

# The Bethany Bell



## Bethany Congregational Church

Volume 5

May, 2015

Number 5

Foxborough, Massachusetts

### 2015 National Day of Prayer

*"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer." Psalm 17:6*

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> is the National Day of Prayer, a day designated by the U.S. Congress for people to turn to God in prayer and meditation.

Bethany will be participating by asking people from our congregation as well as the outside community to gather in prayer at various times throughout the day in the Barton Chapel. The time set aside for this is 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There are sign-up sheets around the church for you to choose a time you would like to come in for a half hour, or as long as you desire, to reflect, meditate and pray for our country, our communities and our leaders..

There will be suggested scripture readings, meditations and reflections available if you feel you need some guidelines.

It would be great if we could cover the entire day with prayer at Bethany, so please sign up when you're at church or call the church office and let them know what time you would like to participate.

If you have any questions, please call Lynn Burns at 508-543-2765 or email at [lburns61@hotmail.com](mailto:lburns61@hotmail.com).



We'll be "seeing red" on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate Pentecost, the "birthday" of the church! Break out your red shirt, dress, scarf, tie, whatever you have; and wear it to worship that morning!



### Worship Service Time Change

Beginning **Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**, we will merge the 9 a.m. Traditional Service and 10:30 a.m. WINGS Service together one worship service at 10 a.m.!

"A lie can travel half way around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes."

—Mark Twain

Dear Friends,

It was a long winter, wasn't it? Simply the fact that I pose that question for the May issue of *The Bell* should answer the question! It was long, and at times, seemed to be endless. Yet here we are (albeit later than usual!), welcoming spring. Buds are forming on trees, daffodils are blooming, and flowering trees are just beginning to show their beauty.

There is something amazing to me about spring. If asked in the past, I wouldn't have said it was my favorite season (buzzing insects around my head drive me crazy!); however, as time has gone by, I have come to appreciate and be awed by this season God creates for us every year. Just as we hit the point of despair that winter – cold temperatures, snow, short daylight – will *never* end, God gives us this gift of spring. The temperatures begin to warm, and we hear birds, and see the new growth in plants. I've come to appreciate this season for what I believe God intends it to be. It is visible proof of the hope we have in Jesus. We can be assured of new life with Christ, and eternity with our Father, thanks to Jesus' sacrifice for us. We celebrated this at Easter, and can celebrate it each day this season as we watch the dormant plants burst forth with flowers, buds, and greenery.

In our church's preschool, Little Footsteps, I'm seeing newness and growth within the students. In our 2.9 year old class, the littlest students are growing into confident explorers in the classroom. They are excited to come to school each week, and try out painting, building, and imaginative play alongside new friends. In our 3 year old class, the students are blossoming as children who love to play *with* each other, not next to each other. This is an awesome developmental milestone to watch burst forth, and it happens every spring. In our 4 year old class, our Pre-K students are growing in amazing and wonderful ways. There is a deeper level of cognitive thinking happening, and watching their faces as they make a connection in a science experiment, an addition game, or connecting a Bible story to their lives is a privilege to watch. It is as amazing to me to see happen as it is to see the tulip grow from the bulb. All of these miracles happen in our preschool every spring. Just like the plants, the growth has been happening all year but it is in the spring that we witness the huge "pop" of growth.

Praise be to God for giving us spring, and all the beauty it brings!

Emmanuel,

Nancy Kaeser  
Director of Little Footsteps Preschool

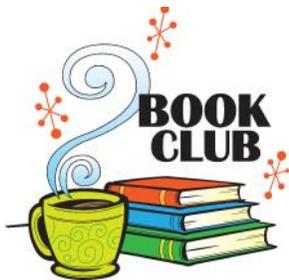


## Mother-Daughter Tea

This favorite event is back for 2015! Mothers, daughters, grandmothers, granddaughters...you are all invited to our Mother-Daughter Tea on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 2 p.m. Is there someone who is special to you, just like a daughter, or just like a mother? Call her, and invite her to come with you! Find your favorite teacup, put on your prettiest clothes, and join us in the Fellowship Hall for a sampling of tea, punch, finger sandwiches, and desserts. We'll make a craft together and some wonderful memories! To sign up, contact Nancy Kaeser at (508) 543-5678 or [kaeser@bethanychurch.org](mailto:kaeser@bethanychurch.org) or look for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall starting April 12<sup>th</sup>. We are also looking for people to help out with serving, sandwich preparation or cleanup. Please contact Nancy if you would like to help.

## DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Deb Byron at [byron@bethanychurch.org](mailto:byron@bethanychurch.org) for more information on these groups.



### 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](mailto:byron@bethanychurch.org).

### Basket Cases

A mission-minded group who support New Hope, which provides shelter for families of domestic violence, through monthly gift baskets of donated items from our church members. Contact Cindi Bell at 401-405-1921 or [cynthiacbell@msn.com](mailto:cynthiacbell@msn.com) to find out the monthly meeting schedule.

### Upper Room Devotional Study

Join Carol Fraser every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. to read and discuss teachings and insight

from *The Upper Room* devotional. All are welcome!

## 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.



## Missed a Service?

Our Worship Services are taped and are scheduled to air each week on Foxboro Channel 08 and Verizon FiOS Channel 39. Check cable listings for times.

## Stay in the Know!

We have an email service in which you can receive weekly Bethany updates on events. You can subscribe to *The Bethany Buzz*, by emailing the Church Office at [office@bethanychurch.org](mailto:office@bethanychurch.org).



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 Spring Season of BYG is now available. Contact Anne Marie Holloway, our Director of Youth ministries at [Holloway@bethanychurch.org](mailto:Holloway@bethanychurch.org).



## Mission Outreach News

Mission Outreach's Community Dinners have 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 Michelmore at 543-7187.  
Our next serving date is Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

5/31 \*\*

\*\* We have an opening, could YOU help?

## WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

### Ushers/Greeters

#### 9:00 a.m. Service

5/3 Todd Kaeser & Bruce Hainsworth

5/10 the Holloway family

5/17 Pamela & John Winslow

5/24 Bev & Tom Crocker

5/31 Todd Kaeser & Bruce Hainsworth

#### 10:30 a.m. Service

5/3 Deb & Phil Graham

5/10 the Rogers family

5/17 \*\*

5/24 Lois & Bill Sullivan

5/31 the Maynard family

### Deacons

#### 9:00 a.m. Service

5/3 Bill Hughes

5/10 Laurel DeCoste

5/17 Jim McKinney

5/24 Alin Pop-Vicas

5/31 Mark Hawrylciv

#### 10:30 a.m. Service

5/3 Dave Fisher

5/10 \*\*

5/17 Tom Garcia

5/24 Mark Hawrylciv

5/31 Bill Hughes

### Service Readers

#### 9:00 a.m. Service

5/3 John Michelmore

5/10 Heidi Hobbs

5/17 Deb Graham

5/24 Penni Jenkins

5/31 Virginia Banian

#### 10:30 a.m. Service

5/3 Pat Scagnoli

5/10 Michele Rogers

5/17 Sarah Murphy

5/24 Ron Sullivan

5/31 June Carlsen

### Nursery Volunteers

#### 9:00 a.m. Service

5/3 Matt Rogers

5/10 Janet See

5/17 Aurora Pop-Vicas

5/24 Mary-Lou Pike

5/31 Lily Marszalkowski

#### 10:30 a.m. Service

5/3 \*\*

5/10 Lily Holloway

5/17 Brenna Murphy

5/24 \*\*

# Book of Life

## Chancel Flowers

April 5<sup>th</sup>, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Manny Garcia by Valerie, Tom, Justin and Matthew Garcia.

April 12<sup>th</sup>, given to the glory of God and in honor of our Confirmands.

April 19<sup>th</sup>, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Leo Conway, Mr. & Mrs. Lester Goodwin, Mrs. Effie Engley, Mrs. Frances Domanowski, and Mrs. Lee Prosser by their family.

April 26<sup>th</sup>, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Matthew Cream by the Byron family.



Congratulations to the following youth, who were confirmed on April 12, 2015!

Molly Crocker, mentored by Charleen Hobel  
Lily Marszalkowski, mentored by Gail Tierney  
Matthew Tierney, mentored by Mark Benson

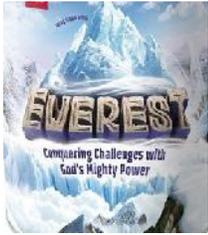
**NewsLetter  
DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next edition of *The Bethany Bell* is **Friday, May 22nd** at 8:30

a.m. Material may be submitted to [haney@bethanychurch.org](mailto: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!



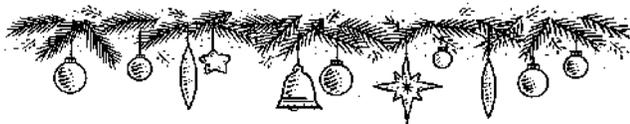
## VBS 2015!

August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

Children in Preschool

through Grade 5 will want to be a part of this!

We have chosen *EVEREST – Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power!* to be our VBS 2015 program theme. Summer will be here before we know it! Please mark your calendars for August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Registration information will be available soon. Contact Anne Marie Holloway at [holloway@bethanychurch.org](mailto:holloway@bethanychurch.org) for information.



## Christmas Fair News

Save the Date!

Saturday, December 5th, 2015!

Yes, we know it's early, but here are some things we need to keep in mind for the 2015 Christmas Fair:

- Start a pile in your closet, garage, attic, or cellar, of gently-used items for "Gramma"!
- Pick up an extra souvenir of anyplace you visit this year, and donate it to the Fair!
- Keep an eye out for cool ideas for crafts, or new recipes for the Bake Table and Candy Table.



We are in need of a new resident Bookworm. If anyone who has a love of books would be interested in taking over this very important

section of the Christmas Fair please contact Dale Andersen, [huddlehou@comcast.net](mailto:huddlehou@comcast.net) or 543-2119.



## Knit Goods Wanted!

Any item would be very much appreciated – hats, mittens, scarves – any size, color, or style. Baby sweaters and sets are good sellers! Nell Yahmarkt would be happy to pick up your items. Call her at 543-4543.



## News

The Foxboro

Food Pantry is in

need of non-perishable food items and especially diapers, baby wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, and health and beauty products (ie shampoo, conditioner, soap). Donations can be left in the red bin located in the breezeway area. Thanks!

The Food 'n Friends Kitchen at First Baptist Church in Mansfield will be run by our wonderful team of Jen and Maureen on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. They are looking for people who can help out. Call Jen Murray at 508-699-7974, Maureen Driscoll at 508-339-7866 or sign-up in the Fellowship Hall.

U2charist – Saturday May 2, 2015, 7:30 PM

*First Congregational Church of Sharon*

A U2charist is a worship service in the Protestant style, with communion offered to all, in which ALL of the music in the service is by U2. Some are on the contemplative side, some are bold. Free will donation for our Pine Ridge Trip. All are welcome.

A Thank You Note Received Recently:

Dear church members,

Thank you so much for supporting our AA group these 17 years! Unfortunately we are closing the meeting but I will always remember

your kindness and understanding. God bless you!  
(We thank you for being such good “tenants” for all these years!)

“When my older brother was very young, he always walked up to the church altar with my mother when she took communion. On one occasion, he tugged at her arm and asked, ‘What does the priest say when he gives you the bread?’ Mom whispered something in his ear. Imagine his shock many years later when he learned that the priest doesn’t say, ‘Be quiet until you get to your seat.’”

-Forwarded by Virginia Banian – Thanks!



same box.  
—Robert Fulghum

### A colorful lesson

We could learn a lot from crayons: Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors ... but they all exist very nicely together in the

## An Ancient Stewardship Message

Some Christians actively avoid church on Stewardship Sunday because giving is a private matter “between me and God.” New pastors are even sometimes advised never to preach about money, lest certain people get riled up. Yet Jesus talks frequently in the Gospels about giving and sharing our material goods — and he wasn’t the first in Scripture to do so.

A thousand years before Christ’s birth, King David prepared to hand over the kingdom to his son, gathering tons (literally!) of gold, silver and other materials for Solomon to use in building the temple. Revealing his take on stewardship, David prayed: “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand” (1 Chronicles 29:14, NIV).



“Be a rainbow in someone else’s cloud.”  
-Maya Angelou