

October

Bethany News

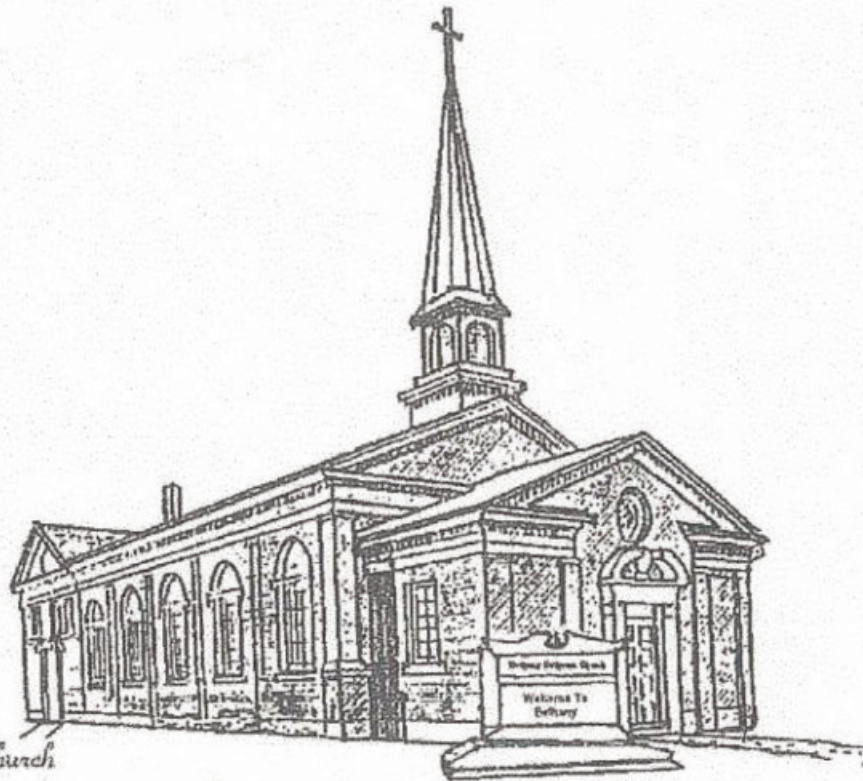
2021

FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF BETHANY LUTHERAN

Secretary, Marie Carlin - Music Director, Debra Schoen

Vice Pastor Peggy Marks

www.bethanypalmyra.org -- E-Mail: bethanypalmyra@aol.com



*Bethany Lutheran Church
Palmyra, NJ*

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FOR PASTORAL CARE & ALL PASTOR MATTERS PLEASE CONTACT:

THE REVEREND MARGARET M. MARKS, VICE PASTOR

856-520-1696

PEGGY_MARKS@COMCAST.NET

Monthly Meetings When Possible

Church Council &
Finance Committee
Worship Committee
Men's Breakfast
WELCA Circles
WELCA Exec. Board

2nd Tuesday
1st Monday
1st & 3rd Saturday
1st full week
3rd Thursday

Pack 9 BSA
Crew 9 BSA
Troop 9 BSA
Girl Scouts

every Monday & Tuesday
and 3rd Friday Night
every Monday Night
every Tuesday Night
Wednesday Night

Monthly message from Pastor Peggy (Vice Pastor)

At our September Council meeting we spend time discussing the future of Bethany Lutheran Church using a tool Pastor Jeff shared with them prior to his retirement. This is something every member of Bethany should be pondering and praying about.

Three paths for us:

1. "The way it used to be---"nurturing the existing congregation and changing little or nothing
2. A focus on growth---attracting families with young children
3. Leading with your strength—refining and promoting services and programming for older adults

The way it used to be includes things like the same committees, same leadership, same type of worship, focus on keeping people happy and a path to slow but certain decline---in other words a chaplaincy.

Focus on growth includes things like: changing the worship style with new and different music and integrating technology into worship. Plus greater focus on social media, provide education and spiritual development opportunities that appeal to young families and children, have an openly progressive agenda and partner with local schools. Let go of the attitude and criticism of sports on Sundays—

Lead with your strength means to stop spinning your wheels with respect to youth, ramp up programming for older adults---weekday bible studies, field trips, transportation for homebound and promote our "Traditional" style of worship.

To do all of these the must first be mold remediation in the hall downstairs.

Bishop Bartholomew shared with me that there are 32-26 congregations in the NJ Synod looking for pastors---the majority part time and she had NO part time pastors available. As I study your finances I feel you cannot even afford a 1st call part time pastor at about \$75,000 a year much less a second call pastor. Your monthly giving is about \$10,000 a month.

We truly have much work ahead of us.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Peggy Marks
Vice Pastor

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**Reminder: Christmas shoe boxes are in the Narthex.
Please pick one up and return it filled by November 9th,
THANK YOU.**

Worship Committee

Fall has arrived and I don't know about all of you, but I am ready to get the rake out and put the lawn mower away. I am sure we are all looking forward to the cool crisp days ahead.

October calendar

October 3rd World Communion Baptism of Jaden Mills, son of Sabrina and Josh Mills, and grandson of Tom and Jeannie Willard. This is also the 83rd Anniversary of Bethany. After the 10:15 AM worship service, there will be an opportunity to "Meet and Greet Pastor Peggy Marks and Pastor George Richmand.

October 10th Service of the Word

October 17th Holy Communion

October 24th Service of the Word

October 31st Reformation Sunday Jonathan will lead the worship service.

This is a huge thank you from the Worship Committee to everyone who so willingly gave of their time and talents for our Dedication Sunday, September 12th. Thank you Pastor George and Jonathan for such a very meaningful worship service and Debbie for providing the beautiful music. We cannot mention everyone, but we wanted you to know that it was very much appreciated and a joy to have everyone working together and making this day a very special one. Thank you.

Thank you Diane Groeber, for purchasing the material and making our beautiful altar kneeling cushions.

Be safe, stay healthy and enjoy the beautiful fall weather.



Memorial Gifts

*Remembering these former members of Bethany,
who's memorial gifts from family and friends, enabled the purchase of the beautiful Pew Cushions.*

Hal Anfenson

Fritz Bauer

Sherwood Berryann

*Theone Berryann

*Rose Bower

Thomas Campbell

*Ruth Campleman

*Hallie Confer

Eileen & Fred Fennimor

Beverly Flyn

*Marvine "Mo" Gerhart

Jack Kleinstuber

Stefan Kolarovic

Kathleen Kozemple

Edgar Lamon

Walter Litke

Robert McFaddon

Gloria Moorehouse

*Naomi Nash

*Betty Nisula

Marietta Penska

George Richardson

*Kitty Shaffer

*Rita Sonntag

Anna Mae Stavely

Robert Timmons, Jr.

*Alice Williams

*WELCA members passed

A special thank you to Diane Groeber, for not only donating the fabric, but also her time and talents for making the beautiful Altar Kneelers.

Stewardship Committee – October 2021 Letter



Happy Halloween - Fall Fun is Here!!

I would like to update everyone on our August Financials:

Balance 8/1/21	Receipts	Disbursed	Balance 8/31/21
\$(6,041.25)	+\$10,724.66	\$(6,600.62)	\$(1,917.21)

As you can see above, we decreased our deficit by about \$4,124. Thank you to our **Angelic Visitor Donations** who offered a **\$1,590.00** donation in August 2021. We love you whomever you are, you are such a blessing to our Church Family!!!

Our expenditures were \$6,600.62 for August which less than usual and we received \$648.66 in benefits from the Solar Panels proceeds in August. We received \$435.24 in July as well. Our PSE&G Bills have been significantly reduced as a result of the wise investment in this technology. Since we are only paying for a Vice-Pastor, and Pastor George Richmond instead of a full-time Pastor with benefits we have been able to reduce expenditures over the Summer months.

We have reinstated the Mask Mandate for our Members & Visitors regardless of their vaccination status in the Church & Office Buildings. The Bishop of our Synod has made this a requirement due to the Covid-19 Delta Variant surge of cases.

I trust everyone had a wonderful Summer Season and had a chance to enjoy the great outdoors or visit the shore with family & friends. Let's remember to always be vigilant and safe as we protect ourselves, our families, our neighbors, and our Church family during these Pandemic times. Jesus would want us to do nothing less than to **“Love One Another, as He Has Loved Us”**. God Bless Us All !!

Thank you all for your gracious and generous giving as always!

May God Bless you all and keep you safe, healthy, and happy! Remember God loves you and wants you to love him too! So, let's spread the love as Jesus has taught us as we go through our daily lives. **Amen!**

“For God so loveth a Cheerful Giver” 2 Corinthians 9:7

Thanks be to God!!

Tom Willard - Chairperson

Prayer Chain

If you have a need for prayer, or thanksgiving, for yourself, family or friends please call Joan Kelly 856-303-1367

Our prayer chain prays each day in their home for the prayer concerns of all who call us. We hope to give you comfort and strength. All calls are kept in confidence.



1	Carmen	Knowles
2	Raymond	Paszkiewicz
3	Raymond	Brown
4	Scott	Vetrecin
5	William	Isard, Sr.
6	Marlene	Conover
9	Megan	Williams
10	Ruthanne	Arcaini
13	Kayla	Edge
14	Dorothy	Kolarovic
20	Anna	Paszkiewicz
21	Nicole	Lumley
21	Jacquelyn	Dorworth
22	Martha	Rimathe Schweiger
24	Robert	Fields
25	Wendi	Wence
27	Chelsea	Butler