

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE NEWSLETTER

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**APRIL 2014**

### APRIL WORSHIP

Sunday April 6 we focus on “The Power of the Cross” as Pastor Lynch preaches from I Corinthians 1:3-9, 17:18. Elena Millar will offer special music on the piano.

Palm Sunday is April 13. Our Chancel Choir will offer special music and palms will be distributed. Pastor Lynch will speak on “I Love a Parade” from John 12:12-19. Please bring items for the Caring Cupboard.

Holy Thursday is April 17. We will enjoy a congregational meal in the social hall at 6:00, then head upstairs to the sanctuary for a 7:00 service of Holy Communion. Please bring a dessert to share. Child care will be provided.

Good Friday is April 18. A community service will be held at Palmyra First United Methodist at 1:00 P.M.

Easter Day is April 20! Our Chancel and Sunbeam Choirs will sing the Lord’s praise, and Pastor Lynch will preach on “The Morning That Changed Everything” from I Corinthians 15. Our youth will serve as ushers and the sanctuary will be filled with a garden of Easter flowers.

April 27 is the Sunday after Easter when we remember “The Good News for Doubting Thomas’.” Drew Chapin will play his trumpet to God’s glory.

## THE LEGEND OF THE DOGWOOD TREE

When Christ was on earth,  
The dogwood grew to a  
Towering size of lovely hue.  
Its branches were strong and interwoven  
And for Christ's cross  
Its timbers were chosen.  
Being distressed at the use of this wood,  
Christ made a promise  
Which still holds good

“Not ever again shall the dogwood grow  
To be large enough for such a tree,  
And so slender and twisted  
It shall always be with a cross  
Shaped blossoms for all to see.  
The petals shall have blood stains  
Marked in brown and in the  
Blossoms center a thorny crown.  
All who see it will think of Me,  
Nailed to a cross form the dogwood tree.  
Protected and cherished this tree shall be  
A reflection to all of my agony.”



### **Blessing our Community in April**

Come breakfast at Bethany and have a picture of your children taken with the Easter Bunny on Saturday April 13 from 9-11. Cost is \$5.00 per person and includes breakfast and the photo. Proceeds benefit the Children's Lunch program at the Caring Cupboard. If you would like to help serve or donate food, please see the sign up sheet in the Gathering Room. Thank you.

~ Cindy Anspach 534-1034

Saturday April 12 is the date for the Blood Drive sponsored by the Palmyra Area Cooperating Churches from 8-11 at First Evangelical Congregational Church, 55 W. Main Street, Palmyra.

### **Facts, Figures and Finances**

Praise the Lord for all the ways we are growing at Bethany, including our Sunday worship attendance. Last year our average attendance the first three Sundays in March was 66 persons. This year we are averaging 77 worshippers! We also need to average \$1,500 in the Sunday morning offering to meet our expenses. Through the first three months of 2014 our average plate offering has been \$1,501. How about that! Our carpet debt is down to \$3,356.57.

Our trustees are making arrangements to have our Bethany burner converted from oil to natural gas. We expect, and pray, that this will significantly reduce our fuel expenses for years to come.

### **LOYAL WORKERS**

The Loyal Workers hosted a Valentine Lunch for the residents of the Interfaith Manor on February 22. Thank you to all the Loyal Workers for donations, preparation, serving and clean up.

### **APRIL WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Acolyte: Carissa Smith

Scripture Readers;

April 6: Pastor Lynch

April 13: Ed Kaylor

April 20: Pastor Lynch

April 27: Sue Lasher

Greeters/Ushers:

Timothy and Barb Laraia, Lewis and Roberta Brough

Sound System Operators:

April 6: Don Brubaker

April 13: Dick Lasher

April 20: Barry Smith

April 27: Don Brubaker

## TALENT NIGHT REVIEW

What a good time was enjoyed on Sunday evening March 9 at Talent Night. Helen Lutz got things started as she played and we all sang "Do-Re-Me" from the Sound of Music. Pastor John was our MC and Casey Funck did a great job playing the flute and xylophone. Alli Deimler and Michelle Patrick sang a lovely duet. "Love the Lord," and Don Brubaker made us laugh with his stories and singing.

Branden Dibeler played "Amazing Grace" on his guitar and Samantha Patrick shared a solo, "Let it Go." We passed the hat and took in an offering to help reduce of carpet debt. Our church secretary Karen Neidigh and her family took us "Under the Boardwalk" and the Primary Department enthusiastically sang "Jesus Loves Me."

Dale Patrick sand "I'd Rather Have Jesus," the Sunbeam Choir presented "I Am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N," and Shay Funck and Brooke Chapin joined in to tell a few jokes and riddles. Our Kids Zone children sang and prayed to conclude the program. Vicki Smith provided and served us refreshments. Thank you to all who shared God given talents and the large crowd who came out to enjoy Talent Night!

**April Birthdays**

2 - Rick Anspach	12 - Roberta Brough	19 - Carissa Walborn	25 - Brooke Chapin
2 - Diane Neidigh	14 - Richard Miller	21 - Gerald Wimmer	25 - Sandy Long
2 - Madison Rechel	14 - Nicole Strupp	22 - Karen Finney	26 - Susan Lasher
4 - Jill Brubaker	15 - Betty Schaffner	22 - Tori Zern	27 - Cindy Frantz
5 - Barry Sell	17 - Dale Patrick	23 - Dennis Laudermilch	28 - Seth Schell
8 - Keith Deaven	17 - Joseph Scipioni	23 - Joseph Rechel	

**BIRTHDAY CALENDAR**

Birthday Calendar - If your name does not appear on the Birthday Calendar, please put a note in the offering plate or in Karen Neidigh's drawer (2nd drawer on the left in the Railroad Street vestibule. Thank you!

**THANK YOU**

Dear Bethany Family: Thank you so much for all your prayers and smiles. Before, during and after surgery I felt the overwhelming love and peace sent my way from my church family. As I continue to heal, I in turn, pray for you that the Lord lift your hearts in joy and love as well.

~ Miranda Schell

Dear Bethany Friends; thank you for your prayers and expressions of concern and the many cards I received while waiting for the kidney stone to pass. God bless you for all your kindness.

~ Pastor John

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Vacation Bible School begins on Sunday June 1 at 9:00 A.M. The theme of our Bible School is "Workshop of Wonders: Imagine and Build with God." Children in Kid Zone (birth - five years) and the Primary Department (grade one - five) will participate. We will meet each Sunday morning from 9- 11. Hope to see you there!  
~ Selma Patrick

### CHURCH CAMP

As you plan your Summer vacation, think also about planning a week at camp as a camper or a camp counselor. You will experience God's love in exciting ways, meet new and old friends, camp fires, Bible Study in the woods, singing on the logs, swimming, boating, archery, hiking, crafts and more! Please talk with Selma Patrick for more information.

Check out the church camp brochures in the Gathering Room and take a look at them to see the variety of Christian camping experiences. Be sure to have Pastor John sign your registration form before you send it in. Bethany church is glad to contribute one half of the camp fee up to \$100.00.

Down the Line: Mark your Calendar

Bethany Spring Craft Show - Saturday May 17

Bethany Picnic Outdoor Worship - Sunday July 20

### MOVING MEMBERS

Paul Schreckongast is moving the first week in April from Palm View to Masonic Home, 377 Freemason Drive, Room 2903, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

Dorothy Starner has located to Lebanon Valley Brethren Home, 11 Greenhouse Lane, Palmyra, PA 17078.

Pastor's Pun: If April showers bring may flowers,  
What do May flowers bring?...Pilgrims!