

The Monthly Newsletter from your Family of Faith at Bethany

Highlights ~ July 2011

- July 3 – Independence Day Eve; Communion
- July 10 – Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic, 10:30 AM
(Hess-Hathaway Park)
- July 17 – Blessing our Youth Mission Trip Team
- July 22 – Girlfriends Unlimited S'mores Party, 6:30 PM
- July 23 – Men's Breakfast @ Maxfield's, 8:30 AM

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

Dear members and friends of Bethany Church:

Susan and I are taking some time off July 1 – 14. So, on Sunday, **July 3**, you will be blessed by our own **Sandy Lewis**, who is going to share a wonderful message during Worship. Come and hear what she has to say and celebrate Communion.

Also, Susan and I have to miss the **OUTDOOR WORSHIP & CHURCH PICNIC ON July 10** at Hess-Hathaway Park (10:30 AM). But don't you miss it! **Dave von Behren** has planned a special presentation that will bless your hearts. It will be a time of good fellowship and relaxation. We will have a bounce house and games for the kids. The playground at Hess-Hathaway is first rate. And, there are some farm animals, to show the kids, just yards away from our pavilion.

And, how about our Youth? They are going on a Mission Trip to Newark, N.J. to serve the Lord among the poor. We are going to Commission them for this service during worship on **July 17**. You will want to be there to show them we are supportive of this work and to pray for them with the whole congregation.

The last 3 Sundays of July and the 1st Sunday of August, we are going to get a VBS "Sneak Peek" at the themes and stories that will be taught during our Vacation Bible School, **August 8 – 12**, 6 – 8:30 PM. The stories are about **Joseph**, the great-grandson of Abraham. These are powerful stories that the whole congregation needs to reflect on before we teach them to the children. Also, during these four Sundays, we will learn some of the VBS songs so we can join in with the children at the VBS Celebration during worship on **August 14**.

Now, I've got something else to say! What are you working on? Paul says that Christians ought always to be working on developing Christian qualities of character ("pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness." – I Timothy 6:11). These are six qualities of character that we have to constantly practice until they are part of who we are. I've found it best to pick one and work on it for a week.

Take "endurance" as an example. Ask God to give you situations to endure patiently. Then, when you find yourself in such a situation where you are waiting in line or in a traffic jam, say to yourself, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Breathe deeply and with purpose. Ask God to strengthen your ability to endure. Then, practice endurance by imagining how people around you are feeling – and praying for them. Try it and see if, after practicing, you are better at patient endurance.

Sermons & Scripture - July, 2011

July 3 – COMMUNION SUNDAY; INDEPENDENCE DAY EVE

Guest Speaker: Sandy Lewis

July 10 – OUTDOOR WORSHIP & CHURCH PICNIC at Hess-Hathaway Park

Guest Speaker: Dave von Behren

July 17 – COMMISSIONING OUR YOUTH MISSION TEAM

Theme: VBS "Sneak Peek" for the Congregation

Scripture: Genesis 40:1-23

Sermon: "God Gives Us Hope"

July 24 –

Theme: VBS "Sneak Peek" for the Congregation

Scripture: Genesis 41:1 – 42:5

Sermon: "God Gives Us Special Abilities & Wisdom"

July 31 –

Theme: VBS "Sneak Peek" for the Congregation

Scripture: Genesis 42:6 – 45:15

Sermon: "God Gives Us Forgiveness"

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor James will be on Vacation from **July 1 – 14**. For Pastoral Care call one of our Deacons: Nona Bos (248-886-8615); Bob Hunt (248-881-9376); Rodger Zeller (248-789-5809). For Emergency situations call Rev. Al Bendert (home – 586-939-2015 / cell – 586-764-2928).



Dave Ramsey's
FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY classes
July 11, 18 @ 7:00 PM
Fellowship Hall
Led by Bill Brazz



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Men's Breakfast July 23



Come enjoy the fellowship at the Men's Breakfast on **Saturday, July 23**, at the home of Bill & Nancy Maxfield, 8164 Vanden Drive, White Lake. We will gather at **8:30 AM** for a hearty breakfast. There will be good conversation and a spiritual lesson from Bill Maxfield. All men are invited.

DEACONS OFFERING 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. In **July: 11th & 25th** at **12:30 PM**



Roger Bos
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Girlfriends Unlimited

Do you remember the last time you roasted a hot dog over a campfire? When was the last time you ate a s'more (I know, it's certainly not on Weight Watchers)? Do you remember attending a camp and singing songs and telling stories around the fire at night? We plan to bring those memories back. On **Friday, July 22nd at 6:30 PM**, plan to bring your own chair and join us for an evening of fun. We'll be easy to find that night at the church. Just follow your nose and listen for the noise back of Bethany. This is a FREE hot dog dinner and s'mores party. So come join us!

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Don't forget to bring in food for the pantry. We are focusing on foods that will supplement families who need extra food while their children are home during the summer months such as: cereal, pancake mix & syrup, Mac & Cheese, peanut butter and jelly, canned pasta & meat products, etc.



Bethany Book Club

Our July book selection is To End All Wars by Ernest Gordon. This book is difficult to find, but not impossible (Amazon has it for \$11). Don't worry if you can't read the book because we will be viewing the movie and discussing it on **July 22** at 9:15 AM at Pastor Bolin's home.

The story is a recount of Ernest Gordon's experiences at a Japanese concentration camp and his witness to that camp's transformation from what he called "the worst that man could be" to the "best that man could be." It is one thing read about the word of God and the acts of Jesus, but it's an entirely different thing to witness it first hand as Gordon does and writes about with stunning detail. This is an inspiring story of how God's Grace can transform the most desperate situations. You are really encouraged to come see the movie and learn about events based on real people enduring the challenges of war and the blessings that can come from difficult situations.

In August, our book is Samson by Tracy Morgan. Tracy is Ferrol Haxtor's niece and her book, Bathsheba, was one of last year's book discussions. The discussion will be August 19 at Ferrol's home and the author will be our special guest! Her book will be available at Grand Central for \$16.00.

VALET PARKING

We now offer Valet Parking every Sunday beginning at **10:00 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 248-534-3799 or **Jan Rowe** at 248-338-0786. NOTE to MEMBERS: Please leave the parking spaces under the basketball hoop for valet parking.

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



Samaritan's Feet July Mission Concern

The Mission of Samaritan Feet

10 million pairs of shoes on the feet of 10 million children in the next 10 years.

Samaritan Feet is not just a non-profit, nor just a humanitarian aid organization but a community of more than 70,000 volunteers who have joined together to make a difference in the lives of children in need in every corner of the world. From a dream to the reality, nearly 3,000,000 **impoverished children** in over 40 nations are **being served by having their feet washed, receiving a new pair of shoes and hearing a message of hope.**

Samaritan's Feet and its team of global ambassadors have touched the lives of men, women and children across the United States and around the world in an effort in an effort to help the nearly 300 million people who go without shoes each day and the more than one million who die as a result of foot-borne illnesses.

The shoes (athletic) that people like you donate, are give along with the expression of love, compassion and servant leadership from the Samaritan Feet team members. The shoes are changing lives and the shared gospel message is bringing hope where and when it is most needed.

Bethany will be holding a shoe drive during the entire month of July. We invite you **to bring in new or very gently used pair(s) of athletic shoes.** A donation of a \$10 will cover the cost a one pair of shoes (*provided by corporate sponsors*) or help to cover some of the shipping charges. For most of us, shoes are a fashion item but for others they are a luxury. Please join us in personally engaging a child in need and sharing the precious gift of hope. We encourage you to become familiar with this organization – www.samaritanfeet.org. A good read about the founder and inspiration of this organization is, "Sole Purpose", by Manny Ohonme.

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DEACONS

Our Deacons are offering spiritual counseling & 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.**

Don't mess with the middle man – go straight to the Bos!

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A big shout out to the participants, workers and supporters of the Open Door Outreach Center's fundraiser, "The Julie Run/Walk." Walkers/ Runners were Louise Aebersold, Monica Anderson, Dave & Renee Drap, Scott, Michelle & Chelsea Lewis, Ida McCutcheon and Josh Nelson.

Workers were Gene & Sandy Lewis and Al & Lottie Jespersen. Thank you also to those of you who sponsored our walkers – we raised over \$600 for Open Door Crisis Fund!



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Michelle McGregor, owner
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COMING IN AUGUST

August 8-12, Vacation Bible School, 6-8:30 PM

August 11-12, Leadership Summit

August 14, VBS Celebration in Worship and Fellowship Dinner

Bethany

Encounter God's Love!!

An American Baptist Family Of Faith In
The Heart Of
Oakland County

1375 Hiller Road
Waterford, MI
48327



Website: www.bethanywaterford.org

(Copies of this newsletter are available on our website)

We welcome your contributions to the **LINC**. The **August** LINC deadline is **Sunday, July 24**.
Email articles to *Christine Keener* at BethanyLINC@hotmail.com or put them in the tray
in the Church Office. Please get articles in by the deadline. Thank you!

LINC Deadlines

Please note the following deadlines for the LINC for 2011:

August – *July 24*

September – *August 21*

October – *September 25*

November – *October 23*

December – *November 20*

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
- **Anna McGregor:** (248) 673-8361 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: (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!**