



The Banner

Every person feels, knows and shares God's love

Monthly Newsletter for Bethany United Methodist Church • Madison, WI • Vol. 55, No. 1 • January 2022

Peace Sunday—January 16th

It has become a Bethany tradition that on the Sunday prior to the observance of Martin Luther King's birthday, our worship service and other activities will focus on issues of peace and justice. The event is planned by members of Bethany's Peace Fellowship. The theme chosen for Peace Sunday this year is *Climate Justice*.

Worship Service

Members of the Peace Fellowship will participate in the service, beginning with the lighting of the peace candle on the altar. Those watching the service from home might also want have a candle to designate as their peace candle and keep it lit during the service.

Forum

Following the worship service, everyone is invited to attend a forum on *Taking Action for Climate Justice* at 11:15 in the Fellowship Hall and will also be broadcast on the zoom network.

Tam Mayeshiba, who has a passion for climate justice, Presenting the forum will be presenting the forum. As Bethany's UMW social action co-chair for two years, Tam focused on environmental issues. She also has a research background on clean energy technology and is interested in building for a sustainable future.





PASTOR'S COLUMN



We Are Blessed by Our Servant Leaders

Each January, I like to offer special thanks for those serving on our Bethany Board. The Board meets about a dozen times a year for two-hour meetings, which alone is a major commitment. But these folks also provide leadership and support to many other ministry teams and projects of the church. They have each made a difference, and we are grateful for their work!



These past two years have been particularly demanding for our leaders, as we have needed constantly to reinvent how we carry out our ministries. And now, as we move into the future, there will be many new challenges as well. Our leaders will not only need to envision how ministries can grow in the post-pandemic church, but of course will also need to support our church's work through the coming months of pastoral transition.

I want to say a special word of appreciation for those who have completed their terms on the Board, each serving four years – one year more than their original commitment! Jeff Erickson and Rod McKenzie have served as our trustee officers, overseeing the care of our building and grounds – they have done it well! (Rod will continue as our Facilities Manager, but wanted to rotate off the Board so that new people could be involved.) Carla Russell has served as liaison to our Adult Ministries Team, then to the Children & Youth Ministries Team, and finally as Board Secretary. All of these are significant responsibilities, and we are grateful for the excellent work!

The following persons were elected at our recent Bethany Church Conference to serve on Bethany's Board in 2022:

- Karen Dischler, Chair, Lay Leader, Leadership Recruitment, and Personnel Issues. (Karen agreed to serve an extra term in these roles, to support us in the pastoral transition process.)
- Jay Ford, Board Treasurer

- Mary Schroeder, Financial Stewardship Support, Liaison to UMW, and Liaison to Caring Ministries
- Aimee Wright, Liaison to Children & Youth Ministries Team, and Audit Team leader
- Paul Dvorak, Liaison to Music Ministries
- Carol Clingan, Liaison to Outreach Team, and Lay Member of Annual Conference
- Sonia Upton, Personnel Support, and Liaison to Worship Team. Sonia has also agreed to complete Gloria Carter's four-year term as the second Lay Member to Annual Conference. (Gloria Carter has just been elected President of the Wisconsin Conference UMW! Because of this new role, she will automatically be a voting member.)
- Bethaney Campbell, new role as Liaison to the Adult Connections Team. (This is a merger of the Membership and Adult Ministries Teams. The new team will focus on connecting new people to the church, connecting people to each other, and connecting people to their faith.)
- Jessica Crombie, new role as Liaison to the Youth Programming Support Task Force
- New to the Board: Jim Carter, Vice Chair and Trustees Leader
- New to the Board: Dennis Christensen, Trustees Support
- New to the Board: Lisa Coleman, Board Secretary

I'm grateful for everyone who has agreed to serve on the Board. And, I am grateful for the service of every person in the church – your ministries make a real difference!

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Greg



Mitten Tree

The mitten tree was loaded up this season with hats, scarves and mittens that were delivered to the Allied Drive neighborhood for kids and adults in need of warm clothing.

Simple Gifts for January — “The Beacon”

Simple Gift offerings made during January are going to support The Beacon, a comprehensive day resource center that is a public–private partnership working to provide community solutions to help men, women, and children who are experiencing homelessness in Dane County.

The Beacon helps more than 125 individuals a day, 365 days a year.

Please consider giving generously, as your support will make a difference in real and relevant ways. Simple gifts can be made by placing loose coins in the offering plates, or by putting cash or a check in mission envelopes. You can also give online at BethanyMadison.org (click on We Serve and, from the drop-down menu, select Giving Financially).

Through the services offered at The Beacon by staff and partner agencies, individuals have an opportunity for a better life. The Beacon is committed to offering services in an environment where people feel supported and are treated with dignity and respect.

Along with its basic needs services, The Beacon also is a one-stop resource center for individuals to connect with other area social service agencies that partner in eliminating the barrier of transportation.

In 2016, Dane County purchased the building that previously housed the Madison Chamber of Commerce with plans to renovate it and turn it into a day resource center for the homeless. Dane County chose Catholic Charities to operate this multi-service day resource center and also partnered with the City of Madison and the United Way of Dane County. Together — and with support from people like you — there is a unique collaboration between the business, faith, government, nonprofit, and neighborhood sectors.



In all, there are nearly 30 partner agencies under one roof working together in collaboration to change homelessness in our community.

To learn more, visit: thebeaconhelps.org/.



2022 Special Sundays



Over the course of 2022, Bethany will participate in several special offering Sundays sponsored by the broader United Methodist Church. In the sharing of our gifts on these Special Sundays, as Methodists we are able to come together and make a significant difference in a way that no individual can do on his or her own.

The first Special Sunday of 2022 is Human Relations Day on January 16. This Sunday before the national observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday strengthens United Methodist outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk youth.

Special Sunday contributions can also be made online at www.bethanymadison.org/giving-financially/.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



ZOOM LINKS

Zoom links for all classes and groups are listed on the Bethany website on the Upcoming Events page. From the home page, click on the "Groups and Classes" box at the bottom right of the page. Links are listed by the day of the week they occur on.

SUSANNA CIRCLE

The next meeting of the Susanna Circle UMW will be Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 1:00 pm in the Bethany Library. Our speaker is Brigit Parlow who will report on the plans to provide English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to the Afghan refugee family who are living on Hammersley Avenue right behind Bethany. Our church facilities will be used for these classes which include 9 adults and 8 children. All women are invited to attend.

LYDIA FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting of Lydia Fellowship is scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2022, 1:00 pm at Bethany. Kathy Doran is our hostess. As many of you know, Kathy is a fantastic knitter. At the request of some Lydia members, Kathy is dusting off and oiling her spinning wheel with the goal of providing us with a hand spinning demo. Anyone is welcome. Let Kathy know if you will attend: aggie@chorus.net or 608-271-0560.

AGAPE

The next agape meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, January 12th via zoom. Our guest speaker will be our new music director Shannon Gravelle. Here is the description of her presentation. Everyone is invited to come learn more about Shannon.

I look forward to speaking at Agape! After a brief introduction of my own background, I'm going to share information about my musical journey, including lessons I learned from my time at Luther and with Weston Noble, the impact of my time in Southern California on my musical understanding, and the influence of my scholarship from my doctoral work. In addition, I will talk about this through the lens of being a female, and how that lens has allowed me to step into equity work in the choral field.

BOOK BROWSERS

Book Browsers will kick off the new year with their meeting on Monday, January 17th at 2:00 pm via Zoom.

Donna Wold will review the book *I, Eliza Hamilton* by Susan Holloway Scott. Eliza Hamilton was the wife of Alexander Hamilton. It promises to be very interesting book. Please join us.

REFLECTIONS BOOK STUDY

Reflections Book Study will meet Monday, January 24 at 1:30 pm via Zoom. The Book for discussion is *The Salt Path* by Raynor Winn.

Just days after Raynor Winn learns that Moth, her husband of thirty-two years, is terminally ill, their house and farm are taken away, along with their livelihood. With nothing left and little time, they make the brave and impulsive decision to walk the 630 miles of the sea-swept South West Coast Path in England. Yet through every step, every encounter, and every test along the way, their walk becomes a remarkable and life-affirming journey. Join us for lively conversation and thoughts about this book.

UMW NEWS

We have made our annual year-end contributions to the following organizations: Harvest of Hope, Just Dane's Healing House, United Methodists Childrens Service, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, Northcott House and UMCOR.

Thanks to all Bethany women who gave pledges in this crazy year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



MEMBER CARE

Appreciation...

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for the many kind and warm wishes that I have been receiving during my recovery from a fall. They have uplifted my spirits. I am so looking forward to being able to return to the organ console as soon as I can, because it is a joy for me to provide music for you, this wonderful Bethany family. I think of you all so much. Again, my appreciation for your cares and concerns.

— Sue Poullette

MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR NOVEMBER

For Dave Johnson: Edwinna Boyar (for Playing Field)

END-OF-YEAR STATEMENTS

End of year statements will be sent out about the second week of January. Please check your eleven month statement for errors or omissions so that they can be corrected before January. If you made a contribution to Bethany in 2021 but have not received a statement please let me know. We may need to update your email or mailing address.

— Sandra Arrington (Bethany.Madison.Finance@gmail.com).

UMW DIRECTORY

The 2022 United Methodist Women Directory is now available. Copies can be found at the information desk in the narthex.

UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Updated Church Directories will be available beginning Sunday, January 9th. Pick yours up at the Information Desk. If you would prefer, a PDF version can be emailed to you — just let the Church Office know.

UN-HANG THE GREENS

With the new year upon us it is time to un-hang the greens and put the church back to normal. If you can stay after church on Sunday, January 9th to help pack up and put away our Christmas decorations. With many hands it should not take long.



BETHANY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT





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CHRISTMAS AT BETHANY



Cookie Sale Returns

Christmas Eve

After not being able to be in church last year it certainly felt good to be “back home” this year for our “tea-light” Christmas Eve services.





Bethany's First Refugee - 70 Years Ago

According to the January 1952 issue of the *Bethany Fellowship Letter*, on January 1st, a sixty-year old displaced person stepped off the train and smiled his greeting at the members of Bethany's Displaced Person committee who had come to greet him. Ewdokym Kashpor had come to America after having fled from his home country because of Stalin's repressive regime in Ukraine. Unable to speak English, he was greeted by Bethany member Eli Ferris, who could speak Russian.

Although Ukraine had a long history of being repressed by other countries, after becoming a Soviet Republic in the 1920's, living conditions became especially severe for the Ukrainians. In the 1930's, the Soviets purged the country of writers, intellectuals, artists and clergy by deporting them to Siberia. Then World War II devastated the land, destroying hundreds of villages, seventy four cities, and killing many thousands of civilians. From 1944 to 1952, approximately 5,000,000 people were arrested, killed or exiled by the Soviets if they showed any sympathy for a movement towards independence or just identified themselves as Ukrainians.

While in Madison, Ewdokym lived with Bob and Jeanne Adams in the old Coach House which was serving as the parsonage at that time. Bob recalled that because of Ewdokym's genial sense of humor, they had a good time together despite the language barrier. The church soon enrolled him in a special English class at the vocational school and by February Ewdokym was working as a janitor in a residence for graduate students. He also voluntarily preformed tasks at the church and parsonage.

In November, Ewdokym moved to Chicago to join a Ukrainian settlement there. During the next year, he returned to Madison to visit Bob and Jeanne and gave them \$50 to go to the church as a partial repayment for the cost of sponsoring his resettlement. He said his gift was given out of gratitude for "you Methodists who never forget anybody!"



January 1952

Right: Ewdokym Kashpor, Immigrant from Ukraine

Left: Bethany Member, Eli Ferris, Interpreter

For Children's Ministry information, contact Lisa Weaver, Director of Children's Ministries
Phone: (608) 238-6381 / Email: childrensministries@bethanymadison.org

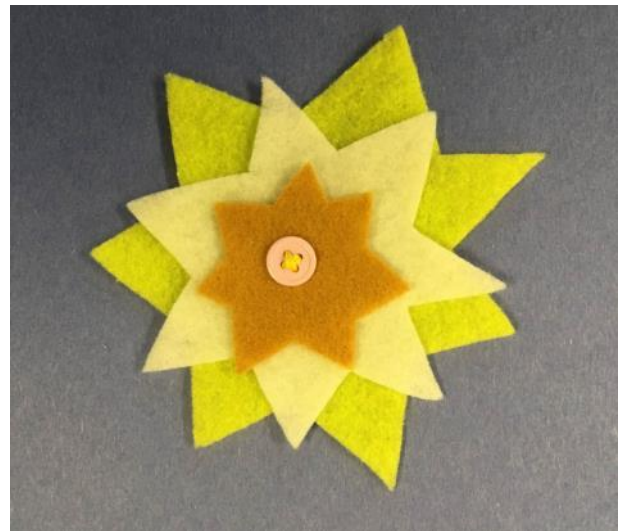
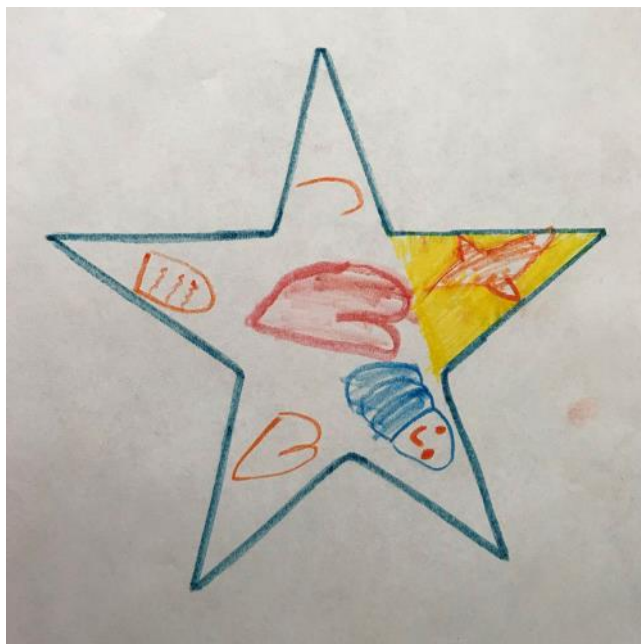
Children's Sunday School

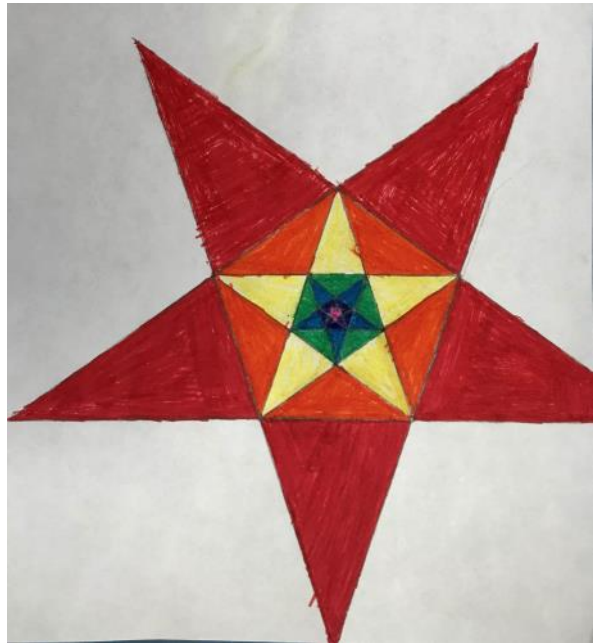
Starting January 2, the children's Sunday School classes will meet fully in person in two sections: Preschool to 1st grade, and 2nd to 5th grade. Sunday School takes place during the 10:00 am worship service. Children begin in the sanctuary with their families, and are dismissed after the Passing-of-the-Peace. Classrooms use the "Celebrate Wonder" curriculum, published via Cokesbury.



Stars

Thank you to all the children who created stars for the Pageant slideshow! Stars were created in Sunday School, at the *Looking Towards Advent* open house, and by children at home.





A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, Nov. 28	Sunday, Dec. 5	Sunday, Dec. 12	Sunday, Dec. 19	Friday, Dec. 24	Sunday, Dec. 26
Total 148	Total..... 149	Total..... 187	Total 159	Total..... 200	Total..... 102



We are a Reconciling Congregation,
 welcoming all people to be a part of
 our church family.

Information

Office Hours: 8 am - 2:30 pm

Church Office: (608) 238-6381

Email: Bethany.Madison.Office@Gmail.com

Website: www.bethanymadison.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship Service	8:15 am
Early Bird Coffee Chat (Zoom)	8:30 am
Faithlink Adult Discussion Class	9 am
Zoom Worship	10 am
After-Worship Fellowship (Zoom)	11 am

Bulletin Deadline : Tuesdays at Noon

E-Banner Deadline: Tuesdays at Noon

Banner Deadline for the February Issue: January 17th

Staff

Lead Pastor.....	Greg Jewison
Pastor of Visitation	Brad Mather
Deacon	Rev. Kory Douglass
Director of Children’s Ministries & Music.....	Lisa Weaver
Director of Youth Ministries.....	Brigit Parlow
Global Mission Partner	Temba Nkomozepe, Mujila Falls, Zambia
Director of Music	Dr. Shannon Gravelle
Organist	Sue Poullette
Director of Bell Choirs	Nick Bonaccio
Office Administrator.....	Carl White
Membership Secretary.....	Kathy Doran
Financial Secretary	Sandra Arrington
Treasurer	Steven Webster
Custodians.....	Ron Rebholz
Church Phone	(608) 238-6381
Church Office Email	bethanyoffice@bethanymadison.org
Website	www.bethanymadison.org

Banner Assembly

Mary Blasdel . Gerry Cotter . Judy Cox . Betsy Dunne . Eileen Dunne
 Vada Mayfield . Kathy Nelson . Gail Steinhurst . Donna Wold