
May @ Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church

From the Pastor



Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Kentucky Derby, Armed Forces Day, National Day of Prayer – these are just some of the special days and holidays that are celebrated in May. The Christian Church calendar also celebrates a special holiday in May – the Day of Pentecost. The day of Pentecost will be celebrated at Bethany on Sunday, May 19. Our scripture for the Sundays during the season of Easter help us remember the time after Jesus' resurrection, when he appeared to many before his final resurrection. When Jesus returned after his death, he reminded his disciples and others that when he was no

longer with us in body, he would leave his spirit, the Spirit of God to be our advocate, our helper. According to one gospel account, from the Gospel of John, Jesus entered the locked room where his disciples were hiding and said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." This gift, the Holy Spirit, is often referred to as a great thundering wind, or like tongues of fire giving followers the words to speak. Sometimes it is thought of as something that carries our prayers to God, and brings God's word to our hearts. What comes to mind when you think of the breath of God?

The place where I lived when I was in college, about an hour northwest of Chicago, was corn country. I lived down the block from the Del Monte factory where they canned – yep, corn. In the life cycle of a corn stalk, there is a time when the stalk grows a tall tassel. This helps the corn pollinate and reproduce. On the farm, everyone's life would come to a stop, kids would miss school – because all hands were needed on deck, to de-tassel the corn.

In corn country, it was not uncommon to see fields and fields and fields of the copper topped corn stalks glistening in the sun, listing this way and that, as if the field was breathing. It was a sight to behold. Combine that with the smell in the air of a typical "Indian Summer" day and I was convinced I was in heaven. I could see



<https://www.nicksuydam.com/index>

the billowing copper colored tops of the fields, hear the rustle of the corn, touch the soft top of the tassels and feel the breeze on my skin. For me, even though the copper breeze takes place in early fall and not May, I find it is such a beautiful way to actually see the breath of God!

May the Holy Spirit bless you and yours,
Pastor Deb



Community Life

Ruth Covenant Group



The Bethany Ruth Covenant Group will be meeting on Monday, **May 6 at 6:30 pm**. Please note the change of date. The Ruth Group will be celebrating Pam Matthews and her long and loving connection with Bethany and the Ruth Covenant Group. Pam and Fred will be moving to Missoula, Montana in May, and the Ruthies decided this month would be an excellent time to forgo our usual meeting so we could have a lovely dinner together. **If you are interested in joining us for this fond farewell, please let Tamra**

Hollenbeck or Pam know. The details of where we are going haven't been worked out yet, and we will notify everyone of where we'll meet as soon as it's figured out! The Ruth Group will resume its normal schedule in June.

Deacons' Luncheon

The Deacons will host another luncheon on **Sunday, June 2** (not June 9 as originally scheduled). Mark your calendars now, and more details will be available soon! The Luncheon will be served after worship and all are invited to participate.



Farewell Reception for Pam and Fred Matthews

Say it ain't so!!! I'm afraid we must. Pam and Fred Matthews, long-time members and loving supporters of Bethany Presbyterian Church, are moving to Missoula, MT, to be nearer to their two beautiful daughters Abby and Hannah, their son-on-law Eric, and grandsons Sorin and Avery. While we will miss them terribly, this move is a bit of a dream come true, and we wish them all the best.

There will be a Farewell Reception in honor of Pam and Fred on **Sunday, May 19** following worship. A blessing tree will be provided where you will be able to place cards, greetings, pictures, and other blessings for them, and there will be a fine luncheon provided for all to enjoy. Please plan to join us for this memorable moment in our church life.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 - Steve Cady
- 7 - Ryan Hood
- 8 - David Cady
- 9 - Walt Bird
- 13 - George Lynch
- 22 - Ronan Nicolosi
- 24 - Dave Wales
- 30 - Norma (Skip) Quickert



- 27 - Corey and Janine Valine
- 30 - Frank and Donna Goodwin

Spring Tea

Bethany Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Spring Tea on Saturday, June 1 at the church from 12:00-2:30 pm. A delicious menu is being planned, complete with tea sandwiches, fresh fruit, a variety of special cookies, scones and lemon curd, and your choice of tea. Kathleen Mitchell has offered to share her large collection of tea cups and tea pots with us for the event. Tickets will be \$25 each and will include an opportunity to win a special basket of goodies! Participants will also be able to purchase additional chances to win the baskets, which will include these themes: Kitchen supplies, 49ers, Warriors, Pasta, Gardening, and Tea.

Proceeds from the Tea will be donated to the RotoCare Coastside Free Medical Clinic in Half Moon

Bay. This is a clinic staffed by volunteers, including our own Chris Angeles, and they provide free medical care for farmworkers, nursery workers, restaurant, and domestic workers with no health insurance. The program will include additional information about the clinic, and there will be an opportunity to donate to the clinic even if you are not able to attend the tea.

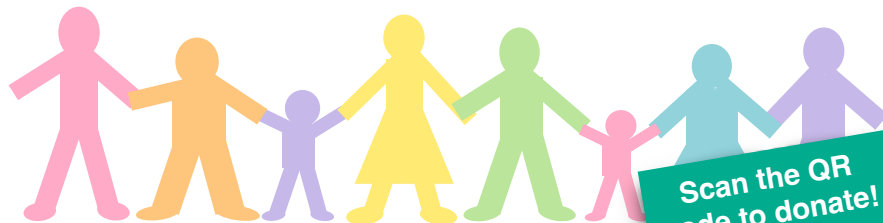
Please plan now to join us for this lovely afternoon of fellowship, and please invite your family and friends to come too. Ticket sales will begin on Sunday, May 5 after worship. We look forward to hosting this event for the first time since the pandemic! If you have questions, please contact Kathy Fogle, Jorie Abbott, Lyn Hughes, Robin Villines, or Tamra Hollenbeck.

Bethany Presbyterian Church Presents

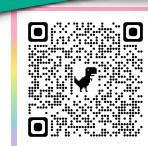
Spring Tea 2024

Benefitting RotaCare Coastside Free Medical Clinic
providing free healthcare to those with limited access

Saturday, June 1st
Noon ~ 2:30 p.m.
2400 Rosewood Dr, San Bruno
Tickets \$25



Scan the QR
code to donate!



Ticket sales begin Sunday, May 5th
Please join us for this lovely afternoon of fellowship,
and please invite your family and friends to come too!



Bethany Presbyterian Church † 2400 Rosewood Dr † San Bruno CA † 650-589-3711 † bethanypcusa.org

Community Action

Thanks again to all who provided items and/or funds for the HelpOneChild Easter project. The family, a single mother looking after six children (hers and her sister's children), was so happy with our gifts and especially some cash and gift cards which she said would be used for groceries. It is truly a blessing to know how Bethany cares for and gives to those in need.



Financial Trustees

Note: The 2024 March and Quarterly Information is not yet available from our bookkeeper

Financial Issues:

- In progress: replacement of our antiquated electrical panel for maximum efficiency. Next steps 1. Update electrical panel, 2. Decide on solar energy panels/installation, and 3. Install heat pump.
- In progress: Room 9 clean-up, work continues on this room, and more will be done now that Jessica Reddell Popovich has returned from leave.
- In progress: The Kitchen Update Committee cleanup and cleanout. Another cleanup day is being scheduled. Lowe's could not provide any assistance as a consultant as they don't come out to customer locations. We have started to look for kitchen remodel consultants in San Mateo County on the internet.
- Patio repair – on hold for now – suggestion was also made to extend patio to the edge of the west parking lot and possibly include a labyrinth.
- Upper Roof Repair – on hold for now.
- In progress: On-line giving opportunities. We have received steps to put information on-line from WFB, probably first through FaceBook.
- Global Witness and Peacemaking Offering – will be supplemented by the Pastor's Discretionary fund in order to total \$500 which will then grant us a presentation by Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow about his May travels to Palestine..
- Discuss \$5,000 donation to CWHH for roofing project on 2nd Avenue house. Funds have already been promised from various sources.



Sundays: Worship at 10:00 am
Coffee Hour 11:00 am
(rehearsals start 8:30 am)

Wednesdays: Prayz 5:00 pm
Chancel Choir 6:30 pm
Prayer Group 6:30 pm

Submissions for W@B: Tuesday mornings.

Submissions for the June newsletter:
Friday, May 17

1st Sunday: Communion at Worship Service
2nd Sunday: Worship Committee 11:00 am
2nd Monday: Ruth Covenant Group 6:30 pm
2nd Tuesday: Session 4:30 pm
3rd Sunday: Deacons Meeting 11:30 am
Buildings & Grounds and
Community Action committees
– as scheduled

Session Highlights - April 9, 2024

Pastor: Rev. Deb McGuire reported.

- There will be a memorial service for Bill Marsh on Saturday, April 20 at noon. Deb will lead the service, and the Bethany congregation is invited.
- Deb will be away on vacation from July 15-August 2.
- Bob Johansen will join the church on Sunday, May 5.

Financial Trustees: Lyn Hughes reported.

- There is no March quarterly report available yet because of some personal issues with our bookkeeper. It will be available soon.
- On-line giving opportunities are being pursued.
- Global Witness and Peacemaking Offering: The portion that Bethany kept is \$205.25. The funds will be sent to the Israel/Palestine Mission Network of PCUSA to support their work towards peace.
- Session approved a request from Financial Trustees to provide \$5,000 for Catholic Worker House roof repairs on the 2nd Avenue house in San Bruno. A letter will be sent to the congregation asking for funds by June 1.

Buildings and Grounds: Dave Wales reported. These are the tasks the committee is working on:

- Upgrade of electrical panel: The panel needs to be upgraded because the current one is very old.
- The chain installation across the entrance and exit to the church parking lots is moving forward, and the project will hopefully be completed by the end of April.
- The church exterior needs to be painted. Scaffolding will be needed.
- When the patio repair is done, B&G would like to have a labyrinth design incorporated into the new patio. For now, the areas that are jutting up need to be leveled to prevent people from tripping and falling.

Community Action: Lyn reported.

- Bethany provided lots of contributions for "Help One Child" for Easter. The contributions, including cash for groceries, went to a family in San Bruno, a family with 6 children between the ages of 2-14 years.

Worship: Pam Matthews reported.

- Jessica Reddell Popovich is back from medical leave.

Other Business:

- A Spring Tea is being planned for Saturday, June 1 from 12-2:30 pm.
- **Next meeting date: Tuesday, May 14 at 4:30 pm.**

Our 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.

Our 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 are already welcome here.
We invite you, on your unique spiritual journey,
to join us in the life and ministry of Bethany Presbyterian Church.

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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Bethany is a member of More Light Presbyterians
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