

# Bethany Newscast—September 2023



**Sundays 10:30am**

## September 3

Liturgist: Betty Barchet

Elder: John Rich

CW&W (lead/asst): Sheri Cox / Jean Page

## September 10

Liturgist: Deena Gibson

Elder: Jean Page

CW&W (lead/asst): Vanessa Wagler  
Danielle Russell

## September 17

Liturgist: Ryan Wagler

Elder: Steve Appel

CW&W (lead/asst): Whitney Wagler  
Barb Hester

## September 24

Liturgist: Tandy Jones

Elder: Michelle Rundle

CW&W (lead/asst): Jean Page / Luke Wagler



## **Bethany Christian Prayer List**

*Below are the people and families currently on the Bethany Christian Church prayer list. If you have prayer requests or would like to add or remove people from the list, email [bethanychristianprayers@gmail.com](mailto:bethanychristianprayers@gmail.com) or contact Bethany's secretary and bookkeeper, Dana Johnson, in the church office from 8:30a-12:30p.*

Amber Adams & Family, Caroline Ashby, Stacy Baier, John Bunner, Stevie Chivlare, Bonnie Clancy, Dave Cox, Steve Cox, Ron Dennis, Family of Eilina Fox, Michelle Gilles, Cale Harper, Mary Jane Hunt, Katie Kelly, Ruth & Joe Lenko, Jeff Main, Shelly Main, Nancy McGuyer, Debbie Miller, Wes & JoAnn Mitchell, Ruth Paterson, Frank Rynkiewich, Nancy Slaton, Sheila Smith, Peter Thorp, Julia Wood, Myra Woolsey

### **Want to be a Bethany Pray-er?**

If you would like to receive prayer concerns as they come in so you can pray about them before Sunday, please email Pastor Michelle at [revmichellebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revmichellebrown@gmail.com).



# September

## **Birthdays**

1st Bryce Bunner  
1st Kathy Pulley  
2nd Ryan Wagler  
2nd Anderson Russell  
4th Chris Gibson  
9th Terry Kay Roberts  
9th Taylor Austin  
9th Tyler Austin  
11th Greg Small  
15th Julie (Gilham) Jines  
18th Steve Cox  
19th Michael Bryce Bunner  
21st Connie Helm  
23rd Rev. Bonnie Goodwin  
25th Rev. Kyle Hunter  
27th Melanie Rundle  
28th Olivia Gilham  
29th John Bunner  
29th Levi Gilham

## **Anniversaries**

5th Sheri & Steve Cox



Sep 5, 6:30pm....GEY Crochet Fidget Class  
@ Patchwork Central  
Wednesdays 10am.....A.M. Bible Study  
Wednesdays 6:30pm.....Choir Practice  
Wednesdays 7:30pm.....P.M. Bible Study  
Sep 8, 6-10pm.....Board Game Night  
Sep 9, 9am-3pm .....Fall Fest Prep  
Sep 11 & 12, 6:30pm.....GEY (BCC Snacks)  
@ Patchwork Central  
Sep 14, 7pm.....Theology on Tap  
@Myriad Brewing Co.  
Sep 24.....Consecration Sunday  
& Celebration Dinner  
Sep 28, 11:30am.....Keenagers  
Sep 30, 9am-3pm .....Fall Fest Prep



# Volunteer for the Fall Fest!



There are plenty of opportunities to help with Bethany Christian's booth during the West Side Nut Club Fall Festival. Scan the QR code to sign up online, contact Vanessa Wagler at 812-430-1866 or [waglers2000@gmail.com](mailto:waglers2000@gmail.com), or sign up in person on Sunday!



## Patchwork Central's Arts & Smarts

FREE after school art & homework help program for 1st - 5th Graders

**Begins 09/19/23**

M-Th 3:15-5:45pm

### Leadership training

Begins 9/5/23

\*Jr. Leaders 6th-8th Grades

\*High School Mentors 9th-12th Grades

Participants, leaders, and mentors must be registered by a parent or guardian at [www.patchwork.org](http://www.patchwork.org).

#### Patchwork Central

100 Washington Ave., Evansville  
812-424-2735

*Patchwork has offered free quality arts programming for more than 40 years.*

## Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap is a relaxed discussion group about belief and faith. We meet monthly at a local bar—this month it will be at the Myriad Brewing Company. While the Myriad doesn't sell food, you can bring your own or have it delivered.

**September 14, 7:00 pm—?**

Topic: Why God needs the church (and why we do too)



BREWING COMPANY

101 SE First Street, Suite 1, Evansville 47708



learn the **word**  
live the **grace**  
share the **love**

#### Bethany Christian Church (DOC)

601 E. Mill Rd, Evansville, IN 47711  
812-422-5439 (office)  
317-372-3926 / 812-909-8975 (pastor)  
[ahbethanycc@sigecom.net](mailto:ahbethanycc@sigecom.net) (office)  
[revmichellebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revmichellebrown@gmail.com) (pastor)

## Candy Donations for Trunk or Treat

We're collecting candy from now until October 29 for this year's Trunk or Treat. Look for sales and buy in bulk! Our goal is 10,000 pieces for the kids of the community. Cash donations are also much appreciated! Thank you!



**Daryl Mosely Comes to Bethany Christian Church October 29, 2023**

Worship at Bethany on 10/29/23 and hear Daryl Mosely's witness of music.



## Greater Evansville Youth

Greater Evansville Youth (GEY) is a youth group for LGBTQIA+ students and allies. The Middle School Group is grades 6-8th, and the High School Group is grades 9-12th. Both groups meet at Patchwork Central, 100 Washington Ave., Evansville.

**Middle School Group—Mondays, 6:30-8:00pm**

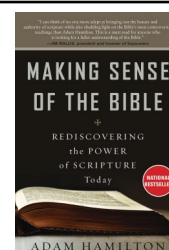
**High School Group—Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm**

*No meeting on Labor Day. Both groups will meet together on September 5.*

Bethany Christian Church provides snacks on the second Monday and Tuesday of each month. If you would like to supply snacks, please bring them to the church by the previous Friday. If you would like to serve snacks, email, call, or text Pastor Michelle ([revmichellebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revmichellebrown@gmail.com) 317-372-3926).

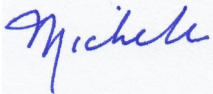
## Wednesday Bible Study Begins September 6—See You There!!

The church will resume its study of Adam Hamilton's book *Making Sense of the Bible*. To accommodate the schedules of more people, classes meet at 10:00am and 7:30pm. Discussion questions will be available online a week before each class and hardcopies will be in the narthex on the previous Sunday.



## In God's Image

In the first chapter of Genesis, we learn of God's creation. God's breath—God's spirit—hovered over lifeless waters as an eagle flutters over her young. God spoke and brought order out of chaos, created swarms of abundant life, and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply. Upon creating humans in God's image, God commanded them to subdue the earth and have dominion over all life, and they were to do these things by reflecting the image into which they had been created. They were to bring order, make abundant life and growth possible, and to be fruitful and multiply. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gave his disciples a similar command: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Jesus commanded his disciples to care for the powerless, to heal the sick, to feed the hungry, and to fight evil. We are commanded to do the same. Bethany Christian Church unites believers to fulfill this calling. Because of God's abundance, we know there is and will be more than enough. Because Jesus is with us, we can thank God for the good work God will do through us. Because we are filled with the Spirit, we have the power to bear fruit that brings life and the God of life to the world—fruit that multiplies. **Bethany is in the process of discerning God's specific call for us, and in September we are inviting members of the community to reflect on the resources they have and discern what they will devote to the work God will do through us. On September 24, we make those commitments and celebrate the ministry and service they will make possible. I thank God for you, your faith, and your generosity.**

God bless you,  
  
Pastor Michelle

*Consecration Sunday—September 24*

Come celebrate your offering commitment to God through the ministry of Bethany Christian Church. Dinner follows worship. See you there!

## Reflecting on "the Box"

By: John Rich  
August 29, 2023



I am a relatively new member of Bethany Christian Church, having transferred my membership only a couple of years ago. I love my new church home and family. Thank you for being so welcoming and kind. I have been thinking and praying A LOT about Bethany's future since I arrived. When I heard about the Suggestion Box, I had *all kinds* of ideas. I think that how we approach the "box" is at least as important as the suggestions we put into it, maybe more so. In my past, I've seen people put in suggestions to further their personal agendas; promote evangelism practices from 30, 40, or 50 years ago; and/or suggest wonderful ideas without intending to do the work necessary to accomplish them. People of the Bethany Christian community must do something very different.

We need to do some internal work before we approach the "box". Pray. Study scripture. Write out our suggestions—and then, before we submit them, go back and *edit* them! We need to go through the process of thinking, feeling, and praying our way through the implications of the visions that we may be receiving from God. The Suggestion Box is part of a larger process. We, as the Bethany family, in and through Jesus Christ, will be discerning these visions *together*. The Strategic Planning Committee will be prayerfully reading and reviewing these suggestions and visions. There will be a discernment process laid out, and we will *all* need to participate if we are to have any chance of discovering and following the vision that God is laying out for us at Bethany Christian Church.

Finally, I would recommend being open to the radical—and often shocking!—visions that God might be calling you to put into the Suggestion Box. When Jesus taught about the Kingdom of God, he answered in parables that always had astonishing twists that made people completely re-assess what they thought they knew about God and God's Realm on Earth. Mustard seeds, persistent widows, lost sheep, prodigal sons (and their fathers!), buried treasure, alert virgins, and even a fraudulent manager are all likened to God's Kingdom. If an idea pops into your mind, but it just seems too weird, don't dismiss it! Follow it. Pray more about it. Think through the shocking implications of it. That just might be the parable that Bethany Christian Church needs to perceive the astonishing new thing that God has for us.

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601 E. Mill Rd  
Evansville, IN 47711

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Check out Bethany Christian Church  
[www.bethanychristianeansville.com](http://www.bethanychristianeansville.com)



 **BethanyChristianEvv**

Worship with Bethany on  **YouTube**  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCFGE5r0vqpSyL\\_KpphPjgYw/live](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFGE5r0vqpSyL_KpphPjgYw/live)



## Bethany Christian Church is an Open & Affirming Congregation

We at Bethany Christian Church are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ seeking to learn the word, live the grace, and share the love, we welcome ALL to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us with grace and unconditional love and acceptance. So, with open hearts, open minds, and open doors Bethany Christian Church acknowledges, accepts, and affirms ALL people as equal children of God and affirms OUR commitment to welcome and accept ALL people. Therefore, **regardless of race, nationality, culture, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, physical and mental ability, marital standing, or any other designation of individuals who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination by the church and society, ALL are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and mission of our church.**