

# WEDNESDAYS @ BETHANY

JUNE 8, 2022



## BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to our weekly newsletter! *Wednesdays at Bethany* will include important announcements for the life of the congregation. If you would rather not receive this newsletter, please let us know and you will be removed from the list.

We are proud to be a member of More Light Presbyterians, and to be a welcoming and affirming congregation. We welcome the LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual) community and their families and friends into the life and ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA).



### Session Meeting Highlights Tuesday, May 24, 2022

The meeting was held via Zoom. It was opened with the lighting of the Christ Candle and a prayer by Rev. Deb at 7:10 pm. Deb led a devotion with this message: "The evil in the world cannot be allowed to dwell within. Look around for God. The things that sustain us are still all around us."

#### Reports:

#### Clerk of Session:

- Minutes of the April 26, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.
- Kent Sicklebower, former long-time member at Bethany, died on May 19. Congregation was notified via Deacons.

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### **Financial Trustees:**

- Once again, we are solvent.
- The Benevolence Grant of \$2000 from Presbytery will be going into the General Giving to be used as things come up.
- The Trustees are setting up a brokerage account to receive some stocks from the Bullis Foundation.

### **Buildings and Grounds:**

- The wood for stair replacement of the steps down to the Sikh entrance has been purchased.
- The new disposal for the kitchen has been purchased. Dave is seeking assistance in replacing it.

### **Worship:**

- A new rainbow flag has been purchased to replace the current one on Pentecost Sunday, June 5.
- A discussion regarding current masking protocol was held. Session continues to advise we keep current protocols in place because of the increase in Covid cases.
- Pride Sunday will be on June 26.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- The Festival of Homelitics study leave was amazing and very enjoyable.
- Questions were raised about the Sikh communities' flying of several American flags on the walkway down to their area. Deb will discuss the idea of separation of Church and State with the Sikh leaders.
- A discussion was held about ideas for outreach to the community, making Bethany a known presence.

### **Other Business:**

- Choir's last Sunday for the season will be Father's Day, June 19. Prayz will continue to provide music during the summer as they are able to.
- Bethany By-laws need to be reviewed and updated.
- The Deacon's will host a Start of the Summer luncheon after worship on 6/26. There will also be an opportunity for the congregation to send 4th of July greetings to those who are not able to be in worship regularly.
- Personnel: Deb will be away on study leave and vacation beginning June 26 (after worship) through July 12. The first week will be study leave, and the second week will be vacation.
- Next meeting date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 via Zoom.





**Beginning of Summer Luncheon** - The Bethany Deacons will host a Beginning of Summer Luncheon after worship on Sunday, June 26. A light lunch of sandwiches, fruit, drinks, and cookies will be served in the Narthex, and the congregation will be invited to share the meal with each other on the patio. The Deacons will also provide 4th of July cards for anyone interested in sending a card to someone in the congregation who might not be able to make it to church every week. Please plan to join with other congregants as we celebrate the summer season!

**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).

**Liturgists Needed:** Have you thought about participating in leading worship? Have you thought "I could stand up there and read scripture!" Then maybe you could be the liturgist! The liturgists are provided with a full script, so you don't have to worry about what to say. For more information, and if you're interested, please contact Pam Matthews, chair of Worship Committee – [fpmatthews@aol.com](mailto:fpmatthews@aol.com) or the church office.

**Fellowship Time:** We would like to provide brewed coffee, hot water, and a couple of snacks each Sunday after worship. Congregants can sign up to bring an item to share, i.e. fruit, coffee cake, donuts, bagels - you get the idea! Items will be available in the narthex, and congregants will be encouraged to take their snacks out to the patio to eat and visit. The list is available at the church, or you can contact the church office to sign up for a particular Sunday.

Thanks in advance for your participation in this new way of fellowshiping with each other! If you have any questions or concerns, please share with Rev. Deb, Pam Matthews, or Tamra Hollenbeck.

**We're Collecting Change:** No matter the number of coins you have to donate, please place your change in the "Coins for Iglesias Brasiliana" jar which is located right inside the door of the sanctuary on the small table where you find the Sunday bulletins. Approximately \$300 has been delivered to Pastor Jorge, and we can do more! We expect to collect coins through June and possibly throughout 2022. Your coins and continued prayers for the IPB congregation are very much appreciated.



### **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>

**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. Urgent needs right now are toilet paper, canned soup, jelly, syrup, and cereal.

**A current list of shelter needs is on our website:**  
<http://bethanypcusa.org/we-do/shelter-needs.html>

### **Upcoming Meetings & Events**

Wed. 6/08 – Prayz rehearsal, 6 p.m.

- Wednesdays Zoom prayer time 6:30 p.m.

- Chancel choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

Sat. 6/11 – Building and Grounds mtg., 9 a.m.

Committee chairs/group leaders: please let me know if you have any changes to these dates.

### **Prayers from June 5, 2022**

- Prayers of thanksgiving for all the good wishes for his birthday; prayers as he waits for results from his latest infusion treatment (Paul Feliciano)
- Prayers for Melinda's sister Wendy, who is having cancer surgery on Monday; for the Jones' son Matt, who has a mild case of Covid; for all the victims of gun violence (Deb McGuire)
- Prayers of thanksgiving for the safe arrival of family, for Joanie's presence in worship today; for the wonderful gathering of family for her niece's celebration of life (Bonnie Morgan)
- Prayers of comfort and acceptance in the death of Jorie's mom, who passed away at 101 years old and just after seeing all her children and grandchildren, and many of her great-grands (Jorie Abbott)
- Prayers of thanksgiving for Abby and the kids visiting, and for the great family gathering at a wedding, and for Roxane and Dave, who babysat Soren and Avery (Pam Matthews)
- Prayers for Rina's sister Bobby, who will be 80 on Tuesday; for her friend Randy, who will have kidney stone surgery; that congress will finally pass laws for gun safety (Rina Ranahan)

### **Prayers from May 29, 2022**

- Healing for Laura and her partners Jon and Elly, as they have all tested positive for Covid (Roberta Henry)
- Joy and thanksgiving for the safe delivery of both Piper and Katie's babies; continued healing for Katherine, whose most recent scans are encouraging – no more chemo, and she'll start monoclonal antibody treatment; prayers for healing of divisions, that God would touch our hearts and open our ears to listen (Tamra Hollenbeck)
- Thanksgiving that Avery's case of Covid is mild, and the family is doing well; thanks that Hazel is recovering, as are Aaron and Jamie (Pam Matthews)
- Thanksgiving for Jakob's 29<sup>th</sup> birthday, and for the gathering of friends; for Craig's brother David, as doctors work to save his leg; concerns and healing for Camilla San Pedro, a 3 year old who had kidney cancer and now has a spot on her lung (Craig Bray)
- Prayers for Walter's sister May, whose 90<sup>th</sup> birthday is today, and who is in Italy with her daughter and son-in-law, and the son-in-law is quite ill (Walter Bird)
- For Rina's friend Randy, who is having kidney stone surgery; for her sister Bobby who's having hip surgery; and for her sister in law Margaret, whose 77<sup>th</sup> birthday is Wednesday (Rina Ranahan)
- Thanks for the safe arrival of family, and healing for those who are sick, rest for those who are weary (Bonnie Morgan)
- Thanksgiving for the therapy dogs who went into Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas, to provide comfort to the students and staff there (Barb Liedtke)
- Prayers of continued healing for Claire Deland, who is improving remarkably well and is getting what she needs. She would really enjoy visits! Please call Deb or the office to get her current address (Deb McGuire)

### **Prayers from May 22, 2022**

- Thanksgiving for meeting long time friends after 3 years apart, and it's like no time has passed (Kathleen Mitchell)
- Thanksgiving for the lovely wedding shower for Bamboo and Ryan; prayers for Katie Paganelli Noble, whose baby is overdue – prayers for a safe delivery; for Piper, who is due any day with baby #4; for Jessica and David, that they enjoy their time away; safety for the Ukrainian soldiers who were taken prisoner (Tamra Hollenbeck)
- Love and comfort for the Ayende family in the death of their matriarch (Craig Bray)
- Happiness and love for Dave's birthday this Tuesday



# MORE LIGHT

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## PRESBYTERIANS

### **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.



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