

# WEDNESDAYS @ BETHANY

AUGUST 4, 2021



## BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to our weekly newsletter! ***Wednesdays at Bethany*** will include important announcements for the life of the congregation. If you'd like to receive the email without the PDF attachment, please let us know. And if you would rather not receive this newsletter, please let us know and you will be removed from the list.



*Welcome to August, a week late! My letter this month comes in the second newsletter of the month instead of the first because I was away last week. It turns out it was a good idea to write this letter this week instead of the week before I left because I feel so lovely and reflective right now.*

*I was away because I went on study leave, on a spiritual retreat at the Mercy Center, in Burlingame. I was disappointed just before I left home by a letter from the Mercy Center welcoming me to the group retreat I signed up for. I thought I had signed up for a private silent retreat, where I would be free from clocks except for meal times, free from words in any form, and from people! But as Craig said to me just before I left, I could consider that the time might just be a different kind of great than anything I had planned.*

*What helpful words. As it turned out there were 18 people signed up for a silent Ignatian Retreat. We would meet once a day as a group and have one meeting a day with our spiritual director. With not much scheduled after all, and no big group events to speak of, it turned out to be exactly what Craig said – a different kind of great.*



*I can't thank you enough for granting me this time for renewal. There is true Joy (just like you folks talked so beautifully about last Sunday) when we are given the chance to be deeply in conversation with God. There's no telling where God will take us. As silly as I love to be, I also find personal deep conversations with all of you so humbling and beautiful. Let me know what's on your mind. Anytime.*



*Let's talk! 650-589-3711  
Pastor Deb*



**After 18 LONG months of closing for the COVID-19 pandemic, Bethany is finally re-opening for in-person, indoor worship! Hallelujah!** We will be able to greet each other in person beginning with 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship on September 12, 2021!

The Session is finalizing our "rules of engagement" to be sure that we continue to be safe as we meet. Watch this space, as well as Sunday announcements and our Facebook page, for information as it becomes available.

Please plan to be with us on September 12!



**T-shirts:** We plan to make our Opening Day (Sept 12) worship celebration very special. In fact, we are SO excited about this day, we're creating t-shirts! Would you like one? Shirts will be \$17.50 each, and come in sizes small through 3XL. **Please contact us to place your t-shirt order. Ordering will close on August 15!** (Please make checks payable to Bethany Presbyterian Church.)

***One of our dear, long time members, Freda Lutz, passed away*** on Monday, August 2nd at 9:15pm. She was very comfortable and at peace in her home with her family. Thoughts are for a service at the church sometime in the near future. We will post that information when it becomes available.

Our hearts go out to Freda's family and friends, and we offer our prayers for comfort to all.

**Community Action/Life Projects: We have two special projects coming up!**



**Our next collection items will be for school supplies for the children of Iglesias Brasileira – San Mateo:**

Notebook paper, pencils, 16 or 24 packs of crayons, 12" rulers, small scissors (child size), and colored pencils. Please bring any supplies to the church and place in the Narthex under the coat rack. Donations are also welcome to help purchase these supplies. Please continue to pray for this congregation and consider how you might be able to help. We continue with discussions about how we might help through the end of this year.



**We also plan to put together 25 – 50 additional toiletry bags for CWHH by the end of August.**

Items needed are bars of soap, washcloths, disposable razors, small deodorants, small bottles of shampoo, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and socks. Items can be brought to the church and put in the Narthex. Please mark the bag as toiletry bag supplies. Please pray for our community and how we may continue to help CWHH.





### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Get ready for the picnic!

Details can be found on our website – [bethanypcusa.org](http://bethanypcusa.org).

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Wed. 8/04 – Wednesday evening Zoom prayer meeting, 6:30 p.m.

- Prayz rehearsal

Fri. 8/06 – Community Action/Life Committee mtg.

Sat. 8/07 – Story Time With . . . (posted on Facebook at 10 a.m.)

Mon. 8/09 – Ruth Covenant Group, 7 p.m.

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

**Donations for San Bruno Hospitality House:** There is a plastic bin outside the door closest to the lower parking lot at Bethany for Peter Stiehler's shelter donations so people can continue to donate for the shelter. The box will be periodically checked and items taken down to Peter's Second Ave. shelter. 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>



# 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)



## Bethany StoryTime

Saturdays at 11 on Facebook  
Bethany San Bruno

### **Prayers from 8/01/2021**

- Prayers for the Jessee family in the passing of Barbara and Tom's daughter Susan on July 22<sup>nd</sup>; prayers of thanksgiving for Roxane's birthday on July 31<sup>st</sup>; healing for Rina, who isn't feeling well; for Pam's cousin Jim, who injured his back on a hike; for all those traveling, especially Abby and Eric with the kids, and Tamra (Pam Matthews)
- Prayers of thanksgiving for life moving forward (Kathleen Mitchell)
- Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of Judy Puccini, who passed away on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and thanksgiving for the blessing she was to all who knew her (Kathy Fogle)

### **Prayers from 7/25/2021**

- Prayers of thanks for all those helping out in worship this morning – George on camera, Craig, Bonnie, and Pam on music, and Amy as our accompanist; prayers for Ken and Roberta, mourning the loss of Roberta's sister Chris; for George and Lyn, learning to live without their beloved dog Ollie; for Melinda's sister Wendy, who had surgery for cancer and then was in a car accident; for all those impacted by the fires, and for the safety of all firefighters (Deb McGuire)
- Safe travels for Barbara Lucas, whose daughter is getting married; gratitude for Joanie, who has come to Bonnie's emotional rescue; for Bonnie's sister and brother in law and their family, who have all been affected by Covid-19; gratitude for all those who have donated to the deacons' fund (Bonnie Morgan)
- Continued prayers for Pam's brother and sister in law in Maryland; for Bethany, as we move towards re-opening; for the huge contributions of all those who led worship in the past year (Pam Matthews)
- Prayers for all those who are hurting (Paul Feliciano)

### **Prayers from 7/18/2021:**

- Prayers of thanksgiving for Kathy's daughter-in-law's birthday yesterday, and for the finalization of the sale of Aaron and Jamie's home; prayers for the heartbroken in our community, with the loss of their family members (Kathryn Quickert)
- Prayers for the family and friends of Chris Bower, Roberta's sister, who passed away on Tuesday; prayers for Lyn, George, and Trish in the loss of their beloved dog Ollie; safety for the firefighters who are fighting the wildland fires; for the family of the runner in the East Bay who is missing; traveling mercies for Dave Wales, who is off backpacking (Deb McGuire)
- Prayers for Bonnie's family in Missouri – a cousin and his family who all have contracted Covid-19 (Bonnie Morgan)

### **Prayers from 7/11/2021:**

- Prayers for North and all his coworkers as they are in Oregon fighting a wildfire; for the factory fire in Bangladesh, where workers were locked in the building and many died; for Tamra's neighbor Donald, who is doing well after surgery; for her niece Allison, whose fiancé called off their wedding (Tamra Hollenbeck)
- Prayers of thanksgiving for Bonnie's brother in law Larry, who is in remission! (Bonnie Morgan)
- Continued prayers for Kathryn's nephew Nick, who is doing better and may be going home in less than a week; continued strength for Gina, his wife, who has faced this challenge with him; thanks to God for good news and for the prayers of the Bethany community (Kathryn Quickert)



# 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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