

The Visitor

April 2024

The Newsletter for Bethany Lutheran Church
5303 Madison Avenue
Bethel Park, PA 15102
(412) 835-9221

To email messages to the office: bethanylutheranbp@gmail.com
(Please note that the Church office email address has changed)

DONATIONS

DONATIONS TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

If you wish to make a donation to Bethany Lutheran Church, please go to our website or Facebook page and click on the "Donation" tab. Or, if you wish, you could have "Auto Deduction" from your banking account, or pay by check by using your envelope and mailing it directly to the Church.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Friends and Members of Bethany Lutheran Church:
Masks are optional.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Worship Service is at 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins at 9:30 A.M. each week

Please call me with any questions or concerns at 412-212-8794.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Melba

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER AT BETHANY



NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY

Sunday, April 7th is "Noisy Offering Sunday". Don't forget your change!

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Next Meeting is Scheduled for Tuesday, April 16th at 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING

Next Meeting is Scheduled for Wednesday, April 24th at 7:00 P.M.



RETIREMENT LUNCHEON FOR PASTOR MELBA

Sunday, April 28th Following Worship Service



From the desk of the Pastor

Newsletter for April 2024

Wow! This is the last “From the Desk of the Pastor” that I will create for Bethany. That produces a variety of emotions. I am really looking forward to retiring and enjoying the freedom that retirement brings. On the other hand, I am REALLY going to miss **everything** that comes with being your pastor.

I can't leave you without giving you a few tidbits for thought. (That's the mom in me) Summer is coming very quickly and no one has stepped up to run Vacation Bible School. This is an important part of continuing education of our youth. There is some work that goes into the planning, but the rewards are great. Please consider volunteering for this maybe with two or three of you sharing the responsibilities. There are so many kits that have done most of the work for you and are not too expensive.

We need teachers for Sunday School for the fall. One of the frustrations of being a teacher is that the students don't attend. The teachers spend time preparing for the class and then no one shows up! I wish I had the answers for this issue, but I don't.

This congregation is friendly and welcoming to everyone. I'm sure this will not change except to get even better. Please keep your new pastor in your prayers and be welcoming to that person. I'm sure you will.

Thank you for all your kindness you have shown to our family and to me.

As the family continues to attend Bethany, I'm sure you will care for them just like always. The rule of the synod is that I cannot attend or even talk to any of you for at least a year after I retire. That's to give a new pastor time to create their own place with you without the influence of the previous pastor. You will be in my prayers and on my thoughts.

God's Blessings
Pastor Melba Dibble



Thank God for our food

God said [to Adam and Eve], ‘See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. -Genesis 1:29

There’s a joke about the first-grade teacher who asks, “Where do apples come from?” Little Sydney speaks up: “From the supermarket!”

We laugh, but the truth is, many of us forget that our food comes only from life, through the plants and animals that God alone created.

As stewards and disciples, we can develop a deep appreciation for all that God provides us, particularly our food. With every mouthful, we can thank God for our daily bread, and for the soil, air and water that sustains life.

Easter and springtime are perfect occasions to celebrate God’s miracle of life that gives us fruit, vegetables, grains, meat, fish and dairy foods. Here are some ideas:

- At mealtime grace, thank God not only for food, but also for the cycles of seedtime, growth and harvest. Thank God for life-nourishing soil, water and air.
- While eating, think about how and from where the plants are grown or animals raised? How do they get to your kitchen?
- As a church or family, celebrate Earth Day (April 22) by learning about food production and our food supply, and how environmental problems affect it.
- Celebrate Earth Day by planting a garden.
- Learn about nutrition -- what foods are the best and worst for us. Promote healthy eating.
- Learn about food waste and take steps to reduce it in your home.
- At church, celebrate creation or seedtime.

We live in a culture where food is all around us all the time. As steward-disciples, we want to be sure not to take even a mouthful for granted.

--Rob Blezard

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THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Date	Communion Asst. 10:30 AM	Readers 10:30 AM	Acolyte 10:30 AM
KIDS SUNDAY 4/7	Nancy Shonsky	Aiysha Dibble	Kobe Morris
4/14	Cathy Irwin	Jim Palmer	Colt Wigand
4/21	Jeannine Stowers	Ruth Lipinski	Kobe Morris
4/28	Jane Scheeser	Karen Housam	Elizabeth Hartos

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

USHER SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Dan Volpatti will serve as Usher for the month of April.
Drew Benigni will Assist Dan Volpatti on April 7th

OFFERING COUNTERS' SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

The Offering Counters for the month of April are Jane Scheeser and Sandy Burns

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



FAREWELL LUNCH FOR PASTOR MELBA

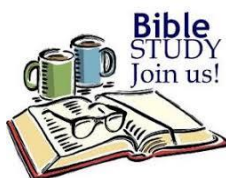
A Farewell lunch for Pastor Melba will be held on Sunday, April 28th.
A light lunch with, of course, a Bethel Bakery cake.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Lemonade on the Lawn, Sunday, May 5th.

MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

We meet every Thursday beginning at 11:00 a.m.



Choir practice every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. Come join us!!!



GROCERY COLLECTION

We are collecting groceries for those in need.
 We will be collecting the following items for the month of April:
 Diapers & Baby Wipes
 Hand Sanitizers & Paper Towels
 Peanut Butter & Jelly
 Soup

Please leave the items in the Narthex. Together we can make a difference in the lives of many of our South Hills neighbors in need.
 If you have any questions, please call Pastor Melba at 412-212-8794.



BETHANY’S GRASS IS TURNING GREEN!!!

The grass needs cut and trimmed on a weekly basis.
 There is a schedule posted in the Narthex.

If you would like to be added to the list of those willing to help, or if you have any questions, please contact Craig Conn at 412-841-6343 (cell).

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Ed Irwin is scheduled for the Months of April and May.
 Thank you for your help!!!

CELEBRATIONS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION IN APRIL



Happy Birthday to the following individuals:

7- April Kelly Hartbauer	20-April Aiysha Dibble	30-April Jamie Stowers
8- April Tyler Vargo	25-April Christine Conn	30-April Alexander Hartos
15-April Emma Bianco	28-April Nick Kratsas	30-April Drew Benigni



Happy Anniversary to the following individual:

7-April Judy & Ronald Volpatti	
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PRAYER CHAIN


















Anyone wishing to be on the Bethany Prayer Chain, please contact Terry Simony by email at bethanylutheranbp@gmail.com, or call the Bethany Church Office at: 412-835-9221.

“I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11:24)



Bethany Lutheran Church

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 7:00pm: Shamrock Manor Women's Club 	4  11:00am: Adult Bible Study 7:00pm: Choir Practice 	5	6
7 (NOISY OFFERING) 9:30am: Sunday School 10:30am: Worship  12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	8	9	10 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	11  11:00am: Adult Bible Study 7:00pm: Choir Practice 	12	13
14 9:30am: Sunday School  10:30am: Worship 12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	15	16 7:00pm: Stewardship Meeting 	17 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	18  11:00am: Adult Bible Study 7:00pm: Choir Practice 	19	20
21 9:30am: Sunday School 10:30am: Worship –  12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	22	23	24 1:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship 7:00pm: Council Meeting 	25  11:00am: Adult Bible Study 7:00pm: Choir Practice 	26	27 Set-Up Luncheon 
28  Retirement Luncheon 9:30am: Sunday School 10:30am: Worship –  12:30pm: BPTV/ YouTube Worship	29	30				

