

WEDNESDAYS @ BETHANY
OCTOBER 21, 2020



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. (Note: PDF is at the bottom of the email)

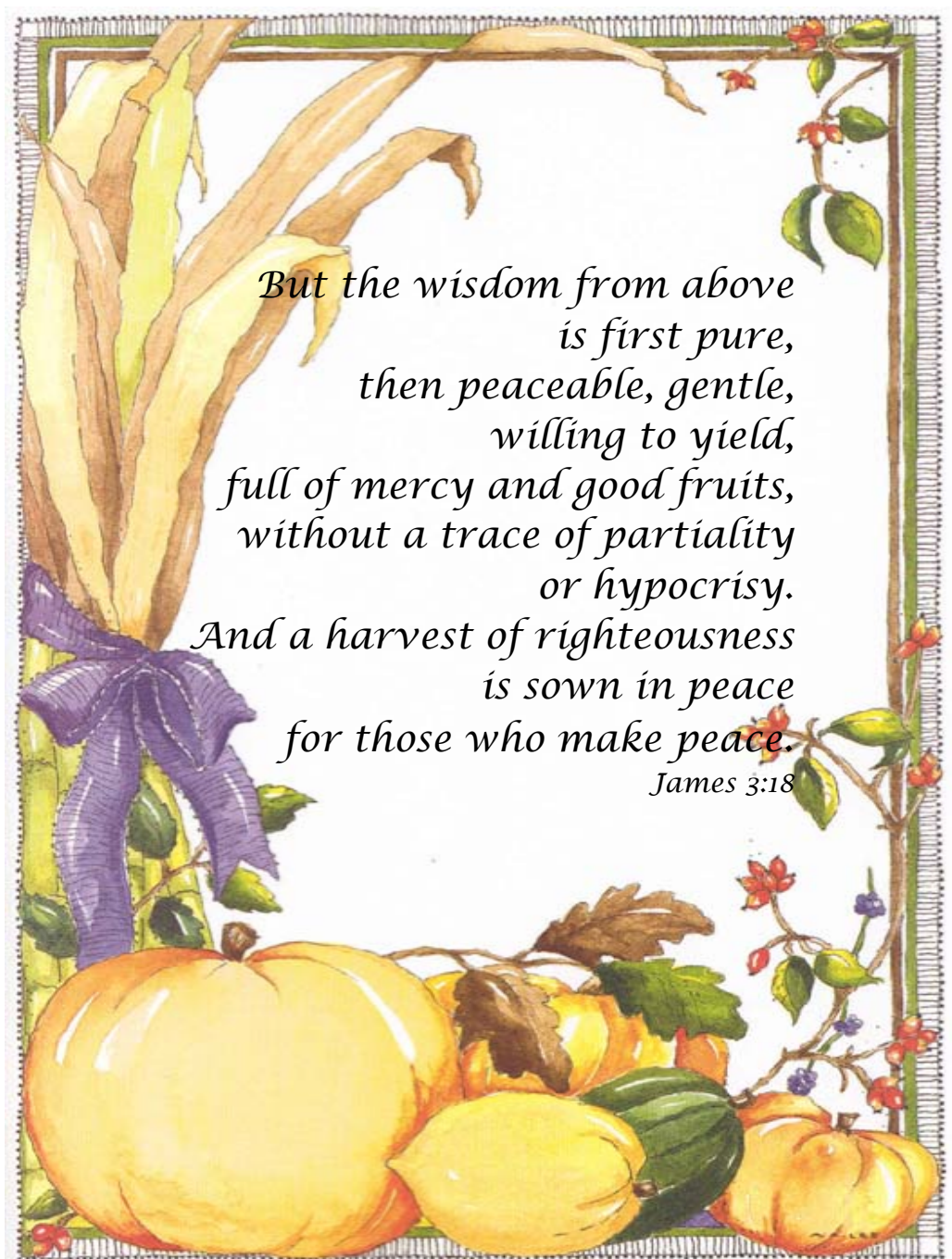


Bethany's Outreach Committee is pleased to announce that it has secured a Free Little Library, which will be installed soon on the front of Bethany's property, a place where books can be placed and shared with the surrounding neighborhood community. Thanks to Andy and Melinda Jones, the Little Library will be completed and delivered to Bethany soon, and plans are being firmed up about its installation, painting, and filling! We will receive an initial box of children's books from Melinda, who is a volunteer with the San Bruno Friends of the Library (along with our dear Roxane Wales!), and Outreach would like to invite the congregation to contribute new or gently used books, especially books with inclusive, multicultural themes, to be added to the Little Library. If you are interested in helping with this project, please bring your books to the church, and a box designated for the contributions will be available for drop off. Thank you in advance for your support of this wonderful project!

The library will be registered on the Little Free Library website, and will be added to their global map of libraries: <https://littlefreelibrary.org>. The Little Free Library movement is a free neighborhood book exchange program, where neighbors are invited to "Take a Book, Leave a Book". There are more than 100,000 libraries worldwide and more are being added every day! In lieu of paying for the library, Andy and Melinda Jones have asked that we make a donation to the San Bruno Friends of the Library.

Next Outdoor Service: Our next in-person outdoor worship service is scheduled for **Sunday, November 1 - All Saint's Day**. This is a communion Sundays, so we are asking people to bring their own elements for communion. The service will be held on the patio right outside the church doors, and we will be requesting people to be socially distant and wear masks. The services will also be streamed live on Facebook, as they are now.

Shade canopies and some chairs will be available, and you are welcome to bring your own chair if you wish.



**You are invited to
Antiracism Discussion
for Presbyterians in the West Region of the SF Presbytery.**

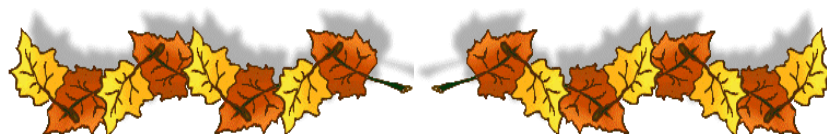
At a recent meeting, the West Bay Region of the SF Presbytery adopted a proposal to challenge congregations in the West Region to work together on systemic change to end racial injustice and inequity.

We would like to invite you to a meeting by Zoom to share what you and your congregations are doing to end racial injustice and inequity, as well as brainstorm ideas of what we can do individually and collectively as Presbyterians on antiracism, i.e. actively working to end structural racism.

Some of you have been involved in racial justice work for years, while others are new to this. But, in the wake of the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arberry, among others, systemic racism issues, especially with respect to violence by the State (police), have come to the fore. The racism that is endemic in our churches, our communities and in our government has been exposed, even more, during the Coronavirus pandemic. The San Francisco Presbytery has initiated a series of events to help and challenge Presbyterians to contemplation and action to dismantle structural racism and eradicate systemic poverty, under the mantle of the Matthew 25 initiative of the PCUSA denomination.

At the same time, the 2020 General Assembly of the PCUSA voted overwhelmingly to approve a resolution declaring that Black Lives Matter and that the church has been complicit in perpetuating injustice, pledging to "confront and dismantle systemic racism" in the church and in society. The resolution also challenges congregations and individual Presbyterians to use PC(USA) policies already in place to confront injustice and racism in their own communities. The resolution also recommends that all PC(USA) congregations adopt anti-racism policies.

We hope to schedule this meeting on Zoom in the next month. If you are interested, please email Lori Yamauchi at llyamauchisf@gmail.com



We are Partnering with Igreja Brazilia, a Church In Need!

Rev. Janet Bower talked to Rev. Deb McGuire and Lyn Hughes about Igreja Presbiteriana Brasileira (Iglesia Brasilia), one of the churches we have been praying for. This church worships in leased space at First Presbyterian Church of San Mateo, as a New Worship Congregation (NWC).

This church is struggling. With a congregation of approximately 140 families and 85% unemployment amongst the congregation, it has been difficult to maintain their households. There have also been new babies born and baby supplies are in short supply. Rev. Bower, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, has asked that we partner with this church and help in any way we can.

In our discussions with Janet, here are the items needed by the congregation:

- Household goods – Towels, blankets, sheets and pillow cases, kitchenware, dishes, glasses, pots and pans, silverware, etc.
- Baby clothes – Newborn or 3 mons, new or clean, used
- Diapers – Newborn or 3 mons
- Food – rice, dry beans, canned goods, any items with a shelf-life
- Toiletries – all kinds
- Target gift cards
- Checks payable to Braziliana Iglesias (any amount) **(To send a check, make your check payable to Igreja Brasilia and mail it to 194 W. 25th Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94403)**
- Continued prayers for the congregation

The Financial Trustees also found money in the Memorials account that could be donated to the church. We reached out to families who had Memorials for their families and obtained permission to give the money to Igreja Brasilia. Bethany Church will provide them with a check in the amount of \$2,800; the Deacons will also provide a check in the amount of \$200.

Looking to the future, you can bring any items to be contributed to Braziliana Iglesias and we will ensure they are delivered to San Mateo. You can also call Lyn Hughes and we will arrange for any items to be picked up. Place items under the coat rack in the entryway.

We will keep you informed of the progress of the congregation and their ongoing needs. There was also mention of starting the discussion now on how we can help at Christmas with toys for the children and a Target gift card for each family, possibly for \$25.

Donations for San Bruno Hospitality House: There will be 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 at 650-291-6979. **A full list of current shelter needs can be found on our website**

Prayers of the People: At a recent worship committee meeting it was decided that since the folks who are watching our services on Facebook live at 10:00 on Sundays can see and read the announcements and prayers, Deb will not repeat them aloud during the service. Please read each other's prayers then as we all will keep them in our hearts. **Prayers that are relayed to me throughout the week at dmcguire@bethanypcusa.org or through secretary@bethanypcusa.org will be read during the service, unless I am asked not to share them.** At that time in the service I will read any prayers that I have received, and offer an intercessory prayer before the Lord's Prayer. **Prayers will also be included in the weekly Wednesdays@Bethany.**

Prayers in community are at the heart of what it means to have a church family. Writing them in the comments section is one way to share with the community. Attending our **Zoom Prayer Service at 6:30 on Wednesdays** will be a designated time for praying with whomever attends. Wednesday prayers will be kept confidential among attendees unless Deb is asked to include the prayer on Sunday morning.

If you have any questions about prayers please feel free to contact Pam Matthews or Pastor Deb.

Upcoming Meetings

Wed., Oct. 21 – Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:45 p.m.

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

The Financial Trustees would like to remind you to please mail your offerings to the church office. Offerings are being collected and will be deposited once a week. Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to keeping Bethany financially healthy in this difficult time.

Would you like to have a hymnal at home to use for worship? If you would, just contact your deacon or the church office, leave your name and how we can get in touch with you, and we'll contact you to arrange to either drop a hymnal at your home, or have you pick it up at the church.

Wednesdays@Bethany will be posted on our website a little after the fact, but no later than Friday. To access W@B, go to <http://bethanypcusa.org/members>, and use the password "rosewood".

Due Dates

For W@B: Tuesday morning.

For the monthly newsletter: the Tuesday before the last Wednesday of the month.

Prayers of the People

Prayers from 10/18/2020

- Prayers for Rina's son-in-law Tarik's mom Lessel, who is recovering from pneumonia; prayers of thanksgiving for Tarik, whose birthday is today (Rina Ranahan)
- Prayers for Bonnie's brother-in-law Ed, who turned 86; safe travel for her friend Claudia, who's heading to Minnesota
- Joy for Dave and Roxane's grandson Nico, who took his first steps
- Prayers for Craig's friend Kevin, who is receiving chemotherapy and is doing well; for Craig's brother David, who is on his second round of chemo
- Prayers for Tamra's niece Alison, who is planning her wedding for next July

Prayers from 10/11/2020:

- Prayers for Kathy's cousins Lynn and Rory, and for the Callahan family, in the passing of Rory's mom (Kathryn Quickert)
- For all those affected in so many ways by Covid-19 (Paul Feliciano)
- Thanksgiving for breathable air, and that all may soon have that blessing (Kathryn Quickert)

Prayers from 10/04/2020:

- Comfort for Pam's East Coast friend Apirom and her husband Bob whose youngest daughter died in her sleep last weekend. (Pam Matthews)
- Prayers of safety for our firefighters; for all those affected by Covid-19; prayers for our country (Deb McGuire)
- Thanksgiving to all those who have donated so generously to our deacons (Bonnie Morgan)
- Prayers for the Golden family, who lost their father suddenly; for Jorie's Mom, who lost a friend of over 70 years; prayers for a friend of Jorie's Dad, Don Murray, who just passed away (Jorie Abbott)

Prayers from 9/27/2020:

- Welcome back to the choir! (Jessica Reddell)
- Thanks and joy for Jorie's new grandson Theo; prayers for Laurie Skinner Golden, whose husband is in the hospital; thanksgiving for Craig and Eddy Bray's anniversary (Jorie Abbott)
- For Kathryn's brother Dan's health, and his relationship with the family (Kathryn Quickert)
- Thanksgiving for the life of George's Dad, George Howard Lynch, who passed away 8 years ago (George Lynch)
- Prayers for our Jewish friends who are celebrating Yom Kippur; for those affected by the heat coming to our area (Deb McGuire)
- Prayers for Fred's Mom Carol, who is moving in with Fred's sister Sue; for the family if Breonna Taylor, for whom justice fell short yet again; blessings for Robin and Nancy Crawford as they move to Olympia, Washington – the love and support of the Bethany family goes with you always (Deb McGuire)





MORE LIGHT

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.



2400 Rosewood Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 589-3711 ~ bethanypres@bethanypcusa.org
Website: bethanypcusa.org