



## Bethany E-Blast: March 7, 2018

### Paving Our Way to Christ



On Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Trustees announced the start of our Capital Improvement Campaign, Paving Our Way to Christ, to raise funding for repairs to our parking lot and circular drive. Our lot and drive are well over 20 years old and as can be expected, with age we've seen a general deterioration. In recent years, there has been an increasing number of issues with standing water, potholes and surface gaps.

Based on the assessment and estimates of 2 local paving companies vetted through the BBB, our goal is to raise **\$50,000 over an 18-month period**. Repairs will include patching and surface overlay of the main and fellowship hall parking areas, seamless asphalt alignment with sidewalks, addressing grading to resolve standing water issues and slightly widening the circular drive to reduce incidents of vehicles crossing onto the grass.

Over the next several Sundays, we will be collecting pledge cards and highly encouraging everyone to make a financial commitment to their ability. Commitment cards may be dropped into the offering plate during Sunday service. You may also contact the church office at [info@bethany.org](mailto:info@bethany.org) to make a pledge or make online donations on our website at <http://www.bfvumc.org/on-line-giving/>. If giving online, please indicate your donation is for POWTC or parking lot so we can ensure the funds are appropriately allocated.

In addition to congregational support, the Trustees are exploring fundraising opportunities to engage the surrounding communities. We've already received commitments from Blessed Beginnings and Yuhllin Church to assist with all our fundraising efforts. If you have suggestions and ideas you'd like for us to consider please email the church office, [info@bethany.org](mailto:info@bethany.org) or Susanna Brandon, [sbrandon60510@gmail.com](mailto:sbrandon60510@gmail.com). We welcome all ideas and will share information in the coming months on how you can participate and support fundraising efforts.

I graciously ask everyone give their full attention and support to the efforts of our campaign. We have a small window to address the parking lot repairs before they become a much larger and costly issue. Given the history of generosity and support from the Bethany church family, I'm extremely confident we'll meet our goal.

### Need a Space on Sunday Morning? Overflow Parking Available

If you should find yourself without a space to park, especially during holiday services when attendance increases, we have obtained permission to use the Rush Castle Orthopaedics parking lot. This lot is located directly across the street from Bethany Fox Valley UMC.

### Our Lenten Journey: The Lord's Prayer! Still time to join in!

The time between Ash Wednesday and Easter is a time of self-reflection and spiritual practice to help our faith grow. Our small group bible study sessions are designed so you can come to just one or to all of them! This year, groups are focusing on the Lord's Prayer, and meeting from 6:45 to 7:30pm. Sign up on the bulletin board or just drop in to one of the groups!

### Join Us at the Dollar Dinner Wednesday

There are still a few chances to join the Bethany family at our Dollar Dinners! Please join us every Wednesday in Lent at 6:00 p.m. for another delicious meal. It doesn't matter if you missed a week, the Lenten study is designed for you to attend any or all of the 5 weeks!

P.S. Child care provided!

## Look for Easter Flowers Order Form This Sunday

The form for ordering flowers to brighten the altar for Easter Sunday will be available in this week's bulletin. Orders must be placed into the office by Sunday, March 18. You may choose from tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and Easter lilies. If you are unable to make it to church but would like to order flowers, please contact Karen in the office at 630-851-8010.

## Secret Sisters Going Strong! Do You Want to Join?

I hope you are having fun with the SS program this year. Getting to know more about your "sister" is one way we become a Sticky church! FYI, I have set aside and labeled a corner of the table outside the office for you to use as a drop-off location for anything you would like to exchange with your SS. Be sure to write the name of the recipient on the item! Want to know about the SS? Contact Jacquee Lawrence. 630.828.4222

## Band Boosters Craft Fair at Waubonsie Valley High School

Looking for something to do next weekend? Stop by the Waubonsie Vally High School Band Boosters Craft Fair on Saturday, March 17 from 9am to 3pm!

2590 Ogden Avenue, Aurora, IL

Admission: \$2 adults, \$1 students, 5 & under free

Info: Over 70 vendors, raffle, and bake sale All proceeds go directly to the band program.

## Dorcas Circle Easter Mission Project

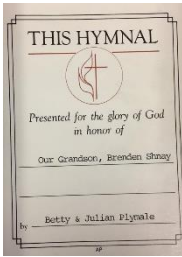
On Wednesday, March 21st, the Dorcas Circle will be assembling 50 Easter baskets to donate to the Wayside Mission Urban Youth Ministry. This ministry is dedicated to empowering at risk inner city youth in Aurora between the ages of 6 and 17. The Dorcas Circle has been supporting this ministry by supplying Easter baskets for more than 20 years.

If you would like to support our efforts we'd welcome candy donations. Candy must be wrapped and nut free (sorry, no peanut butter eggs). Candy may be dropped off at the church office before March 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Dorcas Circle meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1pm in the Narthex. All are welcome to join. If you're unable to join us but would like to support and contribute to future mission projects, please contact Antje Brandon.



## Bethany Fun Facts



Open the cover of the hymnal and/or Bible located in your pew chair. There you will find a label with the names of the persons who donated the purchase of the book and in whose honor it was given. If you are curious to who those people are, you may check older version of the picture church directories or talk to current members who may have known them. I'm sure you will hear interesting stories about them. Memorial gifts are a wonderful way to honor a loved one. For further information about gift memorials please contact our Memorial Committee Chairperson, Sally Whitt.



### March Birthdays

2	Becka Jones	25	Sarah Young
6	Michael Givens	15	Harold Anson
8	Colleen McCoy Christian Piceno	16	Jane Heidemann Zachary Horn
9	Thomas Dennehy Aaron Lewis	19	Jennifer Seyl Jillian Seyl
11	Nicole Bocclair	21	Jamie Marquardt Kelly Mielcarz Ashleigh Tucek
12	Jill Zine	22	Mary Wolf
13	Walt McGuire	23	Michael Wolf
14	Grace Jantz Linda Degner		

### March Anniversaries

**Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Buchenot - March 15**