

## November News

- Sunday, November 3:** All Saints Remembrance  
Celebration of Holy Communion  
Extra offering for Ashure Ministry received during worship
- Tuesday, November 5:** Election Day; please pray for peace in our nation
- Monday, November 11:** Church Council Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, November 12:** Morning volunteering at Ashure Ministry in Newton,  
10:00 a.m. until noon
- Sunday, November 24:** Thanksgiving Sunday and Celebration of Christ Reign  
Harvest Table in the Sanctuary  
Covered Dish luncheon immediately following worship
- Tuesday, November 26:** Afternoon volunteering at Ashure Ministry in Newton,  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, November 30:** 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Celebration for Rev. Frank and  
Maria Spada at Spirit Place in Abernethy Laurels

### November Items for Ashure

The items of the month for November are flour, cornmeal, and/or sugar. As always, all donations are appreciated and the need for large Ziploc bags and recycled plastic grocery bags continues.

### Hurricane Helene Relief

The continued need in Western North Carolina is astounding. Many of our neighbors in Watauga County are still displaced from their homes and awaiting complete recovery. The Blowing Rock Conference Center has become a place of refuge and ongoing care for many families, providing a place to eat, sleep, shower, and wash clothes. Our Church Council has chosen the Blowing Rock Conference Center as a designated offering recipient for hurricane relief. All the funds designated for this relief effort will go directly to BRCC to help with the cost of food and shelter in this continuing time of crisis. You may designate your offering by writing BRCC in the memo line of a check or by writing BRCC on an offering envelope.

## Season of Remembrance

November brings us some special times of worship, beginning on the first Sunday of the month. It is our tradition at Bethany to remember Jesus in the celebration of Holy Communion and by giving to our neighbors' tables at the same time. On November 3 we will do just that, by coming to the Lord's Table in worship and by giving to our local food pantry and to the Blowing Rock Conference Center. May the Lord be made known to us and to our neighbors in the breaking of the bread!

Also, on the liturgical calendar, November 1 marks the observance of All Saints Day. We will include our All Saints Day remembrance in worship on November 3. You may choose to light a candle for loved ones who have passed, either recently or over the years. The light of Christ reminds us that the soul-light of each loved one still burns brightly in God's presence. We will welcome guest musicians in worship and look forward to remembering together.

### Covered Dish Celebration

November 24 is a BIG DAY in the life of Bethany UCC. We celebrate that Jesus is Lord of all on Christ the King Sunday. We also dress the altar for Thanksgiving and celebrate another year of God's gracious provision in our lives, both personally and communally. The hymns and prayers and altar reflect our gratitude and worship. This annual celebration marks the close of the liturgical year and sets the stage for Advent, the season of waiting.

Then, after worship, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a banquet of our own making. Plan to bring a covered dish and stick around for the feast of food and fellowship. This will be Pastor Kathy and Tim's final Sunday with us and we look forward to a day of blessing and gratitude. The sign-up sheet is outside the Fellowship Hall doors.

### You're Invited!

Revs. Frank and Maria Spada will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, November 30 at 12:30 p.m. at Spirit Place in Abernethy Laurels in a time of worship and thanksgiving as they renew their vows to the Lord and to each other. You are invited to worship and to the reception that follows. Your presence is your gift, but if you choose, you may make a contribution to Bethany UCC or to the charity of your choice.

### A Season of Change Continues

We're continuing our "Season of Change" at Bethany, with all the loose change you place in the offering plates going to the purchase of diapers for infants and toddlers in foster care. Keep the change coming as we collect even the smallest coins for our youngest neighbors.

### Waiting in the Wings

Advent awaits us when December dawns. Stay tuned for tidings of worship and joy!