

The Bethany Bell

Bethany Congregational Church

Volume 4 November, 2014 Number 8

Foxborough, Massachusetts



November is Fellowship Month!



One Night, Two Great Movies

Join us on Saturday, November 15th for a double feature in the Fellowship Hall! At 5:00 p.m., we will be showing *Planes: Fire and Rescue* (rated PG). Doors open at 4:45 for this movie. If you're up for a big night of movies, then plan to stay for the next movie – *Mr. Peabody and Sherman* (rated PG), which will be shown at 7:00 p.m. (doors opening at 6:45). Snacks and drinks will be provided; and feel free to bring a picnic dinner to eat between movies if you are staying for both. Bring your pillow, blanket, or low beach chair for some comfy viewing, and pajamas are encouraged! For the movie, we kindly ask that children who are 5 and younger have a parent stay with them. Only can come to one? No problem! And of course, friends are always welcome!



MINUTE to WIN IT!

We're having an Adult Fellowship Night on Saturday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Bring your friends and join in for a Bethany version of the TV show "Minute to Win It." With your team, you'll have a minute to complete tasks and earn points as you compete against others. With names like "Dizzy Mummy," "Bottoms Up," and "Skittle Scuttle," these tasks are sure to bring on the laughter! Sign-ups in the Fellowship Hall, and let us know if you can bring a dessert to share!

On Tuesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m. Bethany will host a Community Thanksgiving Service to which all are invited. Bring a friend as we "gather together" to thank God for our many blessings!



"Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently."

-Henry Ford

Dear Friends,

We continue our journey of learning about seven spiritual practices this month with the concept of fellowship. We often think of fellowship as an event we do in a specific place – like coffee hour after services in the fellowship hall. Or perhaps it's something that happens once in a while, like our September Barbeque on Rally Day, a kids' movie night, or an adult event like the Medieval Dinner or scavenger hunt of a few years back. And while those things – barbeques, coffee hour, movie nights, and dinners – are events that include fellowship, fellowship itself is so much more.

Acts 2:42 is a recognizable verse relating to fellowship: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” They – the believers – *devoted* themselves to fellowship. *Devoted* is a pretty strong word, wouldn't you agree? Because while I enjoy the baked goods at coffee hour as much as the next person, I wouldn't say I *devote* myself to them. So, fellowship must mean something more than chatting over coffee, or laughing and playing a game together. I've looked a little more into the Bible's meaning of fellowship and discovered a few things to share.

Fellowship does mean spending time together, but there's more to it than just that. From Bible.org come these descriptions of fellowship: “Fellowship means being part of a group, a body of people...Fellowship means having or sharing with others certain things in common such as interest, goals, feelings, beliefs, activities... Fellowship can mean a partnership that involves working together and caring for one another...” When I read those descriptions – being part of a group, sharing things in common such beliefs or ideas, a partnership, working together, caring for one another – suddenly being *devoted to fellowship* makes sense. The early believers came together out of a common belief. At that time believing Jesus was the Messiah was not a popular or safe belief. Yet these people banded together, and worshiped together, cared for one another, worked together, and shared ideas and beliefs. That was their fellowship, and it is how we are meant to have fellowship with one another.

When we look at that explanation of fellowship, we can see that fellowship goes into every aspect of our time at church (and out of church). Fellowship happens when Helping Hands delivers a meal to a family who just had a baby. Fellowship happens when a Bible study group meets, discusses a passage, and then prays together. It happens when the many, many people come together to work at the Christmas Fair. Fellowship happens when moms and grandparents bring their children to Wednesday Morning Playtime. It happens when one church member stops in at a friend's for a cup of tea and to chat. Fellowship happens all the time. Fellowship is caring and connecting with others.

By now you may be thinking, “Okay, so then why do we have ‘fellowship nights’?” and that is a valid question. For me the reason why we have them, and the reason I love this aspect of my role here is this: having fellowship events allows us all to have an opportunity to come together and get to know one another better. When we are able to spend time together in a relaxed setting, we learn about each other. As we do that we grow closer to these people that we've been sitting in front of, or next to, for a year. Knowing people better opens us up to taking risks like praying aloud for someone in need, to giving a hug or word of comfort to someone in pain, to putting the football game on pause and instead helping someone with a household chore. And as we grow closer to them, we grow closer to God, and strengthen our “fellowship” with Him.

We recently had two events where fellowship flourished – our women's retreat and men's retreat. Several of the women at the retreat remarked how nice it was to spend time with others, to be able to share about burdens and blessings, and to laugh. In November, we are planning two more events for kids and adults – “fellowship events.” On Saturday, November 15th, we'll have a double feature movie night for kids, beginning at 5 p.m. One week later, on Saturday, November 22nd, we'll have a night for adults with a (friendly) competitive game night – “Minute to Win it.” (Details for both events are on page one). Please consider yourself personally invited to these nights. There will be laughter, and good food (as usual at Bethany!), but more than that, we will be building our relationships with one another.

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” (1 Cor. 13:14)

Nancy Kaeser

Director of Fellowship & Little Footsteps Preschool



Fall Discipleship Opportunities

Contact Deb Byron at byron@bethanychurch.org for more information about any of these.

Coffee & Chat

Are your kids getting to the stage where you're doing less "mothering" and more worrying? Do you want to talk with others experiencing the challenges of parenthood and find Christ-centered support? Join Libby Carter at the Commons Eatery in Foxboro before church Sunday mornings from 7:45 until 8:45.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Join Deb Byron from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor. This year we are starting off with a study called *WHY? Making Sense of God's Will* by Adam Hamilton, Senior Pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas. There's no sign-up required and nothing to purchase – hope to see you Wednesday!

Basket Cases

Help gather donations and package them up in beautiful gift baskets for families of New Hope Shelter in Attleboro who often arrive with just the clothes on their backs. Contact Carol Fraser at 774-254-0740 for the monthly schedule.

Book Discussion Group

Held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. in the Parlor. Contact Jane Michelmore at 508-543-7187 or Deb Byron at byron@bethanychurch.org.

Wednesday Playtime

Join us from 10 to 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday for playtime in our gym. Our gym has ride-on toys, bounce houses, balls, slides, and teeter-totters! This is a great way for your child to meet new friends and for you to connect with other parents. No need to sign up; just come when you are able.

Kids Choir is Back in Action

If you are in Kindergarten through Grade 3, come and join us between the services at 10 a.m. in the Music Room in the Family Life Wing. We have a lot of fun while we raise our voices in praise to the Lord. Please call Joan Bradley at 508-543-5395 or Pam McGuire at 508-698-9143 with any questions.



BYG! Bethany Youth Group

Junior High meets from 5-6:30 and Senior High meets from 6:45-8:15. This year's theme is "One Voice". We hope to see you there!

Our program schedule "The Fridge Flyer" for the Fall Season of BYG is posted on the website. Contact Anne Marie Holloway, our Director of Youth ministries at Holloway@bethanychurch.org.

College Care Packages

Join us on November 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall as we have a cookie/candy swap to create care packages for our beloved college students. Just sign up on the sheet in Fellowship



Hall, bring 2-3 dozen cookies/candy, your student's address and \$7 for shipping. Boxes, baggies etc. will be provided. If you are unable to join us and know of a student who'd like a package, please note that on the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please email Libby at libbycarter46@gmail.com.

Left over Halloween candy?? Candy sales that you just can't pass by? Consider donating it to our college student care package swap. There will be a box in Fellowship Hall in which you can leave your very much appreciated donations.



Mission Outreach News

Mission Outreach served the 12th Community Dinner in October. This has been a great blessing for our community, and we thank all the cooks and servers and cleanup crew that have volunteered. If anyone is interested in being a volunteer at any of the dinners that are served the second Saturday of each month, please contact Jane Michelmores at 508-543-7187. Our next serving date is November 8th.

Harvest Hands Ministries Christmas Gifts

Mission Outreach will not be doing a Christmas Shoe Box program this year due to the high cost of shipping. Instead we will be doing a Christmas Gift donation for Harvest Hands to provide gifts to those children who need them. The request is for \$15 per box. Ann Conaty will be at Coffee Hour with Gift Tags on November 9th and 16th.

Another opportunity is to sponsor meals. Meals are served daily at the children's home. Each meal costs \$1.48 per person. Harvest Hands has provided a figure of \$60.09 per meal to feed children and staff at Resplandor de Vida. Any donation towards meals or food as a Christmas gift would be greatly appreciated. See Ann Conaty for meal sponsor coupon. Checks should be made out to Harvest Hands Ministries.

Sponsorship money for children to attend school and to provide needed uniforms and school supply needs are always welcome. A Christmas gift towards education costs would be very welcome. The 2014-2015 Mexican Student Sponsorship Program has 74 children currently in school. Praise the Lord! Ann Conaty has the information on student sponsorships and the opportunity to be a monthly sponsor to the Harvest Hands Ministry. Contact Ann at arc299@aol.com for more information about any of the above mission opportunities!

Jazz Vespers Services



The next Jazz Vespers services will be held on Tuesdays, November 4th and 18th. Join us for a non-denominational service of great music and readings, here at Bethany! A free-will offering will be taken with part of the proceeds to benefit the Foxboro Discretionary Fund. Come hear in Foxboro on a Tuesday night what you'd find in Boston on a Friday night (and with free parking)!

Bethany on Holiday

Check out the bulletin board and ask us questions during Coffee Hour. *COME SOAR WITH US!* January 16-18, 2015 in Hyannis. For more information, please contact Steve Wills at 508-543-3242, Joan Bradley at 508-543-5395 or Michele Rogers at 508-339-2545.

The Bethany Welcome Committee

We are always looking for ways to make visitors feel more "at home". One program we'd like to expand is that of giving guided tours of the church to newcomers (and old comers as well), discussing church history while showing off our magnificent colonial-style building with all its nooks and crannies.

We are looking for a few people who could serve as "Tour Guides". We will put together a script that you can use as a basis for your "patter" as you escort interested guests and members through the building. We'll try to include as many interesting facts as we can, e.g., did you know we have an old granite hitching post out back, to which church-goers from the far reaches of East and South Foxborough could tether their horses and wagon teams while attending services; do you know why we have three doors on the front of the church?

It's not a full-time job. It is also an easy job (You'll know more than the tour-goers every time!) We plan to offer the tour on a monthly basis, although those of us who just love to talk to a captive audience will be happy to perform on demand as needed. Call Debbie Graham or Libby Carter and get on the Guides List.

Dislike meetings but like people?

Consider being a Bethany greeter. We have openings at both services. All you need to do is arrive 15 minutes before the service (8:45 a.m. or 10:15 a.m.), hand out bulletins and take the offering. No meetings involved! Could this be you? We also would like a separate person, other than the greeters, to stand behind the Welcome Table in the Narthex before each service to guide visitors and answer questions. You would be scheduled on a rotating basis. Please contact Deb Graham at 508-339-2100.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Ushers/Greeters

9:00 a.m. Service

11/2 Lynn & Dave Burns
11/9 Ann & George Conaty
11/16 Deb & Phil Graham
11/23 Dorothy Vosburgh & Roland Demers
11/30 Denise & Mark Homer

10:30 a.m. Service

11/2 **
11/9 the Rogers family
11/16 Beth & Jim Durham
11/23 Lois & Bill Sullivan
11/30 Deb & Phil Graham

Deacon of the Service

9:00 a.m. Service

11/2 Tom Garcia
11/9 Carol Fraser
11/16 Margie Wheeler
11/23 Deb Graham
11/30 David Fisher

10:30 a.m. Service

11/2 Laurel DeCoste
11/9 **
11/16 Bill Hughes
11/23 Mark Hawrylcw
11/30 Tom Garcia

Service Readers

9:00 a.m. Service

11/2 Devan Tierney
11/9 Mark Hawrylcw
11/16 Deb Graham
11/23 Penni Jenkins
11/30 Deb Graham

10:30 a.m. Service

11/2 Ron Sullivan
11/9 Pat Scagnoli
11/16 Michele Rogers
11/23 Sarah Murphy
11/30 June Carlsen

Nursery Care

9:00 a.m. Service

11/2 Janet See
11/9 Sarah Patterson
11/16 Aurora Pop-Vicas
11/23 Matt Rogers
11/30 Janet See

10:30 a.m. Service

11/2 Sarah Patterson
11/9 Angela Maynard
11/16 Brenna Murphy
11/23 Emily Maynard
11/30 Sarah Patterson

** We have an opening, could YOU help?

Book of Life

Chancel Flowers

October 5th, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jane Emilie Taggart by her family.

October 12th, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their mothers, Joanne and Sandy, by the Rogers family.

October 26th, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jim Parker, and Alice and Bill Janda by their family.

Let's Have a "Card Shower"

Larry Foster, a long-time Bethany member is turning 90 on November 6th! If you'd care to send a birthday greeting, his address is 140 Old Stonewall Drive, Locus Grove, GA 30248.

Birth

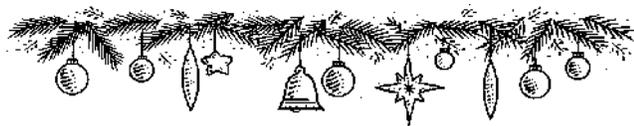
Caleb Dean Walter was born September 24, 2014 to Jamie and Bob Walter. His big sister is Paige and his grandparents are Ellen and Paul Dean. Congratulations!

Baptism

Ryder Slater, born April 27, 2014 to Tracy and Ryan Slater, was baptized on October 26, 2014. His godparents are Darlene and Daniel Follett. His big brother is Max, and his grandparents are Carol-Ane and Paul Woodard.

Death

Our sympathy is expressed to the family of Virginia Boyle, who died on October 16, 2014; and Frank Boyle, who died on September 21, 2014. They were the mother and step-father of Mary Lee Peterson, and the grandparents of Dan, Sarah Kate, and Jennifer Peterson.



Christmas Fair News

Save the Date – December 6th!
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Foxboro's Favorite
Traditional Christmas Fair

Church Fair Countdown – It's November--
That means ONLY 4 weeks to the Fair!

Donations for the Book Nook, Grandma's Attic and Children's Toy items are gratefully accepted for the ten-day period from 11/23 to 12/2. Look for signs indicating the designated drop off areas. We need to avoid blocking the breezeway doors for fire safety.

These items must be received by Tuesday, 12/2 so that they can be sorted, priced and nicely displayed. **We are unable to accept donations for these areas after 12/2.**

New To You – Please Donate!

Did you receive a gift that wasn't quite right or buy something and forget to return it to the store? That brand new item may not be right for you, but could be just right for someone else. Donate your item to the "New to You" Table and find it a new home where it will get the love and appreciation it always deserved!



BAKE TABLE

Attention All Bakers!!!
Please consider thumbing through those favorite recipes of yours and thinking about what cookies, cakes, squares, pies, breads, and other tasty treats you would like to bake for us to sell at the Fair. As was the rule last year with the Board of Health, we need to know who baked the items and what ingredients are in them, so if you could include your name and address with your baked goodies along with the ingredients, that would be wonderful. Please package the baked goods festively, and drop them off in the Church Parlor on Friday between 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM or Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. We appreciate your help, and if you have any questions, please feel free to call us. Thank you in advance.

Bonnie McKenzie 699-4354

Lorna Sullivan 543-3964

Come to Our Kitchen Workshop!

The girls from the Candy and Bake tables could use your help! We will be having a "Fair Prep Day on Sunday, November 30th at noon. All ingredients will be provided, so all we need is YOU to help prep and bake. Come join us for a fun afternoon! Thank you! Bonnie, Lorna and Pamela



Theme Baskets The theme baskets are sponsored by small groups, families or individuals who donate the items. Then we arrange, decorate, and raffle them off. Every year the interest grows and we get so many compliments on how thoughtful and creative you are with your ideas. Simply gather items around a theme and get them to us by Thanksgiving, and we will do the rest. Early donations include picnic, appetizers, doggie and spa baskets. We are so grateful for the generous support we have received in the past. Please let us know how you'd like to help make it a resounding success this year.

With many thanks,
Jane Curtis 508-543-3462 Ruth Jackson 508-698-0617
Joyce Lewis 508-543-2089 Michele Boti 774-215-5078

Grandma's Attic and Toy Room

Donations Start looking through your closets and basements because Grandma's Attic and The Toy Room will soon be accepting donations! All donations should be useable, clean, and complete. Items should include all pieces/parts to games, toys, and household appliances. Donated items that are broken, dirty, or damaged cannot be sold and must be disposed of at a cost to the church. Please look critically at your donations to determine if you think the item is truly worth selling. Donations will be accepted starting Sunday, November 23rd at noon through Wednesday, December 3rd at noon. We are also in need of helpers for all aspects of Grandma's Attic and the Toy Room including sorting and pricing items the week before and selling items the day of the fair. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating your time to help! If you have any questions or are willing to help, please contact Diane at dianethies@gmail.com
Donation guidelines for Grandma's Attic:

Of course we do not expect things to be in perfect condition, but donations should be useable, clean and complete. Include all pieces and parts to games, toys and household appliances. Zip lock bags make great containers for small pieces, parts and instructions. Donated items that are broken, torn, or dirty can't be sold and must be disposed of AT A COST TO THE CHURCH.

Please look critically at your donations to determine if you think the item is truly saleable. When deciding if an item is in good enough shape to donate, ask yourself if you would be willing to purchase it yourself! Old tube style televisions and computer equipment ARE NOT SALEABLE. Please do not donate these items to the fair. We also cannot re-sell car seats and baby cribs due to safety issues.

The Book Nook is Collecting!

I'm collecting for this year's Fair, so when you finish up your summer/fall reading, viewing, and listening; save those books (fiction and cookbooks only, please), DVD's, VHS movies, and music CD's and tapes! Books on CD and cassette tape sell especially well. You may leave donations in the Church Office, or call Glenda Haney, at 543-5673.

Silent Auction Goods and Services

We are calling out to our Bethany family once again for crafters, bakers, or anyone with a unique service for our goods and services section of the Silent Auction. Do you volunteer with the Nursery on Sundays? Maybe you have a couple of free hours to donate as babysitting for someone. Feel free to be creative! It is helpful for us to learn about your donations as soon as possible! Contact Karen Phillips at kjphillips65@yahoo.com

BEARS REPEATING

Christmas Pageant Help Needed!



Bethany has a long-standing, traditional Christmas Pageant, and we want to keep that beloved tradition alive! Please let us know if you could help out. We will be needing actors and actresses, technical and lighting workers, etc.

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next edition of *The Bethany Bell* is **Friday, November 14th**

at 8:30 a.m. Material may be submitted to haney@bethanychurch.org. Thanks!

The Bethany Bell is now posted on the Bethany website, "bethanychurch.org" the last week of each month, for the following month. To have the newsletter emailed directly to you, go to the website and click on the link at the top of the homepage to subscribe. *The Bell* will be emailed to you as soon as it's done -- and you don't have to remember to go out to our website to read it!