The Bethany Blueprint

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Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established (Proverbs 16:3).

Volume 52, Issue 1

January 13, 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 13
6:15 p.m.-Nursery/Mission Friends/BethanyKids/BSM (Bethany Student Ministry)
6:30-Adult Prayer Mtg.
Thursday, January 14
7:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study resumes *(Church Parlor)*
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-Mother's Day Out (MDO)
9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.-Bethany Friendship Quilters
Friday, January 15
6:30 p.m.-Youth to play Laser Tag
Sunday, January 17
8:45 a.m.-Altar Prayer, *as preparation for Morning Worship*
9:15-Sunday School
10:30-Morning Worship
12:30 p.m.-Korean Church
4:45-Adult Worship Choir Rehearsal
6:30-Business Mtg., to be followed by Disciple-Connect Groups
Tuesday, January 19
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-MDO
Wednesday, January 20
6:15 p.m.-Nursery/Mission Friends/BethanyKids/BSM
6:30-Adult Prayer Mtg.
Thursday, January 21
7:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-MDO
9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.-Quilters
Sunday, January 24
8:45 a.m.-Altar Prayer *prior to Morning Worship*
9:15-Sunday School
10:30-Morning Worship
12:30 p.m.-Korean Church
4:45-Adult Worship Choir Practice
6:30-Disciple-Connect Groups
Tuesday, January 26
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-MDO
Wednesday, January 27
6:15 p.m.-Nursery/Mission Friends/BethanyKids/BSM
6:30-Adult Prayer Mtg.
Thursday, January 28
7:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-MDO
9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.-Quilters

Ken's Pen

Dear Bethany Family,

The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Philippi, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace . . ." *(Philippians 1:3-7a). My heart echoes these words toward you, my brothers and sisters in Christ at Bethany. I thank God for you, and I count it a rich blessing from the gracious hand of God to serve in such a precious church family. Shannon, Olivia, Logan, and I thank you for the generous gifts you gave us during the Christmas season. Your expressions of love and your prayers for our family are a deep blessing to us. It is indeed right for us to feel this way about you all because we hold you in our hearts.*

As we begin this new year, I am praying with faith, anticipation, and confidence for God to do great and miraculous works in our midst. This past week, we began a journey together as I attended the first seminar of the Doctor of Ministry program in Church Revitalization at Southern Seminary. I stress that this is our journey. *My desire and prayer in this endeavor are that God will guide and bring us to a position of readiness for revival. My desire and prayer are that Bethany would be all that our Lord desires us to be—a vibrant outpost of His Kingdom in the Highlands of Louisville. My desire and prayer are that we would be growing together continuously in our knowledge of God's wisdom, power, and love—and that we would see Satan's kingdom being pushed back and the Kingdom of Christ growing as men, women, and children come to faith in Him. I plead with you, church family, to be praying together with faith, with anticipation, and with confidence for these things.*

This Sunday, January 17, we will start a sermon series titled "It's Time to Build," in which we will study through the Old Testament book of Nehemiah. Take time to read this book carefully, and meditate on it in preparation for our study. Its thirteen chapters give us the account of Nehemiah's leading the people who had returned from exile in rebuilding the Jerusalem walls. In this portion of God's Word, we will find principles that will guide us as we labor together to ready ourselves to receive and experience revival, which is God's work—a work of the Holy Spirit. Yet, there are steps that we must take to be ready to receive it. I pray that our study of Nehemiah will set us urgently upon taking those steps. And may our gracious, loving Father in heaven revive us again. With you, I am asking and trusting that the best is yet to come! Ken

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NEWS + NOTES =

•*Mark the date now for Bethany's annual Churchwide Valentine Banquet at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, February 7! It will be hosted by the Bethany Student Ministry (BSM) in Fellowship Hall. Donations are encouraged as a love offering for youth camp. Come alone, or with your good friends, family members, or all of the above.*

•*Sympathy to the family of Bethany member* Mary Margaret McConnell, *who passed away December 31, 2015.*

•*Some alphabetically arranged 2016 contribution envelopes are still available in the hall outside our Church Office. Pick them up, as soon as you can, to save on postage costs. Notify* Jim Zoeller *if your envelopes are not in the hallway window.*

•William and Peggy Frisbie *have given a gift to "I Love Bethany" in memory of* Erma Jean Hendricks. Ronald and Roberta Walker *have contributed to "I Love Bethany" in memory of* Erma Hendricks *and of* Mary Margaret McConnell. Shelly Kramer *has given Bethany a gift in memory of* Rob Myers.

•*Our* Lottie Moon Christmas Offering *so far is $9,798.83 for international missions.* What will you give to send missionaries to the 2.8 billion people without gospel access? Remember that our church goal is sacrifice and obedience.

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AT A GLANCE:

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Budget Offering	$1,393.00
Designated Offering	$ 50.00
Weekly Budget Needs	*$4,869.23*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2016

Weekly Budget Offering	$3,656.00
Designated Offering	$ 806.05

Attendance: Sunday School 46 / Morning Worship 75

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2016

Weekly Budget Offering	$1,863.00
Designated Offering	$ 245.00

Attendance: Sunday School 36 / Morning Worship 53

Given to "I Love Bethany"	**$ 165.00**
"I Love Bethany" Fund Balance	**$10,278.08**

Our purpose is to *worship God* as we *grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who live on mission in all the world*.

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