

Bethany Beacon

Special Interest Articles:

- Trunk-R-Treat
- Youth Challenge
- Eric Liddell
- Heaven Sunday School

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E-Mail *By Pastor Eric*

The mission of Bethany Church is: "To equip people to be fully devoted to Jesus Christ through relevant and practical ministries." This next month we will see a few practical things to help us carry out this mission.

First, is the leadership training workshop. The purpose of this course is to enhance the quality of leadership in our church. No church can be successful without good leadership. This course is a good introduction to what leadership is and does. In other words, it's a very practical course. The goal of this workshop is to have a better understanding of what is required of leadership and align ourselves with our gifts in the church.

Second, we are installing window film on the glass

above the Education Center doors. This film has a stained glass effect and will serve two purposes. One, it will alleviate some of the heat that gets generated in the Education Center entry way and Bridge. Second, and more importantly, it will help make that area of the building look more "church like." I'd be the first to say that putting window film on glass is not going to draw people into the church. But it will give our building a bit of a face lift and hopefully will make the entry way more comfortable.

Finally, a new information center will be placed in the entry way of the Worship Center. Both the Worship Team and the Session believe an information center will provide a great location for guests of the church to find information on our

ministries and a place for us to go to sign up for upcoming events.

The window film and information center projects are being funded by the Memorial and Special Gifts Committee.

I'm excited about these projects. They demonstrate our willingness to develop and be a more welcoming church to the community. If you like the results, please let any of our Elders or members of the Worship Team know. Our Worship Team has been working on the Stained Glass and Information Center projects for over a year and your encouragement will be just what they need to stay motivated.

Blessings,

Pastor Eric

Trunk-R-Treat

Join us for our third annual Trunk-R-Treat on **Friday, October 28 from 6-8pm**. The purpose of this event is to provide an activity for our community that is safe and inviting. Please decorate your cars and bring candy to hand out to all who come. Our goal this year is to have ten cars. We will also have another bouncy house this year. This is a perfect opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to the church. Please call the church if you plan to bring a car so we can plan accordingly.



Kids Korner

Submitted by Joan Keener

This summer, I'm sure that we all have had our share of mosquito bites. God the Creator made them very special.

The female mosquito has no jaw so she cannot bite. Instead, she stabs through the skin with 6 needlelike stylets in her proboscis and drinks up the blood. Scientists at the University in Osaka, Japan, have studied the mosquito and have designed a harpoon like needle that resembles a mosquito's 6 part mouth parts to give injections. This is far less painful than a regular injection. It is still being studied.

When the female mosquito does the above, she spits a special substance called an "anticoagulant" into the wound to keep the blood watery enough for her to drink it and also seal off the tiny wound. Then man made medicine like comadin/warfarin to keep the blood from coagulating too fast for certain medical purposes.

The female mosquito waterproofs her top half of her eggs before she lays them in water so that they won't sink but float on top of the water. Then man made buoys whose inside is waterproof so that it will not sink but float in the water.

The mosquito larvae breathe underwater through their snorkels which they poke above the surface of the water. Then man made snorkels that allows them to breathe underwater by poking the snorkel above the surface of the water.

The mosquito has sticky pads on the ends of its feet. The pads let the mosquito stick to smooth surfaces. They can even walk on ceilings! Then man made post-it notes that can stick to smooth surfaces.

Guess what attracts mosquitoes more than anything else? You may have guessed it! "Stinky socks." A doctor in Kenya is studying this and trying to make a poison that consists of the odor of the human feet. Then they will be able to help eradicate malaria which causes a lot of deaths world-wide.

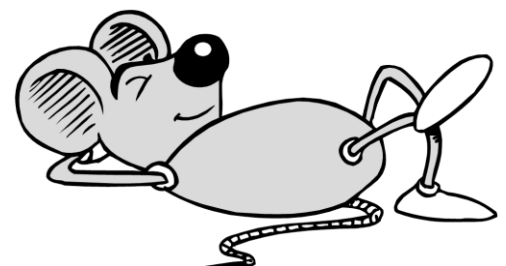
---What are arithmetic bugs?

Mosquitoes - They add to your misery, subtract from you fun, divide your attention and they multiply quickly!



Deacon Church Mouse Sez:
Give God the morning's first minutes and He will bless the day's long hours.

Granny Church Mouse sez:
Good habits are just as hard to break as bad ones.



Youth Challenge!

Submitted by Pastor Eric

In August, the youth presented a message on their experience from their mission trip. During the message they challenged the congregation to pick and do one of the following:

Easy

- Invite a friend or neighbor to church
- Pay for a stranger's lunch
- Read a chapter of the bible a day

Moderate

- Pray at a restaurant
- Volunteer with a food ministry
- Call a non-Christian friend and talk about Jesus

Hard

- Talk to a stranger about Christ
- Make amends with someone
- Volunteer at a nursing home

Please contact the office and share what you have done and the result. We'd like to relay what God is doing to the rest of the church.

Mission Update

Submitted by Ginny Falnes

OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: BETHANY FAMILY FUND/BFF

This mission outreach is designed specifically for Bethany members who have found themselves in a difficult financial situation, who need assistance with an immediate need. If you know of someone who is in need of help, you can contact the Deacon's Committee to make the need known, for their consideration. All information is kept private out of respect for those who make requests.

NOVEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: CARPENTER'S PLACE and "Don't Spend A Dime"

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: HAVEN NETWORK

PAPER ANGEL CLOSET

Thank you for your ongoing support for our "Paper Angel Closet". Items needed on an ongoing basis; toilet tissue, Kleenex, paper towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand soap, laundry detergent, bleach, shampoo, band aids, toilet bowl cleaner, bathroom cleaner, deodorant and razors.

ST. BRIDGET FOOD PANTRY

Our gentle reminder to bring your gift of food on the first Sunday of each month. The box for your donations is in the entryway of the educational unit! God bless you for your generosity for the hungry in the Loves Park, Machesney Park area. Making a difference for those needy in our own community!

GET "ON" WITH IT

Submitted by Pastor Eric

Bethany has a great website with a lot of information about our mission, ministries, and activities. We'd like to make more use of this invaluable tool. I'm going to start a new online idea... Each Beacon will contain an article as a teaser to encourage people to go to our website. I will begin an article here in the Beacon and finish it on the web. I hope this new feature will help you get "on" our website where you can learn even more about what God is doing at Bethany. And now, or this month's teaser....

It's Not Like a Bear Has the Cheerios. Ever get worked up over something? I mean so worked up that you can't even address it? So worked up that you can't even think straight? How many times in the past year would you say you were really worked up over something? Let me ask you this... Out of all those times this past year, can you remember exactly what it was you were worked up about? Not many? It's like I always say, "It's not like the bear has the Cheerios." To finish this article, please go to www.bethpc.org

Commitment Cards

Commitment cards are being mailed out this month. Before signing and returning these, please take the opportunity to pray and as God at what level your family is able to commit.

These pledge cards will help us plan for our future and plan our next fiscal year. It is very important that they be returned by the end of October. Thanks for your cooperation.

The Budget and Stewardship Team



Eric Liddell, a True Warrior for Christ

By Bryson Bailey

If you are interested in running, learning, and/or sharing Christ with others, you should read the bio of Eric Liddell or see the movie "Chariots of Fire." Very seldom does a human touch so many lives as did Mr. Liddell.

First, he shared his faith when he showed the world his devotion to the Savior by refusing to run in the 100-meter Olympic qualifier on a Sunday. But God provided an avenue for him to win other races that weren't set for qualifying on Sunday. He won an Olympic Gold Medal in the 400-meter and a Bronze Medal in the 200-meter race.

Also, he was a teacher and a

missionary in China. He used his love for physical endurance to hike deep into remote Chinese villages to spread the Word of Christ. He was accused of being a spy and was captured along with 1,500 others (both young and old) and was taken to a prisoner camp for punishment.

While he was in the camp, he convinced his captors to let him teach the young people that were also in the camp. He taught them science and math classes and he became the youth minister at the camp church. He also taught them his favorite hymn, "Be Still My Soul." The young people loved him and began to lovingly call him "Uncle Eric."

After two years in the camp as others were also becoming thin and sun blistered, Eric collapsed and was taken to the camp hospital. He later died of a brain tumor, but not before the prison band had an opportunity to march by the hospital playing his favorite song, "Be Still My Soul." I am sure hearing that song reassured him that it was okay for him to leave the camp and join his Father God in Heaven.

We should all take a lesson from Eric Liddell and never be afraid to stand up for what we know is right, even while others are encouraging us not to.

GOOD BOOKS FROM OUR LIBRARY

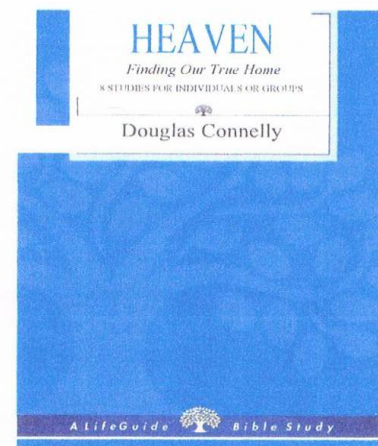
Submitted by Ginny Falnes

Have you read "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis? He is the author of the "Chronicles of Narnia" and "The Screwtape Letters." Writing in laymans' terms, he challenges each of us to make Christianity 'a condition of the heart'. Browse the many good historical novels as well.



HEAVEN, FINDING OUR TRUE HOME

Every Sunday Morning at 9 a.m.



On October 2, 2011, Bethany's Adult Sunday School Class will begin a new study on "Heaven, Finding Your True Home."

Please join us as we discover that our future home is not simply a place separated from the evil and pain and sorrow of this world. Heaven is also an entrance into incredible joy, peace, activity, responsibility and rest.

MoMints – Moderator Minutes from September

September Session Meeting

Action Taken:

Session approved the Worship Teams proposals to:

1. Apply window film to the windows above the Education Center doors
2. Add an information center to benefit our ministries and guests in the Worship entry way

These two projects will be funded by the Memorial and Special Gifts committee.

Due to a number of strangers walking into the church, Session also approved the installation of an upgraded security system. Lori Mitchell will ask the Women's Association if that ministry would like to fund the security improvements.

Your Moderator,

Rev. Eric

Building and Grounds/Trustee Report

September Meeting was cancelled

If anyone would like to join the Building and Grounds Ministry you are welcome to do so. Anyone can join us – members or non-members – we need your help!
Call or email Wallace Zipperer, 815-636-1767 or wallace.james55@yahoo.com

Deacon Ministry September Report

Deacon Minutes for September Meeting - from Marilyn Buske

Eleven Deacons met September 19 for the monthly meeting.

Personal needs reported that five families were scheduled to receive paper products from the Paper Angel Closet. Only three were able to come.

The Deacons' Help Fund will benefit from the October Mission of the Month.

Hope reported that the remaining 14 pew Bibles were donated to the Salvation Army.

We discussed whether we should distribute food baskets to needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. We will do so. Love, Inc. will supply us with the information needed. Plans will be finalized at the October meeting. The number of baskets supplied will depend on how many items are donated.

The next meeting will be October 17th.

CHURCH MINISTRIES (Open to all members)

<p>Christian Education</p> <p>*Christine Franklin *Diane Johnson Ava Brown Kathy Metcalf Kim Metcalf Polly Smith</p>	<p>Communications</p> <p>*Lori Mitchell Bryson Bailey Jen Keller Marlys Marsh Melissa McCormick Terri Bailey</p>	<p>Congregational Life</p> <p>*Kim Metcalf *Christine Franklin Jerry Hewitt Lori Mitchell Bill Shearrow Terri Bailey</p>
<p>Missions</p> <p>*Ginny Falnes Marlys Marsh Dan Bock Lorri Loomis</p>	<p>Worship</p> <p>*Eric Keller Marlys Marsh Ruth Barclay Hope Fosler Diane Johnson Jerry Hewitt</p>	<p>Bldg and Grounds</p> <p>*Wallace Zipperer Bruce Wyatt Cheryl Olson Sandy Hewitt -OPEN-</p>

DEACON MINISTRIES (Elected by Deacons)

<p>Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>*Kathy Metcalf Carol Shearrow Ruth Chandler Cheryl Eickman</p>	<p>^Personal Needs</p> <p>Sarah Wyatt Ginny Falnes Hope Fosler Terri Bailey</p>	<p>Funeral Receptions</p> <p>*Kathy Metcalf Sarah Wyatt Carol Heidenreich Cheryl Eickman</p>
<p>^Cong. Care</p> <p>Sarah Wyatt Debra Smith</p>	<p>BFF</p> <p>Ginny Falnes Nancy Wigton Jodi Mohr Stephany Bock</p>	<p>^Greeters</p> <p>Carol Heidenreich Terri Bailey Nicole Lara</p>
<p>Communion</p> <p>*Ginny Falnes Ashlee Smith Debra Smith Marilyn Buske</p>		

ELECTED SESSION MINISTRIES (Elected by Session)

<p>Budget and Stewardship</p> <p>*Eric Keller Deb Smith Ruth Barclay Kathy Panozzo</p>	<p>Memorial and Special Gifts</p> <p>*Paul Brown Dolores Deitrick Gayle Wood</p>	<p>Nominating (Elected by Cong.)</p> <p>*Jerry Hewitt *Lori Mitchell Stuart Smith Paul Brown Carol Shearrow</p>
<p>Personnel</p> <p>*Eric Keller Tom Smith Dan Bock Ruth Barclay</p>	<p>See Something Wrong? Please contact the office with any corrections.</p> <p><i>Revised 5/9/11</i></p>	

* Indicates Chair of Ministry Team ^ Indicates Chair needed

October Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration with Communion 11:45am: Chime Choir	3 6:30pm: Buildings and Grounds	4	5 Session Reports Due! 5:30pm: Bethany night of prayer 6:30pm: Praise team practice 7pm: Leadership Workshop 7:30pm: Chancel choir practice	6	7	8
9 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:45am: Chime Choir	10 7pm: Session	11 7pm: Uriel circle	12 6:30pm: Praise team practice 7:30pm: Chancel choir practice	13	14	15 <i>Beacon Articles Due!</i>
16 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:45am: Chime Choir	17 7pm: Deacons Meeting	18	19 12:30pm; Hannah circle 6:30pm: Praise team practice 7:30pm: Chancel choir practice	20 9am: BYKOTA circle 7pm: M&M circle	21	22
23 9:00am: Sunday School 10:15am: Worship Celebration 11:45am: Chime Choir	24 7pm: Christian Ed	25	26 6:30pm: Praise team practice 7:30pm: Chancel choir practice	27 6pm: Parents prayer group	28 6pm: Trunk or Treat	29
30	31			<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> BYKOTA Circle will meet October 20, 2011 at Garden View Restaurant at 9am for breakfast – church for lesson at 10am. See Marilyn Buske for info. </div>		

Save the Date

- November 12th – The Bazaar at Bethany
- November 17th - 64th Annual Turkey Dinner
- November 27th – Hanging of the Greens



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

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

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