

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER

**JULY 2014**

**JULY WORSHIP**

**SUNDAY MORNING TIME CHANGE**

Starting Sunday July 13 our morning schedule will be Sunday School 9:15 - 10:15, and worship will start at 10:30. This will allow Pastor Lynch to travel from the Mountville United Methodist Church whose service concludes at 10:00. Please help Pastor John. See that he receives any needed Sunday morning announcements by Thursday. Thank you.

**BETHANY PICNIC AND WORSHIP**

Please mark your calendar for our annual picnic and outdoor worship on Sunday July 20 at the Annville Church of the Brethren South Annville Pavilion. There will be no Sunday School or worship at Bethany on July 20. We will gather at the pavilion at 10:15. Please bring a side dish or dessert. A sign up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Room. Hot dogs and barbeque, drinks and place settings will be cared for by Vicki Smith. For your comfort bring along lawn chairs. At 10:30 we will enjoy devotions with Pastor Lynch and special music with Carrie Callahan. At 11:00 children's games will be led by Kristen Scipioni and Kirstin Chapin. We will picnic at 11:45. Anyone needing a ride please contact Dick Lasher.

Directions: two miles south of Annville High School on Route 934, turn east on Church Road. The pavilion is 1/2 mile ahead on your left.

**RACHEL NICHOLSON ON SUNDAY AUGUST 3**

Many Bethany people fondly remember Pastor Gary and Pam Nicholson's daughter Rachel. She is now a teacher missionary in Germany, and will be sharing her ministry with us in worship on Sunday August 3.

**MARY MAGDELENE INTERVIEW**

Do you recall Mary Magdalene from the gospels? She will be with us on Sunday August 10 and will be interviewed in worship by Pastor Lynch. Be sure to be present and hear of her encounter with Christ and resulting life changing impact upon her life.

**VISIONARY MEETING**

All interested Bethany people are invited to a Visionary meeting on Monday evening August 11 in the social hall. Our Administrative Council will hold a business meeting from 6:30 - 7:00, and then from 7 - 8 the Council will host the Visionary Meeting. Come and share your ideas for our church. If you cannot be present, give your thoughts to Council Chairperson Cindy Anspach.

**SPECIAL MUCIC**

The Family Singers return to Bethany on Sunday August 17 to offer songs of faith. You may recall the dozen women who sang God's praise for us last year. Mark your calendar.

**WEDDING DAY**

We thank the Lord for Tim Miller and Sarah Shaak and we pray for them as they marry at Bethany on Saturday August 25. May God richly bless their marriage.

**BIBLE SCHOOL SUNDAY**

Sunday August 31 is when our children will share their songs and learning from Bible School. We praise God for each child and teacher, and for all the ways they have grown in Christ this summer.

**BETHANY PRAYER CHAIN**

Our Prayer Chain has been updated and is available to bless you, your family and friends. Please contact coordinator Vicki Smith at 838-5665 for starting the prayer chain.

“Are any of you in need? Call for the elders of the church to pray.” ~ James 5:14

**PASTOR'S PUN**

I didn't like my beard at first.  
Then it grew on me.

**KEEPING IN TOUCH: THE "OLD FASHIONED" WAY**

I don't know about you but getting a real letter or card in the mailbox is delightful these days. Knowing someone thought of you, took the time to write, and paid money for postage, says a lot in regards to how much care and love went into that envelope. So why not pass this along? Bethany UMC & Outreach are looking to collect greeting cards from the congregation. Get Well, Thinking of You, Birthday, Condolences, etc. If you have a stockpile or even just a few, would you consider donating them to church? We will also be collecting change to help with postage. Please look for a donation bin in the Gathering Room. In addition to this request, we also want to invite you to tell us about friends and family that you would like Bethany UMC to send a card to. We'd love to reach out to someone, member or not, and send them a card with as much of God's love that we can stuff in that envelope. Let's reach out to our friends, neighbors and family and show them we care thru that "old fashioned" communication called mail. God bless!

In His Love,  
Miranda Schell  
Mission Chairperson

**JULY WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Acolyte: Samantha Patrick    Greeters/Ushers: Lewis and Roberta Brough, Larry and Joan Strait  
 Scripture Readers;            Sound System Operators:  
 July 6: Barbara Laraia        July 6: Dick Lasher  
 July 13: Don Brubaker        July 13: Barry Smith  
 July 20: Pastor John         July 20: Don Brubaker  
 July 27: Ed Kaylor            July 27: Dick Lasher

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

1 - David Finnelly	9 - Jake Betz	26 - Tori Brock
1 - Michael Reigle	20 - Lory Walborn	29 - Helen Lutz
3 - Eric Chapin	23 - Kenneth Schaeffer	31 - Carissa Smith
3 - Brittany Dunlop	24 - Paul Schreckengast	
8 - Melba Shenk	25 - K. Byron Light III	

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

1 - Martha Gheen	14 - James Walker	22 - Judy Mader	30 - Mark Shenk
6 - David Patrick	17 - Danielle White	22 - Jacqueline Peiffer	31 - Lewis Brough
7 - William Long	20 - Suzanne Frazier	22 - Michelle Patrick	
11 - Michael Kriner	20 - Ian Frazier	27 - Megan Frazier	
11 - Allison White	21 - Amber Schell	29 - Quinne Walborn	

**CARPET DEBT**

Can you believe it? Our carpet debt is down to \$1,859.32 as of June 23. If we keep after it, by the end of the year it should be paid off! Thanks to all who have contributed to this effort.

**CHURCH CAMP - GRETNA GLENN**

Members and friends of Bethany as of this date we have one child and two youths going to camp. I am asking you if you will pray for them and send a note or card while they are at camp. As a camper many years ago I know how good it feels to know your church people are praying and thinking of you. Samantha Patrick is going to camp July 20-25. Allison Deimler is going to camp July 27-August 1. Address for camp is Child's name, Gretna Glen Camp, 87 Old Mine Road, Lebanon, PA 17042.

Children and youth if you would like to go to camp there are Registration forms on the Information Table in the Gathering Room. If you want to know what camp is like, please talk to Samantha, Michelle or Allison. They will be glad to share with you.

~ Selma Patrick

### **PASTOR JOHN'S STORY CORNER**

A little boy was spending his Saturday morning playing in his sandbox. He had with him his box of cars and trucks, his plastic pail, and a shiny, red plastic shovel.

In the process of creating roads and tunnels in the soft sand, he discovered a large rock in the middle of the sandbox. The lad dug around the rock, managing to dislodge it from the dirt. With no little bit of struggle, he pushed and nudged the rock across the sandbox by using his feet. (He was a very small boy and the rock was very large.) When the boy got the rock to the edge of the sandbox, however, he found that he couldn't roll it up and over the little wall.

Determined, the little boy shoved, pushed, and pried, but every time he thought he had made some progress, the rock tipped and then fell back into the sandbox. The little boy grunted, struggled, pushed, shoved-but his only reward was to have the rock roll back, smashing his stubby fingers. Finally he burst into tears of frustration.

All this time the boy's father watched from the living room window as the drama unfolded. At the moment the tears fell, a large shadow fell across the boy and the sandbox. It was the boy's father. Gently but firmly he said, "Son, why didn't you use all the strength that you had available?"

Defeated, the boy sobbed back, "But I did, Daddy, I did! I used all the strength that I had!"

No, son," corrected the father kindly. "You didn't use all the strength you had. You didn't ask me."

With that the father reached down, picked up the rock, and removed it from the sandbox.

Do you have "rocks" in your life that need to be removed? Are you discovering that you don't have what it takes to lift them? God is always available to us and willing to give us the strength we need to overcome obstacles and to accomplish great things for Him. "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). Now, that's something to think about. ~ Pastor John

### **PRAYER FOR OUR SCHOOLS**

Praying for our Lebanon County schools will be held on August 23, 2014 at 10:00. Bethany has been asked to pray for the Middle school again this year. We will be meeting outside the church on August 23, at 10:00 to walk over to the school and pray. With all of the events happening at our country's schools, we can join together for prayer, praying for all the students, teachers, administration, coaches, custodians and dietary staff. If you are unable to attend this event, please add all of our schools and students to your daily prayers throughout the year. Dale Patrick is our Prayer Walk leader this year.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL PRAYER MEETING**

Administrative Council - Who can attend? Any church member is invited to come to the Ad Council meetings, though only Council members can vote. During the meetings decisions are made on planning events, programs, the future of our church, under the blanket of prayer. Nuts and bolts of the workings of the church, and finances are reviewed and discussed. All ideas and opinions are welcome. Please come and feel free to share. Administrative Council usually meets the second Monday of the month. While we are not meeting in July, the August meeting we will be planning the vision of our church for the next several years. We need your ideas! What kind of outreach would you like to see our church do? What can we do for our community? Would you like to have small group studies in homes? How can we grow in Christ? What gifts do you have to support our church and community. These are just a few questions to get you thinking. Please come August 11, 2014 - Administrative Council will be from 6:30 - 7:00 then we begin the planning vision of our church from 7 - 8 o'clock.

~ Cindy Anspach, Council Chairperson

### **FINANCES**

Income is over budget for the first five months by \$4,754.34, with the expenses being over budget by \$7,126.21 for current year.

Categories over budget:	General Fund	\$ 564.21
	Office Exp	\$ 136.50
	Utilities	\$2,759.85
	Parsonage Ex	\$2,804.52
	Parking Lot	\$1,024.35
	Payroll	\$ 627.07

We will be obtaining bids for repair of the sidewalks this month, along with stopping a leak and repairing the ceiling in the nursery.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Anspach, Ad Council Chair and Diane Miller, Treasurer.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

7/27/14	Bethany Sunday School and Church Picnic
8/3/14	Rachel Nicholson tells of her missionary work in Germany
8/31/14	Children's Bible School Program during worship service
9/27/14	Apple Fest
11/15/14	Holiday Bazaar
12/14/14	Christmas Party and Talent Show

### THANK YOU

Thank You to all who came out to clean our church. We greatly appreciate the first time people and those who have helped before. A second cleaning day will be scheduled in September.

Thank you to the members who give of their talents by taking care packages to our church members when recuperating from being in the hospital and in sickness. This ministry is so appreciated.

Thank you to Mike Reigle for the repairs to the water fountain. We appreciate a cold sip of water during these hot Sundays.

Thank you to Dick Lasher and Larry Strait for fixing the down spouts to keep the rain water away from our church foundation.

Thank you for the repair of the ceiling in the Nursery. We appreciate having a complete ceiling over our precious children's heads. ~ Cindy Anspach

Dear friends at Bethany! Just a note to thank you for all the prayers, cards, and well wishes for me while I was in the hospital 2 times and while I am recuperating at home. The support from my "Bethany family" is very important to me.

Thank you to Pastor John for all his visits and for the coke. ~ Sue Lasher

Thank you to Paul and Karen Leicht who will be delivering Sunday worship CD's and bulletins to our homebound members and friends each week in July. Is the Holy Spirit nudging you to join in this delivery ministry in some way? If so, please speak with Paul, Karen or Pastor John.

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Would you like to sponsor or bring in flowers on a Sunday morning in honor or memory of a loved one? The flower sign up is on the Railroad Street entrance bulletin board. Available summer dates are July 13 and August 3, 10, 24, 31. Please let Karen in the church office know what you would like expressed in the bulletin. Thank you.

### UPPER ROOM & CD'S

To help cover the cost of the Upper Room devotional booklets, on the Gathering Room table, the container for your donation is back on the gathering table. Please feel free to take one for yourself and one for a friend or family member.

The CD's are available from Sunday services to anyone who would like a copy for a \$2.00 charge. Our Administrative Council Prayer Meeting has decided to put this minimal fee in place, to help offset the cost of the cd's. ~ Cindy Anspach