

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER

**APRIL 2015**

**APRIL WORSHIP**

If you can not attend any of the following services, log in to [bethanyumcpalmyra.org](http://bethanyumcpalmyra.org) and you can hear a recording of the worship. Thank you to Barry Smith for making this possible each week.

Sunday March 29 is Palm Sunday. The service will include special music, distribution of palms and a message from Pastor Lynch. Refreshments will be available in the Gathering Room by the sanctuary prior to worship.

Our Holy Thursday begins at 6:00 in the social hall for a provided meal. You are invited to bring a dessert to share. We all share in a service of Holy Communion at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Pastor Lynch will speak and a choir will minister with music.

Good Friday tennabrae Service will be held at 7:00 at the Mountville United Methodist Church. Pastor John will be glad to welcome any who can make it from our congregation. Bethany Oleyniczak will provide special music.

On Saturday April 4, come have a free breakfast with the Easter Bunny and have a picture of your children taken with the Easter Bunny from 9 - 11. Donations 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. ~ Cindy Anspach 534-1034.

Sunday April 5 is Easter Day! A choir, trumpet and a garden of Easter flowers will assist us in praising God for Jesus' resurrection. Pastor Lynch will preach on "Crucified Jesus, Reported to be Alive" from Matthew 28:1-10.

Sunday April 12 is Caring Cupboard Sunday. Please bring canned and paper goods to bless our needful neighbors through the ministry of the Caring Cupboard. Pastor Lynch will preach and lead worship.

Sunday April 19 has our Sunbeam Choir, featuring Kennedy Commissiong, Shay Funck and Samantha Patrick will bless us with music and Pastor Lynch will speak on Matthew 18:21-35, "The Unmerciful Servant."

Sunday April 26 a special children's group will praise the Lord in song and Pastor Lynch will preach on "Aiming for Perfection" from Philippians 3:7-16 and Matthew 5:43-48.

### **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**

It was obvious that eight-year-old Stephen's mental retardation was becoming even more severe. His Sunday School teacher did her best to include Stephen in the classroom activities and to avoid situations which might prompt his classmates to make fun of him.

In April, she gave each of the eight children in the class an empty L'eggs pantyhose container (plastic egg) and instructed them to place inside the container an object that represented new life in spring. Fearing that Stephen might not have caught on, and not wanting to embarrass him, the teacher had the children place all the containers on the desk so that she could open them.

The first had a ninny flower in it. "What a lovely sign of new life," said the teacher. One of the students couldn't help but erupt, "I brought that one!"

Next came a rock. The teacher assumed this must be Stephen's, since rocks don't symbolize new life. But Billy shouted that his rock had moss on it, and moss represented new life. "Very good, Billy," agreed the teacher.

A butterfly flew from the third container and another child bragged that her choice was the best of all.

The fourth container was empty. This must be Stephen's, thought the teacher, quickly reaching for a different one.

"Teacher, please don't skip mine," interrupted Stephen.

"But it's empty, Stephen," said the teacher gently.

"That's right," said Stephen. "The tomb was empty, and that represents new life for everyone."

Later that summer, Stephen's condition worsened and he died. At his funeral on his casket, mourners found eight L'eggs pantyhose containers, all of them empty.

This true story reminds us of the hope we all have because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. "For in Adam all die; so in Christ all will be made alive," (1 Corinthians 15:22). Now that's something to think about!

### **DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Do you remember what was happening at Bethany 33 years ago in April of 1982? Pastor Heller was nearing the conclusion of his tenure as our pastor, and preparations were underway for the welcome of Bethany's new pastor, Rev. Ken O'Neal. The Chancel Choir, under Helen Lutz's direction, presented the Ralph Carmichael cantata, "Easter Celebration" on Easter Day, concluding with the "Hallelujah Chorus."

Bethany Youth served an Easter Bunny breakfast, and the choir held a chicken corn noodle soup sale, and several brownie/girl scout troops of Palmyra met at Bethany, with our children's choir, directed by Jody Bixler, providing special music. Gloria Tice reported that the Ladies Quilting Group were busy making items for the charity bazaar, and Catherine Frantz was busy coordinating the placing of altar flowers.

**APRIL WORSHIP LEADERSHIP****Acolyte:** Drew Chapin**Greeters/Ushers:** Tom Gussler, Barry Smith,  
Dave Finney, Richard Funck**Scripture Readers;**APRIL 5: Pastor John  
APRIL 12: Ed Kaylor  
APRIL 19: Chantelle Brandt  
APRIL 26: Karen Leicht**Sound System Operators:**APRIL 5: Don Brubaker  
APRIL 12: Dick Lasher  
APRIL 19: Barry Smith  
APRIL 26: Don Brubaker**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

2 - Rick Anspach	14 - Nicole Strupp	23 - Dennis Laudermilch
2 - Madison Rechel	15 - Betty Schaffner	24 - Joseph Rechel
2 - Diane Neidigh	17 - Dale Patrick	25 - Brooke Chapin
4 - Jill Brubaker	17 - Joseph Scipioni	25 - Sandy Long
5 - Barry Sell	19 - Carissa Walborn	26 - Susan Lasher
12 - Roberta Brough	21 - Gerald Wimmer	28 - Seth Schell
14 - Rick Miller	22 - Karen Finney	28 - Andrew Brandt
		29 - Chantelle Brandt

**FINANCIALLY SPEAKING**

We praise the Lord for the faithful support of our congregation. February giving amounts to \$8,853.00 while expenses were \$7,155.70. So our income was \$1,697.30 over expenses!

**CHOIR REHEARSAL**

Would you like to sing in a choir on Easter Sunday? Helen Lutz invites you to rehearse at 10:15 on Sunday March 22, 29, and April 5 in the Chapel. "Come, let us sing to the Lord. Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our Salvation." Psalm 95:1

**PASTOR'S PUN**

So, why did the chicken cross the road, roll in the dirt, and cross the road again? She was a dirty, double crosser!

And did you hear about the chicken who could only lay eggs in the winter? She was no spring chicken!

## **LOYAL WORKERS**

The Loyal Workers are celebrating Spring on Saturday May 2 from 8 - 1. There will be crafts, bake sale, and lunch will be served. Donated baked items would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off on Friday May 1 in the social hall from 6-8 pm.

Please come out and support us as we raise funds for Bethany and celebrate spring.

## **CHILDREN'S EGG HUNT**

On Friday, March 27 at 6:30 pm the children in the Kid Zone and Primary Department will be looking for eggs in the dark. Please bring a flashlight to help find the eggs.

~ Selma Patrick

## **YOUTH NEWS**

The Youth Night at the Chapin's was a lot of fun! We had fun playing games and watching movies and the food was really yummy! Thank you very much to the Chapin family for holding the event.

Church Camp is a really great place to learn more about God. At Gretna Glen, there are no distractions, so all there is to focus on is the thing you are being taught. Having that one-on-one time with God is very important to spiritual growth and (for me anyway) camp is like a week long "detox." You feel God's realness in a way that's hard to feel anywhere else and that is one of the many reasons I go to camp.

Thank you to Apryl Miller, Manager-Director of Gretna Glen Camp for sharing with us about the mission and purpose of how Gretna Glen ministers to our children and youth. Brochures are available to register to attend camp.

Our Honor Roll Students include, High School: Cara Scipioni, Ian Frazier, Rebekah Sell, Matthew Brandt, Samantha Patrick, Chantelle Brandt, Austin Reigle, Summer Schell. College: Kathryn Laraia, Anne Scipioni, Linda Beam, Rachel Beam, Katelyn Dove.

That's all for now.

~ Samantha Patrick

## **WHOOPIE PIE SALE**

Whoopie Pies will be available for sale on April 29, 2015. You may order and pick them up, or have them delivered with your sub on Thursday. Signup sheet is available on the table in the gathering room. Proceeds will go to the Church Camp fund that helps reduce the cost for the children from our church. Whoopie Pies are \$1.25.

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you so much for your email, thoughts and prayers. It means a lot to me. After much prayer I have decided to stay a fourth year serving and teaching in Germany. I will be back in America this July and part of August and would love to connect with Bethany again! Thank you again for your prayers and encouragement and support. ~ Rachel Nicholson

Dear Bethany UMC, thank you for allowing me to speak at your lovely church. It was an honor. Thank you also for the love gift which will go to our Friday Prison Ministry with women. And thank you for sharing Pastor John with us at Mountville. We dearly love him.  
~ Jenean Speck

Thank you to Sandy Pillsbury and the Loyal Workers' who hosted the Valentine Luncheon for 20 friends from Interfaith Manor. And thanks to the Loyal Workers for the down payment of \$3,200 to start the construction of our new outdoor church sign.

Thank you to Dick Lasher, Don Brubaker and Barry Smith who work the soundboard on Sunday mornings.

Thank you to Sue Lasher and the usher and scripture readers who serve on Sunday mornings.

Thank you to Helen Lutz for her wonderful talent and gift of playing the organ Sunday mornings.

Thank you to Audrey Scipioni for accompanying the Sunbeam choir and being the organist on the third and fifth Sunday of the month.

Thank you to Bethany Finney for her dedication as director of the Sunbeam Choir.

Thank you to Barry Smith for his dedication for all the work in creating the website and for uploading the Sunday services for anyone to listen. This has been a wonderful blessing for those who are unable to come to church.

Thank you to Selma Patrick for coordinating Church Camping Sunday.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Thank you to the adult Sunday discussion leaders and those who have so graciously agreed to help out in a time of need. Due to work schedules and out of the country travel, we are looking for volunteers to help cover this need for a discussion leader approximately once a month. If you feel God is leading you to fill this need, please contact Steve Scipioni or join us Sunday morning for the discussion class in the fellowship room at 9:15.

# BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

April 4, 2014 9:00-11:00 AM

Bethany United Methodist Church  
20 East Cherry Street, Palmyra, PA 17078

Come have free breakfast and your picture taken with the Easter Bunny.

Donations benefit the children's summer lunch program at  
the Caring Cupboard.

