

The Bethany Bell



Bethany Congregational Church

Volume 5

September

Number 8

Foxborough, Massachusetts

October is **Responsibility** Month

Be on the lookout for tie-ins to this theme in the Sunday morning bulletin, sermons, music, and our week-day programming!



Join us for an Evening in the Orient on Saturday, October 17th!

Adult Fellowship Night! Join us on Saturday, October 17th from 6:00-10:00 p.m. for appetizers, dinner, and entertainment in the beautifully transformed Fellowship Hall! Cost is \$16 per person with tickets on sale during Coffee Hour or in the Church Office. We hope you can join us!

Do you have or know of a college student (or young adult who is no longer living at home) who would like a care package? Silly question, I know!! What college student wouldn't? Join us on November 11 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall as we have a cookie/candy swap to create care packages for our beloved students. Just sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall, bring 2-3 dozen cookies/candy/toys, your student's address and \$6 for local Boston shipping or \$11 for other areas on November 11. Boxes, baggies, note cards etc. will be provided. Consider inviting a friend or two from outside the church that might like to join us. The more the merrier! Last year we sent out 16 boxes and had a great time putting them together. If you can't make it that night but know of someone who'd like a package please note that on the sign-up sheet and Libby Carter will get in touch with you. 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. We'll send it off to some of our college students. There will be a box in Fellowship Hall in which you can leave your very much appreciated donations. We'll use the leftovers to create a beautiful raffle basket for the Christmas Fair. Please see Libby Carter if you have any questions.

Hello Bethany Bell readers!

So, we are in a period of musical transition right now, as our music director, Greg Woodsbie, has moved on to new challenges as the new Director of Music Ministry at the First Congregational Church of Somerville. On behalf of everyone associated with music at Bethany, we wish him the very best. He brought an abundance of talent and drive to our community, and he and his music will be missed.



We will be bringing in a number of different folks to lead music during worship services over the next weeks and months as we begin the search for a permanent music director. We are seeking to continue making music that reflects the best parts of all of our musical traditions, especially including music for pipe organ, while also including more contemporary instruments such as guitar. We also hope to make the Children's Choir an area of renewed focus this year.

During this period of transition, it is our challenge to continue to come together as a community to make the best music we can, and new voices are more welcome than ever! Choir rehearses Thursday nights at 7:00! Please join us!

Josh Woodard, Chair of the Music Committee

Developing Godly Character A Year-Long Journey

Last year I used a series called the "7 Spiritual Practices". As a refresher the seven are: Worship, Evangelism, Discipleship, Fellowship, Mission, Stewardship, and Healing. Each month we covered a different spiritual practice going from the 101 level to the 401 level.

This year we have created a new series titled "Developing Godly Character". The themes are inspired from the monthly themes Little Footsteps Preschool uses. Each month in the Preschool children earn badges for learning important values in their development. This year the whole church will have an opportunity to learn what our little ones are learning in the Preschool. You're never too old to learn the lessons of Preschool.

Pastor Derek

Developing Godly Character

October – Responsibility as Good Stewards
November – Thankfulness for Blessings
December – Generous Gift from God
January – Attentiveness Listening to God
February – Self Control
March – Cooperation Working Together
April – Helpfulness
May – Perseverance
June – Kindness is What God Asks of Us





Fall Festival at Little Footsteps – We Need You!

Our church’s preschool, Little Footsteps, is having a Fall Festival for its students and families on Thursday, October 29th and we need **you!** We are looking for friendly Bethany folks who can give a little more than an hour and make a big impact on these families. This festival is a big event for our students, and this year we are moving it from daytime to evening, from 6-7:15 p.m. We’ll have a large number of activities, including games, crafts, snacks, and face-painting for our 34 students and their families (that’s quite possibly 100 or more people!). We need Bethany teens or adults who are willing to run a station. All you will need to do is be friendly and welcoming to these families – and set up the cans, pins, balls, etc... again and again! We’d love for the amazing families of Little Footsteps to get to know the incredible people of Bethany! Please contact Nancy at kaeser@bethanychurch.org or (508) 369-9379 if you are able to help. Thanks!



BYG! Bethany Youth Group

Jr. High meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and Sr. High meets from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.

Upcoming events include 10/10-10/11 Rock Spot Overnight; 10/18 Crop Walk; and 10/25 Pumpkin Extravaganza!

Please register online at bethanychurch.org - click on the “Youth @ Bethany” tab on the home page and scroll down to “Youth Group Registration”. Contact our interim co-leaders, Liz Myerson at ebmyerson313@gmail.com or Brett Jackson at speejackson@yahoo.com for more information.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES NEWS

Bethany has many lovely traditions, but one of my favorites comes in October – “Bible Sunday”! This is when the church gives each of its 3rd graders their very own Bible. Their name is put inside along with the hope that they will read from God’s story and know in their hearts it was written for them. More than just a bunch of very cool stories, the Bible is inspired by God who created everything they can see! As Wayne Stocks wrote in *Ministry-to-Children*: “When kids are playing video games, they love books full of cheat codes that show them the hidden levels and how to win the game. The Bible is just that kind of cheat book for life. Apply the Bible to real life circumstances and trials in a child’s life, and show them how to apply biblical precepts to the situation.”

During October we will be learning about stewardship – a big word that simply means the care of something important. Teaching about stewardship fits easily into the creation lessons we have been learning in Sunday school; it means helping the kids understand ways they can, through the church, respond as caretakers of God’s gift of the world. The Bible tells us to give regularly (1 Corinthians 16:2), cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:7), sacrificially (Luke 21: 1-4), purposefully (2 Corinthians 9:7), and generously (Luke 6:38). In addition to giving financially, as stewards of the body of Christ, we are to give of our time and talents as well. The children will have the opportunity to decide how they will give and indicate that on a pledge card. Those who desire them will be able to get a set of weekly giving envelopes. Talk to your children this month about the Bible and about stewardship – you are their very best teacher!



Contact Deb Byron at byron@bethanychurch.org for more information on these groups.

Tuesdays Together!

Set Tuesday evenings aside September 29 – November 17 this fall! Join friends for dinner and then participate in a class or small group. Look over the offerings below – one of them is sure to pique your interest!

6:30 - 7:00 – gather and eat together

7:00 - 7:15 – worship

7:15 - 8:15 – Classes/Activities

There is a class for you no matter where you are on your faith journey:

Starting Point – A small group conversation about faith by Andy Stanley. Whether you are new to faith, curious about God, or coming back to church after some time away, this study is meant to help people reflect on central questions of faith and life.

Network/Spiritual Gifts – A course designed by Bill Hybels, Bruce Bugbee, and Don Cousins to help Christians understand serving as a key part of growing in faith, to discover their spiritual gifts, and to mobilize them to Godly service in the church.

Bible Study – The Call: The Life and

Message of the Apostle Paul – This study by Adam Hamilton follows the journeys of Paul as he spread the Gospel through modern day Greece and Turkey.

Women's Study: The Armor of God – this study on prayer by Priscilla Shirer equips women to develop practical, purposeful prayer strategies; turn challenges and discouragement into opportunities for prayer; and grow spiritually as they dig deeper into scripture and expand their understanding of prayer.

Kids' Corner, Homework Room, Nursery Care – We'll have something fun for elementary school kids each week while their parents are in an adult group, nursery care for little ones, as well as a quiet space to complete school work.

Man 2 Man

Men's Ministry has changed its name to "Man 2 Man". The group seeks to be a Christian brotherhood that gathers month to month in fellowship. For those who have never been part of the Men's Ministry before, we want you to be part of this new focused ministry. If you are trying to navigate big decisions in your life, we want to be a group that you can turn to for prayer and support. Contact Gary Hobel, Jim McKinney, or Pastor Derek for upcoming events.



Basket Cases

A mission-minded group which supports New Hope, a women's/ children's shelter for victims of domestic

violence through monthly gift baskets of donated items from church members. For information contact Cindy Bell at 401-405-1921.

Crop Walk

The Crop Walk is October 18th, with a new location this year at LaSalette Shrine on Park



CROP Walk

Street in Attleboro. This will be our October monthly mission opportunity. For additional information see Ellen Hawrylcw.



Book Club

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

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 at 8:45.



A Praying Church is a Powerful Church

Prayer Group meets Friday mornings at 7:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Come pray for our church community, for our leaders, volunteers, committees and all who are part of our greater church family. We meet for 30-45 minutes starting with listening to some worship music and entering into communal prayer as well as silent prayer. Come one time or as often as you are able. If you are not able to join us, please be in a spirit of prayer at this time each week. If you have any questions or would like to be added to an email list, please contact Pamela Hogan at pthogan@verizon.net.



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, October 10th.

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.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Deacons

10/4 Alin Pop-Vicas, Deb Graham
10/11 Mark Hawrylcw, Jim McKinney
10/18 Tom Garcia, Bill Hughes
10/25 Margie Wheeler, Laurel DeCoste

Nursery Volunteers

10/4 Matt Rogers
10/11 Brenna Murphy
10/18 Janet See
10/25 Aurora Pop-Vicas

Newsletter
DEADLINE

The deadline for the next edition of *The Bethany Bell* is **Friday, October 23rd** at

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

Book of Life

Chancel Flowers

September 6th, given to the glory of God and in honor of our Bethany family by Jane and John Michelmore

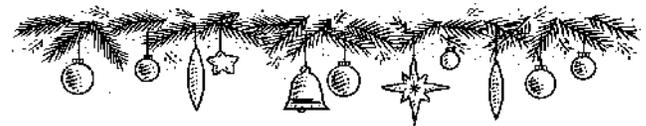
September 13th, given to the glory of God and in celebration of our Rally Day/Back to Church Sunday!

Wedding

Chadd Maynard, son of Angela and Tim, was married to Danielle Swift on September 25, 2015. Congratulations!

Card Shower!

Ruth Emery is turning 100 years old! Let's shower her with good wishes – send cards or notes to her at: Mrs. Nathan Emery, PO Box 101, Freemont, NH 03044.



Christmas Fair News

Saturday, December 5th, 2015!

We have been offered a dry storage space for books, and we have Co-Chairs for The Book Nook! Please contact Alison Bancroft at bancroft.alison@gmail.com or Karen Phillips at kjphillips65@yahoo.com regarding donation guidelines and dates.

It's never too early to start thinking about Silent Auction and Theme basket donations. The fair is only 78 days away!

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