

# The Bethany Letter

SUNDAY ~ AUGUST 29, 2010

VOLUME 2010

ISSUE NO. 28

*The Rev. Stephen Gehlert, Senior Minister*

*The Rev. Mark Steiner, Visitation Minister*

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## **Whether or Not You Can Be Here for *Rally Sunday* ~ We Hope You'll Share in *Catch Up Sunday***

Last week's front page was about the many reasons to come and share in worship and fellowship on Rally Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. To share in all of them but one, you need to be here, in person. The one exception is the *Catch Up Sunday* part of that day. In fact, whether you live near or far, you can share in "Catch Up Sunday." All you need to do is help us "Catch Up."

Over the years we've celebrated *Catch Up Sunday* as a way of renewing our commitments to God and Bethany Church. This has been useful to many who find, at the end of a busy summer, that they've fallen behind on their giving commitments.

There's much to celebrate about the continued vitality of Bethany's ministry and mission. Both the continued vitality and the growth of our ministry and mission are supported by our financial commitments. With year-to-date giving toward Bethany's operating budget behind by thousands of dollars, it's important that all of us do what we can to "catch up." So, once again, we've made *Catch Up Sunday* part of our *Rally Sunday* celebration. In the next few days, you'll be receiving your statement for giving through the end of August.

- † If you are behind on your estimated giving, we invite you to do what you can to catch up.
- † If your situation no longer allows you to fulfill your estimated giving, please let us know.
- † If your ability to give has grown, we hope that you will take this opportunity to help your faith family "catch up" by letting your giving grow as well.

You can do all of these things whether or not you can be here on September 12<sup>th</sup>. All you need is a willing heart, an envelope, and a stamp.

I hope all of us can share in the important "catch up" part of *Rally Day*. It's about much more than money. It's about the faithfulness to our shared commitments that help make Bethany such a wonderful church. Thanks to all of you for all you've already given in support of our on-going ministry and mission.

*With Gratitude and Hope,*



## Pastoral Care August/September

Pastor Steve is on sabbatical through September 11<sup>th</sup>

*If you have pastoral care needs during this time, please contact:*

† **Rev. Mark Steiner** 330-264-6034 (home)  
330-347-3692 (cell)

**Or...**

*If you are unable to reach Rev. Steiner you may contact:*

† **Rev. Kirk Bruce** 330-928-4847 (wk)  
Pilgrim Church 330-929-2507 (home)

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### ***“The Bethany Letter”***

Bethany’s newsletter (*TBL*) continues on a weekly basis; available also on our website [www.bethanyucc.org](http://www.bethanyucc.org). Please help with our cost for postage by picking up your newsletter every Sunday. Otherwise, it will be mailed the next day. **Deadline for news articles: Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.**



### *With a Voice of Singing*

**“He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God.” Ps 40:2**

This is what the Chancel Choir is all about – singing in celebration, praise, and prayer to God in worship. What a great opportunity to express your faith through God’s gift of music. The Chancel Choir rehearses every Thursday from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. **Our first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Choir Room.** Seasoned singer, new singer, or just curious about singing, are welcome!

*“with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God.” Col 3:16*

## **Bethany Kitchen**

We served 76 meals to 50 guests at Bethany Kitchen last Saturday. The meal went smoothly thanks to the volunteers who helped prepare, serve and clean up. Your help with and support of this mission for our community was greatly appreciated. Thanks to Lou Atleson, Marty Crichton, Harry Cool, Gregg, Grace and Kevin Fratz, Bill Leas, Sue Mancinelli, Cheryl McGraw, Martha and Bob Peyak, Bob Pletzer, Janice Smith, and Mary Joe Trail.



## **Bethany Buckeyes**

**FRIDAY ~ SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**come and join us!**

**WE WILL EAT AT 6:00 PM**

The start of the **2010/2011** Bethany Buckeyes will take place **THIS Friday!**

### **A Brief Summary**

The Bethany Buckeyes is a group of age 50 and older young-at-heart adults who gather the first Friday of the month at 6:00 p.m. to share food, fun, and fellowship. Each year three or four people pick a month to cook or order food in for the evening. Kathy Keenan has volunteered to prepare the meal every other month so fewer cooks are needed this year! The menu is the choice of the cooks who are reimbursed for the cost of the food. A donation of \$4.00 a person is made each month and money left over is given to whatever Bethany cause decided upon at the end of the year. After dinner we play cards, board games, Dominos, etc., and these games are enjoyed by various size groups. These games are NOT-AT-ALL-SERIOUS ~ JUST FUN!!!! Our average attendance is 24-30 people. We would love to see this number increase and welcome you to our first gathering this fall. Please TRY us; we think you will enjoy the night. Sign up is the Wednesday BEFORE so we know how many to expect for dinner. Meetings are not held in January, February, July and August.

Coordinators: 2010/2011 Phyllis Casper & Lou Atleson.



# hymn parade Sunday

We hope you voted all summer long for your favorite hymns. It's time to count the votes and see what made Bethany's "Top Ten" list! Please join us Sunday, **September 5<sup>th</sup>** for Hymn Parade Sunday and sing along with your Bethany family!

The first Sunday of each month, **Bethany's volunteer nurses**, Linda Goodwin and Holly Keenan, offer blood pressure tests during social hour. Look for them **September 5<sup>th</sup>**.

**Office Closed  
Monday, September 6th  
Labor Day**

## Rally Sunday – September 12<sup>th</sup>

*A Time to Gather Together! A Time to "Catch Up!"*

Our summer season is drawing to a close. It will soon be time to begin our fall program year. Everything will begin on Rally Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. This will include:

- 8:30 Early worship returns to the sanctuary
- 9:15 Sunday School infants –12<sup>th</sup> grade, Classrooms  
Adults – *The Gospel According to Mark (Steiner)*  
Social Hall
- 10:30 Worship with Chancel Choir in the Sanctuary
- 11:30 "Welcome Back" Lunch  
(with information about upcoming programs)

**All Day – Catch Up Sunday – a chance for us to "catch up" if we've fallen behind on our giving.**

## Confirmation News - September 12<sup>th</sup>

### First Year Confirmand/ Mentor Meal – Lounge

New Confirmands and their mentors will have their first opportunity to get acquainted by sharing a meal and doing the first session in their *Making Disciples* workbook together.

## 7thDay

Do you find yourself using earphones when you get a free moment? Do you always check to make sure that your IPOD is fully charged before you go to bed? Do you change the presets in your parents' car to your favorite stations? Have you gone to a concert in the last 12 months. Congratulations, you are a genuine music lover! I have a great opportunity for you to share your love of music with your friends and your church family – **7<sup>th</sup>Day's FIRST rehearsal is Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:30-12:30** in the sanctuary. If you lie to sing or play guitar, drums, etc., **7thDay** needs you! *Everyone is welcome!* Beth McDevitt



## Christian Education Schedule 2010/2011 for Children and Adults

### Begins ~ Sunday, September 12, 2010

**9:15 am to 11:30 am** *Nursery available*

**9:15 am** **Adult Classes** (Combined Classes 9/12)

**9:15 am** **CHRISTIAN ED for Children**

**ATTENTION:** We have reorganized the structure of our children's classes by following UCC Safe Church Policy and a decreasing number of children. New Classes:

**Grades 1-3 will meet in Room 2 (down)**

**Grades 4-6 will meet in Room 11 (up)**

**Children START** Sunday School Class and then at ...

**10:30 am** ... children leave class and attend worship service, returning to class after the children's message to finish their lesson. Class ends at 11:30 a.m.

*We would appreciate the children attending our full two-hour Sunday School program offered at Bethany.*

## Young Shepherd's Choir

Welcome Back – or welcome for the first time to the Young Shepherd's Choir! All children grades 1-6 are invited to start their Sunday morning singing with their friends. What a great way to start the day! Choir begins Sunday, **September 12<sup>th</sup>** from 9:30-9:50 a.m. Through music the children learn about God's love and many stories in the Bible, learn to share their gifts of music with the congregation monthly and also share a Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve. I am looking forward to seeing you all on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Beth McDevitt, Children's Music Director*



## Youth Fellowship News

6:30 p.m. – Youth Fellowship

Parent/Youth Meeting – Donato's

Parents and Youth will meet briefly with Youth Sponsors Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the

program for the coming year. We'll share important information, fill out needed forms, and recruit help for special times. After the meeting youth will stay for an election of officers, games, and pizza.

## Family Promise Host Week

Our next host week begins Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Please consider

volunteering to help this week and contact one of our team leaders:

Carol Clemente - meal preparation;  
Carolyn B. Hofmann - overnight and Family Center volunteers (September 12 and 18); and Frank Read - van drivers. Thanks to our many volunteers who help make this week possible.



**Children of Abraham: Members of One Family**

**Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**9:30a – 9:30p**

**Furnace Run Metro Park**

**A Retreat**



**Mark your calendar now!**

Abraham, who obeyed God's call to leave a settled life and go to a place that God would show him where in spite of his old age, he would become the father of a people through whom all the world would be blessed, is the father of our faith. His obedience to God's call was the seed through which the Jewish faith, then Christianity, but also Islam, have grown. The Retreat Committee would like to invite members of the Bethany family to reconnect with these roots and also develop connections with others of God's children, who are also descendants of Abraham, from the Jewish and Muslim faiths. The retreat will include sharing by representatives of all three faiths, time for crafts and recreation, some great food, inspiring worship, and lively entertainment. It's being planned to be a special day for all ages. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

## Altar Flowers

### Sign Up for 2010/2011

The Flower Chart Book ~ located in the gathering area ~ includes the altar flower sign up sheet. When you sign up for a Sunday please **1)** fill in the date you want on the chart; **2)** fill out a pink sheet with all the information requested; **3) PLEASE** put the pink sheet in the mail box next to the office door.



*Please remember in your prayers..*

- † Donna Bidwell, home
- † Barbara Sunycz, Heather Knolls
- † Jeanette Paddison, Sunrise



## In Case of Emergency.....



*... Who would the church call?*

Unexpected things happen to all of us from time to time. Have you thought about what would happen if you should fall or perhaps become ill and unable to speak for yourself while here at church? Does the church have information regarding a relative or other responsible person who could be contacted quickly? This is something we may all want to think about. The office would like to add such information to our Rolodex cards so in the event of an emergency we would have someone to call quickly. Let us know if this would be something you would like to have placed in our files.

*Thank you,*

### Thanks for supporting Good Neighbors

Thanks to everyone who brought in and donated school supplies for Good Neighbors. This will help many children in our community.

## *Altar Flowers given in August by ...*

8/01 **Phyllis Casper** in memory of Jack

8/22 **Lou Atleson**, in memory of loved ones; and **Jeanette Allen**

Calendar for additions to ~ or ~ changes to the  
2010 monthly calendar mailed to you.  
August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 12<sup>th</sup>

8/30 9:00a Quilters  
8/31 10:00a Newsletter Deadline

**September...**

9/01  
9/02 12:15p Newsletter Preparation  
7:30p Chancel Choir Rehearsal ☺  
9/03 6:00p Buckeyes ☺  
9/04

**Sunday ~ September 5, 2010**

† Nursery Available 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.  
† **Hymn Parade Sunday**

**8:30a Worship** (Communion)  
**9:30a Worship**

9/06 OFFICE CLOSED  
9/07 No Staff Meeting  
10:30a Newsletter Deadline  
7:15p Finance Committee Meeting  
9/08 6:45p Spiritual Council  
7:30p Consistory  
9/09 7:30p Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
9/10  
9/11 8:00a S.H./ Lounge/ Gym Rsrvd. 6:00p

**Fall Schedule Begins**  
**Sunday ~ September 12, 2010**

† Nursery Available 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.  
† Rev. Rich Plant, guest preacher  
† **Family Promise Guest Week**

**8:30a Worship** (Healing & Reconciliation) Sanctuary  
9:15a Church School for Children (1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>)  
Combined Adult Classes in Social Hall  
**10:30a Worship/ Children's Sunday School**  
**11:30a Rally Sunday Lunch**  
11:30a 1<sup>st</sup> yr. Conf/Mentor Meal (Lounge)  
11:30a 7<sup>th</sup> Day Rehearsal  
5:30p Youth Committee Meeting  
6:00p Family Promise Meal (S. Hall)  
6:30p YF Youth/Parents/Confirmants @ Donato's  
7:00p YF Donato's – pizza, games

Names of **Sunday Volunteers** are published  
**AHEAD OF THE SCHEDULED** Sunday as a  
kindly *reminder* and early *thank you!*

If you are unable to volunteer the day you are scheduled, please remember to...  
† **Find someone** to take your place ... **and then**  
† **call the church office** so we may make the necessary changes on our schedules

**Volunteers for September 5<sup>th</sup>**

Cup Washer: A. Zeller  
Greeters: G. Czetli, L. Atleson / M. Pieratt  
Lay Reader: M. Peyak  
Special Music: T. Buck, vocal - Hymns  
Nursery: H. Bowman  
Ushers: C. Hofmann, B. Charton, J. Grazulis, J. Seymour,  
H. Koudela, K. Koudela, L. Sheppard, N. Buck  
Van Driver: B. Read  
Visitor Outlook: M.J. Trail



**Volunteers for September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Cup Washing: C. Eberhardt  
Greeters: A. Mabie, M. Craddock / C. McGraw  
Lay Reader:  
Special Music: Chancel Choir  
Nursery: \*A. Thompson, E.&N. Zeller, K. Renner  
Ushers: L. Luginbill, M. Jensen, S. Truby, S. Ward,  
K. Fratz, B. Pletzer, C.&D. Schreiber  
Van Driver: F. Read  
Visitor Outlook: H. Bedillion

**Bethany United  
Church of Christ**

1235 Broad Blvd.  
Cuyahoga Falls OH 44223

Office: 330-923-5277  
Fax: 330-923-3210

Website  
[www.bethanyucc.org](http://www.bethanyucc.org)



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