



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

SEPTEMBER 2024

ISSUE—SEVEN



Sunday, September 8th; 9am—noon

Doors open at 8:30am. The Event begins promptly at 9am.

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!

BETHANY STAFF

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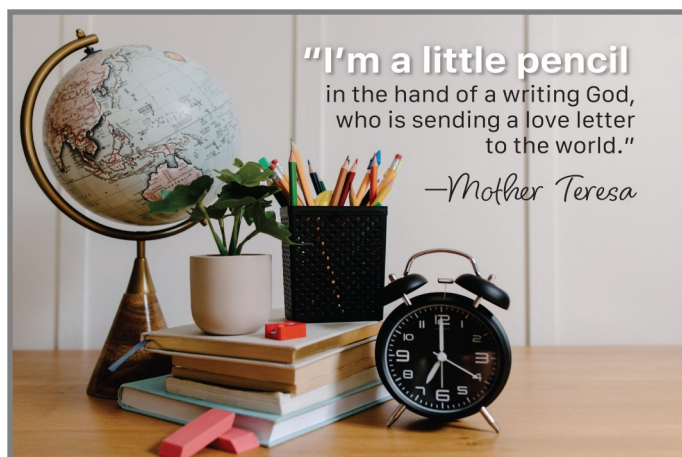
Second Fiddle

A fan once asked conductor Leonard Bernstein what instrument is hardest to play. “Second fiddle,” he quickly replied. “I can always get plenty of first violinists, but to find one who plays second violin with as much enthusiasm ... now that’s a problem. And yet if no one plays second, we have no harmony.”

The church certainly needs both leaders and followers. And everyone should be flexible and ready to pivot quickly.

It’s also important to have other arrows in our quiver — something biblical figures often demonstrated, according to Pastor Frank Ramirez. Although Amos was a high-profile prophet, he probably intended to return to being a shepherd and tending sycamore trees. Nehemiah, the emperor’s cupbearer, had a second chapter helping to restore Jerusalem’s walls and greatness. The apostles also had multiple roles, with careers in fishing and tax collecting before they left to follow Jesus.

What might your next life-chapter look like? How can you use it to bring glory to God?



Heavenly Father,

In this season of change, we are comforted and guided by Your unchanging love and care. Lead us through these shifting days, filling our hearts with peace and our minds with Your wisdom. Help us to trust in Your eternal constancy as we navigate the beautiful yet fleeting seasons of this life.

In Your loving name, we pray,

Amen.

Short Term Prayer Concerns

Carlo Meinsma and Family, Family of Cindy Brown, Deb Springman, Adrienne Bowers, Gerda Leek, Kim & Jonathon Nespoli, Chris Hunsigner, Eva Kroposky and her Family, Bob Klingerman, Murray Arbegast

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,





- 9/02 Richard Good Sr.
- 9/05 Daniel Leek
- 9/06 David Boone
- 9/07 Liam Carroll, Cade Stump
- 9/08 Wendy McClintock
- 9/09 Thomas Winship
- 9/10 Kristi McClintock
- 9/11 Michelle Bower
- 9/12 Richard Bower, Melvin Kishbaugh
- 9/15 Libby Kishbaugh
- 9/17 Paige Brown
- 9/18 Abigail Phillips
- 9/19 Jacob Lisnock
- 9/21 Jessica Vajda
- 9/22 Angel Kishbaugh, Harrison Snyder,
Connor Welch
- 9/23 Michelle Harvey
- 9/24 Sandra Canouse, Keith Seely
- 9/25 Nancy Gerlach
- 9/30 Kim Spence

The extraordinary amid the ordinary

A violinist once performed in the New York City subway, entertaining passersby for 45 minutes. A few tossed him cash, totaling about \$30 by the time he concluded.

Little did anyone know, Joshua Bell was one of the world's best violinists. That day, he played one of the most complex musical pieces ever written on an instrument worth \$3.5 million. Indeed, a few days earlier Bell had performed a sold-out concert in Boston, where tickets averaged \$100.

Sometimes God does extraordinary things right in the middle of our ordinary lives, yet we don't notice. You're offered an opportunity you almost pass up, thinking it's not worth your time or effort. But upon taking part, you find it leads to your life's calling. Or someone crosses your path, but overlooking their worth, you brush them aside, missing out on a blessing God had for you through them.

And what about you? Do you undervalue yourself as "nothing special," just an "ordinary" person? Look closer; think again. For an ordinary baby born long ago to an ordinary couple in an ordinary stable in an ordinary town was none other than ... God's Son! And you? Why, you are also an extraordinary child of God!

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: September 2024

1. Deputy Anthony Kopitski
2. Officer Randy Gaugler
3. Harold Morris, Patrolman
4. Ptlm, Keith Whitenight
5. Patrolman Brenton Bacon
6. Deputy William Miner
7. Officer Jeremy Mulders
8. Deputy Heather Comstock
9. Officer Jessica Shoup
10. Elizabeth Whitenight
11. Officer Philip Schlegel
12. Deputy Dale Stokes
13. Officer Henry Roote
14. Ptlm. Clinton Libby
15. Sgt. Tyler Miller-Stephens County, TX
16. Patrolman Mason Dabulis
17. Officer Joseph Loyacono
18. Dustin Sabol, Patrolman
19. Deputy Dale Coombe
20. Deputy Jonathan Broadt
21. Chief Kenneth Strish
22. Thomas D. Frace, Chief of Police
23. Chief Richard Haraschak III
24. Assistant Chief Troy Maneval
25. Chief William Richendrfer
26. Jarrod Noss, Criminal Investigator
27. Officer Christopher Kelchner
28. Sheriff Timothy Chamberlain
29. Chief Michael McNeal
30. Sgt. Marc Fedder

Capital Campaign Tops \$105,000!

We're thrilled to report that the New Beginnings Capital Campaign crossed another milestone this month, reaching \$105,643.37 as of Aug. 19. That puts us at 70% of our \$150,000 goal!

We keep eyeing that roof, which sustained some damage in summer storms. We need roughly \$20,000 more for this project. Church Council is working to nail down the scope of work and obtain estimates in hopes of completing repairs before winter. Your continued support is crucial!

You can support the campaign in these convenient ways:

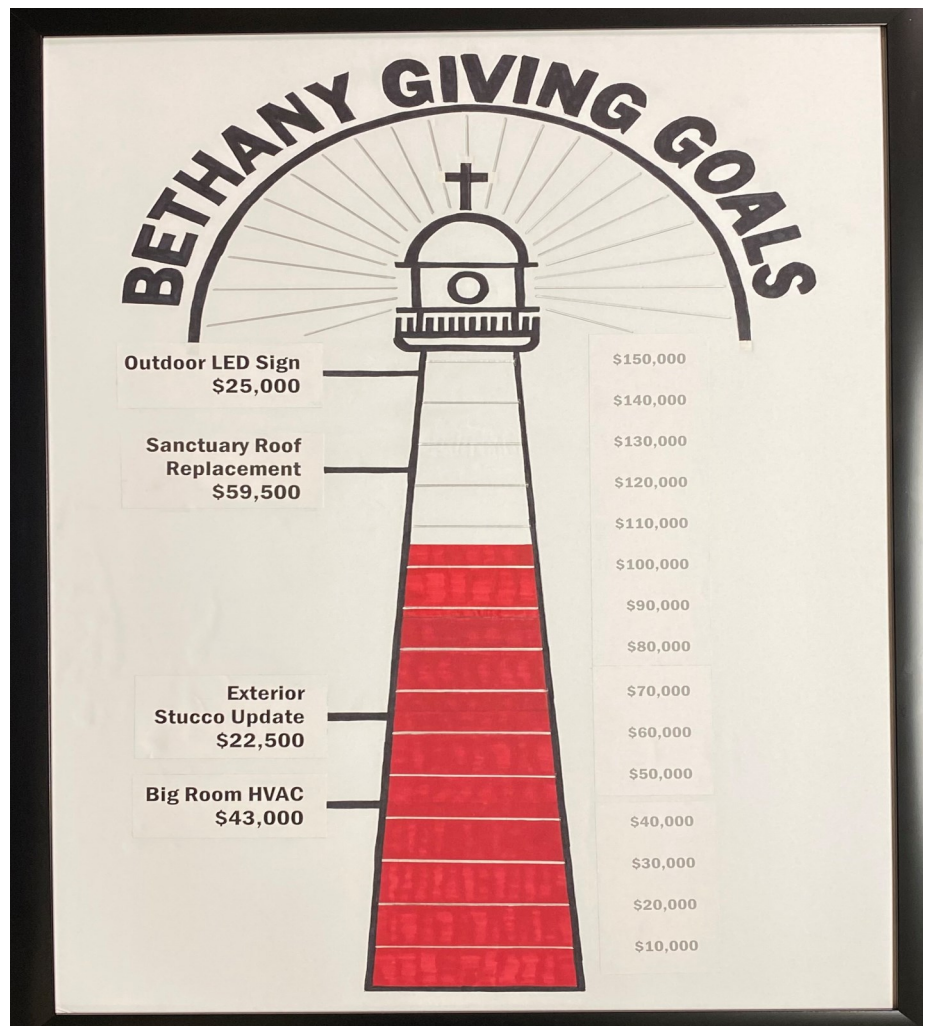
1. Capital campaign envelopes, available in church pews or at the information desk.
2. Your bank's online bill pay feature, made out to Bethany Church of Berwick and designating "Capital Campaign" in the memo line.
3. A mailed check with "Capital Campaign" in the memo line.

Thanks for your continued generosity and faithful stewardship of our church home!

God is good-all the time!

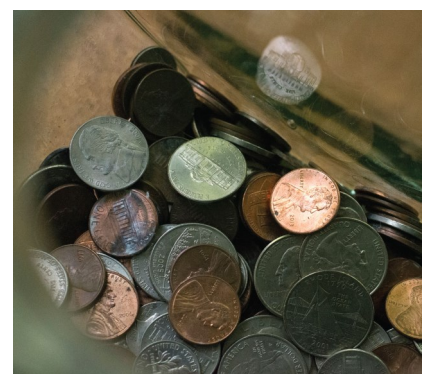
Capital Campaign Committee:

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



Plan for a "Noisy Offering" on Sept. 15!

Make some noise for the New Beginnings Capital Campaign on Sunday, Sept. 15! Bethany's children will support the campaign that morning by collecting coins for a "Noisy Offering." You can help by donating loose change to make their buckets jingle!



Missions & Evangelism

Extra Mile Giving for September will be in support of Boy Scout Troop 6

Our Extra Mile Giving for September will be in support of Boy Scout Troop 6. We would like to help the Troop offset some of the costs of registration and activities for boys who may not be able to afford the fees. Envelopes are available at the Information Desk in the Main Entrance hallway.

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.

Pieces of Prayer

Pieces of Prayer will meet Thursday, September 12, at 9:00 a.m. in the Stained Glass Room. Details of the craft show (October 19, 9:00 -2:00) will be discussed as we determine advertising and set up. All are welcome!

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*

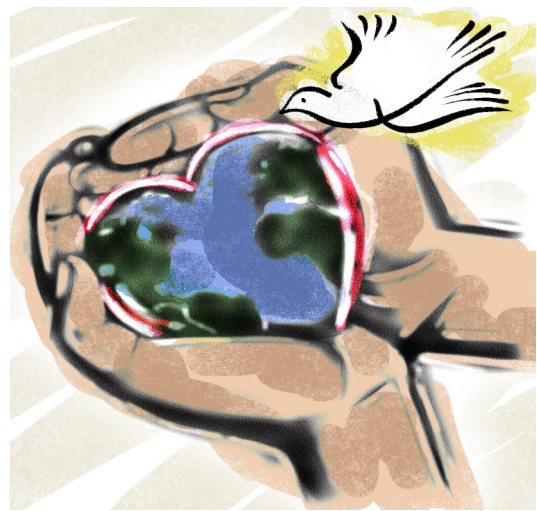


The significance of Patriot Day

Three months after the 2001 terrorist attacks, Congress approved a joint resolution designating September 11 as Patriot Day. Every year, we pause to remember the lives lost and changed on that autumn morning.

The resolution requests that each year the president issue a proclamation calling on the American people and state and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities. Those include remembrance services, candlelight vigils, moments of silence and flying the U.S. flag at half-staff.

In his 2023 proclamation President Biden said, "Together, may we continue to demonstrate that the rights and freedoms that those terrorists sought to destroy on September 11, 2001, remain unwavering — strengthened by generations of Americans who have dared all and risked all to defend, protect and preserve our democracy."



Goals for your church

Pastor and professor Howard Clinebell Jr. described the ideal local church as one that strives to become “a healing, growth-stimulating, redemptive organism.” Each congregation, he wrote, should work to develop “a dynamic climate of mutual concern which gradually seeps into and saturates the whole fellowship.”

How can your church body meet those goals? For starters, compare your mission, ministry, outreach and attitudes to the early church.

The New Testament reveals that a fellowship of believers should engage in these activities together: worshipping (Acts 2:46-47), studying (Acts 2:42), witnessing (Acts 2:44-47; 3:9), serving (Acts 6:1-6; 20:35), loving (Hebrews 10:24), praying (Acts 1:14; 12:12), cooperating (Acts 1:11-14; 2:1; 4:23) and suffering for the sake of the gospel (Hebrews 10:32-34; Philippians 1:29).

In addition, Jesus calls New Testament believers to live joyfully (Acts 2:46; 5:40-41; 13:50-52; 16:25), courageously (Acts 4:13; 4:29; 15:26), powerfully (1 Corinthians 4:20), enthusiastically (Acts 2:43-47) and generously (Acts 2:45; 2 Corinthians 9:10-12). May the Holy Spirit equip us to heal, grow and mutually edify one another!



Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged

BETHANY CHURCH,

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO HOLD OUR MOTHER'S FUNERAL AT YOUR FACILITY. THANK YOU PASTOR LEE, CONNIE BEVERLY, CUSTODIANS AND WILLS & JOE, YOU WERE ALL SO HELPFUL AND KIND. THANKFULLY, BEARE LINDY HEALOCK

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Peters

What a nice surprise to open the door and have flowers handed to me.

They brightened our day & our room for 2 weeks. Thanks for thinking of us.

We miss Church and everyone
Pete & Dorothea

a Brainy breakfast

Add a smart start to your school day with **superfoods** that promote a healthy body and mind.

What you need:

- Large bowl
- 1 medium avocado
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- Salt
- Whole wheat toast
- Pumpkin seeds, chopped
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Mash the avocado in the bowl.
2. Chop the eggs into cubes and add to the bowl.
3. Add salt to taste. Mix well.
4. Spread over two pieces of toast. Top with chopped pumpkin seeds.
5. Adjust this recipe with your favorite flavors. Add herbs, "everything bagel" seasoning or hot sauce.
6. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.

PUZZLE

AMAZING ILLUMINATION

God grants us knowledge and understanding through his holy Word, which is like a flashlight.

Directions: Arrange the words from Psalm 119:105 (NIV) in order. Then unscramble the circled letters to complete James 1:5 (NIV).

PATH IS LIGHT WORD
YOUR A FEET
MY FOR LAMP A ON MY

Psalm 119:105, NIV

If any of you lacks _____, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1:5, NIV

Answer: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path; wisdom

PRAY FOR STUDENTS



Puzzle!

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV). Put the words in order on the spaces below to complete the Bible verse.

JOHN 6:35

WORD LIST


am and be believes bread comes in whoever hungry go life me me never to never the the of will will thirsty whoever

T	E	Ⓞ	R	S	U	V	W	A	M	X	Y	Z	A	B	T	H	E	I
J	K	L	M	B	R	E	A	D	N	P	O	F	Q	R	L	I	F	E
D	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
B	C	D	F	C	O	M	E	S	G	H	I	J	T	O	K	L	M	E
N	W	I	L	L	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	N	E	V	E	R	V	W
Z	Y	Z	B	C	A	G	O	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
M	H	U	N	G	R	Y	N	A	N	D	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	W	H	O	E	V	E	R
M	N	O	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
V	W	X	Y	Z	I	N	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	M	E	U	V	W	X	Y	A	B	C	D
D	E	F	W	I	L	L	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	N	E	V	E	R	A	B	C	D	B	E	D
F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	T	H	I	R	S	T	Y	O	P	Q

"I _____"

-John 6:35, NIV

Answer: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35, NIV

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv	2 Bethany Blessings Closed Office Closed 	3 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)	4 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)	5 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)	6	7
8 WALK THRU THE BIBLE 9:00am – 12:00pm	9 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2)	10 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)	11 Patriot Day 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)	12 9:00 am Pieces of Prayer (SGR) 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)	13	14
15 NOISY OFFERING 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv	16 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2)	17 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)	18 PB&J Carepack Distribution 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)	19 6:30 pm Church Council Mtg (SGR) 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)	20	21
22 First Day of Autumn 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10am Sunday School 11am Contemporary Srv	23 6:30 pm Grief Support (RM2)	24 8 am TOPS (SGR) 7 pm Bells Practice (SGR)	25 6:15pm Praise Team (BR)	26 Bethany Blessings Closed 6:30 pm Scouts(Scout)	27 Bethany Blessings Closed 12:30 pm Blood Drive -BR	28

