



BETHANY
 CHURCH OF BERWICK
 A Global Methodist Congregation

116 Summerhill Avenue
 Berwick, PA 18603



BETHANY BEACON

Mission Statement: We are a Beacon for God—
 Helping people to see, to accept and to grow in the light of Jesus Christ

VOLUME SIXTY

AUGUST 2024

ISSUE—SIX



**O LORD of hosts,
blessed
 is the one who
 trusts in you.**
 Psalm 84:12, ESV

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Ronald Sult, Treasurer

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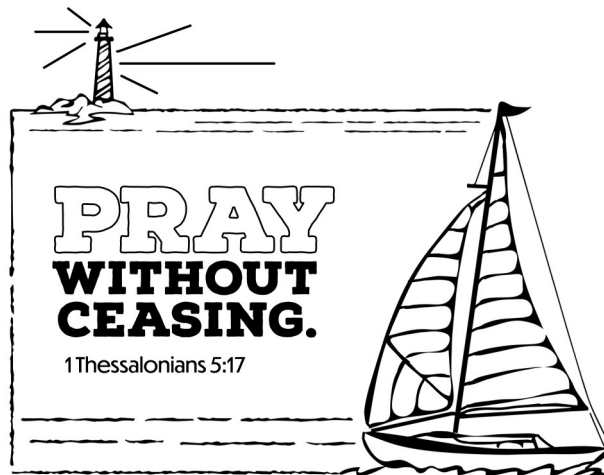
[https://www.facebook.com/
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Where we live

[Christians] do not live in themselves but in Christ and their neighbor, or else they are not Christian. They live in Christ through faith and in the neighbor through love. Through faith they are caught up beyond themselves into God; likewise, through love they fall down beneath themselves into the neighbor — remaining nevertheless always in God and God's love.

—Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*



Short Term Prayer Concerns

Connie Dent, Bella Winship, Kim Varner, Holly, Jill, Rose Hunsinger, Viola Freed, Corey Miller, Kevin Laurenson, Bob Klingerman, Linda Killian, Weston Capozzi, Deb Springman, Caroline Moyer, Edna McClintock, Norm and Dorothea Peters, Murray Arbegast, Kelly Newhart, Baby Bodie and Family

Please note: If you would like someone to be moved to the long-term list, please contact the church office.

Long-Term Prayer Concerns

Wendy McClintock, Donna Stubbs, Sam Miller, Shirley Hornberger, Kim Varner, Marlene Eckrote, Jim & Carol Zeart, Warren Wolfe, Edna Mae Belles, Kent Williams, Rosemary Martz, Joe Phillips, Sr., Betty Morgan, Karen Hunsinger, Bill Mausteller, Billy Robbins, Samantha Scoblink, Nick Pritchky, Renee Ptashinski, Mike Mattern, Esther Bower, John Ptashinski, Joan Harmon, Carmella Picarello, Dick and Bethann Savage, Edna McClintock, Judy Harvey, Gloria Varner, Frances Houseknecht, Pam Price, Tod Locher, Gary Fisher, Jackie Fisher, Pastor Ed Cope, Tammy Smith, Wendy Shultz, Julie Hartenbach, Norman and Dorothea Peter, Ruby Sherman, Gerda Leek, Bernie Snedeker

Sympathy for the families of:

George “Curt” Welliver, Roland Seward, Jr,
Pastor Tom Harmon, JoAnne Heacock,
Carol Grosz

Following Christ

To have faith in Christ means, of course, trying to do all that he says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice. Thus, if you have really handed yourself over to [Christ], it must follow that you are trying to obey him.

But trying in a new way, a less worried way. Not doing these things in order to be saved, but because he has begun to save you already. Not hoping to get to heaven as a reward for your actions, but inevitably wanting to act in a certain way because a first faint gleam of heaven is already inside you.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



AUGUST Birthdays

- 8/02 Murray Arbegast, Maggie Seely
- 8/04 Joshua Leek
- 8/09 Emaley Bacher, Mary Lee Hunsinger, Jade Volkert
- 8/10 Jonathan Phillips
- 8/11 Diane Clemons, Joe Phillips, Sylvia Seely, Barry Volkel
- 8/14 Kathy Brown, Megan Lazar
- 8/15 Griffin Keller, Lisa Seely
- 8/16 Ronald Earl, Timothy Francis III
- 8/17 Quinn Bowman, Dylan Francis
- 8/18 Michael Mowery
- 8/20 Sarah Schenkel
- 8/24 Ronald Sult, Carol Zeart
- 8/25 Bonnie Knolla
- 8/26 Hope Sullivan
- 8/28 Samuel Shelhamer
- 8/30 Tyler Hazlett



Students and Teachers are encouraged to bring their backpack to church on Sunday, August 25, to receive a blessing for the new school year.

Bethany Church of Berwick Peacemakers Prayer Support Ministry

Matthew 5:9

**Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called sons of God.**

General Prayer for Departments:

- Borough of Berwick Police Department**
- Briar Creek Township Police Department**
- Salem Township Police Department**
- Nescopeck Borough Police Department**
- Columbia County Sheriff's Office**
- South Centre Township Police Department**
- PA State Police Shickshinny Station**

Specific Daily Prayer for Officers: August 2024

1. Kristen Cunnington, Patrolman
2. Deputy Michael Tkach
3. Officer Kyle Trenholm
4. Deputy James Dalton
5. Officer Michael Salebba
6. Officer Joseph Gainley
7. Deputy Kevin Bradley
8. Officer Michael Klinetob
9. Vincent Figureido, Patrolman
10. Officer Raymond Thonkinson, III
11. Detective Gregory Martin
12. Sgt. Thomas Hegland
13. Officer Joshua Switzer
14. Chief Deputy Michael Beyer
15. Officer Daron Lupacchini
16. Officer Joshua Lowery
17. Tyler Soboleski, Patrolman
18. Officer Brandon Shultz
19. Deputy James Arter
20. Officer Steven Torres
21. Officer Scott Sienkiewicz
22. William Lefevre, Patrolman
23. Officer Victor Guevara
24. Detective Reagan Rafferty
25. Deputy Brandon Batiuk
26. Deputy Kevin Katch
27. Officer Phil Mainiero
28. Officer Michael Quaranta
29. Officer Riley Robinette
30. Cole Schaffer, Patrolman
31. Lee Pitonyak, Patrolman



Sunday, September 8th

THE STORY **BEGINS**

Experience an event that unveils God's Word as you've never known it before. As you walk thru the Old Testament, you'll realize that the Bible is coming to life and your knowledge of its people, places, and themes is rapidly increasing. In just a few short hours, you'll see the big picture better than some who have studied for years. Like many others, you may walk away saying, "I never understood the Bible like this before!"

Most of all, you'll develop a deeper connection with the God who wants you to know Him and will never stop pursuing your heart. The more you understand His story, the more you'll realize it's your story too. And the more you realize it's your story, the more His words will change your life.

- *Experience the story of the Bible in a way that makes God's Word come alive.*
- *Learn 40 handsigns and stories designed to help you understand the big picture of the Old Testament.*
- *See beyond the facts of the Bible and encounter its author.*

STEP INTO THE STORY.



Plan to attend otLIVE, a unique, interactive family event!

New Beginnings Capital Campaign 2024

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!



Capital Campaign Tops \$90K

Two goals down, two to go!

We've raised \$90,093.94 toward the New Beginnings Capital Campaign goal of \$150,000. Your stewardship has allowed us to update the HVAC system and the exterior stucco on the church.

That leaves two projects to go: roof replacement over the sanctuary and overflow area, and a new outdoor LED sign. Church Council is contacting contractors for roof evaluation and estimates so that we are ready to proceed when funds are available.

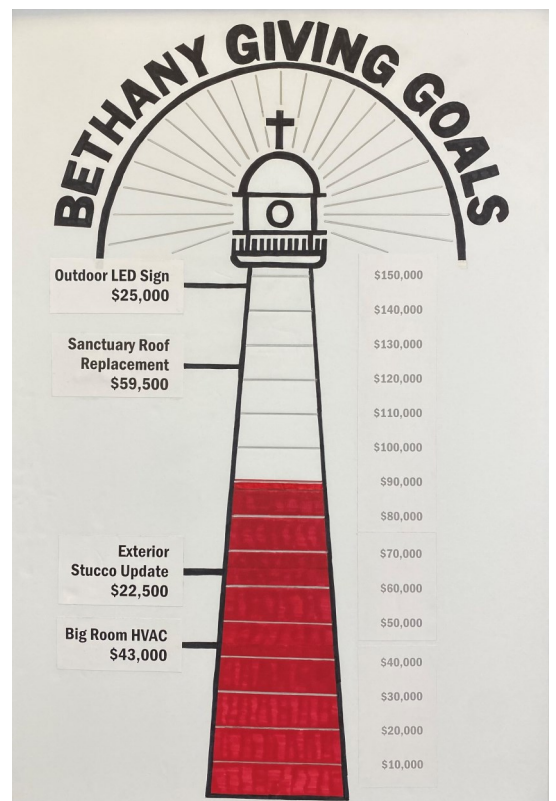
Please continue your generosity as we work to complete these projects that are so crucial to our mission of reaching the community for Christ. You have three convenient ways to give:

1. Capital campaign envelopes, available in church pews or at the information desk.
2. Your bank's online bill pay feature, made out to Bethany Church of Berwick and designating "Capital Campaign" in the memo line.
3. A mailed check with "Capital Campaign" in the memo line.

Let's pick up the momentum going into fall! Thank you for your generosity and your continued prayers!

Capital Campaign Committee:

- Kathy Brown
- Lamont Brown
- Kelly Noroski
- Russ Shields
- Don Shiner
- Kim Spence
- Kim Volkel



Missions & Evangelism

Extra Mile Giving for August is going to Your Loving Choices

August's Extra Mile Giving will go to Your Loving Choices. Your Loving Choices is a Christian ministry promoting life as given from God, offering loving support to those facing unplanned pregnancies, providing education about the life-giving options of adoption and parenting, conveying God's healing to those traumatized by abortion, and advocating abstinence as the only true prevention of sexual crises. Envelopes are available at the Information Desk.

Pantry Box and PB&J Ministries

We continue to purchase non-perishable items and supplies for the Pantry Box Ministry. We have been distributing these items in the 9 pantry boxes around town. Dollar Tree and Aldi are mostly our go to place for supplies. We have been purchasing things like granola bars, poptarts, cereals, tuna pouches, canned meats, nuts, individual packs of crackers, fruit cups, applesauce, pasta, spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, instant potatoes, canned potatoes, peanut butter, rice, soups. We also distribute hand sanitizer, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, towels, washcloths, individually wrapped toilet paper and hygiene products.

Also, supplies of peanut butter and jelly are needed to support our peanut butter and jelly ministry which is the third Wednesday of every month.

You can give gift cards or monetary donations so we can purchase the items we need by using the extra mile giving envelopes located on the wall behind the Information Desk.

Missions/Extra Mile 2024 Giving

(as of 6/30/2024)

Beyond Violence	\$ 390.00
Agape	\$ 350.00
Unseth	\$ 710.00
Peacemaker's Ministry	\$ 240.00
For The Cause	\$ 140.00
CCVIM	\$ 300.00
Krista Hartenbach	\$ 1,222.00



Co-laborers with Christ

Rusty Stevens, a ministry leader in Virginia, described trying to finish mowing the lawn before dinnertime. His 6-year-old son darted in front of him and grabbed the mower handle. But when Stevens stopped pushing, the mower soon stopped.

The busy dad fought the urge to tell his son to get out of his way and instead offered to help. Stevens began pushing again, leaning over and walking awkwardly to accommodate his eager assistant. Although the mowing commenced, it was slow-going and not as efficient as the solo effort.

That's when Stevens realized a ministry parallel: "This is the way my heavenly Father allows me to 'help' him build his kingdom!" The church leader pictured God busy "seeking, saving and transforming the lost, and there I was, with my weak hands 'helping.'"

Although God surely can tackle all the work of ministry and evangelism alone, he "chooses to stoop gracefully to allow me to co-labor with him," said Stevens. What a blessing and privilege that God lets us work alongside him!

June 10, 2024

Bethany United Methodist Church
116 Summerhill Ave
Berwick PA 18603-2145

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ

Thank you for supporting AGAPE and our ministry! We are proud of our daily impact as we 'fill in the gaps so no one falls through the cracks' but our ministry would be impossible but for the generosity of others. Your continual support, means A LOT!!

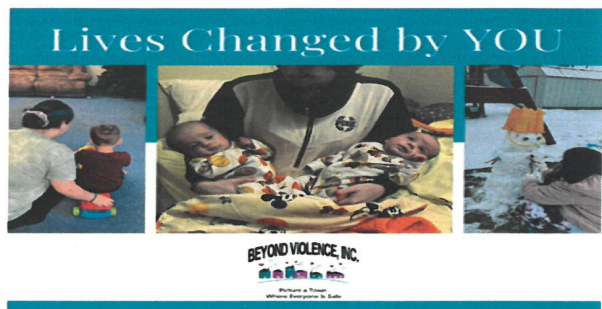
God Bless you and again Thank You!

In His Service,

Member- Outreach Committee

June 13, 2024

Bethany Church of Berwick
116 Summerhill Ave
Berwick, PA 18603



Dear Friends,
Thank you!!

We just received your generous \$390.00 donation to Beyond Violence Inc., and it means the world to us. **Because of YOU, we can continue to provide support and safety to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault through shelter.** Meet some of the many smiling happy children that have been able to just be a kid and find safety and security at our shelter. **All pictured are now out in our community thriving because of the gift you gave to us!**

Thank you, so much-on behalf, of all the survivors we serve-for believing in second chances.

P.S. Consider joining our "Home Team" today and save lives of children like Adam!



We are still in **urgent need** of recruiting **recurring donors** to help with the ongoing cost of providing shelter for those in need in our community. **Adam's time in our living room/playroom at our shelter helped him cope with the trauma of domestic violence.** It became a **sanctuary for Adam**, a place where he could **forget about the outside world and just be a kid** while told his feelings to his animals. You can make a difference in the lives of kids like Adam. **Become a monthly donor for just \$10 a month!** Your support will provide a **safe haven for children** and **give them the opportunity to experience the joys of childhood** once again. **Become a monthly donor at <https://www.beyondviolenceberwick.com/donate/>**

Sincerely,

Jennifer Campbell

Jennifer Campbell
Executive Director

Donation Receipt

All donations are fully tax deductible. Our Tax ID number is 23-2899786



Name: Bethany Church of Berwick **Date:** 05/31/2024 **Amount:** **ck#** 390

Dear Bethany Family,
 Thank you very much for the card and gift card. I am so happy to be a part of a community filled with so much love and compassion. Thank you for the unwavering support over the last 18 years!

Love, Lydia

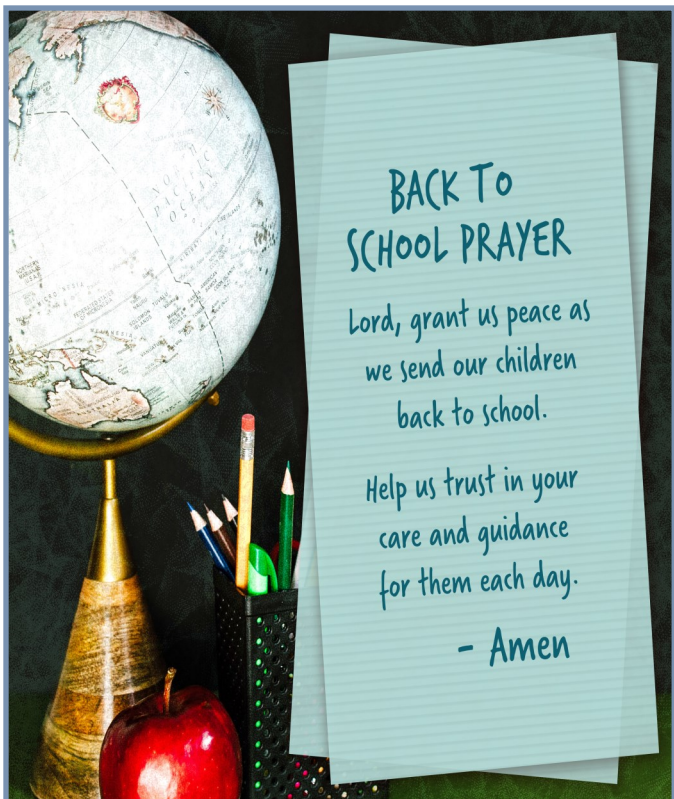
6-17-2024



Dear Bethany Family,
 I want to thank you all for the beautiful prayer square and all of the prayers on my behalf as I continue to recover from my Fall while on vacation. This has been a challenging time but the card, prayer square love and support from my church family has definitely blessed me and made it much easier.

With love + gratitude,
 Carol Zeart

June 2024



Dear Bethany Family,
 Thank you so much for the lovely alter flowers that were left on my back porch Monday. I love flowers and they really brightened my day. I'm so sorry I missed Shaun when he delivered them.

With love,
 Carol Zeart

7-11-2024

God's gift of music



What helps you sort out what you're feeling, or experience an emotion more deeply? What allows you to let loose and cry, or fully celebrate when you're joyful? Nature helps some of us get in touch with our feelings, perhaps because it removes us from screens and other distractions.

But when getting out isn't possible — no mountain lake is nearby, or the weather isn't tranquil — consider the gift of music. Often instrumental or vocal music helps us access the depths of our soul like nothing else can. God may even speak to us through music — whether in song lyrics, our own inner thoughts or wordless stirrings of the heart.

Albert Schweitzer, a pastor, musicologist, physician and more, said, "Joy, sorrow, tears, lamentation, laughter — to all these music gives voice, but in such a way that we are transported from the world of unrest to a world of peace, and see reality in a new way, as if we were sitting by a mountain lake and contemplating hills and woods and clouds in the tranquil and fathomless water."

Make some playlists for various emotions: joy, grief, anxiety, hope. Then imagine yourself relaxing in nature, and experience God's love.



You don't have to visit the beach to make a sandcastle. Make fluffy "moon sand" to build fun structures.

What you need:

- Large bowl
- Wooden spoon
- 8 cups flour
- 1 cup baby oil



What you do:

1. Measure flour into the large bowl. Add baby oil.
2. Mix thoroughly until all the oil is combined and the texture is consistent. If needed, use your hands to knead the mixture.
3. The sand is ready when it sticks together to form a ball when pressed in your hands.
4. Use sand toys and molds to create a sandcastle. Store sand in an airtight container for up to two weeks.

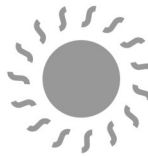


PUZZLE

BY THE SEASHORE

The sea and its creatures are evidence of God's intention and purpose in creation.

Directions: Unscramble the words. Then copy the circled letters in order below to complete Psalm 104:24-25, NIV.



DASN

LHSELS

USN

ESEDAIS

BHECA

LALUBMER

WRTEA

FRUS

VWSEA

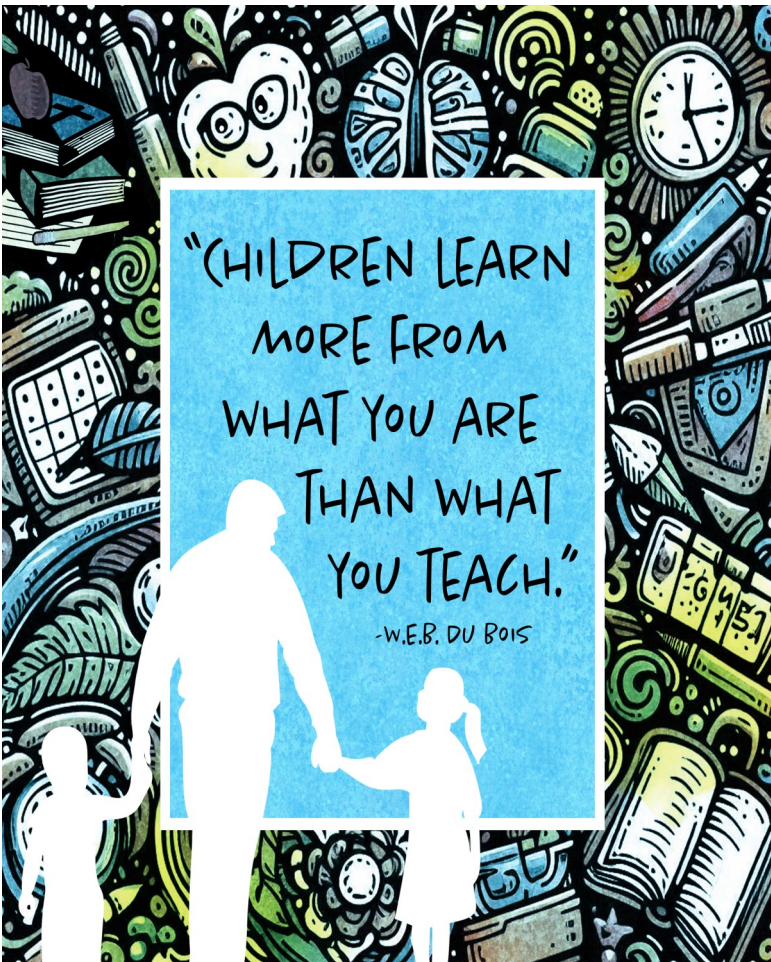


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How many are your works, LORD!
 In wisdom you made them ____;
 the earth is full of your creatures.
 There is the __ __ __, vast and spacious,
 teeming with _____ beyond number —
 living things both large and small.
Psalm 104:24-25, NIV

Answers: sand, shells, sun, seaside, beach, umbrella, water, surf, waves, all, sea, creatures



Youth Fellowship
 Sunday, August 25th
 3-5pm
 Bethany Church Big Room.
 Students in grades 7-12
 are invited.

Bible Quiz
 What kind of birds does God use to supply Elijah with food at the Kerith Ravine?
 A. quails
 B. ravens
 C. eagles
 D. doves



Answer: B (See 1 Kings 17:2-6.)

August 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>← Jul 2024</p>				1	2	3
<p>4 Communion 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv</p>	<p>5 1 pm Awakenings (SGR) 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2) 6:30 pm Awakenings (SGR)</p>	<p>6 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)</p>	<p>7 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)</p>	<p>8 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv</p>	<p>12 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2)</p>	<p>13 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)</p>	<p>14 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)</p>	<p>15 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout) 6:30 pm Church Council Mtg (SGR)</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Ladies Fellowship 1-3 pm (FH)</p>
<p>18 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv</p>	<p>19 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2)</p>	<p>20 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)</p>	<p>21 Bethany Blessings Closed PB&J Carepack Distribution 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)</p>	<p>22 Bethany Blessings Closed 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)</p>	<p>23 Bethany Blessings Closed</p>	<p>24 </p>
<p>25 Blessing of the Backpacks 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv 3-5pm Youth Fellowship (BR)</p>	<p>26 Office Open 9-12 Bethany Blessings School Starts 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2)</p>	<p>27 Office Open 9-12 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)</p>	<p>28 Office Open 9-12 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)</p>	<p>29 Office Open 9-12 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)</p>	<p>30 Office Open 9-12</p>	<p>31</p>