



**BETHANY
CHURCH**

BETHANY ROAD

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

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Bethany Family,

As we enter into Fall, you probably already noticed the focus on Discipleship Groups. We are launching six Discipleship Groups. Four existed last Spring and two are new. I would like to explain a goal for Bethany Church.

One simple goal is that every member and every regular attender of Bethany be in a Discipleship Group. Therefore, these groups have a variety of times, days, and topics. We wanted everyone regardless of age, job, gender, and relational status to have multiple opportunities to plug into a Discipleship Group. Please take the time to consider which group best fits your schedule and your needs. Then commit to the group. You may be asking "why". Why take the time out of your busy lives to come together in these Discipleship Groups?

We are called to make disciples. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19. This command is rightfully focused upon evangelism and not just sharing the good news. We are to raise up people who are Christ followers who will, in turn, evangelize and disciple others. To be a disciple of Jesus Christ is a life-long pursuit. Before we can make disciples out of others, we must first invest time in our own discipleship. These groups are meant to grow us in our faith. As we come together and discuss Scripture and theology, and apply our understanding of these to our lives, we are growing more like Christ. We are maturing in our faith, making our efforts in evangelism and discipleship more fruitful. "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17. When we study Scripture, we growing our faith. We gain the building blocks necessary to live life well and to complete what God has for us to do, which is good works and holy living.

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These Discipleship Groups will make us better spouses, parents, grand parents, co-workers, neighbors, bosses, etc.

Another purpose behind these groups is to foster deeper relationships and fellowship. The Sunday morning worship is essential to our spiritual growth, but it is not natural to connect relationally in this setting. Discipleship Groups meet this need naturally. When we come together in groups, we can care for each other, meet the needs of each other, and sharpen our faith as we discuss life and faith. This is exactly what we see in the first church in Acts doing. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and the prayers."

Acts 2:42. What is amazing is that, just a few verses later, Scriptures tell us that God added to their number daily. When we focus our hearts and priorities upon God, we not only grow in our faith, but we become attractive to people around us. Our faith becomes a beacon of light in this world, that when properly lit, leads people to God. The natural outcome of a robust faith is evangelism and discipleship.

It is logical for the spiritual growth of Bethany Church to foster Discipleship Group opportunities. It is essential to our evangelism efforts to grow in our faith. It is key to our relational aspirations to make disciples. Therefore, we create and promote Discipleship Groups.

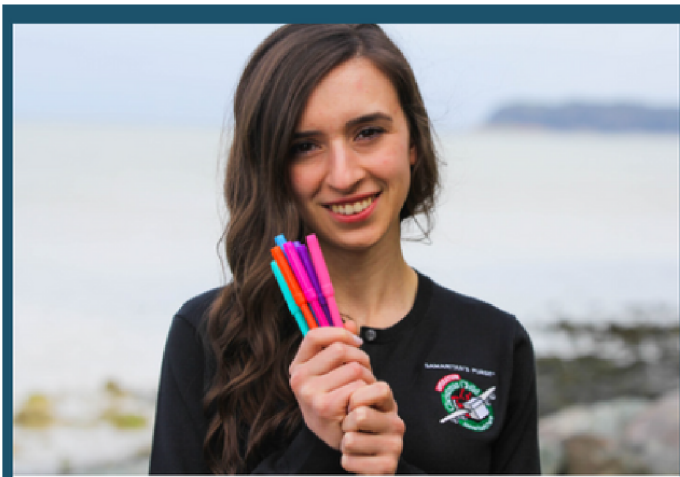
The real question is will you will accept the invitation? Will you choose to grow in your faith together in fellowship with others at Bethany Church? Will you make disciples here in order to make disciples out there in the community? Will you accept an invitation to sharpen each other like Proverbs encourages? Sign up in our lobby for the Discipleship Group that best fits your needs. Most groups start the second or third week of September! Commit to going and commit to the other people who are coming. Grow in your faith together!

Pastor Bob

FALL DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS					
SUNDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
Sunday School 9:15am <i>Book of Mark</i>		Young Couples 5:00pm <i>Life of Christ</i>		Women's Study 9:30am <i>What the Women Saw</i>	
MONDAY		THURSDAY		THURSDAY	
Community Group 6:30pm <i>Galatians</i>		Seniors Group 10:30am <i>Retirement Roots</i>		Men's Study 7:30am <i>Mountain Men</i>	

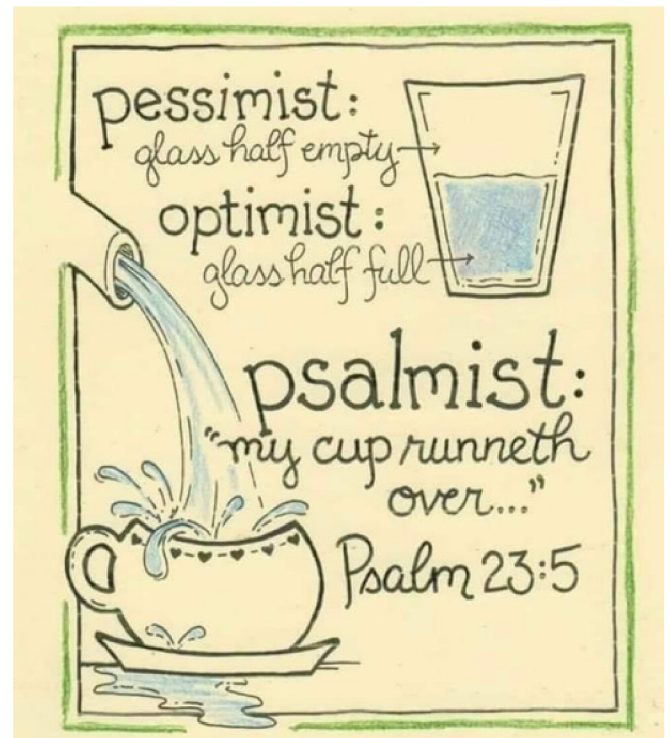
↑ **Select a Fall Disciple Group** ↑





Opportunity to Meet an Operation Christmas Child Recipient

Would you like to learn more about Operation Christmas Child and how the shoebox you send impacts the world? Then please join us for the 2023 OCC kick-off for Mercer and Lawrence Counties on Saturday, September 9 at the Gentle Shepherd Church of the Nazarene in Hermitage, PA. Doors open at 6:00 pm and a special presentation will be made by Olesea Makarets who was born and raised in a small village in Moldova. Olesea received an OCC shoebox when she was five, and it changed her life forever. Please join us for a special time of Olesea sharing her testimony. To RSVP call 724-971-0129.



Boy Scout Troop 83 (sponsored by Bethany Church) will hold their **ANNUAL AUCTION on September 9 at 4:00 PM at the Mercer County 4-H Fairgrounds on Rt. 19. We are accepting new or used items to sell at the auction. For pick-up call Steve Amsler at 724-977-6208.**

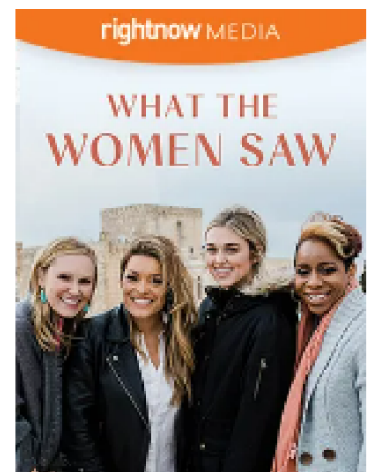
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please join us as we study What the Women Saw – by SADIE ROBERTSON HUFF

Jesus was surrounded by both men and women during his ministry on earth. He saw, valued, and cared for women, and he still does today. Each one of us has a significant role.

Through this six-session study, you will discover who Jesus is through the unique perspective of women in the Bible. As you study the lives of Mary, Martha, Mary Magdalene and others, you will learn from their faith and failures and be reminded that Jesus cared for and valued the women he was surrounded by. He equipped them, listened to them, walked with them, healed them, and empowered them. And he does the same for you now.

Sign-up at the Welcome Center
For more information contact Pat Amsler or Sallie Riddle



BEGINS OCTOBER 16 @ 9:30 A.M.



Romans 12:3-5

"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."

Psalms 133:1

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Psalms 122:1

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord!'"

Fall Festival

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, October 8th from 2 PM to 5 PM

Bethany is hosting an all-church event to reach out to the families in the neighborhood and in Mercer School District. It will be a carnival-style event that has games, a bounce house, playground, and free prizes, food and candy! A Gospel message will be handed out by incorporating M&M's and colors. Through games and food, Bethany members will reach out and build relationships with those who come. We'll give promotional material for MOPS, Sunday Morning, and Night in Bethlehem as possible activities to further connect Bethany and build relationships.



August Financial Report

Income	\$280,359
Expenses	\$272,375
Difference	\$7,984





Willow Women's Center

FROM WILLOW

This has been an incredible year of change and growth for Willow. They made the bold move to step out in faith to relocate to Hermitage, where their clients are already going to restaurants, working, and shopping. This removed a transportation barrier that they kept seeing for their clients in Transfer. It also increased the number of women they were scheduling to... at times, double what they were doing last year.

The community is incredibly caring and generous. They believe women deserve top quality medical, educational, and emotional care. Providing medical services at cost is expensive, but ONCE a year over 350 Willow Banquet guests pledge nearly HALF of Willow's budget.

Here is a glimpse of their expanded services for the upcoming year. They are working on offering a telehealth line, designated walk-in hours, as well as, miscarriage support groups. All this is possible ONLY because of people choosing to say YES to help them move forward.

Please consider helping them continue caring for the women and families in our community with the same kind of quality care that they've always given. They would be honored if you would join them, through your generous sponsorship, in making this year's Willow Banquet the best they have ever had at Willow. They want to continue to be that place where many will say, "I felt so safe. I knew I could trust them with my situation. I'd recommend them to everyone."

FROM PAM MEUHLMAN

In September we will be celebrating Bethany's mission partner Willow Woman's Center.

In preparation for Willow's upcoming banquet on Wednesday October 4 & Thursday October 5, we will be sharing exciting information & prayer requests weekly, leading up to the banquet. There will be signup sheets at the welcome center beginning in Sept. for those wanting to attend this wonderful event. **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!!!**

If you have any questions please contact Pam Muehlman 724-699-2589.

We have partnered with Willow Women's Center for the last several years. Their mission is to lovingly support, educate & guide women who find themselves coping with an unplanned pregnancy. Willow's dedicated staff ultimately wants every woman to be well educated, shown compassion, respect & be spiritually cared for, so she can make an informed decision.... hopefully a decision for life!

Willow is also committed to offering support & encouragement to the men (father's of the babies), the families & anyone who is a support system for the pregnant woman.

Pregnancy testing, STD testing, Ultra Sounds & various forms of counseling are all provided at No Cost to the patients. This is where Bethany's financial support is making a difference & saving women's & babies lives! Willow also offers follow up help, care & resources for each & every women & baby that they have seen or counseled. In doing so, giving precious children the opportunity to live life to the fullest.

On Sunday September 24, we will welcome Christylee Roose, Willow's Advancement Director. Christylee will be sharing information about the amazing new location in Hermitage, the Banquet in October & delivering that Sunday's message.



Your company's logo can be emailed to: team@willowwomenscenter.com.

**Go to www.teamwillow.org/banquet to donate
or reserve a table at the banquet.**

October 4 & 5, 2023

Call 724-854-9455 for more information.



**There were 471 known abortions in Mercer and
surrounding counties served by Willow in 2021.**

(most recent PA Department of Health report)

West Virginia Mission Trip 2023



We had a great mission trip this year! We had over forty adults and teens go to Circleville, West Virginia this past June. Included were people from Bethany, the Heckathorn family, friends from Ohio, and a group from New Life Church in New Wilmington. Even with the cooler temperature and rain, it didn't stop us from sharing the Gospel.



We had over eighty children a day! Everyone did a wonderful job. We got to see many God sightings, and we heard a powerful testimony. We still had our campfire with a great music team leading us in praise and worship.

Another great night was Family Night. The church was completely filled with parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren. Eight children accepted Jesus as their personal Savior!! Plus, there were more reconfirming their



God was on the move ! Even through the rain, God always shows up! This is what makes this trip so worth while.

Thanks go to Amy Cameron for leading this trip. Special thanks to Mark Muehlman for lending us his enclosed trailer. Thanks to the van drivers and for the folks who pulled trailers down or back. Thank You!!! This trip wouldn't be possible without you.

Thank you, too, to Bethany Church and its congregation. Thank you your financial support and thank all of you Prayer Warriors!

ARE THEY IN THE BIBLE?

??

DIRECTIONS: Circle the names of 50 people who appear in the Bible. Try it, then check answers below.

Aaron, Abram, Aesop, Ahab, Ahasuerus, Ambrose, Amenhotep, Antigone, Apollos, Arius,
 Arminius, Aslan, Ashurbanipal, Athanasius, Anthony, Attila, Augustine, Baal, Bacchus,
 Bathsheba, Belshazzar, Benjamin, Brutus, Bryon, Buffy, Cain, Caligula, Charlemagne,
 Constance, Constantine, Copernicus, Coriolanus, Cornelius, Cyrus, Danielle, Darius, Deborah,
 Delilah, Delia, Dharma, Elvis, Esther, Felix, Ferdinand, Festus, Gabriel, Gauss, Gomer, Gregory,
 Gutenberg, Hadrian, Hagar, Ham, Hammurabi, Helena, Heracles, Herod, Immanuel, Ishtar,
 Issachar, Jerome, Jezebel, Joan of Arc, Job, Jonah, Josephus, Joshua, Julius Caesar, Justin
 Martyr, Kal-El, King James, Lazarus, Leonardo, Levi, Lot, Luke, Luther, Martha, Maximus,
 Melchior, Melchizedek, Methuselah, Michael, Mohammed, Moroni, Nebuchadnezzar, Nero,
 Nestorius, Nostradamus, Odin, Origen, Pan, Pelagius, Pharaoh, Pius, Pontius Pilate,
 Prometheus, Queen of Sheba, Sapphira, Sennacherib, Seti, Silas, Stephen, Suess, Shulgi,
 Tarkin, Terabithia, Thalia, Thomas, Tiberius, Titus, Tutankhamun, Uhura, Zeus, Zacchaeus,
 Zantex.



JUST FOR FUN



Answers: Aaron, Abram, Ahab, Ahasuerus, Apollos, Baal, Bathsheba, Belshazzar, Benjamin, Cain, Cornelius, Cyrus, Darius, Deborah, Delilah, Esther, Felix, Festus, Gabriel, Gomer, Hagar, Ham, Herod, Immanuel, Issachar, Jezebel, Job, Jonah, Lazarus, Levi, Lot, Luke, Martha, Melchizedek, Methuselah, Michael, Nebuchadnezzar, Nicodemus, Pharaoh, Pontius Pilate, Queen of Sheba, Sapphira, Sennacherib, Silas, Stephen, Thomas Tiberius, Titus, Zacchaeus.



As the new school year begins, we at Bethany would like to pray for wisdom and direction for teachers. There is a lot that they must accomplish.

"Lord, we pray that You give our teachers wisdom to know how to best meet the needs of each of their students. May they be able to receive help from parents, support staff, and volunteers to help run their classrooms smoothly and effectively. Give them direction and guidance to accomplish the tasks they need to do each day.

We pray for Christians teaching in public schools. May the light of Your love be evident in their lives as they teach each day. Help them to conduct themselves in a way that brings honor to You. May they conduct their classrooms with peace and harmony. Open up doors of opportunity for them to share the good news of the Gospel. We pray for Sunday School teachers, too. Help them to diligently seek Your face through Your Word to gain knowledge and insight in order to teach those who are in their classrooms. May their love for You be evident. In Jesus's name , Amen."



MOM'S NIGHT KICKOFF WILL BEGIN ON

SEPTEMBER 19TH AT 6:00 P.M.

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE START OF A GREAT YEAR WITH A FIESTA INSPIRED MENU OF SNACKS, MOCKTAILS AND TREATS! PLEASE ENCOURAGE ANY AND ALL MOMS WHO ARE RAISING KIDDOS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 TO JOIN US! IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING CHILDCARE OR SERVING AS A MENTOR MOM, PLEASE LET ERIN KRAUS, ALEX LINDEY OR BECKY WHITE KNOW!



**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING
OF FELLOWSHIP,
DESSERTS, AND TEA!**

BETHANY YOUTH SUMMER FUN !

Bethany Youth have been having a great time this Summer!

More fun events are planned for the Fall!



Swimming at the Camerons



Boating at the Muehlmans



Retreat at the Manse

September

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:15 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:45 Deacons	4 6:30 P.M. Christian Ed 6:00 P.M. Choir Practice	5 6:00 P.M. Safety Team 6:30 P.M. Missions Team 7:00 P.M. Property Meeting	6 8:00 A.M. Bethany Quilters 4:00 P.M. Girl Scouts 6:30 P.M. Outreach 7:00 P.M. Worship Band	7 7:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast 9:00 A.M. Prayer	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 9:30 A.M. Men's Shoot
9:15 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship 12:00 P.M. Childrens' 5:00 P.M. Couples'	11 6:00 P.M. Choir Practice 6:30 P.M. Personnel Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M. Christian Ed 6:30 P.M. Discipleship	12 7:00 P.M. Worship	13 8:00 A.M. Beth. Quilters 6:30 P.M. Military Prayer 6:30 P.M. Outreach 6:30 P.M. Women's Tea 7:00 P.M. Worship Band	14 7:30 A.M. Men's Disc. 9:00 A.M. Prayer 10:30 A.M. "Retirement Roots" 6:30 P.M. Garden Club	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:15 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Couples'	18 6:00 P.M. Choir Practice 6:30 P.M. Community Group Galatians	19 6:30 P.M. Cub Committee	20 8:00 A.M. Bethany Quilters 4:00 P.M. Girl Scouts 7:00 P.M. Worship Band	21 7:30 A.M. Men's Disc. 9:00 A.M. Prayer 10:30 A.M. "Retirement" 7:00 P.M. Finance	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:15 A.M. Sunday Sch. 10:30 A.M. Worship 12:00 P.M. Visitor's Lunch 5:00 P.M. Couples'	25 6:00 P.M. Choir Practice 6:30 P.M. Community Group Galatians	26	27 8:00 A.M. Bethany Quilters 7:00 P.M. Worship Band	28 7:30 A.M. Men's Disc. 9:00 A.M. Prayer 10:30 A.M. "Retirement" 7:00 P.M. Session	29	30

Bethany Presbyterian Church

100 W. Venango Street

Mercer, PA 16137

Regular Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

(724) 662-4340

Fax: 724-662-1080

Prayer Chain:

bethanyprays@yahoo.com

Web: www.bethany-presbyterian.org



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Elders and Deacons

Elders:

Frank Carolas, John Inman, Chuck Kite,
Ed Lindey, Valerian, Moeller, Earl Runcan,
Bruce Wamboldt, Bill Woodman

Deacons:

Madalin Huff, Tami Iman, Doug Lindey,
Lynda McQuown, Delores Palmer, Ed
Pears, Betsy Rust, Rita Thompson, Kim
Watson, Carol Wiggins, Linda Wishart

Bethany Staff

Pastor

Pastor Robert White

Financial Secretary

Kim Watson

Visitation Pastor

Pastor Bill Woodman

Treasurer

Beverly Gallagher

Church Administrator

Steve Amsler

Music Director

Andrew Kraus

Administrative Assistant Organist

Beverly Crawford

Denny Horkey

Maintenance Manager

Dayle Wilkins

Pianist

Jane Deitrick