



The Bethany Letter

Sunday ~ October 16, 2011
Rev. Stephen Gehlert, Senior Minister

VOLUME 2011

ISSUE NO. 34
Rev. Mark Steiner, Visitation Minister

Don't forget Bell Choir Practice Mondays
7:00 p.m. Join us - you might like it!
All are welcome!



Chancel Choir Practice - Thursdays at 7:15 pm



10/16	6:30p	Halloween Planning
10/23	5:30p	Halloween Planning / Oktoberfest
10/30	2:00p	Set Up and Host Halloween Party



2011 / 2012

Oct. 23	10:30a	Lead Family Sunday Liturgy
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Good Neighbors...



October 23	Muffin or Corn Bread Mix
October 30	Box of Stuffing Mix

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 a.m. (Next breakfast **October 19th**) You can help make this time possible by providing breakfast for 8-10 men once during the year. If you'd like to help in this way call Nancy Read at 330-928-3002.



Miracle at Midnight – Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, October 30th 2nd Hour Sunday School

EOA Annual Fall Business Meeting

All are invited to the EOA Meeting on **Saturday October 29th**. The beautiful gothic sanctuary of First United Church of Christ, 201 Fair Ave., NW, New Philadelphia will be the location of "Renewing in the Spirit." Keynote Speaker: Rev. Jim Oates. **Registration deadline is Thursday, October 20;** \$15 per person (includes a buffet breakfast). Child care will be provided if needed but only to those who request it on the registration form by the deadline.

The Bethany office has registration forms and more information if needed. Please call.

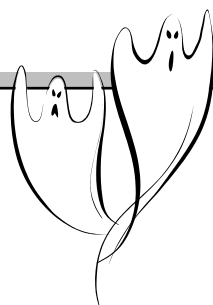
Bethany Octoberfest
October 23, 6:30 – 8:30 pm



"For the Joy"

This is our Stewardship theme this year, so the committee thought it would be good to invite the Bethany family to gather, simply *for the joy* of being together. We'll have Jack Scott's *Der Doppeladler* German band and some great German Food – Brats & Hot Dogs, Sauerkraut, Potato Salad, Cabbage & Noodles, Cucumber Salad, Black Forest Cake & Apple Strudel. We'll share – very briefly – about our "For the Joy" theme but the focus will be - Having a Good Time Together! We hope to see you there (brat & kraut in hand) for a very special Sunday night.

P.S. – We're looking for some lederhosen to borrow; if you have some to lend, please contact the office.



Halloween Party

Sunday ~ October 30th

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Octagon Shelter, Truxell Road, CVNP

Last year's party at the rustic Octagon Shelter in beautiful Cuyahoga Valley National Park was received with such enthusiasm that the Youth Committee decided to have it there again this year. We'll have lots of fun and games and great treats to share. Mark the date on your calendar and plan to come. Parents, you are welcome to stay at the party or go for a hike in the park and return later.



Happy Birthday to...

Maureen Craddock

who will celebrate October 31st!

4940-B Friar Road, Stow 44224



The **Nursery Schedule** for the 2011/12 church year has been sent out. Thanks to Carol Wood, our office administrator, for typing the new schedule with all the changes.

Please welcome our new

Nursery Coordinator, Amanda Lorentz!

BETHANY BUCKEYES

We welcome and encourage anyone 50 years and older to come and spend a fun-filled evening with dinner, cards and board games. We are blessed to have Bethany's Gourmet Cook, Kathy Keenan, our Resident Chef, and her helpers. She prepares delicious full-course meals for ONLY \$5.00 per person. If you have questions, call Nancy Read at 330 928-3002.



NEW THIS YEAR:

Reservations are needed and must be made by the FRIDAY BEFORE the next Buckeye gathering. (Our "chef" needs to plan!) That means **reservations** must be made NO LATER than **October 28th** for **November 4th**; or you may make a reservation on your Sunday attendance card Oct. 30th. (330/ 922-5277)

"FOUND & FORGIVEN"

A Musical by Sharon Alberson
Based on the Story of the Prodigal Son

◆ **SATURDAY** ◆ **November 5th**
3:00 & 7:00 PM
Trinity United Church of Christ

A spaghetti dinner will be served between shows, 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Market Path, a fair trade store supported by First Grace UCC, will offer items for sale and Williard UCC will offer a basket auction. Tickets for the performance and dinner are available through the EOA/WRA Support Center or at faithmusicals@gmail.com. All proceeds from the day will benefit Akron Urban United Churches of Christ: East Market Street, Miller Ave., Williard and Trinity.



Thanks to the Steve Ocepek Family for finding a baby crib for the Bethany nursery that meets the new standards!

Thanks to all for the lovely birthday cards! Vivan Lingo

The *Faith at Home* Retreat was a blessing in so many ways – a theme that was important for our faith family to reflect upon; workshops on Faith Songs at Home; Yoga for Children and Adults; and Creating an Altar for Your Home; lots of optional outdoor activities in a

beautiful place on a beautiful weekend; fun (and funny) entertainment; and, most important, the joy and blessing of sharing unhurried time with members of our Bethany family, young and older, coming to know and love each other more deeply.

We need to give thanks to God for this blessing. We also need to express our gratitude to the Retreat Committee – Hilda Bowman, Tammy Jensen, Holly Keenan, and Beth Lees. It was their valuing these times, because they know the blessing they've been to them and trust that they can be to others, their working tirelessly to offer them to our Bethany family that made the weekend possible. Every first-time attender made a point of saying that they were glad that they came and would be back for sure next year; so did repeat attenders.

So, with gratitude for the blessing of this retreat, we look forward to the next one, with hope that more of us will come and share the blessing.



MISSION: 1



"That They May All Be One"

MISSION: 1 ... is ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food related injustice. **MISSION:1** is an opportunity to make real Jesus' prayer for his disciples: *"That they may all be one."* It is also an opportunity to live out our faith—in unity—by offering the worship that God most desires from us: loosening the bonds of injustice and sharing our bread with the hungry. For the first 11 days of November (11.1.11-11.11.11), United Church of Christ congregations, colleges, seminaries, and health and human service agencies, will join together in a collective mission campaign to collect more than 1 million food items for local food banks, raise \$111,111 in online donations for *Neighbors in Need* and \$111,111 for East Africa famine relief, and write 11,111 letters to Congress (in support of Bread for the World's 2011 Offering of Letters campaign) asking that U.S. foreign assistance be reformed to more effectively serve the world's poorest people. We're asking for your help in meeting two goals:

- 1) Please continue to bring items for Good Neighbors so we can achieve the donation goal of 1, 111 items.
- 2) Please send a letter to Congress. Sample letters are available on the table in the social hall. Please take one and write your representatives so that we can meet the goal of sending 111 letters.

There is a video at www.eoaucc.org and more detailed information at <http://www.ucc.org/mission1>.

The ACME Program started...

Receipts dated SEPTEMBER 24TH

ending FEBRUARY 11, 2012

The YF is collecting ACME receipts. Acme Fresh Market will issue a rebate check equal to FIVE PERCENT (5%) of the Cash Back amount printed at the bottom of the receipt. The Cash Back amount includes all Acme store brand merchandise purchases. YF truly appreciates your support as the proceeds help fund the youth mission trip.



The Bethany Bunch

(Children's Sunday School)

Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Sunday School Class

A reduced number of our class had the pleasure of greeting at the north door on Sunday. We were fortunate to have Mrs. Ward join us in our class room. Our story from the Bible was about Moses' brother who made a statue out of "gold!" for the people to worship. We again practiced our counting (this time up to 40 because Moses was gone for a long time). We colored a Hallowe'en picture and heard a Hallowe'en story. We are looking forward to the rest of our class joining us as we have to begin planning for the social hour we are hosting on October 23.

NEWS on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Grades

The combined 1st & 2nd grade Sunday School classes are starting to settle into a working routine. This past week we learned about Moses leading the people out of Egypt and their fear and loss of faith. The 3rd graders received their Bibles during worship a few weeks ago, and together with the 4th graders, are learning the books and reading verses. Having three teachers in the room is working well because our kids are very energetic! With the holiday season approaching, we will be working on some fun crafts and we hope all the kids will be here to help!!

Remember in your prayers...



† Olive Devine, Haven Homes

† "Special Thoughts" to Bethany members who are unable to worship with us Sunday mornings. Please keep them in your prayers and keep in touch with a call or a card!



From the Bethany Kitchen

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Bethany Kitchen is in need of turkeys for Thanksgiving Dinner. To date, there are NO turkeys in stock. The kitchen is in need of 6 birds (18 to 20lb). Last year the attendance was unbelievable! We did not run out of turkey, but it was close.



YOUR TURKEY DONATION WILL BE MOST APRECIATED!!!!!!!

(Monetary donations also are gratefully accepted, payable to Bethany Kitchen.)

The Staff

of Bethany United Church of Christ

330-923-5277

Senior Pastor

The Reverend Stephen Gehlert

Pastor of Visitation

The Reverend Mark Steiner

Office Administration

Carol J. Wood, Administrative Assistant

Barbara McCrady, Secretary

Church School Coordinator

Carolyn Shroyer

Financial Coordinator -

Adult Vocal Director

Beth McDevitt

Organist - Bell Choir Director

Dawn Filler

Superintendents of Building

Bart and Carol Clemente

Susan Jensen

Website: www.bethanyucc.org

2011 Special Opportunities: Worship, Education, Service, & Fellowship

The original Greek word for church was *Ecclesia*, meaning “the gathered people,” those Christ had gathered to do God’s work in the world. Bethany does that work in many ways: giving God thanks and praise in worship, learning and growing in faith, serving others, and sharing in fellowship. Everyone matters; everyone is needed. Here’s a list of opportunities from now until Advent.

October 23, 6:30 pm – October/Steward Fest

The Stewardship Committee offers great brats, music, and reasons for gratitude.

October 30, 9:30 am – Mission Committee 5th Sunday Brunch

Come for brunch and learn more about an important mission.

October 30, 5:00 pm – Halloween Party at Octagon Shelter

The Youth Fellowship hosts a gathering for Bethany children in a beautiful setting.

November 13, 8:30 & 10:30 am – Dedication Sunday

Rev. Rich Plant preaches on our theme “For the Joy” ~ brunch follows worship.

November 18, evening – Mission Spaghetti Dinner/Dessert Auction

Help support Bethany’s many missions by sharing a great meal and dessert.

November 19, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm – Bethany Kitchen

Help welcome our guests to this time of food and fellowship.

November 20, 9:30 am – Adult Class – Fair Trade Shopping

Fair Trade products and baked goods from our Chancel Choir for sale during Social Hour

November 23, 7:30 pm – Thanksgiving Eve Communion

Remember and give thanks to God, the true source of all we have and are!

Where is Jesus calling you to get involved?

**Calendar - additions to ~ or ~ changes to the
2011 monthly calendar mailed to you.**

(as of Oct. 13) **October 17th to October 16th**

- 10/17 7:00p Bell Choir Practice
- 10/18 9:00a Staff Meeting
- 10:00a Newsletter Deadline
- 7:30p Kerygma
- 10/19 8:00a Men's Breakfast
- 9:00a Bible Study (CE)
- 10/20 (SH) Rsrvd. All day
- 7:15p Chancel Choir Practice
- 10/21
- 10/22 (SH) Rsrvd. All day

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... **... and then**
...Find someone to take your place
...Call the church office so we may make the necessary changes on our schedules



Family Sunday
October 23, 2011

† Nursery Available 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.
 † Children remain in worship

- 8:00a Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30a Worship**
- 9:15a Church School for Children and Adults
- 10:30a Worship**
- 11:30a Social Hour Host: S. Roach Class
- 11:30a 7thDay Practice
- 5:30p YF Halloween Planning
- 6:30p Oktoberfest/Stewardship**

Volunteers for October 23rd

- Flower Delivery: D.&M. Renner / F.&N. Read
- Greeters: H.&D. Koudela / R.&J. Lovell
- Nursery: L. Weiss, A. Thompson, S. Keenan, H. Bedillion, J. Nielsen
- Special Music: Bells / Son Singers, Young Shepherds
- Ushers: R. Holle, H. Walker, M & R Bowmaster, M. Spring, N. Buck, S. Holle
- Van Driver: B. Read

- 10/24 7:00p Bell Choir Practice
- 10/25 9:00a Staff Meeting
- 10:00a Newsletter Deadline
- 10/26 9:00a Bible Study (CE)
- 7:00p **Committee Night**
- 10/27 7:15p Chancel Choir Practice
- 10/28
- 10/29 4:00p (SH) Rsrvd. 11:00p



Sunday ~ October 30, 2011

† Nursery Available 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.
 † Reformation Sunday

- 8:30a Worship**
- 9:15a 5th Sunday Brunch
- 9:15a Church School for Children
- 10:00a 7thDay Rehearsal
- 10:30a Worship/ Children's Sunday School/ Pageant Rhysl.**
- 11:30a Coffee Hour
- 5:00p **Halloween Party** – Octagon Shelter

Volunteers for October 30th

- Flower Delivery: B. Briggs / L. Sheppard
- Greeters: R.&L. Read / J.&S. Mancinelli
- Lay Reader: C. McGraw
- Nursery: H. Alberson, S. Ward, J. Dugan, J. Tasker, A. Pease
- Special Music: / 7th Day
- Ushers: L. Luginbill, B. Charton, M. Seguin, M. Seymour, L. Short, C. McGraw, Z. Read, L. Sheppard
- Van Driver: F. Read

**Bethany United
Church of Christ**

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Cuyahoga Falls OH 44223

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Fax: 330-923-3210

Website

www.bethanyucc.org

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #197
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223-2428

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

"For the Joy"

German Food

October 23rd

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Bethany's Oktoberfest

German Band

Join the fun!