

August@Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church

2022

Welcome to our monthly newsletter! Each month, the newsletter will feature more articles about the goings-on at Bethany, committee reports, and other items of interest. Ongoing announcements can be seen on the website.



Dear friends,

I don't normally eat ladybugs, but these sweet things were made by our friend Judi, a few weeks ago for a little picnic. Just a little bit of this kind of fun goes a long way to boost one's mood and moral.

I don't know about you, but I am finding it hard to avoid large scale worrisome world events. I'm not even going to list them. I'm sure you can think of ten things to worry about before your morning coffee or tea. If that's you, and that's how your day starts, what do you do to get through your day? Here are a few choices:

- Go back to bed
- Double your coffee
- Plan one thing that makes you happy
- Watch more news
- Make a grateful list
- Call a friend
- Yell at your loved ones
- Spend some time in prayer
- Eat bad food all day
- Take a walk in nature
- Hang out on Facebook
- Call your pastor
- Read a good book
- Ignore your feelings

Which are the best choices? I know you can make good decisions for yourselves, surely more than that are on my list. Here are some things that our faith has to say to us.

Isaiah 41:10

¹⁰ fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Romans 15:13

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Our service of worship on Sundays is where we put this love and trust that we have for God into practice. In the summer when so many are traveling or taking a break, I give thanks for the gatherings that we have. I look forward to seeing you at Bethany whenever you are in town!

Blessings,
Pastor Deb

Bethany session is inviting you to join in on this community clean up project in an effort to be Bethany in the community. Here is the invitation from the Facebook page for "Cleaning and Greening San Bruno Now." Check with any session member or pastor Deb if you have any questions!

San Bruno Community & Parents are kicking off our first event for Parkside! The event will take place on **Sat, July 30th at 9:30am**. The project goal is to transform the front of the campus with new landscaping before school starts. Volunteers will help lay down weed screen, gopher nets, new plants and bark. We need your support San Bruno to help transform this school. Tools, Snacks, Music, and Refreshments will be provided.

Let's be the change we want to see at Parkside. It starts NOW. Sign up by going to the Facebook page for Cleaning and Greening San Bruno Now, and clicking on "interested"! See you there. Let's get it done - San Bruno Pride!

Pastor Nominating Committee: The Bethany Presbyterian Church congregation held two workshops this spring to answer several of the questions required to complete a Mission Study, a major step in the process of calling a permanent pastor. Session and the Board of Trustees will meet in August to discuss the financial questions, and then it will be time to assemble the Pastor Nominating Committee. This committee must be comprised of members of the church, and Session is seeking 3-4 people who would be willing to serve. If you are interested in being a part of this process, please contact Roxane Wales, Tamra Hollenbeck, or the church office. If you have any questions about what the process involves, please ask Pastor Deb. Thanks for your willingness to consider this prospect!

An Invitation to Decorate and Share!

The bulletin board in the hallways has been painted in 7 different colors, each section representing a decade of Bethany's life. You are invited to share your memories of Bethany by posting pictures, articles, or any items of interest in each of the sections. Let's fill the board with the life and joy that is Bethany Presbyterian Church!

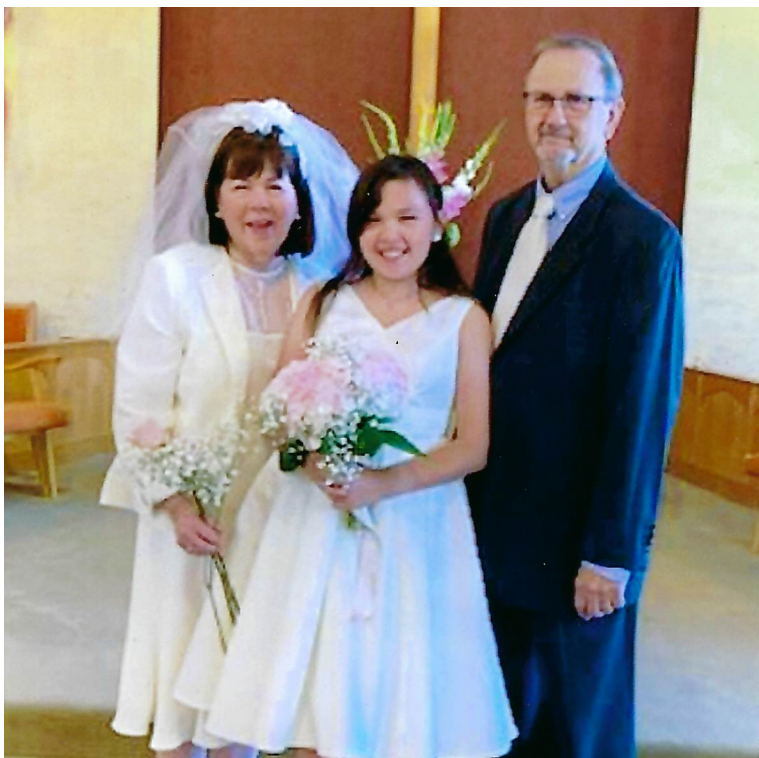
988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

There is hope

Talk with us. If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org

PEP22-08-03-004

Simply calling or texting 988 or typing 988Lifeline.org will connect you to compassionate care & support for mental health-related distress. #988Lifeline



Congratulations to Susan and Pat May, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 8th! Rev. Dr. Janet Bower presided over the renewal of their vows, with their granddaughter Emilie as their flower girl. Daughters Kristina and Stephanie were present as well. Susan wore the veil she wore at their wedding, and the flowers on the chancel were made to look like the flowers they had 50 years ago. A beautiful way to celebrate a joyous milestone!

Session Meeting Highlights July 19, 2022

Meeting was held via Zoom.

Minutes from the May 24, 2022 meeting were approved as presented. MSP. The June meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

Pastor's Report: Deb reported.

1. Deb expressed gratitude for the many projects that have been completed from the May meeting - kitchen sink disposal was repaired; Bamboo and Ryan's wedding went very well; March for Our Lives sign painting and rally were very positive experiences; Deb and Melinda Jones went to another last minute rally regarding the Supreme Court decision reversing Roe vs Wade.
2. There is a San Bruno Now event scheduled on Saturday, July 30 at 9:30 am at Parkside - a Cleaning and Greening San Bruno event. Bethany congregation will be invited to attend.
3. Sikh Congregation: A new lease is coming up soon, it needs to be negotiated and followed up on. The presbytery will help with the renegotiation, and Lyn Hughes has contacted the Presbytery for that assistance.

Buildings and Grounds: Ken reported.

1. There was a water leak under the ground by the faucet outside the church doors that was caused by a broken pipe from an old irrigation system. It has now been capped off,
2. An estimate to remove 10 dead trees on our property has been received. PG&E is coming to do some tree work on the land around our property and will use our parking lot for staging. Buildings and grounds will wait for that work to be completed before starting our tree removal.

Other Business:

1. A request has been received to have a Voting Center at Bethany for the fall elections. Pam Matthews will follow up on what the requirements are.
2. Pam stated that SSF has a new panel to look at policies regarding equity and inclusion. Mikaela Celli, former youth club member, is part of that commission and the SSF Police Department for mental health interventions. It was suggested by Deb that we put an article about the new 988 number in W@B.
3. A decision had been made with Jorie Abbott's company about getting a new stove, and it was moving forward until the pandemic hit. A group is being formed to try to move this along.
4. Committee on Ministry: The second workshop that was held at Bethany in April covered a lot of the information for the third workshop. The next part is about the financial nuts and bolts, and will be completed by Session and the Trustees at a meeting on August 27. After that work is completed, a Pastor Nominating Committee can be formed. Members of the congregation who would be interested in this task should contact Roxane Wales, Tamra Hollenbeck, or the church office.
5. Next meeting date: August 16, 2022 via zoom.

Submitted by:

Tamra Hollenbeck, Acting Clerk of Session



The PCUSA 225th General Assembly has posted a summary of their actions, which you can view on the website:

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2022/7/12/summary-general-assembly-actions/>

Please take a look at what our denomination is doing! This list is also posted outside Deb's office at the church, and hard copies are available if you would like one.

Did you know?

I suppose you knew that fish skins are being made into a kind of leather? (I didn't until recently.) Well, many folks are concerned about continuing to buy leather goods in our fragile world. The production of leather requires massive amounts of energy and harmful chemicals (you can read further if you search but here is an article I found: [no go on leather](#) A new company, Inversa, has gone further and has been harvesting an invasive species of fish, *lionfish*, that are contributing to the destruction of coral reef marine life, in the Atlantic anyway, and they are finding huge benefits of using this faux leather. It's amazing and versatile. Keep following this revelation! Go to thrift stores for leather if you must but let's support this and other innovative ways to make sustainability second nature in our economy and personal choice. For further reading: [lionfish needed!](#)

Community Action/Life Committee

- News about our Partnership with Iglesias Brasileira – San Mateo: At this time, we are not collecting **food items for IPB**. We will notify the congregation of further requests from our partner congregation.
- News about our Partnership with Catholic Worker Hospitality House (CWHH) – San Bruno: On July 10 after the church service, we packed and delivered 50 toiletry bags to CWHH. More than a dozen people assisted with the packing. In addition to the toiletry bags, we delivered some new towels and blankets, several dozen pairs of socks, and some food items that were in the Narthex. Thanks to everyone who took the time to help pack the toiletry bags.
- We continue to collect various food items and other supplies for CWHH. If you have donations, please place them in the CWHH basket in the Narthex and we will ensure the items are delivered as soon as possible.

Financial Trustees

June

\$ 17,023.95	Income	
\$(17,914.86)	Expense	
\$(890.91)	Difference	

YTD

\$ 91,421.20	Income	101.869%
\$(91,131.71)	Expense	(99.981)%
\$ 289.49	Difference	1.888%

The Trustees thank you for your ongoing generous support.

The Trustees are working on the following issues:

- Renewal of Pastor Deb McGuire's annual contract for 2023 with Bethany
- Renewal of the Sikh Association multi-year lease including review by the Legal Dept. by the Presbytery of San Francisco
- Review of funds available for continued cleanup of the Bethany grounds

Questions about the BPC budget? Contact Ken Henry-Chair-Financial Trustees, Lyn Hughes-Treasurer, Dave Wales-Secretary or Bonnie Morgan-Member at Large.

Questions about our tenant, the Sikh Association? Contact either the Financial Trustees (Ken Henry, Lyn Hughes, Dave Wales, or Bonnie Morgan) or Buildings and Grounds (Dave Wales)

Donations for San Bruno Hospitality House: Please continue to bring your donations for Hospitality House and put them in the marked basket in the Narthex. Any questions about this please contact Rina Ranahan: (650) 291-6979.

A current list of shelter needs is on our website:

<http://bethanypcusa.org/we-do/shelter-needs.html>

Prayer Time: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays: A time to meet as the body of Christ, and pray together using Zoom. Shared readings, poetry, guided meditation, and, of course, the prayers of the people. Please contact us to be invited to the Zoom meeting: bethanypres@bethanypcusa.org.

Ruth Covenant Group: The Ruth Covenant Group is taking a summer break, and will hold its next monthly meeting on **Monday, September 12 at 6:30 pm** at the church. It will be a hybrid meeting with some participants meeting in person in the sanctuary, and some meeting via zoom. If you would like to join by zoom, please let Tamra Hollenbeck know so we can send you the link. We are continuing with a book study of *A More Perfect Union: A New Vision for Building the Beloved Community* by Adam Russell Taylor. The chapters we are reading for this month are in Part Two - "Building Blocks of the Beloved Community," chapters 7 and 8 - "Overcoming Toxic Polarization" and "Redeeming Patriotism." For those of us who haven't quite completed to reading of the other chapters, now is a good chance to catch up!! In addition to our discussion, there will be an opportunity for check-in, fellowship, and prayer. All are welcome to attend!

Bethany Story Time

We have a collection of children's books on our Facebook page! Over the past year (and a bit more!), Pastor Deb and various members of the congregation have recorded readings of children's books, and then Pastor Deb added video of the illustrations. The videos are available any time for you to enjoy! Share them with your family, friends, and neighbors! Find them here: <http://bethanypcusa.org/welcome/storytime.html>



Happy Birthday to these wonderful folks born in August!

- 1 Claire DeLand
- 5 Leslie Olson
- 5 Randy Johansen
- 23 Jeff Wu
- 31 Jenna Fontaine

August Anniversaries

- 2 Brad & Robin Parker
- 12 Tom & Stephanie Knox
- 16 Andy & Melinda Jones
- 26 Clarie & Tamra Hollenbeck
- 31 Todd & Janet Bower



We remember these Saints of Bethany who were born in August:

- 13 Milly Angeles
- 13 Arthur Kross
- 23 Dolores Dunning
- 25 Marjorie Beatty
- 30 Kathleen Delander

Due Dates

For W@B: Tuesday morning.

For the monthly newsletter: the Tuesday before the last Wednesday of the month.

Bethany's Purpose Statement:

Bethany's purpose is to provide a nurturing and energizing environment to feed the soul so we can go out into the world and reflect the glory of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Bethany's Welcoming Statement:

We don't yet know who you are, but we do know that you are a dearly beloved child of God, and you're already welcome here.

We invite you, on your unique spiritual journey, to join us in the life and ministry at Bethany.

Bethany Presbyterian Church is a member of More Light Presbyterians
<https://mlp.org>



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