

Bethany Road

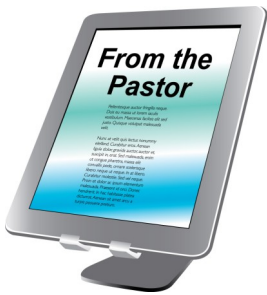
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2013

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Committed for Life



2012 marked the 210th anniversary of Bethany Presbyterian Church. For 210 yrs. Bethany has made this part of God's creation a little bit better. So many folks have been a part of that mission over the years. So my question to you as we face 2013 - How committed are you, as a Christian, to this mission we call Bethany?

This church is committed for life to witness for our Lord, Jesus the Christ. I've been privileged to serve with you these past 9 ½ months and I've observed that this is a church committed to ministry in the name of Jesus Christ. You have that heritage and challenge to keep going. Sure life's hard and difficult! It's been said it's a lot like a football game - sometimes you get blitzed! Yes, Bethany has been through some rough times, but look how far you've come!

Just before *Helen Keller* died;... blind, deaf, and hurting all the while, she whispered: *"Ah then, but remember friends, no effort, however little to attain something beautiful is ever wasted."* Wise are they who learn that: *"Trouble is temporary; Time is a tonic; Tribulation is a test tube."* So let's look to the new adventure that the Lord has planned for Bethany in 2013.

Will 2013 be a better world now that you're in it? All you have to do is start where you stand with Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Remember the Apostle Paul's words when he said: *"Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but one thing I do. Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call in Christ Jesus!"* Philippians 3:13-14

"Yes, the boundary lines have fallen for us in pleasant places; we have a goodly heritage"... Psalm 16:6

Committee Meetings:

- **Deacons** January 2 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Christian Ed.** January 2 at 7:30 p.m.
- **Property** January 8 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Outreach** January 8 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Member Involvement** January 8 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Finance** January 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Worship & Memorials** January 15 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Congregational Dinner and Meetings** January 16 starting at 6:00 p.m.
- **SESSION** January 24 at 7:00 p.m.

See you in church, *Rick Vogeley*

From the Musical Desk of Gerri Weaver

As we approach 2013, I would like to thank everyone who took part in our music ministry during the past year. My hope and prayers are that people have been blessed.

Thanks to the choir for the gift certificate and to others who gave me gifts. They are very much appreciated. It is a pleasure to serve our Lord here at Bethany. Also, I want to thank the participants who shared their talents in our Blessed Christmas Eve Service.

We are eagerly anticipating the new year. Looking for God's direction and guidance, may you all have a healthy, happy and blessed New Year.

Gerri Weaver



Thankoffering Update. . . You Made a Difference. . .

As we close out one year and move into 2013, the Bethany Women would like to thank each of you for all you donated to make our fall collections and Thankoffering such a success.

From July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 was declared to be, "The Year of the Child." All collections were to help children in our local community.

Our fall collections provided the following: Mercer County AWARE ~ 108 cans of kid-friendly soups; Mercer County Children's Aid Society ~ two huge bins of school supplies. These will be used to replace those used up from September distribution; Bethany Christian Pre-School ~ 35 boxes of tissues, 18 containers disinfected wipes, 2 bottles of disinfected spray, 27 bottles of 100% juice, 5 packages of juice drink boxes, and 1800 Dixie cups.

Our Thankoffering collection was "out of this world," ~ \$2357—wow! These funds made it possible for 96 local children to have a Christmas they will never forget. Fifty-five (55) children, whose families were helped by the Mercer Service Unit of the Salvation Army, received a special gift purchased especially for each of them. The Bethany Women received 41 names through referrals made to the Children's Aid Society. Our women, representing each of you, purchased gifts (clothing including if needed coats, toys, books, games, etc.) and filled huge bags for these 41 infants through teenagers. If they received not one other gift this year, they had a complete Christmas because of you.

"A hundred years from now. . . it will not matter what your bank account is, the sort of house you live in, or the kind of car you drive. . . but the world will be different because you were important in the life of a child."

Fun & Fellowship...January 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Why not make it your New Year's Resolution to join our Fun and Fellowship Group that meets the third Monday of every month from September through May. Our meeting this

month will be held on Monday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

We will undecorate our Christmas tree, enjoy a snack and if you wish to

participate play several nonthreatening games.

This is just a great way to sit back and enjoy others on a cold winter's night.

My Ladies Bible Study...Study of Two Amazing Men

We will change our schedule slightly because of the New Year's holiday.

On Tuesday, January 8, we will be studying Joseph, the husband of Mary. On Tuesday, January 22 we

will be studying John the Baptist whose role it was to prepare the way for Jesus.

Both studies will be in the rear of Carson Chapel and will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude by 11:15 a.m.

Please watch for specific scriptural passages in the weekly Sunday bulletin and your post card reminders.



Loaves & Fishes

Looking for Bible verses that instruct us I found in Proverbs 22:9 “A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.” Many of you have stepped into action by giving financial support, by contributing food and various kinds of donations, and with a willingness to help out at the pantry. We are so grateful for your walk with the Lord and a desire to live out your beliefs. Thank you so very much for your continual support for Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry because without your support we would have a difficult time operating the food pantry. Our church family is the largest contributor and without you we wouldn't be able to continue to operate. Bless each one of you for your devotion to help those in need. Blessings to all, Sandra Probst, Director.

Children's Ministry Happenings

Director--Mrs. Nancy Thompson

A Look Back.....

Keep Christ in Christmas!!!-----December was a very busy month for our children here at Bethany.

We had forty-four children ages third grade-sixth grade, and fifteen adults and teens travel to “The Castle” in Franklin on December 1st and 2nd for an adventurous week-end learning: Psalm 119:105 “Your word is a lamp for my feet, and a light for my path.” We had three children accept the Lord and many re-dedicate their lives to Christ and make a commitment to live for Him.

On December 9th our children performed the Christmas musical for the congregation. We were all very proud of their performance; they did a wonderful job!!!! A special thanks to Krystle Cozad, Monica Blaus, and Sandra Hostetler.

In Sunday School we studied the meaning of the advent wreath and continued to be reminded of how to “Keep Christ in Christmas!” We also had teachers sharing the Christian story of the meaning of the candy cane and the snowman.



Jump for Joy in January with Jesus as we begin a new year 2013!!!!

January's Theme: Trust

John 14:1-2 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.” We will recite these verses to our memory work teachers on January 27th.

Our family **Winter Sunday School party** will be held this month at Cool Springs Fitness Center. Watch for date and times in your bulletin and monthly Sunday School newsletter from Mrs. Thompson. We hope all our families can join us for a great time of Christian fellowship.



TEEN HAPPENINGS – YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

NIKES 7th and 8th Grade

Renovate 9th through 12th Grade

Sunday, January 6, 2013, Movie Night for both groups @ The Way Café 6 pm – 8 pm

Sunday, January 13, 2013, Praise and Worship Service (7 pm), meet @ The Way Café 6 pm – 8 pm

Sunday, January 20, 2013, Fun Night, (yet to be determined...) meet @ The Way Café 6 pm – 8 pm

Sunday, January 27, 2013, Service Projects, meet @ The Way Café 6 pm – 8 pm

NIKES – Loaves and Fishes meet @ The Way Café 6 pm – 8 pm

Renovate – Blankets for “Kid’s Camp” (for abused children)

REMINDER: NIKES Retreat is Saturday, Jan. 5, 2013.

Meet @ Bethany Church at 7:30 AM!

We will return to the church Sunday, Jan. 6th @ 3:00 pm.

Laurie Ruhlman’s Haiti Mission Trip January 8 through 16, 2013

Daily Schedule:

January 8, Tuesday, Pittsburgh flight @ 6:00 AM arrive Port au Prince, Haiti 1:00 PM

Wednesday, El Bethel Orphanage. (Building maintenance and Dental Clinic)

Thursday, Heaven’s Family Campsite (Teach computer and English class to camp kids)

Friday, La Gonave Island outreach to over 200 kids. (Crafts, games, Dental Clinic while there)

Saturday, travel to Port Au Prince; then fly to Mt. Carmel orphanage in Pignon for overnight

Sunday, Haitian Church Service. (We all give brief testimonies, using their translators)

Monday, Fly back to Prenal Village outreach (Crafts, games, Dental Clinic while there)

Tuesday, outreach continues at Prenal with Dental Clinic and games/crafts

Wednesday, January 16, Port au Prince flight leaves at 1:25 PM arrive Pittsburgh @ 10:55 PM

Things to pray about:

- for the Holy Spirit to unite us as a team, and unite us with Haitian brothers and sisters.
- for God to speak clearly to all of us.
- for a word of testimony and/or a message from the Word to share with our hosts.
- safety traveling, flights on time. (All transportation in Haiti safe, too).
- that everything will be ready for us in Haiti (accommodations, food, translators etc.).
- that we will have all the supplies, tools etc. needed.
- good health before, during, and after for all members of the team.
- for Spirit-Led connections.
- for meekness and humility to be able to bless the people we seek to minister to.
- our families back home.

Team Members:

Jeff and Karin Trotter (team leaders), Dr. Dan Garner (dentist from Monroeville, PA), Matthew Trotter, Jennifer Johnson, Pastor Mickey Cypher, Martha Martin, Chris Posti, Bill Groomes, and Laurie Ruhlman.



January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Church Closed	2 8:00 <u>Quilters</u> 9:00 Preschool; Moms in Prayer 6:30 Deacons 7:30 Christian Ed.	3 9:00 Preschool 7:00 District Scouts	4 9:00 Preschool	5 NIKES Retreat leave at 7:30 a.m. return on Sunday around 3 p.m.
6 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Youth Groups	7 9:00 Preschool 6:30 Cub Scouts	8 9:00 Preschool 10:00 My Ladies 6:30 Property 7:00 Outreach; Mem- ber Involvement	9 8:00 <u>Quilters</u> 9:00 Preschool 7:00 Military Prayer	10 9:00 Preschool 7:00 Finance	11 9:00 Preschool	12
13 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Youth Groups 7:00 Praise & Worship Service	14 9:00 Preschool 6:30 Cub Scouts	15 9:00 Preschool 7:00 Worship & Me- morials	16 8:00 <u>Quilters</u> 9:00 Preschool; Moms in Prayer 6:00 Cong. Dinner 7:00 Cong. Meetings	17 9:00 Preschool	18 9:00 Preschool	19
20 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Youth Groups	21 No School Office Closed 6:30 Cub Committee 7:00 Fun & Fellow- ship in Social Room	22 9:00 Preschool 10:00 My Ladies	23 8:00 <u>Quilters</u> 9:00 Preschool	24 9:00 Preschool 7:00 SESSION	25 9:00 Preschool	26 Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet
27 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Youth Groups 7:00 Usher Appreciation	28 9:00 Preschool 6:30 Cub Scouts Pack Meeting in the Social Room	29 9:00 Preschool 9:30-11:30 & 7-9 Women's Bible Study	30 8:00 <u>Quilters</u> 9:00 Preschool	31 9:00 Preschool		

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**We're here
to Exalt,
to Encourage,
to Equip, to**

Evangelize

TO: current Resident or

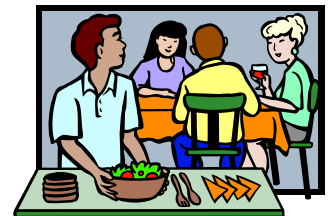
Praise & Worship Service– January 13 @ 7:00 p.m.

The first Bethany Sunday evening worship service went really well and we would like to announce that they will be continuing on the second Sunday of each month until summer. The next service will be January 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please join us for an hour of contemporary music, a special message, and prayer. We hope to see you all there.

Congregational Dinner January 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

The Congregational Dinner will be before the meetings at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Room. The Bethany Deacons will provide place settings and drinks. Please bring a covered dish to share.

A-M please bring a meat dish or salad; N-Z bring a dessert or vegetable. Please plan to attend.



Congregational Meetings January 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Which is the date and time of the annual congregation meetings. The purpose of these meetings will be to elect Elders and Deacons, hear reports and have your questions and concerns addressed.

Not only will this business be conducted, but it is also a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, a great dinner and an opportunity to participate in the Presbyterian form of government.

Congratulations

Dorothy Wester has been named Mercer Rotary's Citizen of the Year because of her devoted work with The Salvation Army. She was honored at a special dinner by the Mercer Rotary on December 20th. Dorothy started with The Salvation Army in 2004 and has held many hats within the Mercer Service Unit. She is the Chairperson, Human Service Secretary, Treasures for Children Coordinator, Bundle Up Secretary and the Sheetz for the Kidz Chairperson.

Dorothy has provided countless hours serving those in the Mercer area, whether they need food, clothing, utility or rent assistance, a new coat for the winter, providing toys for the children in this area and a listening ear to all of those that need it. She has a wonderful reputation in our community for being compassionate and understanding. The Salvation Army is blessed to have such a volunteer as Dorothy Wester.