

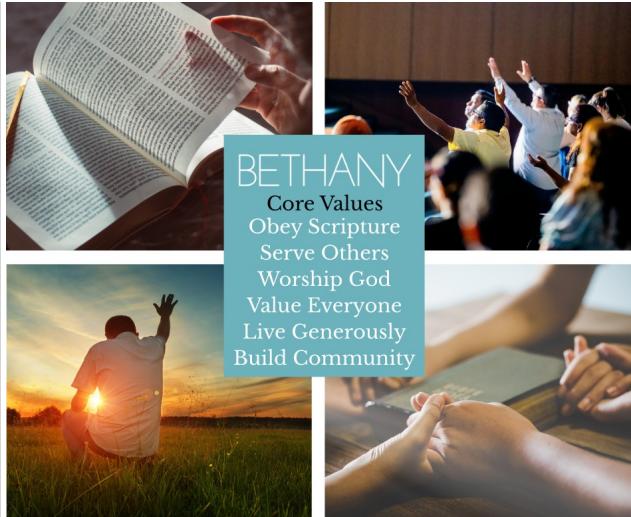


BETHANY | Newsletter

February Sermon Series

Sundays at 11:00 am starting February 8th

As we look ahead to Easter, we'll start by exploring how Christians worship a risen Savior in the shadow of death. Death is uncomfortable and even scary to think about, but what is death in light of a good God. Some might ask if we should even talk about death? But what does the Bible really tell us about death, and what does it mean for our lives as we understand death on God's terms. Join us as we look ahead and tackle an event often sad to us, but that leads us closer to a deeper walk and trust with God.



THE VALLEY of the Shadow

February Verse

*Even though I walk through
The valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff,
they comfort me.*

Psalm 23:4

Missions Event -The Davey Family

March 1st - starting at 11am and lunch to follow



We will be having a Missions Day on Sunday, March 1st. Our missionaries Wesley and Rebekah will join us for a brief update during the AM service and following the service a pizza lunch, for a more in depth look at their ministry. The Davey family serves in Europe and will be here to share about their experiences and mission work there. Sign up @ the Welcome Center for the luncheon.

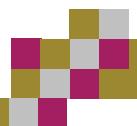
COUPLES *Date* NIGHT

FEB 20 | 6-9PM

February 20th 6-9 pm

Need a night out to connect as a couple or with others? You can go out alone or with another Bethany couple. Childcare is available. See Page 5 for more details.

Inside this issue: Obey Scripture 1 • Children's Ministry 2 • Youth Ministry 3 • Live Generously 4
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Newborn - 5th graders

We have classes for newborn - 5th grade on both Sundays and Wednesdays. Starting at 9:45 am on Sundays, Nursery, Preschool, and Elementary students are invited to join in the fun with other kids as we study God's Word. Wednesday, Kids Connection starts at 7 pm after dinner for the whole family. Come join us!

Winter Retreat - February 6-8th

For those 3-8th graders that are already registered for Camp Center Lake's winter retreat, we will be leaving from Bethany at 4 pm on Friday, February 6th. Please make sure to bring the Center Lake waiver forms, a sack "dinner" to eat on the way up north, pillow/bedding, and many changes of winter clothes for the weekend. Any electronics brought will only be accessible in the vans and stored while at camp. See Dawn W if you have any questions



Student Musical Drama Team (also known as the Sticks Team) For students in 1st-12th grade

All students are encouraged to be a part of our upcoming Musical/Drama team that will have their next performance on Palm Sunday, **March 29th** in the service. **Practices for our new song will start on Wednesday, January 28th, at 5:30 pm in Mick Hall and will be every Wednesday through March 25th.** Anyone that chooses to be a part of the team must be available for at least 75% of the practices as this is a new song with new sticks actions. Please see Sandi D or Dawn W if you have any questions.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming dates:

- Fri-Sun, February 6-8** - **Snow Zone Winter Camp** for students in 3rd-8th grade at Center Lake Bible Camp
- Saturday, March 14** - **Boys Nerf Wars & Girls Overnighter**
- Sunday, March 15** - **Pajama Day in Kids Connection/Kids Escape Room**
- Wednesday, March 25** - **Easter Party in Clubs**
- Saturday, March 28** - **Student Musical Drama Team Dress Rehearsal/Practice**
- Sunday, March 29** - **Student Musical Drama Team Performance during Service**
- Wednesday, April 1** - **Spring Break Week - No clubs or classes**





Middle School 6-8th Grade High School 9-12th Grade

Souled Out Wednesday Nights\

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Join us every Wednesday for a time to build relationships with each other and with the God who not only made us but loves us so much. Each night has some crazy games, a time to learn about God's Word, and gym time. Middle School meets upstairs in the Fireside Room and High School meets in the Teen Room.



Sunday Morning Student Bible Study

9:45 am - 10:45 am

Students in 6th-12th grade are encouraged to join us each Sunday morning as we dig deeper in God's word. This is the time to really grow and stretch our knowledge of Christ and His Word while spending time with peers. To kick off lessons in January, we will take a closer look at Spiritual Disciplines that draw us closer to Christ such as prayer, Bible reading, and fasting.

High School "Blackout" Game Night

Saturday, February 21st, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Join us for Blackout, a high school game night where the lights go out but the fun doesn't stop! Compete in capture the flag and other epic team challenges! Bring a friend and get ready for chaos after dark. You can register ahead for the event at connect2bethany.org/students. If you have any questions, see Barb S or Chris W.



Dig Deeper...

A chance for Middle and High School Students to Grow in their Faith

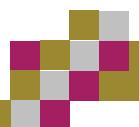
Sundays 4-6 pm
starting February 15th



A Chance to Dig Deeper - Sundays
Middle and High School students are invited to join us Sundays for a chance to dig even deeper into our faith and lives starting on **Sunday, February 15th**. This 5-week session from **4-6 pm** will begin each week with a Bible Study. Guys will meet in the Fireside room and ladies will meet in the Teen room. Each night will have an activity and something to eat. Bring a friend and take this chance to GROW deeper in your connection with Christ.

Mark your calendar for Middle School Mayhem - Friday, March 13th

Middle School students should mark their calendar for a fun night of messy games, food, and fellowship happening here at Bethany on Friday, March 13th.



Update on our friends – February

Wesley & Rebekah : Thank you for praying! We went a month without illness! We are so thankful for a house. This was a huge answer to prayer as it is extremely hard to find family houses to rent. Thank you for praying regarding our Visa situation. The process has been complicated, dramatic and difficult. God has made it clear to our leadership and us that now is the time to take a long furlough. This will give us time to set up our next Visa which will not allow us to come home for a visit longer than 30 days per year for the next 5-6 years. We will also work on raising much needed support. We have entered level B1 of language learning. This is the third level of six levels. Please pray as we chip away at this difficult language. Wesley recently attended a Roma Network Mentorship Conference in Serbia where he was amazed at the things God is doing among the Roma.



The Mission Team has arranged a time for them to come March 1st to share with Bethany.

Nathan & Lynn : Nathan's health has returned, and he was able to complete several large internal projects contributing to Bible translation, literacy, and scripture engagement. Lynn is officially the Director of Operations for SIL America's Area. She received a research grant that will cover her costs to travel for data collection towards her doctoral program. Please pray for safety and good opportunities along her extensive journeys in 2026. We have two large financial prayer requests. One of Nathan's medications has increased in price from \$10/month to \$567/month. In addition, we took a voluntary pay reduction in 2025 so we could continue working for Wycliffe but are still in need of increased monthly financial commitments to continue. We currently need \$1500 more per month in commitments. We have depleted our savings. If God leads you to assist them financially, you can give using credit card or electronic check by visiting their web page at: wycliffe.org/partner/kidwell.

Marvin C: I want to let you know that I have retired from serving as a missionary (to the Mormons) with Missions Door, effective December 31, 2025. I have been with them for 64 years. I am now 92 years old and still in pretty good health, but I am slower at doing things. I usually walk one to three miles a day and go hiking but at a slower rate. I will continue to do what I can to help Utah ministries. I still have a good supply of books and tracts that I wrote on Mormonism and would be glad to send any of it to those who can use it. I want to thank all of you who have prayed for our ministry over the years. God bless you abundantly. Bethany financially supported Marvin from 1968-2020.

Anna Kay H: Please keep her in your prayers. Her husband had Parkinsons and Alzheimer for a lengthy period of time. He quickly declined in the past few weeks, and God called him home the beginning of January. Bethany financially supported them as missionaries from 1970-2021.

Operation Christmas Child and Samaritan's Purse

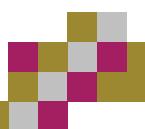
At Bethany, we are well aware of the ministry of Operation Christmas Child, a division of Samaritan's Purse. Together we have worked to collect, purchase, sew and prepare items to pack in children's shoeboxes in November. But Samaritan's Purse does so much more around the world...



On October 28, 2025, Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica as a category 5 storm, bringing sustained winds of (185 miles) per hour and leaving a broad path of destruction on the island. The storm displaced tens of thousands of people, damaged or destroyed more than 100,000 structures, inflicted costly damage on farmland, and left the nation's forests brown and battered. On Oct. 30, Samaritan's Purse's, Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), arrived on the island nation providing medical care, clean water, and shelter materials to thousands of Jamaicans. They have airlifted 10 planeloads of relief supplies, as well as nine thousand gift-filled shoeboxes to Jamaica through Operation Christmas Child. (One of Shirley DeKok's Granddaughters was a part of a group that distributed Shoeboxes in Jamaica)

We are honored to Partner with Samaritan's Purse in such a small way. God is using Christian organizations such as Samaritan's Purse to further his kingdom, and local churches, both stateside and globally, have opportunities to partner with them.





Women's Ministry

Couples Date Night - February 20 from 6-9 pm

This event is for any couples: married, engaged or seriously dating, who would enjoy a night out on your own OR with another couple. Meet up at church and if you choose to double date, pair up with another couple to build relationships and share an evening meal at a local restaurant. For those who require childcare we will have some responsible teens and adults at Bethany to keep your children busy. Our childcare fee will be donation-based with the funds going to assist our teens in attending summer camp. Make sure kids are fed before you come, but we will provide snacks. Please plan to pick up your children by 9:00 pm or before. You may sign up at the Welcome Center or on the Church Center App. If you have any questions see Patti DeKeyser.



Possible Ladies Self Defense Class - March 20th

Details to come

Update from the Trustees

As you may have noticed there are continuous improvements and projects happening around Bethany. We continue to do work to bring the Common Grounds area to its full potential with built in counters (counter tops to come) and upcoming water supply and coffee makers to be installed. This will make our coffee area an easier place to serve out of, and also help to keep supplies more organized.

We have a new video doorbell at the Main Sunday (East) Entrance. If you come during the week and need to get in the building during office hours of Tuesday-Friday 10a-2p, you can swipe up on the pad to ring the office.

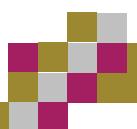


Check out the recently renovated Teen Room at the West end of the building. We have some days we welcome your help with upcoming and current projects ...watch the bulletin for details.

Serving our Community

We often get asked if Bethany has a food pantry. While the answer is no, Bethany does partner with Clintondale Middle School to help pass out food to those in need each month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. At 2:30 pm food is organized into easy to pass out pre-packaged bags or boxes. Then at 3:30 pm the line of cars starts moving and cars are loaded with those bags and boxes. The day is done around 4:30 pm after the food is handed out and the boxes are put away. We direct our community to this food resource so that those in our neighborhood can get fresh food options. If you are able to help with this important partnership, please contact the church office for more details. More information about the food pantry can be found at: <https://www.clintondaleschools.net/community/dragon-community-outreach>





Mission 2911 Update

Mission 2911 is Bethany's attempt to raise money for projects around Bethany that are not included in the yearly operations budget. One project that the Leadership has pushed to the forefront is the Sanctuary. At the Annual Business Meeting in November, the Deacons with the support of the Trustees and Finance Committee recommended ***the challenge of raising \$60,000 to begin the next phase of replacing the flooring and seating in the Sanctuary.*** To date we are thankful to have raised 40% of this goal and the hope is to continue to raise money over the next several months enabling us to complete this project during the summer of 2026. Thank you Bethany Family in making good progress towards this goal.

MISSION 2911

Sunday Morning Coffee Help Needed

Are you a coffee drinker? Do you love a cup to get you going each morning? Then you may be someone who could help in our Sunday Morning Coffee area. We need many people to fill in the areas of serving, preparing and coffee clean-up. If you are able to help once a month or even to sub, please contact Scott Becker or the church office.



Church Mailboxes

Please check your church mailbox. You may even have a mailbox and not even realize it. Mailboxes are located at the Main Entrance at the east end of the building. If you don't have one and would like one, please let Jill Gehrke or Dawn Wolf know.



Lost and Found

Don't forget to check the lost and found by the gym foyer. Winter is a time where many coats, gloves, and sweatshirts get left behind.

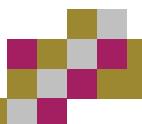


Connect at Bethany...

Do you want to know more about what is happening at Bethany? Do you want to feel more connected to our Bethany family. If so, follow-up on a few of these ideas:



- 1) Grab a newsletter each month - available the last weekend of each month.
- 2) Read the weekly Bulletin & Prayer Sheets to check out upcoming events and people to pray for.
- 3) Check out our website connect2bethany.org and subscribe to our free Daily Hope at connect2bethany.org/home/daily-hopeneNewsletter. These daily emails contain all the latest information as well as some inspirational words from Pastor Mark.
- 4) Check out the Church Center App churchcenter.com and list Bethany as your church.
- 5) Call the office to join a Growth Group, volunteer, or be added to the directory or mailbox list. Please note you do not have to be a member to be in our directory or get a mailbox here at Bethany.



February 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
COLOR CODE						
	■ For Everyone ■ For Women ■ For Men ■ For Committees	■ For 1st-5th Graders ■ For 6th-12th Graders ■ For 18-29 Year Olds ■ For PrimeTimers (50+)				
9:45 am Growth Groups & Kids Connection Membership Class 11:00 am Worship Service Communion 1:00 pm Griefshare	1 6:30 pm Deaconess Meeting	2 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 3:00 pm Youth Committee Meeting	3 11:00 am Missions Meeting 5:30 pm Kids Sticks Practice 6:15 pm Wednesday Dinner 7:00 pm Wednesday Night Groups Wednesday Bible Study Prayer Meeting	4 5:30 pm Kids Sticks Practice 6:15 pm Wednesday Dinner 7:00 pm Wednesday Night Groups Wednesday Bible Study Prayer Meeting	5 6:30 pm Faithfully Fit	6 8:00 am Men's Bible Study
MS & KC to Center Lake						
9:45 am Growth Groups & Kids Connection 11:00 am Worship Service & Kids Connection 1:00 pm Griefshare 5:00 pm Titus Small Group	8 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	9 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm Drop-In Volleyball 7:00 pm Deacon Meeting	10 11:30 am Men's Luncheon 5:30 pm Kids Sticks Practice 6:15 pm Wednesday Dinner 7:00 pm Wednesday Night Groups Wednesday Bible Study Prayer Meeting	11 12:30 pm Single Senior Luncheon at BJ's Restaurant 6:30 pm Faithfully Fit	12 March Newsletter Articles Due	13 8:00 am Men's Bible Study
Center Lake						
9:45 am Growth Groups, Kids Connection & Membership Class 11:00 am Worship Service & Kids Connection 1:00 pm Griefshare 4:00 pm MS/HS Bible Study	15 16	17 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	18 5:30 pm Kids Sticks Practice 6:15 pm Wednesday Dinner 7:00 pm Wednesday Night Groups Wednesday Bible Study Prayer Meeting	19 6:30 pm Faithfully Fit	20 6:00 pm Couples Night Out	21 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm High School Blackout Capture the Flag Night
9:45 am Growth Groups, Kids Connection 11:00 am Worship Service & Kids Connection 1:00 pm Griefshare 4:00 pm MS/HS Bible Study 5:00 pm Titus Small Group	22 7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	23 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm Drop-In Volleyball 6:30 pm Trustee Meeting	24 5:30 pm Kids Sticks Practice 6:15 pm Wednesday Dinner 7:00 pm Wednesday Night Groups Wednesday Bible Study Prayer Meeting	25 6:30 pm Faithfully Fit	26	27 8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Drop-In Volleyball

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm (February 10 & 24)

For those 16+, we invite you to come play volleyball. No fees, no equipment, just a night of fun and a time to build relationships. Questions? Contact Katherine DeKeyser.



February Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Mavis B, Jan D
 2 Joy L
 3 Alyssa K
 4 Zack W
 5 Vernon L
 6 Brent H
 7 Michele R, Caleb Ki
 8 Elli W
 9 Ryenn K, Olivia M, Sky M, Layana T
 10 Sandy N, Sierra S, Dominic S, Barbara P
 11 Peyton B, John K
 13 Oliver S, Isaac B
 15 Christine C, Mary Lu D
 16 Ken T, Alexis B
 17 Sheryl M
 18 Billie R
 19 Jo K, Samaya H
 20 Joseph R
 21 Emma J
 23 Scott G, Ben W, Wyatt B
 25 Penny W, Emily D
 26 Becky D, Aaron G
 28 Shirley B, Emily P, Sofia S, Journey N
 29 Richard D



6 Lyle & Sherry P



COLOR CODE

Friends of Bethany Shut-In No Mailbox

To ensure those whose names are color-coded receive their cards, please use the postal service.

Single Senior Luncheon

Thursday, February 12th at 12:30 pm

All single senior men and women are welcome to enjoy a meal together. We will meet at **BJ's Restaurant** (14455 Lakeside Cir, Sterling Heights, MI 48313). Sign up at the Welcome Center.



Men's Luncheon

Wednesday, February 11th at 11:30 am

All men are welcome to enjoy some food and fellowship as we gather together at **Michael's Kitchen** located at 35481 Groesbeck, Clinton Township.



Search Committee Update

The Youth Pastor Search Committee has resumed our search this year with renewed focus. We are currently considering three candidates and are also working to refresh our job description to attract the best fit for our youth ministry. Additionally, we plan to consult with a recruiter for free advice on how to strengthen our search. We remain diligent and committed to finding the right leader for our youth. Please continue to pray for encouragement and wisdom for our committee as we move forward.

– The Youth Pastor Search Committee



19700 15 Mile Road
 Clinton Twp. MI 48035

Phone number: 586-791-1190
 Website: connect2bethany.org
 Email: info@connect2bethany.org
 Office hours: Tues - Fri 10a.m.-2p.m.

Bethany has been established on the corner of 15 Mile Road and Beaconsfield since **1956**, and has a rich heritage that involves Christ followers who are devoted to seeking the will of God. We know it is no accident that we have been placed on this corner and we strive to reach out to our community with the love of Christ.