



Welcome to our new 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.

From the Pastor

We are entering the Season of Pentecost – the time we celebrate the coming of God’s Spirit, or the birth – day of the Church. We call this Spirit “ruach” in Hebrew – the breath or wind of God. This wind or “ruach” of God is anything but passive – in fact, it can be downright disruptive to our lives.

There is certainly disruption happening in our midst today. Last Sunday, after returning from three week’s vacation, I sensed dramatically the ‘elephant in the room.’ The ‘elephant’ being, I will soon be leaving the Bethany Community. This change is difficult for many of us.

What I hold onto is the truth that this same Spirit of God that blew through the early church is blowing through our midst – especially now that we are in the midst of change. This Spirit calls us to hold on to the promise of love, hope and peace God offers all God’s people.

In these next two months, may we celebrate this God who says, “I am with you always...”

Blessings, Kathryn



Perspectives on Immigration

On Saturday, May 11, the Outreach Committee of Bethany hosted a discussion panel to address matters of immigration and refugees in the United States. "Perspectives on Immigration" was held in rooms 5 & 7, a cozy and well-proportioned space for our group.

We were honored to hear from 6 panelists. Martha Larsen and Kathleen Kearney, from the Sisters of Mercy, spoke of their time at the California border assisting refugees and caring for the children. Hugo Lopez-Munoz, a Mexican immigrant and now intern for the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity spoke of that organization's important work assisting immigrants caught in the criminal justice system. Vivian Poblete, a retired Kaiser social worker and 1st generation American of Philippine heritage told of her time growing up in San Francisco during WWII under a great deal of racial discrimination, and of her work with many cultures as a social worker. Friend of Bethany Reverend Geoff Browning, who has also recently been at the border, gave some historical background about the sanctuary movement of the 80s. Laetitia Bordes, a Catholic Sister and member of the Society of Helpers who has spent more than 50 years in ministry dedicated to working for justice for immigrant communities, spoke of her time at the Texas border helping to process refugees to get them to their US sponsors.

Thank you to the people who made this event possible: our guests of course, Ken and Roberta Henry for setting up the space for us, Pam Matthews for leading the event, and Kathleen Mitchell and Kelly Rozmus for coordinating the refreshments after.

With so many willing speakers, our time flew quickly – each speaker said that they could have gone on much longer! We were inspired by their work, and hope to do more in this area. **Our first opportunity for this will be to attend a forum by the Interfaith Movement on June 9, 2-5 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Palo Alto (see below).** There will be a group from Bethany going to this; we will carpool after worship, and have lunch in Palo Alto before attending the event. See Chris Angeles, Pam Matthews, Tamra Hollenbeck, or Kathy Quickert if you are interested!

Walk With Me: Accompanying Immigrants in our Midst

June 9, 2-5 p.m.

First Congregational Church of Palo Alto

1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto

Join us to strengthen our network of solidarity in support of immigrant communities on the Peninsula!

- Recently arrived asylum-seekers and those threatened by deportation share the power of accompaniment.
- Local congregations will share:
 - Housing hospitality
 - Sponsoring out of detention
 - Border work
 - Courtroom accompaniment
 - Honduras and Root Causes

SAN MATEO COUNTY
2019 LGBTQ PRIDE
7th Annual Pride Celebration

Rooted in Resilience

Come see us at the Bethany table!

Saturday, June 15th
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
San Mateo Central Park

We'll be staffing a table from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., and we'd love to have you sign up to help out! The sign up sheet will be out this Sunday, with time slots from 11-1 and 1-3. We'll also need a little help with set up and clean up.

We don't yet have the times for when we can set up, but as soon as we do, we'll get that info out.

Come out and enjoy San Mateo County Pride Celebration!! It's a family friendly event and a sober space! There will be a variety of different resource and vendors booths! Tasty food selections by Food Trucks, kids/teens space, fun activities for all, a stage with a host of awesome entertainment, FREE Zumba class in the rec building, a chance for people attending to show their skills during our "Open Mic" (Note: all selections must have no profanity and no derogatory speech and must be suitable for the family friendly space-also there is limited space/time for selections to be presented)! This event is something the whole family can enjoy!! Hope to see you at this AMAZING FREE EVENT for the LGBTQ+ community and allies!! SHARE THIS EVENT WITH YOUR FRIENDS!

4/25/19 CALLED SESSION MEETING (7:18pm- 8:25pm): A specially set Session Meeting, held on 4/25/19, was called at the request of Rev. Kathryn Pyke. Rev. InHo Kim from the Presbytery Committee on Ministry was present. Rev. K. Pyke announced her decision to resign as BPC Pastor, effective date to be determined after meeting with Financial Trustees to discuss terms. After a discussion, her resignation was accepted with regret. Rev. Pyke will be sending out a letter to the Congregation announcing her decision. Rev. Kim explained that the Presbytery will assist BPC with acquiring an Interim Pastor before starting the process of calling a new Pastor. Rev. Kathryn Pyke will make an announcement during the Session Q&A time after the 4/28/19 Worship Service

The next Session Meeting will be held June 18, 2019 at 7 PM.
(Session will not meet in May 2019.)
-R.Wales, Clerk of Session

April Financial Summary

Income \$15,925.00
Expense (\$15,456.76)
Net \$ 468.24

YTD

Income	\$60,695.70	88.59%
Expense	(\$62,096.79)	(90.63%)
Net	(\$ 1,401.09)	(2.04%)

Note: A money transfer was made on 5/1/19 from Prepaid Offerings

With the summer fast approaching, please be sure to provide your offering to the church before you leave on vacation.

Lease Update:

Keller Williams, our commercial leasing agent, continues to work on finding a tenant for our building but no advance was made in April and to date in May.

Additional Information:

Lyn Hughes is now a member of the Finance Committee of the Presbytery of San Francisco and is grateful for the opportunity to assist the Presbytery.

Catholic Worker Hospitality House (the San Bruno Shelter)

Rina Ranahan is Bethany's representative to the San Bruno Shelter. Please call her at 650-291-6979, if you are interested in serving on this committee.

Urgent items needed: Canned fruit, jelly, napkins, toilet paper, coffee creamer.

The full list can be found on our website: bethanypcusa.org

COMMUNITY ACTION/LIFE COMMITTEE

Summary of the 2019 Bethany Spring Tea fundraising effort on April 27:

Tickets Sold	\$1,220 (61 tickets @ \$20)
Gift Basket Raffle Tickets	\$ 890 (890 tickets @ \$1 – 12 beautiful baskets/items: top 3 baskets were the Warriors Basket, the Beach Party Wagon and the San Francisco Giants Basket)
Other Cash Donations	\$1,890 (donations from those who could not attend or who wanted to provide extra funds)
TOTAL	\$4,000

The Deacons contributed one Gift Basket (a Movie-themed basket) and paid for 2 tickets for attendees. Our thanks to the Deacons for their support of the Spring Tea fundraising effort.

We were so blessed to have Teresa and Beth from Paradise Presbyterian Church attend our Spring Tea. It was a glorious day filled with sunshine, a cool breeze, wonderful speakers and good friends. God's hand was right in the middle of things as everything came together very nicely for our Garden Party themed Tea, including inspirational thoughts from the hearts of Teresa and Beth. It was so uplifting to hear their stories, and we knew we selected the right beneficiary of our Tea proceeds after Lyn spoke to Kelly at Paradise Church that very first time. Our check was mailed to Paradise Church about a week after the Tea, and we have already heard back that they are overcome by our efforts and very grateful for our donation to the Camp Fire Relief Fund. We now have a family in Paradise and hope to hear of their ongoing progress at the weeks go by.

Thanks to all those who helped make the Tea a success which includes Jorie Abbott, Barbara Liedtke, Molly Lyons, Frank and Donna Goodwin, Kelly and Steve Rozmus, George Lynch, Patty Hughes, Bonnie Morgan, and Tamra Hollenbeck.

Rise Against Hunger: The Rise Against Hunger event has been re-scheduled to **Saturday, October 5, 2019, from 10am to noon** at Bethany Presbyterian. Please be sure to update your calendars.

Also, please note that we are currently halfway to our expense goal. It now costs **\$3,451.68** to pack 10,152 meals and we have collected \$1,750.00 which leaves \$1,701.68 to be raised by October 5th. Here is the URL for the event website should you wish to consider making a donation to offset the cost of the event.

http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/BethanyPres_October2019

Dinner and a Movie Night – Saturday, August 3rd – 5pm: Community Life will sponsor a pizza, salad, and ice cream sundae dinner on **Saturday, August 3rd at 5pm at Bethany Church**. The movie choice is still being decided but please mark your calendars to join us for a fun evening together this summer.

Other Hunger Projects: We are currently looking into the Presbytery of San Francisco's grant procedures for possible future funding of other hunger projects. More information to come on this topic.

Save the Date – Spring Events

- Sun. June 9, 2-5 p.m. – Walk With Me: Accompanying Immigrants in our Midst –
- First Cong. Church of Palo Alto
- Sat. June 15 – San Mateo Pride Celebration, 11 a.m – 5 p.m., San Mateo Central Park
- Sat. August 3, 5 p.m.: Dinner and a Movie (movie TBA)



Members Page on the Bethany website

Wednesdays @ Bethany is now viewable on our website! Because we care about your privacy and to protect your personal information, W@B will be password protected, so that your phone numbers, addresses, birthdates, etc. will not be out in the open on the internet, but still be available to those who are part of the Bethany community.

To access the MEMBERS section of the site, follow these easy steps:

- #1 Go to the “MEMBERS” drop down menu at the top right of the page, and click on it.
- #2 Enter the password, “rosewood” (all lower case, no quotation marks) in the password box.
- #3 Click enter

Roberta Henry, our secretary, will be on vacation beginning June 1st, and will be back in the office on June 18th. Email and voicemail will be checked in her absence.

There will be no W@B on June 5th or 12th.

Due Dates

For W@B: Tuesday morning.

For Sunday announcements: Wednesday morning. Email them to the church office or leave them in the mailbox on the outside of the office door.

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



Happy Birthday to these wonderful folks born in June!

- 1 Bill Marsh
- 2 Steve Rozmus
- 4 Paul Feliciano
- 5 Jonathan May
- 5 Knox Parker
- 11 Graham Richards
- 12 Huy Lee
- 15 Ellen Kross
- 16 Viviann Schlater
- 17 Ky Hollenbeck
- 19 Glenn Carlson
- 19 Orrin DeLand
- 19 Bonnie Morgan
- 22 Nancy Crawford
- 23 Harlan Falejczyk
- 26 Tom Knox
- 29 Jim Engvall
- 29 Tom Abbott
- 30 Elaine Lutz
- 30 Geoff Browning

June Anniversaries

- 2 Roberta & Ken Henry
- 2 Garry & Robyn Cox
- 11 Eric & Abby Huseth

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

- 1 Ruth Herndon
- 5 Will Bullis



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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