

Voices From the Valley

Bethany of Fox Valley United Methodist Church

Bethany of Fox Valley
United Methodist Church
2200 Ridge Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506

Sunday Worship Service

8:00 am Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service

Church Office Hours

Monday 9:00 am - noon
Tue-Thu 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Friday Closed

Phone: (630) 851-8010

E-Mail:
info@BethanyFoxValleyUMC.org

Web: BethanyFoxValleyUMC.org

Pastor Rev. Alka Lyall

Home: (630) 340-5021

Cell: (815) 474-6721

E-mail:
pastor@BethanyFoxValleyUMC.org



Ready for the adventure of a lifetime?

Sky Vacation Bible School will be hosted at Bethany of Fox Valley UMC from June 18 to June 22. At Sky, faith and imagination soar as kids discover that everything is possible with God. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and dig into yummy treats, experience electrifying Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them to trust God, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with Fly Away Finale—a celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.

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Kids at Sky will join an international missions effort to squash malaria in the African country of Mali—sending more than a million mosquito nets to protect Malian children.

Sky is for kids from age 3 (must be potty trained) to 5th grade and will run from 9:00am to 12:00pm each day. For more information, call the church office at (630) 851-8010, email Cara Wueste at carami1@yahoo.com or visit our website at <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/BethanyKidsAurora>. Cost for VBS is \$35 for the first child and \$30 for siblings. There is a \$10 t-shirt fee for volunteers. We are accepting volunteers from 6th grade through adults. Registration for participants and volunteers can be completed online at the above website or on a registration form available at the church. Our current deadline is May 6 so register now! Space is limited!

MISSION STATEMENT OF Bethany of Fox Valley United Methodist Church

MISSION STATEMENT

To bring hope through the words and works of Jesus.



VISION

At Bethany of Fox Valley United Methodist Church, we honor God by talking the talk, and walking the talk. A passion for and commitment to missions work, throughout the greater Aurora community and beyond, is as central to our mission as vibrant, spirit-filled worship, small group studies and personal spiritual growth. Youth and children are an active, nurtured part of our faith family. Diversity is treasured. All are welcome; saints, sinners, and the rest of us in between.

SCRIPTURAL INSPIRATION

2nd Thessalonians 2:16—**"May the Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.**

Blood Drive

Our next Blood Drive is scheduled for Monday, May 14, 2012 from 3:30-7pm.



Welcoming Statement



Our creative God, as known to us in Jesus Christ, welcomes all, and so do we. We embrace and celebrate the gift of diversity in our human family, including: race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical or mental ability, and education. We invite everyone to join us in our faith journey toward reconciling all people as children of God.

Office Hours

Monday 9-12
Tuesday 9-2
Wednesday 9-2
Thursday 9-2
Friday Closed

Summer Office Hours

Please note!

Bethany's summer office hours will begin the week of May 20, 2012. The office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-noon.

Thank you!

Newsletter

The Bethany Newsletter is only as good as its contributors! We love to hear your news!

Please have newsletter items into the office by the **THIRD THURSDAY** of the **MONTH!**

Office Calendar

Please make sure that you check with the office before scheduling **ALL** meetings and events at Bethany. All special use **MUST** be approved and **noted on the office's** master calendar to avoid double booking. Thank you for your cooperation.

Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition

Immigrant Welcoming Congregation



Welcoming Covenant

The Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition (CNSC) is an interfaith coalition of religious leaders, congregations and communities, called by our faith to respond actively and publicly to the suffering of our immigrant sisters and brothers. Through prayer, education, relationships building and action we will welcome immigrants and collectively work to bring that welcoming spirit to the whole community.

We are called to engage faith communities and leaders through education, advocacy, and action to live in compassionate solidarity with our immigrant sisters and brothers.

We stand together in our faith. Regardless of national origin, that everyone has basic human rights, including: livelihood; family unity; and physical and emotional safety.

We are committed to lifting up the voices of immigrants and creating space for their stories to be heard.

We will work for just and humane immigration policies, and the transformation of the social and economic systems that perpetuate the poverty in immigrants' home countries that drive much of the migration.

We will build relationships of solidarity and mutuality. We will work towards making not just our religious communities, but our world, a sanctuary of peace and justice for all people.

Therefore, we covenant to:

- Be a welcoming congregation: a public, prophetic voice in support of fair treatment and hospitality toward our immigrant sisters and brothers
- Challenge ourselves to listen deeply and learn continually from all who are affected by the current crisis
- Build relationships of solidarity and mutuality through direct service, action, advocacy, and accompaniment

Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition is a Project of the Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America (CRLN)
www.crln.org ~ 773-293-3680 ~ jdale@chicagosanctuary.org

What a great spring the Youth have had! Our students have been busy in activities in the church, community, and school. The YF planned and delivered an outstanding Easter SONrise service on Easter Sunday at 6:24AM. The Seniors gave heartfelt messages to our congregation sharing,
“What Church Means To Me.”



Several of our students participated in extracurricular events and trips over Spring Break. Students from Oswego High School, Ryan and Matt traveled to Disney World with the Oswego Band where they marched in the main parade **through Disney World! Matt's band was awarded 1st place** in the band competition! Congratulations OHS Bands! Students from Waubonsie Valley High School Choir traveled to Sydney, Australia where they performed at the Sydney Opera House and experienced exchanges with two Australian Youth Choirs.

Several youth participated in a 2 week Self Defense seminar at Bethany offered through Fox River Karate. The seminar focused on Okinawa Karate and the history and reasons why self defense techniques work effectively.

We have several High School and College graduates at Bethany! We will honor the graduates on **May 20th**. Congratulations!

High School Graduates: Stephen Boclair (NVHS), Shelton Boclair (NVHS), Shane Conlin (MVHS), Ronnie Lyall (WVHS), and Audrey Stern (WVHS).

College Graduates include: Katie Markham, Doug Rogers, and Michael Whitt.

We are looking forward to a great summer!

In His name,

Nancy Vickers

Youth Update



Summer Sunday School!

We need your help! In order to offer Sunday School during the summer months, we need volunteers! If you are willing to cover one or more of the dates, we would be very grateful!

The "One Room Sunday School" curriculum will be provided!

Sign up on the bulletin board or contact Nancy Vickers.

Thank you from the Education Committee

Dates: June 10, 17, 24; July 15, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19

Sunday School

Great Agers will meet on **May 18** instead of May 11 since the Mother and Daughter Banquet is May 12. Bring a dish to share and your own table service. We will plan to eat at noon. Sign up at the narthex bulletin board if you can attend. Hope to see everyone!

May 18

Great Agers

Mother and Daughter Banquet

It's time to fly to the second star to the right and go straight on to the annual Mother and Daughter Banquet on May 12. The backroom will be transformed into a fairyland as we welcome young and old to believe once again. The evening will begin with a silent auction and magical fairy store. Purchase a magic coin for \$1 and you can exchange it for one of dozens of fairy prizes. Punch and light appetizers will be served. Around 5:30, guests will be ushered into the fairy garden for a delightful meal.

This year the adult menu includes an Enchanted Salad with poppy seed dressing, baked potatoes, apricot glazed pork and vegetable medley. The children's menu begins with fantasy fruits followed by fairy wings in butter sauce, caterpillar nuggets and sweet kissed carrots. Following dinner, everyone can take a trip to the Sweet Table where there will be cupcakes, parfaits, candies and more.

Following dinner, there will be time to make one last bid before heading into the sanctuary for a show of music, magic and merriment.

Tickets will be sold after first service and before second service and are \$6 for children 12 and under, \$6 for seniors over 65 and \$10 for adults. The last day to purchase tickets will be May 6.

May 12



You're Invited!

We have been invited to experience homelessness with Hesed...

What: Poverty Simulation

When: Saturday, June 9th from 8 am to 10 pm

Where: Hesed Comprehensive Resource Center, 680 S River St, Aurora, IL

There are approximately 400 individuals served at Hesed House each day. 400 homeless or near-homeless individuals in our area that must find food, shelter and a way to survive each and every day – taking a toll on them physically, mentally and spiritually.

But we don't need to tell you that. Instead, we've decided to show you.

You have been invited to participate in Hesed House's first ever one-day poverty simulation. This experience will have an emphasis on American homelessness and the hardships one must face – not to keep afloat, but to stay alive.

Guided by Hesed House guests and professional staff, the opportunity will allow for a face-to-face experience and the chance to formulate your own perspective on a hotly debated issue.

Due to an already-crowded shelter, the majority of the experience will not be held in shelter – but on the streets.

This opportunity is by invitation only. Only 15 slots are available for participation, and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Please ask if you wish to invite another individual. Students 16 and older and those under the age of 18 without parental approval.

This is a special event in cooperation with Hesed House. Please contact Nancy Vickers by May 20th to register or for further information.

June 9



What is Hesed?

Hesed, is a Hebrew word powerfully describing the faithful mercy and steadfast loving kindness of our Lord. Its meaning and interpretations are based upon God's *unconditional love*.

Hesed is the principle upon which *Hesed House* was created and continues to operate its ministries today.

הוֹד

Participant

VBS Registration June 18-22, 9AM-12Noon



Child Name: _____ Gender: Male Female

Age: _____ Grade entering: _____

Parent Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E:mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Alternate Pick Up Person: _____ Phone: _____

If possible, do you have a friend you would like to be paired with? _____

Allergies: _____ My child can be photographed during VBS? Circle: YES NO

\$35 First Child/\$30 each additional child. Checks made payable to Bethany of Fox Valley UMC. Total due by May 6th.

Volunteer

VBS Registration June 18-22, 9AM-12Noon



Your Name: _____ Gender: Male Female

Age: _____ Grade entering: _____

Parent Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E:mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

If possible, do you have a friend you would like to be paired with? _____

Allergies: _____ Parental Permission to be photographed during VBS? Circle: YES NO

T-Shirt Adult sizes: Circle: Small Med Large XLarge XXLarge **Tshirts are \$10 each/checks to Bethany Fox Valley UMC**



Hearland Blood Centers
would like to thank our blood donors
by giving you

\$11 in Oberweis Purchases!

Compliments of



Bethany Fox Valley United Methodist Church Blood Drive

Monday, May 14th - 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Located in Heartland's Mobile Coach

To make your appointment to donate, please call

Patty Digarmo at 630-851-8010 or go to www.heartlandbc.org

Appointments appreciated, Walk-ins are welcome.

PLEASE DONATE BLOOD, IT WILL SAVE LIVES!

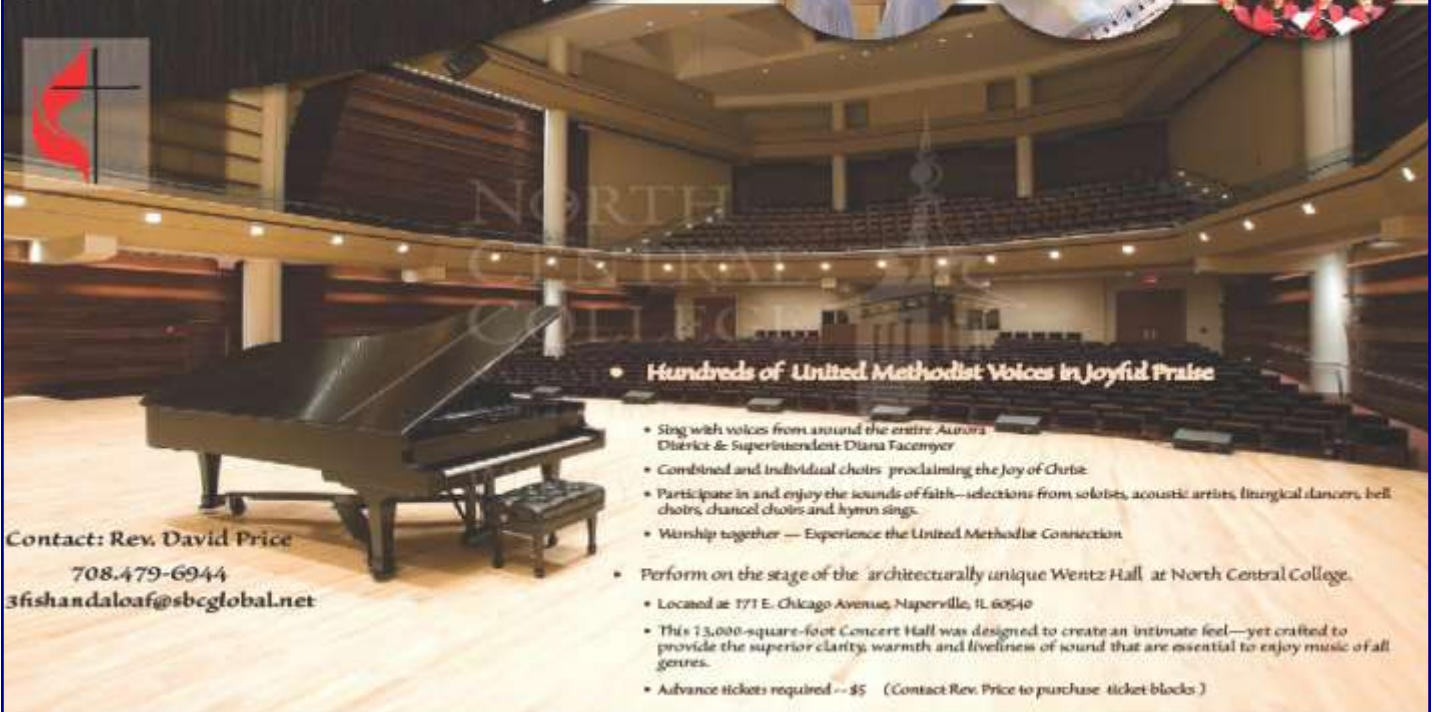
PHOTO ID REQUIRED



Give blood at the date and location listed here and receive a certificate good for \$11 in retail purchases at any Oberweis Ice Cream and Dairy Store location, compliments of Heartland Blood Centers.

This postcard is intended for informational purposes only and has no retail value.

Keeping the Connection June 10th @ 3:00p.m



• Hundreds of United Methodist Voices in Joyful Praise

- Sing with voices from around the entire *Altona* District & Superintendent Diana Facemyer
- Combined and individual choirs proclaiming the joy of Christ
- Participate in and enjoy the sounds of faith—selections from soloists, acoustic artists, liturgical dancers, bell choirs, chancel choirs and hymn sings.
- Worship together — Experience the United Methodist Connection
- Perform on the stage of the architecturally unique Wentz Hall at North Central College.
- Located at 171 E. Chicago Avenue, Naperville, IL 60540
- This 13,000-square-foot Concert Hall was designed to create an intimate feel—yet crafted to provide the superior clarity, warmth and liveliness of sound that are essential to enjoy music of all genres.
- Advance tickets required -- \$5 (Contact Rev. Price to purchase ticket blocks)

Contact: Rev. David Price
708.479-6944
3fishandaloaf@sbcglobal.net



AURORA SHALOM MINISTRIES
With God All Things are Possible

Banana Split Partners with Aurora Shalom Ministries

Tuesday May 1, 2012 noon-9p.m.

820 Church Rd.


Aurora, IL 60505

(630) 896-8680

Percentage of total sales will benefit Aurora Shalom Ministries. Use coupon below or contact Aurora Shalom Ministries to receive coupons.

**Thank you for supporting:
 Aurora Shalom Ministries
 May 1, 2012
 Noon - 9 P.M.**

Present coupon at time of purchase



BANANA SPLIT
 820 Church Rd.
 Aurora, IL 60505
 bananasplitinc.com

How do you reach more people for Christ? Turnaround Strategies for your Church



Meet the Presenter

A veteran of six church plants, Jim Griffith focuses on coaching new and existing churches in their efforts to reach the mission field around them. He brings experience and enthusiasm to the ministry of new church starts.

Since 1996 he's assessed over 1900 church planting candidates, trained over 9,000 planters, and coached over 1500 projects. He works with over 30 organizations.

Jim, a graduate of the University of Florida and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, is the Founder of Griffith Coaching Network. For more information visit www.griffithcoaching.com.

The Turnaround Church Training teaches you to:

- Understand your community
- Network in that mission field
- Design invitational events
- Develop excellent hospitality
- Build teams and receive coaching

**May
19 & 20**

- Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. Training runs from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2875 N. Milwaukee, Northbrook.

*- Pastors must register with three lay leaders. Costs \$180 per team of four and \$50 for each additional attendee. This price includes materials, lunch.
 - Register by April 10.*



Harvest 2020: Healthy Discipleship

Questions?: Please contact Rev. J. Martin Lee, Director of Congregational Development and Redevelopment: mlee@umenic.org or 312-346-9766, ext. 108
 Registration information and special hotel rate: Please contact Judy Siaba, Administrative Assistant: jsiaba@umenic.org or 312-346-9766, ext. 124

Northern Illinois University, University Outreach Services

Reading Skills and Speed Reading Programs for Children and Adults



OFFERED THIS SUMMER IN LISLE, WHEATON AND AURORA

NIU Outreach
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Phonics

Comprehension

Vocabulary

Study Skills

Speed Reading

Love of Reading

Program for 4-year-olds and entering kindergartners:

Your child will learn beginning phonics and reading readiness skills, build comprehension, and develop a love of books and reading. This program lays the foundation for a strong start in reading and school.

Program for entering 1st graders:

In this program, students learn to read independently. Your child will learn phonics and sight words, build comprehension, and gain the skills and confidence needed for success in first grade.

Program for entering 2nd graders:

In this program, students become fluent independent readers. Your child will make significant gains in phonics and word-attack skills, fluency, and comprehension, and will develop confidence and a love of reading.

Program for entering 3rd graders:

In this program, students become strong independent readers. Your child will develop the comprehension, fluency, and long-word decoding skills needed to read longer books with ease, and will build confidence and a love of reading.

Program for entering 4th and 5th graders:

In this program, students make substantial gains in comprehension, long-word decoding skills, fluency, and reading speed. Your child will complete homework more quickly and easily, be more successful in school, and become a strong, enthusiastic reader.

Program for entering 6th-8th graders and

Program for entering 9th-11th graders:

Students in these programs make substantial gains in comprehension while doubling reading speed. They also learn the best way to read textbooks, take notes, and study for tests. As a result, students complete homework more quickly and easily, get better grades, and enjoy reading more.

Program for entering 12th graders, college students, and adults:

This program will transform your reading skills. You will double your reading speed in difficult material and triple your reading speed in easier material, while improving comprehension, concentration, and recall. As a result, you'll save a lot of time and get more out of everything you read.

**For More Information or to Register
Call 1-800-979-9151**

Please see reverse side for class schedule

Teachers

These popular classes are taught by professional instructors from the Institute of Reading Development and offered locally through NIU Outreach.

Exciting Results

"After taking this class, my reading speed has doubled, and my comprehension has definitely improved. The textbook skills I've learned will really help me when I go on to college. Reading is more enjoyable now - I don't stress about it."

- Morgan, 11th grader

Class Schedule

Tuition and materials fees vary by program level. Please ask about our family discount.

- Program R** – For 4-year-olds and entering kindergartners (must be age 4 when class begins)
- Program 1** – For entering 1st graders
- Program 2** – For entering 2nd graders
- Program 3** – For entering 3rd graders
- Program 4** – For entering 4th and 5th graders

- Program 5** – For entering 6th-8th graders
- Program 6** – For entering 9th-11th graders
- Program 7** – For entering 12th graders, college students, and adults

More reading classes are scheduled at nearby locations.

All programs meet once each week.

- AURORA:** The following programs meet at Aurora Christian School, 2255 Sullivan Road.
- Program R** - Sun., June 17-July 15, 12:30pm-1:45pm
 - Program 1** - Sun., June 17-July 15, 2:30pm-4:30pm
 - Program 2** - Thu., June 14-July 12, 11:45am-1:45pm
 - Program 3** - Thu., June 14-July 12, 9:00am-11:00am
 - Program 4** - Tue., June 12-July 10, 3:45pm-6:00pm
 - Program 5** - Sun., June 17-July 15, 5:00pm-7:30pm
 - Program 6** - Tue., June 12-July 10, 6:30pm-9:00pm

- LISLE:** The following programs meet on campus at Benedictine University.
- Program R** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 10:30am-11:45am
 - Program 1** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 12:30pm-2:30pm
 - Program 2** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 3:00pm-5:00pm
 - Program 3** - Sun., July 22-Aug. 19, 10:00am-12:00pm
 - Program 4** - Sun., July 22-Aug. 19, 12:45pm-3:00pm
 - Program 5** - Sun., July 22-Aug. 19, 3:30pm-6:00pm
 - Program 6** - Mon., July 16-Aug. 13, 4:00pm-6:30pm
 - Program 7** - Mon., July 16-Aug. 13, 7:00pm-9:30pm

- WHEATON:** The following programs meet at Illinois Institute of Technology - Rice Campus, 201 East Loop Road.
- Program R** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 10:30am-11:45am
 - Program 1** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 12:30pm-2:30pm
 - Program 2** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 12:30pm-2:30pm
 - Program 3** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 3:00pm-5:00pm
 - Program 4** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 9:30am-11:45am
 - Program 5** - Sat., July 21-Aug. 18, 3:00pm-5:30pm
 - Program 6** - Mon., July 16-Aug. 13, 4:00pm-6:30pm
 - Program 7** - Mon., July 16-Aug. 13, 7:00pm-9:30pm



For More Information or to Register
Call 1-800-979-9151

Mon-Thurs 7am - 9pm; Fri 7am - 8pm; Sat 9am - 3pm

The programs are not affiliated with the NIU College of Education Reading Clinic.

Inquire early! Class size is limited.

Change a Life: Be a tutor!



Contact:

Elsie Mills

Volunteer Tutor Coordinator
(630) 801- 7900, ext. 4221
emills@waubonsee.edu

Next Training:

May 12 & 19, 2012

(both days required)

9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

New Aurora Campus

Preregistration required

Waubonsee Community College Adult Literacy Project

- Work with individual students learning English or basic literacy skills OR assist teachers in classes English as a Second Language (ESL) or Adult Basic Education (GED)
- Choose your own schedule
- Ongoing support and professional development
- Free training

Waubonsee Community College

18 S. River St., Aurora, IL 60506





May Birthdays

May 7 Lee Degner
Laura Hall
8 Joshua Bernardini
10 Sean Benson
11 John Lomas
12 Emma Tucek
13 Jeremy Young
15 Shannon McCoy
17 Norman Huntley
18 Brian Albus

May 18 Makayla Kies
20 Kyle Horn
Pat Korthauer
21 Mya Lwin
25 Judy Metzger
26 Bryson Webb
Caitlyn Webb
29 Dylan Knox
31 Doug Rogers



May 28 Charles & Barbara Bibbs
May 29 George & Nancy Vickers

Members of Dorcas Circle put together 50 Easter Baskets on March 22. Antje Brandon delivered them to Wayside Cross. They were graciously accepted. Thank you to the people who gave candy and helped. We really appreciate it. Dorcas Circle Easter Basket Chairman,

Janice Lee

Thank You

We make a living
by what we get,
but we make a life
by what we give.

-Winston Churchill

Dear Bethany friends,

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards and took the time to call me following my recent surgery. Recovery has been slow, but I am feeling better each day. It is comforting to know that I have so many people praying and caring for me. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Elaine Dyer

April 5, 2012

Dear Bethany of Fox Valley,

Thank you so much for supporting the Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry. Your two recent donations of \$276.65 and \$40.00 will help in the struggle to combat food insecurity in our area.

With your continued support and the support of others, we can work effectively toward our mission of reducing hunger within our community. Your generosity serves as a testament to the goodness inherent in all of us.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Weisner

Executive Director



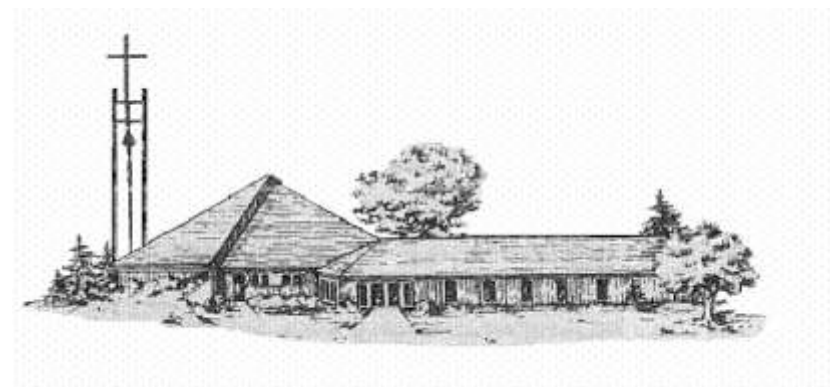
Brown Bag Sunday

Thank you for your generous donations during Brown Bag Sundays. The Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry is very appreciative of our loving gifts of food and cash. The pantry requests that we continue to collect cereal – both cold and hot. Cereal is an item which they never seem to have enough. Please continue to fill those bags with cereal and lay them at the altar **May 6** be made out to BFV with memo food pantry.

Brown bags are available in the Narthex in the Missions area. Please take one home and place it in a place where you will see it all month and be reminded that there are people in our neighborhood that are hungry and go without. Please fill the bag through out the month and return it on the first Sunday. Thank God for blessing you with the abundance enough to share with others.



Donations are requested the first Sunday of the month to benefit the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry.



Holy Communion Invitation

We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month during our Worship service. If you are unable to attend on that Sunday and would like Communion brought to you, please contact Joyce Bahe at (630) 978-8869.

Worship Service

Please join us on Sunday mornings at 8:00 am and 10:30 am. We also offer Sunday School for all ages at 9:15am.

Worship

Sundays
8:00am & 10:30am

Newsletter & Bulletin Information

Newsletter

News and information is welcomed and encouraged!

Newsletter items are due **no later than the third Thursday of each month.**

Sunday Bulletin

Information for the Sunday Announcement page in the bulletin is **due no later than Wednesdays at 1:00pm.**

Contact

Please contact Patty with your announcements for the bulletin and newsletter. You may drop off or e-mail your articles to info@BethanyFoxValleyUMC.org.

Announcements

due:

Wednesday by
1:00pm

Newsletter items

due:

Third Thursday of
the month



Voices From the Valley

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Aurora, IL 60504

Phone: 630-851-8010

Fax: 630-851-8015

E-mail: info@BethanyFoxValleyUMC.org

WALK THE TALK

We're on the web!

<http://BethanyFoxValleyUMC.org>



Find us on Facebook

Lectionary Readings for May

May 6

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

May 13

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

May 20

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Heritage Sunday

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 27

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

