



Bethany E-Blast: March 20, 2019

No Children's Sunday School during Spring Break

There will be no Sunday School for our youth and children during the two Spring Break Sundays on March 24 and March 31.

AGAPE Sunday School Class Food Drive

The AGAPE Sunday School Class is hosting a Lenten Food Drive beginning Sunday, March 10 and continuing until Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019. They will be accepting non-perishable items that are not expired or money contributions (cash or checks made out to Bethany with "food drive" noted on them. Join in the collection!

Dollar Dinners Continue Through Easter

Bethany will again be serving Dollar Dinners on Wednesday evenings starting Wednesday, March 13 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for good food and good fellowship!

Our Lenten Journey: Getting Through Life's Losses

The time between Ash Wednesday and Easter is a time of self-reflection and spiritual practice to help our faith grow. This year, six small study groups will be focusing on "Getting Through Life's Losses", and meeting from 6:45 to 7:30pm. Small groups will be available (one each for children, and youth, four will be available for Adults).

Special General Conference Session—Debriefing Sessions

The long-awaited Special Session of the General Conference has finished its work. This special session was convened to decide our denomination's stance on human sexuality. As you may already know, the delegates chose the Traditional Plan rather than the One Church Plan that was overwhelmingly supported by the Council of Bishops.

The One Church Plan would have given space for clergy, all churches (no matter what their stand on human sexuality), and annual conferences to be in ministry consistent with their own convictions. This was defeated.

Instead, the Traditional Plan was approved. It not only affirms what is presently in the Book of Discipline about homosexuality but places far more restrictions and penalties on clergy performing weddings for same gender couples, and tightens the existing restrictions on ordination.

If you would like more information, please consider attending one of the following debriefing sessions across the Conference:

- **Saturday, March 30 at 9:30 am** - Orland Park: Faith UMC, 15101 S 80th Ave., Orland Park.
- **Saturday, March 30 at 2 pm** - Barrington UMC, 98 Algonquin Rd., Barrington.
- **Sunday, March 31 at 3 pm** - Oregon UMC, 200 S. 4th St., Oregon.

Use Your SmartPhone in Service!

What's your usual way of participating in our worship service? Come to the door, grab a bulletin from the usher, sit down. But now, Bethany's congregation will have a new option: the E-bulletin for your Smartphone!

Here are a couple of ways to get the service on your phone::

1. Download the bulletin to your smart phone or tablet from the link on the front page of the website ("download the bulletin" button). You will need a QR reader app. Grab a connect card from the front glass door of the sanctuary.
2. Or, load the Bethany website and click the link next to the "Download the bulletin" button. This says "view as web page". That will take you right to the service bulletin.
3. Or, you can scan QR code at the front glass door of the sanctuary. It will direct your device to download it from the church webpage. Then, you can download it at your device. Still, grab a connect card!



We will still project the service on the screen in front of the church. And we will still provide large print bulletins. And there will still be a number of paper bulletins at the door. Eventually, we hope to reduce the number of bulletins we print each week. Let us know what you think!

Bethany Breakfast is March 31

The next Bethany Breakfast is Sunday, March 31 at 10:15 (right after the service). Come and join your Bethany family for good food and great fellowship! Bring your friends and neighbors! There will be enough for all!

Great Agers Potluck Features a Master Gardener

Great Agers will meet on April 12 for our monthly potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share and your own table service. Plan to arrive between 11:30 a.m. and noon. Lunch will be served at noon. Following lunch, Master Gardener Sue Styer will demonstrate the best ways to create a container vegetable garden. She will show everyone how to get a bountiful harvest of fresh homegrown vegetables and herbs in limited space that also looks appealing as well as tastes great. Be sure to sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex if you plan to attend. Call Judy Buchenot at 630-820-0095 if you have questions. Hope to see everyone!

Bethany Preschool Fund Raiser Begins!

Bethany's preschool, Blessed Beginnings, is planning a sale of bundtlets, in partnership with local favorite, Nothing Bundt Cakes. The cakes, which feed 1-2 people each, are individually wrapped and cost \$5 each. Flavors include Red Velvet, Chocolate Chocolate Chip, White Chocolate Raspberry, Lemon, Marble, Pecan Praline, Carrot, Confetti, Classic Vanilla and Strawberries and Cream. The order deadline is Wednesday, April 10 by 3:00pm For questions, contact preschool director Kim Reina at 630.851.8010 or director@blessedbeginnings.info.



Benefit dinner for the Pinkard family

Save some time on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 4-7p, to attend a benefit dinner for the Pinkard family here at Bethany. Josh Pinkard, who died in the Henry Pratt shooting was the father of three small children, one of whom is a student at our own Blessed Beginnings preschool. The preschool has joined with Old Post Elementary School to raise money for the Pinkard Family Education Foundation. 100% of the proceed will go to this Foundation to fund 529 college plans for Josh's 3 children

Spring POWTC FUNDrive:

Get Ready! We'll be hosting a final FUNDrive this Spring for Paving Our Way to Christ

Last year, thanks to your generous donations, we collected over 5,000lbs of gently used clothing items and were able to raise just over \$1,200 to apply towards our parking lot drive. We'll be hosting another drive this May. So, as you begin to purge some of your winter items and clean out closets, please remember to set those items aside for our drive. We're looking for gently used clothing items, coats, bedding, towels, tablecloths, shoes, stuffed animals and purses. Any soft item that can be easily bagged and transported.

An announcement and collection packets will go out for drop off dates closer to the event. If you like to drop off items sooner, please contact Susanna Brandon, 630-487-1158, or the church office. We do have space available to store a limited number of bags.

About Savers: Savers, Inc. is a privately held global thrift retailer. Through its unique business model of purchasing, reselling and recycling secondhand merchandise, the Savers family of thrift stores benefits more than 150 Nonprofit organizations give local consumers a smart way to shop and has saved more than 650 million pounds of quality used goods from landfills each year.

Sunday Morning Hospitality Sign Up

We need individuals to provide items for our Sunday morning coffee table. If you'd like to host a Sunday by bringing baked goods for our guests and congregation to enjoy after service, or by contributing a can of coffee, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



UMM Lenten Communion Service/Breakfast

On Saturday, March 23, from 8:30am to 11:00am, the Men's Ministry of Wheatland Salem Church in Oswego will host a Lenten Communion Service and Breakfast (1217 Wolf Road, Oswego). Breakfast will be served at 8:30 followed by the District UMM Annual Meeting. The topic for the meeting will be "When Was the Last Time You Went Hungry?" presented by Bill Franz, hunger Advocate for Northern Illinois Conference United Methodist Men. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Bethany Fun Facts!

During the Lenten season the beautiful brass candlesticks and flower vases have been replaced with pottery items. The shiny altar cross has been replaced with that of plain wood as well as the bible stand. And during communion the plain pottery cups and platters are used. This time of lent is meant to be of a period of reflection and a somber time.

Our Church is full of symbolic icons and purposeful placement of items. Observe as the sanctuary changes during lent and especially during Holy Week.

Upcoming Events:

Lent Study and Dollar Dinners	Wednesday, March 20	6:00pm	FH
Consolidated Election	Tuesday, April 2	All Day	FH
Dorcas Circle	Wednesday, April 10	12:00pm	FH
Great Agers	Friday, April 12	11:30am	FH
Pinkard Benefit Dinner	Saturday, April 13	3:00pm	FH



March Anniversaries

Patrick & Judy Buchenot, March 15

March Birthdays

- 2 Becca Jones
- 8 Colleen McCoy
Cristian Piceno
- 9 Thomas Dennehy
Aaron Lewis
- 11 Nicole Boclair
- 12 Jill Zine
- 13 Walt McGuire
- 14 Grace Jantz
- 15 Alyssa Allen
- 16 Jane Heidemann
Zachary Horn
- 17 Susan Heath
- 19 Jillian Seyl
Jennifer Seyl
- 21 Jamie Marquardt
Kelly Mielcarz
Ashleigh Tucek
- 22 Mary Wolf
- 23 Michael Wolf
- 25 Sarah Young
- 28 Richard Conlin
- 29 Katie Close