Bethany Newsletter

JANUARY 2021

BETHANYGREENBAY.ORG
FACEBOOK @BETHANYGREENBAY

Evangelism Ministry

Hello, I am Jamie. You may know me from my role as online worship host on Facebook Live for our Sunday morning worship services and Tuesday and Thursday Pastor Casts. I do also fill a few other roles here at the church. One of which is head of the Evangelism committee. Evangelism is a new committee to Bethany. One that we had intended to get up and running in 2020. But, well, you know. I know that Evangelism can be a word with some negative connotations. However, I think of Evangelism as inviting people to be a part of our church community here at Bethany. One of the positive things about the pandemic is that it has never been easier to get those invitations out there.

-I don't live anywhere near your church.
-That's ok. All of our services are offered online. Let me forward you this email with the info.

-I don't like to get up early on Sunday mornings.
-No problem. You can find our services on Facebook and our website to watch whenever you have time.

-I don't know if I want to take an hour out of my day.
-Check out our Wednesday worship rewind. It is a repackaging of the same sermon from Sunday morning. But, believe me, once you have watched some you will want the full experience.

-I am looking for something with a more personal touch.
-Our Tuesday and Thursday Pastor Casts might be just what you are looking for. It is a devotional and prayer time. And if you watch live, there is some great interaction in the chat.

I already know that there are several people who are already great at making sure people know all about what is offered at Bethany. I am challenging everyone to invite just 1 person to check out Bethany's offerings in the month of January.

Send me an email to jamieluepke@gmail.com to share your success stories or to let me know if you would be interested in being part of the Bethany Evangelism Team.

Bethany Church
1110 Echo Lane
Green Bay, WI 54304

920-494-8801
office@bethanygreenbay.org
call/text Jill at 920-217-9241

Pastor Robb McClintock
pastor@bethanygreenbay.org

Sunday Morning Online Worship

Watch Worship Live on:

Bethanygreenbay.org
Facebook @bethanygreenbay
Listen to 92.5 FM local

Text "Church"
to 920-315-8288

8:00 AM
Online Traditional Worship

9:20 AM
Online Zoom Fellowship

10:30 AM
Online Contemporary Worship

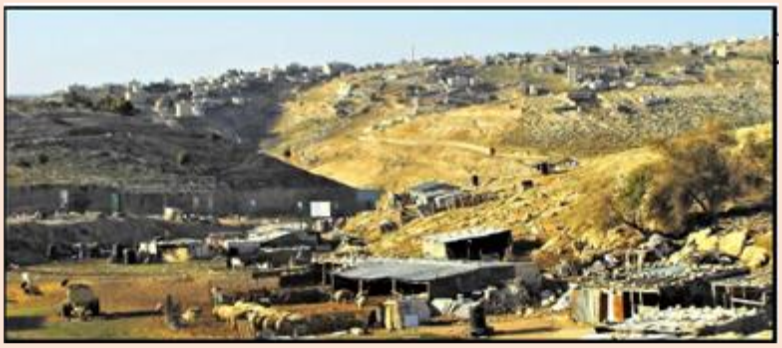
"Journeys through the Bible" by Email with Retired Pastor Randy Richter

Bible Study link: http://www.suamicoumc.org/bible-study.html

Pastor Randy Richter's shares a weekly presentation of Biblical places and Locations, as he explores the whereabouts of Biblical sites along with brief descriptions about their settings. Scripture references suggest summary readings for each place, maps illustrate approximate locations, and photos provide helpful visuals. Contact Pastor Randy with questions at RVRichter@Outlook.com

You can see the current weekly presentation as well as previous Biblical places that have been studied.

If you wish to discontinue, or if someone you know may wish to receive this series, please contact the church office atsuamicoumc@gmail.com.



Bedouin camp between Jerusalem and Jericho
Flocks, herds, tents, and hilltop urban-dwellers.
Photo taken by Randy Richter

"You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word."

Psalm 119:114.

For those who speed.. A few hymns:

45 mph.....
God Will Take Care of You

55 mph.....
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

65 mph.....
Nearer My God To Thee

75 mph.....
Nearer Still Nearer

85 mph.....
This World Is Not My Home

95 mph.....
Lord, I'm Coming Home

Over 100 mph.....
Precious Memories

Upper Room Devotionals

If you, or others would like to receive an Upper Room Devotional for January/February, please contact Jill. Bethany has a small version, and a large print (paper size) version we can send in the mail.

You can call the church office at 920-494-8801, call/text Jill on her cell at 920-217-9241, or email to office@bethanygreenbay.org to let her know you want one. Thank you!!!

January 2021 Teaching Plan

January 3
- Scripture: Isaiah 63:7-9
- Message: Hope Made Real

January 10
- Scripture: Nehemiah 11:1-11
- Message: Re:solve part 1 - Revere

January 17
- Scripture: Luke 14:25-27, Mark 8:34-35
- Message: Re:solve part 2 - Reprioritize

January 24
- Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3
- Message: Re:solve part 3 - Relate

January 31
- Scripture: Psalm 25:1,5
- Message: David – Humble Hero

Thank You

- Thank you so much for all the lovely Christmas cards I received this year. I've missed everyone and our fellowship time together. Things will be so much better this year. Betty Tilton
- Thank you for the prayers and cards during the loss of my mom. Gayle Hein
- Bethany would like to thank everyone who donated to the Giving Tree this year, and in years past. This year we were able to help 20 people receive gifts from the Salvation Army. We also were able to provide 82 gift cards to our friends at Vida Nueva totaling $1,230.
- Thank you to you to Pastor Robb, Christy, Annika, Cora, Matt, Sheila, Jamie, and all the people who helped lead Christmas worship services.

Bethany January Birthdays

1 Bob De Keyser, Jill Witthuhn

2 Richard Moynihan

3 David Johnson, Jim Fraser
Susan Wall, Matt Butz

4 Alex Ciochetto, Faye Rabideau

5 Gayle Hein, Danielle Mattek

6 Angelica Larsen, Yesica Larsen

11 Brett Dutkowski

13 Barb Hill, Michael Connery

14 Brian Hess

18 Sara Larsen, Kim Gardner

19 Brayden Sannes

21 Jessica Diederich

22 Nancy Sager, Sam Missbach

23 Lana Balliett

25 Betsy Johnson, Lily Fox

26 David Dutkowski

28 Dennis Hoffman, Annika McClintock

29 Nicholas Pearson

30 Ron Diederich, Kellen Bangert

31 Matt Luepke, AJ Luepke,
James Strohschein

Monthly Mission Outreach Ministry – Freedom House

Freedom House Ministries, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Christian-based non-profit organization. We provide shelter, three meals a day, clothing, classes, basic necessities and case management support to families struggling with homelessness. Freedom House is the only homeless shelter in the Green Bay area that provides services exclusively to homeless families- serving single mothers, single fathers, and couples with children.

The mission of Freedom House is to equip families with the skills and resources needed to become self-sufficient and to maintain self-sufficiency. Freedom House serves a diverse population of homeless families with children through our emergency shelter on the east side of Green Bay and our campus on the west side of Green Bay called The Bridge. Freedom House families are also offered our Aftercare Program for general support and access to the many donations Freedom House receives. This takes some stress off their monthly budget and prevents a second shelter stay. Matthew 25:35 continues to be the foundation for our work.

…For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me.
– Matthew 25:35

If you want to support Freedom House in the month of January, we invite you to give in a way that works for you.

1. Give online at www.bethanygreenbay.org/give
2. Send your offering envelope to 1110 Echo Lane, Green Bay, WI 54304
3. Use your phone by texting the amount you want to give to 844-906-2286

Freedom HOUSE

Bethany Church January Calendar 2021

For updates to this calendar please call 920-494-8801

www.bethanygreenbay.org and Facebook @bethanychurch for updates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00 AM Online Traditional Worship **9:20 AM Online Fellowship** **10:30 AM Online Contemporary Worship**	28	29 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast 8:00 PM Men's Emmaus Zoom	30 6:00 PM Wednesday Worship Rewind	31 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast	1 Happy New Year 2021	2
3 Communion Sunday Online **8:00 AM Online Traditional Worship** **9:20 AM Online Fellowship** **10:30 AM Online Contemporary Worship**	4 7:00 PM Women's Emmaus- Zoom	5 6:00 PM Trustees 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast 8:00 PM Men's Emmaus Zoom	6 6:00 PM Wednesday Worship Rewind	7 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast	8	9 Bethany is sponsoring lunch New Community Shelter today
10 **8:00 AM Online Traditional Worship** **9:20 AM Online Fellowship** **10:30 AM Online Contemporary Worship**	11 7:00 PM Women's Emmaus- Zoom	12 6:00 PM Ad. Council Meeting 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast 8:00 PM Men's Emmaus Zoom	13 6:00 PM Wednesday Worship Rewind	14 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast	15	16
17 **8:00 AM Online Traditional Worship** **9:20 AM Online Fellowship** **10:30 AM Online Contemporary Worship**	18 7:00 PM Women's Emmaus- Zoom	19 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast 8:00 PM Men's Emmaus Zoom	20 6:00 PM Wednesday Worship Rewind	21 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast	22	23
24 **8:00 AM Online Traditional Worship** **9:20 AM Online Fellowship** **10:30 AM Online Contemporary Worship**	25 7:00 PM Women's Emmaus- Zoom	26 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast 8:00 PM Men's Emmaus Zoom	27 6:00 PM Wednesday Worship Rewind	28 7:00 PM Green Bay Pastor Cast	29	30

Pastor Robbservations

"For whoever wants to save their life will lose it,
but whoever loses their life for me will find it."
- Jesus (Matthew 16:25)

There's a clever meme I've seen floating around social media lately which asks, "Wondering what to think of this past year? All you have to do is read the name of the new one:
Twenty Twenty One (won)."

In many ways it feels that way, doesn't it? Remember back in March, April, May when we thought we might see a quick end to the Coronavirus? Remember when we believed that if we just waited it out a little bit longer, everything would go back to 'normal?' 2020 was not done with us and now as we turn the page to 2021, we are so ready to be done with it!

New Year's is a time when we are invited to look back and reflect so we can look forward and make informed decisions for better living. This year is no exception, and we have many lessons to learn from 2020. As much as we want to put this past year in the rearview mirror, it is still a mirror and we would be wise to look closely at what is reflected there.

One thing this pandemic has certainly revealed is the many flaws of our society. We have seen, up close, many ugly expressions of greed, racism, polarization, disparity, injustice, disassociation and of course, death. I had hoped we were better than this, that I was better than this. We have a long way to go. But how do we begin to address these things? Where do we begin?

This time of year, we are all pressured, especially in the West, to focus on the work of "self-improvement." Weight loss plans, miracle pills, detox programs, and gym memberships are a booming business! The messaging is strong; you NEED to fix what is wrong with you, focus on addressing your flaws, put in the hard work and pay a lot of money to make your SELF better. That has been the message we have been hearing all our lives and yet I believe 2020 has shown us that just approaching change this way doesn't really change the things that matter the most.

The problem is selfishness. The solution (re:solution) is self**LESS**ness.

There is a better way ahead and it is very easy to miss amid all the self-help commercialization of our culture. Jesus teaches that the way to improve your life is to give it away for the sake of others.

"For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it."

Our focus has been in the wrong place.

Join us for our January teaching series, "Re:solve," where we take a Jesus-centered approach to improving our lives by using it to improve the lives of others.

God's Blessings and Real Change for the
New Year Ahead,
Pastor Robb

Wisconsin Virtual Annual Conference Session Report

A streamlined virtual Annual Conference Session for the Wisconsin Conference was held Saturday, October 24, 2020. The Clergy Session was held virtually on Thursday, October 1, where twenty retirees were recognized, five persons were approved for commissioning as provisional members, one was approved for ordination as a deacon, and three were approved for ordination as elders, as well as one affirmation of a courtesy ordination for the Katanga Conference in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Laity Session, led by Conference Lay Leader Deanna Shimko, was held virtually on Thursday, October 8. Most of the Annual Conference reports were pre-recorded, with Bishop Hee Soo Jung presiding live from our Conference Center, assisted by Conference Secretary, Rev. Kevin Rice Myers, Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Dan Dick, Conference Chancellor, Bill White, and parliamentarian, Rev. Steve Zekoff. Approximately 600 lay and clergy members were in attendance. The Annual Conference session was also livestreamed on YouTube. Additional reports and materials which were not presented specifically during the virtual Annual Conference session were posted on the Conference website for people to watch and read ahead of time.

Bishop Hee Soo Jung established the Conference theme “In Ministry with All the World” and the new Quadrennial focus for the Wisconsin Conference: “Radical Inclusion and Racial Justice.” These themes provided inspiration for worship and guided the content of many of the reports which were presented. Short videos highlighting a variety of ministries of the WI Conference, and some devotional moments, were shown while votes were tabulated.

Video reports were shown from Rev. Kerri Parker, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches, and from the General Board of Church and Society. The 2020 class of those being commissioned and ordained were introduced virtually by Board of Ordained Ministry chair, Rev. Krysta Deede. The budget was presented by Council on Finance and Administration chair Lisa Wink and Conference Treasurer Sarah Sneider. The Service of Remembrance and Naming, with retired Bishop Linda Lee preaching, closed the morning session. Thirty-eight clergy members, clergy spouses, children of clergy and lay-persons related to the Annual Conference who have died between the 2019 Annual Conference Session and June of this year were named during the service.

The Afternoon Session opened with a devotional music video created by Rev. Jane Sommers. The General and Jurisdictional Conference delegation reported on their activity since their election at the 2019 Annual Conference Session. They introduced Rev. Dan Schwerin as a candidate for the Episcopacy, which was affirmed by the Conference by a “virtual raising of hands.”

In response to the actions of the February 2019 General Conference and to Judicial Council Rulings in April, 2019, Bishop Jung created a Task Force to envision a “Wisconsin Way Forward,” a Wisconsin Option to the calls for separation on both the traditional and progressive sides of our theological spectrum. At the 2019 Wisconsin Annual Conference Session, a resolution was approved requiring that the Wisconsin Conference explore and develop assessment and training for leadership in the Conference around the issues of inclusion and racism. The Wisconsin Option Task Force expanded its focus include the issues of radical inclusion and racial justice as part of their responsibility. This Task Force, chaired by Rev. Dan

Schwerin, presented a report on their conversations and study. Rev. Afi Dobbins-Mays, chair of the Wisconsin Conference Black Methodists for Church Renewal, and Rev. Lamarr Gibson, chair of the Anti-Racism Task Force, reported on training they have sponsored and future actions they have planned in support of the 2019 Resolution.

Business continued with a presentation by Rev. Dianne Vielhuber from the Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance and Equitable Compensation on their Action Items establishing the 2021 Minimum Salary and Past Service Annuity Rate, which passed. The Action Item on the Disaffiliation Agreement, presented by Lisa Wink, on behalf of the Disaffiliation Task Force, was the most discussed business of the day. The resolution established the formula to be used to determine the unfunded pension obligations of a disaffiliating local church in the Wisconsin Conference. After responding to questions both online and in real-time, dealing with a proposed amendment which was eventually ruled out of order, and then some further conversation, the Action Item was approved.

A report from the Conference Committee on Episcopacy, presented by chair Rev. Dan Schwerin, included a recognition of Bishop Hee Soo Jung's eight years serving as the Episcopal Leader of the Wisconsin Annual Conference and affirming his continuing presence as the bishop. Rev. Dan Dick, on behalf of The Episcopacy Committee and Cabinet, presented Bishop Jung with the gift of a green bishop's stole.

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation reported that they have given $310,000 in grants to 391 Wisconsin United Methodist Churches (71% of the churches in the Conference) to help them adapt to the technology needs of leading worship and being a virtual church during this time of pandemic physical distancing. The New Ministries Strategy Board report, presented by chair Rev. Lori Lossie and Director of Congregational Development Rev. Jorge Mayorga, celebrated three new church starts in 2020 and twenty-two new church starts in the past five years. District Superintendents Kate Croskery Jones and Barb Certa-Werner shared the stories of three legacy churches. The vote to discontinue and close those three churches passed. The Annual Conference budget of $6,308,190 (decrease of 1%), presented by CF&A chair Lisa Wink and Conference Treasurer Sarah Sneider, was passed after a few questions were answered.

After a ten-minute break, the Service of Commissioning, Licensing and Ordination, with Bishop Hee Soo Jung preaching, was shown. The service was developed using all the COVID-19 safety measures possible. Each section was recorded separately and then woven together for the presentation of the full service.