
September @ Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church

From the Pastor



Happy September Bethany!

Well, my flowers in pots on my cement patio are dying, so it must be getting closer to fall. I'm not quite ready for full fall colors yet though – I'll save that for October. So look at the cool flower of the month for September! Asters!

Long ago someone teased me that if I described my favorite things, they would all be "the kind you draw." My car – four door Toyota Corolla ('89), my rental house – the kind you draw (window, door, small chimney), my favorite flower – daisy (stem, petals). Like this Aster! I feel seen!

The installation service will be great fun – but then it's over. So many other things are happening in September at Bethany. We've already collected items for the shelter, we've already collected yummy school supplies for schools. Folks are back to their

routines, schools are back, rehearsals are back, 3Q taxes are due (oh, wait). Our Chancel Choir will return this month and we will kick off the new church year with a fall luncheon. Check the rest of this newsletter with your calendar in hand so you don't miss things like game night, movie night, and other special events.



And thanks for the installation, now I'm going away! I will be on vacation from September 11 thru September 18. If there are any pastoral needs, please call the church office and an elder will be in touch with a pastor on call.

Thank you all for everything that you do!

Blessings,
Pastor Deb



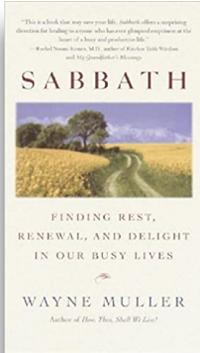
Giants fans!

Please note if you bought Giants' tickets: We have just discovered that our September 10th baseball game has been changed from a 1:10 start to a 5:10 start for ESPN scheduling. We wanted you to know, in case that changes things for you.



Ruth Covenant Group

The Ruth Covenant Group will be meeting at the church on Monday, September 11 at 6:30 pm. We are continuing to read *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight* by Wayne Muller and will focus on the



chapter entitled "Wisdom," pages 157-192. We ask that, as you read, maybe highlight portions that really speak to you and be ready to share your thoughts. Don't have the book or haven't read it yet? No worries. The wisdom in this book can be shared whether you've read it or not! Please do know that you are always welcome to join in. New attendees are much encouraged!

In addition to our discussion, there will be an opportunity for check-in, fellowship, and prayer. All are welcome to attend! If you prefer to attend by Zoom, please let Tamra Hollenbeck know, and we will get a link sent to you.



School Supplies

Many thanks to the Bethany congregation for their generosity in purchasing school supplies for the students at Allen School in San Bruno. Four boxes of supplies were delivered to the school, and there were many smiles among the Allen School staff as they received the supplies. Thanks again for your generosity!

Deacons' Fall Luncheon September 24

The Bethany Deacons will be hosting a Fall Luncheon on Sunday, September 24 to celebrate the return from summer and the start of the church's fall activities. The Chancel Choir will resume presenting music during worship, and the congregation will be continuing our celebration of Deb being our permanent pastor! Please plan to join in as we enjoy the bounty that fall brings into our lives!



Deacon Thanks

The Deacons recently were able to send packages to two of our dear friends who are not able to worship with us on Sunday mornings. Thank you to the congregation for providing some loving and thoughtful notes and items for Care Packages to Randy Johansen and Glenn Carlson. Glenn sent a message to Bethany saying, "Thank you for the wonderful treats and snacks. I hope all is well with you and your family. Bethany will always be home for me."



Monthly events at Bethany

Sundays: Worship at 10:00 am
Coffee Hour 11:00 am
(rehearsals start 8:30 am)

Wednesdays: Prayz 6:00 pm
Prayer Group 6:30 pm

Submissions for W@B: Tuesday mornings.

Submissions for the October newsletter:
Friday, September 22

1st Sunday: Communion at Worship Service

2nd Sunday: Worship Committee 11:00 am
(no meeting in September)

2nd Monday: Ruth Covenant Group 6:30 pm

3rd Sunday: Deacons Meeting 11:30 am

3rd Monday: Financial Trustees 4:30 pm

3rd Tuesday: Session 4:30 pm

Buildings & Grounds,
Community Action committees
– as scheduled



A Summer Barbecue was held on August 12 at Bethany and 36 people joined in for a wonderful evening of good food and fellowship. Many thanks to our grill masters, George Lynch and Frank Goodwin; the food was excellent. We are also grateful for all those who brought something to share and/or helped set up and clean up for this event as many hands did make light work.

We celebrated George Lynch's retirement on Sunday, August 27. George worked at Menlo Vacuum and Fix-It in Menlo Park for 25 years, and when the owner/his boss at the time wanted to retire and move away, George bought the business. That's 37 years in the business (September 1, 1986 – August 31, 2023)! George looks forward to playing the guitar, walks with Otto, some traveling, projects around the house, and some part-time work at Ralph's Vacuum and Sewing in Redwood City. There was a reception after church with a lovely cake in his honor! Happy Retirement George!



Mark Your Calendars for Our Next Events!



Movie Night

Saturday, September 30
5:30pm

The movie will be "The Goonies" and we will provide a build your own sandwich/salad fixings along with drinks and dessert. A sign-up sheet will be in the back of the church starting September 3, the first Sunday in September.



Game Night

Saturday, October 28, 6:00 pm

We will have dinner and play board games for this event. More information to come.



Thanksgiving Dinner and Talent Review
Friday, November 17, 6:00 pm

Advent Festival

Saturday, December 23, 10:00 am

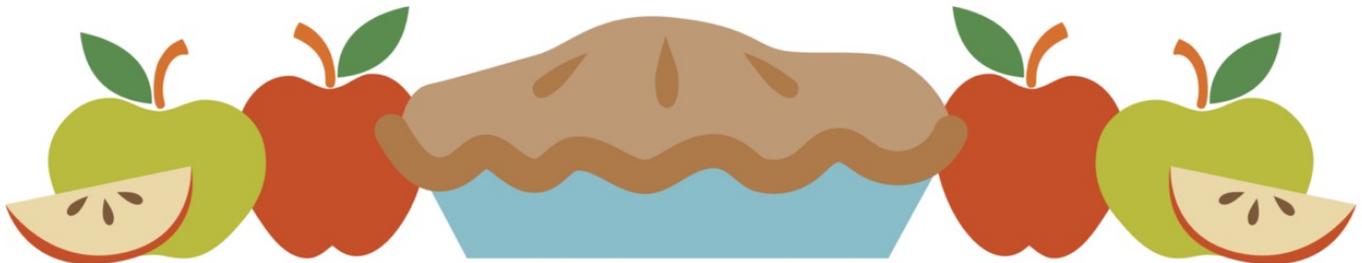
Help decorate the Christmas Tree and the Church, bake cookies, and more!



- Silicon Valley Second Harvest effort: Volunteers are needed at Belle Air Elementary School in San Bruno (SBPSD) the 4th Wednesday of each month from 2:00 – 4:00 pm for a Food Bank Grocery Distribution which typically services approx. 270 families. There are also opportunities to help with food distributions at Skyline College. Check out <https://www.shfb.org> for more information on how to volunteer or to read what is being done about food insecurity in San Mateo County.
- Community Action and the Deacons worked together to pack 30 toiletry bags which were delivered to the Catholic Worker Hospitality House in San Bruno on August 20. Thanks to everyone who took a few minutes after church to pack the bags which contained a toothbrush, flossing picks, toothpaste, a bar of soap and washcloth, a packet of Kleenex, a comb, razor, and emery board, a bottle of shampoo, deodorant, 2 pens and a pad of paper, 1 tube of hand lotion, 2 pairs of socks, 2 hand sanitizers, and a small treat bag of caramels. There were a few “extras” of some of the items which were also delivered to CWHH that same day.
- Additionally Community Action collected school supplies such as crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks, bottles of glue, colored markers, erasers, Post It flags, Post It Notes, notebooks of paper, pens, pencils, backpacks, etc. which were delivered to Allen School in San Bruno for the 2023 school year. Many thanks to all who contributed to this effort; Allen School is also very appreciative of our donations!
- Continued communication with Peter Stiehler at Catholic Worker Hospitality House for needs they may have at their facilities. Current needs include: Oatmeal, paper napkins, toilet tissue, canned soup, canned fruit, milk, butter or margarine, sliced bread, soup spoons, new or unused shampoo, new unopened disposable razors, socks, and new or clean, used bath towels.



Community Action



Birthdays

- 4 - Luna Nicolosi
- 7 - Tamra Hollenbeck
- 9 - Janine Valine
- 18 - Paul Delander
- 22 - Aurora Nicolosi
- 26 - Sue Bullis
- 26 - Janine Mooney

Anniversaries

- 9 - Aaron Schurk and Jamie Golden
- 27 - Craig and Eddy Bray

Financial Trustees

Financial Items:

- **There is continuing, regular contact with our tenant, the Sikh Association.** An outside cooking structure in the downstairs patio is well under way and should be finished soon. The Sikhs reported someone on the property bothering our water system out by the church "Exit" and called the San Bruno Police. The police spoke to the man and asked him to leave. We continue to receive monthly calendars from the Sikhs.
- **Building and Grounds Issues** – The Phase 1 major cleanup effort began on June 27 and is now complete. The cleanup cost the church \$14,000, and some tree trimming was done which cost an additional \$500 as that task had to be outsourced by the grounds cleanup team. Additional trimming work on the west hill will be done as a Phase 2 project along with some additional tree trimming. That work will begin once Lyn and George meet with the grounds team to let them know what needs to be done. The Trustees also hired the grounds cleanup team for ongoing maintenance which will begin September 1, 2023. This was done in order to keep the grounds in good condition ongoing. Dave Wales continue to explore possible solar energy use for the church in order to reduce our electricity consumption and the resulting expense.
 - **Work in progress:** Cameras have been ordered to help secure both parking lots as well as our building inside and out. Chains across the entrance and exit will be used as well as signs posted to assist in securing our property.
 - In progress: **Room 9 clean-up and removal of various large items** in anticipation of this room's being used for evening meetings; also discussion about new window treatments in this room.
 - Discussion regarding **possible kitchen updates:** possible new or refaced cabinets, and an island replacement or update. **A Kitchen Update Committee was formed** (Lyn Hughes, Tamra Hollenbeck, Roxane Wales, and Chris Angeles). More information will be forthcoming once we review what needs to be done and create a proposal for the updates.
- **Sound system and electronics updates:** a proposal was received from George Lynch regarding replacements, updates, and some possible repairs to maintain our sound and electronic equipment. The Session voted to go ahead and further information will be provided once the project begins. Pricing and procurement is in process.
- **Organ repair** – due to an unexpected event, some issues occurred with the organ, and we have called Robert Hall & Associates (provider of the organ and installation) to assist with needed repairs which after further review, look to be minor but need attention. Lyn will call Robert Hall & Associates again to determine the best time for them to come to the church for this service.
- After several visits to financial institutions, it looks like Chase Bank will consider a new credit card for the church. The application is being worked on by Lyn.
- **Patio repair – still on hold;** a suggestion was made to include a labyrinth in the new patio.
- **Roof/siding repair** – it was brought to the Session's attention by Craig Bray and Fred repair was needed on the building and the original estimate was \$1,000. However, due to the fact that scaffolding was be needed to make the repairs, the estimate has increased to \$2,500 - \$3,000. Session approved the expense and the repairs are now underway and should be completed soon.
- **On-line giving opportunities** – calls have been made by Lyn to find out how to offer this service. Lyn is awaiting a callback from Wells Fargo Bank.

July		Year-to-Date		
\$12,865.00	Income	\$113,191.33	Income	94.553%
-\$16,810.79	Expense	-\$123,016.74	Expense	-98.826%
-\$3,945.79	Difference	-\$9,825.41	Difference	-4.727%

As the year continues, the Trustees thank you for your continued generous giving.

Our 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.

Our 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 are already welcome here. We invite you, on your unique spiritual journey, to join us in the life and ministry of Bethany Presbyterian Church.

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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