

# The Bethany Letter

SUNDAY ~ JUNE 13, 2010

VOLUME 2010

ISSUE NO. 22

*The Rev. Stephen Gehlert, Senior Minister*

*The Rev. Mark Steiner, Visitation Minister*

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## Health Care ... for Christians

The debate about health care reform has often been angry and heated. That's why I was grateful for these thoughtful words from William Willimon that come at it from a completely different, and decidedly Christian, angle.

*During the national health care insurance debate in the United States, I think that one thing that was missing was any consideration of the moral demands of being sick. I'm all for good health care. I am very grateful for the health care plan that the church so generously provides for me. But I must say that when you go out to say to someone like me, "Now we are going to insure that you get great health care," then I am a demanding patient! Too often many of us confuse legitimate "health care" with "immortality management." We want there to be some sort of medicine that not only heals our aches and pains but also enables us to live forever! Any evidence of my mortality, any indication of my weak human situation, is considered an injustice. I live under the widespread but dead-wrong myth that it is possible for me to live my human life without:*

- 1. Health consequences for my unhealthy lifestyle choices.*
- 2. Physical pains or long-term inconvenience.*
- 3. Any threat that whatever is wrong with me can't be fixed by medical technology and fixed right now.*
- 4. My having to admit that I may just be a human being, finite, frail, and mortal, after all.*

*Here is where the church has a real mission in regard to health care – to keep reminding me that health care is a sign of a compassionate, well-functioning society but that health care need not be squandered in ministering to our collective delusions of immortality. One reason why health care is so terribly expensive in our country is that we have made a decision to provide health care to those (like me) who can afford it without regard to basic questions of age, feasibility, and cost-benefit ratio, etcetera.*

*John Welsey used to brag, "Our people die well." The church is, among other things, a place where I am taught my true condition (I am an animal, not a god) and I am freed from my delusions and myths about myself, and I am trained to – in life and in death, in life beyond death – rest secure in the arms of a loving and beneficent God.*

*I wish we could talk about health care like Christians.*

So do I, William Willimon, so do I!

*Grace and Peace,*



# Summer

Worship Schedule ~ Two Services

- 8:30 a.m. A casual, informal worship service held in the Social Hall
- 9:30 a.m. A Traditional worship service in the Sanctuary.

*Sunday School for children* is held during the 9:30 hour. First – Sixth Graders attend the service with their parents and then go to their class after the Children’s message – held in the library. Nursery children are in class for the whole hour.

## “The Bethany Letter”

To save on cost associated with the preparation and distribution of our newsletter, *TBL* will be ready on our website or you may pick it up at church on the following Sundays this summer:

- Today, & June 27
- July 11, 25
- August 8, 22, 29 ...

... to continue weekly

*TBL* will be mailed (if not picked up) on the Monday after the above listed Sundays. Deadline for summer news articles: **10:00 a.m. the Tuesday before.**

## Reminder

### Camp Planning

We have much to do at our two planning times:

- Today, June 13, 10:30 – 12:30
- Sunday, July 18, 10:30 – 12:30

We will meet in the lounge immediately after 9:30 worship!



## Pastoral Care in June

Pastor Steve will be on vacation June 14 – 26. If you have pastoral care needs during that time, please contact:

- June 14-17 Rev. Mark Steiner 330-264-6034
- June 18-20 Rev. Kirk Bruce 330-928-4847 (wk)  
330-929-2507 (hm)
- June 21-25 Rev. Mark Steiner 330-264-6034
- June 26 Rev. Kirk Bruce 330-928-4847 (wk)  
330-929-2507 (hm)

## Sign Up for Camp!

July 25 – 30



## Camp Bethany/New Trinity

If you have a child of camp age (finishing 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and would like to register him or her for camp here’s what you need to know:

### Camp Bethany – New Trinity

- Date: July 25 - 30
- Place: Camp Trinity, Navarre, OH



**Cost: \$ 160 if registered by June 15**  
\$ 200 if registered by July 15

*Note: registration includes full fee payment.*

- Forms: available in social hall & workroom
- To Help: sign up to do a meal or donate food

*Don’t forget...*

**Scholarships are available to any camp!**

## MEN’S BREAKFAST 6/16

### CANCELED



### Men’s Volunteer Breakfast

It is a great time for men of the church to get together to share faith, food, and fellowship together; as well as a few chores with which the custodians could use some help. The men gather the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8:00 a.m. (Next breakfast June 16.)

## Bethany Kitchen

### Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

### 11:30 a.m.



**Bethany Kitchen provides a free luncheon for those in the community who need a meal. Help is always needed for food preparation, serving and cleaning up. All are welcome to join us and enjoy fellowship and lunch.**

# IHN Updates



IHN has been very busy this year. So far we have served 66 guests. At this time last year we had served 30 guests. There are currently 15 guests in the program, which is more than we usually serve at one time and it has been as high as 17. Supplies are needed at the Family Center. A wish list from the IHN Director, Pamela Betty, is included in this mailing. A box is marked in the social hall ready to receive your donations. Our next host week begins **Sunday, June 27.**

☞ One way for IHN to cut expenses is to do away with paying help on weekends. The host church is now responsible for getting the volunteers for the Family Center during their host week. This means we will need to find two volunteers for Sunday, June 27 for 2 shifts, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 2:30-5:30 p.m. and three on Saturday, July 3 for 8:30-11:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 2:30-5:30 p.m.. The alternative to finding volunteers is paying a student \$24 for the 3-hour shift. The Mission committee cannot cover this cost. Volunteering at the Family Center involves just being at the center. You can read or play with the kids, visit with the parents, or read a book.

☞ Please consider volunteering to help during our week and contact one of our team leaders: Carol Clemente-meal preparation, Bob Pletzer-overnight volunteers, Frank Read-van drivers and Carolyn B. Hofmann- Family Center Volunteers. Thanks to our many volunteers who help make this week possible.

*Carolyn B. Hofmann*

# Women's Fellowship



# Picnic

Monday June 21<sup>st</sup>

6:00 p.m.



Bring a dish to share!

Home of Lynette Shepherd  
203 Terrace Drive  
Munroe Falls

## Have a Favorite Hymn?

What a great treasure we, as Christians have, in the hymns of the church. Through them we give thanks and praise to God. Through them God comforts, challenges, and inspires us. We're going to celebrate that treasure in a special way with "Hymn Parade Sunday," when we'll be singing the "Top Ten" favorite hymns of our Bethany family. How will we know what those hymns are? **YOU** are going to tell us!



All through the summer, every Sunday, you'll have a chance to share your favorite hymn on your attendance card. One vote per week, use them as you choose: name the same hymn every week, or a different one each week; it's up to you. But one vote, per person, per week. Then, on September 5<sup>th</sup> we'll have a "Hymn Parade" count down in worship to celebrate what a gift it is to sing these songs together.

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# Bethany Night at Donato's



The Youth Fellowship will be hosting *Bethany Night at Donato's*, Wednesday, **June 30<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Join us! We have a great time! Good food and fellowship!

**Please, we NEED TWIN SIZE  
BED SHEETS for IHN.**

**Guests are coming to Bethany  
on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June.**



*Please remember in your prayers...*



Harvey Morrow, Akron General Hospital

Bobbie Berie, Falls Village

Margaret Deacon, Home (from hospital)

Amy Randall, Home (from hospital)

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# THANK YOU

*As Long as We're Together,  
... It Doesn't Matter at All!*

To quote an old song, "Who cares for stormy weather, what if the sky should fall, as long as we're together, it doesn't matter at all."

No, the weather certainly didn't cooperate. It was rainy, with severe storm warnings. So, we couldn't hold the Annual Picnic at Oak Park. But the Social Hall gave us a place to be together, so it really didn't "matter at all." Thanks to Kathy Keenan's planning, the work of her helpers, and all who brought food, we had a feast to share. Thanks to Carolyn Shroyer's recruiting of game leaders from the adult classes, our children had lots of fun in the gym. Thanks to Eddie Frederick's "inspiration," we had great music from 7<sup>th</sup> Day (and several of their alumni) to entertain us. Finally, thanks to all who made the time a blessing by the gift of your presence.

***Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!***

On behalf of Team F.A.C.E., Brody and Christine, Amber, Juliana, Brad and Susan Bebout would like to thank you for your support. With your help we not only met but also exceeded our goals. As a team we raised over \$5,900.00. The Stow-Munroe Falls Relay raised \$65,000.00. This money goes toward helping people stay well, helping people get well, finding cures, and fighting back. The Relay is over, but the fundraising is not, so if you would still like to make a donation we can still help you do that. Once Again, Thank you for your support! *The Bebout Family*

## **Fresh Tips for Reusing Plastic**

<http://earth911.com/news/2010/06/07/fresh-tips-for-reusing-plastic>

Check out the above site for reusing plastic ideas! Here are a few if you do not have access to the Internet:

1. Use the bags that bread comes in to clean up after the dog.
2. Instead of buying gift bags or wrapping paper, buy reusable plastic or fabric bags from retailers. They're usually cheaper and several recipients have commented that they now take theirs shopping with them.
3. Use the really huge bottles of pretzels and snacks to hold bulky garage type stuff, like really tangled string or rope and leftover renovation type items like painters tape or springs from curtain rods, etc.

## **STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING**

Your gift to Strengthen the Church builds the UCC's future now by funding The Stillspeaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries and lay and pastoral leadership formation – especially among women and people of color. The God is Stillspeaking Ministry spreads the message of God's extravagant welcome, reaching out especially to those who have felt there is no room for them within Christianity and the church – the excluded and alienated, the spiritually homeless, the questioning. In the last two years, Stillspeaking reached an estimated 25 million people through national, regional and local advertising. Your offerings are directed to your church's Conference, Local church Ministries and The Stillspeaking Ministry for these church development, leader development and Stillspeaking purposes. Your generosity today ensures our vibrancy tomorrow.

Calendar for additions to ~ or ~ changes to the  
2010 monthly calendar mailed to you.  
June 14<sup>th</sup> to June 27<sup>th</sup>

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

6/14 9:00a Quilters  
9:30a Prayer Shawl Ministry (Lounge)  
6/15  
6/16  
6/17  
6/18  
6/19 11:30a Bethany Kitchen (Social Hall)



## Sunday, June 20, 2010

† Nursery Available 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.  
† Mary Seymour, guest preacher  
† **Father's Day!**

**8:30a Worship** (Fellowship) ~ In the Social Hall  
**9:30a Worship** ~ In the Sanctuary  
10:30a Social Hour Host: Endowment Board

### Volunteers for June 20<sup>th</sup>

Cup Washing: A. Zeller  
Greeters: C.&D. Schreiber / H.&J. Edwards  
Lay Reader: G. Jensen  
Special Music: Jessi Baughman, bagpiper  
Nursery: H. Bowman  
Ushers: J. Mancinelli, M. Jensen, J. Grazulis,  
J. Seymour, Karen Fratz, M. Spring,  
C.&D. Schreiber  
Van Driver:  
Visitor Outlook: H. Bedillion

6/21 9:00a Quilters  
6:00p **Women's Fellowship PICNIC**  
(L. Shepherd's home)

6/22 10:00a Newsletter Deadline

6/23 7-7:30p Committee Night (if you meet)

6/24

6/25

6/26 (SH) Reserved

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

## Sunday ~ June 27, 2010

† Nursery Available 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.  
† **IHN Guest Week**

**8:30a Worship** (Traditional) ~ In the Social Hall  
**9:30a Worship** ~ In the Sanctuary  
10:30a Coffee Hour  
6:00p IHN Meal (Social Hall)

### Volunteers for June 27<sup>th</sup>

Cup Washer: C. Eberhardt  
Greeters: R.&P. Novak / B.&S. Bebout  
Special Music: F. Heyburn, saxophone  
Nursery: N. Zeller  
Ushers: L. Luginbill, F. Read, J.&M. Seymour,  
H. Bowman, M. Jensen, L. Sheppard, R. Berie  
Van Driver: Carol Frederick  
Visitor Outlook: N. Buck

**Bethany United  
Church of Christ**

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Website

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

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Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223-2428

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# Vacation Bible School

Bethany UCC 1235 Broad Blvd., Cuy. Falls

**Dates: July 12<sup>th</sup> ~ July 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

*We hope you'll join us for **Hero Headquarters!**  
Age 4 through completed grade 5 are invited to join us!*

*Cost is \$5 per child with a maximum of \$10 per family.*

**Registration required.** You may register online [www.bethanyucc.org](http://www.bethanyucc.org)

*Payment may be made to the church office or brought in on the first day of VBS.*

WHERE KIDS JOIN FORCES WITH GOD!



Standard  
PUBLISHING

# HERO

## HEADQUARTERS