Bethany Christian Church
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

The Newsette

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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April, 2018
Volume 57, Issue 4

"A Family of Faith, Growing in Christ, Growing through Service."

Rev. Jaclyn Twedell
Senior Pastor

Donna Wicker
Financial Secretary

Duane Toole
Director of Music

Carol Molinares
Pianist

To submit information for the Newsette, you can send an e-mail to:
bethanychristiandoc@gmail.com

see separate calendar for dates and meetings

APRIL TEAM

If you are unable to serve on the date(s) assigned, please arrange for a replacement.

PROPERTY OPENER and CLOSER
David Walls

COMMUNION PREPARATION
1 – Easter Geoff Gangloff
8 – Mary Kline & Barbara Ozlin
15 – Dolores McCann & Sheila Thayer
22 – Bob & June Sears
29 – Dolores & Ed McCann

USHERS - all month
John Massie
Ollie Peebles
David Walls

WORSHIP LEADERS
1 – Easter Ross Dorneman
8 – Kevin Scholl
15 – Dolores McCann
22 – Penny Gradwell
29 – Barbara Ozlin

APRIL TEAM (continued)

ELDERS
1 – Easter Ross Dorneman & June Sears
8 – Kim Gangloff & Kevin Scholl
15 – Linda Grubb & Dolores McCann
22 – Brian & Penny Gradwell
29 – David Brown & Barbara Ozlin

•Communion to Home Bound
Ross Dorneman & Johnny Grubb

DEACONS - all month
Captain: Jo Anne Dorneman
Chris Hawthorne
Danny Krantz
Gwendylen Krantz
substitute: Christie Rolston

CHILDREN'S MOMENT
1 – Duane Toole
8 – Sue Marion
15 – Pastor Jackie Twedell
22 – Sue Marion
29 – to be announced

BETHANY CHRISTIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

"To share the Good News of God's activity in our lives through witness and service to Westover Hills, Stratford Hills, and beyond, in order to encourage people to find their unique place in God's family."

THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH

"If you plan on being anything less than you are capable of being, you will probably be unhappy all the days of your life." ~ Abraham Maslow

"When I'm happy and cheerful, my friends know who I am. When I'm down and depressed, I know who my friends are." ~ Aspiring Quotes.com

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

Holy Week Devotions

As a way to enhance your experience of Holy Week, I have put together a devotional guide. For each day, you will find a scripture to read, questions to consider about that scripture, as well as a prayer. I hope you will find this useful as we journey to the cross with Jesus this Holy Week. ~ Blessings, Pastor Jackie

Monday of Holy Week

Read Matthew 26:1-16

Questions to consider...

- Where do we see hostility and betrayal in our world?
- Is there anything that would be worth it to you to betray a friend?
- What small betrayals have we been ensnared by, and how can we make amends for them?

Prayer: Lord God, prevent us from allowing our bitterness or disappointment to lead us to harm others whether in thought or deed. Amen.

Tuesday of Holy Week

Read Matthew 26:17-46

Questions to consider...

- What difference does the Lord's Supper make in your lives?
- Does the meal we share on Sunday nourish our lives in the world? If so, how? If not, how might it?
- When have you last seen someone who needed a tangible expression of God's love? How can you help that person realize how precious they are to God?

Prayer: Lord God, thank you for the gift of your own body and blood. Let that gift strengthen us in the knowledge that you love us more than anything. Amen.

Wednesday of Holy Week

Read Matthew 26:47-75

Questions to consider...

- What strengthens us to keep faith with those we care about? What tempts us to abandon them?
- Where have you felt abandoned?
- Where do you need the support of good friends? Who needs you?

Prayer: Lord God, protect and preserve us in this world that we might keep faith with the promises and responsibilities we have undertaken, and when we feel alone, remind us that you understand and are with us. Amen.

Thursday of Holy Week

Read Matthew 27:1-31

Questions to consider...

- Where do you see the struggle for power and the easy resort to defamation and violence in our world today?
- In what ways does fear poison our relationships at home and at work as well as in the larger world?
- What one thing would you ask God to change about your life or the world? How can you contribute to make that happen?

Prayer: Use us, Lord God, as instruments of peace in a world too often broken by violence and a thirst for power. Amen.

Good Friday

Read Matthew 27:32-56

Questions to consider...

- How does Jesus' death tell the truth about our lives and world? How does it give us hope?
- Where do you see God still at work to redeem and preserve creation?
- Where do you long to see God?

Prayer: Lord God, on the cross you suffered the very depths of our human life, even to the point of death. When we see the cross, let us remember that you become one of us and endured all elements of life to show us your great love and to give us hope. Amen.

Holy Saturday

Read Matthew 27:57-66

Questions to Consider...

- What needs resurrecting in your life?
- What makes it hard to turn this over to God and trust that God will bring you, too, through death to new life?

Prayer: Lord God, remind us of your presence with us when we stumble, suffer, or are afraid in any way. Give us strength, courage, and peace, and help us to be an encouragement and sign of life to others. Amen.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Craig Springs Camp information – www.craigsprings.com
Spring Work Weekend is **Friday, May 25, thru Sunday, May 27.** Food, indoor lodging, and friendly fellowship are provided in exchange for your labor. Please register (so they know how much food to buy) before May 15.

Camps start at Craig Springs June 25! The early-bird registration deadline is May 15. Forms are available in the office or online. The church will pay one-half of the early-bird registration fees for children attending camp who are members.

Penny Gradwell and John and Robin Lancaster are GREAT resources for Craig Springs Camp if you're interested in finding out more!

EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT

Community Easter Egg Hunt – Our community Easter egg hunt is this **Saturday, March 31**, at 10:00 a.m. Come join us and bring friends and family with you. A big thank you to Karen McClain for organizing and to everyone who has helped to pull this together.

Bethany Christian Church Bake, Barbecue, and Yard Sale will be **Saturday, April 14**, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bake Sale – To all the wonderful church bakers: there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to indicate what you will make for the annual bake sale. We can use all type of goodies. Just let us know what you are planning so we can have a good assortment. You may bring cookies and brownies in batches, and we will package them for uniformity in pricing. Please bring your items to the church by 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 13. Thank you so much for your contributions – you can call Barbara Ozlin at 748-9673 if you want to sign up by telephone or have questions.

Barbecue Sale – Items for sale this year are:

- one pound pulled pork barbecue with four ounces of sauce - $8.00
- one 12-ounce bottle of sauce - $7.00
- one pint of baked beans - $4.00
- one pint of cole slaw - $4.00
- one pulled pork sandwich (only) - $4.00
- one lunch plate: pulled pork sandwich, baked beans & cole slaw - $6.00
- one party pack (four meals): one pound pulled pork barbecue, four buns, one pint of baked beans, one pint of cole slaw, and four ounces of sauce - $20.00

Order forms are in the Narthex (please hand the forms to Brian or Penny Gradwell) or email Penny at penny.gradwell@gmail.com. There will not be chicken offered this year.

Yard Sale – We will be accepting your donated items the week of Sunday, April 8, through Friday, April 13, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please let Penny Gradwell know if you need to drop off items at another time so she can be here to help and show you where to place your items! This year we will NOT be able to accept TVs as we are not able to find a home for them except the trash. Also, if you want to "rent a table" to sell your own treasures, the cost is $10 per table; contact Penny for the details.

OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

Church World Service – Bethany Christian Church will be a depot for Church World Service buckets and kits during this month. The pickup will be May 23 or 24.

Bainbridge Community Ministries – Charles Stevens took eight bags of food, etc. and one box of stuffed animals to Bainbridge on March 12. Thank you, Charles!

PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Custodial Service Changes – Our custodian, William Lynch, has resigned after more than 18 years of service to Bethany. We have appreciated William's efforts and support of our programs of ministry. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

The General Board has decided to obtain the services of a custodial contractor to meet our needs rather than recruiting a new direct employee. We have entered into an agreement with Nu Vision Cleaning Services, LLC. Nu Vision will have staff in our building on a regular basis on Mondays and Fridays (no set times). In addition, they will return whenever necessary to set up the Fellowship Hall for receptions and events.

Please let the church office know if you have special set up needs or to request routine service. The contract will be administered by our Property Chair David Walls. Please let David know if you notice something out of the ordinary that needs attention; his cell number is 836-5636. ~ Jim Davis, Moderator

Work Day – We had a wonderful work day on Saturday, March 24, and completed the list that we had compiled for spring projects. Thanks to all who attended. ~ David Walls, Property Chairperson

Note: If you want something thrown away, put it in or on the top of a trash can (i.e., a cardboard box).

STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT

The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself. Proverbs 11:25

Stewardship report as of February 28, 2018 (16.67% of the year)

Offering income received year-to-date pledged donations; "give-as-I-can" donations; transient, Sunday School, and special offerings	$27,124.01	(23% of annual budget)
Total operating expenses year-to-date	$35,008.55	(19% of annual budget)

• For 2018, we received $350.17 in other income (interest, dividends, facility donations). We also received a $500.00 donation to our General Fund.

WORSHIP DEPARTMENT

Easter Sunday – We will be flowering the cross during the service on **April 1**. Flowers will be provided.

The "Toole Box" ♫

When the 1904 revised version of Hymns Ancient and Modern was published in London, the original version of a now-famous carol written by Charles Wesley read "Hark! How All the Welkin Rings!" Even in 1904, "welkin" meaning "sky" was falling out of use. Fourteen years later, the title became "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!" This is an early example of modern hymnals changing the words of hymns. Why?

Cases are made for changes from a variety of viewpoints: children's education, for example. Children interpret hymns differently than adults. They may hear "Gladly, the cross-eyed bear" rather than "Gladly the cross I'd bear." Another is archaic language; for example a familiar Wesley text originally referred to God's innermost being, reading, "to me, to all, Thy bowels move," was changed to "to me, to all, Thy mercies move." Lately, inclusive language has changed hymns to be inclusive of all genders, often improving the meaning or making them more personal, for example, "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" has become "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice."

Many changes in hymns are because of theology. Every hymnal has a theological committee that reviews each hymn. Sometimes minor changes are made in a single verse, but often entire hymns are omitted. More recently, national songs – not really hymns – have been omitted because it is felt that they do not belong in a book designed for the worship of God.

The biggest changes, though, come from a more practical point: many original hymns are just judged as being too long for worship. "O for a Thousand Tongues," originally had eighteen stanzas, and John Wesley in his directions for singing, said, "Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, and you will find it a blessing." Our "Chalice Hymnal" carries four stanzas of this hymn.

Every hymnal makes exceptions to every rule they make. Some of our hymns are not inclusive at all. Some are theologically questionable, some are too long. But let me again encourage you to open your hymnal or praise book EVEN IF YOU CANNOT SING, and read with praise in your hearts the words before you. And if you love the texts with which you grew up, go ahead and sing the old text! God loves your singing, silent or aloud.

Some of us don't like the changes of hymns when we learned a different version. I find it a bit irritating, but understand. I'm reminded of a humorous email sent to a hymnal committee from one of their members absent from a meeting. Calvin Seerveld sent, "I love you all, to be sure, but O you perfumers of words and phrases, you murderers of images, may you all be sunk six-feet deep in a bland Victorian cloud of colorless prose!"

May we all "...be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts." - Ephesians 5:18-19.

DISCIPLES WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP (DWF)

Mother-Daughter Luncheon – Our annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon will be **Saturday, May 5,** at noon. Ticket sales will be on Sunday, April 22, and Sunday, April 29, at a cost of $5.00 for children aged 10 and under and $12.00 for over 10 years of age. The theme this year will be Mardi Gras, and the food will be in the New Orleans style (and King cakes!). Dress festive!

ELDERS

Our next meeting will be on **Sunday, April 8**, following Worship. Please make plans to attend, but if you will not be attending, please let Barbara Ozlin know.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

We still have other organizations using our building, so we have to remember to be respectfully aware of this when we have our activities and share our space:

- Elim Church is on the calendar for Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Saturday evenings at 6:00 p.m., and Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. They also use our kitchen AND have a countertop marked specifically for their use.
- Bonay Kodesh uses the classroom upstairs over the Nursery every other Sunday from about 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. They have been seen in our kitchen on occasion AND they have a space in the closet in the hallway across from the old choir robes.
- Into Action (Alcoholics Anonymous) is on the calendar for Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Center. They also have permission to use the Youth Center IF they clear it with us for Saturday evenings for their special 12-week program for new members.

ANNIVERSARIES

Date		Names	Yrs
April	4	Alfred & Beverly Lacy, Jr.	48
April	26	Robert & Nancy Street	32
April	29	Jimmy & Donna Wicker	12

SYMPATHY

We express our Christian love and sympathy to:

- Florence and Paul Banks and family on the death of their son, James Edward Banks
- Brian Gradwell and family on the death of his cousin, John Brandon Filer
- Holly Scholl and family on the death of her grandmother, Rose Curtis

PRAYER CONCERNS – Please notify the church office when this information changes.

Acute:
Ann Hasty
Charley Lindsey
Carole Morris' brother Ron

Ongoing:

Florence & Paul Banks	Eddie & Phyllis Basl	Dee & Jim Evans
Hazel Helder	Helen Knighton	Dick Koch
Sandy Lewis	Earl & Elizabeth Little	Hilda Murrell
Juan Pletcher	Gay Purcell	Ken & Carol Roland
Connie Stroupe	Charlotte West	

members of our church family who may be struggling with chronic health issues, sadness, loneliness, and other burdens or who might just need a "prayer hug"

Extended Church Family:

Miriam Adams ..... John Lancaster's grandmother
Charles Thomas Brown ..... David Brown's brother
Eleanor Grundy ..... Rod Grundy's mother
Wallick Harding ..... Juan Pletcher's nephew
Patrick Maddox ..... Sara and Aaron Maddox' father
Al Miller ..... Jo Anne Dorneman's stepbrother
Geraldine Russell ..... Penny Gradwell's mother

Please pray for those who suffer from natural disasters and war; for all of our men and women in the military and their families; for our country, its leaders, and peace in our world; and for our church.

CREMATION INFORMATION

Pastor Jackie and Donna attended a meeting on February 28 at Bliley's Funeral Home and Crematorium on Hull Street Road. This session, presented by several of the staff at Bliley's including Carey Bliley, was to share information on the cremation process and the way things are handled there for the deceased and the family. If you have questions, we may be able to help.

DISTRICT VII

District VII Lunch and Variety Show, **Saturday, April 21**, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. at Battery Park Christian Church!

Do you have a talent you want to share? Are you musically inclined or a dancer? Or are you great at telling jokes? Then you are invited to share your talent at District VII's brand new event – a Variety Show. Of course, even if you don't want to perform an act, you are still invited to watch and get to know other people within our district. The District VII Board is hosting this in the hopes of fostering greater and deeper relationships between the members of all the churches in our district. Please consider attending this event, which is sure to be a fun afternoon of laughter and friendship. Contact Pastor Jackie if you want to participate and/or attend!

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC) IN VIRGINIA

Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (DOC) in Virginia
Friday, June 1, through Sunday, June 3
Lynchburg College

This year's Regional Assembly is just around the corner! Pastor Jackie will be attending, and if you are interested in attending too, let her know by April 15 (so we can get the early-bird registration). This year's speakers will be Rev. Theresa Hord Owens, our new General Minister and President, and Rev. Caroline Hamilton-Arnold, the Associate Director of Week of Compassion. Important business of the region will also be conducted. For more information, please contact Pastor Jackie.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR PASTOR JACKIE

A few months ago, I was invited by the director of the Week of Compassion (the Disciples of Christ disaster relief organization which we financially support) to participate in a trip to Myanmar/Burma and Thailand with a small group of young Disciples of Christ clergy, and at the last Board Meeting (March 18) the Board approved my participation on the trip. Myanmar/Burma has only fairly recently opened itself up to the rest of the world, so this trip is an information-gathering trip for Week of Compassion. During this trip, we will be visiting the Week of Compassion and Church World Service partner organizations in southern Myanmar/Burma. We will be working with grassroots development projects that support improvements to water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure and education, as well as young children's nutrition.

I am incredibly grateful for you, Bethany Christian Church, for generously supporting me in this endeavor! Thank you for the time away (Sunday evening, November 25, through Thursday, December 6) as well as your generous financial support. To help offset the cost of this trip, I will be planning a fundraiser here at the church in the fall. More details will be coming soon. I would greatly appreciate your support - in any way that you can help! ~ Blessings, Pastor Jackie

April 2018

AA: Alcoholics Anon
YC: Youth Center
DWF: Disciples Women's Fellowship
ELIM: Elim Church
FH: Fellowship Hall

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **Easter** **Easter Offering** Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am --- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	2	3 AA-YC 7:00 pm	4 Choir 7:30 pm	5 AA-YC 7:00 pm	6 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	7 ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
8 Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am --- Elders' mtg noon --- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	9	10 AA-YC 7:00 pm	11 Choir 7:30 pm	12 AA-YC 7:00 pm	13 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	14 Yard, Bake, BBQ sale 7 am to 1 pm --- ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
15 Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am --- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	16	17 DWF Circle #1 at church 10:00 am --- AA-YC 7:00 pm	18 Choir 7:30 pm	19 "Theology on Tap" at O'Toole's 6:30 pm (nursery at church 6:15 pm) --- AA-YC 7:00 pm	20 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	21 ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
22 Mother-Daughter lunch ticket sales Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am --- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm ---	23	24 AA-YC 7:00 pm	25 Choir 7:30 pm	26 DWF Circle #4 at church 7:00 pm --- AA-YC 7:00 pm	27 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	28 ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
29 Mother-Daughter lunch ticket sales Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am --- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	30					