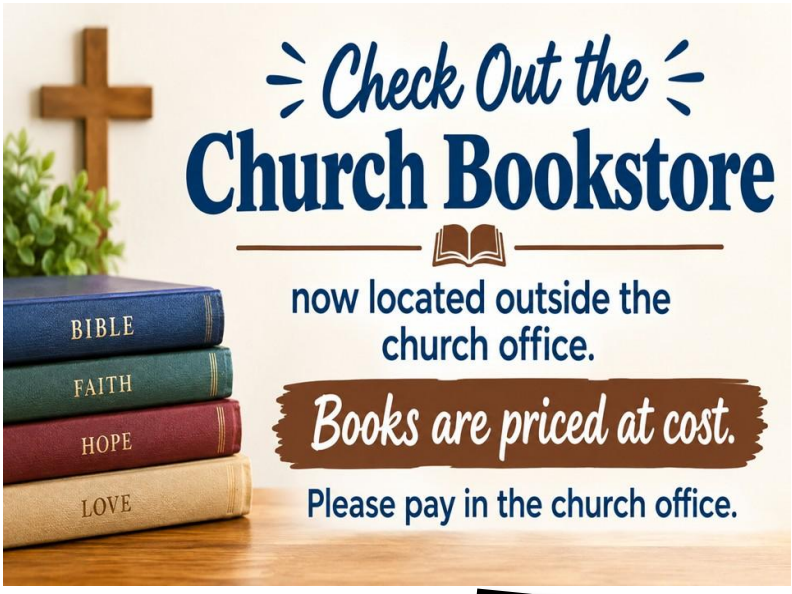




It has been a wonderful month full of learning, service, and growing! We are excited to welcome Kaleb Rinaca as a new acolyte for our Traditions service! Our classrooms also spent time learning about what it means to serve others and show God 's love through acts of kindness, as shown in John 13.



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 Jen in the Church Office.

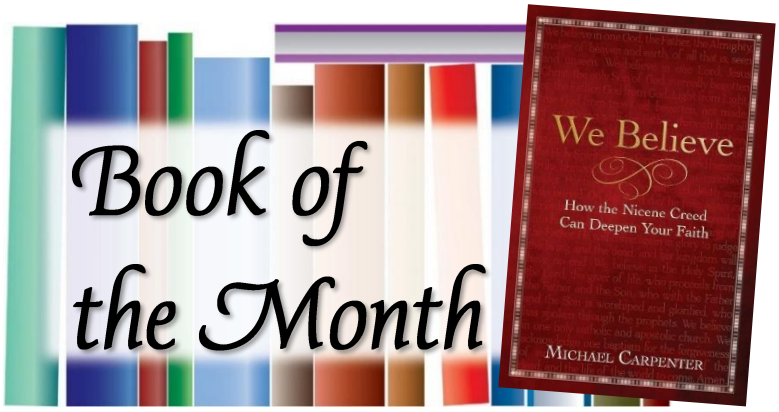


On December 20th, please come early to your services or stop by afterward to join us in committing to focused prayer for one another. You'll find our table located outside the church office. Prayer is a very important part of our lives together, and we want to highlight it with a nice, welcoming activity that will only take a few minutes. All ages are encouraged to participate.





It's not too late to order Poinsettias! Poinsettia plants will again grace our Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship Area for the Christmas season. You may order a plant in memory of or in honor of a person, class, or loved ones. The cost of a plant will be $10 and MUST BE PAID when ordering. In addition to the traditional red, you may also order white and pink. Poinsettia Order Envelopes may be found at all entrances to the Sanctuary, in the Information Cubby in the Contemporary Worship Area, in the church office, and on the Information center outside the church office in which you may place your $10. Please indicate on the envelope what you would want included in the bulletin. Please place the envelope in the church offering plate or drop off in or mail to the church office. You may also place your order online using the link in the weekly Blast or through the Giving App or Giving Kiosk under "Events." Be sure to note your choice of poinsettia color! If you would like to do something other than contribute a flower, you may make a donation to the work of our Missions Ministry in honor of or in memory of a loved one.



The Book-of-the-Month for December is *"We Believe: How the Nicene Creed Can Deepen Your Faith"* by Michael Carpenter. Discover how the ancient Nicene Creed can transform your spiritual journey. Personal anecdotes and practical insights guide you to a profound connection with God. Dive into six chapters, covering the Nicene Creed sequentially, that unpack the essence of it, enriching reader's faith and deepening their understanding of Christian beliefs. Copies are available in the church Bookstore. You can pay for your books in the church office. If you have any suggestions to add to our list, please let Justin Zelger know.

MUSIC MINISTRIES NEWS



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.

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.

The Bells of Bethany rehearse on Thursdays at 9:30 AM in the Music Room. Will not rehearse on December 24th and 31st.

The Sanctuary Choir will rehearse all Sundays in December (10 AM).





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 2026) are available and 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.

Articles for the January 2027 Newsletter are due in the Church Office by December 15th.



YouVersion

Download the YouVersion Bible app (or go to our website under "Believe," "Discipleship Tools," and click on the "Holy Bible" picture) 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 with any questions or for additional details.



ATTENDANCE

Date	Sunday School	Sunday Worship
November 1st	38	118
November 8th	43	111
November 15th	37	133
November 22nd	49	160

DAILY BIBLE READINGS DECEMBER 2026

1.	Prayer for deliverance	Psalm 79
2.	A promise of a shepherd	Micah 5:1-5a
3.	Righteousness and peace	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
4.	God appoints a prophet	Jeremiah 1:4-10
5.	A new heart and a new spirit	Ezekiel 36:24-28
6.	John appears from the wilderness	Mark 1:1-8
7.	God's level path	Psalm 27
8.	God will wash Israel clean	Isaiah 4:2-6
9.	The messenger in the temple	Luke 1:5-17
10.	God does great things for us	Psalm 126
11.	The prize of God's call in Christ	Philippians 3:12-16
12.	God's devastation, God's deliverance	Habakkuk 3:13-19
13.	A witness to the light	John 1:6-8, 19-28
14.	Prayer for blessing	Psalm 125
15.	Peter preaches about the prophets	Acts 3:17 – 4:4
16.	Questions about Elijah	Mark 9:9-13
17.	I sing of your love	Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
18.	The advent of one higher than angels	Hebrews 1:5-14
19.	The Messiah, David, and Bethlehem	John 7:40-52
20.	The angel appears to Mary	Luke 1:26-38
21.	The Lord lifts up the lowly	Luke 1:46b-55
22.	The mediator replaces the sanctuary	Hebrews 8:1-13
23.	Hannah's song	1 Samuel 2:1-10
24.	God with us	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]
25.	The word became flesh	John 1:1-14
26.	Stephen is stoned to death	Acts 6:8 – 7:2a, 51-60
27.	The presentation of the child	Luke 2:22-40
28.	Herod kills innocent children	Matthew 2:13-18
29.	The beloved disciple remains with Jesus	John 21:20-25
30.	A thousand years as one day	2 Peter 3:8-13
31.	I am the light	John 8:12-19

PRAYER REQUESTS

can be made on the Connections Card in your weekly bulletin, through the links in the Weekly Blast and on our website 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!

USHERS/GREETERS NEEDED!

We are looking to have ushers and greeters as part of our Christmas Eve worship. If you are interested in serving, please reach out to Pastor Justin at 717-244-7624.

Welcome New Members!

On Sunday, November 22nd, we joyfully welcomed seven new members into our Bethany Church family! We give thanks to God for bringing them into our church community and are so happy they are now part of our family of faith. The next time you see them, please take a moment to congratulate them, introduce yourself, and share a warm Bethany welcome. Let's surround them with love and make sure they know how glad we are to have them with us.





Bill & Harriett Hall



Shay Daryman





Doug Hepner



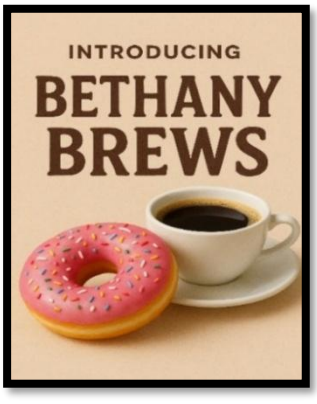
Jessica Lightner



Phyllis Caughran



Carol Gembe



Visit our Coffee Bar, *Bethany Brews*, located outside the east sanctuary doors at the Ramp entrance, creating a welcoming space for fellowship and connection. We invite you to start a new tradition or rekindle an old one and stop by grab a cup, and enjoy the warmth of time spent with your church family! The coffee will be "make your own" using Keurig coffee makers. Tea is also available for non-coffee drinkers. All we ask is for a $1 donation. If you have any questions about the coffee area or any suggestions, please contact Rachel Zelger, Julie Beard, or Ron Nickey.



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

O Holy Night (41909)
November 29th – December 3rd

O Come Let Us Adore Him (34697)
December 6th – 10th

The Maker in the Manger (63241)
December 13th – 17th

The Coming of the Messiah (22859)
December 20th – 24th

New Year, Same God (22987)
December 27th – 30th

The Heart of Christmas

Take Christ out of Christmas, and December becomes the bleakest and most colorless month of the year.
—A.F. Wells



Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7th. All are welcomed. Please plan to join us!

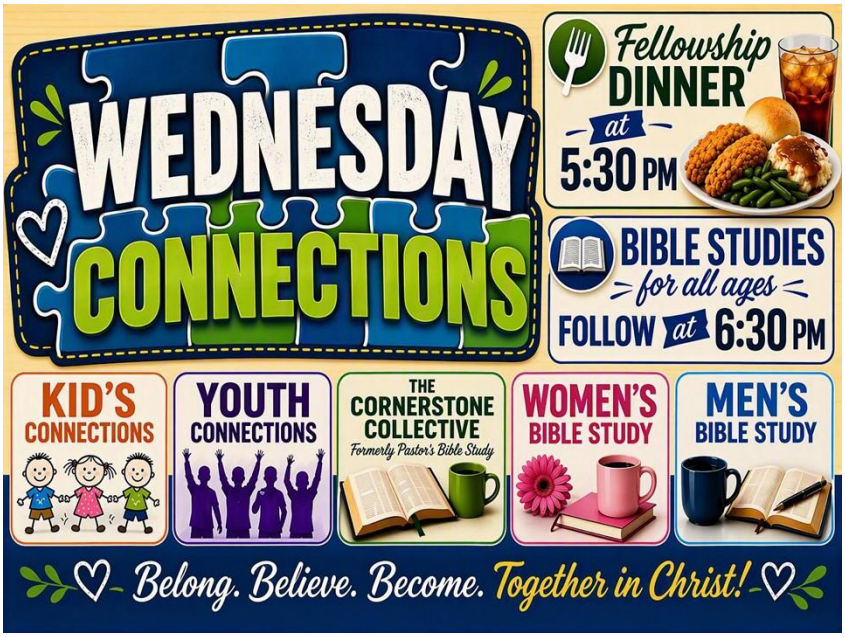


A Child is Born

Let us go to Bethlehem today, joining the wondering shepherds and adoring Magi as they behold the One born King of the Jews. By faith, we too may rejoice and proclaim, "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given."

Let us reverently bow before the holy Child, whose innocence restores humanity to its ancient glory, and pray that Christ may be formed within us.

—Adapted from C. H. Spurgeon, *Morning and Evening*



5:30 PM Fellowship Meal
Adults $5 • Children (2-12) $2.50 • Under 2 Free
There will be no Fellowship Meal on Wednesday, December 23rd & 30th

Stay after dinner and grow in God's Word by joining one of our Bible studies at **6:30 PM**:

Kid's Connections ~ Meets in the Children's Chapel

Kid's Connections & Youth Connections will not meet on Wednesday, December 23rd & 30th

Youth Connections ~
Meets in the Youth Room (3rd floor)

Women's Bible Study ~

Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks



Meets in the Social Hall Annex
Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
Will not meet on December 23rd & 30th (Merry Christmas! Happy Birthday, Jesus! 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV ~ "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!)
We will be continuing with our study of EXPERIENCING THE HEART OF JESUS by Max Lucado with Unit 9 EXPERIENCING THE PRAYER OF JESUS ~ MEMORY VERSE – EPHESIANS 6:18
****Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.****

12/2 ~ Week 45 Relying on God's Power

Beginning Unit 10 ~ Experiencing the Hope of Jesus
Memory Verse – Romans 15:13
****May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.****

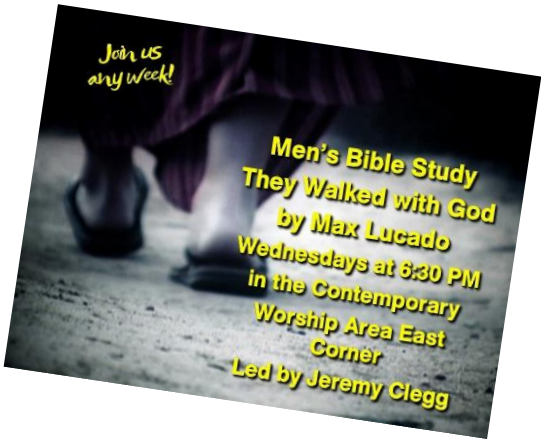
12/9 ~ Week 46 ~ The Beginning of the Best
12/16 ~ Week 47 ~ Waiting Forwardly

The Cornerstone Collective

(formerly the Pastor's Bible Study)
Meets in Bethany House
Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
Will not meet on Wednesday, December 23rd & 30th.

Have you ever thought about reading the entire Bible? How about doing it in a year? Do you start in Genesis and read to Revelation or is there another way? The Cornerstone Collective (formerly the Pastor's Bible study) will be reading the entire Bible in a Year beginning on January 1st. We will be reading it in the order the events happened based on a reading plan provided by The Bible Recap. We hope you will join us! We will have our usual Wednesday Connections meetings to discuss what we read. In addition, be on the lookout for other opportunities Pastor Justin is going to provide to have conversation around what we read. So, if you cannot make Wednesday evenings, there will still be a community opportunity for you. The only thing you need is a Bible, but be on the lookout for the reading plan and other things coming out in the middle of December. If you have questions, reach out to Pastor Justin (717-244-7624, ext. 101). You can begin to look ahead by going to www.thebiblerecap.com.

Men's Bible Study ~ *They Walked with God*



Meets in the Contemporary Worship Area East Corner
Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
Will not meet Wednesday, December 23rd & 30th.

The characters we meet in the Bible play a huge role in our lives. Whether we personally relate to Joseph's dedication to serving the Lord even when he was confused or we understand when Mary Magdalene mourns in front of the vacant tomb, the timeless stories we find in the Bible influence and inspire us to learn to be more like Christ. But how can we apply these lessons to our everyday lives? In *They Walked with God,* pastor and *New York Times* bestselling author Max Lucado takes a closer

look at 40 of the most inspirational and influential characters in the Bible and shares a powerful message: *if God can find a place for each character in the Bible, we can rest assured that he's carved out a spot for us too*. *They Walked with God* weaves together stories from Scripture with stories that offer a modern perspective, bringing each of these men and women to life for you. Whether you are a seasoned follower of Christ or a new believer, *They Walked with God* will inspire your walk of faith as it adds dimension and depth to 40 incredible people who had the chance to walk alongside God, reminding you that you are invited to walk alongside him too.



Bethany's GriefShare Team offers two choices for gatherings this session—both on Tuesdays. The first is from 10 – 11:30 AM or you could come to the Tuesday evening gathering from 6:30 – 8 PM. We will meet in the church Social Hall Annex. Anyone who struggles with the loss of a loved one is welcome, whether your loss was recent or some time ago. The video presenters and other class persons who have gone through the grief journey offer good information, encouragement, and hope in a Christ-centered environment. Each participant receives a workbook that goes with each of the thirteen topics and video information. Time is given for small group discussion. We have found GriefShare to be a great benefit for many as they go through the difficult journey of grief. For more information or to register for one of the gatherings, please contact Pastor Larry at 717-244-7624, Ext. 102. **Please join us for our last gatherings (this session) on Tuesday, December 1st.**

Is Celebrate Recovery for me or someone I know?

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Thursdays ~ 6:30 PM
Dinner at 6 PM

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. **Will not meet Thursday, December 24th & 31st.**



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Have you ever received bad news that ended up being good news in the long run? Our theme for Winter 2026 – 2027 is "A New Beginning." Think of times where new beginnings seemed distressing but ultimately resulted in something wonderful. Throughout this quarter, we will consider difficult things God asks us to do—change, repent—that are actually for own good. We will look to Jesus, our King, who was born in a stable and executed as a criminal, and who is the best news possible.

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 or use the QR code located to the left. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

QR Registration Code



Does stretching your muscles while slowing down your breath sound like a fantastic way to relax after a tough week? Join us for Yoga on Saturday mornings! Questions? Contact Deb Jackson or Sally Roberts at 717-244-7624.

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.

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!





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!

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.

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.



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. 😊

GRAB 'N GO

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



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.

We're Collecting:

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



BETHANY'S VISITATION PROGRAM IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS!

LET OUR SHUT-INS KNOW THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?
CONTACT PASTOR LARRY
(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.

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! 😊





















Bethany Church Hosts Annual Church Conference

Bethany Church was blessed to host our local cluster Annual Church Conference, welcoming ten churches together for a time of worship, fellowship, and church business.

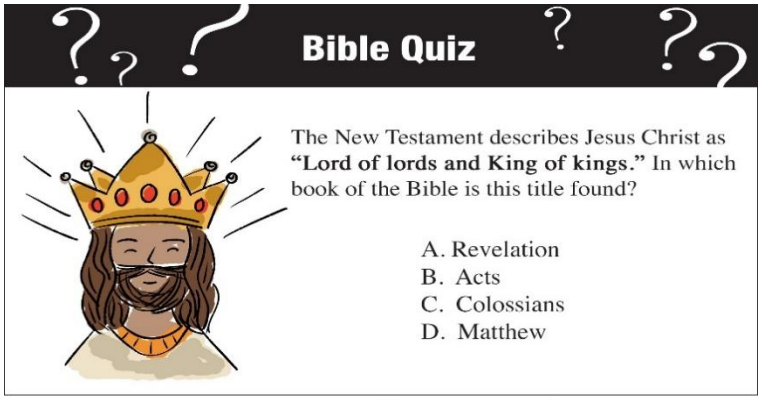
The day began with a combined worship service in Bethany's Sanctuary. Pre-service music was provided by our Sunday School Orchestra. River Valley District's District Superintendent, Rev. Donald C. Rowe, shared a moving and heartfelt message reflecting on his recent health scare. His words offered a meaningful reminder of God's faithfulness, grace, and the gift of each new day.

Following worship, the churches gathered in their assigned meeting areas to attend to the business and ministry matters of their individual congregations. Bethany's meeting was held in Bethany House and led by Pastor Justin. Two Candidates for Ministry, Justin Zelger and Aaron Sprenkel, were approved, along with the SPPRC's support of Ron Nickey as a Certified Lay Servant. Our meeting was closed in prayer for Justin, Aaron, and Ron.

We were grateful for the opportunity to host our neighboring churches and share in this special time of worship, fellowship, and connection as part of the larger church family.







Answer: A. Revelation (See Revelation 17:14)

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.

