

Thankful for God's Provision

As we embark into this new season of life for Bethany Community Church, we are so thankful for how God has provided for us. See inside for His provision for leadership, officers, the building campaign and so much more. Also, find updates on Vacation Bible Camp, an orphan care vigil, our first outdoor fellowship of the season and other ministries at BCC.

Welcome Kevin Sauder!

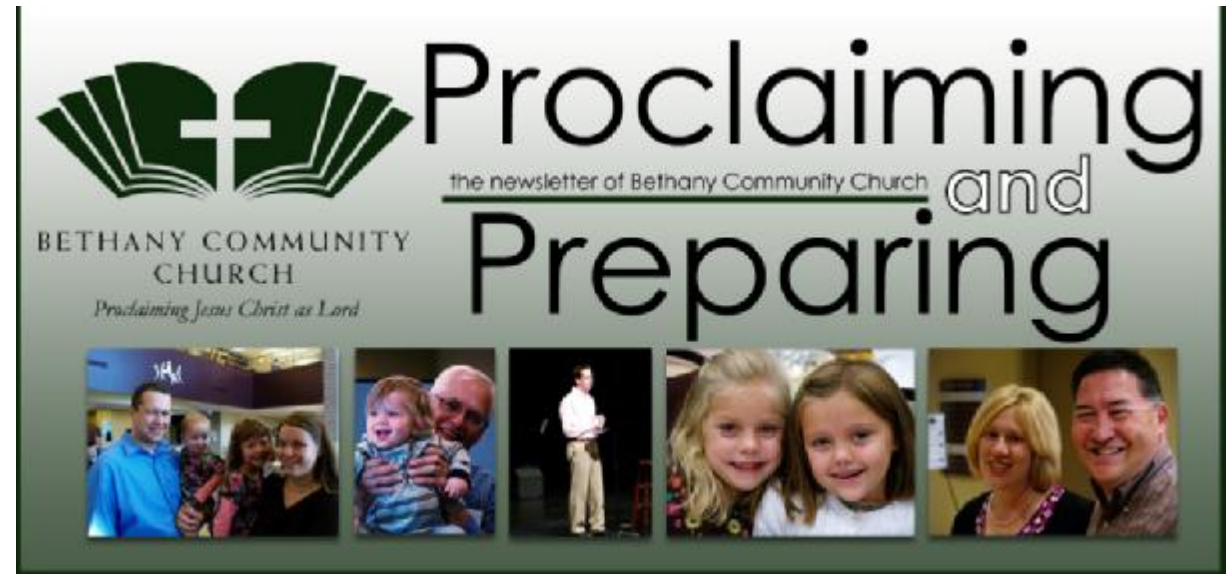


We would like to welcome Kevin Sauder, his wife Jody, and their children Abigail (4) and Andrew (almost 2) to an internship at Bethany Community! Kevin graduated from The Master's Seminary with his Masters of Divinity. He will be serving in a one year internship with the Bethany Fellowship of Churches. Kevin was at Bethany Baptist Church January through April, and will be at Bethany Community Church May through August, and Living Hope Community Church September through December.

Return service requested

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Bethany Community Church
27265 Dutch Lane
Washington, IL 61571



Issue 1

May/June 2010

What Just Happened? by Pastor Daniel Bennett

On May 2, 2010, Bethany Community Church will officially become a church. Will you notice the profound change? I doubt it—and that's a good thing!

I have struggled to figure out what to call what we were about to do.

Sometimes, I say that we are going to "become an independent church." This seems to be a positive way to express what was happening. Independence is often good. A child who is becoming independent is growing in her ability to do things like dress and feed herself. Independence is a normal, positive part of the growth process.

But there are also negative connotations the term "independence" has. It can carry with it the idea of "separation" or convey a sense that there is a lack of need for others. Surely this is not a Biblical idea and does not describe what is happening with Bethany Community Church!

Another phrase I have utilized is, "We're becoming autonomous." Positively, autonomy is a term used to describe a very Biblical form of church government, one in which the local congregation of believers is responsible for their own governance.

Negatively, the term "autonomy," like the term "independent," can imply a lack of need or isolationism. This is also unbiblical and not true for our church.

Brothers and sisters, it is important to understand that we very much need a strong, healthy, vibrant relationship with the larger body of Christ—especially Bethany Baptist Church and Living Hope Community Church! Such relationships are vital for the spiritual nourishment of our own church.

So if we aren't becoming "independent" in the negative sense of the word on May 2, what is happening? The phrase I most often utilize to describe what was about to happen in the life of our church is this: "Our church is going to be installing elders."

Scripture tells us that elders are to, among other things, rule gently (1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Peter 5:2-5), protect (Acts 20:28), teach (Acts 6:4; 1 Timothy 3:2), protect church doctrine, pray (Acts 6:4), exercise church discipline, ordain men for ministry and provide oversight for the finances of the church (Acts 11:29-30).

It is my belief that every local congregation should have

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Bethany Community's Purpose

Our church exists to glorify God. That is declared in our church's purpose statement: *Our church exists to glorify God as we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and prepare His people to worship Him forever.*

There are seven areas in which we are focusing on practically implementing God's purpose for our church:

- Equip lay people for ministry**
- Build fellowship**
- Reach the lost**
- Disciple the flock**
- Commit to the Community**
- Become a church**
- Foster a regional ministry**

In this newsletter, we would like to encourage you to think about how you can participate in our fourth vision area: Disciple the Flock.

Sound teaching is a hallmark of our church. We are unashamedly passionate about the proclamation of God's truth. We believe that right living flows from understanding right doctrine. We believe that the whole foundation of our church is the teaching of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Himself being the cornerstone (Eph. 2:20).

Furthermore, it is not just the pastors or Sunday School teachers who have the responsibility to disciple the flock with the truth of God's Word. The whole body of Christ is to engage in the ministry of discipleship. Here is how Colossians 3:16 puts it: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

In other words, the Word of God needs to so permeate the church that each person has the ability to disciple. Each of us has the ability to share and proclaim the life-giving truths of God's Word.

(Continued from page 1)

its own elders who fulfill these roles. As we install elders and become a separate legal entity on May 2, our spiritual shepherds at Bethany Community assume full responsibility for their Biblical duties.

Because of the wisdom and graciousness of the leadership at Bethany Baptist Church, most of you will probably never notice any difference in how our church operates. The elders at Bethany Baptist have allowed our leadership team to shepherd the congregation here and selflessly sacrificed for us.

Which brings me to two thoughts of application. First, becoming a new church means we must be all the more diligent to stay in a close relationship with other churches,

especially Bethany Baptist and Living Hope. Even though the nature of our relationship has changed somewhat, we need to benefit from the wisdom and maturity of those who have led us so selflessly. I want our church to be like those churches!

Second, if there is anything that changes in our relationship with Bethany Baptist and Living Hope, it is that we have an increased obligation to consider them as more important than ourselves. (Phil.2) Our question in dealing with other believers and congregations must never be "Am I benefiting from this relationship?" but rather, "How am I serving others in this relationship."

My prayer is that Living Hope and Bethany Baptist are blessed by us as much as we have been blessed by them!

What God Has Been Doing at Bethany Community Church

Bethany Community Church Installs Elders and Adopts Constitution and Bylaws

At a congregational meeting on April 25, the new Bethany Community Church Constitution and Bylaws were adopted and the following elders were approved: Staff Elder: Ben Davidson. Lay Elders: Tony Carbaugh, Mark DeJarnatt, Craig Hodges, Kent Kloter, Gary Lawson, Kevin Martin, and David Robinson. A budget of \$629,823 was approved. The following additional officers were voted on: Financial Secretary, Toni Cottrell; Treasurer, Lisa Schwarz and Asst. Treasurer, Mark DeJarnatt. The following deacons were approved: Rodney Aberle, Frank Ackerman, Gary Ahlgren, Doug Handly, and Evan Robertson.

Building Bethany Update



Praise God for the 71 families so far who have made a faith promise for money to help purchase the 75 acres adjoining the farmhouse. We have \$ 509,228 promised of the \$655,808 needed and \$ 113,600 has been given to date.

BFC Hosts Orphan Care Vigil

Open Hearts, Open Homes Orphan ministry is pleased to announce that Bethany Baptist Church will be a host site for a National Foster Care Prayer Vigil. These vigils will be held throughout the country during the week of May 16th-23rd. Information regarding the vigils and ministry can be found at www.cryoftheorphan.org. On the right of their home page is a link for Prayer Vigil information.

Bethany's prayer vigil is scheduled for May 18th at 6:00 p.m. We will begin with a short devotion and spend time in prayer committed to the plight of the child in foster care, agency workers, foster parents and birth parents. A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow at 7:00 p.m. This event is open to the community and will be advertised locally.

Praying for children in foster care is a very tangible way that we as a church family can demonstrate our commitment to orphans. We hope to see you there. If childcare would be beneficial, please contact Monica Lonergan at 303-7965 or jonmon95@rocketmail.com and arrangements will be provided.



Is God Calling You to Full Time Missions?

In light of the upcoming July missions conference, we want you to consider where God might be calling you to reach others for Christ. If it's in full time missions, please contact the office about the Missions Nurture Program. This program will help shepherd you to where God might be leading you.

Children's Ministry



God continues to provide for our children's ministries at BCC. The scripture covered in Sunday School in March and April will be:

5/2	I Kings 17-18	6/6	Daniel 3
5/9	II Kings 18-19	6/13	Daniel 4
5/16	II Kings 21-25	6/20	Daniel 5
5/23	Jonah 1-4	6/27	Daniel 6
5/30	Daniel 2		

These lessons will continue during the Children's Church hour except for 1st through 3rd grade who are studying the attributes of God. The attributes they will be looking at include:

5/2	Merciful	6/6	Holy
5/9	Zealous	6/13	Worthy
5/16	Deliverer	6/20	TBD
5/23	Victorious	6/27	TBD
5/30	King		

Please contact the office at 508-1755 if you would like to be involved in the joy of ministry to children.



Adult Ministries

The adult Sunday School classes continue their study of the book of James. Stay tuned for what is coming up next.

We added a new care group recently and anticipate adding more at the end of the summer.

Youth Ministry



God continues to bring students from 6th-12th grades to Sunday and Wednesday groups! Also, it looks like He is adding to the group of adult leaders, but more leadership is always welcomed.

On Wednesdays, the group has studied through 6 chapters of Daniel, gleaned the following primary lessons:

- ◆ Pride is the destruction of mankind.
- ◆ God is the sovereign King of the kingdom that has no end.
- ◆ Prayer is more valuable than life.

We finished our study of Galatians on Sunday mornings.

Students, their families, and adult leaders played a role in the April 18th clean-up day in Washington, and the April 25th Walk for Life in Morton.

Coming Up:

Wednesdays will be spent studying Daniel 7-12, with an emphasis on God's sovereignty over the nations, and man's proper response.

Sundays in May and June will be spent learning from 2 Thessalonians.

May 23 we will honor our graduates in the worship service. If you have a high school or college graduate, please let us know their name, the school they are graduating from and major (for college grads.) You can call the office at 508-1755 or email diane@bethanycommunitychurch.org.

BFC Summer Camp is June 6-11 for students who will be starting 7-12th grade this fall. Brochures are available at youth group or during Sunday School.



- 2 Charisa Ausfahl
Wyatt Frautschi
Scott & Patty Moye
- 3 Sam Barton
- 4 Courtney Carbaugh
Bob & Carol Dornon
- 5 Mike Chambers
- 6 Scott Alexander
Lydia Jane
- 8 Ashley Schellenberg
- 12 Kaitlyn Sutter
- 13 Mark Biedler
- 14 Bill Cottrell
Milo Rinkenberger
Craig & Debbie Jo Hodges
Carl & Sue Lewis
- 15 Miles Biedler
Kent & Janell Kloter
- 16 Krista Opperman
Carrie Noar
Steve & Linda Egle
- 17 Josh & Amber Durham
- 18 Sue Shobert
Jonathan Wuebben
Warren Dies
Randy & Jeannie Nabors
- 19 Charlene Ballard
Jesse Sutter
- 20 Rod & Tina Roth
Craig & Katie Rutledge
- 21 Charlene Bateman
- 22 Cate Reem
- 23 David Robinson
Kirk & Lisa Hoffman
- 24 Jenny McNeal
Stanley Meinert
Jeremiah & Penny Araujo
- 25 Sue Mette
Luke Shobert
David Dentino
- 26 Irma Craig
Paige Ewers
Boden Morgan
- 27 Lexie Clotcher

BIRTHDAYS & Anniversaries

- 27 Randy Nabors
Taela Roth
Audrey Joyner
Daniel Beach
Jeremy & Jennifer Bencher
- 28 Brandon Worner
Kevin & Sarah Martin
- 29 Audra Davis
Josh & Trisha Johnson
Larry & Dorothy Plummer
- 30 Janis Greenwood
Abigail Lee
- 31 Carol Dornon
Jess Eller
Evan & Emily Robertson
- 15 Craig Hodges
Joe Bachman
Isabella Heinze
Frank & Rachele Ackerman
- 16 Susan Meinert
Heidi Rinkenberger
Matt & Leslie Schellenberg
- 17 Chloe Roth
Dave & Jenny Bandy
- 18 Wes & Brianne Hoerr
- 19 Ken Stonecipher
- 20 Nina Van Beuning
Jared Howard
Gary & Lisa Salzer
Scott & Kristen Mervis



- 1 Emily Hodges
Kristen Tervo
- 2 Darcey Handy
Marsha Markas
Charissa & Dan Ebbert
- 3 Kristen Mervis
- 4 Mark Davidson
Lowell & Janet Beebe
- 5 Larry McNeal
Kara Allen
Abigail Johnson
- 6 Matt Schellenberg
Michael Plummer
- 7 Lowell Beebe
Jessica Karch
- 9 Aleshka Kenar
Dave & Linda Irish
Dave & Karen Yergler
- 10 Alexis Morgan
Matthew Savage
- 11 Joe & Kendra Bachman
- 12 Sarah Duncan
Kaylee Hitz
- 14 Wes Hoerr
Matt & Carrie Noar
- 15 Janell Kloter
- 21 Rebecca Nabors
Jonah Stone
Cory Holub
Kylie Holub
Mark & Myndi Frey
- 22 Miriam Biedler
- 23 Linda Martin
Spencer Moye
Scott & Brenda Bahorik
Philip & Charisa Ausfahl
- 24 Jon & Michelle Smith
- 25 Evan Robertson
Jake Cagle
Erik & Krista Opperman
- 26 Denise Crank
Christine Dentino
Tom & Mary Warren
Aaron & Jessica Karch
- 27 Shawn Mervis
- 28 Mark Frey
Connor Ingold
Jon & Betsy Crow
Chuck & Becky Boysen
- 29 Ian Saad
Mark & Michelle Hahn
- 30 Jon Smith
Jeremy Sharp

Fellowships at the Farmhouse

Wednesdays May 26 and June 23 at 6p.m.

Our summer fellowship times begin May 26 at the BCC Farmhouse, 27265 Dutch Lane. Bring 2 dishes to share/family and 1 per individual or couple. Please bring serving utensils. The meat, drink, plates, cups and silverware will be provided. Also bring lawn chairs if you have them. Limited seating is available.

On June 23, our Bethany Fellowship missionaries, John and Esther Waldrop, who along with their five children are serving in the Czech Republic, will be with us and will share about their ministry.

Baby Shower for Jessica Karch Sat., May 15 at 10 a.m. at the Community Room

All ladies are invited to come and celebrate with Jessica and Aaron as they are expecting a baby boy. They are registered at Target and Babies R Us. Nursery colors are navy, red, yellow and orange.

Counseling Workshops are Expanding

Beginning in May, the Monday night counseling workshops will have 2 modules. The topics taught previously will be taught again at 6:15, and new topics will be taught at 7:45. In June, Lord willing, a 3rd module will be added. The workshops are taught at the Community Room at the Farmhouse. Call the office at 508-1755 to register for each session.

	6:15—7:30 p.m.	7:45—9:00 p.m.
May 3 & June 7	What is My Primary Purpose in Life?	Is the Bible Relevant for Today's Problems?
May 10 & June 14	How Do I Change?	Progressive Sanctification
May 17 & June 21	Why Do I Do What I Do?	A Biblical Understanding of Human Nature
May 23 & June 28	Dealing with Disappointment & Loss	The Gospel and Our Identity

Spring Electives Continue

Sunday evenings May 16-30, 6pm

Even if you were not able to attend the electives in April, you are invited to attend one during the last three sessions. Church History is the topic Pastor Daniel is teaching at the Community Room at the Farmhouse. Check the website for a complete list of topics.

Bethany 101

Sundays, May 16 and 23, 6pm

If you would like to join Bethany Community Church, or just learn more about us, join Pastor Daniel and Mike Chambers during the Sunday School hour at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays May 16 and 23 in the theater. This class is required for membership. Please call the office at 508-1755 to sign up for the class, or sign up on the back of your care card.



Vacation Bible Camp

June 14-18, 9 a.m.—12 p.m. at Camp Good News

For children entering kindergarten through those entering 6th grade next fall.

This isn't your typical Vacation Bible School. Although held at similar times like a VBS, Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) adds activities like a zip line, archery, ropes course and more! Much work is done to make these activities safe and are run by trained individuals. Younger children are not able to participate in all activities (i.e. zipline, etc.) but we will have fun alternatives appropriate for their age.

The camp setting allows us to do a special addition to our program on the last day of VBC. We'll have a closing program at 11:30 a.m. in the chapel. Parents are invited to come. At noon, lunch will be provided and field games and a pool party at Camp Good News will follow until 2:15 p.m. Parents and children can participate in the optional lunch by RSVPing on the camp form or online. Children can stay for the games/pool party if there is a parent or other adult supervising that child during those activities.

Register your kids on line or get a brochure at the Vacation Bible Camp table on Sundays.

July SS Schedule

July 4 No Sunday School
 July 11 Potluck Breakfast
 July 18 & 25 Adult SS meets, Events and care provided for all other ages.

Cherry Festival Fun

BCC continues its participation in the Washington Cherry Festival this year on June 4 & 5 by hosting a booth in the Merchant Tent. Look for ways to help in SS and at the Welcome Center soon.

BFC Youth Camp

Totally Righteous

June 6—11

Lake Geneva Conference Center
 Lake Geneva, WI

For all students who will be in 8—12th grades next fall.

Cost: \$285 if deposit is paid by May 23
 \$310 after May 23

\$50 deposit is non-refundable

There is a \$25 multiple child discount per child.

Pastor Ritch Boerckel of Bethany Baptist will be teaching on Romans 5-8. We'll also enjoy field games, banana boat rides, swimming, great food, night activities and much more!

Annual Meeting

June 6, 6 p.m.

Camp Good News

Come to our second Annual meeting and rejoice with us at what God has done in the past year at Bethany Community Church.