



February @ Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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.

My Dear Bethany family,

While the church calendar calls this Ordinary Time, it seems as though times are never ordinary. This year we can feel a sense of the newness and promise of 2021 as we have just celebrated the coming of a new administration in our national government and the hopes of positive change on the horizon. We lift our prayers for unity and equity for members of society, and the possibility of finally beating this pandemic and finally getting to enjoy physical contact with our friends and loved ones, and activities that allow us to be full members of society again. This is an important time in the church because we are positioned to bring about some of the positive change ahead of us in the country.

People of faith have a great opportunity to use our love of God, our lives of faith, our joys and disappointments, our heartaches and hopes to find a place to be part of all that there is to do. This is a time for us to reflect on who we are in relation to God, as individuals and as a community of faith locally. Our faith calls us to work for justice in all forms, toward equity, fairness, and unity. Let us be unsatisfied with only breathing a sigh of relief at what has past and move also with purposeful strides toward a common goal.

Our Lenten study this season is a chance for us to begin some of that reflection by providing a place and time for us to give thought to some of our thoughts about God. Who are we and who is God? What kind of relationship do we share with God? How does God's grace and love help us to feel empowered and supported in what we do?

The season of Lent has historically always been a time of preparation in the church. In early centuries it was a time for preparation for baptism, a time of preparation for church membership, a time of preparation before a commitment. My hope is that we have a chance to look inward and discover new strengths that have been made visible during these last many months of trial. We can be assured that this difficult time and the challenges we are still living with are tempering us into more faithful servants of God, with as yet unknown skills and insights.

Faithfully yours, Pastor Deb

JANUARY 19,2021 SESSION MEETING

(by Zoom conference call 7:08 PM - 8:51 PM)

Pastor Deb opened the meeting in prayer, and lighting of the Christ Candle. Deb also led a reflective conversation focusing on Book of Order definition and responsibilities as stated in G-2.03 - G-3.0205. Session was encouraged to use the imagination to nurture family and friends of Bethany.

Following discussion, Session agreed to follow the recommendation of the Financial Trustees to call Rev. Deb McGuire at 3/4 time. The recommendation will be made to the Congregation at the Congregational Meeting on February 28.

Meeting Information disbursement timeline:

- 2/14/21 Committee Reports due to Roberta to collate, email, and mail hard copies by 2/21/21.
- Responses/questions will be received by email, mail, drop off @ BPC mailslot.
- 2/28/21 meeting will begin after the Facebook Live service at a Zoom meeting to read and answer previously received questions, conversation and votes.

Our next Session Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7 PM via Zoom.

If you have any questions before then, please contact Roxane Wales at 650-303-2070 or roxanewales@gmail.com.

-R. Wales, Clerk of Session

COMMUNITY ACTION/LIFE COMMITTEE

1. Ongoing News about Our Partnership with Iglesias Braziliana – San Mateo: Ongoing we have been collecting items for Iglesias Braziliana, our partner in San Mateo. We have asked for an updated “needs” list from Pastor Jorge and will post once received. In the meantime, please continue to bring nonperishable food items, toiletries, and blankets. Soup, chili, beans, rice, pasta, and pasta sauce are always needed.
2. For Valentine’s Day, we will be providing the children Valentines, candy, coloring books and crayons. We also plan to provide items for the children at Easter. If you would like to donate towards these gifts, please contact Lyn Hughes at (650) 867-0667 or Lhughes91207@gmail.com Please continue to prayer for this congregation and consider how you might be able to help them.
3. Ongoing we will be providing funds from our Fund-a-Vision grant to the Catholic Worker Hospitality House (the San Bruno Shelter) for various needs. At this time, the greatest needs are for food, toiletries, and blankets. Also pray for those in need in our community and how we may continue to help them.

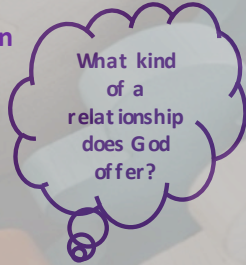
Lenten Study: Words of Faith

Tuesdays at 7:30 – Feb 23, March 2, 9, 23 and Monday March 15 at 7:30
Contact Bethany to be added to the zoom meeting invitation list.

What are some of your thoughts about God?



How do we fit in in God's world?



What are some words that describe God?



How does God make me feel?



FINANCIAL TRUSTEES

December and YTD Financial Summaries

December	YTD	
\$13,808.50 Income	\$161,101.57 Income	89.441%
\$(19,599.83) Expense	\$(168,254.69) Expense	(92.017)%
\$(5,791.33)	\$(7,153.12)	(2.576)%

The Financial Trustees finalized the 2021 budget, BROUGHT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS TO Session, and Session approved the budget and our recommendations. More information will be provided at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

The 2020 Giving Statements were mailed. If for any reason you did not receive your Giving Statement, please contact Lyn Hughes so another statement can be requested from our bookkeeper.

Continued thanks for mailing or bringing your offerings to the church. Now, as in 2020, we are blessed to have your ongoing support, faithfulness, and generosity.

Questions about the BPC budget: Contact Lyn Hughes, Ken Henry, Dave Wales, or Bonnie Morgan.

Questions about our tenant, the Sikh Association: Contact either the FINANCIAL TRUSTEES (LYN HUGHES, Ken Henry, Dave Wales or Bonnie Morgan) or Buildings and Grounds (Dave Wales)

2020 Annual Reports: It's that time of year! But things will be a bit different this year. The schedule is as follows:

- February 14 – reports due to the secretary
 - Please send them as digital files – WORD documents preferred, so they can be formatted as needed.
- February 21 – report will be emailed as a PDF to all members (USPS mailed to those who need a hard copy) for review before the meeting.
- February 28 – Annual Congregational Meeting to receive the 2020 Annual Report, the 2021 budget, and vote on Pastor Debra McGuire's terms of call.

The congregational meeting will be held via Zoom immediately following worship on February 28th. Anyone who wants to stay on Zoom after the meeting for coffee hour is welcome to do so.

Any questions about the report or the budget should be sent to Deb before the meeting. The questions will be read out and answered by the appropriate person. Live questions during the meeting will be allowed, but with the limitations of Zoom, it's easier to have questions beforehand. Send your questions to Deb via email at dmcguire@bethanypcusa.org, or you can call her at the church.

*There is no fear in love,
but perfect love casts out fear;
for fear has to do with punishment,
and whoever fears
has not reached perfection in love.
We love because he first loved us.
1 John 4: 18-19*

Donations for San Bruno Hospitality House: There will be a plastic bin outside the door closest to the lower parking lot at Bethany for shelter donations so people can continue to donate for the shelter. The box will be periodically checked and items taken down to the shelter. 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>

You can read more about the shelter on their website: <http://catholicworkerhospitalityhouse.org/>

Happy Birthday to all those born in February!

- 4 Kenny Parker
- 5 Aaron Jones
- 5 Susan Gartner May
- 6 Thomas Abbott
- 8 William Warfield
- 10 Tyler Bray
- 11 Amy & Mia Kumimoto
- 12 Gary Bullis
- 15 Robin Parker
- 17 Jack Parker Ellefson
- 20 Mitchell Gruner
- 21 Rina Ranahan
- 22 Janet Bower
- 23 Fred Matthews
- 26 Beverly Bristow
- 26 Sarah Henry



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

- 4 George DeWeese
- 9 Bill Quickert
- 12 Greg Bullis
- 24 Rose Golobic

Happy Anniversary!

- 27 Tom & Barbara Jessee



Due Dates

For W@B: Tuesday morning.

For the monthly newsletter: the Wednesday 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>



2400 Rosewood Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 589-3711 ~ bethanypres@bethanypcusa.org
Website: bethanypcusa.org



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS