

**Bethany Presbyterian Church**  
25 N. West End Ave.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
**Phone: 717-393-2690**  
**www.lancasterbethany.org**

**September 2017**  
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# News of Bethany

## VBS – What a Week!

“What a Blessing!” – that’s the best way to describe how those who participated in our VBS felt. It was truly a team endeavor, including staff and children from all three congregations – Bethany, Resurrection and Oromo. There were 33 students registered, a core staff from Bethany and Resurrection, plus a member of helpers from all congregations. The church was totally transformed into “Hero Central” the week of June 25-29.



At a wrap up meeting, plans are already underway for 2018: the week of June 24 is the date, “Rolling River Rampage” is the theme, and our sister congregations are fully involved in all aspects of planning and preparation.

Thanks to EVERYONE who helped make Vacation Bible School such a success: those who made monetary donations, provided time, energy and creativity as staff members; and/or supported the event and its participants with your thoughts and prayers.



**Mission Statement:**  
*Bethany Presbyterian Church is a church making an impact on the lives of all people through the love of Jesus Christ.*

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# Bethany News & Notes



## Special Dates in September 2017

### Labor Day

Monday, September 4th



### Grandparents Day

Sunday, September 10th

### Patriot Day

Monday, September 11th



### 1st Day of Fall

Friday, September 22nd



## Coming Soon: Women's Basement Sale

It's time again for the Basement Sale on Saturday, October 28. Check your closets, basement, garages and attic for "stuff" to donate. The sale is also in need of large brown grocery bags. These can be dropped off at the Church Office.





## *From Pastor Kent's Desk*

As I write this, I'm looking out the window at the rain which is falling as the result of a weather front which is moving quickly up the east coast. I'm also keeping watch on the drama which is unfolding in Houston. Ours is a minor irritation, theirs a full-blown tragedy. Extraordinary! How are the people of Houston ever going to put things back together again? We can only pray and send our support as they ultimately come to grips with the aftermath of this devastating hurricane.

I also write this on my 71<sup>st</sup> birthday. Big whup, you say? (Some of you, I know, would trade birthdates with me in a New York second!) But, none-the-less, it's for me another milestone to be crossed. There's a lot more scenery in the rearview mirror than there is in the windshield at this point. But that's life, isn't it? As David puts it in 1Kings, "I'm following the path that the whole earth takes." (CEB)



Life *is* an amazing adventure, really. It's unscripted for the most part. We sort of "make-it-up" as we go along, and we're surprised when it's gone as well as it has. When I graduated from high school, I didn't have a clue where my life would take me. But 53 years later, I can look back and say, "Wow, what a ride!" I would never have imagined in my wildest dreams what God had in store for me back then. All of us who are of a certain age could probably say something similar.

The best thing about the journey, aside from family, is the people I've met along the way. Amazing people, with amazing lives and stories to share. Everywhere I've gone, I've been honored to share a part of my life and my story with them. Just this, afternoon, for example, I received a surprise phone call from a good friend from Punxsutawney days who I hadn't heard from in a number of years. He was on the Pastoral Nominating Committee which hired me in 1991, and we both shared a mutual love for music and



the church. We talked for an hour, catching up on our shared experience, our children, our spouses, and our careers. It was if the years just dropped away. We ended the conversation energized by the reality of our friendship. Just one of many, many folks with whom I've had a deep spiritual friendship with over the years. They've all made the journey worthwhile.

So, as I move through this particular Natal Day, I give thanks to the God who names us and claims us, and charts our journeys for us. I also give thanks for the Holy Spirit which nourishes us along the way and recalibrates the course when we lose it. I've learned never to take their presence in my life for granted – it is the gift to end all gifts!



# September Birthdays

09/03 Rebecca Cole

09/05 Pete Paxson

09/06 Brian Ashba

09/15 Raymond Schultz

09/18 Jesse Hauenstein

09/20 Marjorie Gearhart

09/29 Michelle Schultz

## Homebound of Bethany

Betty Gehman  
Homestead Village,  
Apt.#218  
P. O. Box 3227

Lorraine Keener  
1113 Wheatland Ave .F7  
Lancaster Ave. F717603

Jane Sweringen  
Homestead Village,  
Apt.#119  
P. O. Box 3227

Adeline Henderson  
The Glen Room 310  
635 Willow Valley Square  
Lancaster, Pa. 17602

Helen Cumpston  
Mennonite Home  
202B Jackson Run  
Lancaster, Pa. 17601

Agnes Taylor  
65 Mill Pond Dr.  
Lancaster PA 17603



### FALL PRAYER REQUESTS

**Agnes Taylor**

**Jo Fleckenstein    Polly Snyder**

“Prayer is simply  
a two-way conversation  
between you  
and God.”

Billy Graham



SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

## The Peace and Global Witness Offering

As we rush into the new year of school and church programs, it's easy to lose sight of the peace Christ

promises. We get busy, overworked, and anxious. Beyond the stress and difficulty of our own lives, we look around and see a world marked by violence around the corner and across the globe. We can be grateful for the *Season of Peace* that we are in, which culminates with the Peace & Global Witness offering on World Communion Sunday. The ministries of peacemaking and reconciliation are witness to the Prince of Peace. It is good to be reminded that, with all the discord, pain, and conflict in our communities and in the world, we serve a God who promises harmony and responds to violence with reconciliation and peace.

This is why we give to the Peace & Global Witness offering. We give because we know that every level of society is in need of Christ's peace. From our congregation, where we retain 25 percent of this offering to support ongoing Bethany activities and its important role in our community; to the region, where 25 percent is retained by mid councils to support peacemaking efforts with our neighboring congregations; to around the world, where the remaining 50 percent is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency for peacemaking efforts all over the globe. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and our work for justice.

We will hear more about this important work in the weeks leading up to the dedication of our offering. Minutes for mission and bulletin inserts will help us think about the many components of violence and conflict, here at home as well as with those living far from us. Pew envelopes are available for you to place your offering and will be received throughout the month.

You are invited to visit the Peace & Global Witness website ([www.presbyterianmission.org/peace-global](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/peace-global)) to find more information on how your support of this offering helps. Each of us should consider how we might increase our witness and increase our giving. Let us join with Christians all over the country on World Communion Sunday, October 2, in response to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

Thank you for giving generously.

**Barbara McCrary, Mission Chair**





# Worship Schedule: September 2017



## September 3, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. - 22 Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Message: "Take Up Your Cross" Scripture: Matthew 16:21-28

Preaching: Rev. Holmes Celebration of the Lord's Supper



## September 10, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. - 23 Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Message: "Open a New Window" Scripture: Ephesians 3:7-21

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Erin Cox-Holmes



## September 17, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. - 24 Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Message: "Through the Sea" Scripture: Exodus 14:19-31

Preaching: Rev. Holmes

## September 24, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. - 25 Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Message: "Rain Down Bread" Scripture: Exodus 16:2-15

Preaching: Rev. Holmes



### September 3

**Greeters:** Jim Grossman

**Fellowship:** Jim Grossman

**Ushers:** Gail Feigley  
Eva Lauer

**Liturgists:** David Schwartz

**Flowers:** Ashba Family

### September 10

**Susie Paxson**

**Maurine Smith**

**Eva Lauer**  
**Jim Grossman**

**Judy Maier**

**Eva Lauer**

### September 17

**Eva Lauer**

**Eva Lauer**

**Jim Grossman**  
**Pat Rineer**

**Betty Duncan**

**Barb McCrary**

### September 24

**Gail Feigley**

**Gail Feigley**

**Eva Lauer**  
**Bob Waldeck**

**Barb McCrary**

## Worship Assistants





# September 2017

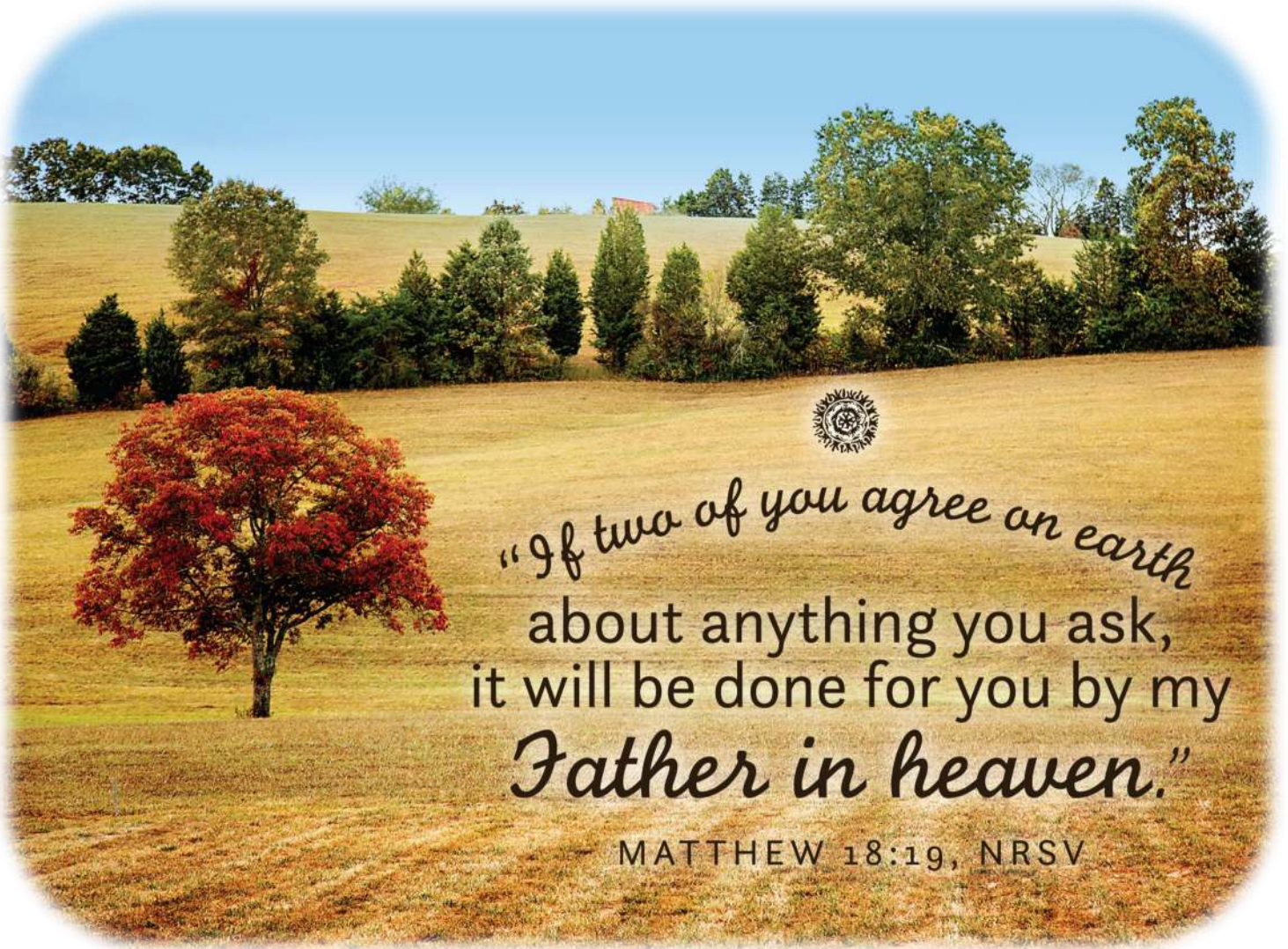
Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Office Hours:</b> Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 A.M.—12:30 P.M.						2 8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast
3 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection 2:00 P.M. Oromo	4 Labor Day 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting 	5 7:00 P.M. Troop Cmt. Meeting	6 10:30 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	7 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	8 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	9 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon
10 Grandparents Day 11:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection 2:00 P.M. Oromo Honoring Grandparents 5:00 P.M. Scout Court of Honor	11 Patriot Day 6:45 P.M. Scouts 7:00 P.M. Scout Parent Meeting 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout 	12 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout	13 10:30 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	14 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	15 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	16 6:45 P.M. White Deer Run
17 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection 2:00 P.M. Oromo	18 6:45 P.M. Scouts 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout	19 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout Back to School Night	20 10:30 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	21 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	22 Fall Starts 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	23 <b>Scout Camp Out</b> —————→
24 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection 2:00 P.M. Oromo <b>Scout Camp Out</b>	25 6:45 P.M. Scouts 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout Sub Sale Pick Up	26 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout	27 10:30 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	28 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	29 7:00 P.M. AA 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	30 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Scout Fishing Trip 4:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. Scout Spaghetti Dinner





**Sunday Chancel Flowers:** Sunday, chancel flowers are placed in honor, memory, or special occasion of a person(s) by a family or friend(s) of Bethany. They preside during the worship service and are then either distributed by the Deacons to a shut-in or given to the donor. Bethany members and friends have been extremely faithful in supporting this ministry over the past twenty years, and we hope this continues. Barbara McCrary is the coordinator. She will contact previous donors from dates/years past as to their wishes for donating

and bulletin announcements. The single bouquets will continue to be \$25 each, payable to Bethany Presbyterian Women, and the check sent to: Barbara McCrary, 1509 Santa Barbara Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601. If unable to find a donor for a particular Sunday, then there will be no flower arrangement in the chancel. Hopefully, it will not come to that. Please help support this worthwhile ministry when you are asked to donate. If you wish to reserve a specific date in advance, please call Barbara McCrary at 368-9484 and leave a voice mail. Thank you.



*"If two of you agree on earth  
about anything you ask,  
it will be done for you by my  
Father in heaven."*

MATTHEW 18:19, NRSV