



Bethany United Church of Christ

Embracing the Community

2952 Bethany Church Rd, Claremont NC 28610

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Bethany is a community of justice and peace serving the needs of people on their spiritual journey.

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Every Sunday Morning
Adult Faith Formation 9:30
Worship Service 10:30

Summer News 2016



Being Comfortable

If you haven't heard, gray is the new beige. For many years, the decorating scheme for the inside of newly built homes, as well as established homes, centered on warm beige colors. The walls were a neutral beige, tile and counter tops and floors were in the same shades. Neutral beige was the way to go. But WAIT!! Now, it is gray. A lot of new homes are built and colored around gray tones. I was sharing lunch with Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams recently (yes, I am name dropping) and they confirmed what has been bothering me for weeks now----my house has become somewhat dated. Never fear, they reassured me, furniture has made the turn to gray also.

No matter what the color, I love to be comfortable. Whether it is in my clothes, my bed, my car, or my furniture, comfort is important. Like most people, there are also some foods that top my comfort list. Where is your comfort zone? Don't you have that pair of pants or those shoes you wear when you just have to be "easy and breezy?"

In the span of life, isn't these temporal things we need to comfort us. Have you ever just crawled up in a chair and let God hold you? Do you turn to God when you need to be comforted? Does eternal life make you uneasy? It feels good when you are comfortable with the God you believe and have faith in. Yes, we should be God-fearing people, but in my faith language that means we are in awe of the power and wisdom of God, not fearful of God. Sometimes all you need to know is that God loves you, cares for you, and will comfort you in times of trouble. Those things put me in a comfortable place.

If you are uncomfortable with something in your faith or in your life, talk about it. Talk about it with God, your church family, or someone who has your best interest at heart. Pray about your questions, meditate on your problems, sit in the arms of God and ask for comfort. It will come your way!

by Rev. Colleen Samson

COMING THIS SUMMER

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 18-22

9:00-11:00 A.M.



Bethany Welcomes Musicians



Bethany has been blessed with the arrival of two talented musicians to fill the positions of organist and choir director. Organist Annette DeJong is originally from Hawthorn, New Jersey. She began studying piano at the age of seven. Her first opportunity to serve as an accompanist was at age thirteen when she played piano for a church Junior Choir. Annette began studying organ when she was seventeen and began playing the organ for churches at age eighteen. She served six different churches in New Jersey and three churches here in Catawba County. Annette also accompanies soloists during performances and recitals and continues to give piano lessons. The mother of three grown children, she has nine grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

John David Welch, our choir director, is from Alamo, Tennessee. John David started voice lessons when he was five years old at the Kincaid-Gooch Voice Studio and was a student there through age eighteen. He is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University where he studied with H. Stephen Smith and received a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance with a Minor in Music Education. In 2014-2015, John David attended the Manhattan School of Music for Opera Performance where he studied with Ashley Putnam of British Broadcasting Company and Metropolitan Opera fame. John David will also be stepping in at the Newton-Conover Auditorium as the new Executive Director.

To welcome Annette and John David, we will have a reception in their honor on Sunday, June 26, in Fellowship Hall following the worship service.

Sunday Service Providers for Summer of 2016

<u>Elder of the Month:</u>	June: Eddie Ervin	July: Donna Ervin	August: Norma Boggs
<u>Ushers:</u>	June: Larry Sink Lou Grandmaison	July: Sharon Pope Eddie Ervin	August: Beth Cline Sarah Bostian
<u>Offering Counters:</u>	June: Beth Cline Lou Grandmaison	July: Jose DeJesus Eddie Ervin	August: Donna Ervin Vivian Cline

	<u>Liturgists:</u>	<u>Scripture:</u>	<u>Acolytes:</u>	<u>Safe Childcare:</u>	<u>Technician:</u>
June 5	Lisa Goins	Luke 7: 11-17	Tommy Little	Sarah Bostian	Beth Cline
June 12	Norma Boggs	Luke 7: 36-8:3	Gina Beard	Gina Beard	Eric Ervin
June 19	Jose DeJesus	Luke 8: 26-39	Vivian Cline	Vivian Cline	Beth Cline
June 26	Vivian Cline	Luke 9: 51-62	Eddie Ervin	Beth Cline	Jose DeJesus
July 3	Eddie Ervin	Luke 10: 1-11, 6-20	Donna Ervin	Sarah Bostian	Beth Cline
July 10	Larry Sink	Amos 7: 7-17	Tommy Little	Gina Beard	Eric Ervin
July 17	Lou Grandmaison	Psalms 52	Gina Beard	Vivian Cline	Jose DeJesus
July 24	Sarah Bostian	Psalms 85	Vivian Cline	Beth Cline	Beth Cline
July 31	Beth Cline	Psalms 107: 1-9, 43	Eddie Ervin	Sarah Bostian	Eric Ervin
August 7	Lisa Goins	Luke 12: 32-40	Donna Ervin	Gina Beard	Beth Cline
August 14	Norma Boggs	Luke 12: 49-56	Tommy Little	Vivian Cline	Beth Cline
August 21	Vivian Cline	Jeremiah 1: 4-10	Gina Beard	Beth Cline	Eric Ervin
August 28	Eddie Ervin	Psalms 81: 1, 10-16	Vivian Cline	Sarah Bostian	Eric Ervin



After School All Stars



The After School All Stars have completed another school year. They have done a great job this year on their school-work and all the homework, reading, and projects that we do here daily. The good weather has given them lots of time outside playing basketball and 4-square, and we are happy that they all get so much exercise!

We have been in the process of planning and enrolling our Summer Camp children for several weeks now. We have also advertised in the Claremont Courier, online, and through the Children's Resource Center. We have had some parents that have used our Summer Camp in the past that have called back to get details. We have made a weekly reservation for swimming, and we will also go to different parks, bowling, movies and even a couple of special field trip surprises to look forward to. We are planning to have Summer Reading included each week to help make sure our children don't lose the levels that they have already achieved. There will be Vacation Bible School in July as well.

Looks like we will all be very busy!

Ms Lee and Ms Jeannine

Birthdays

June

15 Margie Witherspoon
19 Hughleen Murray

July

4 Eddie Ervin
30 O. D. Witherspoon

August

3 Jessica Laney



Anniversaries

June

8 Eddie & Donna Ervin
17 Nevin & Cecil Mae Feather
17 Scott & Jessica Laney

August

6 O.D. & Margie Witherspoon



Meet and Eat

Friday, August 5

6:00 pm

**Olive Garden
In Hickory, NC**

