

Announcements

1. COMMITMENT SUNDAY- Once a year we are given the opportunity to make a commitment to serve God and Christ through our support of Bethany of Fox Valley UMC for the upcoming year. This year we have simplified the process to focus on supporting Bethany with our gifts of treasure. We therefore ask that you consider making a financial pledge to support our church. If you don't have your 2026 Pledge Card with you today, please return it at your earliest convenience.

2. ADVENT BOOK STUDY- Join us on three Thursdays, starting December 4th at 10:00 am for this year's Advent Book Study. In **All the Good: A Wesleyan Way of Christmas**, a group of diverse Wesleyan scholars will take you on an Advent journey guided by the practices in John Wesley's means of grace. Sign up on the narthex bulletin board **by November 9th** so we know how many books to order (\$10 each).

3. GREAT AGERS- Great Agers will meet on Friday, **November 14th** for a turkey feast. Bring your favorite side to share, your own table service and a big appetite. Plan to arrive between 11:30 and noon. We will eat at noon. Sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend. Hope to see everyone!

4. DORCAS CIRCLE- The next Dorcas Circle meeting will be on **November 19th** at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for some light refreshments, grace, and fellowship!

5. CHURCH CONFERENCE- This year's Annual Church Conference will Be Thursday, **November 20th**, 2025. SPRC will meet at 6:30pm. The church meeting will be at 7:00pm - all are welcome.

6. ANNUAL HANGING OF THE GREENS AND CHILI COOK-OFF- It's almost time gather to decorate the church for Christmas *and* find out who will be crowned this year's chili champion. On Sunday, **November 23rd**, we will decorate from 4:00-5:30 pm, then gather in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck supper. Sign up in the narthex and let us know how many will attend, and if you will bring a side, dessert, or your special chili to share. All are welcome!

7. ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING- We are looking for five families to read scripture and light the Advent candle, one for each of the four Sundays of Advent, and one on Christmas eve. The lighting ceremony is used to reflect on the season of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus Christ. The readings will be sent out in advance so we can answer any questions you may have. If you and your family would like to take part in this meaningful tradition, please sign up on the narthex bulletin board or contact the church office.

About Chris Walters:
Chris Walters is an ordained elder, serving as the President and CEO of the United Methodist Foundation since 2016. Prior to becoming a pastor, Chris worked numerous jobs from shoe salesman to bank teller to 7th grade English teacher to Director of Information Technology for a market research firm. Chris is married to Eun-Hye Choi, lead pastor of Glenview UMC. Their son Tim graduated from Glenbrook South High School and currently works for Target.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Small Group: Loyal Leaders class (10:15am)
Children's Church (9:20 am)

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Director John Kwon / yoahn4piano@gmail.com
Handbell Choir Sherry Allen / sherryamail@gmail.com
Children & Youth Choirs Bonni Pear / bpear@agencyinmotion.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

Bradley Bibbs / bradley.bibbs@gmail.com
Angelica Bibbs / aeliasmagadan22@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS

Live Worship Technician
Dorothea Rynearson / dcrynearson@gmail.com
Web Master Gwen Daniels / gwendelyndaniels@gmail.com

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS

Rev. Sang Hun Han, Pastor
Office: 630.851.8010 ext. 2 Email: crosshsh55@bfvumc.org
Rev. Dr. Marvin McClain, Pastoral Care Minister
Office: 630.851.8010 ext. 1 Email: pastormarvin@bfvumc.org
Christine Pommier, Director of Administrative Ministries
Office 630.851.8010 ext.1 Email: info@bfvumc.org

This Week at Bethany					
SUN	Nov. 9	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Online	9:00 am	
		Loyal Leaders		10:15 am	
		New Member Class		10:15 am	
MON	Nov. 10	Trustees Meeting	BFVUMC	6:30 pm	
TUE	Nov. 11	Ad Council Meeting	BFVUMC	7:00 pm	
FRI	Nov. 14	Great Agers	F.H.	12:00 pm	

SAINTS IN ACTION

Worship Leader: **Sherry Allen**
Ushers: **Charles Bibbs & Don Stern**
PowerPoint Preparer: **Jacquee Lawrence**
Greeters: **Laura Garvey & Christine Pommier**
Children's Message: **Bonni Pear**
Children's Church: **Melanie Bomersback**
In-Person Slide Operator: **Ken & Jacquee Lawrence**
Online Worship Service: **Dorothea Rynearson**

	10/12	10/19	10/26	11/2
IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE	37	50	49	57
ON-LINE ATTENDANCE	-	5	0	2
WEEKLY OFFERING	\$3,540	\$4,631	\$2,851	\$8,019

2025 APPORTIONMENT ALLOCATION: \$27,396
PAID THROUGH OCT: \$4,780

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

SOWING THE SEEDS OF LOVE

BETHANY OF FOX VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



2200 RIDGE AVE. AURORA, IL 60504
WWW.BFVUMC.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/BETHANYFOXVALLEY

22nd Sunday After Pentecost

* Indicates that worshippers are to stand if able.
Congregational responses are in bold print.

Worship Leader: Sherry Allen

ENTRANCE & PRAISE

Prelude	Traditional English Hymn	John Kwon
Greetings		Rev. Sang Hun Han
Announcements		Sherry Allen
Opening Hymn	“Thy Word Is a Lamp”	UMH #601
**Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.		
<i>1. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right Beside me, and nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.**</i>		
<i>2. Now I will not forget your love for me and yet my heart forever is Wandering. Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end.**</i>		
*Call to Worship		
Come, people of God – the Sower has gone out to sow.		
We come ready to receive the seeds of God’s Word.		
Some seeds fall on rocky ground, some among thorns, but some fall on good soil and bring forth an abundant harvest.		
Lord, prepare our hearts to be good soil – open, generous, and fruitful.		
Today we celebrate God’s gifts and our call to be faithful stewards.		
With grateful hearts, we give ourselves and our resources to God’s work.		
Come, let us worship the Lord of the harvest,		
And joyfully receive and share the blessings of God!		
Passing Peace of Christ	“O How He Loves...”	TFWS #2108
<i>O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me! He gave his life. What more could he give? O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!</i>		
Children’s Message		Bonni Pear
Children’s Church		Melanie Bomersback
Joys and Concerns		
Pastoral Prayer		
The Lord’s Prayer		(Screen)

Contemplation Hymn **“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**
UMH #400

- 1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.*
- 2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope,
by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when
a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from
danger, interposed his precious blood.*
- 3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy
goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to
wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart,
O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.*

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

*Scripture Reading **Psalms 119:105-112, Luke 8:1-10** Sherry Allen

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. ¹⁰⁶ I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws.

¹⁰⁷ I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws.

¹⁰⁹ Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law.

¹¹⁰ The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts. ¹¹¹ Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. ¹¹² My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

The Parable of the Sower

8 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, ² and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; ³ Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod’s household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means. ⁴ While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: ⁵ “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. ⁶ Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this he called out, “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.” ⁹ His disciples asked him what this parable meant. ¹⁰ He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, “though seeing, they may not see; though hearing, they may not understand.

This is the Word of Life for all the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Offering Our Gifts to God’s Service

Offertory Anthem **“Now Thank We all Our God”** Bell Choir

*Doxology **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”** UMH #95

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures
here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, help us remember that all belongs to you. Take these offerings and use them for your glory. Take our lives, and use us, always and everywhere, for your glory. In Christ’s name. Amen.

You may give your offering at www.bfvumc.org/online-giving, scan the QR code to the right, or mail it to:

Bethany of Fox Valley UMC
2200 Ridge Ave. Aurora, IL. 60504



Message: **“Sowing the Seeds of Love”** Rev. Chris Walters

Time for Commitment

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: **“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty** UMH #139

*1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul,
praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now
to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!*

*2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning bears
thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining. God's care
enfolds all, whose true good he upholds. Hast thou not known his
sustaining?*

*3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;"
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee. Ponder anew
what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.*

*4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee, fitting
thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee. Then to thy need
God as a mother doth speed, spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.*

*Benediction Rev. Sang Hun Han

*Postlude **The Army Song** John Kwon
(Edmund Gruber)

*We are glad that you joined us this morning in worship.
We hope that you find strength, renewal, and a sense of peace
going through the coming week.*