

The Monthly Newsletter from your Family of Faith at Bethany

February, 2011

Feb. 4 – Trivia Game Night, 7 PM

Feb. 6 – Youth Super Bowl Party at Upleger's, 5:30 PM

Feb. 13 – Fellowship Dinner after Worship

Feb. 13 – "I Love You" Sunday

Feb. 13 – New Member Orientation after Worship

LINC

Life IN Christ

Our mission is to create the opportunity for all to make discipleship a way of life.

A Message from Pastor James

My dear friends and members of
Bethany Church:



What do you think of when you say the words "I Love You"? Do you think of romance? Do you think of a special loved one? What comes into your mind and heart?

When I hear "I Love You" I think of the many times I heard those words from the lips of my parents and grandparents. "I Love You Jimmy" was a part of the connection and inclusion in my family of origin. We were a family that said "I Love You" to one another, trying to express the depths of our feelings for one another. Was this true in your family too?

So on the Eve of Valentine's Day, February 13, we are declaring an "I LOVE YOU" SUNDAY! We are asking for everyone who feels comfortable to bring an item, a memory, or a symbol of what the words "I Love You" means to you. There will be a sharing time. Here would be an example: Susan's favorite flower is the white calla lily. On our first date, I brought her three white calla lilies (no easy feat in the lily off season). Since then, the white calla lily is a wordless way for me to say "I Love You." We even have a picture of white calla lilies in our kitchen to see and feel the "I Love You" every day. So, we could bring that picture. To use a non-romantic illustration, every day I look at a beautiful sterling silver crucifix that my daughter Buffy brought back from her trip to Germany and gave to me. Every time I see it, in my mind I hear and feel "I Love You" from both Buffy and God.

Your most meaningful "I Love You" might be a poem, a memory, a symbol, a physical item, a photo, a painting, or anything that says "I Love You" in your mind and heart. Come prepared to share with the congregation on Sunday, February 13. It will be a holy time of sharing our hearts.

And, on that day, we just might also consider some ways that God says "I Love You" to us. *"Dear Lord, thank you for the "I Love You's" of my life. I see them; I hear them; I feel them with me always. For the precious "I Love You" that is Jesus, I rejoice from the depth of my heart. Amen."*

Sermons & Scripture - February, 2011

- February 6 – COMMUNION SUNDAY;
SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
Theme: Real winners in the game of life!
Scripture: Romans 12:9-21
Sermon: Which drum beat will you hear?
- February 13 – VALENTINE'S DAY EVE;
FELLOWSHIP DINNER
Theme: Loving when it isn't easy.
Scripture: Romans 13:8-10
Sermon: You can't make me love you!
- February 20 – PRESIDENT'S DAY EVE
Theme: God's kind of leadership.
Scripture: Matthew 23:11; Mark 9:33-37; 10:44
Sermon: Upside Down Cake
- February 27 –
Theme: How to find peace in your heart!
Scripture: Matthew 6:24-24; Psalm 131
Sermon: Will I ever find "peace & quiet"?

Fellowship Dinner

On Sunday, February 13, we will have a Fellowship Dinner after our Worship Service. You are invited to bring a dish of food to share (no desserts please) and stay for a time of fellowship. The Teams responsible for set up and cleanup for February are: Missions & Membership/Outreach.

New Member Orientation

During the Fellowship Dinner on Sunday, February 13, there will be a New Member Orientation in the Pastor's Office. Those who have been considering baptism and/or church membership are invited to come to the Orientation. Just get your lunch and come to the Pastor's Office. If you wish to talk with Pastor James about this opportunity, please call 248-722-4516 or email to jamesbolin@bethanywaterford.org

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Adult Sunday School in February

During the Sundays of January and February, the Adult Sunday School class will view and discuss a video series called: **Religion in America**. Nelson Haynes will lead the group on this journey of exploration and spiritual enrichment. The group will meet each Sunday in the Parlor at 9:30 AM.

\$\$\$ March Adult Sunday School \$\$\$



PREVIEW: During the Sundays of March, **Bill Brazz** is going to lead in a series of Dave Ramsey Money Management videos and discussions. Helpful tips will be given on how to be an even better money manager than

you already are. Whether you're good at finances or need some helpful guidance, Bill will lay out Dave Ramsey's key principles for money management success. You'll be surprised how quickly and easily you can put Dave Ramsey's principles into action and see solid results. Come and enjoy the humor, the fellowship, and the material. It's all about giving thanks for our blessings, managing our blessings well, and being a blessing to others! You don't want to miss a single session. 9:30 AM during the Sundays of March.

Comedy Night for Camp Lael

YOU are invited to the 3rd Annual Comedy Fundraiser benefiting Camp Lael & Friendship House. The comedy event is Thursday, February 10 from 7 – 10 PM at Mark Ridley Comedy Castle, 269 E. Fourth Street, Royal Oak. This year's event features headliner Jeff Caldwell. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Contact Jon McGregor (854-5445) or Pastor James (722-4516) for tickets.

Men's Breakfast, Feb. 26

Come enjoy the fellowship at the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, February 26 at the home of Bill & Nancy Maxfield, 8164 Vanden Drive, White Lake, 48386. We will gather at **8:30 AM** for a scrumptious breakfast prepared by master breakfast maker Nancy Maxfield. There will be good conversation and a spiritual lesson from Bill Maxfield. All men are welcome.

Mortgage News

The Mortgage Committee is pleased to announce the receipt of gifts totaling over \$42,000. Because of these gifts, our church mortgage has been reduced. If you are inspired by these acts of generosity, we would invite you to make a check out to Bethany Church to help us further reduce or retire our mortgage. Should you like to serve on the Mortgage Committee as we form further plans, call Pastor James at 722-4516 or Jon McGregor at 854-5445.

VALET PARKING

We offer Valet Parking on Sundays beginning at **10 AM**. Just drive up under the portico and honk your horn. A church member will come out and park your car for you. If you are interested in joining our team of valets, call **Susan Bolin** at 534-3799 or **Jan Rowe** at 338-0786. **NOTE to MEMBERS:** Please leave the parking spaces under the basketball hoop for valet parking.



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DEACONS

Our Deacons offer spiritual counseling and prayer **each Sunday**, upon the conclusion of Worship. The Deacon of the Day will meet with anyone desiring personal prayer at the front of the sanctuary by the piano. Our Deacons are: **Nona Bos, Bob Hunt, & Rodger Zeller.**

DEACONS OFFER HEALING PRAYERS

On the 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month, the Pastor and Deacons will be available in the sanctuary to offer healing prayers for anyone who desires prayer for any reason. An anointing with oil will be available if desired. **12:30 PM. In February: 14 & 28.**

Joke Time!

The English language often got the better of my German grandfather, a pastor. During one service, he announced that two members of his flock were getting married.

"You are all invited to the wedding," he told the congregation. "And also to the parish hall afterward for the conception."

Corrections?

On the enclosed birthday and anniversary lists, should you notice a correction that needs to be made, please contact Dorothy Maman at 248-681-2130 or office@bethanywaterford.org.

Phone 248-673-1213
Fax 248-673-1454

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COMING IN MARCH

March 6 – Susan Bolin Speaking; Communion
March 9 – Ash Wednesday
(6 PM Soup & Sandwiches; 7 PM Service)
March 13 – 1st Sunday in Lent; Fellowship Dinner
March 19 – Bethany Café: Serving 5:30 & 7:00 PM
March 27 – Family Sunday



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Girlfriends Unlimited!

By Nancy Maxfield

The Women's Ministry Team (formerly Gather & Grow) is redesigning its structure. Our new name will be *Girlfriends Unlimited!* However, our goal remains constant—to develop opportunities for women to enrich their personal relationships with God and with one another. Come join us on **Friday, February 11 from 7 to 9:30 PM** to our *Birthday Bash!*

Celebrate not only this new beginning in our ministry, but celebrate the unique you. All friends are welcome. Tickets (\$5) will be on sale at Grand Central on Sunday, February 6. After that, the cost will raise to \$7. This evening promises to be a lot of laughter and giggles!



Wednesday, February 23 at the Maxfields', we will begin a new Bible study called One Simple Act by Debbie Macomber. *Publishers Weekly* stated "Macomber walks a new path with this nonfiction title . . . A useful, inspiring study of an under-practiced art, written by one who has received, given and witnessed generosity." So pick up a copy of this paperback (I'm told it's available at Meijer's) and join our discussion.

Love is a symbol of eternity. It wipes out all sense of time, destroying all memory of a beginning and all fear of an end. ~Author Unknown

"Because we cannot see Christ we cannot express our love to him; but our neighbors we can always see, and we can do for them what, if we saw him, we would like to do for Christ."—*Mother Teresa*

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Prayer Chain

The Deacons are in the process of updating the contact list for the *Prayer Chain* ministry. If you are interested in joining those who are available to pray when Bethany receives special prayer requests, please call Jan Rowe at 338-0786 or Joann Shulte at 819-0890. If you are presently on the prayer chain, please tell us who calls you and/or who you call. A form will be in upcoming bulletins. Fill it out and put it in the offering plate or leave it in the office. Thank you!

Mission News

By Lottie Jespersen

A habit is an action or pattern of behavior that is repeated so often that it becomes typical of somebody although he or she may be unaware of it.

The Mission Team would like to see everyone form the habit of picking up one or two items for the food cupboard each and every time they shop for themselves. We could significantly increase our support of the Open Door and the Light House Food Pantries by our regular giving of food and personal hygiene items.



We will be introducing a new mission project – Kiva. The mission of Kiva is to connect people through lending for the sake of alleviating poverty. Kiva is the world's first person-to-person micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend to unique entrepreneurs around the globe. You will be hearing more about this soon but in the meantime, we encourage you to take a look for yourself at Kiva.org. You might want to ask Penny Hughes about this organization- she has made eight loans through Kiva.

Please check the Mission Bulletin Board located in on the wall leading into the Fellowship Hall, opposite of the kitchen. We will be posting our calendar of upcoming offerings and projects and providing you with helpful resources for doing mission from your own home. As always, we'd love to hear of any ideas and suggestions that you might have.

Your Mission Team: Lottie Jespersen, Bob Hunt, Sandy Lewis, Mike Rooney, Pam Rooney



Bethany Café Western Barbecue

Saturday, March 19

Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

Taking Reservations for

5:30 & 7:00 PM

at Grand Central or at missmcgregor@comcast.net

Winter Retreat at Camp Lael

GRADES 3rd – 5th

GRADES 6th-12th

Date: FEB 11-13

DATE: FEB 25-27

Cost: \$75

Come have the time of your life with 100 other Friends. Laugh and learn with special speaker and band. Most importantly learn what God has to say about your life! During free time, enjoy sledding, snowboarding, skating, talent show, board games and more.

RSVP BY JAN 30th; PAY BY Departure Date

Hymn Contest

By Rodger Zeller

I want to thank the 30+ persons who gave me their list of favorite hymns. There were 82 hymns nominated (24 of those were listed by more than one person). The top 5 hymns were:

- 1) Amazing Grace (56 pts.)
- 2) How Great thou Art (38 pts.)
- 3) In The Garden (30 pts.)
- 4) It Is Well With My Soul (29 pts.)
- 5) The Old Rugged Cross (23 pts.)

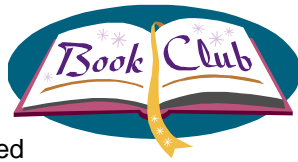
The rest of the top ten were:

- 6) What a Friend (18 pts.)
- 7) Silent Night (15 pts.)
- 8) Just As I Am (14 pts.)
- 8) I'll Fly Away (14 pts.)
- 10) Holy, Holy, Holy (12 pts.)
- 10) O Holy Night (12 pts.)

Bethany Book Club

By Louise Aebersold

We are very excited about our 2011 book list. At our last meeting, each member of our group gave a short review about one or two books that they felt were good for reading and discussion. Together we determined our list of recommended books for this year.



Our February 16th meeting is at Andy Pepper's from 9:15 to approximately 11:15. (5700 Water Tower Place, Clarkston 48346). Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl is the book we will be discussing. This is an inspiring book of hope from the author who experienced the horrors of the holocaust.

Please consider joining this dynamic small group this year. We'd love to have you!

BETHANY BOOK CLUB 2011 Reading List

February: Man's Search for Meaning – Viktor Frankl (Non-fiction), recommended by Susan Bolin

March: The Same Kind of Different as Me – Ron Hall & Denver Moore (Memoir), recommended by Nancy Maxfield

April: The Book Thief – Markus Zusak (Historical Fiction), recommended by Ruth Hanson & Bob Hunt & The Heart Mender – Andy Andrews (Non-fiction), recommended by Nona Bos

May: Night – Elie Wiesel (Biography), recommended by Andy Pepper

June: Little Bee – Chris Cleave (Historical Fiction), recommended by Bob Hunt & To End All Wars – Ernest Gordon (Non-fiction), recommended by Susan Bolin

July: The Memory of Water – Karen White (Novel), recommended by Jan Rowe

August: Samson – Tracy Morgan (Novel based on Biblical Text), recommended by Ferrol Haxter

September: The Innocent Man – John Grisham (Non-fiction), recommended by Bob Hunt

October: Anatomy of a Murder – Robert Travers (Fiction based on a real event), recommended by Louise Aebersold

November: Stones from the River – Ursula Hegi (Historical Fiction), recommended by Lottie Jespersen

Dec./Jan.'12: The Longest Trip Home – John Grogan (Biography), recommended by Anna McGregor

February '12: Speaker for the Dead – Orson Scott Card (Science Fiction), recommended by Ida McCutcheon

At a time to be determined, we will have a discussion about Moby Dick – Herman Melville, led by Pastor James.

COLLEGE GROUP

College ministry is tricky. The high school graduates we so lovingly supported and watched grow up here at Bethany suddenly disappear it seems. Where'd they go, we ask ourselves?

Well....they went to school and work and are trying to work out their new life. What this means is that they are very *elusive* and *busy*. As a church family, how do we support this but also continue to minister to these still-young brothers and sisters in Christ?

As an organized group here at Bethany, we try to get together once a month for fellowship, support and devotion. This varies from going out to Starbucks or Panera to meeting at someone's house. The biggest challenge is finding a time and day everyone can make it. Unfortunately, that is almost impossible. Sooo, we do the best we can to schedule meaningful events so as many as possible can attend.

In January, we had a **Movie Night**, January 28th at Deanna Crites' home. We watched the classic sports movie, "*Hoosiers*." We had a devotion after on forgiveness and reconciliation and focused on the following Bible verses:

Romans 5:3-5: Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Colossians 3:13: Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Matthew 6:14: For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Please continue praying for all our young adults continuing to be a part of our family as they continue into their next phase of life.

In His Service, Michelle McGregor



Circle of Care

Janice Rowe (1-1-11)

As I slammed headlong into pain on the frozen pavement,
You wrapped me in your all powerful protection.
You delivered me into the outstretched arms of your servants
Beckoning to help; creating a circle of care.

They were your hands and heart:
the neighbor, risking icy roads to drive me to ER;
the skilled, compassionate staff, swiftly attending to my trauma;
the phone chain to summon my family and send out a call for prayer.

You sent them to wait with me for surgery, easing my fear,
until anesthesia plunged me into darkness.
The first sight of my children pulled me back into the light.
The touch of pastor's hand reassured me of your presence.

Laid low into a new world of dependence,
Your "troops" arrived to bring food, clean, shop;
taking me to doctors, therapy and church.
I never needed to ask. You asked them for me.

You transformed my self sufficient spirit.
You summoned your servants to assure I am loved.
You told me to simply accept – now the receiver.
You led me into your circle of care,
Givers, receiver
Together.

I wrote this verse to express my deep gratitude to all of you who came to help and share your concern, after I broke my arm in a fall on the ice. God bless you all. – Jan Rowe

More Thank You's

It has been 10 years since my stroke on February 17, 2001. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support through prayers, meals, cards, gifts and thoughts through these years. May God bless and keep you.

— Paul McFarland (70 W. Meyers, Hazel Park, MI 48030-2045) Phone: 248-547-8180



Dear Friends:

Thanks to your congregation for your recent donation of 176 pounds of food. We are currently involved in a campaign to raise 30,000 pounds of food this year. Your donation is not only a help towards our goal, but it will be used to feed many in our community.

Thanks also for your donation of three turkeys and an additional 266 pounds of food. As you know, need in our community is increasing each day. Many who have never needed help before are now coming through our door. We appreciate your continued support of our mission and the work we do. — Sharon Josephson, Executive Director of Open Door Outreach Center

With a Twist

By LINC Editor Ellen Whitehead



This is the month that we celebrate that little four letter word: **LOVE!**

Mankind has been searching for **LOVE** since; well since the beginning of mankind. Poets, composers, authors, philosophers, and everyday men and women are always searching for the meaning of **LOVE**. What is **LOVE**?

Perhaps you've figured it out. What does **LOVE** mean to you? Pastor James will be preaching about **LOVE** on February 13. He is asking us to bring a symbol or item of what **LOVE** may mean to you. That should be interesting! So, start thinking about your item.

There are many kinds of **LOVE**. But, the most beautiful **LOVE** is God's **LOVE**.

Most of you know that I **LOVE** writing poetry as a hobby. I've written a lot of poems about **LOVE**. Many about my husband Dave (but I don't think I'll share them here).

When looking through my poems, I came across the very first poem I ever wrote. I was in the 4th Grade. Though it may be childlike, I think maybe I might have gotten it right. Let me know what you think — **LOVE**, Ellen

What is a Waterlily?

What is a waterlily?
something sweet, something silly
with its petals as white as a dove
this is the symbol for all God's love

What is its center, soft and yellow?
with its fragrance, warm and mellow
standing up like a steeple
this is the symbol for all God's people

What are the waves that beat around it?
What is the seaweed that entangles about it?
The seaweed stands for all the hate
The wave is hope, help and fate.



Bethany

Encounter God's Love!!

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Website: www.bethanywaterford.org

(Copies of this newsletter are available on our website)

*We welcome your contributions to the LINC. The March LINC deadline is **Sunday, February 20**. Email articles to Ellen Whitehead at twinlakede@comcast.net or put them in the tray in the Church Office. Please get articles in by the deadline. Thanks!*

Bethany Prayer Chain

To activate the Bethany Prayer Chain, call one of the following individuals:

- Joyce Hice – (248) 335-9026
- Joann Shulte – (248) 682-1109 or
- Church Office – (248) 681-2130

Outreach Matchmakers

If you need special assistance (housekeeping, meals, emergency childcare, etc.), call:

- Susan Bolin – 248-534-3799
- Jan Rowe – 248-338-0786
- James Bolin – 248-722-4516

Tender People for Tough Times

When you need Bethany's Pastoral Staff, for any reason at all, just call:

Church Office: 248-681-2130 (Fax is 248-681-9798)

Email: Office@bethanywaterford.org

Rev. James Bolin at home: 248-722-4516

Deacon Nona Bos: 248-886-8615

Deacon Bob Hunt: 248-481-2960

Deacon Rodger Zeller: 248-789-5809

Being a family of faith means
you don't have to go it alone – **CALL US!**