

# October@Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church

2021

**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,

I write this just after Ellen Kross's memorial service, a few days before our dear Roberta will attend and participate in her own sister's memorial, and a week before Freda Lutz' memorial. All of this has me thinking about heaven. I wonder if it really is salted caramel and chocolate?

As a hospice nurse, Tamra must have opportunity to reflect on life and death. As a hospice chaplain and pastor Ed Kross has had many opportunities to think about life and death. As a nurse Ellen Kross had probably thought about life and death quite a bit. All of us have had varying degrees of brushes with death, serious illness, debilitation, and other losses that drastically change one's life, forever. Maybe these things happened to us ourselves, or someone we loved or were close to, or to a dear pet. Maybe once; maybe multiple times.

Death itself is such a paradox. Time is paradoxical - sometimes even though things seem to happen so fast, each experience seems to move in slow motion. And vice versa. Our emotions run in opposite directions simultaneously - we don't want someone to die but we want their pain to end; death is such an uncomfortable topic and being around people near the end of their lives is not something we do often enough to know what to do or how to feel, and at the same time I know someone who was so excited to see Jesus that she had her daughter bring her balloons to her bedside.

Memorials are sad events for so many reasons, and yet I felt so much joy mixed in with the sadness today. Sad for me because I really wish I had known Ellen better. Joy because the room was simply bursting with the love for Ellen and for Ed and Angela, and for the memories each of you have shared with each other.

I couldn't even begin to make a list! Joy and thanksgiving for all of the help we had with sound, food, set up, clean up, bringing folks who needed assistance, and the service itself. As I mentioned today, the relationships at Bethany are long, and deep, and loving. I have to speak honestly though and say that those relationships were the source of some sadness for me, and maybe a twinge for you too. While this was by no means a long lasting or primary feeling from the day, I want to address it. When relationships are so deep and have lasted so long, any spoken or unspoken harm can feel like a real betrayal. While I don't know specifics or names (and I don't want to), I do know that in and amongst the beautiful memories you all share, are some painful stories for some of you. For some the pain is old and forgotten, for some it was triggered today perhaps, and for some there is just confusion. As we faced each other and recited our beautiful closing benediction, I prayed for hearts to be lifted. I know they were because I felt it. I want to address it because I feel as though today was an opportunity for something special. I wonder if you felt that way too?

In Jesus Christ we know that even though we die, still we live. It's true of all parts of our lives. What love is this that we should all be in one place celebrating the life of a true servant, learning about an even bigger love? Such knowledge is too wonderful for me. It is too high, I cannot attain it. And yet it is the love that Jesus has for us, poured into our hearts, that we feel for the other. If anything in you is broken, let's figure out how to repair. If anything in you is tired, let's figure out how to rest. If anything is joyful in you, let's talk about that too! I want to hear how you feel, about anything, any time. Whenever you're ready for a laugh, a prayer, a loving caring conversation, let's talk. The patio is open.

Blessings,  
Pastor Deb



**New baby!** Hazel William Golden was born to Aaron Schurk and his wife, Jamie Golden, on August 4. Born at home in Petaluma, he weighed in at 7 pounds, 13 oz, and stretched out 21" long. He has lots of dark hair, and is healthy and perfect! The new parents are doing well, enjoying their time together at home as a family. Meanwhile, Hazel is surrounded by proud relatives, including new grandma Kathy Quickert, new Auntie Jenny, and Great-Grannyma Skip, who are all in love with our new little!

GUIDELINES FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP  
BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

In keeping with State and local guidelines and CDC guidelines we are posting this protocol for entry into our building. The space is deep cleaned once each week. Hand sanitizer is available. **Proof of vaccination is required.**

General

- Open for those fully vaccinated unless medically contraindicated (**proof of vaccination required**)
- Please keep doors open for maximum air circulation
- Properly fitting masks must be worn while indoors
- Maintain distance from others

10:00am Sunday Worship Service

- Open to all fully vaccinated people unless medically contraindicated (**proof of vaccination required**)
- Please remain masked
- Please sit at a distance from other parishioners
- No touching – greet one another creatively!
- Singing is allowed while masked only
- Food to be eaten outside only
- Post- and pre-worship visiting outside only



***A celebration of life for Freda Lutz*** will be held at Bethany Presbyterian Church, 2400 Rosewood Drive San Bruno, CA, on October 9th at 11am. Friends and loved ones are invited to attend.

Freda Lutz passed away on Monday, August 2nd. She was very comfortable and at peace in her home with her family. As an Elder, Deacon, Youth Club mom, choir member and part of the Women's Association groups, Freda was an integral part of our congregation for over 50 years. We will miss her deeply. Our hearts go out to Freda's family and friends, and we offer our prayers for comfort to all.

***The Ruth Covenant Group*** will meet at the church on **Monday, October 11 at 6:30 pm** (please note different time!). A Zoom invitation will be available for anyone not able to attend in person, so let Tamra Hollenbeck know if that is a better option for you. We will meet in the Narthex and follow church protocol for masking and social distancing. We continue to read and discuss the book *Love is the Way* by Rev. Michael B. Curry, and we are on chapter 10, "The Great Relationship Revival." In addition to this discussion, we will have a check-in time, refreshments, and time for prayer. Please consider joining in for the fellowship and support of friends studying and praying together. You will be welcomed!

***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/>

### **COMMUNITY ACTION/LIFE COMMITTEE**

1. News about our Partnership with Iglesias Brasiliana – San Mateo

We continue to collect items for Iglesias Brasiliana, our partner in San Mateo. We have received an updated “needs” list from Pastor Jorge from the IYB congregation:

Bottled water  
Rice and pinto beans  
Canned tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, or tomato paste  
Olive or avocado oil  
Paper products

Please continue to prayer for the IYB congregation and consider how you might help. Our next collection will be for Halloween treats for the children. Please bring Halloween candy and other Halloween goodies **to the church by Wednesday, October 20**, to be delivered on Friday, October 22.

We are also planning something similar to Halloween for Thanksgiving (to be determined), Discussions are continuing with Pastor Abdala about how we might help our Partner church for Christmas.

2. 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. We made our fourth payment of \$5,000 from the grant in September.
3. We will NOT have a Thanksgiving dinner at Bethany this year. However, we will have a “drive through” collection for items for the Catholic Worker Hospitality House (the San Bruno Shelter) on **Saturday, November 20, from 2 pm to 4pm** so you may drop off anything you wish to provide to the Shelter such as nonperishable food, blankets, coats, sweatshirts, jackets, etc.
4. Our Stewardship Campaign will begin in November. Check Wednesdays@Bethany and the November Banner for further information and begin to think about how you might support Bethany Church in 2022.

## September 21, 2021 SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Memorial Services will be held at Bethany for two beloved members. Ellen Kross was remembered fondly on Tuesday, September 28 at 11:00 am. Her son Rev. Ed Kross was present for the service, and a light reception was held at the church for those in attendance.
- Freda Lutz will be remembered on Saturday, October 9, also at 11:00 am. Rev. Garry Cox will be leading worship for Freda's service. Proof of vaccination will be required at both services, and masks will be available for anyone needing one.
- Financial Trustees report that the August church budget is "right on track." Stewardship campaign for 2022 will be held in the fall.
- Buildings and Grounds are in contact with tree trimming person to address dead or dying trees on our property. Roxane and Dave Wales are drawing up a list of tasks that can be accomplished by individuals in a time frame that works for them. Keep your eyes open for that list!
- Community Action/Life announced that, because of continued concerns about Covid, there will not be a Thanksgiving Dinner or an Advent Festival again this year. However, there will be a drive through food collection for Catholic Worker on November 20.
- Outreach voiced appreciation for the parking lot striping and new entrance and exit signs, all completed before the reopening on September 12.
- Worship schedule looking ahead includes World Communion Sunday on October 3, All Saint's Day on October 31, and Advent beginning on November 28.
- A final vote to paint the wall above the trim at the back of the sanctuary was approved.
- Pastor Deb thanked everyone for all the efforts in getting the church ready for Opening Day.

Submitted by Tamra Hollenbeck



*Do you know?*

I bet most of you know this, but you can collect your old eyeglasses and donate them! There are several places locally (Chapel of the Highlands Funeral Home in Millbrae) that have said they do collect and the Lions Club International has drop off locations, Also LensCrafters and Pearl Vision retailers reputedly accept old glasses. Call to confirm of course. This is just one important effort we can all make to help others and keep things out of landfill! More information: <https://www.allaboutvision.com/resources/donate.htm>

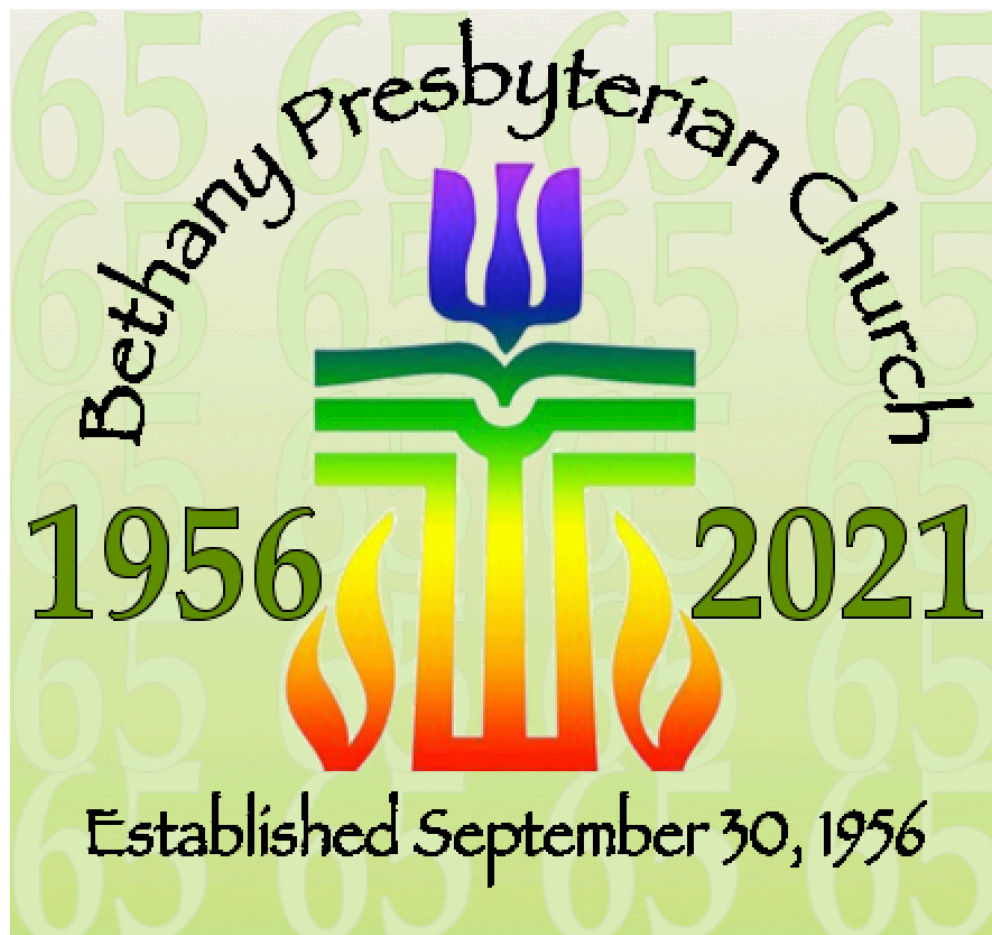
## Financial Trustees August Report

\$ 17,260.00	Income	
\$(13,310.16)	Expense	
\$ 3,949.84	Difference	
YTD		
\$120,983.50	Income	101.094%
\$(117,361.59)	Expense	(97.037)%
\$ 3,621.91	Difference	4.057%

Our continued thanks for mailing or bringing your offerings to the church. We continue to be blessed by your support.

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)



**Happy Birthday to these wonderful folks born in the month of 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 August:**

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



**Due Dates**

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

**For the monthly newsletter:** the Tuesday 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>



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