

The Bethany Letter

SUNDAY ~ SEPTEMBER 5, 2010
The Rev. Stephen Gehlert, Senior Minister

VOLUME 2010

ISSUE NO. 29
The Rev. Mark Steiner, Visitation Minister

Faith at Home

An Invitation to Welcome God into Our Everyday Lives

11:45 am – 2:15 pm September 19, 2010 In the Lounge

We have a tremendous variety of families at Bethany. Yet, we share some very important things in common: we love Jesus Christ, we love our family members, and we are very busy. Sometimes, our busy-ness makes it difficult to receive and share our love for God and each other.

Our recognition of the way that busy-ness makes living and sharing our faith more difficult tends to make us think of spirituality as something we can share only when we escape from our everyday lives. Yet, faith is meant to be lived, and spirituality can be shared, by opening ourselves to God in the midst of this busy-ness. This workshop is meant to help us do that.

We'll look at faith as how we shape our lives in response to our experience of God as a very real presence in and around us – and live differently, as a result! It's not a quest to find God's elusive presence but an intentional effort to recognize and welcome the God who is already present in the events of our daily lives. That means our goal as families is to discern, celebrate, and trust God's nearness in the messy, noisy, nitty-gritty chaos of everyday life.

Some things we'll talk about include:

- † The Covenant We Share
- † What Is Faith?
- † The Faith of Children
- † The Importance of Family for Faith
- † Inter-generational Faith
- † How Do We "Do" It?
 - Seizing the Moment
 - Telling Stories
 - Using Our Senses
 - Being Active
 - Building Ties with Sunday Morning
 - Establishing Rituals
 - Consecrating Life
 - Reaching Out
 - Worshipping Together
- † Being the Church at Home
 - Setting Boundaries
 - Telling *the* Story
 - Caring for Each other
 - Praying
 - Worshipping



I hope you'll consider this special opportunity to reflect on how we can work together to nurture faith at home. Lunch will be provided (free-will offering). Bethany Youth and volunteers from the Youth Committee will provide childcare.

With Gratitude and Hope for the Faith Family We Share,



Pastoral Care August/September

Pastor Steve is on sabbatical through September 11th

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)

Office Closed
Monday, September 6th
Labor Day

Consistory News: Welcome back after summer vacation. We **WILL** have a Consistory meeting on **Sept. 8 @ 7:30** in the Church lounge. However, there will **NOT** be a Spiritual Council meeting prior, as Pastor Steve will still be on his sabbatical. See you in church and on the 8th.

Bob Charton

Attention Nursery Volunteers

It is that time of the year again where I will be creating the schedule for the upcoming year. The two times are 9:15-10:15 and 10:15-11:30. Two unrelated adults will need to be scheduled for each time slot. Please let me know your time preference by September 12th. Also, if you have not already done so, please turn in your Safe Church Policy form to the office so you can remain on the schedule. New volunteers are always welcomed and can request the Safe Church Policy form from the office. Another volunteer option is to be a sub, filling in for volunteers who need to be off for various reasons versus being on the schedule on a regular basis. I look forward to another year in the nursery as we continue to care for the youngest members of our church, raising our future disciples. Please call or email me your preferences. Thanks.



Tammy Jensen, 330-926-0020, tjmj1603@aol.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls are a means to extend our love and prayers to persons who may be homebound, ill or perhaps a way to share a special joy such as a birth or birthday milestone. Bethany's Prayer Shawl group meets the second Monday of each month (9/13). If you are interested in this ministry please join them at 9:30 a.m. in the lounge.

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**Many thanks...**to Carolyn Shroyer for communion, Ozzie Hibbard for bringing Rev. Mark for a visit and Evelyn Fisher for the altar flowers. We enjoyed all their visits very much!

*Kathy and John Ruch*

### **2010 Fall Lantern Fellowship Retreat** **September 17-19 Pilgrim Hills Camp**

Planned bi-annually by Ohio Associations of the UCC, Lantern Fellowship is a time when women, with an age span from 19 to 80 plus years, come together to enjoy good food, warm and friendly hospitality and the peaceful, quiet beauty of wooded hills and trails where the spirit can find renewal. Invite a friend or more and join us in this wonderful experience as we explore new ways to "practice our faith." Registration deadline: Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. More info: 1-800-282-0740

### **Bethany Kitchen** **Saturday, September 18<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.

*Please remember in your prayers...*

- † Barbara Sunycz, home
- † Joe Probeck, Akron General
- † Rosalie Read, home



# Sunday - September 12th

## Rally Sunday - Catch Up Sunday

*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  
Combined 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.**

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

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

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

9:15 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.*

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**Bethany offers many ways for adults** to learn and grow in faith on Sunday mornings.

† **Bible Discoveries** – studies one of the books of the Bible

† **Lounge Class** – discusses a variety of current faith topics

† **Perspectives** – discusses faith issues in current films

† **Seasons of the Spirit** – discusses the Biblical themes from that Sunday's worship

† **Upper Room** – connects the scripture for Sunday worship with life and faith

† **Women's Class** – Discuss faith and life issues

These classes gather between 9:15 and 9:30 and end by 10:20 in time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> worship service at 10:30 a.m.

*Continued...*

Continued ...

# Sunday - September 12th

## Rally Sunday - Catch Up Sunday



### 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*

### Confirmation News

#### *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 at 11:30 a.m.



### 7<sup>th</sup>Day CHOIR

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*

### Youth Fellowship News

6:30-8:30 p.m. at Donato's

The first YF gathering will be Sunday,



**September 12<sup>th</sup>** at Donato's on State Road. We will elect officers for the coming year, play games and, of course, share some great pizza together.



### 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.

**Calendar for additions to ~ or ~ changes to the  
2010 monthly calendar mailed to you.  
September 6<sup>th</sup> to September 19<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

## 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 (Sanctuary)  
5:30p Youth Committee Meeting  
6:00p Family Promise Meal (S. Hall)  
6:30p YF @ Donato's, pizza and games

9/13 9:00a Quilters  
9:30a Prayer Shawl Minsitry (Lounge)  
6:00p Family Promise Meal (SH)  
9/14 9:00a Staff Meeting  
10:00a Newsletter Deadline  
6:00p Family Promise Meal (SH)  
9/15 6:00p Family Promise Meal (SH)  
9/16 6:00p Family Promise Meal (SH)  
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice  
9/17 6:00p Family Promise Meal (SH)  
9/18 11:30a Bethany Kitchen  
6:00p Family Promise Meal (SH)

## Sunday ~ September 19, 2010

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

8:00a 7<sup>th</sup>Day Practice  
**8:30a Worship** (Fellowship)  
9:15a Church School for All Ages  
**10:30a Worship/** Children's Sunday School  
11:30a Social Hour  
11:30a Family Spirituality (Lounge) YF – childcare

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

Cup Washing: C. Eberhardt  
Greeters: A. Mabie, M. Craddock / C. McGraw  
Lay Reader: J. Mancinelli  
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



### Volunteers for September 19<sup>th</sup>

Cup Washer: A. Zeller  
Greeters: P. Casper, m. Morris / D.&J. Welfley  
Lay Reader: M. Heyburn  
Special Music: 7<sup>th</sup>Day / Chancel Choir  
Nursery: S. Ward, J. Dugan, K. Dugan, D. Shroyer  
Ushers: T. Hermann, F. Read M. Seymour, M. Seguin,  
A. McVan, S. Mancinelli, R. Berie, M. Spring  
Van Driver: S. Gaskill  
Visitor Outlook: N. Buck

**Bethany United  
Church of Christ**

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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Please remember** to notify the church office of any additions/changes to your family, your address, or your telephone number so that we may keep our church records up-to-date.