



May @ Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! These familiar words greet us every Easter morning. There is power in this affirmation. There is hope in this affirmation. Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! I wonder what our lives would be like if every morning we awoke to this affirmation...

What if Easter is not the ending of the story, **but the beginning of the story?** What if resurrection happens over and over and over in our lives, in the life of this world, and in the life of this community?

I find hope in believing resurrection is an ongoing moment in life. If I am going through a difficult time in life – there is hope that life will change – that God will intercede – that new possibilities will open, and resurrection, new life will begin.

This hope is true for both our world today and our community of faith. I talk to people who are disillusioned with the state of our country and the divisive nature of politics. I am one of those people who pray that change will come if we but do our part to make that happen. I am one of those people who believe God can and will offer us a way out of the wilderness of life.

I know there are some in this community of faith that are disillusioned with our life together as well. We are among a growing number of churches that are becoming smaller in membership. There are fewer people doing much of the ministry. Yet we experience resurrection every time a new person walks through our doors, and we welcome them into our midst.

My prayer for all of us this Easter Season is for us to keep our eyes open, to pay attention, to listen, to be in awe at the joy and beauty given to us each day. May we be kind and forgiving toward each other. It is in these moments that resurrection begins. As someone once said, "Easter is something we live and breathe."

Easter Blessings, Kathryn

Question and Answer: Every month, on the Sunday immediately following the session meeting, an elder will moderate a question and answer session following worship. You are invited to ask any questions about session business or anything about the life of the church. Next meeting: Sunday, April 28th. (It was moved from April 21st so it doesn't conflict with Easter festivities.)

Bethany's Annual Spring Tea will be held on April 27, from 1:00- 3:30 p.m. Our beneficiary this year will be the Ridge Presbyterian Church Camp Fire Relief Fund, in Paradise, California. Tickets are \$20 each, and there will be a raffle for prize baskets - raffle tickets are \$1 each. We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends at this delightful event!



Perspectives on Immigration
A Community Panel Discussion
Saturday, May 11, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

Please join us for a discussion about immigration and refugees in the United States today. Panelists will include those who have first-hand experience, either as immigrants themselves, or as people who work with immigrant and refugee populations. There will be a time for Q&A after panelists give their presentations.

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

The Monday Bible Study concluded on April 22nd. Rev. Richard will be on vacation through May. The Bible Study group will make a decision about what comes next - time and dates. Thanks to all those attended these past few weeks.

4/16/19 SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (7:00pm- 9:35pm)

- G. Lynch led the Devotion about Faith, using Psalm 141, Prayer of St. Patrick.
- Discussion about increasing BPC building use fee. Since it was just increased last fall, an increase will possibly be considered at the end of 2019.
- K. Mitchell reported that Christian Education is considering a Bible Study to take place off site of BPC.
- L. Hughes reported on the Presbytery meeting she and Pam attended regarding use of a 1 million dollar grant divided within our Presbytery. While decisions are still being made, within the Presbytery, regarding the grant process itself, we will begin gathering information for which project BPC would apply for any funds. Discussion about assisting people with food and housing issues.
- G. Lynch reported that, at this time, there has been no response to the Music Leader position. The position posting will be added to other sites, including Handshake (SF State)(Rina will assist) and Next Door.
- Ongoing discussion regarding the congregational visits and seeking professional help with church-wide communication skills. Lyn will contact InHo Kim in this regard.
- Due to the unavailability of a quorum of elders, Session will not meet in May 2019.
- Next Session Meeting June 18, 2019.

-R.Wales, Clerk of Session

COMMUNITY ACTION/LIFE COMMITTEE

“Ceili” Thank You: I overlooked the “thank you” for those who helped with the Ceili, especially the cooking, setup and cleanup. Many thanks the following people: Jorie Abbott, Pam and Fred Matthews, Frank and Donna Goodwin, Dave and Cindy Marconi, Tamra Hollenbeck and her friend, Donald, and George Lynch

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

Spring Tea benefiting Ridge Presbyterian Church’s “Camp” Fire Relief Fund: Information about the Spring Tea held on Saturday, April 27, will be included in the next edition.

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.

FINANCIAL TRUSTEES

February Financial Summary

Income \$16,637.70
Expense (\$14,362.82)
Net \$ 2,274.88

YTD

Income \$30,944.70 90.33%
Expense (\$30,226.25) (88.23%)
Net \$ 718.45 2.10%

March Financial Summary

Income \$13,826.00
Expense (\$16,413.78)
Net (\$ 2,587.78)

YTD

Income \$44,770.70 87.12%
Expense (\$46,640.03) (90.76%)
Net (\$ 1,869.33) (3.64%)

Note: A money transfer was not made in March but was made on 4/1/19

Lease Update:

We heard a definite "No" from the small candy-making company as they decided to view other properties. We had issues with them wanting large commercial refrigerators upstairs and they wanted more storage than we had to offer.

Our leasing agent continues to work on finding a tenant for our building.

Many thanks to those who worked the Church-Wide Work Day on Saturday April 13!
Much was accomplished and our building and grounds look great for Easter: Bonnie Morgan, Chris Angeles, Steven Cady, Ken Henry, Craig Bray, Jorie Abbot, Kathryn Pyke, Roy Okano, Leslie Olson, Roxane Wales, David Wales

Save the Date – Spring Events

- **Sat. April 27**, 1 – 3:30 p.m. – Bethany Spring Tea
- **Sat., May 11**, 4-5:30 p.m. – Perspectives on Immigration

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

Rev. Kathryn Pyke will be on vacation starting April 29th and will be back in worship on Sunday, May 26th. If you have an emergency requiring a pastor, please call the church office, and the voicemail message will give you the contact information for the elder on call.

Our guest preachers will be Rev. Dr. Robin Crawford on May 5th and 12th, and Rev. Geoff Browning on May 19th.

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 May!

- 3 Richard Pyke
- 5 Steve Cady
- 5 Kimberly Elliot
- 8 David Cady
- 13 George Lynch
- 15 Robin Crawford
- 15 Barbara Lucas
- 16 Justin Wales
- 24 Dave Wales
- 29 Stephanie May Knox
- 30 Norma (Skip) Quickert

May Anniversaries

- 26 Joe & Elizabeth Falejczyk
- 27 Paul & Kathleen DeLander
- 27 Aaron & Jean Jones
- 27 Janine & Cory Valine
- 30 Frank & Donna Goodwin

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

- 13 Bee Parker
- 15 Dave Fogle

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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