



**Bethany
Christian Church**
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

The Newsette

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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May, 2018

Volume 57, Issue 5

"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**

MAY TEAM

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

PROPERTY OPENER and CLOSER

Danny Krantz

COMMUNION PREPARATION

6 - Danny & Margot Krantz
13 - Kim Brown & Sue Marion
20 - Dolores & Ed McCann
27 - Dolores & Ed McCann

USHERS - all month

Brian Gradwell
Conner Grubb
Johnny Grubb

WORSHIP LEADERS

6 - Dolores McCann
13 - Kevin Scholl
20 - Pentecost Penny Gradwell
27 - Linda Spencer

MAY TEAM (continued)

ELDERS

6 - Dolores McCann &
Johnny Grubb
13 - Becky Murrell &
Kevin Scholl
20 - Pentecost Brian & Penny
Gradwell
27 - Ray Crawford &
Linda Spencer

•Communion to Home Bound

Brian & Penny Gradwell

DEACONS - all month

Captain: Mark Kimmel
Geoff Gangloff
Alyssa Oatman
Frances Pully
substitute: Barbara Koch

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

6 - Duane Toole
13 - Sue Marion
20 - Pastor Jackie Twedell
27 - Sue Marion

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

"I'm only wishin' to go a-fishin'; for this, the month of May was made." ~ Henry Van Dyke

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

I recently received a beautiful book of poetry – *Devotions* by Mary Oliver. I had never really felt very connected to poetry before (I was more interested in reading fiction and biography), but as soon as I began the first page of Mary Oliver's newest collection, I have had a hard time putting it down. Her poetry is so beautiful...so simple, yet so evocative and vivid. I have found such meaning in her poems.

One in particular has stayed with me. It is called "Mysteries, Yes."

Truly, we live with mysteries too marvelous
to be understood.

How grass can be nourishing in the
mouths of the lambs.

How rivers and stones are forever in allegiance with gravity
while we ourselves dream of rising.

How two hands touch and the bonds will
never be broken.

How people come, from delight or the scars of damage,
to the comfort of a poem.

Let me keep my distance, always, from those
who think they have answers.

Let me keep company always with those who say
"Look!" and laugh in astonishment,
and bow their heads.

As we remain in this Easter season, I continue to be amazed by the wonderful mystery of the resurrection! There are so many things I can hardly begin to understand – the empty tomb, how plants grow even in places that seem unsustainable to life, what life eternal with God will look like, how simple words on a page can speak such profound words of life to those who read it, how new life is present even, and especially, in the midst of death. But even though I cannot fully know these things, I find comfort in the mystery of it all. I find comfort that in the mystery, God is there.

I encourage you, this Easter season, to continue to look for God in your lives...look for the small promises of resurrection...look for the ways that mystery brings you closer to God's presence. Look! For the promise of resurrection really is all around!
~ Blessings, Pastor Jackie

I will be out of the office from **Tuesday, May 15, through Friday, May 18**. If you have a pastoral need during this time, please contact Barbara Ozlin (Elder Chairperson) or Jim Davis (Moderator).

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

Thank you to all those who helped make the Yard, BBQ, Bake and Breakfast sales a great success. We appreciate your talents, energy, and accomplishments SO much! Also, a thank you to the generous donors in our community who provided money or goods to help with our bake and breakfast sales:

- Food Lion at 6815 Forest Hill Avenue
- Fresh Market at 1200 Huguenot Road
- WalMart at 2410 Sheila Lane
- Route 60 Grill at 11001 Midlothian Turnpike

OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

Church World Service – The kits and buckets that we have collected will be picked up **Thursday, May 24**, between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Pentecost – The 2018 Pentecost Offering will be collected at Bethany Christian Church on **Sunday, May 20 and Sunday, May 27**. This offering supports our new church development. Planning, nurturing and sustaining a new congregation is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports that specialized ministry with half used in our region and the other half for similar work throughout the church's areas of operation. As members and friends of Bethany, please consider supporting this very important ministry with your offering on these dates.

STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this", says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Malachi 3:10

Stewardship report as of March 31, 2018 (25% of the year)

Offering income received year-to-date	\$37,365.76 (31% of annual budget)
pledged donations; "give-as-I-can" donations; transient, Sunday School, and special offerings	
Total operating expenses year-to-date	\$50,389.20 (28% of annual budget)

So far for 2018, we have received \$3,721.14 in other income (interest, dividends, facility donations) and a \$500.00 donation to our General Fund. We also recognized a \$5,764.40 loss in our Perpetual Endowment Fund investment.

WORSHIP DEPARTMENT

Easter Celebration – We would like to thank everyone who helped plan, organize, and/or participated in our Easter celebration. We also appreciate the people who provided security for the prayer vigil. There are many people who do the "Behind the Scene" jobs to make our worship experience possible and so meaningful.

Youth Sunday – Reminder from Sarah Oatman that practices for Youth Sunday will be April 29 and May 6 in the Sanctuary during Sunday School. Youth Sunday will be a special day on Mother's Day, **May 13**, when our youth and children take charge of the entire service. Chloe Blair will be giving the message.

NOTE from the Worship Department: We are looking forward to Youth Sunday. Please don't let this be a Sunday you decide to stay at home. The Youth are Bethany's future, so let's support them.

DISCIPLES WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP (DWF)

Mother-Daughter Luncheon – Our annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon will be **Saturday, May 5**, at noon. Ticket sales are \$5.00 for children aged 10 and under and \$12.00 for over 10 years of age – contact Linda Spencer at (804) 727-9789 if you haven't already purchased tickets. The theme this year will be Mardi Gras, and the food will be in the New Orleans style (and King cakes!). Dress festive! The service project will be to bring canned and/or boxed goods for the Bainbridge food box.

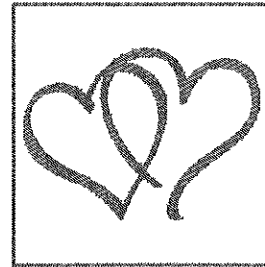
IMPORTANT REMINDER

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 (see the fluorescent pink sign). NOTE: On Saturday, May 12, they will be having a wedding here from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (and their set up is on Friday)
- 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
6	David & Carole Moyer.....	23
8	Geoff & Laura Terry	8
15	Geoff & Kim Gangloff.....	25
20	Brian & Penny Gradwell	40
20	Darrell & Lori Blair	18
21	Matt & Trish Carpenter	30
22	John & Robin Lancaster	8
27	Ross & Jo Anne Dorneman	51
27	Kevin & Kim Brown	11
31	Michael & Ashley Koch	21
31	Gregg & Cindy Nivala.....	38



DIRECTORY UPDATES

Chloe Blair email cb.sugarbee12@gmail.com
Lori Blair email lori695@gmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

Please send the following information to the office for our young people graduating:
graduate's full name, name of school, special honors or designations, date of graduation, plans after graduation.

SYMPATHY

We express our Christian love and sympathy to Bettie and Charles "Rusty" Lindsey and family on the death of Charles "Charley" Knight Lindsey on April 8 and to Jimmy Wicker and family on the death of his aunt, Jo Ann O'Hara, on April 12.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone who contributed food or money or who helped with the setting up, serving and cleanup for the reception after the funeral of Charley Lindsey. Your names are too many to list here for the reason that we have such a loving church! Thanks again, God Bless.

~ Dee Evans and Dee McCann

Thank you to everyone who expressed sympathy to our family on the passing of our wonderful Aunt Jo Ann O'Hara. We were truly blessed to have her in our lives.

~ Jimmy and Donna Wicker

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



Acute:

Roy Clark and his 11-year-old grandson
Ann Hasty
Margot Krantz' friend
Sandy Lewis
Jocelyn and Gary Lowzik (Dee McCann's cousin and husband)
Brianna Musik and family
Kevin Scholl

Ongoing:

Florence & Paul Banks	Eddie & Phyllis Basl	Dee & Jim Evans
Hazel Heider	Helen Knighton	Dick Koch
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
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.

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. 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.

IMPORTANT FLOWER ANNOUNCEMENT

Our vendor for Sunday flowers for Worship, Coleman Brothers, has let us know that they are going to have to go up on the cost of flowers. **Effective May 1**, the cost will go from \$22 to \$26. We have been using Coleman Brothers for church flowers since 1992, and we have been fortunate to have remained at the same price for at least eight years!!

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

JUST A THOUGHT

Those in leadership positions, especially ministry positions, are a prime target for the devil. And the devil uses our complaints to discourage those giving their time in service. Because of this, we must do more than simply "not complain." We have a positive duty to encourage, and help fill their tank so they are better able to see the devil's work in the constant complaints. As St. Paul tell us, "(l)et no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear." Ephesians 4:29

DID YOU KNOW ...

This is our current **MISSION** statement (January 11, 2004):

Bethany Christian Church will share the good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed. With the power of the Holy Spirit, we ...

- o *Create an environment in which everyone grows spiritually through worship, Bible study, prayer and stewardship*
- o *Maintain and encourage a nurturing church family*
- o *Emphasize ministry with children, youth, and young adults, recognizing that the future of Bethany Christian Church lies with them*
- o *Support and practice evangelism*
- o *Engage in outreach ministries*

AND we have **two VISION** statements (January 11, 2004, and November 20, 2011):

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

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.

DID YOU ALSO KNOW ...

Our first woman Elder was Mary Huband who began as Elder July 1, 1975. The next woman Elder was Mary Clark (July 1, 1976). Our first women Deacons were Elsie Reamy and June Sears beginning July 1, 1977.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2018</h1>						AA: Alcoholics Anon YC: Youth Center DWF: Disciples Women's Fellowship ELIM: Elim Church FH: Fellowship Hall
		1 AA-YC 7:00 pm	2 Choir 7:30 pm	3 AA-YC 7:00 pm	4 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	5 Mother-Daughter covered dish luncheon noon ----- ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
6 Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am ----- Crafters 4:00 pm ----- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	7	8 AA-YC 7:00 pm	9 Choir 7:30 pm	10 AA-YC 7:00 pm	11 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	12 ELIM-FH 5:00 pm wedding
13 Mother's Day Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am -Youth Sunday ----- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	14	15 DWF Circle #1 at Carrabba's 11:30 am ----- AA-YC 7:00 pm -----	16 Choir 7:30 pm ----- Pastor Jackie out	17 "Theology on Tap" at O'Toole's 6:30 pm (nursery at church 6:15 pm) ----- AA-YC 7:00 pm -----	18 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm -----	19 ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
20 Pentecost Offering Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am ----- Board Mtg noon ----- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm	21	22 AA-YC 7:00 pm	23 Choir 7:30 pm	24 Church World Svc pickup 9:00 am ----- Comm Grp-FH 6:00 pm ----- DWF Circle #4 at church 7:00 pm ----- AA-YC 7:00 pm	25 ELIM-FH 7:30 pm	26 ELIM-FH 6:00 pm band practice
27 Pentecost Offering Sun School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am ----- ELIM-FH 4:00 pm ----- Jun Newsette deadline	28 church office closed ~Memorial Day	29 AA-YC 7:00 pm	30 Choir 7:30 pm	31 AA-YC 7:00 pm		