



The Banner

Every person feels, knows and shares God's love

Monthly Newsletter for Bethany United Methodist Church • Madison, WI • Vol. 55, No. 2 • February 2022

Climate Justice — Taking Action at Bethany

Thanks to those who attended the forum, *Taking Action for Climate Justice!* Discussion afterwards brought up electric and hybrid vehicles, Grandparents University at UW-Madison, and solar power as ways to save energy and help the environment.

Bethany has initiated some projects over the last several years to make our building more environmentally friendly and efficient. Some of these projects included replacing lighting with energy-saving LED lights, replacing A/C units with more efficient units, installing smart thermostats so that only occupied areas are heated or cooled as needed, and insulating the west end of the education building to save on heating costs.

While there are no definite plans, solar panel installation could be timed to coincide with necessary reroofing in the next few years. If you have ideas for other energy saving measures, let us know!





2022 BETHANY BOARD



Serving on the Board this year are,

Top Row: Karen Dischler (2023), Jessica Crombie (2022), Jim Carter (2024), Sonia Upton (2024)

Middle Row: Mary Schroeder (2022), Paul Dvorak (2022), Carol Clingan (2023), Bethaney Campbell (2022)

Bottom Row: Dennis Christensen (2024), Jay Ford (2022), Lisa Coleman (2025), Aimee Wright (2023)

Board members server through December 31st of the year indicated in parentheses, or until a replacement is elected.

Motorcycle for Bolivia

I am happy to share with you the good news from Bishop Huanca, who through a Zoom call shared with me that finally they were able to buy the first motorcycle. This motorcycle will be presented at the Annual Conference on January 6th. And it will be delivered to the Lago District. They will send us a video so we can enjoy this moment and continue working on our relationship and brotherhood as members of one body in Jesus Christ. I also would like to mention that the money for the second and third motorcycle has already been collected. Thanks to all of you for your faith, hard work and support to this ministry.

Blessings and Happy New Year 2022,
Pastor Anita Lang



Simple Gifts for February — “Allied Wellness Center and Allied Food Pantry”



The Wellness Center and Food Pantry are made possible by Allied Partners, an interfaith coalition of congregations, including Bethany United Methodist Church, working together with residents in the Allied-Dunn’s Marsh neighborhood, which straddles Madison and Fitchburg.

During more typical times, simple gifts are made by placing loose coins in the offering plates, or by putting cash or a check in mission envelopes. But even if worship services are via Zoom only, you can give online by visiting BethanyMadison.org (click on We Serve and, from the drop-down menu, select Giving Financially).

Please consider giving generously, as your contributions will make a difference in real and relevant ways.

Allied Wellness Center

The Wellness Center is a resource that’s designed to promote health and wellness of the mind, body, and spirit of people living in the Allied, Belmar and Dunn’s Marsh neighborhoods. This center is a place where community members can learn about ways to stay healthy, and it also connects people with important health resources and programs.

However, due to COVID-19, the Wellness Center can currently only be accessed via appointment, which will continue through at least June. While the pandemic has created many hurdles, it has also created some new opportunities. A group of Allied residents was formally trained as Community Health Workers (CHW) through a new virtual training program provided by the Milwaukee Area Health Education Center (AHEC). The CHWs have focused much of their work on COVID-19 education and vaccine promotion. In addition, some of the CHWs have been able to take on individual clients who want to work on improving their health and being more engaged with their health care providers.

Due to the work of the Community Health Workers, the Allied Wellness Center has been able to secure funding in 2022 that will allow it to continue to grow and develop its community-based programming.

Allied Food Pantry

The Allied Food Pantry is an emergency pantry located in the Boys and Girls Club building at 4619 Jenewein Road in Madison. The primary purpose of the pantry is to provide nutritious food to those who are in need and can’t totally support themselves.

The Pantry is open on Wednesdays, when it typically serves about 40 families. The pantry provides clients with both perishable and non-perishable food items, as well as other necessities such as toiletries and hygiene products. Items are distributed based on the number of individuals in each family.

The pantry is run by a number of volunteers who generously donate their time to help distribute food equitably. Their efforts include stocking the pantry, setting up and taking down the waiting area, checking in clients, grocery shopping and transporting donated items.

Bethany also delivers food and grocery items to the food pantry. Donations can be put in the bins by the elevator.

To learn more about the Allied Wellness Center visit: <https://alliedwellnesscenter.org/>

To learn more about the Allied Food Pantry visit: <https://alliedfoodpantry.wixsite.com/allied-food-pantry>

Up next: Simple gifts for March support Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens



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 "Upcoming Events" box at the lower right of the page. Links are listed by the day of the week on which they occur.

SUSANNA CIRCLE

The next meeting of the United Methodist Women's Susanna Circle will be Wednesday, February 2nd at 1:00 pm in the Bethany Library. The program speaker is Brigit Parlow describing the Afghan refugee classes for English as a Second Language. This program was cancelled last month because of weather and Covid spread. The hostess is Gloria Carter. All Bethany women are invited.

LYDIA FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting of Lydia Fellowship is scheduled for Monday, February 14th, at 1:00 pm. Eileen Rech is the hostess for this meeting which will be held on Zoom. You can join the meeting by going to the Bethany website (go to Upcoming Events, find Lydia Fellowship and click on the Zoom link). If you will be attending, please let Eileen know at jim.eileen@yahoo.com or 608-228-6256.

AGAPE

The next Agape meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, February 9th via zoom. Pastor Greg is scheduled to speak about his trips to Bulgaria and his time in ministry.

BOOK BROWSERS

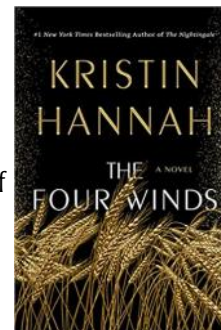
On Monday, February 21, at 2:00 pm, Book Browsers will meet via Zoom. Vada Mayfield will report on the book *The Woman They Could Not Silence* by Kate Moore. Please join us.

REFLECTIONS BOOK GROUP

Reflections Book Study will meet Monday, February 28 at 1:00 pm via Zoom. The book to be discussed is *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah.

Great Depression, Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as the crops are failing, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. The Dust Bowl era has arrived with a vengeance. In this uncertain and dangerous time, Elsa Martinelli, like so many of her neighbors, must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or go west, to California, in search of a better life.

A lively discussion is guaranteed. Join in whether you have read the book or not. Copies are available through the Southcentral Library System.



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

The next Church Women United event will be a forum about the Road Home on Friday, February 4th at 10:00 am via Zoom. Peggy Halleron, who has worked with them for 8 years, will speak about the history and work of this great agency. Bethany has been involved with The Road Home for many years and Church Women United also supports it. The Zoom link for this meeting can be found on the CWU website, churchwomenunited-madison.net.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



MEMBER CARE

Appreciation...

On behalf of the Allied Wellness Center I would like to thank Bethany for its generous donation to us this past December. Bethany has been a vital player in Allied Partners, which supports the neighborhood for many years with Marjory Lyford and now Mary. Yours is a very active congregation and your interest in our neighborhood group is very welcome. Again, thank you so much!

— Molly Blunlett, Interim Treasurer, Allied Wellness Center

A special thank you to the musicians at our church for their flexibility in providing music as we navigate the current surge. While Zoom is certainly not an easy way to rehearse, we are still able to gather in fellowship, have text analysis discussions, and sing. Thank you for navigating the technology.

— Shannon Gravelle, Director of Music

A huge thank you to Judy Cox, Gail Steinhorst, and Sonia Upton for their time and organization in the music library. This is a monumental task, and is on-going. From filing single copies of music, to moving instruments back to their home, to finding piles of music around the church and looking for the correct location of the items... the list is endless, and it is thanks to them that there has been such a great amount of progress so far. It takes a village... to organize a program.

— Shannon Gravelle, Director of Music



MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED IN DECEMBER

For Sally Gaard: Vada Mayfield

END OF YEAR STATEMENTS

End of year statements were sent out on January 12th. If you have questions about your statement or if you made contributions and did not receive a statement please contact Sandra at Bethany.Madison.Finance@gmail.com.

— Sandra Arrington, Financial Secretary.

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

Sunday School

In January we enjoyed a few sessions of in-person Sunday School, but also continued with the Zoom Sunday School option. Children are currently reading stories about the life of Jesus. Favorites so far have included:

- 📖 Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)
- 📖 The baptism of Jesus (Luke 3:1-22)
- 📖 Temptation in the Desert (Luke 4:1-13)
- 📖 Jesus Heals (Luke 4:38-44)

An activity that we all enjoyed was using watercolors (or markers, colored pencils, or crayons) to create water and sky, and then placing a dove in the center. This project helped us remember the story of when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, and a dove appeared.



Erik's Dove



Teddy's Dove



Sunday School Watercolor



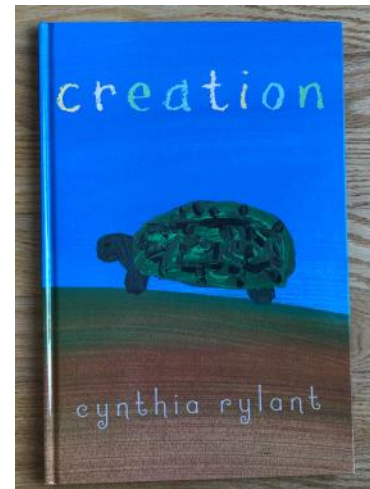
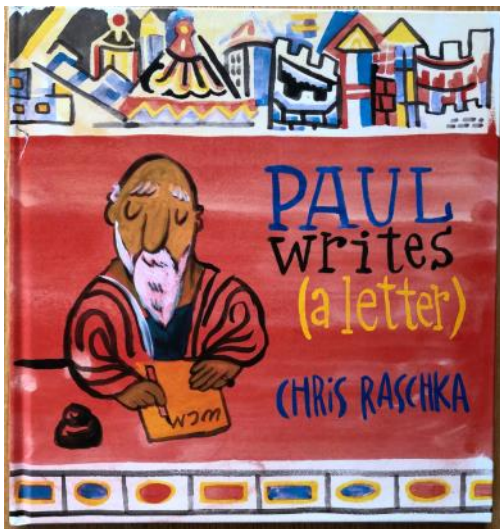
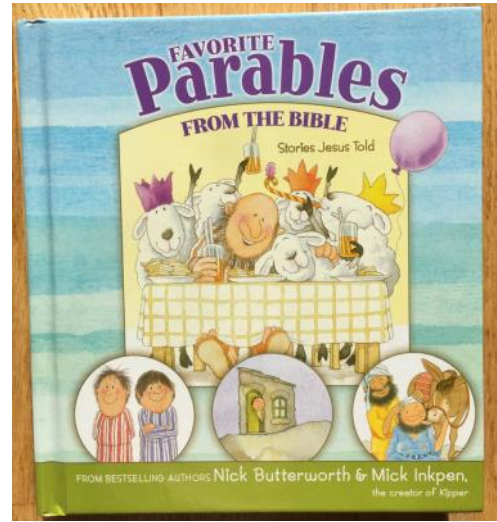
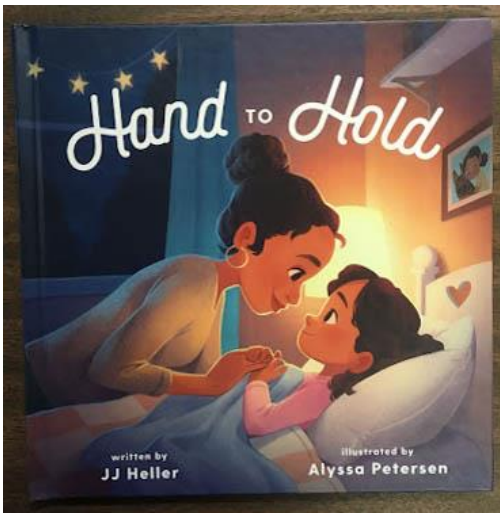
Julian's Dove

Children's Message - Picture Books!

Reading picture books aloud at home is a natural way to encourage conversations about faith. Some books are based on scripture passages or retellings of specific Bible stories. Others are messages of love, hope, or encouragement. Recent titles shared by Lisa in the Children's Message during worship include:

- 📖 A Hand to Hold (JJ Heller)
- 📖 Favorite Parables from the Bible (Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen)
- 📖 Paul Writes a Letter (Chris Raschka)
- 📖 Creation (Cynthia Rylant)

See Ms. Lisa if you would like to check out a book from the church library!



A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, Jan. 2
Total 108

Sunday, Jan 9
Total 135

Sunday, Jan 16
Total 149

Sunday, Jan. 23
Total 151



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

Information

Office Hours: 8 am - 2:30 pm, Monday — Friday

Church Office: (608) 238-6381

Email: Bethany.Madison.Office@Gmail.com

Website: bethanymadison.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Early Bird Coffee Chat (Zoom)	8:30 am
Faithlink Adult Discussion Class	8:45 am
Worship (in person and on Zoom)	10:00 am
After-Worship Fellowship (Zoom)	11:00 am

Bulletin Deadline : Tuesdays at Noon

E-Banner Deadline: Tuesdays at Noon

Banner Deadline for the March Issue: February 14

Staff

Lead Pastor.....	Greg Jewison
Pastor of Visitation	Brad Mather
Deacon	Rev. Kory Douglass
Office Administrator.....	Carl White
Director of Children’s Ministries & Music.....	Lisa Weaver
Director of Youth Ministries.....	Brigit Parlow
Global Mission Partner	Temba Nkomozezi, Mujila Falls, Zambia
Director of Music.....	Dr. Shannon Gravelle
Organist	Sue Poullette
Director of Bell Choirs	Nick Bonaccio
Choral Program Collaborative Artist.....	Evan Lange
Membership Secretary.....	Kathy Doran
Financial Secretary	Sandra Arrington
Treasurer	Steven Webster
Custodian	Ron Rebholz

Banner Assembly

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