

The Monthly Newsletter from your Family of Faith at Bethany

May, 2011

May 1 – “One Great Hour” Kickoff; Communion
May 7 – Spring Clean-Up @ Bethany
May 7 – Campership Concert, 7 PM
{Featuring MATT WATROBA}
May 8 – Mother’s Day / Women’s Day
{Guest Speaker: Jan Rowe. No Fellowship Dinner}
May 15 – Camp Sunday & Pancake Dinner
{Guest Speaker: Cody Stewart}
May 29 – Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend

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

MATT WATROBA is coming to Bethany!

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Matt's unique brand of humor and music. Check him out at www.myspace.com/mattwatrobaloVESmusic.



He is coming to help us raise money for Camp Scholarships. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$40 for a family of four. Tickets may be purchased at the door or you may call Joann Shulte to reserve your tickets at 248-819-0890.

Sunday, May 15 is CAMP SUNDAY. I can't wait to see what will happen. We are going to be blessed by some dynamic music and a special guest speaker, CODY STEWART. Wear your camp clothes if you so choose.

After worship on May 15, we will have a Pancake Brunch. Stay for pancakes and sausages and other tasty things. You will be asked to give a free will offering for the brunch. After expenses, all proceeds will go to our Camp Scholarship Fund.

The month of MAY reminds me of tulips, the smell of cut grass, the movie “Camelot” (because of the maypole scene), shorts, iced tea, Stanley Cup playoffs, and most of all SUNSHINE! Hurray for sunshine! May you have a blessed May. See you in church every Sunday for Worship at 10:30 AM.



Sermons & Scripture - May, 2011

- May 1 – COMMUNION SUNDAY; PEACE SUNDAY
Theme: Peace involves the hard work of building bridges.
Scripture: I Corinthians 3:1—11
Sermon: Bridge Building & Building on Bridges
- May 8 – MOTHER'S DAY/WOMEN'S DAY
Guest Speaker: Jan Rowe
- May 15 – CAMP SUNDAY (PANCAKE BREAKFAST AFTER WORSHIP)
Guest Speaker, Cody Stewart
- May 22 – CONNECTING WITH GOD SUNDAY
Theme: Connecting with God in everyday life.
Scripture: Psalm 31:1-5; James 4:7-8a
Sermon: I Need Thee Every Hour
- May 29 – MEMORIAL SUNDAY
Theme: There are some things that MUST be remembered.
Scripture: Psalm 145:1-9
Sermon: Why tying a string around my finger doesn't work!

Spring Clean-Up @ Bethany

On Saturday, May 7, from 8:30 – 11:30, we are calling all-hands-on-deck for a Spring Clean-Up. We need help from all ages and both genders. Among the tasks at hand: outdoor scraping and painting; garden preparation; chair & table repair; and indoor cleaning. Come aboard and be part of the crew. Free coffee and donuts for the tars who show up. Eh matey?



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Mother's Day/Women's Day May 8

Jan Rowe will be our guest speaker on May 8 for our worship service. Jan will share a poem and some very important insights that God has given her. Don't miss this special day at Bethany. NO fellowship dinner.

Images of God and Jesus through Musician's Eyes--Part 2

By Al Shulte

This class is a continuation of the class taught in the spring of 2010. The purpose of the class is twofold: (1) to expose class members to the wide variety of styles of music that contains ideas about God, Jesus, and related spiritual issues; (2) to allow class members to discuss their reactions to the musical selections and the issues they raise.



The music includes many different genres, and will be selected to inspire people, to cause them to think, sometimes to amuse them, and hopefully to provide situations where they say "I never thought about things that way."

Each session will be self-contained, so persons with busy schedules don't need to feel they will lose continuity if they have to miss a session. A typical class will be about 2/3 listening to the selections and about 1/3 discussing them. The class continues through June 12.

Spring Clean-Up at Camp Lael, May 21

If you are interested in helping with the Spring Clean-Up at Camp Lael, call Bob Hunt @ 248-881-9376. Start time: 9 AM.

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

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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.

Dave Ramsey's FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY Classes: May 2, 9, 16, 23 @ 7:00 PM

Get in on it. Learn what you can. You are invited to come to the Financial Peace University classes in May. Just come! You'll be so glad you did.

The sessions include a DVD presentation by Dave Ramsey followed by small group discussions. This life-changing program teaches you to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever.

Bill Brazz is our host and guide for the classes. Bill and his lovely wife Donna have been part of our church family for several years. Bill brings a wealth of experience from the world of investing and financial management. You will love his relaxed and affable style.

Financial Peace University is highly entertaining for everyone, with a unique combination of humor, informative financial advice and biblical messages. More than one million families have already had their lives changed by attending Financial Peace University.

Pastor James of Bethany said ***"Susan and I have used Dave Ramsey's advice with great success. We have eliminated over half our debt already. We have also discovered the joy of saving for trips and other things that are important to us. We highly recommend the Financial Peace University. We hope you will take this opportunity to find some financial peace in your lives too."***

Join our host **BILL BRAZZ** for the April 3 Preview. For more information about Financial Peace University, you may call 1-888-227-3223 or visit www.daveramsey.com; call Bethany @ 248-681-2130 or contact us at www.bethanywaterford.org.

May 22 – Connecting with God Sunday

Is your prayer life dry, unfruitful, even non-existent? Come to worship on Sunday, May 22 as we explore ways to really feel the presence of Jesus in everyday life. God is ready to give you personal comfort, support, and strength. Learn how to access this divine mystery. My text will be Psalm 31:1-5 and James 4:7-8a. Pastor James' sermon is titled "I Need Thee Every Hour." Worship begins at 10:30 AM.

Men's Breakfast, May 28

Come enjoy the fellowship at the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, May 28 at the home of Bill & Nancy Maxfield, 8164 Vanden, 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.

Memorial Weekend Sunday

Sunday, May 29 is right in the middle of the Memorial Day Weekend. Why not stop to worship God with thanksgiving? We will be exploring the subject of the things that "MUST be remembered!" The text is Psalm 145:1-9 and the sermon is titled "Why tying a string around my finger doesn't work!" There will be no Sunday School on May 29. Worship begins at 10:30 AM.



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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.

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.**

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. **12:30 PM. In May: 9th & 23rd.**



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COMEDY NIGHT @ BETHANY



Friday, June 10. Put it on your calendar right now. At 7:00 PM, we will enjoy "Comedy Night @ Bethany." Bring your favorite joke to share with the crowd. After some in-house hilarity, we will welcome comedian JAY

COOPER for a reprise performance that is sure to make us laugh out loud. This is a church fundraiser. Tickets are \$15 per person and \$40 for a family of four. Tickets will be available on Sunday, May 8. Don't miss out on the fun. Bring the family or make it a date night. Laughter is good for your soul. Refreshments and child-care will be available.

COMING IN JUNE

- June 5 – Graduation Sunday; Communion
- June 10 – Comedy Night at Bethany, 7:00 PM
- June 12 – PENTECOST (wear red)
- June 18 – Open Door Julie Run, 9 AM
- June 19 – Father's Day / Men's Day
- June 26 – Forgiveness Day

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Bethany Book Club

By Louise Aebersold

For May, we will be reviewing and discussing Night by Elie Wiesel. This highly acclaimed book is considered one of the masterpieces of Holocaust literature. It was recommended by Susan Bolin and is available at most libraries, in bookstores and on the Internet. There is a trilogy form of this book called Night-Dawn-Day which also covers the challenges of returning to "normal" life after surviving the concentration camp or any horrendous experience. Our group encourages you to pick up a copy of Night and join us on May 20 at Nancy Maxfield's home (8164 Vanden Dr. White Lake, 48386).

Looking ahead, our June book is Little Bee by Chris Cleave. This historical fiction book was recommended by Bob Hunt. The plot moves between a desolate stretch of Nigerian beach and a home in an upscale London suburb as it presents a memorable character one cannot easily forget. There are long waiting lists at local libraries so you will need to get your reservation in early. The book is readily available at book stores. The discussion for this book is June 17 at the Bolin's.

We have a great small group, but are always looking for and welcoming new members.

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Senior Corner

By Rodger Zeller

Take a look at the Bible you have at home. Is it well-worn or is it dusty and when the dust is removed you find it in mint condition? The Bible is our guide to living a Christian life. Yet, it is too often ignored.

What do you know about the Bible? Most of you who are 50+ years old probably know most of the basics about the Bible---Old and New Testaments; the Four Gospels---Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; the epistles of Paul; Moses and the Ten Commandments; the Psalms; and the Prophets. These generations grew up with a basic knowledge of the Bible. However, these basics are not being passed on to today's youth. We need to do a better job of passing on that basic knowledge to our kids and grandkids.

On a higher level, it's even more important that we turn to the Bible to strengthen the learning of our Christian faith. The Bible is meant to help us live out our faith in our everyday life. We need to be reading the Bible on a regular basis to remind us of how our lives are to be guided by the love of God and the teachings of Jesus.

I find it helpful to make reading the Bible a regular part of my daily devotions. Presently, I am reading one chapter in each of the Old and New Testament. You might give some thought as to how best to make reading the Bible a part of your daily routine. You might also make a list of your favorite Bible verses.

There are reasons the Bible is called "The Good Book ". Don't let your Bible gather dust on your shelf. Read it and see if it doesn't speak to you about how you can better live your life of faith.



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Could this be Your Sign?



Are you looking for a way to help out your church, but you don't have a lot of spare time? Well, consider this your sign—We need someone (or perhaps a family) to help change the church sign out front on Hiller Road on a regular basis. Josh Nelson has agreed to help out, but we need at least one other person or family to commit to this ministry at Bethany.

The Whiteheads will be gone much of the summer, so they can no longer change the sign frequently. All it takes is to check with Pastor James on what we'd like to promote and also come up with some clever sayings to fit the season, sermons or other occasions. It's fun, easy, and all the materials are provided.

Please contact Pastor James if you are interested.

Girlfriends Unlimited

By Nancy Maxfield

The Girlfriends Unlimited ministry is all about growing closer to God and other women of Bethany through small interest groups. One such interest group is called "God's Purls." This group meets the fourth Friday evening of each month. Last year, this group knitted over 100 hats for chemo patients! If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, consider this your personal invitation to join this group by calling Cathy Haynes at 625-0929.

Another interest group is the Wednesday afternoon Bible Study that meets at Nancy Maxfield's home at 1:00 PM. A new series begins May 4 called Giving God Your All. Textbooks will be available at the study. Please bring your own Bible. Plan to attend all six sessions or as many as you can.

On Saturday, May 21 at 7:00 PM, an interest group will attend a New Horizon concert at Presbyterian Church on Sashabaw Road in Waterford. This concert will feature a community chorus and there will be a free-will offering. Call Nona Bos at 886-8615 if you want to attend.

Like to golf? We are trying to organize a ladies golf group. Our first outing will be Friday, May 27 at 9:30 AM at White Lake Oaks. The cost is \$9 to walk or \$18 to ride. If you are a senior, the cost is \$6 to walk and \$13 to ride. Call Nancy Maxfield at 698-1393 to come and join in on the fun!



Sadly, we had to postpone our annual retreat due to poor attendance. We have everything in place to have a terrific retreat—so, we will try again in the early fall. Watch for the new date and you can make a commitment to attend.

Thanks from Lighthouse

On behalf of the volunteers, Board of Directors, and those we serve, thanks so much to Bethany Baptist Church for your generous in-kind donation of food.

In these difficult economic times, your generous and thoughtful gift will allow us to continue serving families and individuals in crisis. In-kind donations help us to supplement our other resources, especially in the food pantry where donated food and personal care products help to keep expenditures lower. At the present time, we are serving an average of 750 families per month from the food pantries in Clarkston and Pontiac.

Sincerely – Thomas Stowell, Exec. Director, Lighthouse

Thanks from the McCullochs

We would to thank everyone for all the prayers and cards we received for the recent death of our sister Mildred Green. It was very comforting to receive all the thoughts and prayers. - Love, Ruth and Jack

Be A Hero! Sponsor a Camper

- ✚ Grades 5-12: \$288
- ✚ Grades 3rd & 4th: \$144
- ✚ KidsCamp: \$92



TWO WAYS TO BE A HERO:

Sponsorship: Sponsorship Envelopes located at Grand Central or mail a check to Bethany noting the check goes towards "Campships."

Pledge to Sponsor: Pledge Leaves located at Grand Central, money due July 15th. Please deposit envelopes or leaves into offering plate or leave in my box in the office.

God Bless and Thank You,
Michelle McGregor & Camp Scholarship Committee

Mini Missions

By Michelle McGregor

The Youth have been busy little workers lately. They have been Jesus' hands and feet in different ways to show God's love and care in the community. Each individual youth is being encouraged to serve where in what capacity they feel God is calling them. Each mission is different and different youth attend each one.

Here are the most recent:

Animal Crossing

We toured the Oakland County Animal Shelter to learn ways we can help these orphan dogs and cats as they await new families. In future visits, we will walk, play and love on those animals.

Don't Litter

To assist Grace Centers of Hope, the youth helped clean up a portion of Pontiac's streets, picking up garbage littered. In ongoing future visits, we will assist with Seneca Street Clean Up, Grace Childcare Center and whatever they come up with for us to help with!



Future Mini Missions: Anybody Home? Some of the youth have expressed interest in visiting some of our homebound. We will be organizing trips to homes very soon!

Our Favorite Camp

We will be traveling to Lapeer for the annual Camp Lael Clean Up Day. It's an opportunity for the youth (and adults) to help prepare Lael for Summer Camp! I am so proud of the youth already serving with joyous hearts and look forward to all the future Mini Missions to come.

With a Twist

By LINC Editor Ellen Whitehead

Tsunamis . . . Hurricanes . . . Nuclear Disaster . . . Tornadoes . . . Economic Worries . . .



Some say that these are the "end times." I don't like to dwell on such things. I know that human beings have been predicting the "end times" are near for centuries.

This all kind of hit home for me with the recent tornadoes in the deep south, especially in Alabama. You see my husband's family all lives in the area: a brother, two sisters and both his mom and dad.

We were up north when we heard the news and Dave immediately called his sister as his mom and dad were on vacation in the Carolinas. She said that the devastation was terrible; but all of Dave's family was safe and had been spared from the damage. His brother was in Tuscaloosa when the biggest tornado hit and one sister said she saw a tornado bearing down on their town, only to veer off to the north.

We heard those incredible stories of thanksgiving just as we also heard the despair and sadness for many other families as we watched the news.

When disasters strike, we can help by giving to **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Watch for information in our weekly bulletins or on the church website. It is one of the best ways to immediately help out in these situations.

In closing, none of us know what the future holds; but there is one thing I am sure about—God is with us in good times and in bad times. He is with us now and he will be with us tomorrow. And . . . this too shall pass.

Easter Multi-Media Presentation

By Ellen Whitehead

Kudos to Dave von Behren for the inspiring Multi-media presentation on Easter Sunday. Dave is truly a gifted artist! Some may not realize that Dave not only created an artistic masterpiece in paints—right before our eyes—he also selected the music and produced the silent drama for this special service.

Thank you Dave for sharing your God-given gifts with Bethany.

Here's a photo of the "almost" finished piece.



*"The world's favorite season is the spring.
All things seem possible in May."
- Edwin Way Teale*

Bethany

Encounter God's Love!!

**An American Baptist Family Of Faith In
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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 June LINC deadline is **Sunday, May 22**. 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
- 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

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!**