



NOVEMBER 2025

PEW NEWS

The Newsletter for Bethany Lutheran Church



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AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE TIME

Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Next Meeting is Scheduled for November 18th at 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING

Next Meeting is Scheduled for November 2nd following Worship Service

Next Meeting is Scheduled for November 30th following Worship Service

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Bach Choir of Pittsburgh

2025 Poinsettias For Christmas Eve Service

See page 5 for event details

Ephesians 4:3 – “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

Unity is a central theme in the Bible, and this verse reminds us of our responsibility to actively maintain it. This challenges us to prioritize reconciliation, forgiveness, and understanding in our relationships with one another. Our Spiritual Practices include faithful management of all the gifts God has provided: our time, talents, and treasure. Stewardship in all seasons includes spiritual practices of abundantly sharing these gifts within our congregation and our outside community.

Thank you for being part of Bethany Lutheran Church and for your continued generous support of our congregation’s ministry. Congregations embracing a spirit of Church Becoming learn to celebrate the gifts that are already present, realizing they are sufficient to be Christ’s Church here and now. God’s abundance is trustworthy. The spirit and faithfulness of such congregations reflect gratitude rather than anxiety and worry.

Your offerings this year have significantly helped enhance the mission of Bethany Lutheran. These are a few of the activities your generous giving has contributed to; weekly and festive worship services, Christian education classes celebrating the volunteers who are so essential to our church, benevolence to the ELCA for Lutheran Disaster Response, World Hunger, Outdoor Ministries, Campus Ministries, outreach to our immediate neighbors and ministry partnerships, and the upkeep of our beautiful facilities. Imagine the strengthened ministry of our congregation, then give the offering you think best reflects your gratitude to God. Be assured that your offering - whatever amount you give - will be greatly appreciated.

The amount you give in your offering reflects your appreciation of God for all the blessings you have received. Thank you for being a good steward of the gifts God and the Holy Spirit have given you.

Please pray for our common work together as we continue to teach the Gospel to Bethany's members and visitors. Together in Christ,

The Stewardship Committee

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Change Clocks 9:00am: Adult Study  10:30am:Worship	3	4	5 Shamrock Manor Women's Club	6 10:00am: SHIM Shop-Thru Food Pantry 3:00pm: SHIM Shop- Thru Food Pantry  7:00pm: Choir Practice	7 10:00am: SHIM Drive-Thru Food Pantry	8
9 9:00am: Adult Study  10:30am:Worship	10	11 Veterans Day 	12	13  7:00pm: Choir Practice	14	15 7:30pm: Bach Choir of Pgh.
16 9:00am: Adult Study  10:30am:Worship Evangelism Meeting 4:00pm: Bach Choir of Pgh.	17	18 7:00pm: Stewardship Meeting 	19	20 10:00am: SHIM Shop-Thru Food Pantry 3:00pm: SHIM Shop- Thru Food Pantry  7:00pm: Choir Practice	21 10:00am: SHIM Drive-Thru Food Pantry	22
23 9:00am: Adult Study  10:30am:Worship	24	25	26	27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	28	29
30 9:00am: Adult Study  10:30am:Worship 11:30am: Council Meeting						

THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MONTH

WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Acolyte
11/2/2025	Andrew Parker	James Palmer	Summer Parker
11/9/2025	Jane Scheeser	Karen Housam	Drew Benigni
11/16/2025	Elizabeth Hartos	James Palmer	Katie Hartos
11/23/2025	Jane Scheeser	Ruth Lipinski	Colt Wigand
11/30/2025	Cathy Irwin	Karen Housam	Katie Hartos

USHER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Leigh Brooks will serve as Usher for the month of November

OFFERING COUNTERS' SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

The Offering Counters for the month of November are Chuck Conn and Craig Conn



WEEKLY PRAYER REQUEST

If you have a specific prayer request, there is a Prayer Petition form in the Narthex. Please note your petition and it will be mentioned by Pastor each week.



CHOIR PRACTICE

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

Thank you to our faithful members of choir and our director, Patty, for sharing the wonderful gift of music!



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Special/Designated Offering

As the holiday season approaches, Church Council is interested in hosting 2-3 members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for our Christmas Eve Service,
December 24th at 7:00 P.M.

If you are interested in supporting this, please designate that as a
Special/Designated Offering.



BINGO AT GIANT OAKS WINERY

Giant Oaks Winery and Bingo. We have just been advised that the Winery Bingo scheduled for November 9 has been cancelled for the balance of 2025. If it is rescheduled we will advise and plan another outing.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED FOR CHRISTMAS

The Evangelism Committee will be partnering with SHIM to support our Neighbors in Need for Christmas. We would like to provide gift cards, as we did last year, in any denomination from any local grocery or gift store. We will begin accepting the cards on Sunday, November 16. So when you see our Christmas tree light up in the Narthex, please feel free to add your gift cards to the envelopes provided and hang them on the tree. We will accept these gifts until Sunday, December 14, to allow SHIM enough time to distribute and our friends time to use as needed. Our committee would like to thank this congregation for their generosity and faithfulness to our neighbors. Most of us have never been in the position to experience such a need and we are happy that you are able to relate with your kindness.



The Evangelism Committee would like to thank the "church ladies" that provided our delicious meal, Pastor Liz the Game Whiz and all the persons that brought beer for the beer exchange at Bethany Fest. It was so encouraging to have so many attend and enjoy the food and games. And what about Peter and our Choir members who not only could Name that Tune but knew the words to the hymns as well. Very impressive. It was a great time of Christian Fellowship.



On **Sunday, December 14th** (time to be determined), we will be attending a concert presented by
the **Harmony Singers at Bethany Lutheran Church.**

Two of our choir members, Cathy Irwin and Karen Housam are members of this choir.

A delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon together enjoying the songs of the Season.



If you would like a **Home Visit** or a visit at your care center from our Visitation Committee, please send contact information to the office. The Visitation Committee will coordinate this for you. They would be happy to serve communion, if desired.



Evangelism Committee needs your help. Do you have a child, grandchild or close friend that is away from home attending college this year? If so, please send their names and addresses to the church office. The Evangelism Committee would like to remember them with a **Care Box** as they prepare for mid-terms or finals. It is always a treat to receive a surprise package from home.

2025 Poinsettias For Christmas Eve Service

Once again this year, we will be ordering poinsettias to help decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas and to honor or memorialize those important to us

The cost for flowers is \$15 per plant, and the cut-off date to place an order is Monday, December 15th.

Order forms are available in the church office and in the Sunday bulletin beginning November 9th.

WESTMINSTER'S GRIEF CARE GROUP

David Kessler, a grief and death expert, has said, "Grief demands a witness." Our Scriptures attest to the same. We are to mourn with those who mourn (Romans 12:15), and those who grieve will be comforted in God's Kingdom community. As the church, we do not shy away from the pain and sorrow of life. We find God's grace within it, together.

If you have lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you may have found that many people do not understand the deep hurt you feel. Finding a community of care, understanding, and support can help you face the challenges of loss and move toward rebuilding your life. Westminster's Grief Care group is a place where you can bring your story, your emotions, and your questions, as you navigate a new, unasked for, reality.

Grief Care is a faith-based grief support group facilitated by a team of compassionate members from our church. **It is open to anyone in the broader community, as well as Westminster members.** There is no cost for the group, but we will use the book, *Beyond the Broken Heart: A Journey through Grief* by Julie Yarbrough. We will provide copies and ask for a suggested donation of \$10 to help defray costs.

Grief Care meets on Wednesday nights, 6:45-8pm, in Memorial Parlor beginning October 29. The group will meet for five sessions.

To register, please call Melinda Harkiewicz at the church office 412-835-6630.

Questions? Email Laura Bentley at bentley@westminster-church.org.