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Bethany Beacon



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Our Mission:
To equip people
to be fully
devoted to Jesus
Christ through
relevant and
practical
ministries.

St. Bridget Pantry
Donations
1st Sunday of
Every Month



Volunteer to be a Greeter! Ask Kathy Metcalf!

Volunteer to help with Fellowship!



Session Report to the Congregation

Report on Boiler #2 - By Tom Smith

At the February Session Meeting, our Facilities Manager, Mat Spencer, reported that our second boiler started to leak a few weeks ago. After having Miller Engineering inspect the unit, it was determined that it will have to be replaced. Currently, it is leaking around twenty-five (25) gallons of water every day or two, which Mat is monitoring daily. He believes we should be okay for now and, as our temperatures warm up (staying above 30), we will be able to by-pass that unit and use only the new boiler to heat the building. We had anticipated having to replace the boiler at some future point, as it is thirty-five (35) years old, and Session has already allocated around \$3,000 for this new project. God has blessed Bethany with generous givers in the past and we trust He will provide for Bethany in the future. Information on opportunities to help fund this newest project will be provided in the upcoming months.

Liquor License Objection – By Lori Mitchell

Dan Bock and I attended the City of Loves Park Codes and Regulations Meeting on a recent Monday evening and heard the intent of the grocer/deli owner for Pro Davnica Mjesovite, the ethnic grocery across North Second Street from Bethany and its proposal to sell packaged beer and liquor in the Bethany neighborhood. It appears that the proximity to Bethany is within the confines of the State Liquor Statute, but it is one more location in which residents can purchase beer and alcohol within our family-friendly neighborhood. Dan and I voiced Bethany's concern to the Committee and Session has followed up with a letter to the Council asking that if they approve the liquor license (and it appears they will), they put a condition on it prohibiting placement of beer and liquor advertisements or signs on the building or in the windows of this business. Note: I believe this liquor license passed the Council with no restrictions last Monday evening. As Clerk of Session, I am pleased that your Session at Bethany feels obligated to move in God's direction, not the world's. Please continue to pray for Bethany as we strive to serve the Lord!!!

It's Happening in March!!

Every Sunday: Sunday School for Birth through Senior Adults – 9:00 a.m.

Every Sunday: Worship with Pastor Joe at 10:15 a.m.

Every Sunday: Fellowship after Church

First Sunday: Communion during Worship and Delivered to Shut-ins

Third Sunday: Contemporary Service and Fellowship at 5:00 p.m. – March Contemporary Service will feature the Junior High Sunday School Class

March 1 - Installation of Officers

PAPER ANGEL CLOSET



PAPER ANGEL CLOSET is always in need of detergent, bleach, cleaning supplies, hand soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, and shampoo. With cold season here, there is always a need for Kleenex and other paper products.

PAC served three families in January. God bless each of you who faithfully remember PAC with needed items. This outreach continues because you are so willing to give to help those less fortunate in our community.

Confirmation Planning



Christian Educ. has begun planning for a new Confirmation Class to start in the fall of 2015 for 7th and 8th Graders. anticipated that approximately six students will qualify for this class. Chris Franklin will be looking for facilitators and ordering workbooks later this spring. Confirmation also attend the weekend Class will Stronghold Confirmation Camp in 2016 and students will most likely be confirmed in May of 2016. Begin to pray now and seek God's direction in your life as a facilitator. Call Chris if you feel called to help in this learning experience for our future leaders at Bethany!

Wedding Bells are Ringing



Rev. Peder Carlson and Jan are joyfully announcing the marriage of their son, Paul, to LaToya Moore on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 4pm at the Rose Hall Chapel in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Pastor Carlson will be conducting the ceremony. LaToya, the widow of a Baptist minister, is now employed as a rehab specialist. Please send your congratulatory cards to Paul's condo at 1611 W 78th St., Apt 204, Tulsa, OK 74132.

Bethany Beacon

Bethany March Birthdays

Carol Shearrow - March 2
Becky Moore - March 8
Karissa Munger - March 10
Jay DuFoe - March 11
Tami Munger - March 11
Marilyn Beebe - March 13
Ruth Ann Zipperer - March 15
Tad Olson - March 17
Jackie Hecox - March 20
Ed Zahorik - March 20
Marilyn Galligan - March 21
Kathy Panozzo - March 22
Ava Brown - March 23
Marc Schleicher - March 24
Tracy Cole Brown - March 25

If we've missed any birthdays or if any are wrong, email momm316@yahoo.com and we will correct the Birthday List!



Merrivale Herbert in Rehab at Wesley Willows for Broken Hip- Pray for her, stop by and visit her.

Cheryl Olson, successful neck surgery in January - Recuperating in Phoenix - Returning home to Loves Park in April.

Family of Evonne Cullen who had a stroke on Christmas Eve and Passed Away on Christmas Day. Memorial Service is scheduled for June 20 here at Bethany.

Brian Krug Undergoing Chemotherapy prayers for strength

Prayers for the healing power of God to come on Ginny Falnes who is undergoing more testing at University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison.

Prayers for strength for Marilyn Buske who underwent chemo for treatment of leukemia.

March Mission of the Month Care Source Formerly Pregnancy Care Center

Care Source of Rockford is here to offer help and hope to those who may be facing an unplanned pregnancy. We know that this can be a time of great confusion, fear and loneliness, and we believe that no one should face life-changing decisions alone. Many of our staff and volunteers have experienced an unplanned pregnancy themselves or have walked alongside someone close to them who has. Others reached out to us in our time of need. Now we want to reach out and be there for you in your time of need.

There is no cost to our clients for any of our services thanks to the generous individuals, churches, businesses and organization that partner with us. We are funded entirely through private donations and do not receive any government funding. There are many people in Rockford and the surrounding area who give finances, time and talents to the Care Center because they believe that if our clients are given accurate information and the support they deserve, they will make really good decisions. We know this is true because many clients return as donors so they can help others receive the same life changing help and hope they received.

Deacon Announcements

The Deacons will again be putting together food baskets for Easter for three families less fortunate than we. They are adding these Easter Baskets to the Baskets of Hope Ministry due to the increased need for help in our community. Small cash donations to help defray the cost would be appreciated. Please see Ruth Ann Zipperer or call her at 815-636-1767 for details. Thank you!

Not only do the Bethany Deacons minister to us here at Bethany, but throughout our community as well! Thank you, Deacons!

Bethany Calendar – March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9am: Sunday School for All Ages 10:15am: Worship Celebration Communion Sunday 11:30am: Fellowship 8 9am: Primary, Youth & Adult Sunday Sch	9 6pm Missions & Outreach	3 7pm: PNC 7pm: AA 7pm: AI-Anon 7pm: AI-Ateen	4 Weekly Bulletin deadline 3:30pm: Julie Badowski 6pm: Praise Team 7pm: Chancel Choir 11 Weekly Bulletin deadline 3:30pm: Julie	5 6pm – Parent's Prayer Group 7pm: Al-Anon	4:30pm:Julie Badowski 13 4:30pm:Julie	7
10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30 Fellowship	7:00 Sesson Meeting	7pm: AA 7pm: Al-Anon 7pm: Al-Ateen 7pm Uriel Circle	Badowski 6pm: Praise Team 7pm: Chancel Choir	9am BYKOTA	Badowski	
9am: Primary, Youth & Adult Sunday Sch 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30 Fellowship	5:45pm Paper Angel Closet 7pm: Christian Education 7pm Deacons	7pm: PNC 7pm: AA 7pm: Al-Anon 7pm: Al-Ateen	18 Weekly Bulletin deadline 12:30 pm HANNAH Circle 3:30pm: Julie Badowski 6pm: Praise Tm 7pm: Chancel Choir	19 7pm: Al-Anon	4:30pm:Julie Badowski	21
9am: Primary, Youth & Adult Sunday Sch 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30 Fellowship 5pm Contemporary Service & Fellowship	Beacon Articles Due	7pm: PNC 7pm: AA 7pm: Al-Anon 7pm: Al-Ateen	25Weekly Bulletin deadline 3:30pm: Julie Badowski 6pm: Praise Team 7pm: Chancel Choir	7pm: Al-Anon March 1 -	4:30pm:Julie Badowski	ion and
9am: Primary, Youth & Adult Sunday Sch 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30am: Fellowship	30	31 7pm: PNC 7pm: AA 7pm: Al-Anon 7pm: Al-Ateen		Installation of Officers *** March 22 – 5:00 p.m. "it's a contemporary thing" Junior High Youth		

AND GOD CREATED...

And God created whales and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantl y, after their kind, and every



winged fowl after its kind; and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. Gen 1:21 & 23

Frogs are called amphibians because when they are young, they have to live in water in order to move and breathe and as they grow, their bodies change so that they are able to breathe and move on land. They live two types of lives and amphibian means "living two lives". Also, frogs don't drink water like we do. They get all the water they need through their skin.

God has created the Australian Aquatic Frog with the most wonderful reproductive system, different than any other of His creation. After its eggs are laid and then fertilized, the female frog swallows them! The eggs then go to her stomach and she does not eat for eight weeks. Then the tiny developed frogs come out of her stomach and out of her mouth. How can she do this and not have her stomach "digest" them? Here is another amazing creation of God.

Once the eggs are in the mother's stomach they release tiny fine threads of chemicals from their own mouths. Among these chemicals are a chemical that stops the mother's stomach from releasing acid that would digest them. This turns the mother's stomach into a wonderful nursery that protects and comforts them until they are ready to emerge. Evolutionists cannot explain this. Indeed, God's creation is wonderful. "Remember His marvelous works that He hath done; His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth."

OUT OF A STORM, A SONG IS BORN



The year was 1775. The sky was overcast as Rev. A. Toplady left his friends' home in the Mendip Hills in England. He enjoyed walking and was sure he would beat the coming storm as he

trudged through Barrington Coombe on his way home to his parish of Blagdon. The wide valley narrowed to a rocky gorge and the path became more difficult. A few drops of rain fell.

Rev Toplady looked up to see the trees bending to a strong wind and the clouds becoming increasingly menacing. He knew of a deep split in the granite cliffs halfway down the glen. If he could reach it before the height of the storm, it would provide excellent shelter for him.

Just as he reached the cleft, the storm came crashing down in all it fury. Out from his place of refuge, Rev. Toplady saw the rain pouring down in sheets and the lightning flashing almost continuously. He heard the thunder pealing, time and time again, reverberating from the sides of the rocky canyon. As he watched, he formed in his mind the words of this beloved hymn:

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee. Let the water and the blood From thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

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Bible Expressions

This should be a real comfort to everyone. "Be not afraid" is mentioned 365 times in the Bible. Just think! The Bible gives us reminders - for every day of the year - We don't need to be afraid!

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#### **Bulletin Bloopers**

The Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals. (duh)







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Deacon Church Mouse sez: Sign at School Crossing: Children should be seen and not hurt.

Granny Church Mouse sez: Regardless of what the Supreme Court says, there will always be prayers in school as long as there are exams.



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#### The Bible Said it first!

Psalms 139:13 reads: "For you have possessed my inward parts: you have covered me in my mother's womb. Please also read Psalms 139:14-17

We hear the common argument for abortion that the mother has a right to control what happens to her own body. However, only half of the baby's genetic makeup - specifically half of the baby's chromosomes comes from its mother and the other half comes from its father. And each baby's chromosomes make up is quite unique.

The baby is a "foreign body" in the mother's womb and normally the mother's body would try to reject it. But our wonderful Creator God has created a defense mechanism in the mother's body. The body produces a special enzyme, which is called indoleamine 2,3-diozygenase or for short IDO". This, in turn, suppresses the mother's natural reaction and allows the pregnancy to proceed. This enzyme is produced in the embryonic side of the placenta membrane, during its formation in the mother's womb. This also shows the fact that the baby's unique individualism existed from the time of conception in a single cell which is called a zygote.

Another interesting fact is that the IDO production happens on day 6 of the baby's life. Why day 6? Because on day 7, the baby first attaches itself to the mother's womb and then it begins drawing nutrients from its mother's bloodstream. Also, on day 7, the mother's killer cells would begin to attack and reject the baby. But it can't since the IDO production has already begun on day 6. **Isn't God's creation, Wonderful?**