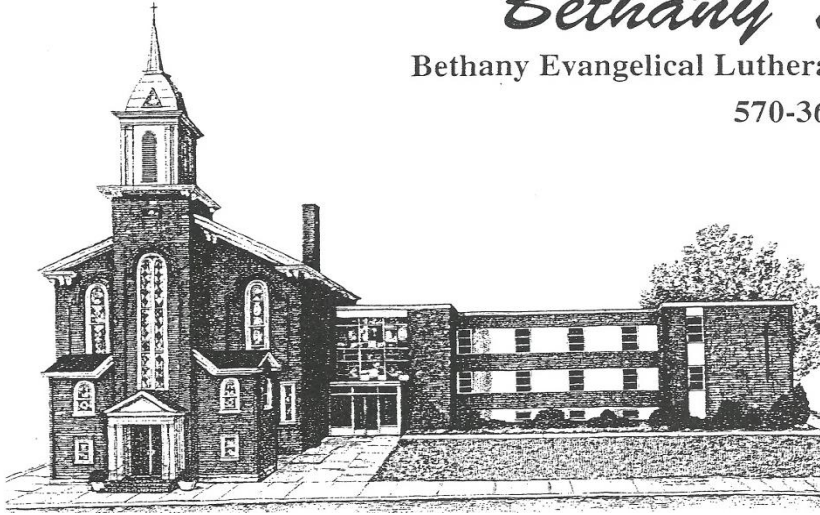


Bethany Messenger

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Montoursville, PA

570-368-8933



Mrs. Laura D. Schreckengast
Church Secretary

Mrs. Mary Paulhamus
Director of Church Music

Mrs. Deborah A. Harman
Sexton

VOLUME 73

May 2021

NUMBER 5

✘ ✘ ✘

SUNDAY, MAY 23rd is PENTECOST

Martin Luther: Thou sweet love, give us thy favor.

Let us feel the fire of love:

That we from our hearts love one another,

Of one mind in peace remain together.

Kyrieleis. (a German form of "Lord have mercy")

Geraniums have been ordered for Pentecost Sunday; the geraniums will be planted in our gardens in front of our church. They will provide a beautiful reminder of the light of the Holy Spirit throughout the summer, and be an inviting stop for those living and visiting in the neighborhood.

We have ordered 25 and are asking for sponsors to cover the cost to purchase these 25 plants. The cost will be \$8.50 each (yes, sadly the local florists are having to pass on price increases in plants and flowers due to production, shipping, and availability issues).

Please contact the office if you are able to sponsor one or more of these red geraniums. We would really appreciate having them paid for by Monday, May 10th.

Thank you so much for helping. The church will look beautiful all summer long!

CHURCH COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Here are some the highlights from the March 8th meeting:

-- Received and accepted reports from these committees:
Finance; Mission; Worship and Music

-- Refrigerator in the kitchen needs replaced. The Property Committee was authorized to purchase a new one using money from "Memorial Funds" (this was successfully completed on March 24th).

-- Opportunity for the congregation to hear testimony from Pastor Eddy Perez, Miami, Florida (formerly of Cuba) was approved. (He did share moving testimony with us the evening of Saturday, March 20th, and then worshiped with the congregation the next morning).

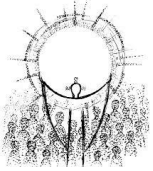
**The Church Council also met on April 12th, 2021.*

Minutes were not received by time of printing – they will be included in the June Newsletter.

Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, May 10th at 7:15 pm.



THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT



A member of our congregation recently entered the Church Triumphant (Eternal Life):
Paul S. Seaman passed on March 18th, 2021
Prayers for comfort and consolation for Paul's family and friends.

❖❖ ❖❖❖❖❖❖ ❖❖

RECONCILIATION OF BETHANY CHURCH FINANCES

Income: Received through March 31, 2021	(13 Sundays)	\$ 42, 428.53
Expenses: " " "		<u>\$ 44, 346.89</u>
	Current Balance	\$ - 1,918.36
 Income Received through March 31, 2020	 (13 Sundays)	 \$ 43, 172. 81
Expenses: " " "		<u>\$ 54, 844.62</u>
	2020 Balance	\$ - 11,671.81

MAY and JUNE happenings

- Healing Service - Sunday, May 2, 11:45 am.
- Church Council - Monday, May 10, 7:15 pm.
- National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 6
- Mother's Day - Sunday, May 9
- Armed Forces Day - Saturday, May 15
- Mission Committee - Monday, May 17, 7:15 pm.
- Deadline - Newsletter items - Tuesday, May 18, 4:00 pm.
- Property Committee - Tuesday, May 18, 7:00 pm.
- Newsletter Team - Monday, May 24, 9:00 am.
- Memorial Day - Monday, May 31 (office closed)
- Women of Bethany - Monday, June 7, 1:00 pm.
- Church Council - Monday, June 12, 7:15 pm. *Flag Day*
- Bloodmobile - Friday, June 18, 1:00-6:00 pm.
- Father's Day - Sunday, June 20
- Deadline - Newsletter items - Tuesday, June 22, 4:00 pm.
- Newsletter Team - Monday, June 28, 9:00 am.
- Christian Ed Committee - Monday, June 28, 7:00 pm.

-
- *Weekly: Quilters - Tuesdays at 9 am.
 - *Bi-Weekly+: Bible Study - 2nd, 4th (& 5th) Tuesdays at 7 pm.

KSAVE the DATE: Church Picnic - Sunday, August 22 at 4:00 pm.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

<u>CONTACTING THE CHURCH OFFICE:</u>	9:00 am. to 4:30 pm., Monday through Thursday (570)368-8933 email: secyBethanyNALC@gmail.com
<u>IN AN EMERGENCY:</u> (call the office)	
<u>BETHANY'S WEB SITE:</u>	www.BethanyNALC.org
<u>BETHANY'S FACEBOOK PAGE:</u>	www.facebook.com/BethanyNALC.org

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP

For those who are unable to attend Sunday worship and do not have access to a computer or the internet, there are MP3 players (the modern equivalent of the tape recorder!) available to borrow. Each week the audio of the Sunday service is recorded onto them, then devices can be picked up at the church or they can be delivered to you. *Contact the office if interested.*

HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone you know is hospitalized (or will be), please notify the Church Office. Depending on the pandemic situation, we may be able to have some clergy coverage for our members' needs.



✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

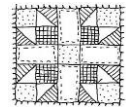


Equipment is always available to borrow during recovering from surgery and for those who may be experiencing difficulties. We have walkers, canes, equipment for the bathtub and commode are all available. Please let us know if you have any needs.

QUILTING NEWS:

They also want to extend their invitation for *YOU* to consider joining them...

"Please feel free to join us even if you don't feel you can "quilt" as there are other things to do, such as tying them or laying out squares. Also, if you knit, crochet, or anything else and would like to have a place to do your craft with the fellowship of others and space to safely spread out, consider joining us when you feel comfortable doing so.



***We are currently meeting on Tuesdays at 9:00 am., you may contact Barb Winchester or Jean Wentz for more information. Thank you for your support!"

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

BLOODMOBILE NEWS



The next Bloodmobile scheduled at Bethany is Friday, June 18, 2021 from 1:00 – 6:00 pm.

You may go to redcrossblood.org to pre-register for this or any of the other drives in our area.

Please contact Denise Bergenstock at (570) 323-2984 if you are able to assist with this event.

Your simple act can SAVE A LIFE - Please Give Blood if you are able

Upcoming Bloodmobiles at Bethany: Friday, June 18th from 1:00 – 6:00 pm.

Friday, September 10th from 1:00 – 6:00 pm.

Friday, November 12th from 1:00 – 6:00 pm.

ALTAR FLOWER OPEN DATES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

Please contact the office if you are interested in filling any of these upcoming dates:

May 9th, August 22nd, September 12th, October 24th



NEED A COAT, TAKE ONE; HAVE A COAT, LEAVE ONE

As spring has now "sprung" (!!!) we are always grateful for additions to our supply. We accept children's and adult's sizes, and have a bin for hats, mittens, scarves, and gloves. If you know anyone in need of a coat or jacket, please remind them of our supply. It is a beautiful way of sharing care, by keeping others warm and dry.

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

☞ NOTES of GRATITUDE ☞

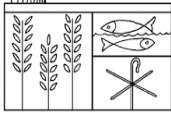
☞ Thank You to Pastor Scheck for sharing Home Communion with me - I greatly appreciated it!
- Vonnie Hawley

PROJECT LINUS & SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS

We are still sharing our knitting, crocheting, and quilting gifts with others by making blankets of all sizes (baby, children, adult) for those with cancer or going through traumatic experiences at hospitals. You may bring these items to the Church Office. We are still collecting winter hats, gloves, and scarves to share with the Shepherd of the streets.



YOU give them something to eat. Mt 14:16



UNITED CHURCHES FOOD PANTRY - UPDATE:

From the newest United Churches' News, the Food Pantry coordinator, Mona Rundio shares this:

"The following is a list of the items of which we are most in need:

Canned meats/fruits/ veggies	Cereal/Oatmeal	Microwave meals/soups
Ramen Noodles	Juices and drinks	Healthy snacks
Spaghetti/sauce	Peanut butter/jelly	Ketchup/mustard/mayo

They are would be grateful for Easter meal products and monetary donations and donations of gift cards to distribute out to the families. *They are distributing what families need most right now, a reminder of the Love of Our Lord, Care from their Community, and the feeling of Respect that many don't always receive.*

You may drop off items at the church and they will be delivered to the pantry.

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS NEWS

Rev. Mark Brumbach, [(570)322-6538] the leader of this ministry, shares these thoughts in the newest United Churches' News:

"Many clients visit us each month to receive a hygiene kit. We believe that our kits help to free up limited financial resources so that they can be used to care for other needs."

Their current, immediate hygiene needs are as follows:

--Rolls of Paper Towels	--Men's and women's body wash
--Shampoo and conditioner	--Shaving Cream
--Baby needs: Diapers Size 4-6	--Bath Towels and Wash Cloths

They also are grateful for any financial support. Donated items can be brought to the church; financial donations can be put in the collection plate – please designate memo "Shepherd" or "Shepherd of the Streets"

BACKPACK BREAKFAST NEWS:

The Backpack Program continues! They are currently filling 125 backpacks for Montoursville children. Each participant receives a bag of food every Friday during the school year. They receive 2 entrees, 2 b-fast items, 1 veggie, 1 fruit, and 2 snack items, along with a special item on holidays. The program runs solely on donations from the churches (such as Bethany) that have made the commitment to participate. They continue to appreciate:



Oatmeal (1-2 oz. packets); Cream of Wheat (1-2 oz. packets); Boxed Cereal (Individual, 1.5-2 oz); Multigrain Bars; Breakfast Bars; Pop Tarts; Belvita Breakfast Biscuits (1.76 oz.); Cereal Bars (individually packaged). *Thank You for your donations – they are a blessing to all the families participating.*

DIAL A DEVOTION (570)322-5762

Devotions are three minutes or less, change daily, and are designed to lift your spirits and help you to have "A Closer Walk With God" even when many of us are practicing social distancing!

The devotionalists coming up are:

4/19 – 4/25:	Rev. Ken Wagner-Pizza	5/10 – 5/16:	Ms. Sandy Grier
4/26 – 5/2:	Ms. Rebecca Logan	5/17 – 5/23:	Pastor Tammy Aichner
5/3 – 5/9:	Pastors Jim and Kathy Behrens	5/24 – 5/30:	Ms. Pat Jenkins

HELP FOR OUR HOSPITALS

Many thanks to those who brought snack items and shared uplifting messages for the hospital workers over the past few months. Happily, there is no longer a great need to be collecting these items, but Prayers for these patients and their caretakers are still greatly appreciated. Thank You for your continued caring!



♥ During this time when □ folks may feel isolated and lonely, consider making a phone call or writing quick note or card someone you've had on your heart - it can truly make a difference ♥

REMEMBERING OUR SENIORS AT HOME

Herbert Bright

628 Broad St.
Montoursville, PA 17754



Jean Fox

2123 Robinson Rd.
Apt. 141
Jackson MI, 49203

Virginia Laudig

1119 Broad St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Betty Rosencrans

885 King St.
Northumberland, PA 17857

Eleanor Shaheen

515 Rt. 405
Hughesville, PA 17737

Marjorie Gower

Elmcroft of Loyalsock
2985 Four Mile Dr.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Sandra Long

Muncy Skilled Nursing
215 E Water St.
Muncy, PA 17756

Richard (Fred) Shultz

1275 Broad St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Julie Griffiths

Thornwald Home
442 Walnut Bottom Rd
Carlisle, PA, 17013-3799

Thomas Long

163 Charles Dr.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Darla Starr

Valley View Nursing Center
2140 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Joan Hanner

350 Jordan Ave.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Eleanor Mellish

1246 Deerfield Dr.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Joan Swartz

500 Pelham Dr.
Waynesboro VA, 22980

Joan Heckrote

936 Cherry St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Francis Poeth

Williamsport Home
Rm. 513
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Cella Taylor

Embassy of Loyalsock
1445 Sycamore Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Joan Hiller

The Meadows, Room 312
2160 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Paul Wertman

275 West Lincoln St.,
Muncy, PA 17756

PASTOR DAVID AND BETTY'S PHONE NUMBER

Pastor David and Betty Letscher are still in the area – their phone number is (call the office if needed)

PLEASE contact the office if we need to add anyone to this list
AND if you know of ANY address changes

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

Our Newsletter "Team" will meet on Monday, May 24th at 9:00 am. If you would like to submit an item to be included, please call (570)368-8933, drop off submission at the office, or send to secyBethanyNALC@gmail.com . **Deadline: Tuesday, May 18th at 4 pm.**

Service Assistants

May – June 2021

9:00 am. Service



Please help us by trading with someone and calling the church office if for any reason you are unable to serve at (570)368-8933. **If you are unable to find a substitute, please also call the office so we can assist.** Thank You.

ALTAR COMMITTEE

May: June Grube & **ANOTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
June: Arlene Klepper & Yvonne Sechler

COMMUNION COMMITTEE

May: Jamie Brouse & **ANOTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
June: Arlene Klepper & **ANOTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

GREETING CARDS May: Ruth Lundy June: Jean Wentz

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

May 2: Kim Fremberg Barbara Winchester
May 9: Michael Brouse Wes Miller
May 16: Mike Stover Gail Stover
May 23: Larry Barnard Tracy Rhian
May 30: Gary Inch Yvonne Sechler
June 6: Tim Logan Karen Paulhamus
June 13: Wes Miller Barbara Winchester
June 20: Tracy Rhian Yvonne Sechler
June 27: Mike Stover Gail Stover
July 4: Michael Brouse Yvonne Sechler

LAY READERS

May 2: Kim Fremberg
May 9: Michael Brouse
May 16: Mike Stover
May 23: Larry Barnard
May 30: Gary Inch
June 6: Dave Neidig
June 13: Ruth Lundy
June 20: Kim Fremberg
June 27: Mike Stover
July 4: Michael Brouse

LOCK-UP

May 2: Denice Palmeter
May 9: Thomas Gower
May 16: David Grube
May 23: Charles Lichter
May 30: Philip Oechler
June 6: Denice Palmeter
June 13: Thomas Gower
June 20: David Grube
June 27: Charles Lichter
July 4: Philip Oechler

USHERS

May 2: Jay Stabley; Tracy Rhian; Joshua Rhian; Thomas Gower
May 9: Richard Hillegas; Michael Brouse; Eugene Harris
May 16: Philip Oechler; Gary Oechler; Jesse Cooper; Jay Stabley
May 23: James Sechler; Gary Inch; Ray Bomboy
May 30: Michael & Gail Stover; Glenn Kaufman; Ray Bomboy
June 6: Louis Bassler; James Foose; Ryan Kane; Ray Bomboy
June 13: Deb Harman; Fred Paulhamus; Beverly Brown; Michael Brouse
June 20: Richard Hillegas; Michael Brouse; Eugene Harris
June 27: Philip Oechler; Gary Oechler; Jesse Cooper; Jay Stabley
July 4: Jay Stabley; Tracy Rhian; Joshua Rhian; Thomas Gower

-----□□□□ Updated 4/25/20 -----□

**PLEASE: Contact the office if your status regarding attending services changes.
Your Help is Greatly Needed. Thank You.**