

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We're so glad you're here this week! Bethany strives to be a community that extends a warm welcome to everyone! Our hope is that all who join us in worship will experience God's love through us as we share life together. We pray God will use our worship service to bless you this week. If you have any questions or want more information, don't hesitate to email us (bethany@bethanyrc.com) or call us (920-452-0051).

THIS WEEK: Pastor Andrew Fortuine

Scripture: Psalm 42:1-11

Prayer in Every Season of Life



WORSHIP TOGETHER: We worship together, both online and in person, each Sunday at 10:00am. Our online worship service can be accessed by going to bethanysheboygan.online.church. (The recording will also be available on our YouTube channel in the week following worship.)

LEARNING FROM JESUS: The words of Jesus's most famous teaching, the Sermon on the Mount, are some of the most familiar passages in all of Scripture. We'll consider these three chapters in Matthew which challenge us to think differently about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Let's explore these powerful words of Jesus together on Sundays and Wednesdays this winter.

ASH WEDNESDAY: Bethany's Ash Wednesday worship service will be on Wed, February 18 at 6:30. Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, a time in the church calendar for reflection, confession and recommitment. Come enjoy a meal at our Wednesday night meal at 5:30pm and stay for worship as we join with the Church around the world in proclaiming the holiness & goodness of God.



WEDNESDAY LEARNING TOGETHER: Each Wednesday evening, teens and adults gather to learn together! This Wednesday, we'll be diving into Jesus's words from the Sermon on the Mount in a fun and interactive gathering on Wednesday evenings at 6:15. You are invited to join in the learning, discussion, and fun as we enjoy learning from Jesus's words together.

READING AND REFLECTION: As we explore the Sermon on the Mount this winter, we have an opportunity to read along with a reading & reflection guide found at the ministry center or on the Bible App under "Events". Interested in discussing the readings with a group? All are welcome to join in the discussion each Sunday after worship in the Lenter's Room.

DUST OFF YOUR RECIPES! Our youth are planning a Chili/Soup Cook Off on Feb 4 beginning at 5:30 to raise money for their mission trip. Sign up today to bring soup, chili, or to bring dessert! Mark your calendars now for a night of delicious food and find out who wins the "best soup," "best chili," & "best dessert" titles!



MISSION OF THE MONTH: February's mission offerings will support The Warming Center, which provides a safe, warm, non-judgmental facility for adults who find themselves without safe overnight shelter. They are open from December through mid-April. To donate make a note on your check memo line, on your offering envelope, or on the online giving platform.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: For the next 2 Sunday after worship, we will hold a new members class for all who are interested in learning more about Bethany and joining as members. If you are interested in exploring taking the next step in membership, stop in the library after worship or contact the church office.

BRING YOUR APPETITE! Our Wednesday Night Meal begins each Wednesday at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall! This week we'll be having our Chili/Soup cookoff! We are looking forward to gathering and connecting while enjoying delicious food together. Come with your whole family! If you can bring a dessert to share, it's always appreciated!



GIVING STATEMENTS: The Deacons emailed giving statements to everyone who has an email in our system. If you do not have an email in our system we either placed your statement in your church mailbox or sent it in the mail. If you need a printed statement just let Melissa or Dale Rusch know and we will be sure to get you one. Just a reminder that you can access your giving statement at any time by logging into your Breeze account. Don't have a Breeze account yet?

Give Melissa a call or email and she will be happy to get you set up.

BUILDING ACCESS: We are experiencing intermittent issues with the key card reader and unlocking mechanism at the east door. If you are trying to access the building with a key card and it is not working, try the west door. If you are ringing the doorbell (during office hours) at the east door, please be patient as someone comes to the door to let you in.

GIVING: Bethany has a number of ways you can give. You can mail your offerings to Bethany (1315 Washington Ave, Sheboygan, 53081) or click "Give Online" on our webpage. You can also text your giving to 920-280-0042. If you need help, contact Melissa in the office. She is happy to help!

<u>FINANCIAL UPDATE: DEC</u>		<u>6 MONTHS YTD:</u>	
Income Received:	\$ 41,009	Income Received:	\$ 135,357
Actual Expenses:	\$ 19,115	Actual Expenses:	\$ 115,167
Amount AHEAD Expenses:	\$ 21,894	Amount AHEAD Expenses:	\$ 20,190
Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 24,635	Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 147,813
Amount AHEAD Budget	\$ 16,374	Amount BEHIND Budget:	\$ 12,456

OUR PRAYER NEEDS

This week be in prayer for...

- Gloria Blandin recovering from a virus
- Steve Rood and his family as they grieve Betty's recent passing
- Toni Becker as she discerns treatment options for her knee and osteopenia
- Ken and Lori Molitor helping Ruthie get settled
- Julia Robek recovering from knee replacement
- Nathan recovering from knee replacement
- Lillie Rusch and Dale and Deb as Lillie receives treatment for mental health concerns
- Barb & Brent Bonnett in Brent's recovery from surgery
- Will & Nancy Phebus as Nancy receives care at Pine Haven
- Peg Hollander - continued treatments
- Ron Schroder - continued cancer treatments
- Alice, Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mathers' daughter, continued recovery from brain surgery
- Judie Meise - nerve pain
- Kathy Landgraf - continued cancer treatments

Pray also for our homebound members:

- Delores Hartlaub
- June Rosland
- Gloria Blandin

Pray for comfort & peace for these families:

Minster Schoening Schmitt
Knop & Robek

Keep our college students in prayer

- Shania Arneson
- Libby Bonestroo
- Laura Carlson
- Rachel Carlson
- Mckenna Daye
- Luke Jowett
- Aiden Joosse
- Greta Leikip
- Ella Rocklewitz

This week, also pray for:

- Joy receiving cardiac care - for good test results and a clear treatment plan
- Drew as he recovers from a liver transplant
- Safety for those in the path of dangerous storms
- Addie who has pneumonia resulting from an undiagnosed birth defect
- Josie in her treatments
- A young girl who is battling an eating disorder
- A son diagnosed with lymphoma
- A niece with stomach cancer
- Catherine - multiple tumors in her stomach and lungs
- A family working through memory loss concerns with a loved one - for good answers and next steps
- Family whose adult children are in a long legal process - for peace and patience
- Dean diagnosed with cancer in his ear
- Murray Patz and Penny as Murray receives treatment for Lymphoma and for healing from the complications that have arisen in treatment
- Safety for those who do not have consistent housing
- Volunteers and staff of the warming center - resources, patience, kindness in their work
- Those who shelter outdoors, especially in the extremely cold weather
- Those in need will have access to needed resources
- For The Middle Ground, a new collaboration to provide safe, warm shelter during the afternoon hours.