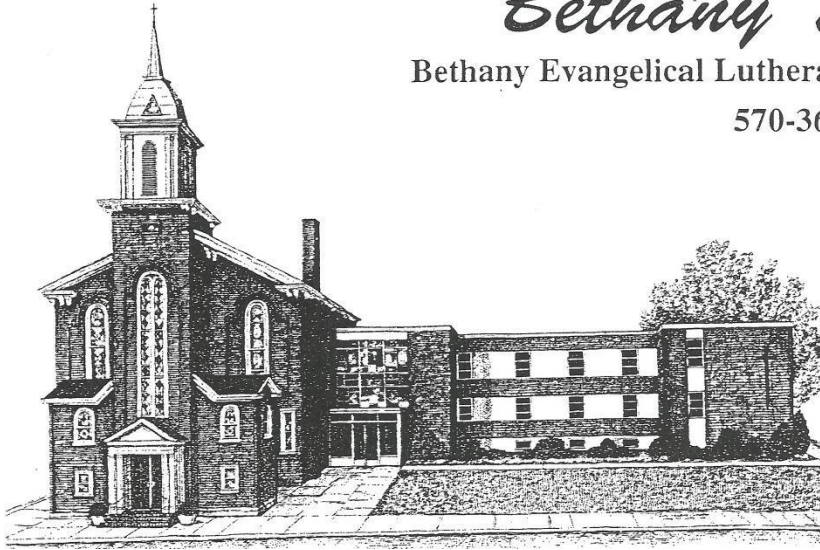


# Bethany Messenger

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*

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NUMBER 10

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## ***We wish Betty and Pastor Farewell and Godspeed!***

*You have served the Lord and our Church with gladness – tirelessly, faithfully, and with great compassion for your flock over the last eight years.*

*You have planted seeds of hope and love in our lives and truly made a difference.*

*You have been a friend and role model to us, given encouragement and support when we needed it.*

*With a mixture of sadness for our loss, and excitement for your new chapter of retirement, family, and new adventures, we ask that the Lord's blessings be upon you both as He inspires you everyday.*

***May He Grant You Both Great Joy and Peace!***

***With Love and Appreciation from Your Church Family at Bethany***

On Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, Pastor David preached his final sermon and shared his musical gifts for the last time. We will miss Pastor and Betty immensely, but we rejoice for them knowing that they are getting the opportunity to experience a new stage in life (one which is unquestionably well-earned)! We have all been affected by their connection with us and with our church. There is naturally a time of grieving, but while we take the time needed to do so, we also must focus on the future, the continuation of this congregation (here since 1830!) and what we are to do to serve the Lord.

The church has truly powerful Mission Statement:

**"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."**

*Matthew 28:19-20a ESV*

Keeping our service to the Lord as our focus, with each and every one of us, we can patiently, prayerfully, joyfully, and courageously move this congregation in *OUR* next chapter as well!

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**CONTACTING THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

9:00 am. to 4:30 pm., Monday through Thursday

(570)368-8933 email: [secyBethanyNALC@gmail.com](mailto:secyBethanyNALC@gmail.com)

**IN AN EMERGENCY:** Laura Schreckengast (570)772-4752 cell phone (call or text)  
Larry/Sharon Barnard (570)435-5408  
Gail Stover - Prayer Chain (570)971-5710 /

[stover1104@gmail.com](mailto:stover1104@gmail.com)

**BETHANY'S WEB SITE:**

[www.BethanyNALC.org](http://www.BethanyNALC.org)

**BETHANY'S FACEBOOK PAGE:** [www.facebook.com/BethanyNALC.org](http://www.facebook.com/BethanyNALC.org)

-2-



## NEWS

### **The 2020 ANNUAL ATLANTIC MISSION REGION CONVOCATION**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup>** now titled: **Where Restoration Begins** It's focus is changed based on the fact everything will be held remotely, and that there needs to be an immediate focus on healing the divisions between people, especially based on racial divisions. It will be held by teleconference, and will run from 9:00 am. until noon that day.

The original theme focusing on worship will be postponed until 2021.

*For more information (and for informative and inspiring articles) go you can go to:  
[www.theNALC.org](http://www.theNALC.org) to read more!*

### **CHURCH COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

The Church Council met on September 14<sup>th</sup>



- Received and accepted reports from these committees:  
Finance, Mission, Worship and Music, and the Pastor's Report. --
- Compiled a list of names for a Call Committee to be voted on at the annual  
Congregational Meeting.
- Completed the first reading of the 2021 Mission Plan.

*Their next meeting will be held on Monday, October 12 at 7:15 pm.*

### **RECONCILIATION OF BETHANY CHURCH FINANCES**

Income Received through August 31, 2020	(35 Sundays)	\$ 135,411.20
Expenses through August 31, 2020		<u>\$ 142,232.19</u>
Balance		\$ - 6,820.99
Income Received through August 31, 2019	(34 Sundays)	\$ 130,570.65
Income Received through August 31, 2019		<u>\$ 140,012.07</u>
Balance		\$ -9,441.42

### **OCTOBER & NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS**

- Life Chain** - Sunday, Oct. 4, 2:30 – 3:30 pm.
- Crop Walk** - Sunday, Oct. 11, 1:00 pm.
- Church Council** - Monday, Oct. 12, 7:15 pm.
- NALC Atlantic Mission Convention-** Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 am. - noon
- Mission Committee** - Monday, Oct. 19, 7:15 pm.
- Deadline - Newsletter items** - Tuesday, Oct. 20, 4:30 pm.
- Finance Committee** - Tuesday, Oct. 20, 7:00 pm.
- Staff Support Committee** - Tuesday, Oct. 20, 8:00 pm.
- Newsletter Team** - Monday, Oct. 26, 28, 9:00 am.

<b>Church Council</b>	- Monday, Nov. 9, 7:15 pm.
<b>Veteran's Day</b>	- Wednesday, Nov. 11
<b>Bloodmobile</b>	- Friday, Nov. 12, 1 - 6 pm.
<b>Mission Committee</b>	- Monday, Nov. 16, 7:15 pm.
<b>Property Committee</b>	- Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7:00 pm.
<b>Worship &amp; Music Committee</b>	- Monday, Nov. 23, 7:00 pm.
<b>Deadline - Newsletter items</b>	- Tuesday, Nov. 24, *Noon*
<b>Blessed Thanksgiving</b>	- Office Closed - Thursday, Nov. 26
<b>Newsletter Team</b>	- Monday, Nov. 30, 9:00 am.
<b>Weekly: Quilters</b>	- Tuesdays and at Thursdays 9 am.

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY RESUMES:**

The Tuesday Night Bible Study - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, (and 5<sup>th</sup>) Tuesdays of each month!  
 We gather at 7:00 pm. in Fellowship Hall for coffee, and then have class from 7:30 – 8:30 pm., followed by prayer. The study is open to ALL!  
 If interested, please contact Sharon Barnard at (570)435-5408.

-3-

**HOSPITAL VISITATION**

If you or someone you know is hospitalized (or will be), PLEASE notify the Church Office. With Pastor Letscher's retirement, we may have different pastors covering our members' needs, so please make sure to get information to our church office so that we are able to stay on top of the well-being of our members and friends. **Good Communication is always important, but will be vital and especially appreciated during these weeks/months of transition!**

**BLOODMOBILE NEWS**



A Bloodmobile will be held at our church on **Friday, November 13 from 1 – 6 pm.**  
 You are encouraged to register online or by phone: [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
 (800)733-2767, and if possible, do the pre-donation screening and health history online at [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass).

We were so grateful to be informed that the Blood Drive on September 12<sup>th</sup> netted a total of 27 pints, (including 21 whole pints and 3 doubles) which exceeded the goal of 25 pints! We also want to acknowledge all the time and effort that Betty Letscher has contributed over the years in making these drives run smoothly at Bethany; we appreciate all she has done!

The generosity of everyone who contributes their gifts of time, support, and/or blood truly makes a huge difference in saving lives!

**SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS NEWS**

The Rev. Mark Brumbach has begun to fill the shoes of Dr. Morris Smith, who has retired after 20 years of faithful service as the Shepherd of the Streets. Pastor Brumbach has served here in central PA for over 30 years as a Methodist minister (a Veteran of the Army and Air Force Chaplain Corps), continues to serve as Pastor of the South Williamsport United Methodist Church, and his wife teaches elementary general music in the South Williamsport S.D. (with our Laura Schreckengast).



As of Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, there was less than \$50 in the Shepherd checking account. The former Shepherd said that in his 20 years he has never seen such sparse financial support for the ministry. They are hoping to keep the ministry surviving and thriving; they are asking for faithful support during this crazy time.

**Please consider giving financial support or donating any of the following on this updated list:**

- |                                      |                            |                         |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Toothpaste and toothbrushes,         | shaving cream and razors,  | shampoo and conditioner |
| towels and wash cloths,              | soap, deodorant, and combs | bedding and blankets    |
| tissues, toilet paper, paper towels; | women's hygiene products   |                         |

baby items: diapers, Baby specific: shampoo, oil, Q-tips, wipes, powder; **pull ups (Sz 1-6, esp. 3-6);**

**ALSO:** Adult diapers (sz. Med., Large, X-Lg., especially Med)

*Donated items can be brought to the church; financial donations can be put in the collection plate – please designate “Shepherd” or “Shepherd of the Streets”*

### **BACKPACK BREAKFAST NEWS:**



The Backpack Program is Back in Business! They are planning on having 120 students from October to the end of year (this *may* change), and then they are hoping to resume having the “full supply of 150 students” beginning in January of 2021.

Please consider donating: 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).

*They are incredibly grateful for each and every donation!*

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### **LOOKING FORWARD - NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER**



If you would like something to be included in the next newsletter, we would love to make that happen! Please keep in mind that the deadline is Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm. You may reach us: (570)368-8933 [secyBethanyNALC@gmail.com](mailto:secyBethanyNALC@gmail.com) or drop off the article/submission at the office.

-4-



EXPERIENCE MISSIONS  
*Get Involved • Be Inspired*

### **BIBLE AND CHRISTIAN LITERATURE COLLECTION DRIVE**

# MISSIONS EXPO 2020

*A collaborative, multi-ministry experience to pack a variety of humanitarian and ministry aid – our biggest community-wide event ever!*

Missions Expo 2020 event will be held on October 21–24. We will run 3 sessions a day for the first 3 days and 2 sessions for the final day. General registration will begin in early October. This major event will be held at the First United Methodist Church 602 South Market Street Muncy, PA 17756 – one of our supporting churches. *Please check back frequently for periodic updates.*

Go to [experiencemissions.com](http://experiencemissions.com) for updated information!

We have been partnering with the ministry project, “Experience Missions”, serving as a local collection point for materials that will be distributed to people all over the world.

They are asking for:

Bibles (new and used, NT, Psalms/Proverbs, commentaries, concordances); Bibles on cassette (excellent condition); Christian books (hardback, paperback); Christian magazines (NO Guideposts); Devotionals and tracts; music CDs/DVDs (Christian Contemporary, gospel, hymns); Sunday School & VBS materials; Flannelgraph supplies (flannel storyboard items). *Donated items can be brought to our church.*

✘

### **UNITED CHURCH WOMEN – BEGINNING PREPERATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS!**

The Church Women United's annual Christmas Stockings to Nursing Homes campaign is always special – this year it may even be more so, as the challenges of the past year have affected those individuals in very significant ways. It is a reminder to our county's nursing home residents, over 1,125 residents, that God's love is always with them!



On the Sundays of October 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have special collection plates we are hoping to fill, to help contribute to the \$4 needed for each stocking. The CWU will purchase the items used to fill the stockings, and are able to do so in bulk for economy. Each stocking will then include a pen, notebook, hand cream, emery board, tissues, comb, and a Christmas card. The stockings will be filled on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The CWU will also be preparing 50 gift bags for children whose mothers are in the State Correctional Institute at Muncy.

*The items may be small, but the love and care that is shown to each recipient can be immense!*  
Will you please consider contributing to this effort on October 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>? Thank You!

## **SAMARITAN'S PURSE – OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**



A Mission Committee project again this year is to fill as many Christmas shoeboxes as possible for Operation Christmas Child. In this time of fear and uncertainty, now more than ever boys and girls need to know that God loves them and has not forgotten them. We feel it's a beautiful opportunity to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and make some little boy or girl - who in many cases never before received a gift of any kind - very happy!

Shoeboxes are available in the church office along with a brochure listing ideas of what is or is not appropriate to pack. Items should be new (or look new) but may be removed from their packages to facilitate packing. Handmade items are also welcome. With regard to Covid 19, as of now, there are no changes as to what can be included. If shopping is not your thing or you are not able to shop but could contribute funds, just leave your donation in the church office and the committee will be happy to do the shopping for you. Deadline for returning boxes to the church office is Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. If possible, include \$9 per box for postage. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse with a note on the memo line that it's for Operation Christmas Child.

*\*\*Last year we filled 22 boxes. Let's see if we can't do even better this year!\*\**

-5-

## **THE FOOD PANTRY CURRENTLY NEEDS:**

pasta sauce;	cereals, oatmeals;	canned vegetables;	juice mixes;
canned meats/Spam;	noodles, ramen;	coffee and teas;	pre-mixed sides;
and condiments.			

*updated September 25<sup>th</sup>*

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

## **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 tell a staff member if you have a need!

## **SEWING MACHINES AVAILABLE**

The Quilting Room has several old sewing machines, some in cabinets, all looking for good homes. They haven't been used for awhile, so will need some servicing. Contact Barb Winchester (570)244-6681.

## **BIBLES FOR PRISON**



Bibles for Prison are always needed. The Lycoming County Prison Chaplain reports that the number of inmates attending Bible study continues to grow, and requests for Bibles has increased. Donations to help buy Bibles would also be appreciated. Please mark your check "Bibles." Thank you.

## **YOKEFELLOW PRISON MINISTRY**

Yokefellow Prison Ministry is in need of volunteers. As more establishments are reopening, please consider how you could be a part of this ministry along with others? Contact the Yokefellow Office (570)326-6868 if you would like more information.

## **PROJECT LINUS – STILL MAKING BLANKETS**

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.

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

As the season is getting more brisk, our special donation coat rack in the foyer area by the Broad Street glass doors is going to be utilized more frequently. If you have a coat (or many!) for which you no longer need, please consider adding to our supply. We are accepting children's and adult's sizes; we also have a bin for hats, mittens, scarves, and gloves. We appreciate every donation, as there continues to be a great deal of turnover. 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 ❧**

### ***IN APPRECIATION:***

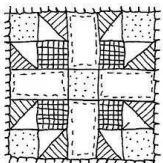
❧ *Thank You to Pastor Letscher for his visit and prayers, and the thoughtful cards for my brief hospitalization.*  
*Gail Stover*



❧ *Cookies, candy, altar flowers, visits from Pastor David and the Church Girls all make me Happy!*  
*Thanks for Everything,*  
*Roxy Lundy*

❧ *Many thanks to Virginia Laudig and Bob Laudig Jr. for the beautiful fall bouquet of altar flowers. They added much to the joy of celebrating our 53rd anniversary! An added bonus was a delightful visit with Laura Schreckengast who delivered them. Thanks, Laura!*  
*- June and Dave Grube*

## **QUILTING NEWS**



### **Latest update on the quilts sent to the Lutheran World Relief June 25<sup>th</sup>:**

In last month's newsletter, we shared the sad news that all of the quilts sent by our quilters and others sent to Lutheran World Relief were destroyed in the tragic explosion in Lebanon. We were overjoyed to then get the news that not all of the quilts were in the cargo containers that were destroyed – some were not part of that shipment and did indeed survive. These were to provide much needed relief to people in refugee camps to those fleeing Syria and Palestine's civil unrest. The blast claimed over 160 lives, injured over 5,000 and left an estimated 300,000 homeless or displaced.

Our quilters are again taking a large number of quilts to join others in October, and will be sent to help warm those who have lost so much.

If you would like to help: they can use any cotton sheets or fabric, as well as **more volunteers!**

For more information on this crisis from the blast in Beirut or other LWR projects go to [lwr.org](http://lwr.org).

For anyone interested in making any donation to this issue or other LWR needs can go to:

[lwr.org/beirut](http://lwr.org/beirut)

call 1(800)597-5972

or mail to: Lutheran World Relief

PO Box 17061

Baltimore MD 21297-1061

If you have any questions or want more information, please feel free to contact Barb Winchester

(570)546-7772

[barbinmuncy@yahoo.com](mailto:barbinmuncy@yahoo.com)

***MARK YOUR CALENDARS:***

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual local LIFE CHAIN NEXT SUNDAY- October 4**

On the Golden Strip in Loyalsock **2:30 – 3:30 pm.**

Contact Sharon Barnard at (570)435-5408 for more information

**Greater Lycoming CROP Walk - Sunday, October 11**

Begins at St. Mark's in Williamsport **1:00 pm.**

Contact United Churches at (570) 419-1464 or

[director@uclc.org](mailto:director@uclc.org) for more information

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**REMEMBERING OUR SENIORS AT HOME**

**Herbert Bright**

628 Broad St.

Montoursville, PA 17754

**Jean Fox** 2123

Robinson Rd.

Apt. 141

Jackson MI, 49203

**Marjorie Gower**

Elmcroft of Loyalsock 2985 Four Mile Dr.

Montoursville, PA 17754

**Juliette Griffiths (Julie)\*\*\***

Heritage Springs Memory Care, Room 220 878 Old

Cement Rd.

Muncy, PA 17756

**Joan Hanner**

350 Jordan Ave.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Joan Hiller**

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

**Virginia Laudig**

1119 Broad St.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Sandra Long**

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

**Thomas Long**

163 Charles Dr.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Roxie Lundy**

410 Arch St.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Eleanor Mellish**

1246 Deerfield Dr.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**James McCloskey**

\* Emmanuel Center 600  
Schoolhouse Rd.  
Danville, PA 17821

**Tessie Moss**

12 Lutheran Home Dr.  
Personal Care 220  
Telford PA, PA 18969

**Francis Poeth**

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

**Betty Rosencrans**

\* 885 King St.  
Northumberland, PA  
17857

**Hilary Schmouder**

The Meadows - Room 111  
2160 Warrensville Rd.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Eleanor Shaheen**

515 Rt. 405  
Hughesville, PA 17737

**Richard (Fred) Shultz**

1275 Broad St.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Darla Starr**

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

**Joan Swartz**

500 Pelham Dr.  
Waynesboro VA, 22980

**Cella Taylor**

Arista Care  
1445 Sycamore Rd.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

\* Update or addition from last month

\*\*\* Updated from September bulletin

**PLEASE contact the office if someone should be on this list and isn't!**



