

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Pastor's Message

Dear Bethany,

I am reminded of the powerful words in 1 Peter 4:10: *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."* Service is at the heart of our faith—an expression of the love Christ has shown us.

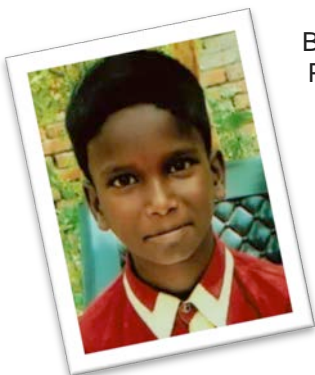
It's not enough for us to keep this love within the walls of our congregation. We are called to reach beyond ourselves, to serve the world around us, just as Christ did. This is why our church values service so deeply, and it's why we are committed to broadening the impact of our efforts.

I am sure we are aware of the devastating hurricanes that have left communities in the southern region of the country in shambles. Though we are a small congregation and the need is great, a little yeast can affect a large amount of dough. Small things can permeate and transform large things according to Matthew 13:33. To this end Bethany will be contributing to the recovery of these communities through the Lott Carey Missionary Organization. Lott Carey works with local churches to get the aid and support families require recovering from these recent disasters. In addition, Bethany will reach across the oceans to communities in the Akyem region of Ghana West Africa. Bethany will be working to build micro toilets in Ghana. For many people in this region of Ghana, the cost of a toilet in the home is prohibitive and they resort to relieving themselves often times in areas outside the home. With these efforts, Bethany is extending God's grace to those who may never set foot in our church, but who are nevertheless deeply in need of God's care. These missionary efforts reflect our conviction that service isn't just for the people we see every Sunday. It's for our brothers and sisters across the globe, those suffering from disaster, poverty, or a lack of basic necessities.

In serving others, we participate in God's mission of redemption. Every act of kindness, every sacrifice of time or resources, reflects the light of Christ into places darkened by suffering. Let us continue to be a church that serves—both one another and the world—so that through us, people may experience the grace and compassion of our Savior.

May we always remember that our calling to serve knows no borders.

Blessings,
Pastor Cooper





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Fun & Games

Our congregation is actively involved in several clubs and we are always open to new ones.

- * Pickle Ball Club
- * 10,000 Steppers/Walkers
- * Golf Club



Our Contributions

- Our congregation holds a food drive for Toni's Kitchen, which aids the needy and less fortunate.
- We contribute pet food, pet supplies and other pet needs to the Bloomfield Animal Shelter
- We donate backpacks and school supplies to neighborhood kids
- This November we will have a Fall Harvest Day where we will offer refreshments & do a free drawing to win family themed gift baskets.



A Poem By Lisa Richlan

Closer to me

When storm clouds arise, I am found in
your eyes, your love rushes over me,
For you are not a God afar off, Your as
close, as close can be,
You hold my right hand and gently
command fear not, for I will help you,
And darkness it seems fades away like a
dream and behold, all thing become new,
I cannot count how many times your
thoughts turn toward me, in the course of
a single day, As I look upward to heaven
upon bended knee, I can hear my
heavenly Father say, I know the thoughts I
think toward you, thoughts of peace, joy,
and love, To give you an expected end, for
your heart to mend, to be gentle as a dove,
So when dark random thought beat you
up and you feel like you're all alone,
Remember my Son, who drank from the
cup for the sins of the world to atone,
Every one of your days, I have recorded I
knew them from the start, And I place you
tucked away in a secret place that's
always in my heart, So change your
outlook for only you can, and you will
start to see, That the pages of your book
that I wrote about is drawing you ever
closer to me.

**Come worship with us
All are welcome!**

**Bethany Presbyterian Church
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Bloomfield, NJ**

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Service: Sunday, at 10:00 AM