

# October@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,

Movement.

That's the feeling I've been trying to describe. Do you feel it too? I can feel a little shift in the air as fall approaches; the glee at that downpouring of rain for just a minute; the Mission Study work is moving along; the Thanksgiving Dinner is back; preparations for Advent are in the works; choir is back; even the lectionary switches its focus.

The movement of political forces as countries struggle for peace and power, choose sides in major conflicts, elections around the corner here in the US; climate change movements of major storms and the climate related poverty and social struggles reminding us that climate isn't just about the air around us.

There is movement of time also as we celebrate 35 years of marriage (Craig and Eddy) and 40 years of marriage (Pam and Fred) this year! And let's not forget the 68<sup>th</sup> birthday of Bethany itself, on Friday.

Sadly, there is also the movement of people. Our dear Ken and Roberta Henry will be moving to Marysville, WA at the end of October. We will miss so much about them! This month will bring us all chances to say goodbye in our own way, including a party on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

What we can always count on in the movement of the holy spirit in our midst. As we move through the seasons of all kinds all around us may we remember that promise.



Blessings,  
Pastor Deb

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
(Rom. 15:13)*

**Peacemaking and World Communion Sunday:** Bethany will be celebrating Peacemaking/World Communion Sunday on Sunday, October 2. On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved, and we are not alone.

Our congregation will be participating in the Peacemaking Offering, now called the Peace & Global Witness Offering, and we will be dedicating the Offering on World Communion Sunday, October 2. Of the funds collected, 25% will remain with Bethany to support our own efforts towards peacemaking. We are partnering with local students at Allen School by inviting them to participate in an Artistic Expression opportunity about what A Season of Peace might look, sound, feel, smell, and/or taste like. All participants will be celebrated at a reception held at Allen School in late October - TBA. Their contributions will be displayed at the San Bruno Park District Office. The Bethany congregation is also invited to consider what A Season of Peace represents to them, and any contributions will be placed on display on the church's bulletin board. Please consider participating in this opportunity, and please invite your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and neighbors to join in!

Offering envelopes are available at the church, and will be provided throughout this Season of Peace. Please prayerfully consider supporting this offering, which allows the Presbyterian Church both locally and abroad, to help those struggling through oppression and injustice. May Christ's peace be a part of all of your days.

**"Tis' the gift to be simple"**...In the season of goblins and giving, of gratitude and grace, of plenty and of want, the deacons invite you to contribute to the deacons' fund. You -- not only your money but your kindness -- support our efforts in doing those simple things like reaching out to people who may be in want of the simple things like a cheerful gift, a helping hand, a supportive word, food, clothes, an extra lift, a seasonal message. We are the bearers of Bethany's caring, support, and compassion for our community and beyond, especially as we lean into the busy holidays to bring Christ's message of love, peace, joy, hope and service.

If you are aware of a particular need in our community, please bring it to our attention and all suggestions will be considered. We cannot do this without you and your kind hearts will bring greater awareness.

We will leave envelopes in the back of chairs at church or you can mail your offering to Bethany with the notation on the check that it is for the Deacons' Fund. God bless and thank you to all who have made our efforts and sharing possible! (Please know, too, that checks are welcome all year long :-)

**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>

## FINANCIAL TRUSTEES

### August

\$ 12,848.75 Income  
\$(15,260.24) Expense  
\$( 2,411.49) Difference

### YTD

\$ 114,743.70 Income 95.893%  
\$(128,124.12) Expense (99.682)%  
\$( 13,380.42) Difference ( 3.789)%

We are grateful for your faithful and generous support.

The Trustees are working on the following issues:

1. Renewal of Pastor Deb McGuire's annual contract with Bethany for 2023 assisted by Marda Stothers from the Presbytery of San Francisco in her role as Partner of Mission and Church Assets.
2. Work on the Mission Study draft regarding finances, such as our overall financial condition and outlook for the future.
3. Renewal of the Sikh Association multi-year lease. The Trustees and Pastor McGuire met with representatives from the Sikh Association on Monday, September 13, to discuss the current lease, noting areas that will need updates.
4. Review of funds available for ongoing cleanup of the Bethany grounds.
5. Review of the bids received for replacement or repair of the patio outside of the church building. This project is currently on hold until January 2023.
6. Annual Stewardship Campaign. Our 2023 Stewardship Campaign will commence in late October/early November. Ongoing, Bethany is able to accept stock to be given to the church to fulfill pledges or other donations. A simple process has been in place which can be shared with the giving party's investment professional so stock can be given to the church. Contact Lyn Hughes at (650) 867-0667 for details.
7. Annual Church Budget preparation for 2023.
8. Change in Financial Trustees structure. With the departure of Ken Henry in October, 2022, Lyn Hughes will again take on the role of the Chair - Financial Trustees.

Questions about the BPC budget or general Trustees' questions? Contact Ken Henry or Lyn Hughes – Chairs - 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)



### **September 20, 2022 Session Meeting**

Meeting held via Zoom - 7:05 PM - 8:36 PM.

- Present: Ken Henry, Pam Matthews, Kathryn Quickert, Dave Wales, Pastor Deb McGuire, Roxane Wales
- Pastor Deb opened the meeting in prayer followed by a devotional using John 6:2-6a, 11, 23,26-27.
- The August 16th meeting minutes were approved.
- Narrative Mission Study is in the works by Session and Trustees. They will be conferring with Jenny Warner from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.
- Pastor Deb reported on Pastoral Care and upcoming Advent Adult Study ("Go Tell" the birth story from shepherds' experience, 4 Tuesdays 11/29 - 12/20).
- Pastor Deb's upcoming vacation days: 11/21-11/28
- Budget is on track.
- Thanks to Ken, Fred & Dave for finding/fixing a water leak as the City of San Bruno will compensate Bethany with a \$1056.58 refund.
- Pam reported for the Worship Committee: 10/2-Peacemaking/World Communion Sunday, 11/6-Service of remembrance, Liturgists are always needed.
- Pam and Ken are working with SMC Elections on specifics of using BPC as Election Center (11/3 set-up, 11/4-8 voting center, 11/10 take-down).
- Also, the Worship Committee has begun discussion about possibly having a Blessing of the Animals next Spring.
- Discussion about hiring for Berta's secretary position with thoughts of restructuring and how to get the job done until we hire someone.
- Brief discussion regarding mask wearing. Matter is tabled until the October meeting.
- Our next Session Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday,
- October 18, 2022 at 7 PM in person at BPC masked/distanced.
- If you have any questions before then, please contact
- Roxane Wales at 650-303-2070 or [roxanewales@gmail.com](mailto:roxanewales@gmail.com).

-R.Wales, Clerk of Session

**Pastor Nominating Committee:** The Bethany Presbyterian Church congregation and the Session/Financial Trustees have held several workshops to answer questions required to complete a Mission Study, a major step in the process of calling a permanent pastor. Using information gathered in these sessions, a Mission Study will soon be written, and the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will be called into service. The PNC 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!

**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](mailto:bethanypres@bethanypcusa.org).

**Ruth Covenant Group:** The Ruth Covenant Group will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, October 10 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 Three - "Beatitudes of the Beloved Community," chapters 9 and 10 - "Equality: The Imago Dei Imperative" and "Radical Welcome." In addition to our discussion, there will be an opportunity for check-in, fellowship, and prayer. All are welcome to attend!



## COMMUNITY ACTION/LIFE COMMITTEE

**Farewell Party for Ken and Roberta Henry:** On **Saturday, October 15 at 6pm**, we will hold a farewell party for our dear friends, Ken and Roberta Henry, who are moving to Marysville, Washington. Please plan to join us for this wonderful event to include dinner, a Blessing Tree, and other festivities. Invitations will be sent and RSVPs are requested. We want to make sure everyone is included.

**Mark Your Calendars for the Bethany Church Thanksgiving Dinner:** Bethany's Annual Thanksgiving dinner will resume this year. The dinner will be held on **Saturday, November 19, at 6pm**. The church will provide the turkey, gravy, dressing, and cranberry sauce. Those attending can bring a side dish, such as a vegetable or vegetable casserole, mashed or sweet potatoes, bread or corn muffins, or a pie. A signup sheet will be available by mid-October so we have an idea of the number planning to attend. Regular reminders will be announced and we hope you will join us.

**News about our Partnership with Iglesias Brasiliana – 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:** We continue to collect various food items and other supplies for CWHH. A complete list of food and other needs is on the Catholic Worker Hospitality House website at [www.catholicworkerhospitalityhouse.org](http://www.catholicworkerhospitalityhouse.org). 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. Since we are now entering fall, blankets/throws/quilts and coats/jackets/sweatshirts are needed, whether new or in good, used condition. Any donations can be brought to the church or can be picked up by calling the church or Lyn Hughes at (650) 867-0667.

**Advent and the Advent Festival:** Advent begins on November 27. By that date, the appropriate paraments and banners will be placed in the church accordingly. We will then hold our Advent Festival on **Saturday, December 3, at 10am**. We will trim a tree, put up garlands, wreaths, candles, and other décor. More information will be provided in the November Newsletter. Please mark your calendars for this very fun day.

### 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>

***The flowers for the month of October*** is the cosmos – a symbol of order, peace, and serenity. The name Cosmos comes from the Greek kosmos, meaning order, harmony, or the world. Not only is order and harmony expressed in the blossom's symmetry, grace, and simplicity, but also in the symmetrically balanced, regularly-doubled production of leaf and blossom stems.



### Happy Birthday to all those born in October!

- 2 Amulen Rozmus
- 3 Kathryn Quickert
- 5 Chris Angeles
- 14 Kathleen Fogle
- 14 Kristina May
- 15 Frank Goodwin
- 22 Catie and Sally Lyons



### October Anniversaries

- 9 Fred & Pam Matthews
- 11 David & Roxane Wales

### We remember these Saints of Bethany who were born in October:

- 2 Willie Mitchell
- 19 Orville Wycoff
- 26 Gladys Crandall
- 26 Al Sweetman

**Due Dates**

**For W@B:** Tuesday morning.

**For the October newsletter:** Tuesday, September 27th

**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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