

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Sunday February 5 is Souper Sunday! 10:00 worship will feature the King's Strings. Please bring in containers of soup to stock the Caring Cupboard pantry. Following worship we will enjoy a souper lunch in the social hall.

Sunday February 12 has us considering "How to Make Love Last" from John 13:34-35. This is the last Sunday to bring in boxes in support of the Caring Cupboard.

Sunday February 19 brings us the blessing of our Sunbeam Choir. Pastor Lynch will speak from Mark 10:42-45 and Ephesians 5:21-25, "Love's Price Tag."

Sunday February 26 has us enjoying a Same Day Choir of men and women. Pastor Lynch will preach on John 1:35-42, "We Can't Help It!"

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

February 14 is Valentine's Day. It is a great opportunity to express our love for God and for one another. Here is one of my favorite love stories.

There were once two brothers who farmed together. They shared equally in all the work and split the profits. Each had his own granary. One of the brothers was married and had a large family; the other brother was single.

One day the single brother thought to himself, "It is not fair that we divide the grain evenly. My brother has many mouths to feed, while I have but one. I know what I'll do, I will take a sack of grain from my granary each evening and put it in my brother's granary." So, each night when it was dark, he carefully carried a sack of grain, placing it in his brother's barn.

Now the married brother thought to himself, "It is not fair that we divide the grain evenly. I have many children to care for me in my old age, and my brother has none. I know what I'll do, I will take a sack of grain from my granary each evening and put it in my brother's granary." And he did.

Each morning the two brothers were amazed to discover that though they had removed a sack of grain the night before, they had just as many.

One night the two brothers met each other halfway between their barns, each carrying a sack of grain. Then they understood the mystery. And they embraced, and loved each other deeply.

And God looked down from heaven, saw the two brothers embracing, and said, "I declare this to be a holy place, for I have witnessed extraordinary love here." And it is said that it was on that spot that Solomon built the first temple. Now that's something to think about!

~Pastor John

THANK YOU

Dear Bethany family, I thank you so much for your generous Christmas gift. It was much appreciated. It is a blessing to be part of Bethany worship services, and to play for the Sunbeam Choir. May God continue to bless Bethany. Love, Audrey Scipioni

BETHANY PEOPLE

Congratulations to Samantha Patrick upon being accepted as a student at Lebanon Valley College for the Fall Semester...Our prayers go out for Roberta Brough upon the passing on of her husband Lew. A memorial service was held on Saturday January 21. We praise the Lord that dear Vicki Smith has completed her chemotherapy treatments.

We welcome John and Lisa Harmon into our fellowship on Sunday January 29. The Harmon's live at 180 Forest Circle, Palmyra, and they join by transfer from Grace United Methodist, Hummelstown. John is a retired constable and drives bus for the Palmyra School District. Lisa works at the Penn State College of Medicine.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**Acolyte:**

Shay Funck

Greeters/Ushers:

Tom Gussler, Seth Schell, Richard Funck, Dave Brandt

Scripture Readers:

FEBRUARY 5: Souper Sunday
 FEBRUARY 12: Barry Smith
 FEBRUARY 19: Casey Funck
 FEBRUARY 26: Ed Kaylor
 26: Don Bru-

Sound System Operators:

FEBRUARY 5: Don Brubaker
 FEBRUARY 12: Dick Lasher
 FEBRUARY 19: Barry Smith

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY
 baker

2 - David Minnich

19 - Carolyn Blantz

4 - Larry Strait

20 - Cindy Patrick

14 - Rachel Beam

21 - Pamela Patrick

14 - Summer Schell

24 - Nathan Bloch

16 - Jacob Beam

29 - Donald Brubaker

PASTOR'S PUN

February 10 is President's Day. I was wondering...what do you

MEMORIAL FUND RAISER

The Middle/High School Sunday School class will be trying to raise \$500.00 to have the memorial in front of our church for S/Sgt. Curtis Frantz restored. It need to be professionally cleaned and some of the lettering has come off and will need to be restored. The Sunday school class has been challenged to raise some of the money on their own by doing chores, taking on small jobs etc. Please keep us in your prayers as we learn about self-sacrifice while raising this money.

We will also be doing a few fund raising events. The first of which will be a bake sale on Sunday February 12th after church. We will be selling some sweet treats just in time for Valentine's day that week. Please mark your calendars and bring your sweet tooth to church that Sunday.

~ Karen Finney

THE BOAT IN THE WINDOW

A young boy spent many hours building a little sailboat, crafting it down to the finest detail. He then took it to a nearby river to sail it. When he put it in the water, however, it moved away from him very quickly. Though he chased it along the bank, he couldn't keep up with it. The strong wind and current carried the boat away. The heartbroken boy knew how hard he would have to work to build another sailboat.

Farther down the river a man found the little boat, took it to town, and sold it to a shopkeeper. Later that day, as the boy was walking through town, he noticed the boat in a store window.

Entering the store, he told the owner that the boat belonged to him. It had his own little marks on it, but he couldn't prove to the shopkeeper that the boat was his. The man told him the only way he could get the boat was to buy it. The boy wanted it back so badly that he did exactly that.

As he took the boat from the hand of the shopkeeper, he looked at it and said, "Little boat, you're twice mine. I made you and I bought you."

In the same way, we are twice God's. Our Father in heaven both created us and paid a great price for us. (See Colossians 1:16 and Romans 5:8.) With the blood of His Son, we have been redeemed and reunited with