

# *Bethany*

*...loving with the heart of Jesus*



***“Tis the Season...to Repent”***

*Rev. Melany Hamilton*

December 3, 2017

*Our Mission*

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

## **THE HANGING OF THE GREENS**

The Prelude      *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*      P. Manz

The Hanging of the Greens: An Introduction

The Call to Worship: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

The Prayer of Invocation

\*The Hymn No. 154 *“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*      vs.1-2

The Advent Wreath and Candles

The Lighting of the Prophet’s Candle of Hope

\*The Hymn No. 154 *“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*      vs. 3-4

## **WE GIVE TO GOD**

The Narration: The Christmas Tree

The Carol(10:45)      *“Away in a Manger”*  
The Sunday School Singers

The Children’s Message

The Narration: The Chrismons

The Hymn      *“Away in a Manger”*  
*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.*

The Narration: Greens and Wreaths (10:45)

The Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

8:15      *“Once He Came in Blessing”*

P. Manz

10:45      *“Come, Messiah, Come”*

J. Schrader

\*The Response: *“O Come, Let Us Adore Him”*

*O Come, let us adore Him; O Come, let us adore Him;*

*O Come, let us adore Him; Christ The Lord.*

The Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

### **WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD**

\*The Hymn No. 153    *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

The Narrative: The Colors of Advent

The Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 40: 3-5

page 1119

Luke 3: 7-18

page 1593

I John 1:8-9

page 1899

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Sermon

*“Tis the Season...to Repent”*

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### **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

The Prayer of Commitment

The Narration: A Closing Word

\*The Hymn No. 176    *“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”*

\*The Benediction

\*The Benediction Response (10:45)

*“Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel; Shall Come to Thee, O Israel”*

The Postlude *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

W. Held

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## **Breakfast with Santa at the Manger**

Join us at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Bridgeville, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am.  
There will be...

- A visit from Santa who will talk about the reason for the season
- A pancake breakfast
- A Photo opportunity with Santa
- and lots of fun!
- *Cost is \$6*

Children 12 and under are free with a donation to the Food Bank.  
YOU MUST PRE-PAY. MONEY WILL NOT BE TAKEN AT THE DOOR.  
RSVP soon!!!

Buy tickets before/ after the 10:45 Bethany Church service on November 12,  
19, 26 or December 3.

Or email: [SaraAsunderlin@gmail.com](mailto:SaraAsunderlin@gmail.com)



## Calendar and Events for the Week

### Sunday, December 3

#### First Sunday of Advent

Senior High Retreat  
 8:15 AM – Worship  
 9:30 AM – Sunday School  
 10:20 AM – Play Practice  
 10:45 AM – Worship  
 12:00 PM – Food Bank Kids  
                   Christmas Party  
 4:30 PM – BYG-Jr. High  
 6:00 PM – Modern Worship

### Monday, December 4

*Pray for Tom Lesnett, Sr.*  
 9:30 AM - Preschool  
 6:00 PM – Session/Deacon Meeting  
 6:00 PM – APNC Meeting  
 6:15 PM – PW Body Carpenter Workout  
 7:00 PM – Dartball Captains Meeting

### Tuesday, December 5

*Pray for Todd, Theo, Walter, Ramsey,  
 & Sarah Lesnett*  
 9:30 AM – Women’s Day Out  
 6:00 PM – Men’s Connect Prayer Groups

### Wednesday, December 6

*Pray for Vivian Lesnett*  
 9:30 AM – Preschool  
 10:00 AM – Fellowship of Prayer  
 7:00 PM – Boy Scouts  
 7:00 PM – Choir Practice

### Thursday, December 7

*Pray for Rebecca Lewis*  
 8:00 AM – Golden Oldies Trip  
 9:15 AM – Quilting  
 12:00 PM – Thursday Knitters  
 2:00 PM – Bethany Belles  
 6:45 PM – Dartball  
 7:00 PM – AA Meeting

### Friday, December 8

*Pray for John , Michele, Brett, &  
 Brooke Ley*  
 9:30 AM – Preschool  
 12:00 PM – Preschool Lunch Bunch  
 12:00 PM – Men’s Friday Lunch  
 6:00 PM – Play Practice Meeting

### Saturday, December 9

9:00 AM – Breakfast with Santa at the Manger  
 10:00 AM – Cantata Dress Rehearsal

### Sunday, December 10

#### Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM – Advent Breakfast  
 8:15 AM – Worship  
 9:30 AM – Sunday School  
 10:45 AM – Worship – Christmas Cantata  
 4:30 PM – BYG-Jr. High  
 6:00 PM – Modern Worship  
 7:15 PM – BYG-Sr. High

## **FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

**Attendance for November 26, 2017:** 8:15 – 63, 10:45 – 175, 6:00 - 34

### **Finance Report: As of November 26, 2017**

(\$)	2017 YTD	2016 YTD	+/-
Contributions and investment income	517,936	508,847	9,089
General Fund Subsidies (transfers)	158,790	212,206	(53,416)
Total General Fund Income	676,726	721,053	(44,327)
Year to Date Budget	662,248		
+/- Budget	14,478		

# **WELCOME TO BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**We are delighted to have you in worship with us today!**

Our worship services this Sunday are at 8:15am, 10:45am and 6:00pm.

Today at all three services we are celebrating the Hanging of the Greens.

**A Nursery** is adjacent to the Sanctuary for infants through 2 years of age, and has a paging system available.

**A Cry Room** with windows and speaker is at the rear of the Sanctuary (near the usher's table) on the pulpit side.

**Child Care (2<sup>nd</sup> Hour)** for ages 2 and 3 is available in room 149.

**Worship and Wonder**, available for children age 4 thru 2<sup>nd</sup> grade during our 10:45am service. Children will be escorted by our teachers after the offering to the class, which is held in Rm 144. Parents can pick up their children in the classroom after church.

**Coffee, cookies/donuts and fellowship** are in the Welcome Center

**Please sign the Fellowship Pad** at the end of the pew and pass it on.

Sound amplification devices are available to those who might need or want to use them.

Our ushers are available to help with any needs that you have during worship.

***Please turn off cell phones before worship. Thank you.***

\*on the Worship bulletin indicates all who are able, please stand.

***Flowers:*** *The flowers are in loving memory of my mother in law, Sarah Jones, from Janet Jones.*

***Keep in Prayer:*** The family and friends of members Joan Marshall and Ellen Brownlee, who both passed away last week.

Rob Lytle – surgery on Wednesday at St. Clair Hospital.

## **THANKS TO THOSE SERVING THE LORD THIS MORNING**

**Ushers: 8:15** – Dennis & Jackie Farrer, Camryn Loebig, Joe & Henry Brickner

**10:45** – Jim Myers

**Worship & Wonder:** Nikki O'Brien & Paula Naples

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hour:** Kevin & Ashley Strouse

**Scrip Table:** Ginny Millerschoen & Judy Gardner

**Nursery: 10:45** – Annie Doty

## **NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST**

If you took an angel from the **FOOD BANK ANGEL** tree please return your gift to the church **NO LATER** than Sunday, December 10th.

**Please DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT!** – You may include wrapping paper or a gift bag. Thanks so much and blessings to all!

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### **Mentors Needed**

The Confirmation class is looking for people who are interested in serving as Mentors for the students in the class. There are currently 5 female students, and 4 males. If you have a love for Jesus, and want to help a young person do the same, please consider volunteering. Mentors will be asked to spend some time with the youth and other mentors as a group, and individually, in order to help the youth as he or she writes their statement of faith, makes their Confirmation and becomes a member of Bethany Presbyterian Church. Please contact Sue Nagy or one of the pastors if interested.

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### **Christmas Card Exchange**

Available December 3rd through January 7th. Send and receive Christmas cards with attending church members. (No postage needed). Use the alphabetized mailboxes located in the Narthex.

Celebrate and share God's love with your church family!

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**Thank You:** Thank you to everyone who came to the PW Christmas Gathering and made it another success. Thank you to everyone who helped, made baskets or donated items.

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**New Women's Bible Study Starting January 7, 2018:** The book "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" by Joanna Weaver will be studied and discussed several times throughout the week. Books will be available after the worship service throughout December ( a free will offering of \$8.00 to cover the cost will be accepted but not required)

You are welcome to attend any of these groups that fit your time schedule.

Sunday school hour (9:30AM), Tuesday Night-(6:30PM), Saturday morning (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week-9AM), Friday morning- (10AM)

Know everyone is welcomed whether you are a regular bible study participant or you have never participated in one. If you have any questions feel free to contact Pastor Melany Hamilton at [melany.hamilton@bethanypresby.org](mailto:melany.hamilton@bethanypresby.org).

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**CHANCEL FLOWERS 2018:** The schedule for chancel flowers will be in the Welcome Center starting on December 3. If you are already on the schedule from 2017, you will automatically be put on for 2018. If you have a change for your flowers please make the corrections on the schedule or call Jill in the church office. Flowers are \$30 for a vase and \$40 for a centerpiece. All of our flowers are ordered from local florist Broniak & Kraf in South Fayette.

## **SCRIP Cards - DID YOU KNOW.....**

Did you know that you can purchase gift cards for local and national retailers at Bethany—the same gift cards that you can buy at local stores like Giant Eagle?

*Did you know that by purchasing your gift cards from Bethany instead of from other vendors, you can help to support Bethany's missions? The gift cards are available for purchase in the Welcome Center on Sundays, and in the church office on weekdays.*

Also, Christmas is coming up fast and it is time to start planning your purchases for Christmas gifts. **The last day that you can order gift cards is December 10<sup>th</sup> available for pick up on December 17<sup>th</sup>.** If you need any gift cards before 12/17/2017 please let Andrea Prohaska or any one at the SCRIP Table know and we will have them for the date you need them.

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### **The Check's in the Mail...**

As the end of the year approaches, please keep in mind that all contributions for 2017 must be received at the church no later than **December 31, 2017**. IRS general rules state that a check placed in the church offering plate in January 2018 cannot be recorded as a 2017 contribution, even if the check has been dated 2017. The only exception to this rule would be for contributions that are mailed and postmarked in 2017. These contributions would be deductible in 2017 even though the contributions were not received until 2018. **If you have any questions please call Kim McCann, Financial Accountant, at 412-221-5132.** Kim is generally in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Church offering envelopes for 2018 will be mailed to you each month. If you are not receiving envelopes and want them please call Jill Kolenda, the Church Secretary.

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### **ALTERNATIVE GIVING OPPORTUNITIES THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON**

This year your Mission team will be starting a new opportunity for giving to those less fortunate and in need. Look for the "GIVING TREE" in the welcome center. Mission will display different ornaments on a small Christmas tree. You can pick what ministry you would like to contribute to and how much you would like to contribute. The missions include church pews and desks for Malawi, Hurricane Relief for Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, and the Living Waters Filtration System for Haiti. Please talk to Caroline Poiche or come to our info table in the Welcome Center for more information.

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### **December Special Offering - Christmas Joy Offering**

The special offering envelope for December supports the Christmas Joy offering. 50% of this collection supports the Presbytery Christmas Joy offering which provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. The other 50% will be donated to the Bethany Hurricane Relief Fund. The mission team is currently working with hurricane victims in Texas and plans to assist in Florida and Puerto Rico as well.