

The Monthly Newsletter from your Family of Faith at Bethany

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

September 11 – Rally Day; Grandparents Day
September 11 – Grandparent’s Day; Fellowship Dinner
September 14 – Wed. Kids Program: Dessert with Jesus, 6 PM
September 18 – Healing Sunday (Prayers for Healing)

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:

Let me tell you about Father Tom. Father Tom is a 78 year old Episcopal Priest in Panama City Beach, FL. Susan and I got acquainted with him recently. Susan went down to care for her father, Weldon Faull, after knee surgery. You see, he fell off a ladder in his garage and busted up his knee. What no one knew, until later, is that he also hit his head.

Susan arrived a week after the fall and the day after surgery. He was sent to a Rehab Facility where he fell again in the bathroom. No one saw him fall. So no one knew that, once again, he hit his head.

Soon, he was acting odd. He lost his ability to speak. He was lashing out. They confined him in a structure over his bed that looked like a cage. It all happened so fast. Over the objections of the medical staff, Susan insisted on a CT Scan. The report showed that Weldon had two blood clots, of different ages, one for each time he hit his head. Each clot was three inches thick and took over most of the left side of his skull. Both were pressing down on the left side of his brain. Weldon was rushed to surgery where they removed the clots from off the surface of his brain.

It was too late. The damage had been done. A vessel within the brain continued to slowly bleed. His brain continued to swell. The family rushed to his side. All his children and two grandchildren were at his bedside for two days. He died quietly and peacefully.

All during this time, Father Tom was ministering to Weldon, to Susan, then to the whole family. He brought Susan communion when she was the only family member on the scene, sadly watching her father deteriorate right before her eyes. He prayed with family members. He quoted re-assuring scripture passages. He gave communion to the whole family while gathered around Weldon’s death bed.

He stood close-by, like a rock, for all who needed to lean on something solid, someone spiritual. And we noticed, that Father Tom was also grieving the loss of his long time parishioner and friend.



Then, in the immediate aftermath, Father Tom gave a wonderful eulogy at the funeral and was a comforter to all. Since then, Father Tom has provided aftercare to members of the family who continue to grieve.

Father Tom taught us both that, during times of trouble, it is so important to attend to your spiritual self, and to lean on God.

I give thanks for this man of God, who quietly serves the Lord and lovingly ministered to Susan and to me I am very thankful that he was there for us. God bless Father Tom.

Sermons & Scripture September, 2011

September 4 – COMMUNION SUNDAY; LABOR DAY SUNDAY

400th ANNIVERSARY OF THE KING JAMES VERSION OF THE BIBLE

Theme: God is not confined to the Bible.

Scripture: II Timothy 3:16; II Timothy 1:12; Ephesians 2:8

Sermon: “Not Confined”

September 11 – FELLOWSHIP DINNER; RALLY SUNDAY; GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY

Theme: Grandparents are powerful.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:1-19; I Timothy 1:5a

Sermon: “Do you have a Grandpa & Grandma?”

September 18 – HEALING SUNDAY

Theme: Healing is a process that you and God work on together.

Scripture: Mark 10:46-52

Sermon: “We’re All Born Blind”

September 25 – WHISPER SUNDAY

Theme: Hearing the “still, small voice of God”.

Scripture: I Kings 19:1-18; Psalm 139:7-10

Sermon: “Are You Listening for God’s Whisper?”

KJV - 400th Birthday Celebration

On **Sunday, September 4**, we will conclude our 3 part series on the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible (1611 – 2011). Join us as we read and reflect on the scripture from this beautiful translation which is now 400 years old. There will be a time in both services when worshippers will be asked to share their favorite KJV passages and share why these passages remain close to their hearts. We worship at 10:30 AM on Sunday. Bring your KJV's with you.

Camp Lael 5k Run/Walk

You are invited to participate in the 2011 Camp Lael 5k Run/Walk. It will be held at the Camp (address) on **Saturday, September 10** with registration beginning at **10:30 AM**. There is an Entry Fee of \$25.00 per participant. Children under 10 and Adults over 70 are free. And, you get a Camp Lael T-Shirt and Lunch on top of the great fun and fellowship you will enjoy.

If you can't go yourself, you can support this event by sponsoring a walker/runner. This is the big fund-raiser for the Camp Lael Scholarship Fund which assists campers with limited means to be able to enjoy the camp experience and commune with God in the beautiful camp surroundings. You may contact any walker/runner with a pledge of support. Call Josh Nelson for more information at (248) 935-5535.

PETER in Scripture, Art, & Reflection

Beginning **Sunday, September 11** at **9:30 AM**, Pastor James & Susan will lead a 3 week study on "**PETER in Scripture, Art, & Reflection.**" First among the Apostles, Peter is credited with starting the church in Rome and is said to be buried under St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. In scripture, Jesus gives to Peter the "keys to the Kingdom of God." What does this mean? Of all Jesus' apostles, Peter is the one most represented in art. What are the most famous pieces? Why do they speak to our hearts? Peter is presented in scripture as flawed and impetuous. What does his spiritual journey have in common with our own journeys? Come! See! Discuss! "**PETER in Scripture, Art, & Reflection**" on **Sundays September, 11, 18, & 25 @ 9:30 AM.**

September 11 – Fellowship Dinner

YOU are invited to a Fellowship Dinner, immediately after Worship, on **Sunday, September 11**. Bring food to share. The Teams responsible for set-up and clean-up are: **Building & Property; Service; and Family Teams.**

Girlfriends Unlimited

Do you want to pray more for people around the world but aren't quite sure where to start? "**Passport to Prayer**" will guide you on an around-the-world adventure that takes you deeper into compassion and deeper into God's heart. You will learn more about the issues in the world that needs our prayer, more about what the Bible has to say about them and how to act in response to them. This eight-week "**Passport to Prayer**" study will begin **Wednesday, September 7 at Nancy Maxfield's home at 1:00.** Join us and taste another culture.

Please plan to volunteer to help with our pasty prep days the last two weeks in October. These very productive days also are fun fellowship days. One would be surprised as to what we learn from one another! See JAN ROWE and sign up soon. Pasties will be sold Sundays, October 23 and 30.

Girlfriends Unlimited will be sponsoring a new ministry at Bethany - the **Coupon Pantry**. What you need to do is simply cut out any unwanted coupons you have, place them in the decorated coupon box at Grand Central. Amy Nelson and her team will categorize the coupons and place them in another box for you to take out what you will use. We request that you take out only the current coupons. The money you save you could put into the offering plate!



Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)

Bethany Book Club

Our September book is The Memory of Water by Karen White. What happens when you discover the ones you love best are intent on hurting you? And what if, they are your family? This book focuses on secrets, on the effects of bipolar disorder and how it can affect everyone around the person suffering, and on overcoming childhood wounds. There is mystery, some romance, hope, and redemption in this intriguing story.

Jan Rowe recommended our book and she will host our discussion on **September 16** beginning at 9:15 AM in her home.

This book is readily available at local libraries and can be purchased through book sellers. We hope you will get a copy to read and join us for a great discussion.

Senior Pot Luck, September 15

Senior pot luck at the Crites home, 3268 Angelus Drive, Waterford, on Thursday, September 15 at Noon. All welcome – rolls, beverages and table service provided.

Men's Breakfast, September 17

Come enjoy the fellowship at the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, **September 17**, at Green Apple Restaurant on Cooley Lake Road, 8:30 AM. 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.

**I believe that the power behind me...
is greater than the task ahead.**

Drive-Thru PRAYER Box

At the west end of the parking lot, you will see our public "Prayer Box." It looks like a mail box, but has a little white cross on top. It is there for the general public to leave Prayer Requests for our Bethany Church family. Anyone, can drive up, take a Prayer Request Form, and write out a prayer request, and leave it in the box. Our Pastor's business cards are also available with the forms. We will then give the Prayer Requests to our Bethany Prayer Chain, our Deacons, and other Prayer Warriors.

We are notifying the public with Press Releases and Messages on our sign. The Outreach and Membership Team will be checking the box for new prayer requests. We hope to project to the community that we care about their worries and concerns. We stand ready, as a Christian faith community, to offer prayers on their behalf.

Thank you to Ellen Whitehead for the idea; to David & Ellen Whitehead for securing and modifying the Prayer Box; to Jeff & Casey Starick for installing the post and box; to Julie Patterson for donating a "real estate type container" for the Prayer Request Forms; and to Susan & Jan Rowe who will process the forms in a timely manner.

Please pray that God will bless this new ministry and that we will truly connect the Love of Christ with some of those who pass Bethany Church each day.



**Faith is the bird that sings
when the dawn is still dark.**
Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)

HEALING SUNDAY, September 18

On **Sunday, September 18**, during Worship, we will have a time for sharing needs for "healing" and a time of special prayer for those seeking healing. There will be a "Laying on of Hands" ceremony and "Anointing with Oil" for those who choose to participate.

Pastor James will preach on Mark 10:46-52 which is the story of "Blind Bartimaeus". His sermon is titled "We're All Born Blind" and will focus on healing as a process that you and God work on together.

"There are many needs for healing," said Pastor James. "Some need physical healing, some need emotional healing, some need spiritual healing, some need healing from bad memories, some need healing from a malady of the soul, some need healing from lethargy or bad attitudes, some need healing from family troubles, some need healing from anxiety and worry. But, we all need healing." Come to Worship on **September 18** to this Healing Service. 10:30 AM.

Shepherd Team

The Shepherd Team has made some changes with some shepherds leaving and new shepherds starting. Yet, there is a need for more shepherds in order to assure that everyone in the Bethany family has a shepherd. We serve a vital service by making personal contact when someone who has a prayer request, a death in the family, a health concern or to wish them happy birthday. It helps us all stay connected. So, if you think you would like to become a shepherd, please contact **Jan Rowe** at church or call (248) 338-0786. **Nona Bos** is alternate team leader and can also be contacted at (248) 886-8615.

Deacons Offering Healing Prayer

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 September 12th & 26th.**

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.

Summer Pledge Slump

Now, that we are out of “summer mode” there is something you need to be reminded about. Some have gotten behind in their financial pledges of support for Bethany. We are aware that when people are on vacation or are otherwise engaged in summer activities, they have no opportunity to drop their pledge in the offering plate. You may be accustomed to bringing your offering to Worship. When you are not there . . . we don't receive it. If you are included in this group, BE AWARE that you have gotten behind and need to catch up. Your faithfulness enables us to carry on the work of the Lord and the ministry of Bethany. Your gifts of love and support enable us to meet our budgetary obligations as a church. So, if you have gotten behind please remember to “catch up”. We thank you for your faithfulness and generosity toward the work of the church.

"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns." ~George Eliot

Wish List

You know, there are certain things we are in need of at Bethany. Perhaps, you have some extra items at home and could afford to donate an item or two. Also, we have a wish-list of things we'd very much like to have in order to do our ministry better. Check out the list below. If you can help, please do so.

WISH LIST



- Staplers
- 3 Hole Punch
- Name Tags
- Good Scissors
- Plungers (2)
- Good Flashlight
- New Electric Pencil Sharpener
- Old Fashioned Wall Pencil Sharpener
- New Brooms (3 needed)
- New Computer Printers (2)
- New or Used DVD Players
- New 42" Flat Screen TV's with Wall Mounts (3)
(one for the Parlor; one for the Fellowship Hall & one for the big Sunday School room)
- Carpet Steam Cleaner

Call (248) 681-2130 for more information.



**Faith is not belief without proof,
but trust without reservation.**

Elton Trueblood (1900-1994)

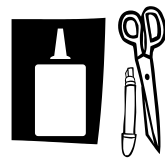
Mission News

The emphasis for **September** will be on **securing walkers and pledges for the Waterford CROP Walk**



that takes place on **October 2nd**, 1 p.m. beginning at Christ Lutheran Church on the corner of Williams and Airport roads. Please refer to a separate article in this publication by Bethany's captain and recruiting chair, Sandy Lewis.

We will be wrapping up our July and August mission emphasis – Samaritan Shoes – at the end of August. To date we have collected 18 pairs of shoes and \$158. This was a new concern for us but one that the mission committee felt deserved attention. We hope that this activity begins to bring home the fact of just how blessed we are to select which pair of shoes we are going to put on our feet before leave our homes.



Our school supply drive always brings a good response and we wish to thank you for your participation in this activity and all the concerns and activities that we put before you.

Our food pantry donations did pick up some but I feel that this remains an area in which we could stretch ourselves a little more. If each of us picked up two items for the cupboard, each and every time we shopped for ourselves, our little pantry would be overflowing.

Our Kiva loans (4) were made. These loans will enable poor people to become independent by giving them the opportunity to start a new business venture or expand an existing one. Check out the Mission bulletin board and see who it is that we are helping.

The Camp Lael Walk/Run is coming up – information and sign-up forms can be found for this on the Mission Bulletin Board. See Josh Nelson for more information and if you can't personally participate you might consider \$supporting him.

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



Notes of Thanks & Praise

I would like to thank Bethany for remembering the 10th Anniversary of my call to serve as the Pastor of Bethany Church. It was a blessing to be so honored. The deluxe card, prepared by Dave von Behren, has comments and blessings from members that I will cherish. The love gift that was collected totaled \$1,300. Thank you to all who contributed to this generous love gift. My thanks to Bob McPherson, Bill Maxfield, Ida McCutcheon and anyone else who helped with the love gift collection and the wonderful reception.

Susan joins me in thanking you. We look forward to continuing our ministry here and serving the Lord together. God bless you all.

James & Susan Bolin



Open Door Outreach Center thanks you for your gift of 189 lbs. of food.

Your generous support is greatly appreciated!



Dear everyone at Bethany,

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. It's prayers that bring us closer to God. We truly love our Bethany family.

Many blessings, *The Temperlys*



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.



"Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting and autumn a mosaic of them all." ~ Stanley Horowitz

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**Sorrow looks back
Worry looks around
Faith looks up**

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New “Kids” Programs

Your Christian Education Team is launching TWO new children’s programs. In lieu of the segregated Sunday School experience, children K – 5 will gather together for an inter-grade experience of singing, learning Bible Stories, and artistic expression which could include acting out the stories, drawings, making up songs, caring for others, creative prayer time, and more. We are calling our inter-grade gathering “BREAKFAST WITH THE BIBLE.” Kids can come and enjoy a breakfast treat and learn a Bible story each time they are able to come to church on Sundays at 9:30 AM, beginning **Sunday, September 11**.

For those who can’t (or won’t) come to the Sunday School for “BREAKFAST WITH THE BIBLE”, we are offering a one hour program for children on Wednesday nights at 6 PM called “DESSERT WITH JESUS”. The program will begin on **Wednesday, September 14**. Children can come and enjoy a dessert snack and hear/act out/or sing a story about Jesus from the Gospels. The format will resemble the Sunday format, but different material will be covered.

Can your children or grandchildren come to BOTH? Yes! Take advantage of these opportunities to anchor the young ones in the Bible and our Christian Faith.

If you’d like to help, or for more information, call Michelle McGregor at (248) 802-2892.

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

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MICHAEL A. EVANS
President

5391 Highland Road
Waterford, Michigan 48327-1921

Coming in October: The Power of a Whisper

Beginning Sunday, October 2, we will launch a church-wide, worship and small group program called “The Power of a Whisper” by Bill Hybels. The small groups will meet weekly for four weeks to watch a video presentation and discuss the implications of “God’s Whispers” to our hearts. Groups are forming. Beginning dates of those forming so far are:

Saturday, October 1, @ 8:30 AM (a Men’s Group) led by and at the home of Bill Maxfield, 8164 Vanden Drive, White Lake (off Williams Lake Road).

Sunday, October 2, @ 9:30 AM led by Susan Bolin & Nelson Haynes in the church Parlor.

Tuesday, October 4, @ 7 PM led by Julie Patterson & Lottie Jespersen. The meetings will rotate between their two homes: Julie’s at 4675 Eddystone Circle, Clarkston; Lottie’s at 8315 Fox Bay Drive, White Lake.

Wednesday, October 5, @ 7 PM led by James & Susan Bolin in the church Parlor.

If you are interested in leading a group and recruiting group members, contact Julie Patterson at (248) 505-0054.

Each Sunday during the series, Pastor James will lift up aspects of each week’s lessons to anchor them to our hearts and bless our souls. Discover how to discern God’s Whispers. Learn how to distinguish between God’s Whispers and other voices. Develop the faith and courage to act on God’s Whispers in your life. Don’t miss a single one. Decide which group you will join for the four week series and sign up at Grand Central or contact the group leader.



October Highlights

October 2, “Power of a Whisper” series begins

October 9, Fellowship Dinner

October 30, Halloween Eve’s Eve . . .
(a.k.a. two days before All Saint’s Day)

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 **September** LINC deadline is **Sunday, September 25**.
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:

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!**