

Bethany Church of God

PRAISE and WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent



Welcome Home to God's House!

Come, rediscover, and find your place in a community of believers.
Come and Be Blessed!

CALL to WORSHIP

“Go Tell It On The Mountain”

WELCOME and GREETINGS

ADVENT READING and LIGHTING of the ADVENT CANDLE

The Candle of Hope

A TIME of WORSHIP and PRAISE

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

“Away In A Manger”

A TIME of PRAYER

MESSAGE

Pastor James Matt

“Those Who Wait With Hope”

SONG of RESPONSE

“The First Noel”

CLOSING PRAYER and BENEDICTION



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MESSAGE NOTES

Scriptures

Psalm 72:1-15

Those Who Wait – Advent Overview _____

In What Do We Place Our Hope? _____

Do We Need to Get Things in Order? _____

Finally, How Do We Bring Hope to Others? _____



**Next Sunday – Second Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Joy
“Those Who Wait For Peace”**

Read Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7a



CHALLENGE for the WEEK

The Challenge for this week:

SHARE THE HOPE OF JESUS WITH SOMEONE!



THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES

Today

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 4th

5:00 p.m. Dinner and Fellowship

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Saturday, December 7th – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Sunday, December 8th – Second Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Contemporary Praise and Worship Celebration

11:00 a.m. Traditional Praise and Worship Celebration

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting



Our Vision:

Our prayer is that we are a faithful, loving people who are seeking to grow in Christ and thereby affect our world.

Our Purpose:

To Know and Share Christ



CHURCH LIFE OPPORTUNITIES

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that helped last week with decorating the church. It wouldn't have been possible without your help! The church looks beautiful!

POINSETTIAS

The beautiful Poinsettias adorning our church this wonderful Advent Season are possible because of your generous donations. Thank you for helping to beautify the church!

ADVENT MEDITATION JOURNALS

Each year we receive Advent Meditation Journals to help us prepare for the Christmas season. If you have not received yours yet, they are available at the Welcome Center, or you can contact the Church office to receive yours. One per family please – thank you.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER AND BIBLE STUDY

Join us for **Dinner** and **Bible Study** this **Wednesday** evening; **5:00 p.m.** for dinner and **6:00 p.m.** for Bible Study. Come and enjoy a time of feeding your body and soul! We are studying the **Book of Nahum**. All are welcome to attend – in person and/or online!

OFFERING ENVELOPES

2025 Offering Envelopes will be available soon. If you have not had envelopes before and would like them, please notify the Church office or Pastor Jim or Beth to make your request and you can arrange to get yours.

THE PANTRY

The Pantry is an on-going project here at the church. We can help those in need because of your donations. We welcome the donations of non-perishable food items (**Please Remember to Check Expiration Dates!**), personal toiletry items, Kleenex, paper towels and toilet paper at any time for this Community Outreach.

STAYING CONNECTED!

Whether you are not feeling well, travelling, working, or just getting up late, it is important to stay connected to your Church family! You can still be a part of everything by connecting with us on Facebook or our website, bethanychurchofgod.org. You can watch Sunday Morning Worship, Wednesday night Bible Study or keep up to date on all things Bethany! It is a wonderful way to stay connected with us when you can't be here!

SPEED LIMIT DRIVING SCHOOL

This is a Driving School in the Sterling Heights Community that will be meeting here at Bethany during the week. If you know of someone who is ready to start driving, please encourage them to gather more information about this school. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center. For more information, you can call (586) 339-5899 or see Sal Sinawi.

CHURCH LIFE OPPORTUNITIES

CHRIST BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE

“Day and night without ceasing they sing, “Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.”

Revelation 4:8b (NRSV)

The theme for this year is “**Worship Him**”. It is with great joy that we prepare for the season of Advent and our Christ's Birthday Observance for 2024. As we read through the Meditation Journal during Advent may we be in preparation for this holy season as we reflect upon the gift of Jesus and the reality that He is due our worship and adoration, that the baby in the manger was also born a king. We invite you to join us as we celebrate this season with purpose, centered on the theme, “**Worship Him**”, which we draw from the heavenly throne room scene of **Revelation 4:8b**. This passage calls to our minds the truth that the king seated on the heavenly throne is one and the same as the babe in the manger, and He is holy, and He is worthy to receive our honor, glory, and praise. We are mindful that at the sound of His first cries, He initiated a kingdom that would rival those of this world, and we remember that even in the humble stable, there were those who brought gifts and knelt in reverence before Him. This Christmas, we respond in kind, bringing our gifts to the one who calls us to build a better world in His name. On **Sunday, December 22nd** during the Morning Worship, or at the **Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration**, we will have the opportunity to use our resources to worship Him as we unite with churches everywhere in giving to the Christ Birthday Offering. This special offering helps the Church of God, as a whole, to build a better world by reaching the lost with the Gospel of Christ. This offering touches nearly every ministry in the Church of God. Please be in prayer about what God would have you give, above your tithe, to help support the work of the Church of God. Our goal this year is \$1000!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT CELEBRATION

We hope you, your family, and friends, will join us on **Tuesday, December 24th** at **6:00 p.m.** for the **Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration**. It is a very special evening celebration of Carols and Candlelight!



CHURCH LIFE OPPORTUNITIES

GIVING TREE

This is an opportunity to get a head start! Our Annual **Giving Tree** will be up and ready for donations on the first Sunday of Advent, **December 1st**! This year we will be helping to support the work of **Enrich Christian Homeschool Co-Op**. They currently serve **95 families and have over 275 students!** Enrich Christian Homeschool Association, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) corporation, and exists to help the homeschool family. They are made up of independent Christian homeschooling families and their mission is to provide a stimulating and educational enrichment experience for children in grades K-12, focusing on godly learning as a supplement to their home education experience. They do this by offering a wide range of subjects utilizing their resources at a minimal cost to the students. Children learn in a group setting with favorable teacher/student ratios maximizing the child's learning experience. Parents are expected to participate as well, Enrich is not a drop-off program, parents must stay and be committed to the program. They also provide a healthy nursery and preschool for younger siblings who are not yet old enough to attend the Enrich classes. They run two sessions per year, Fall and Spring, and they strive to vary the offerings and keep most of the classes low-cost so that all families have an opportunity to participate. Their goal is to provide a positive, Christian environment for the children to spend time with friends and learn exciting new things. They want to help balance the academics with fun meaningful relationships for everyone in the family – even the parents! They help support learning as they gather every week, and they also help with support for families in need due to illness and other situations. They genuinely believe in being the body of Christ to others. As such, they need a variety of items. Please consider picking up a **Giving Tree Tag** at the Welcome Center and help us be the hands and feet of Jesus this Advent season! We will be collecting items through **December 29th**. If you have any questions, please see Beth Matt or give her a call at (248) 542-9451. Thanks for helping to bless others!

ENRICH



“For in Him you have been enriched in every way; in all your speaking and in all your knowledge.” 1 Corinthians 1:5

The beautiful Poinsettias adorning our Church this wonderful Advent Season are possible because of your generous donations. Thank You.

Given in Memory of

Tony Barynas and Reed Richardson by Kay Barynas

Eric Brown, Reba & Art Richards, Margery & Louis & Eric Johnston,
Luella & Larry Gott and Wen Crawford by Louis & Suzanne Johnston

Mary O. Williams – Mother by DeBorah Lindsey

Jack & Joy Harper and Dennis Lockhart by Roxann Lockhart

Our family, those no longer with us but always in our hearts!
by Pastor Jim & Beth

Gene Richards and Viola Baade by Charlotte Richards

Parents and Grandparents by Linda Zavitz



Given in Honor of

Audrey & Anthony Thorpe – Sister & Brother-in-law by DeBorah Lindsey

Life by Roxann Lockhart

God's Wonderful Gift of Love and Blessings! by Pastor Jim & Beth

Grandchildren by Charlotte Richards



Given in Celebration of

Tyrone G. Washington – Brother by DeBorah Lindsey

God's Gift by Roxann Lockhart

Our Children, Grandchildren, and the Joy of Christmas! by Pastor Jim & Beth

Great-Grandchildren by Charlotte Richards

Christ's Birth by Linda Zavitz

PRAISE and PRAYER CONCERNS



Praises

The Hope of Christmas – Jesus!

Prayer Concerns

Pastor Jim, Pastors, and Church Leaders
 Church Health – Local, Regional, National
 World Health
 Disaster, Homeless & Violence Victims
 Fire, Police, EMT & Military Personnel
 Healthcare and Essential Workers
 Henry Ford II High School and Students
 Our Country, Communities & Their Leaders
 MALU – Ministers and Laity United
 All Schools and Students
 Speed Limit Driving School & Students
 Mary Bader
 Dave & Lisa Birtles
 Patricia Brady
 Judy Brecht
 Saunja Caddell
 Collins Family
 Matt & Katy Cordell
 John Dzbanski
 Josie Gregory
 Jean & Gary Hill
 Darla Jackson
 Andrew (Sandy) Johnston
 DeBorah Lindsey
 Roxann Lockhart
 Sam, Nicole, Jeremiah & Riley Matt
 Dave & Rita Nakkula
 Niki Nome
 James Pardon
 Tony Purgatore
 Barb Richardson
 Harold Selvidge Family
 Doris Warren
 Shirley White
 Linda Zavitz

Janine Barrett
 Chris & Nedra Bork
 Jackie Brecht
 Lee Burbidge
 Larry Carrico
 Thomas Collins
 Kristi Cross
 Rob DiGiovanni
 Jack & Debbie Harper
 Mary Howard
 Evelyn Johnson
 Louie & Suzanne Johnston
 Nolan Lockhart
 Yvonne Martin
 Deanna Morian
 Earlene Naugle
 Wade Owens
 Butch Patrico
 Charlotte Richards
 Ralph & Evelyn Schultz
 Scott Stephens
 Cathy White
 Mark Wilson
 Unspoken Requests

Our Stewardship

November 24, 2024

To fulfill our General Budget, an average weekly offering is necessary.
 Please tithe in faith and as your response to God's blessings.

General Tithes	\$ 593.24
Weekly Need	\$ 2,153.00
YTD Giving	\$ 81,963.28
YTD Need	\$101,191.00



Please fill out a Prayer slip or contact Pastor Jim or the Church Office if you need a Praise or Prayer Concern listed above.