

# Bethany Beacon

## Special Interest Articles:

- Trunk or Treat
- Budget & Stewardship Update

## Individual Highlights:

Budget & Stewardship	2
Kids Korner	2
Church Reports	3
Church Happenings	4
Calendar	5

## Building Bridges *By Pastor Eric*

Bridges are fascinating structures. They range from being high, long, beautiful, to plain and functional. The Golden Gate Bridge is a beautiful landmark yet, ultimately it serves the same purpose as a simple bridge across a small creek; it enables us to cross an obstacle and get from one point to another. And when it comes right down to it, that's what all bridges do.

Here at Bethany, we are in the bridge building business. No, you won't find us working on overpasses or hanging from high places. You won't see us wearing tool belts or wielding propane torches. But we are still building bridges.

We are building bridges to our communities through worship and ministries like VBS, the annual Trunk or Treat, our youth ministries, and missions. We are building bridges between people by nurturing

relationships. Ultimately, we are building bridges between people and Jesus Christ, who himself is our Bridge to our Heavenly Father in heaven.

All bridges need to be maintained. We feed our relationships through fellowship and we care for our community through ministry and prayer. It's time to maintain our building which serves as a headquarters for our bridge building.

As we continue with our capital campaign fund to fix our roof, bell tower and a/c, please remember that we are doing these things so Bethany can continue to be a bridge between our community and Jesus Christ. Christ commissioned the Church universal to "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 that [Jesus has]

commanded you." (Mat 28:19-20) At Bethany we are focused on doing our part of the Great Commission that Christ has sent us on. In other words, fixing a leaky roof is not our mission. But having a functional roof does help us carry out our mission.

As Bethany strives to build bridges, we invite you to come and be a bridge builder with us. Join us as we bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world. Perhaps you have a few bridges in your personal life that have been burnt and need rebuilding. Come and meet Jesus Christ the Builder of builders. He will help you put the pieces back together. He bridges all our gaps.

Blessings,

*Pastor Eric*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT!

*Friday, October 29, 6-8pm.*

Get ready for Bethany's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat! What's a Trunk or Treat? (Glad you asked!) It's a safe, alternative option for kids in our community to do some "trick or treating" for Halloween. Decorate your car and store some candy in the trunk. We'll arrange our cars in the church parking lot so kids can walk through.

We'll have a clown, plenty of goodies to share, games for kids and stuff for adults too!

This event is for all ages! Come and enjoy the evening with friends!



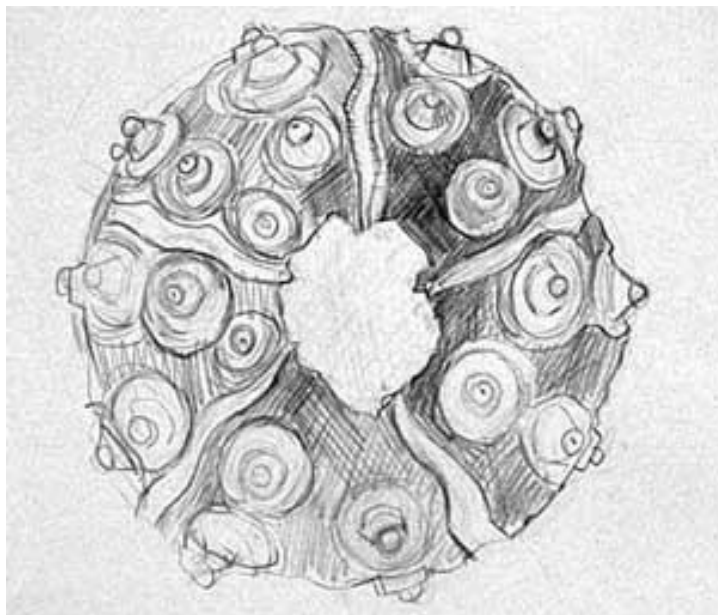
## U is for Sea Urchins

Sea Urchins have hard outer skeletons that have green or purple moveable spines. These spines made them look like beautiful flowers and they decorate the kelp beds where they live.

God's Word says in Genesis 1:20a, 21a, 22a, 23: And God said: "Let the waters teem with living creatures -" So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which waters teem, according to their kind. And God blessed them and said, "be fruitful and increase in number and fill the waters of the seas -" And there was evening, and there was morning - in the fifth day.

Close your eyes for a minute and try to picture what it would have been like if we had been there and had seen all these beautiful things created!?! God's Word says: Matthew 6:31-33 Don't worry and ask yourselves, "Will we have anything to eat? Will we have any clothes to wear? Only people who don't know God are always worrying about such things. Your Father in heaven knows that you need all of these. But more than anything else, put God's work first, and do what He wants. Then the other things will be yours as well.

Isn't it wonderful that God will take care of us in all these things. We need to obey Him and do what He asks of us.



## Budget and Stewardship Update

According to Facebook, Bethany turned 93 this past July and, like all of us as we grow older, has some doctoring that needs to be done. This will require money and time.

The Budget and Stewardship Committee met twice during September. Bethany's physical needs, as well as how to finance them, were discussed. Financing the entire amount would severely impact our ongoing ministries. To be good stewards of our money, it was decided that we would finance half of the needed money, in order to continue to support our missions and reduce interest paid over time. This means we need to raise half of the money now. We have faith this will be done. With that in mind, these are the steps we will be taking. **Please save these dates!**

October 3: After church, we will have a Q and A session with the session, trustees, contractors and the congregation to fill in the details of what is taking place.

October 9: Dinner **and** a show; a spaghetti dinner with a presentation by the Bickersons, an old time radio favorite.

October 17: Take a pie in your face for Jesus day following service. Featuring selected individuals who love pie and love Jesus. **You can help** them get more pie through your financial support. (More money = more pie)

October 24: Roof and Bell Tower repairs will hopefully begin this week.

We are very excited about these upcoming events and hope you will prayerfully consider how you can help Bethany.

## MoMints – Moderator Minutes (from August 2010) By Pastor Eric Keller

September's meeting proved to be one of the shortest meetings we've had since I've become your moderator. That was good news for a lot of us! ☺

The bulk of our meeting revolved around the Budget and Stewardship's recommendation to the session on how to approach the roof, bell tower and a/c repairs as good stewards of our finances.

All repairs combined will cost roughly \$28,000. We kept in mind that we already have a capital improvement loan we are paying down. Our existing \$90k loan has about a \$40,000 balance and is 4 years from being paid off.

We advised against refinancing our

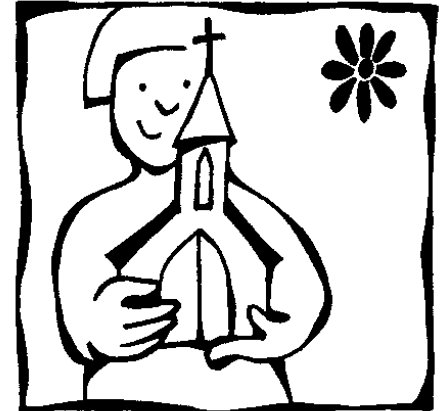
current loan and taking on more debt before looking at other options. The cost of borrowing 100% of the money for the building repairs was too high.

The Budget and Stewardship Committee recommended that we raise half the \$28k needed and borrow the difference. This meant a significant savings in interest. Session approved this recommendation.

Budget and Stewardship will also present a plan to pay down the borrowed balance after the repairs are completed.

Your Moderator,

Pastor Eric



## Trustees Report

### *In Attendance*

- Wallace Zipperer
- Andy Franklin
- Tom Czubachowski
- Bruce Wyatt
- Sandy Hewitt

### *Not Present*

- Cheryl Olson

### *Notes*

Sandy opened in prayer. The sanctuary and fellowship hall are already showing water damage due to the needed roof repairs. The Session has turned the roof & air-conditioner repair loan and financing over to the Budget & Stewardship Committee. They were given a deadline of September 14th for a plan. Wallace has asked the insurance company for flood and earthquake insurance quotes. It was mentioned that sewage back-ups may not be covered and will need to be investigated. It was suggested that the Trustee report be posted on the web site. Tom closed in prayer.

### *Planned & In Progress*

- repair shelf in the shed
- fire inspector found "inside burner cabinet transformer is dangling by wiring" in the boiler room (Tom)

- annual elevator inspection is due in the fall
- replace neighbor's fence corner post; need two posts due to a concrete footer from the broken post
- Fix baseboard between the car port and the elevator (Bruce)
- fellowship hall thermostat to be replaced (Bruce)
- repair wood frame on outside sign (Andy)
- install second door chime (Andy)
- kill grass in parking lot (Mat)
- cement walking path between two lots (Bruce & Wallace)
- clean stairwell carpeting – in discussion
- cover or move Stronghold drawing in storage classroom (waiting for Session decision)
- baby changing station in narthex bathroom & possibly the cry room - \$185 per station (Sandy)
- repair sanctuary window sills; Sandy to get quote from Freehan Brothers Construction
- repair narthex ceiling tiles (after roof)
- seal parking lot (next year?)

### *Completed*

- Fellowship hall condensation leak was caused by a plugged drain hose (August)
- Cintas to check/recharge fire extinguishers (August)
- Wasp nest outside the classrooms on the parking lot side (August)
- check lights in office – Julie reported that they are flickering and humming – probably needs a ballast replaced (August)
- check office HVAC air filter (August)
- repair AC unit for sanctuary (August)

## Deacons Report

The deacons met on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

## Church Announcements & Happenings!

### Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am to 4:00pm

Ladies!!! Mark your calendars and tell your friends! For those of you who have attended previously, you are aware of the wonderful craft items and baked goodies that are available. Coffee and muffins are available for early shoppers. We also have an expanded lunch menu, so bring your guys to enjoy a good lunch while you 'shop till you drop'! This is our opportunity to share in a great fundraiser for Women's' Association! Let's make this the best supported bazaar yet!

### Love Inc

Remember to bring your LOVE INC. SMALL CLOSET items to continue our outreach to the needy in our community. The Christian radio station, WFEN is also aiding us with special events and radio announcements! Ask Sarah Wyatt about the first event held by WFEN at Cherryvale! Great response and increased community awareness! If you've forgotten what items to include, there is a list on the LOVE INC. box that will continue to be in the narthex. Thank you to those of you who have remembered this ongoing ministry!

God bless,  
Ginny Falnes and Sarah Wyatt

### Adult Education Opportunity

Our adult Sunday School class meets each Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. We will begin a study on the Holy Spirit on the first Sunday in October. We would love to have you join with us. We have lots of open discussions as we study and the fellowship is extra special!! Want to learn, grow, or ask questions?

Come join us!  
Ginny Falnes

Hannah Circle  
will meet at Ruth  
Chandlers on  
October 20<sup>th</sup> at  
12:30 pm.  
Thanks, Delores  
Deitrick

BYKOTA Circle will  
meet October 21 at  
church at 9 am to  
clean kitchen with  
meeting and lesson to  
follow. Questions?  
Call Marilyn Buske.  
Thanks, Delores  
Deitrick

### Women's Association Meeting

Sunday, October 10th after service in the library. ALL women are invited to attend. We will discuss the following: New Officers, Budget, and Fall Brunch. Please attend if you would like input on any of those topics.

M&M Circle  
will meet at  
Pam Easton's  
on October 21  
at 7:00pm.

Uriel Circle  
will meet at  
church on  
October 12 at  
7:00pm.

### October Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30 Q&A Session	<b>4</b> 6pm Cub Scout Den 396 6:30 Trustees	<b>5</b> 7pm: AA Meeting 7pm: AI-Anon 7pm: AI-Ateen	<b>6</b> 6:30pm: Praise Team practice 7:30pm: Choir practice <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE</b>	<b>7</b> 6:30 Daisy Troop Parent Mtg 6:30 Cub Scout Pack 396 7pm: AI-Anon	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Spaghetti Dinner and show
<b>10</b> 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30 Women's Assoc. Mtg	<b>11</b> 5pm: Daisy Troop 6pm Cub Scout Den 396 7pm: Session	<b>12</b> 7pm: AA Meeting 7pm: AI-Anon 7pm: AI-Ateen 7 PM Uriel Circle	<b>13</b> 6:30pm: Praise Team practice 7:30pm: Choir practice	<b>14</b> 6:30 Cub Scout Pack 396 7pm: AI-Anon	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30am Pie in the Face for Jesus	<b>18</b> 6pm Cub Scout Den 396 6pm Worship Committee 7pm: Deacon's <b>BEACON ARTICLES DUE</b>	<b>19</b> 7pm: AA Meeting 7pm: AI-Anon 7pm: AI-Ateen 7pm Congregational Life	<b>20</b> 12:30pm Hannah Circle at Ruth's 6:30pm: Praise Team practice 7:30pm: Choir practice	<b>21</b> 9am BYKOTA 6:30 Cub Scout Pack 396 7pm: AI-Anon 7pm M&M's Circle at Pam's	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:30am Communication Committee	<b>25</b> 5:30pm: Daisy Troop 6pm Cub Scout Den 396 7pm: Christian Ed	<b>26</b> 6pm: Parents Prayer 7pm: AA Meeting 7pm: AI-Anon 7pm: AI-Ateen	<b>27</b> 6:30pm: Praise Team practice 7:30pm: Choir practice	<b>28</b> 6:30 Cub Scout Pack 396 7pm: AI-Anon	<b>29</b> 6pm Trunk or Treat	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>Halloween</b> 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration						



Fall's Splendor

**Nursery Thank You**

**September**

- 9/5 – David & Jennifer Bock
- 9/12 – Terri Bailey & Youth
- 9/19 – Homer & Karen Troy
- 9/26 – Lori Mitchell & Marilyn Beebe

**BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN**  
5403 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Loves Park, IL 61111

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #3791  
Rockford, IL

5403 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Loves Park, IL 61111

PHONE:  
(815) 877-8001

FAX:  
(815) 877-8002



**We're on the Web!**

*See us at:*

[www.bethpc.org](http://www.bethpc.org)

## **Staff Directory**

Eric Keller, Senior Pastor  
Julie Peet, Office Administrator  
Peder Carlson, Pastor Emeritus  
Marlys Marsh, Pianist  
Tim Krug, Worship Director  
Jack Hoffman, Chime Choir Director  
Matt Spencer, Custodian

ekeller@bethpc.org  
jpeet@bethpc.org

mar4806@comcast.net  
tndkrug@aol.com

geewhiz8@hotmail.com