



The Bethany Gazette
Bethany Presbyterian Church Newsletter
November/December 2021



Dear Bethany Family and Friends,

We have had—to say the least a very unusual year and a half plus with COVID impacting every aspect of our lives. We have seen the ups and downs of life, the joys and sorrows, the changes in how we live and worship and fellowship with each other-- yet through all of this, we remain in fellowship with our Creator through Jesus Christ. We experience the love and support of our loving families and friends.

You are my Family and Friends and I am so very thankful for each and every one of you for the blessings you bring to my life. Your kindness in surprising me on Sunday October 31st with a luncheon and gifts brought me to tears with thankfulness for the past 19 years at Bethany. Thank You!!

Thanksgiving is a short time away and we will join with loved ones to really look into our lives and feel and share what we are truly thankful for.

Helen Steiner Rice says it well in the following poem:

MAKE EVERY DAY THANKSGIVING

*” Thank you, God, for everything - the big things and the small,
For every good gift comes from God - the giver of them all,
Too often we accept without any thanks or praise
The gifts God sends as blessings each day in many ways,
O, make us more aware, dear God, of little daily graces
That come to us with sweet surprise from never-dreamed of places,
And help us to remember that the key to life and living
Is to make each prayer a prayer of thanks
And every day Thanksgiving.*

In His Grace and Peace,

Pastor Denise

Bethany Presbyterian Church
Blaine Street & Chandler Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906
www.bethanyjohnstown.com
814-539-9194

Pastor: Denise A. Todero, CP
Morning Worship: Sundays @ 10:30 AM
All Are Welcome!

November 2021

7: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

14: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

21: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

28: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**First Sunday in Advent/Communion/
Decorating the Sanctuary After Church**

December 2021

5: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

12: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

19: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church Christmas Party After Worship

24: Christmas Eve Service 7 p.m.

26: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.



**There's always
something to be
thankful for.**

Weekly Flowers/Bulletins

Weekly Flowers: Flowers are still available for Sundays in 2021. The cost is \$25 each and orders can be placed at the church or on the church website.

Bulletin Sponsorship: You can still sponsor the bulletin for remaining Sundays in 2021. Sponsor it yourself or in honor/in remembrance of someone. The cost is \$10 per week or \$5 if you purchase flowers for the same week. To reserve a week, sign up at the church or fill out the form on the church website. Please sign up or submit sponsorship at least two weeks prior to the date you are selecting. Please contact Ed Sheets with any questions.

Be Sure To Visit Our Website (www.bethanyjohnstown.com) and Like Us On Facebook (Bethany Presbyterian Church— Johnstown, PA)

Pastor Appreciation Sunday Caps off October

Halloween fell on a Sunday this year, but on Oct. 31 we celebrated another special day here at Bethany. On that Sunday we honored and celebrated our own Pastor Denise with Pastor Appreciation Sunday. Following Morning Worship, a covered dish luncheon was held in the back of the sanctuary. Pastor Denise was also presented with gifts from the congregation during the service.

We thank Pastor Denise for all that she does for our congregation each and every day. We are blessed she has continued to lead us here at Bethany and we appreciate all that she does for us, along with the community.

thank you!

Veterans Dinner Invitation

In honor of Veterans Day, the Westmont Presbyterian Church, 601 Luzerne Street, is serving a dinner to the members of our congregation who are veterans of the United States military. The invitation is also extended to the spouse or guest of the veteran. We invite the veterans of the Bethany Presbyterian Church, and their spouse or guest, to attend as our guests.

The dinner will be on Saturday, November 13 at 6:00 PM in our Fellowship Hall. A social time will start at 5:30 PM. If any veteran from your church, who plans to attend the dinner, has a military friend they would like to invite, we would be honored to have them, and their spouse or guest, as our guests.

To make a reservation, please call our church office at
814-536-0796 by Wednesday, November 10th.

Session Meeting Scheduled For November 21st

Session will meet on Sunday November 21st after Morning Worship. All Session members are encouraged to attend. Contact Linda Orlidge or Pastor Denise with any questions or to place any items on the agenda.

Join Us During The Celebration Of Advent

We look forward to welcoming our members and friends back here to Bethany Presbyterian Church to celebrate the Advent season. We invite all of you to join us for the events and services planned during the next few weeks. We also encourage you to bring your friends, family, and neighbors to join us as we take the Advent journey that leads to the celebration of our Lord and Savior on Christmas Eve.

November 28th: Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. We begin the celebration of Advent with Communion during Morning Worship. Following worship, we will decorate the sanctuary for the Advent Season.

December 5th: Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

December 12th: Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

December 19th: Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. Following the service, we will hold our Christmas Party. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish to share (we will provide the main dish) and to sign up at the church so we know how many to prepare for. All are invited to attend.

December 24th: Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m. Our Annual Christmas Eve Service returns. Come out and join us as we celebrate this special day with songs, scriptures, and more.

Christmas Poinsettias

We are planning to have Christmas Poinsettias available for order once again this year. We also plan to offer virtual poinsettias again this year. Look for more information on both coming soon in the bulletin, on the church website, and on our Facebook page.



Support The West End Food Pantry

As we approach the upcoming holiday season, the West End Food Pantry continues to need our support. The pantry continues to need non-perishable food items, especially holiday staples (canned fruits and vegetables, instant potatoes, pasta, etc.) to restock their shelves. The pantry is run by volunteers who work hard to serve those in our community and these donations are crucial for them to continue their mission.

Donations can be placed in the bins by the Blaine St. Entrance as you enter the church. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Thank you in advance for your support.

Morning Worship Safety Precautions Continue

We continue welcoming back more of our Bethany family and friends on Sunday mornings. We realize everyone has a different comfort level at this time and we continue to encourage social distancing when possible during services, along with having hand sanitizer available throughout the church.

While we have taken a variety of precautions, we understand that some may still not be able to attend in-person services at this time. For those who fall into this category, we continue to post the weekly bulletin on the website, so you can Worship from wherever you are.

The weekly offering is still being collected during services. Contributions can also be mailed to the church. We thank everyone for their continued support and whether you are joining us in-person or Worshipping from home, we look forward to being together again soon.

Sign Up for the Email List

If you aren't already on our official email list, be sure to sign up today. Click the link on our website or email bethanyjtown@hotmail.com to be added to the list.

KIDS IN CHURCH

3-year-old, Reese: "Our Father, Who does art in heaven,
Harold is His name. Amen."

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A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make  
me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good  
time like I am."

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A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments.
They were ready to discuss the last one. The teacher asked
if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand,
stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off the
neighbor's wife."

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After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason  
sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His  
father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the  
boy replied, "That preacher said he wanted us brought up  
in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys."

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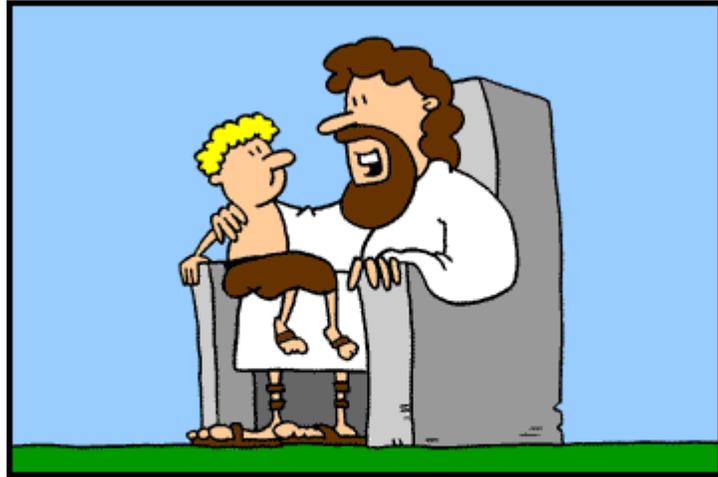
I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the
Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime, she would
repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided
to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated
each word right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into
temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some E-mail."

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A Sunday school teacher asked her children, as they were  
on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to  
be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because  
people are sleeping."

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Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were
sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out
loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not
supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to
stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the
church and said, "See those two men standing by the door?
They're hushers."



Thanks to Christopher Huffman 12-24-1998

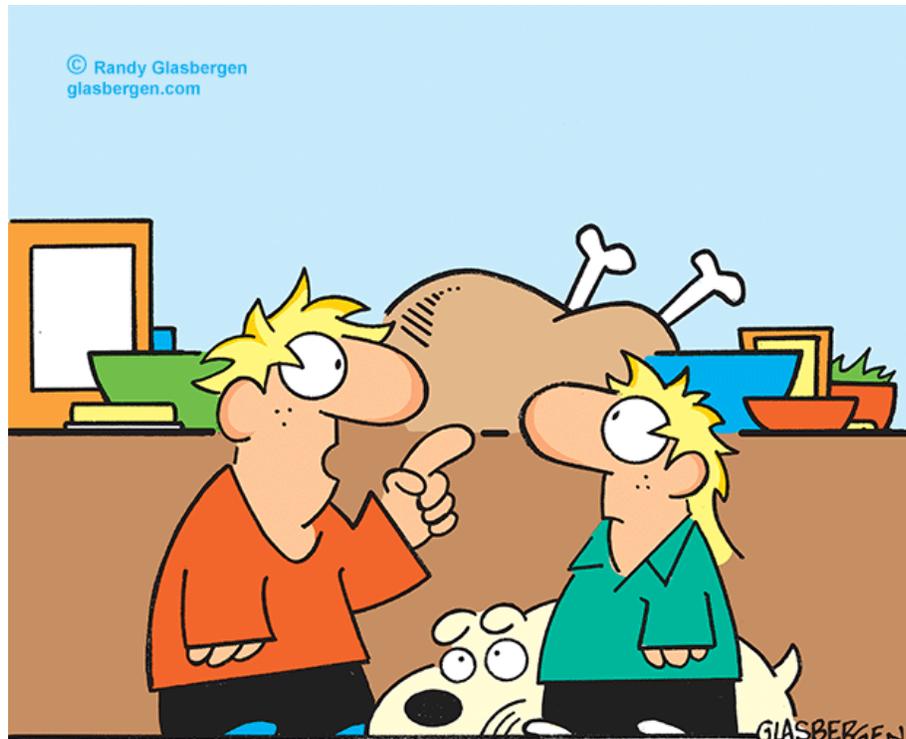
HOW ABOUT IF INSTEAD OF GIVING YOU EVERYTHING THAT YOU THINK YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS I GIVE YOU WHAT YOU NEED?



Thanks to Wilma Melendez (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-24-2010

THIS IS LIKE TOTALLY THE COOLEST THING THAT HAS EVEN HAPPENED IN THIS STABLE!

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“On Thanksgiving the Four Basic Food Groups are ‘more’, ‘a little more’, ‘a lot more’ and ‘too much’.”

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