

BIRTHDAYS IN JULY AND AUGUST

July 1 – Joyce Mehrstens	August 1 – Dylan sterner
July 2 – Christie Merkel	August 5 – Charles, Keck
July 6 – Mark Zimmerman	August 6 – Sam Bolton III
July 6 – Crysta Cougherty	August 9 – Frank Sabatucci
July 11 – Shirley Sterner	August 9 – Bernice White
July 13 – Rose White	August 10 – Judith Kababisko
July 24 – Gene Koraltan	August 20 – Barry Knarr
July 28 – Charlotte Hilbert	August 21 – Jeanne Burdick
July 29 – Andrea Haldeman	August 23 – Amber Dougherty
July 29 – Happy Long	August 24 – Lorna Musser
July 31 – John Trubilla	August 25 – Nicole Greenway
	August 26 – Larry Sterner, Jr.

ANNIVERSARIES IN JULY AND AUGUST

July 6 – Larry and Lorna Musser
July 11 – Larry and Joellen Sterner
July 13 – Jerry and Sharon Hughes
July 17 – Luke and Berry Seaman
August 5 – Amy and Eddie Amadoro

When sending mail to Bethany Church, please use PO Box 325, Hamburg, PA 19526. When sending mail to the parsonage (personal mail for Pastor) please use PO Box 445, Hamburg, PA 19526. Mail addressed to 321 Island Street will be returned to you through the postal service.



For pertinent Eastern Pennsylvania Conference and Northwest District news and information please visit these websites:

www.UMCom.org & www.gbm-umc.org/northwest4

and click on “sign up Now!” to sign up as a subscriber to “epconference” group mail. Anyone may subscribe to get EPAConferencee-mail Goto <http://www.umcom.org>

Our new Homepage address is www.bethanyumchamburg.com. This address is a little easier one to use to get to the Web site.



From the Pastors Desk

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the Scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’”

~ John 7:37-38

Richard Foster writes in *Streams of Living Water*, “Today a mighty river of the Spirit is bursting forth from the hearts of women and men, boys and girls. It is a deep river of divine intimacy, a powerful river of holy living, a dancing river of jubilation in the Spirit, and a broad river of unconditional love for all peoples.”

When was the last time you experienced God in that way? Jesus modeled the way we should live life. Naturally, his model extends to the ways in which he encountered his Father, God. James Bryan Smith and Lynda Graybeal set the framework for a balanced Spiritual life in using Jesus’ example in their book, *A Spiritual Formation Workbook*. They write as follows: As we look at Jesus’ life, we will see that he had a full and complete life with God. When we read the Gospels:

- We see Jesus praying, and we listen to his teaching on the life of intimacy with God.
- We see Jesus battling with Satan in the wilderness, and we listen to his teaching on the importance of a pure heart.
- We see Jesus ministering in great power, and we listen to his teaching on the comfort, wisdom, and strength that come from the Holy Spirit.
- We see Jesus helping the sick and the needy, and we listen to his teaching on the importance of caring for our neighbor.
- We see Jesus proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of heaven, and we listen to him reading the Scriptures.
- We see Jesus integrating the sacred and the secular while observing the ceremonies of his faith.

From the life of Jesus Christ there emerge six distinct areas: Devotion to God; Virtue in thought, word and action; Empowerment by the Spirit; Compassion toward all people; Proclamation of the good news of the gospel; and Harmony between faith and work.

Beginning July 5th Bethany will explore the six great traditions of the Christian Faith. I invite you to come, listen with open ears and hearts for

God to speak to you, to draw you closer to Him and to experience your relationship with Him in wonderfully deeper ways. The only way to experience God more fully, more completely is to realize how thirsty you are and jump into the river with Him. He is there waiting...waiting for you to come and accept His invitation to swim with Him in His mighty and loving river.

I continue to encourage you to be in prayer for Bethany and our future. I would especially ask that you hold the following two events in your prayers over the course of the next weeks - Bethany/Salem UMC's Youth Mission Team, which will be serving in New Jersey, July 6 through the 10 and Bethany's Vacation Bible School ministry, July 20 through the 24. May God continue to light our way as He continues to affirm His hope and future for the ministry of Bethany for the community of Hamburg.

Blessings for a safe, healthy and Spirit-filled summer,
- Pastor Andrea

DATES TO REMEMBER:

7:00 pm Friday nights - AA Meetings

VBS - July 20-24

Youth Fellowship - Sunday, July 19 & August 23 from 6:30 - 8:00
Special Open meeting for congregation - Sunday, July 26 beginning with dinner at 5:00 p.m. and then meeting at 6:00 (No committee meetings)

August 30 – 10:45 Worship at park followed by Church Picnic

PASTOR'S SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Pastor Andrea's summer office hours will be on Tuesdays from 9:00am to 11:00 am from May 25 through August 31st. She will also be available by appointment during that time. The best way to contact her is at the parsonage (610-562-6788) and leave a message. She will get back to you promptly.

VBS IS COMING!! It will be here before you know it! Make your dates now for possible bringing your grandchildren or nieces and nephews. Also let your neighbors know about all the fun their kids will have at VBS. July 20-24th.

Mary Jo Grube is our craft lady for VBS and is in need of some supplies. Below are some of the supplies that she will need. If you

Attention United Methodist Women (UMW) and other Needle workers:

Bethany's Prayer Shawl Ministry

Faith and Healing

A recent article in Time Magazine suggests that there very well may be a connection between faith and healing. It states that science and religion argues this topic all the time, but they increasingly agree on one thing: a little spirituality may be very good for your health.

Surprisingly, an actual scientific study shows evidence that faith may indeed bring us good health. Although almost 94% of patients interviewed said it was perfectly all right for doctors to ask them about their religious beliefs, the doctors were unsure of how to raise the topic.

For most believers, the element of religious life that intersects most naturally with health is prayer. A 1988 research study by cardiologist Randolph Byrd found that heart patients who were prayed for fared better than those who were not. Although there have been many scientific studies that challenged the finding of a link between prayer and healing, there is however, one thing that both sides agree on. It matters a great deal whether subjects know they are being prayed for. Scientists do agree that it helps to know that people are praying for you.

About the third Thursday of each month, a small, dedicated group of women meet to knit prayer shawls. When a prayer shawl is completed, it is designated to a person who is experiencing a health issue. The group passes this shawl to each member as they silently prayer for the concerns of this person. It is then delivered to that person with those prayers. Who could ever determine the far reaching affects that these women with a skein of yarn, some knitting needles and prayers can bring?

What are you doing the third Thursday of each month?

Meetings will be announced each month as to the time and place. Anyone interested should call Sally Smedley (610-562-3938).

Our Warm-Up-America knitters (Bethany knitters and Yarn-R-Us) would like those who are knitting Afghan Squares to continue knitting squares. There is a collection box in the narthex for them.

Betty Kauffman at Laurel Center
Catherine Parfet at Hearthstone at Maidencreek

Missionary Family: The Zimmerman Family serving in Nepal – Mark, Deirdre, Zachary & Benjamin

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER OUR TROOPS IN THE MILITARY:

Col. Frank Richie, and Sean Fager (In Afghanistan).

Seans new address is

Sean Fager

3rd EOD BN

FOB ABAD

APO AE 09354



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

The July meeting will be held on July 14th in the church basement. We will be planning the Bazaar in the fall and will also be cutting out school bags for our annual school bag mission project.

UMCOR SCHOOL KITS

In some countries, children don't have books or school supplies. Many have no schoolrooms; classes are held in inadequate or half-destroyed buildings, tents, or even the open air. Often students must write down everything the teacher says or records on a board. Their teacher's knowledge and their own notes are their only textbooks. School kits may be these children's only educational resources. This UMCOR kit is designed for a variety of ages. Anyone who can sew and is interested in making the school bags should see Sally Smedley or Jeanne Burdick.

We have some fabric already cut out and ready to sew. If you don't sew and would like to help outfit these bags, the supplies needed are:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip) | 1 30 –centimeter ruler |
| 1 hand held pencil sharpener | 1 box of 24 crayons(only 24) |
| 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers | 1 eraser 2 ½ inches |
| 2 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 ½” x11” ruled paper | |
| 12 sheets construction paper (varied colors) | |

have any of this stuff and would like to donate it, bring to church and give it to Mary Jo.

Magnet strips Poster board Twine Craft foam
Nature photos from calendars or magazines Leaves and twigs
Iridescent shred Wiggle eyes Fish Beads Yarn
Glitter Also save 16 oz. plastic drink bottles

If anyone has questions they can contact Mary Jo at 610-285-4676

TEACHER NEEDED: Sunday School teacher needed for the Youth class on Sunday morning. Contact Cathy Trump at chipstaxi@verizon.net if you would care to volunteer or have any questions.

WORSHIP LEADERS AND GREETERS: Listed below are the Worship Leaders and Greeters for May. If you can't make it the Sunday you are scheduled please get a substitute or contact Joyce Mehtens.

WORSHIP LEADERS:

July 5 – Bernice White
July 12 – Jeanne Burdick
July 19 – Annette Brewer
July 26 – Bill McClure
August 2 – Bernice White
August 9 – Jeanne Burdick
August 16 - Annette Brewer
August 23 – Bill McClure
August 30 – Bill Mehtens

GREETERS

Lorna Musser
Bernice White
The Brewers
Bill Mehtens
The Brewers
Bill Mehtens
Lorna Musser
Ella Bachman
The McClures

PICKET FENCE FOR PARSONAGE: The pastor and her family really needed a fence so Gracie and Rachel can play safely in their yard. This was discussed at our Administrative Board last month, and we are challenging our membership to buy fence sections. The total cost of the fence is \$3400. Larry Sterner made sample pickets, to represent sections, as a physical sign of our progress in raising the money. You can purchase a \$100 picket or a \$50 picket. Won't you please consider making a contribution above and beyond your usual pledge for this important project? The fence is already installed but we still need some more contributions to finish paying for it. Make your checks payable to Bethany UMC with a notation parsonage fence.

Support the Zimmerman's missionary work in Nepal

Bethany UMC has supported Mark Zimmerman's missionary work in the past, and he and his family came to present a program to us about their work in Nepal. They came this year and delivered an inspiring program Tuesday April 14th, even though we have NOT been supporting them financially for the past few years.

Mark and Deirdre extended God's grace to us. Now let's show our response to God's love for us and them by re-establishing Bethany's support of their ministry!

The missions committee is presenting two options for your direct support of the Zimmerman's ministry.

1) Write a check to Bethany UMC with a notation for support of Mark and/or Deirdre's work. Also indicate one or both of the Advance Special numbers.....

- Mark Zimmerman - Missionary Support Code: 10908Z
- Dierdre Zimmerman - Missionary Support Code: 13171Z

2) Save your change for the bucket! As you may know, the missions committee uses our bucket list collections to meet various missions needs. We will alternate support for Opportunity House one month and the Zimmermans the next. The month of August, the focus will be on the Zimmermans' ministries.

FINANCIALS: As of June 28th

YTD Receipts: 46,521.32
YTD Expenses 45,742.59
778.73

Strawberry Festival
Receipts: 622.50
Expenses: 150.00
Profit 472.50

Many items for the festival were donated, which kept the cost low.

2009 Opportunity House Service Team Schedule

March.....	Trubilla	August.....	Smedley
April.....	Fager	September.....	Trubilla
May.....	Smedley	November.....	Smedley
June.....	Trubilla	October.....	Fager
July.....	Fager	December.....	Trubilla

Serving Teams

Bev Fager – Nicole Greenway, Charlotte Hilbert, Cathy Trump, Dominic Trump,
Lee Smedley, Sally Smedley, Madge Sturm, Jim Kern, Ella Bachman (when not in FL)
Pat Trubilla, Shirley McGowan, Steve McGowan, Joyce and Bill Mehrtens, Amy Amadoro

If you are interested in helping to serve the meals please contact Lee Smedley – 610-562-3938.

Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring proper coverage for meal service. Larry Sterner and Dale Haldeman have volunteered to help load cars if needed. Contact them in advance if you need their help.



Are you aware that the church has an assistance fund for those in our congregation in need of financial assistance? The Administrative Board re-established a long standing tradition in support of the Assistance Fund. On communion Sundays, an offering plate will be placed in the front pew. All contributions put in this plate will be used to help needy individuals and families in our congregation. Please give generously on Communion Sundays.



LET US KNOW... Because of the new privacy laws it is hard for the pastors to get information about members in the hospital. So if you are aware of a parishioner who is ill or hospitalized, has suffered a death in their family, or is celebrating a new life, please contact the pastor at 610-562-6788, or e-mail her at pastorandii@gmail.com.

If you know you are going to have surgery or be hospitalized for tests, please contact pastor. Please don't assume the pastor knows you are in the hospital and would like prayers and a visit.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING BETHANY FOLKS WITH HEALTH CHALLENGES IN YOUR PRAYERS AT HOME:

**Anna Kalabisko, Terry Loose, Leroy Price
Bob Piacine, Happy Long, Evelyn Graef
Mary Yoder, Paul Price
NURSING HOMES**

