

# *The Visitor*

## *November 2017*

The Newsletter for Bethany Lutheran Church  
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Bethel Park, PA 15102  
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**WORSHIP SERVICE EACH SUNDAY WITH HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE AT 11:15 A.M.**

### **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER AT BETHANY**

(Look inside The Visitor for more information on each event)

#### **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

#### **FALL FESTIVAL – CELEBRATION OF THE 500<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF REFORMATION AND ALL SAINTS PAST & PRESENT**

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.



#### **FLU SHOT CLINIC**

Has been rescheduled for Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 to 1:15 P.M.

#### **WORSHIP/MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.

#### **BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN'S GROUP**

Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 A.M.

#### **PARISH EDUCATION MEETING**

To Be Determined

#### **CHOIR PRACTICE!**

Every Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

#### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

#### **THANKOFFERING SERVICE**

Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 A.M. Worship Service

#### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> immediately following Worship Services  
The purpose of this meeting is for the election of Congregational Council for 2018

#### **CARE AND SHARE MEETING**

Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 A.M.

#### **COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

#### **ALTAR GUILD – POINSETTIA PLANTS**

*Look for further information in the Sunday Bulletins.*

#### **BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN'S GROUP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon

#### **BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN'S GROUP RAFFLE**

A Pittsburgh Penguins Quilt to be raffled off at BLCW's Christmas Luncheon!

## November 2017

**“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”**

Colossians 3:15-17

I have a lot to be thankful for this year. I completed my second year of seminary classes. I received a positive Endorsement decision from the Candidacy Committee of our synod. On October 13<sup>th</sup>, I gained a new daughter-in-law. It was a beautiful wedding, beginning with a church ceremony where family and friends gathered to celebrate Bryant and Michele in the presence of God, and ending with a celebration where there was much food and fellowship. Now, Bryant and Michele have a big decision to make - whose house will they visit on Thanksgiving Day? Isn't that a good problem to have?

Thanksgiving has always been one of my favorite holidays. It has always been a day when family gathered together around the dinner table and celebrated the many blessings in our lives. I have been extremely fortunate in that most of my Thanksgiving days have been joyous.

With all that I have to be thankful for, I can't help but think about many, many people for whom this Thanksgiving will be a difficult one. Some are rebuilding or relocating because natural disasters have tragically caused disruptions in their lives. Some are grieving the loss of a loved one, wondering how they can be thankful in the midst of great sorrow. As we gather around our dinner tables, there are those who are trying to survive hunger and homelessness.

I love the quote above from Colossians. It is a reminder to give thanks in all circumstances. It is a reminder to not only give thanks, but to live out our thanksgiving. When Bryant was in training for the Army National Guard, he was away from home on Thanksgiving Day. A local family invited him to their home for Thanksgiving Dinner. They were living in thanks. I was grateful that someone was that generous.

The congregations of PLUM are living in thanks. There will be a free Thanksgiving dinner again this year at Bethany Lutheran Church in Dormont, where hundreds will receive the gift of food and fellowship. Many little bottoms have been diapered by the diaper banks at several of our churches. Each of our congregations lives in thanks when we serve the communities where we are located, and when we help each other with an event or a project.

It is great to have a day set aside for giving thanks, but that day has become an ordinary day for many. Some will have to work that day. Some, because of the circumstances of their life, will not be gathering with family around a dinner table. This is where our living in thanks and serving our neighbor can be demonstrated. If you go into a business on Thanksgiving Day, remember to thank the employees for being there. As you do your holiday shopping, buy a few extra non-perishable food items for the local food bank. Pick up some diapers or supplies for the diaper bank. Is there room at your dinner table for one or two more, someone who does not have friends or family near?

Just like Thanksgiving Day may be just another day for many, every day can be Thanksgiving Day for us.

May God Bless You All

Seminarian, Sue Devine

**THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH**

**Greeters:**

<b>11:15 A.M.</b>	Sandy Burns
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**WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAYS – SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Communion Asst. 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Reader 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Acolyte 11:15 AM</b>
<b>11/5</b>	Sydney Litzenburger	Deborah Wanamaker	Jason Turske & Jeremy Blocklin
<b>11/12</b>	Michael Unger	Nena Kratsas	Hunter Wigand & Giovanna Wigand
<b>Thankoffering Sunday 11/19</b>	Jane Scheeser	Dawn Hanna	Giovanna Wigand
<b>11/26</b>	Cathy Irwin	Mark Kuehl	Nick Usouski

**FLOWERS AND ETERNAL CANDLE**

<b>11/5</b>	OPEN
<b>11/12</b>	OPEN
<b>11/19</b>	The Kuehl Family – In Loving Memory of Zoe
<b>11/26</b>	
<b>Eternal Candle</b>	The Kuehl Family – In Loving Memory of Zoe

You may either take the flowers with you after the service, or if you prefer, you may leave them on the altar. Cost of **flowers** is \*\$60 (\$30/arrangement) per Sunday. Cost of the **eternal candle** is \$20 per month.



**FLOWERS AND ETERNAL CANDLE**

**There are several dates still available for flowers and the Eternal Candle.  
Please check the Flower Chart in the Narthex.**

**USHERS' SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER**

**Don McIntyre, Mark Kuehl, Dan Volpatti**

**OFFERING COUNTERS' SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER**

The Offering Counters for the month of November are Nick Kratsas and Chuck Conn.



**PRAYER CHAIN**

Anyone wishing to be on the Bethany Prayer Chain, please contact Cathy Irwin by email at [cirwin77@hotmail.com](mailto:cirwin77@hotmail.com), or Terry Simony in the Bethany Church Office by phone: 412-835-9221.



**NEWSLETTER**

If you have information that you would like to appear in the newsletter, **please** either e-mail the information to Terry Simony at [admin@blcbp.org](mailto:admin@blcbp.org), or drop it off at the church

**NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> BY 10:00 A.M.**, for the **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER**.



**Congregation Meeting** - A meeting of the Voting Membership of Bethany Lutheran Church will be held immediately following the 11:15 AM worship service on Sunday, November 19, 2017. One item has been placed on the agenda by the Congregation Council for discussion and vote:

1. The election of five (5) members to the Congregation Council (Term: 2018 – 2019). Per the Bethany Constitution Section C13.02.02:

d. The list of candidates shall be submitted for publication in the various media of this congregation and shall be delivered by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law, to all voting members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which elections will take place.

e. Following publication of the Nominating Committee's list, any voting member of this congregation may submit additional names to the Committee for inclusion on the list by letter or electronic means, as permitted by state law. These names shall be placed in nomination by the Committee along with the candidates already chosen, provided:

1. that such names have been submitted at least 14 days prior to the election, and

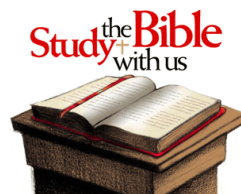
2. that the Nominating Committee shall have investigated the status of the proposed candidates and found them eligible for office and willing to serve. No qualified candidate may be omitted.

f. The Nominating Committee, at least one week prior to the election, shall post conspicuously on the church bulletin board the list of candidates for office.

g. Nominations shall not be taken from the floor during the meeting of the election.

Reminder: A “voting member” is a confirmed member who has *communed in this congregation and made a contribution of record to this congregation* during the current year (2017) or the previous year (2016). *All voting members of the congregation are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting.* As members of Christ’s Body, the Church, it is not only our *obligation* but our *privilege* to make our voices heard as we prayerfully discern our Lord’s plans for the ministry which will be conducted in His name at Bethany. Please plan now to attend this important meeting.

## PARISH EDUCATION



**BETHANY ADULTS: WE’VE BEEN MISSING YOU!**

**Sunday School isn’t just for kids anymore. In fact, it never was!**

This little reminder is to encourage the men and women of Bethany, regardless if age, to join the adult class which meets **every Sunday at 9:45 a.m.** in the old church sanctuary. Just follow the aroma of perking coffee. (Sometimes there’s even a little something to go with it). LaMonte Yarroll leads this class, but members have always had a say in what we study.

This class has no tests, and everyone is encouraged to express opinions about our lessons.

If you’re the quiet type, that’s fine, too. We’d still love to have you with us.

Our Bibles are always close by during class, but this is much more than a just a Bible study group.

We’re currently going through ”by heart, “ a video and book on Luther’s “Small Catechism.”

**Please...come join us and see what we’re talking about!**



## NURSERY NEWS

**The Children’s Nursery is Available During the 11:15 A.M. Worship. The nursery will open at 11:00 A.M. each Sunday. Bethany’s Nursery is not staffed but available for children ages 6 and under.**

**We ask that you please accompany and supervise your little ones in the nursery.**

Parents can feel free to take their children to the nursery immediately following the children’s sermon.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



### FLU SHOT CLINIC (Rescheduled)

Stay healthy this flu season – Rite Aid will be at Bethany Lutheran Church on **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 P.M. to 1:15 P.M.** to administer flu shots. They take all insurances including Medicaid.

Please be sure to bring your insurance card.

**Invite a friend!**

**Come on.....Let's get healthy together!**



### ALTAR GUILD POINSETTIA PLANTS

*Look for further information in the Sunday Bulletins!*

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



### LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Choir practice will meet each Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

Please join us!!!



### FALL FESTIVAL CELEBRATION OF THE 500<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF REFORMATION AND ALL SAINTS PAST AND PRESENT

This event will be an advance ticket only event that includes a "German food" catered dinner and entertainment on **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. (Daylight Savings Begins)**

German beer and wine will be available to enjoy with your dinner for an additional cost (for those 21 and older). We are planning to have a "LutherUber" available to those that may need a ride to the event and back home.

**There is also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for requested donations.**

**There will be a cash bar for beer and wine sales.**

**All profits will benefit Lutheran World Relief – Hurricane victims.**



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### WOMEN OF THE BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon**

Anne's Chop House at 2783 South Park Road, Bethel Park

Phone: 412-854-2667

**Reservations: Please submit yours, along with prepayment by cash or check to Sandy Lutz or Grenith Fisher before December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

If you are interested in participating in the optional gift exchange, please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift.

If you are bringing a small child, please bring a small gift for him or her to open.

*Look for more information in the coming weeks!*

The women of Bethany work hard all year. This special occasion is our chance to relax and enjoy a good meal, and a good time together. We welcome you, and friends or family members as well, to join us as we take this time to enjoy each other's company.

We'll miss you if you aren't there!



**ANNUAL BLCW QUILT RAFFLE**  
**The subject of this year's quilt?**  
**The amazing Pittsburgh Penguins!**



The quilt is on display in the narthex at which time you can purchase your raffle ticket before and after the Worship Service.

**Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.**

Ticket sales supply much of the money which the Bethany Lutheran Church Women's Group uses to support various charities which solicit our help during the year. Many, like SHIM, the food pantry and Washington City Mission are well known to all.

Other recipients are chosen according to need.

We also share some funds with Bethany itself, as the need arises.

**We are a small group, but with your help, we can do great things!**

**The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the Women's Christmas lunch in December.**

**Thank you for your support!**



**CELEBRATE THE 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION  
 WITH MARTIN LUTHER**

Take Martin Luther on your travels and see how far we can spread the word of God's love!

Take a paper Martin Luther cutout with you as you travel our city, our state, our country, and our world.

Bring back news of your trip so we can mark on the map just how far Martin has gone.

Photo evidence is encouraged but not necessary.

**CELEBRATIONS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION IN NOVEMBER**



***Happy Birthday to the following individuals:***

1-November Leigh Brooks	8-November Giovanna Wigand	22-November Stephanie Corbett
2-November Rachel Unger	15-November Sheree Kuehl	24-November William Van Kirk
4-November Shelley Cardimen	18-November Rachel Wanamaker	27-November Skyler Yarroll
5-November Sandy Simpson	21-November Sydney Litzenburger	
7-November Joe Bianco	21-November Nicolina Sicchitano	



***Happy Anniversary to the following couples:***

3-November Carolyn & Randy Krakoff	19-November Diane & Buzz Handshue
5-November Janice & Keith Currie	27-November Betty & Matt McKee

**IN OBSERVANCE OF THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
 NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> AND NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>**



*Happy Thanksgiving*