

A Three-Letter Word

As Dedication Sunday approaches, I was asked to reflect on the theme “For the Joy” as the foundation for our gathering. The word “joy” is a simple three-letter word, yet it defines the broad sense of how the Bethany family works together for the glorification of Jesus Christ in so many different ways. I feel it every time I come to church. I may not feel particularly happy, delighted or excited when I enter those heavy oaken doors, but inside I always feel the Holy Spirit is present and I am joyful and encouraged when I join with people who have so many gifts and talents to share with one another.

Now more than ever these gifts need to be shared with each other and the broader community. The older I get the more I realize how the Church, and in particular Bethany, is critical to where our families and our future as a community are headed. As a high school teacher and coach for the past 23 years, I have seen a general decline in family cohesiveness and a weakening in student accountability, consistency, unity and stability; all of which are provided for at Bethany through its congregation. We are the ones who have to show the joy of knowing Jesus and how following Him will lead to an awakening and that sense of joy for what God’s words in the Bible proclaim.

Joy is a strong word, and Christ does not promise that we will never suffer, but he does promise to stand with us no matter what we must endure. We can still be joyful while there is suffering in our lives and the world around us. I am reminded of the joy that Paul endured when he wrote his letters from prison to the churches in Philippi, Ephesus, and Colossus and to his friend Philemon. Even though he was incarcerated he instructs Christians to ... “conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ,” (Philippians 1:27).

Let us all work together for the simple joy of serving our Lord.

John Dix



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



2011 / 2012

10/23	10:30a	Family Sunday – Lead Liturgy
10/23	6:30p	Oktoberfest – Clean-up
10/30	4:00p	Halloween Party – Game Helpers
11/04	8:00p	Lock-in (pick up 9:00a Sat.)
11/06	11:30a	Class and Meal

Would You Like to Know More about Bethany?

If you've been attending Bethany as a visitor and would like to know more about our congregation and the wider United Church faith family, please contact Pastor Steve at 330-923-5277 or pastor@bethany.ald. He'll be glad to talk to you and answer any questions you might have.

Good Neighbors...



October 30	Box of Stuffing Mix
Nov. 6	Can of Soup
Nov. 13	Jello or Pudding Mix
Nov. 20	Jar or Can of Applesauce
Nov. 27	Peanut Butter

Bethany Oktoberfest 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, Sauerkraut, Potato Salad, Cabbage & Noodles, Cucumber Salad, (Hot Dogs and Mac & Cheese for the kids), Black Forest Cake & Apple Strudel for everybody. We'll share – very briefly – about our “*For the Joy*” theme but the focus will be great music and games (find out what a *Schnitzelbank* is), in other words, simply 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.



Party
BOO

Sunday ~ October 30th
5:00 – 7:00 pm

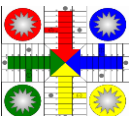
Octagon Shelter, Truxell Road, CVNP

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.



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. Cost is \$5.00 per person. If you have questions, call Nancy Read at 330 928-3002.



AND REMEMBER ~ NEW THIS YEAR:

Reservations are needed and must be made by the FRIDAY BEFORE the 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. (330/ 922-5277)



November 6, 2011

The return to Standard Time (ST) begins at 2:00 am local time in the U.S. on the first Sunday in November, which in 2011 is November 6. Turn clocks **back** by **one hour**, ideally at bedtime on the Saturday night before.

Miracle at Midnight – Pageant Rehearsal
Sunday, November 6 2nd Hour Sunday School

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>.

Dedication Sunday-November 13 *“For the Joy”*

Stewardship at Bethany begins not with the need of the church to receive but the need of each of us, created in the image of God who is a giver, to give. Our guest preacher, Rev. Rich Plant will help us consider reasons for gratitude and how we might follow Jesus’ example in giving of ourselves “for the joy” of our master, and so discover for ourselves the joy of giving.

Here’s a schedule for that day:

8:30 Worship

9:30 Celebration Brunch for 8:30 worshippers
(Sunday School for the rest of us)

10:30 Worship

11:30 Celebration Dinner for 10:30 worshippers

If you have not yet responded to the invitation you received several weeks ago please do so as soon as possible so our friends at Willard UCC know how many meals to prepare.

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.)



First Sundany of Advent November 27th

Immediately following our 10:30 worship service the C.E. Committee will host an Advent Celebration with a light lunch and a craft. More details to follow.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Bethany Band Invites YOU!



The Bethany Band is very happy to be at Bethany Church and would like to invite anyone who currently plays, or has played, an instrument to join them. If you have played in a school band and then put your instrument

away, this is the perfect time to dust off your horn and begin to enjoy making music with friends again. The band entertains at retirement centers, libraries and other functions. Music includes marches, selections from stage and screen, traditional concert pieces, solos, duets, etc. We usually do 8 to 10 concerts a year, a summer series of about 7 concerts, and a holiday season of 3 to 4 concerts composed of Christmas and Hannukah music. Rehearsals (and most performances) are 7:00-9:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings. Please come and support the mission of the Church and the Band. If you don't have an instrument contact Jack Scott at 330-928-2690.

Mark your Calendario!



The **Esperanza Mission Trip for 2012** has been scheduled. We will be going **February 18th thru February 25th** to help build simple casas in the Tijuana area. There is something for everyone to participate in. Any questions please call Mr. Bill Leas at 330-673-3389. He has the answers!



The Bethany Bunch

(Children's Sunday School)

Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Sunday School Class

We were back in full force Sunday. We have begun the cough and cold season! Getting ready for Social Hour on the twenty-third took a large part of our time as we carefully counted small bags for treats to hand out. We prepared our altar placing the altar cloth, a flower, the Bible, a candle, and the offering plate and then collected offering. Miss Debbie helped us practice our song we are going to sing on Sunday. We heard the **Pumpkin Patch Parable** and made our own Christian jack-o-lantern with stars for eyes, a cross for the nose, and a fish for the mouth. See you at Social Hour!

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CHURCH IS ...

to establish a Christian congregation for worship,
to preach and teach the Gospel of Christ,
to celebrate the sacraments,
to render loving service toward humanity,
to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace,
to advance the Realm of God at home and abroad.

(The Bethany Constitution)

REMINDER:

Bethany no longer accepts batteries for recycling. Thank you.



The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone who ordered and purchased Gift Cards. It was a great day for sales. Prior orders were \$1,750.00; cards sold Sunday \$560.00 and orders of \$3,335.00 for a grand total of \$5,645.00. In case you did not have an opportunity to purchase or order your favorite cards we will be selling cards each Sunday in the Social Hall after the 10:30 service. *The Finance Committee*

Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Thank you so much for the beautiful blanket, hat and booties for our darling Kayla. A special thank you to Mary Bowmaster for all the time she put in to making them. It is times like this that we are so grateful that we are part of the Bethany family. Thanks again. *Melissa, Kirk, Isabel & Kayla Fenn*

Please remember in your prayers...

† Olive Devine, Haven Homes
† Ron Shultz, Western Reserve



† "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!

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!

November 27, 11:30 am – Advent Celebration
*Following 10:30 worship Christian Education will host an Advent Celebration with
a light lunch and craft! All are welcome!*

Where is Jesus calling you to get involved?

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

(as of Oct. 20th) **October 24th to November 6th**

- 10/24 7:00p Bell Choir Practice
- 10/25 9:00a Staff Meeting
- 10:00a Newsletter Deadline
- 10/26 9:00a Bible Study (CE)
- 6:30p Bethany Band Rhrl. (SH)
- 7:00p **Committee Night**
- 10/27 7:15p Chancel Choir Practice
- 10/28
- 10/29 4:00p (SH) Rsrvd. 11:00p

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

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 Rhrl.
- 11:30a Coffee Hour
- 5:00p **HALLOWEEN PARTY** – Octagon Shelter 7:00p
(Confirmands help)

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: J. Mancinelli, B. Charton, M. Seguin,
M. Seymour, L. Short, C. McGraw, Z. Read,
L. Sheppard
- Van Driver: F. Read

10/31

November....

- 11/01 9:00a Staff Meeting
- 10:00a Newsletter Deadline
- 7:30p Kerygma
- 11/02 9:00a Bible Study (CE)
- 11/03 7:15p Chancel Choir Practice
- 11/04 6:00p **Buckeyes**
- 8:00p Confirmation Lock-in
- 11/05 9:00a Confirmation Pick-up!

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday ~ November 6, 2011

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

† Celebration of Congregational Life

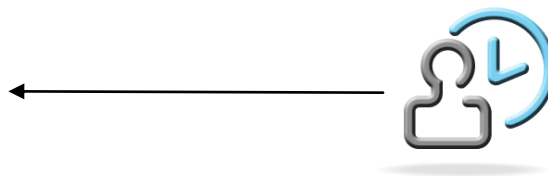
- 8:30a Worship/** Communion
- 9:15a Church School for Children and Adults
- 10:30a Worship/** Children's Sunday School
- 11:30a Social Hour Host: S. Roach Class
- 11:30a Bethany Nurse BP Check
- 11:30a 7thDay Practice
- 11:30a Confirmand Meal/Class
- 6:00p Family Promise Annual Meeting

Volunteers for November 6th

- Flower Delivery:
- Greeters:
- Lay Reader: J. Wachovec
- Nursery: A. Cristino, M. Peyak, L. Rorrer,
B. Read, J. Sammons
- Special Music: Story & Song / Chancel Choir
- Ushers: T. Hermann, M. Jensen, J. Grazulis, J. Seymour,
B.&C. Pletzer, J. Sammons, A. McVan
- Van Driver: S. Gaskill



Join us in church school on Sundays



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Church of Christ**

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