Bethany

loving with the heart of Jesus

January 1, 2012
10:00 o'clock

"I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God…" Isaiah 61:10

Our Mission

To trust in Jesus…
love like Jesus…
grow in Jesus…
bring others to Jesus.

WELCOME TO BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Enter this Church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. May the blessings of God rest upon you, both in your coming in and your going out."

We are delighted to have you in worship. We ask that you please sign the Fellowship Pad at the end of the pew. For your convenience, we have a warm and loving nursery adjacent to the sanctuary, complete with an available paging system. We also have a Cry Room at the back of the Sanctuary (near the usher's table) on the pulpit side with a speaker so that you can see and hear the service. If you have any questions or need literature regarding the life of Bethany Presbyterian Church, please visit the Welcome Center, located next to the sanctuary.

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

THE WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

THE PRELUDE "Shepherds" W. Held

Please take time during the Prelude to meditate & prepare for worship.

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*THE HYMN No. 185 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) Matt Fricker

Lord, I am a sinner in need of grace. It is a new year, but I still have sin in my life. I need forgiveness for losing my focus on you Lord. I need forgiveness for getting lost in the holiday season, instead of getting lost in you. Lord, give me the strength to make promises to you, and the strength to keep them. I pray that I can love you with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength. I am sorry for my actions and thoughts that are sinful. I am sorry for my distraction from praising you my God. I need you Lord God, hear my sins.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE: Hymn 177 "Jesus, Name Above All Names."

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Matt Fricker

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER:

Please let us know if you are going into the hospital, having surgery or will be an outpatient and also when you return home.

In the Hospital as of December 30:

Tom Woodward – (Betty's son) Vivian Lesnett – St. Clair
Emily Brady – Country Meadows

Discharged

Remember in Prayer:

Zach Noel (Shirley Ellis' grandson) Brandy Stevens
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Eisenbeis (Jean Roemer's parents)

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Pat, Earl and Mike Swanson on the death of Pat's mother, Helen Makosky.

The Blue Fellowship of Prayer Request Cards are for those having a prayer request, interested in being a part of this group, or wanting more information.

Respite Care: Did you know that your church family can cook a meal, shop, drive or just visit for a few hours to give your family or caregiver a break. We are not a permanent or long term solution but we can help. For information or to volunteer please call Margie Smith at 412-221-3730.

THANKS to all my friends at Bethany for their thoughtfulness, cards & prayers while my son, Tom, was in the hospital. He is improving day by day and should be home soon. Very special thanks to the Revs. John & Melany for their love, prayers, and visits during my son, Tom's, illness. *From Betty and the Woodward Family*.

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

January 8 – **Worship at 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. with Communion**

– **Sunday School Rally in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m**.

Won't you join us next Sunday for a special Rally Day for Sunday School starting in the Sanctuary at 9:30am for all classes and then off to your various rooms to meet and greet and start another exciting Sunday School session for all ages!

Weekly Message… Rev. John does a "Glimpses of Grace" email message most weeks to the church. Please contact the church office by emailing marlett@bethanypresby.org or calling 412-221-5132 if you would like to receive this often fun, and always inspirational email.

The next New Members Class will be held next year. If you are interested in joining the Family of God here at Bethany please note this on the Fellowship Pad along with your name, address and phone number, fill in the red card in the pew and drop it in the offering plate or sign-up on line. We will notify you of the next class.

Fellowship of Prayer participants will meet at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 4th in the Welcome Center for fellowship and refreshments followed by updating the prayer list and a time of prayer in the Bride's Room. All who are interesting in praying for others are welcome.

Update on Women's Bible Studies

Our next study will begin in January on the book of James. The study is called *James: Mercy Triumphs.* The study book for students costs $16.00. The Friday morning class will start on January 27, which will give us plenty of time to publicize the class and order materials. The Thursday evening class will start it as soon as they have finished *Breaking Free.*

SCRIP: We will return January 8th.

Is your meeting date/s on the church calendar for the New Year? If not, the doors may not be open and the heat not on. Call the office to verify your dates.

MOPS needs you! The second semester of Bethany MOPS (Moms of Pre-schoolers) is set to begin on January 12 and we are looking for empty laps and open arms that need to be filled. Enjoy reading to toddlers or snuggling infants? Then being a childcare volunteer at MOPS is the place for you. We are seeking loving volunteers to provide childcare during meetings which are held the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 9:00 - 11:00am. Even if you can only be there once a month, we'd love to have you. Childcare volunteers are the glue that hold MOPS together. Consistent, faithful volunteers allow the moms to relax knowing their children are safe and having fun. Please consider sharing your love of children with this group! Contact Jennifer Wallis at (412) 257-2263 for more information.

MOPS helps make better moms, and better moms make a better world!

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday, January 1 (Psalm 38:1-22) *New Year's Day*
Pray for Gloria Sinkovitz
10:00 A.M. – Worship – Sanctuary
NO Sunday School or Second Hour

Monday, January 2 (Psalm 39:1-13) *Offices Closed*
Pray for Carl & Shirley Skerl

Tuesday, January 3 (Psalm 40:1-17)
Pray for Patricia Slack
9:15 A.M. – Staff Meeting – Rev. John's Office
7:30 P.M. – Senior High Bible Study – Youth Room

Wednesday, January 4 (Psalm 41:1-13)
Pray for Jim, Cheryl & Jenny Smith
10:00 A.M. – Fellowship of Prayer – Welcome Center / Bride's Room
7:00 P.M. – Adult Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
7:00 P.M. – Young Adults Bible Study – Youth Room
8:30 P.M. – Bethany Ringers – Choir Room

Thursday, January 5 (Psalm 42:1-11)
Pray for Jason Smith
9:15 A.M. – Quilting – Room 144
12:00 P.M. – Thursday Knitters – Room 224
7:00 P.M. – Dartball – Fellowship Hall
(Indians @ Braves – Dodgers @ Marlins)
7:00 P.M. – MOMSnext – Welcome Center
8:00 P.M. – Adult Basketball – Great Room

Friday, January 6 (Psalm 43:1-5)
Pray for John & Margie Smith
1:00 P.M. – Friendship Bible Study – Room 240

Saturday, January 7 (Psalm 44:1-26)
Pray for Josh, Landon & Logan Smith
9:00 A.M. – New Officer Training – Welcome Center
10:00 A.M. – Saturday Knitters – Room 224

Sunday January 8 (Psalm 45:1-17) *Communion*
Pray for Mackenzie Smith
8:15 A.M. – Worship – Sanctuary
9:30 A.M. – Sunday School Rally – Sanctuary
10:45 A.M. – Worship – Sanctuary
6:00 P.M. – Junior High Youth – Youth Room
7:15 P.M. – Senior High Youth – Youth Room

FROM THE BETHANY CHURCH OFFICE

Attendance for Sunday, December 25: 10:00 - 121
Christmas Eve: 6:00 - 328 8:00 - 268 10:00 - 143

THANKS TO THOSE WHO ARE SERVING THE LORD…

Lay Readers: Evan and Stephen Zombek

Ushers: Andrea Prohaska, Carl, Tammie & Liz Suppo.

Fellowship Greeter is Mike Suchoza.

In the Nursery: Jenny Smith

The flowers are in memory of the women of Bethany who have passed away in 2011: Laura DiMarco, Marjorie Hawthorne, Dorothy Lane, Gail Allender, Anna Witzel

Flowers for 2012 – it is time to place your order for Chancel flowers. Call the office or email marlett@bethanypresby.org to verify your standing order and to place new orders.

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. John Hamilton, Senior Pastor hamilton@bethanypresby.org
Rev. Melany Hamilton, Interim Associate mhamilton@bethanypresby.org
John Henninger, Director of Music henninger@bethanypresby.org
Kim McCann. Financial Accountant finance@bethanypresby.org
Barb Crawford, Interim CE Director crawford@bethanypresby.org
Matt Fricker, Youth Director fricker@bethanypresby.org
Janet Marlett, Secretary marlett@bethanypresby.org
Bill Stephan, Custodian custodian@bethanypresby.org
Tim Michel, Custodian custodian@bethanypresby.org
Jenny Smith, Sunday School / Worship Nursery Coordinator
Patty Johnson, Week-day Pre-School director 412-206-0166
Web site – www.bethanypresby.org Church Phone – 412-221-5132
Fax Number – 412-220-9107

WE GIVE TO GOD

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY "In the Bleak Midwinter" Traditional

WE GIVE TO GOD

*THE RESPONSE "Joy to the World" (All sing verse 1 together)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

*THE HYMN No. 231 "Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS: Lay Reader

Old Testament: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 See page 1158 in pew Bible

New Testament: Luke 2: 22-40 See page 1591 in pew Bible

L: *"The word of the Lord"* **P: *"Thanks be to God"***

THE MEDITATION Matt Fricker

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison reading)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 229 "The First Noel" Verses 1,2,3,6

*THE BENEDICTION (all sing together)

Glo—ri—a, in excelsis Deo
Glo—ri—a, in excelsis Deo!

*THE POSTLUDE "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" J. B. Bach

*All who are able and willing, please stand

A Prayer For the New Year

As the new year begins, there is so much to hope for... fear
for... yearn for. A year, which can go by so quickly, can
also hold so much that is unknown. As I face the year
ahead, keep my heart turned toward You.
Help me to see the blessings
You unfold before me,
both big and small.
Help me to cherish the loved ones around me,
never taking them for granted.
Help me to trust to Your care
all that is dear to me
and all who are dear to me.
And whenever difficulties or tragedies come,
as they surely will, give me a faith filled
with wisdom, patience and hope.
Lord, help me to live with vision and not fear,
to live for others and not self,
to live with joy and not regret,
to live with compassion and not resentment.
In other words, help me to live
fully and abundantly in Your grace.
Give me the confidence that,
no matter what I face in this new year,
"nothing will be able to separate us
from Your love"…
nothing.
Amen and amen.

Rev. Dr. John G. Hamilton