

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

**November 2025**  
**Volume 27, Issue 10**



# News of Bethany



## God's Grace Causes Us to Give

One of the best ways we have to show our gratitude for the love of God is to give in return. Your gifts are what keeps this church alive. Your gifts send our care for our neighbors into our local community and around the world. Please respond

with generosity to the Stewardship letters you will soon receive. **And we will celebrate on Stewardship Sunday, November 16, 2025.**

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

## Poinsettia Memorials & Honorariums for 2025

The poinsettias will be in our sanctuary Sunday, December 21. To order poinsettia plants, complete an order form (found on the last page of this newsletter) and make all checks payable to "Board of Deacons". The cost of each poinsettia is \$6. Please place the order forms and checks in the "Poinsettia Order Box" in the CE Hallway or mail to the church, Attn: Poinsettia Orders. You can pick up your poinsettias following the Christmas Eve Service. The deadline for the poinsettias is Sunday, December 7. Thank You!



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# Bethany News & Notes



## Special Dates In November 2025

**All Saints' Day**  
Saturday, November 1

**Daylight Saving Ends**  
Sunday, November 2



**Veterans Day**  
Tuesday, November 11

**Christ the  
King Sunday**  
Sunday, November 23



**Thanksgiving Day**  
Thursday, November 27



## Annual Christmas Sale & Scout Breakfast Saturday, November 1

Bethany Presbyterian Women will hold their annual Christmas Sale on Saturday, November 1 from 8 am -12 pm. The sale will include such holiday items as decorations, artificial trees, wrapping paper, bows, ribbons, ornaments, lights and more.

In conjunction with the Christmas Sale, Troop 4 will be serving an All You Can Eat breakfast from 8 am to 12 noon in Donegal Hall. The menu is eggs, sausage, potatoes, toast, coffee, OJ and milk. The cost of the breakfast is \$10 for adults, \$6 for children 6-12 and children under five are free! For tickets see any Troop 4 Scout or tickets will be available at the door. Plan to support our Scouts by having breakfast in Donegal Hall.



# PRAYER

*How can we pray for you?*

**Judy Maier, Polly Snyder,  
Michelle Atwater & Will Campbell**



# NOVEMBER

*birthdays*

11/01	David Schwartz	11/22	Devin Ashba
11/03	Lindsay Pickell	11/28	Marianna Rhoads
11/08	Xavier Rosado	11/30	Joyce Richards
11/20	Nancy Peters		



## *From Pastor Kent's Study*

And now the “darkness” descends! No, it’s not the end of the world, it’s the end of Daylight Savings Time! I always get depressed for the first couple days of “Standard Time” again. During Daylight Savings Time, I love the lingering light in the evening when you can watch the color change on the clouds – from bright orange to purple and finally the curtain comes down



on the show. Erin and I like to walk the dog at twilight when the celestial show is at its peak. Erin will only walk one way around the park so she can view the changes as we go. (I try to change our direction the second time we go around, but to no avail! It’s all about the color!) Now the sun sets too early for our walk.

When we were out west in early October the evenings were colorful! Ghost Ranch is ringed with hills and rock formations which enhance the beauty of the evening “light show!” Our accommodations are on the top of a mesa, so we get a 360-degree view of the sunset. The colors are truly spectacular, so much so that you almost feel overwhelmed by the beauty. Our synapses are on overload, and we are loath to go inside our cabin when the show is over!

I think that’s what God intended for humankind. An unfettered appreciation of the amazing world which God created. In our busyness and preoccupation with the mundane, we’ve lost the ability to take the time to fully appreciate the extraordinary gifts with which God has gifted us. It seems we’re too busy infighting and kvetching to fully appreciate them.

That’s why we are called to take time, “intentional time,” to allow the creation to enfold us and nurture us back to wholeness. We worry too much about the things we are unable to change, and our frustration wears us down and causes us psychic pain. We miss the obvious as we strive for the unattainable, and that’s a shame! God wishes for us beauty and wholeness, peace and hope. It’s almost as if we need a complete “makeover” which enables us “live-into” the fullness of life.

That’s why consistent worship should be an integral part of our lives. We can’t do it on our own, and when we try, we fail. Regular worship is not optional no matter how hard we try to rationalize otherwise. As God’s people, God calls us spend time in prayer and praise, work and service on God’s behalf. And the primary way we prepare for that is by spending time with other members of the Community of Faith in the intentional worship of the One who creates and sustains. There is no other way to do it!



So, blessings to you all as we move into this special time of the year. Open yourselves to the amazing world around us and let it work its special “magic” on your soul! Even the early dark is filled with the luminous presence of God, when our eyes are open.

**Grace & Peace, *Kent***

Dear Bethany Family,

Once again, it's time to put up the giving tree. This year, we are assisting residents of Faith Friendship Villa, Mount Joy, PA. We also have chosen to provide gifts to a family from La Iglesia de Resurreccion and we are collecting monetary donations for Christmas gifts for our ChildFund Children Milton and Subhi.

Please look for the giving tree to appear during the month of November and check out the table in the narthex for more information. By doing so you are truly sharing God's love in this community.

Special Envelopes will be on the Giving Tree table for monetary gifts for Faith Friendship Villa and ChildFund. Please make any checks payable to "Bethany Presbyterian Church" and memo either Faith Friendship or ChildFund.

The names of the La Iglesia de Resurreccion family are as follows: Father, Roberto Valdez; mother, Gretel Valdez; son Yanier (age 15) and daughter Silvia (age 12). Details for the types of gifts requested and/or clothing will be included on the card on the Giving Tree. Gifts for the La Iglesia de Resurreccion family should be brought to the church on Sunday mornings since the church is not open during the week.

**The deadline for all gifts is Sunday, December 14.** If you have any questions, please call me. Thanks for helping make the holiday brighter for others in our community.

Blessings,

**Betty B. Duncan**

**Giving Tree Coordinator**

Phone: 717-393-9029







In Isaiah 40, the prophet asks those listening to do a very simple task with major implications: prepare the way. Isaiah is not asking those listening to prepare the way for themselves; rather, our call is to prepare the way for the very real presence of God.

Every year the Christmas Joy Offering, one of the four Churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), prepares the way to bring hope through education and emergency assistance.

Three Presbyterian-related schools that equip communities of color, Menaul School in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, Texas; and Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, provide a transformative education for students all around the globe. These historic centers of learning prepare the way for students from every walk of life to be active, compassionate and informed citizens of the world. Beyond their schoolwork, these students live together in supportive and intentional communities where they prepare the way for one another through acts of generosity, mission, and service in their community and around the world. In their life together, students experience the love of Christ that we all meet anew at Christmas.

Like the schools and colleges that equip communities of color, the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions prepares a way for church workers to find a measure of peace and security in times of financial crisis. This program provides life-giving and critical assistance at the most vulnerable and anxious times in church workers' lives, like health or housing instability.

Jesus, the Light of the World, brings hope. Perhaps, together, we can bring hope to others by receiving the Christmas Joy Offering to support these vital programs. We are but one of thousands of congregations whose gifts unite to help prepare the way for Christ and ease the paths of those who need us.

There are many ways to participate beyond the gifts we will receive at Christmas. You can pray for the healing of our world, you can look for people the rest of the world does not see and befriend them, or you can find your own way to follow Jesus' call to love our neighbor as ourselves.

And always remember ... when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

As we look forward to the stillness of Christmas and celebrate the birth of our Savior, may we prepare a way for him but also for those who need to feel God's love, welcome and embrace.



# WORSHIP

**November 2, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m. Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost**

**"Finding the Center" Luke 19:1-10**

**Preaching: Rev. Holmes**

**November 9, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m. - Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost**

**"Standing Firm" 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5; 13-17**

**Preaching: Rev. Holmes**

**November 16, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m. - Stewardship Sunday**

**"Keeping the Faith" Luke 21:5-19**

**Preaching: Rev. Holmes**

**November 23, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m. - Reign of Christ/Christ the King Sunday**

**"May You Be Made Strong" Colossians 1:11-20**

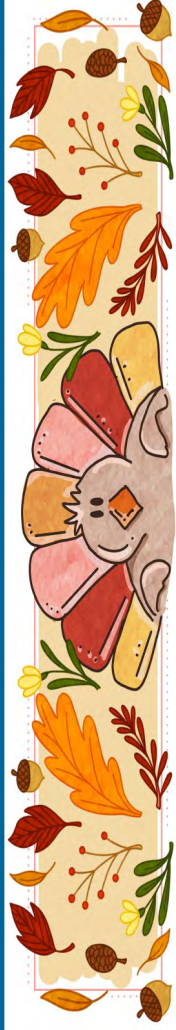
**Preaching: Rev. Holmes Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

**November 30, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m. - First Sunday in Advent**

**Preaching: Rev. Holmes**



	November 2	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 30
<b>Greeter &amp; Fellowship</b>	Elaine Bornstein	Sylvia Doyle	Doug Smith	Maurine Smith	Elaine Bornstein
<b>Ushers</b>	Brian Ashba & Sue Fetterman	Joyce Richards & Diane Ashba	Jean Schwartz & Cam Baker	Pat Rineer & Valerie Calhoun	Doug & Maurine Smith



# November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>November 2</b> <b>Daylight Savings Ends</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	<b>November 3</b> 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>November 4</b> 7:00 P.M. Troop Committee Mtg.	<b>November 5</b> 10:00 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	<b>November 6</b> 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	<b>November 7</b> 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	<b>November 1/8</b> Nov. 1 -8:00 A.M.— 12:00 P.M Christmas Sale & Scout Breakfast
<b>November 9</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	<b>November 10</b> 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts Donegal Hall	<b>November 11</b> <b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>November 12</b> 10:00 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Donegal Hall	<b>November 13</b> 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	<b>November 14</b> 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	<b>November 15</b> 7:00 P.M. White Deer Run Westminster Hall
<b>November 16</b> <b>Stewardship Sunday</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	<b>November 17</b> 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts Donegal Hall	<b>November 18</b>	<b>November 19</b> 10:00 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Donegal Hall	<b>November 20</b> 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	<b>November 21</b> 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	<b>November 22</b>
<b>November 23</b> <b>Christ the King Sunday</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	<b>November 24</b> 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts Donegal Hall	<b>November 25</b>	<b>November 26</b> 10:00 A.M. The Wired Word 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Donegal Hall	<b>November 27</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>November 28</b> 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	<b>November 29</b>
<b>November 30</b> <b>First Sunday of Advent</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection						





## 2025 Poinsettia Order Form

Order your Poinsettias using the **"Order Form"** found below. The Poinsettias are \$6.00, and the color choices are red or white. Poinsettias will be in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 21, and distributed on Christmas Eve. **The last day to order Poinsettias is Sunday, December 7, 2025.**

**Please make all checks payable to: "Board of Deacons"** and place completed order forms and checks in the **"Poinsettia Order Box"** in the Christian Education hallway. Or mail them to the church, attention: Poinsettia Orders.

Please clearly print all the information. Use additional "Order Forms" as needed.

Donors Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of White Poinsettias **\$6.00** \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Red Poinsettias **\$6.00** \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the donor: \_\_\_\_\_

I will keep \_\_\_\_\_ plants **and/or** I will donate \_\_\_\_\_ plants

Donors Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of White Poinsettias **\$6.00** \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Red Poinsettias **\$6.00** \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the donor: \_\_\_\_\_

I will keep \_\_\_\_\_ plants **and/or** I will donate \_\_\_\_\_ plants

**\*\* The total amount** enclosed for all plants ordered is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\*\***