Bethany United Methodist
2415 Laveen Street
Latrobe, PA 15650

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

MARCH

2018

Greetings Beloved Children of God:

The Lenten season (forty days leading up to Easter excluding Sundays) began Ash Wednesday, February 14. For Christians, Lent marks an intentional time of self-reflection and repentance. It is a time to lay distractions aside, to move beyond tepid faith and the accommodations made to self-focused secular values. Christians choose to fast, or lay aside, daily activities or habits practiced most of the year so that we may be more fully focused and engaged in following Jesus in authentic discipleship.

Jesus' final trip to Jerusalem leading up to his arrest and crucifixion gives crystal clarity to the meaning of the cross and the cost of following Christ in obedient discipleship. No one was more aware of this than Edith Stein, a German Jewish philosopher who converted to Catholicism and later became a Carmelite nun. Stein knew well the meaning of following Jesus in the way of the cross when she wrote:

"'Thy will be done,' in its full extent, must be the guideline for the Christian life. It must regulate the day from morning to evening, the course of the year and the entire life. . . . All other concerns the Lord takes over. This one alone, however, remains ours as long as we live. "Stein, also known as St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, went on to say:"

Will you remain faithful to the Crucified? Consider carefully! The world is in flames, the battle between Christ and the Antichrist has broken into the open. If you decide for Christ, it could cost you your life. Carefully consider what you promise."

Jesus began his journey to the cross with a focused resolve based on the realization of his own human mortality. He was aware of his life purpose in perspective to life's brevity and God's mission.

For us, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday is a sobering reminder to stay focused on life's true God purpose. Our lives, too, are short, as pointed out by the psalmist:

Show me, Lord, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure. *(Psalm 39:4-5)*

We must keep in the forefront of our focus that life on earth is not our permanent residence. We are here on temporary assignment. We want to be able to say on the day of final judgment, "Mission accomplished; I have finished the work for which I was sent.

Rev. Les Hutchins

Thank you very much for making the sandwich meals for Meals On Wheels the week of January 8-12. We are very appreciative of your time, effort, & Bethany congregation for their generosity in donating the supplies.

Sincerely,
Portia Shirley

For Shut Ins

March 19
Ralph Cramer
Amber House
601 S Church Street Room 409D
Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666

March 31
Grace Weiss
245 Route 217
Latrobe, PA 15650

Financial Statements: Below are the income and expenses for the month and the year. In the Difference columns, (parentheses) means that expenses exceed either income or the budget.

As of January 2018, our total income credited to and expenses paid from the General Operating Fund has been:

	Total General Income	**Total General Expense**	**Surplus (Deficit)**
January 2018	$14,634.56	$18,627.32	($3,992.76)
Year-to-Date	$14,634.56	$18,627.32	($3,992.760
	Total General Income	**Monthly Budget**	**Budget Surplus (Deficit)**
January 2018	$14,634.56	$19,760.00	($5,125.44)
Year-to-Date	$14,634.56	$19,760.00	($5,125.44)

Monthly Fellowship News

Bethany United Methodist Church

Editor: Sue Zimmerman

Cover: Linda Sanderson

Assembled, labeled & mailed by the Newsletter Committee

Deadline for next issue:
If you have any information for the newsletter please contact the office or email by **March 13**

Attendance

Date	Sunday School	Worship
January 27, 28	48	162
February 3, 4	31	159
February 10, 11	39	198
January 20, 21	39	165

Secretary: 9am to noon, Tuesday-Friday

Pastor: By Appointment
Church Office: 724-539-2259
2415 Laveen Street
Latrobe, PA 15650

Website: www.bethanylatrobe.org

Pastor Les: revlhutchins@gmail.com

724-288-5768 (cell), 724-879-4727 (home)

Scripture of the Month

This personal reading schedule will take you through the major themes of the Bible in 3 years.

March 5- 11
Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 12-18
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

March 19-25
Isaiah 50:4-9
Palm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47

March 26-April 1
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18

Bible Quiz Answer: D (See Matthew 27:51.)

Nursing Home Ministry

Latrobe Regional Health & Rehabilitation Center, March 5
Leader: Dick Weimer
Latrobe Care Center, March 26
1:30 pm , Leader: Amy Jacobelli

Food Pantry Collection: Help our community through the Food Pantry by donating **Pancake Mix/Bisquick** this month. Place your donations in the marked green containers in the vestibule. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please place it in a brown envelope and mark it "Food Pantry." Deadline: March 31.

Bible Quiz

According to Matthew's account, what was torn when Jesus died?

A. Mary's headdress — she tore it as a traditional Jewish sign of grief
B. A Roman guard's sash — Peter grabbed and ripped it in anger
C. Jesus' robe — the soldiers divided it among themselves
D. The temple curtain — torn in two from top to bottom

Follow up from presentation…….Oikos Map, 15 second testimony, and the 3 circles/God's Story. We are going to meet on Saturday, March 17th from 9:00-11:00 in the large sunday school room, (201) beside the sanctuary to help you to be more comfortable in sharing the gospel. After sharing with everyone these tools, (or if you missed it) we want to be available to inspire and equip you to be confident in your sharing with others. Please let the church office know, (724-539-2259) if you plan to attend or just show up that morning. This is an easy tool that can be effective and from experience we know that practice helps to bring it all together. Hope you will join us.

Prison Card Ministry: The Care Team continues to include incarcerated loved ones or friends in our card ministry. If you have someone you would like to include in this ministry please contact Debbie Kuhns (724-875-7293) with the following information: Name, Department of Correction number, Institution and Address or with any questions. We would also like the congregation to remember these individuals especially during the holidays or birthdays. Cards must be sent in white envelopes only, and have a complete return address . Items cannot be included with the card such as booklets, money, etc. We are currently sending to Jason Kuhns whose birthday is on March 11.

Jason Kuhns
KR 6012
SCI Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Crocheters needed: The Covenant Life Group needs individuals that crochet to help with the plastic mats for the homeless. If you are would like to help, but do not know how to crochet, they need people to cut the bags into strips and make plarn balls. Join us in the Crusaders' Room (201) on Tuesdays at 11:00am. Any questions, please contact the office.

Welcome Easter

Alleluia, praise the Lord on this
joyous Easter morn.
It is indeed a day of rejoicing
unlike Good Friday which was
a day of sadness and scorn.

Church bells are ringing, glad
tidings they bring.
This is a day to joyously sing.

Jesus conquered death- - the tomb's
stone was rolled away.
Happiness and grateful hearts
welcome this Easter Day.

Jesus endured so much for us on that
Cross on Golgatha's Hill.
We can never, ever repay Him- -
He paid the entire bill.

Thank you, God, for Jesus, Your One
and Only Son.
He conquered death that we might live- -
Alleluia, the victory's won!

Happy Easter Everyone!
Love
Nancy Busch
March 2018

Holy Week Readings

March 26
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 26:5-11
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11

March 27
Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 71:1-14
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36

March 28
Isaiah 50:4-9
Psalm 70
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32

March 29
Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31-35

March 30
Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1-19:42

March 31
Job 14:1-14
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27:57-66

March 25-31

March 29
Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:30 pm

March 30
Good Friday Service @ 6:30 pm

March 31 & April 1
Easter Services
Saturday & 6:30 pm
Sunday @ 8:15 am
Sunday @ 10:30 am

Homemade Fondant Easter Eggs-$10
Bethany United Methodist Church

_____Coconut _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Cherry Coconut _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Maple Nut _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____All Nut _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Cherry Nut _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Fruit Nut _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Peanut Butter _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Cherry _____chocolate _____white chocolate

_____Maple _____chocolate _____white chocolate

Total Number of Eggs_____ Cost_____

Name_____

Phone Number_____

Specific orders are not being taken, however we will fill your requests on a first come first serve basis. Once a type of Easter Egg is gone you will need to choose another kind.

Pick up times to be announced

Please make checks out to Bethany UM Church-Easter Eggs or bring the correct amount of cash.

Homemade Fondant Easter Eggs

We have a job for everyone. Cracking Eggs, Dishwashing, Strong armed people to mix fondant, Egg shapers, Coating the eggs, Packaging the eggs, People to make noodles when the eggs are finished. **We train - benefits are many.**

Help needed on Thursday, March 15- 9:00-?
If you are going to coat eggs come in at 11:00.
Friday, March 16 - 9:00-until done
Saturday, March 17– 9:00-until done- noodles

Call 412-554-1317 before coming in for the evening.

If you can help provide lunch for the workers, please let Dawna Bates know.

I will help Thursday _____ Friday _____

Name_____

Phone number_____

I will make _____for the workers to eat on

Thursday_____ Friday_____

EASTER FLOWERS

Deadline to order: March 11, 2018

Please include payment at time of ordering.
Place order forms in the offering plate or turn them in to the office.

Please specify quantity on the blank space beside your choice of flowers.

_____ Hyacinths $6 each

_____ Tulips $6 each

_____ Daffodils $6 each

_____ Easter Lily $8 each

Total due $ _____

In Honor of_____

_____

In Memory of_____

_____

Presented by_____

Questions: contact Nancy Busch 724-537-0930

Bethany United Methodist Church March 2018 Office Hours: T-F 9 am-noon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 Chancel Choir	2 7:30 PM- AA Meeting (BH)	3 8:30 AM-Men's Group @ Valley Dairy Rt. 30 6:30 PM-Worship - Communion
4 8:15 AM-Worship-Communion 9:30 AM-Sunday School 10:30 AM-Worship-Communion	5 2:30 PM-Latrobe Regional 6:30 PM-Bell Choir	6 12:00 PM-Covenant Life Group 6:00 PM-Worship Design Team (Creative Worship & Environment) (201)	7 1:00 PM-Ladies of Bethany @ Sharkey's 4:30 PM-After School Club & Youth	8 6:30 Chancel Choir	9 7:30 PM- AA Meeting (BH)	10 6:30 PM-Worship
11 8:15 AM-Worship 9:30 AM-Sunday School 10:30 AM-Worship	12 6:30 PM-Bell Choir	13 Special Election Day Newsletter Information Due 12:00 PM- Covenant Life Group (FH) 6:30 PM-Administrative Board Meeting (FH)	14 4:30 PM-After School Club & Youth	15 8:00 AM- Making Easer Eggs in Fellowship Hall 6:30 Chancel Choir	16 8:00 AM- Making Easer Eggs in Fellowship Hall 7:30 PM- AA Meeting (BH)	17 8:00 AM- Making Noodles in Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM-Harvest Group Presentation (201) 6:30 PM-Worship
18 8:15 AM-Worship 9:30 AM-Sunday School 10:30 AM-Worship	19 6:30 PM-Bell Choir	20 12:00 PM- Covenant Life Group 6:00PM-Worship Design Team (Leaders) (201)	21 4:30 PM- After School Club & Youth 6:30 PM-Community Funfest Planning Meeting (201)	22 6:30 Chancel Choir	23 7:30 PM- AA Meeting (BH)	24 6:30 PM-Worship
25 8:15 AM-Worship 9:30 AM-Sunday School 10:30 AM-Worship	26 1:30 PM-Latrobe Care Center 6:30 PM-Bell Choir	27 7:00 PM-Trustees Meeting	28 4:30 PM- After School Club & Youth	29 6:30 PM-Maundy Thursday Service	30 6:30 PM-Good Friday Service	31 6:30 PM-Worship