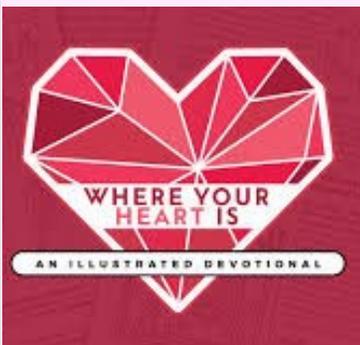


The Messenger

WINTER 2021



Lent

Lenten Packets are coming your way! Look for a manila envelope in the mail or at your doorstep early in February. Each packet will have a small baggie with ashes to use during our Ash Wednesday Zoom service on February 17 at 7pm. Ashes will be self-administered during the service. The Lenten packet will include a “Where Your Heart Is” Illustrated Devotional. There’s one entry per week with scripture, reading, reflection questions for conversation or journaling, and opportunities to color! The devotional is suitable for families to use together and for personal reflection. We will have further ways to reflect on this theme, “Where Your Heart Is,” at our Wednesday services.

Kindness Chain

Join the Children of Bethany this month in creating a Kindness Chain. Each week, there are suggestions of ways you can spread kindness among your family, neighbors, and in the community. Report your kind activities in this [Google Form](#). Each kind act will add a link to our Kindness Chain. When we check in during worship each week, we’ll see how our acts of kindness add up and stretch out into our community. The whole congregation is invited to participate.



Winter Worship Walk: New Date

You are welcome to join us for a Winter Worship Walk on Saturday, February 20 at 10:30am behind the Lemont Township Community Center (on Alba St.) Participants must wear masks.

Prayer Stations

We have been out of our sanctuary for over ten months now. But for many, it is such a place of comfort and peace. This Lent, we will be opening the sanctuary during designated hours and providing interactive Prayer Stations for your use. You may use the Prayer Stations to guide your time or enjoy the beauty and peace of the sanctuary for reflection and prayer. Participants can attend alone or with family members. Participants should sign-up for a 30 minute time frame. Masks should be worn at all times. A sign-up will be available in mid-February.



Children & Family

Save the date for a Zoom Paint night on Friday, March 19. More details to come!



Racism Study

The Racism Study group continues to meet monthly to continue to learn how racism infects and affects us all and to practice conversations on this challenging topic. In January, they discussed the Code Switch podcast episode called “From the Fringe to the Capital” and The Atlantic article “Denial is the Heartbeat of America” by Ibram Kendi. Their next meeting is Wednesday, February 24 at 7:30pm.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Bethany Members

Ginny Connelly	Peyton Kirk
Nancy Iwan	Frank Iwan
Ben Sabourin	Kerri Schroeder
Marie Heeren	Norma Johnson
Vivian Tiemeier	Glenn McAdam
Jerry Johnson	EJ Ahlberg



Friends and Relatives of Bethany Members

Joanne Bauer—friend of Jim & Ginny Connelly	Gary Cobbett—friend of the Bergmarks
Gene Sobba—uncle of Carole & Jim Ross	Sharon Bolerjack—Bethany quilter
Bernie Schroeder—father of Cheryl Hagedorn	Dennis Murphy—friend of the Andersons
Finley Engnell—friend of the Olkiewicz Family	Yvonne Borkhuis—sister of Rev. Glenn Bergmark
Monica Johnson—friend of Beth Howell	Jim Driscoll—friend of Gary Gray
Stella Slowik—friend of Kim Stowe	Julie Hayes—friend of Sue Gray
Jim McKeever—colleague of Kris Falese	Dan Herzing—friend of the Iwans
Sean Clark—friend of Kelsey Schroeder	Frank Roy—friend of Barb & Michael Woods
Rev. Glenn Bergmark	Kyle Williams—friend of Sue Gray
The Halama Family—friends of the Iwans	Gail Boehme—friend of the Jaje Family
John Shea—brother-in-law of Heather & Mike Nilles	Sherri Vick—cousin of Gary & Sue Gray
Sue Lucheon—friend of Ginny Connelly	Mike Hoffman—friend of Kerri & Corey Schroeder
Kelli Wilson—relative of Cliff & Bev Wilson	Omni Rook Myers—friend of the Taylor Family
Ranada Rymkus—friend of Don Garling	Lenny Kobilca—great-grandson of Marie Heeren
Justin & Stephanie Wormsley—friends of Jodi & Bruce Taylor	Beau Dowling—friend of Kris Falese
Tim & Virginia Schroeder—relatives of Jim & Carole Ross	

*If you would like to add anyone to the Bethany Prayer List, call or email the church office OR drop a note in the offering plate—be sure to include your name.
Conversely, if anyone listed is no longer in need of our prayers, please notify us as well.*

Thank you to everyone who donated monetary gifts, food staples and paper goods to the Open Pantry over the last year. We could not have provided for our clients without your generosity. A special shout out to our tireless volunteers too!



Bethany Messenger

Yep, Bethany Messenger was out of commission for the past ten months. There were several reasons for that. One, it seemed that plans were always changing and evolving. Two, we had less going on than our usual list of activities. Three, it was just one of the things we let go of as pandemic life offered new challenges. For awhile yet, it may be a seasonal or bi-monthly newsletter. We'll see, but regardless, we will make every effort to keep you informed.
Thank you for adapting with us!