



Covenant Partner News

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Volume 4

Issue 39

Message From Evangelistic Outreach

(Excerpt from EVANTELL Blog, Get Good with Telling, by Billie Johnson, August 14, 2024)

We have a relationship with God – the King of Kings and LORD of Lords – through faith in Jesus Christ. It’s wonderful to be able to go through this life with the One who created and established life. Considering our personal experience, hopefully it encourages all of us to share with those who have not trusted in Christ and to help them come to faith in Him.

We are charged with sharing the gospel (see Mark 16:15). All of us – not just our pastor or evangelism team. Many years ago, I became discouraged as I was sharing the gospel because I was not seeing people convert right then. Then I came to a place of rest and peace because of a secret I’m going to share with you. Our responsibility is to tell. It’s His responsibility to convert. Talk about a pressure reliever!

The more you share, the easier it can become to turn conversations into spiritual things. God has not asked you to do the converting, just the telling and praying.

| BETHESDA ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Sunday School | Prayer Meeting | No Bible Study |
| Men (7) | Tuesday (32) | Tuesday (0) |
| Women (21) | <i>Prayer Focus: 2 Chronicles 7:14 1) Pray for the hearts of those whom God has called to be missionaries on home and foreign lands. Pray for the missionaries that Bethesda supports: Pastor Evans Yeguo and Pastor Alexa Twum in Ghana; Pastor Devadas in India; Pastor Javier and Pastor Sagadal of the Philippines; Jeff Spencer of the Navigators and Lilly Fields of Ambassadors Fellowship. 2) Pray for the four (4) young people who were baptized on Sunday. 3) Pray for this coming Sunday's Missionary Sunday Observance; praise God for Bro. Larry Butler and Rev. Richard McPayten's weekly lessons on "How to Share Your Faith with Anyone." Pray for Bro. Butler's presentation on evangelism on Sunday. Pray for Bethesda's efforts to evangelize the community after worship on Sunday. 4) Pray for Pastor Dawson and the outreach in Ivy City this coming Saturday in Deacon Crowe Park. 5) Pray that Bethesda will receive the permit to begin the roof repair project. 6) Pray for our sick & shut-in and those asking for prayers and other expressions of compassion and comfort.</i> | Wednesday (0) |
| Phone (12) | | Thursday (0) |
| Children (3) | | |

On Prayer by James Banks

(A Pastor and Writer for the Daily Bread)

Now sometimes we might mistakenly think that prayer has something to do with skill. Sometimes you hear someone who is very well meaning say “I don’t have the Spiritual gift of prayer.” But did you know that of all the spiritual gifts listed in Scripture, prayer is not among them? And there’s an excellent reason for that. Prayer is meant for all of us. “Why Pray?” “Because you prayed!” “Bend down, O LORD, and listen!” Isaiah 36 and 37. That doesn’t mean things will go our way every time we pray, but if we learn to pray proactively---making prayer our “first resort” and not “a last resort” ---we will or may see God do breathtaking things. He wants us to help us lift our eyes above our circumstances so that we can catch a glimpse of His goodness and love. He wants us to pray so that we will get to know Him---and that really is the best part about prayer. True prayer is about so much more than just request or answers---it’s about a relationship with the One who will love and sustain us even when the answers don’t seem to come.

ODBU.org/SF120 is worth reading on prayer. Listen to his lecture on “Why Pray” by James Banks.

- Why Pray
- Why Not Ask?
- When You Don’t know What to Say
- Obstacles to Prayer
- Praying for Others
- Prayer and Fasting
- What about “Unanswered” Prayer
- Persevering in Prayer
- Living a Prayer-Filled Life
(Course Completion)

RECURRING EVENTS

Hour of Power & Bible Study *Tuesday Bible study will resume Tuesday October 1*

Each Tuesday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via *ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366

To use your cell phone or land line, *please dial: 1. 301. 715. 8592

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#

We encourage all members to submit prayer requests as the Holy Spirit leads by 12:00 Noon on Monday.

Open Praise Forum & Bible Study

Every Tuesday leading up to Communion Sunday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via ZOOM and on conference line referenced above. *

Bible Study Young Adult Edition

Each Wednesday at 7:30pm EST and 6:30pm CST via Zoom.

Register by text at 202-262-4476 or email kgoady07@gmail.com.

Men's Prayer Hour

Each Wednesday at 9:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access 875378#

Women's Prayer Hour *Prayer hours will resume January 2025*

Each 4th Saturday at 9:00am via conference call: 1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

Questions and Answers

Held each 4th Sunday at 6:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

Please submit your questions *today* by email to: SoulCare@BethesdaWeb.org or in Q&A box located on the table outside of the church office.

Bible Study *Thursday Bible Study will resume Thursday October 3*

Each Thursday at 12:00 Noon via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

THIS WEEK EVENTS

Wednesday, October 2

6:00pm State of Current Events in the District of Columbia

Saturday, October 5

8:45am Women of the Bible via conference call: 1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

10:00am DC Aglow Ministry, Room 128

10:30am Deaconess Ministry Meeting via conference call:
1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BETHESDA FOOD AND CLOTHING PANTRY

The Bethesda Food and Clothing Pantry is need of winter clothes for men and women, as well as canned goods. Please see Sister Angela Lightfoot for details.

BIBLE STUDY

Regularly scheduled Bible Study will resume on Tuesday October 1 and Thursday October 3. For those who consistently attend bible study throughout the week, please stop by Room 108 following morning service to pick up the fall curriculum "Romans."

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Come! Celebrate! Let's praise the Lord with the Bethesda Baptist Church Women's Ministry (VIRTUALLY) on Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 8:45am-10:00am. It's Part II of Biblical Old Testament Women. The three Old Testament Women in the spotlight will be Hannah, Deborah, and Rahab. Tune into hear about the roles of these women and what are the "take aways" for application to our lives. We are looking forward to hearing you on the line. Dial in: 605-313-5143; Access code: 654522#

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Please join the Christian Education ministry on Sunday evenings at 6 pm via zoom to continue the "Think Biblically, Vote Your Faith" video sessions beginning Sunday, October 6th. The next session is "What Does God Say about Gender & Sexuality. Thanks for your participation! Join us via zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366; or

Call number: 1-301- 715- 8592;

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#

SIGHT AND SOUND-OCTOBER 24, 2024

Time for the Excursion to see Daniel is quickly approaching! We still have seats and tickets waiting for you, your relatives and friends. If you have already signed up to go, please make your payments. We are looking forward to a time of fellowship, fun, great production, and delicious food.

God bless you!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Please plan to join us for the upcoming in-person Christian Education Workshop on Saturday, October 12 from 10 AM to 12 Noon. The workshop is entitled, "Thinking Biblically about Healthcare Policy in the Upcoming Election." We will do a case study analysis on what it means to have a biblical worldview on this subject under the "New Covenant." Given a list of choices, each of us will have to identify which views God would accept using the authority of God's Word on various health policy issues. This exercise along with the lessons we have learned on Tuesday nights, will help us to exercise biblical discernment in the upcoming election in terms of where the candidates stand on any number of issues such as immigration, affordable housing, abortion, taxes, crime, etc. Our presenter will be Rev. Jeffery Thomas of All Rise Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is a son of Metropolitan Baptist Church, the oldest African American church in Pittsburgh and prior to assuming the role of full-time pastor, he worked in analytics for several political poll organizations. He has also worked as a consultant in assisting several Christians who ran for political office in both local and national elections. Pastor Thomas is asking all who attend the workshop to bring their Bible and a Concordance. Inasmuch as he is traveling all the way from Pittsburgh, it would be well worth our effort to participate in this important workshop.

DECATUR HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH SPECIAL EVENT

Bethesda Baptist Church is invited to join Decatur Heights Baptist Church on Friday, October 25 at 7pm for a special event: "Ask, Seek, Knock: Conversations on Christianity."

This event is designed to create an open and engaging platform where people can explore their questions about Christianity, dive deeper into their faith, and engage in meaningful discussions. Whether attendees are new to the faith or long-time believers, this will be a space for thoughtful dialogue, spiritual reflection, and community growth.

Decatur Heights believes it will be a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with other churches in the area, as we come together to seek answers and grow stronger in our faith journeys. If you have questions, you may contact Melisia Morgan at 240.259.8358 or help@decaturreightsbaptistchurch.org.

Interested persons may register at

<https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/9272483>

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH YEARBOOK

We are creating a yearbook for the church. This yearbook will include Pictures of members.

- Memorably, page of people who have passed on from 2020-2024. The memorial page is only for former members.
- If you have family members who have passed away between the years 2020-2024, please send a good quality photo of that person and
- pictures of all the activities the church has held for the years 2023-2024. Please send all pictures to Tiista792@GMAIL.COM.

How should we dress for the picture day? This is up to you; how you want. Just be mindful, people will be seeing these photos.

When are these picture days taking place?

Saturday, October 19 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Saturday, November 23 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

After these dates are over, we will not be taking photos. **November 23 is the last day to take your photos.**

Money- How much the yearbook will cost will be disclosed at a later date.

What will we do with the money? We will pay the company for printing the yearbook, and the rest of the money will go toward the John D. Bussey Scholarship Fund.

If you have any questions, contact Tigist Ashaka by email at igista792@gmai.com.

Thank you,
Yearbook committee

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

SEPTEMBER IS PROSTATE CANCER MONTH

Prostate cancer is the [most common](#) type of cancer (other than non-melanoma skin cancer) diagnosed in men in the United States. Furthermore, it's the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men, after lung cancer, in the United States. In 2024, it is estimated there will be 299,010 new cases that will be diagnosed, and 35,250 men will die from this disease. The incidence rate is even higher in African American men.

The prostate is a gland in the male reproductive system located just below the bladder and in front of the rectum. It's about the size of a walnut and surrounds part of the urethra (the tube that empties urine from the bladder). The prostate gland produces fluid that makes up part of semen.

According to the [National Cancer Institute](#) (NCI), almost all prostate cancers are adenocarcinomas. These cancers begin in cells that make and release mucus and other fluids. Prostate cancer often has no early symptoms. In addition, advanced prostate cancer can cause men to urinate more often or have a weaker flow of urine. But these symptoms can also result from benign prostate conditions.

SCREENING AND INCIDENCE

[Screening options](#) for prostate cancer, which include a digital rectal exam and a blood test for prostate-specific antigen (PSA), often catch the disease before it spreads. As a result, the five-year survival rate is 97.5%.

Men, if you have not been tested for prostate cancer, we encourage you to make an appointment at the first opportunity you get. Ladies, please encourage the men in your life to do the same. Men do not like to go to the doctor!

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Women's Ministry will host an annual Breast Cancer Awareness Concert on Sunday, October 27th at 4:00pm. All are welcome to come. During the month of October, the Women's Ministry is asking each member and friend of Bethesda for a financial gift to the Howard University Breast Cancer Center and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Your gift can be sent by mail to the church, or you can bring it each Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Online donations cannot be used for this purpose. Checks are to be made payable to: Bethesda Baptist Church and on the memo line indicate "Cancer Awareness." Thank you for your support.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

BREAST CANCER/THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Please be sure to stop by the tables outside the church office or in the foyer and pick up the following two envelopes: Breast Cancer Envelope and the Thanksgiving Envelope (we are asking for a minimal \$25 offering for Thanksgiving).

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS PLANNING TRUNK OR TREAT

The Sunday school is planning Trunk or Treat on Thursday October 31st from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm as an alternative to Halloween. If you would like to donate treats for this event, please bring them to the church by Sunday, October 27, 2024 and place in the bins outside the sanctuary. Any individually wrapped goodies would be fine but some favorites are Skittles, Takis, Reese's, Airheads, and Jolly ranchers. If you would like to participate by decorating your trunk, please see Sister Marisha Pennington. Thanks for your support!

WORSHIPING NURSERY

Praise the Lord Bethesda, we have been blessed to have several children under the age of five come to church. The Worshiping Nursery rooms have been cleaned and are ready for them. Now we need volunteers to bring the love, energy, and share the word of God with them. Pray that the Lord will use you and volunteer as a worker. Please contact Sister Denise McPayten-Nedab at 202-306-2420.

BIBLE STUDY/EVANGELISM CLASS

Bethesda is invited to join the continuation of a Bible Study/Evangelism class entitled, "How to Share Your Faith." Every Saturday, at 8:00pm via zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81561367106?pwd=viO5Ikb0bJEEEXhRg7IuqXCUZS8pEnf.1> Meeting ID: 815 6136 7106, Passcode: 662370; or via conference call number: 1.301.715.8592 Meeting ID: 815 6136 7106#; Passcode: 662370#

The teacher is Brother Larry Butler. For those of you who don't know Larry, he came out of Catholicism and became a Christian while studying at the University of MD in the early 70's. Since his conversion, he has devoted his life to evangelism and reaching the lost especially on college campuses. Description: This is an introductory Bible study class focusing on how to not only clearly understand what it means to be saved but how do we share what we believe about Jesus Christ with others. Invite as many family members and friends you wish.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

SENIORS' MINISTRY PRESENTATION ON SCAMS

Following the Seniors' Ministry presentation on SCAMS, please find below a list of essential fraud-fighting numbers and websites.

- AARP FRAUD WATCH NETWORK. 877-908-3360 or
aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork
- SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD HOTLINE. 800-269-0271
- FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION (FTC). 877-382-4357 or identitytheft.gov.
or reportfraud.ftc.gov or ftc.gov
- FBI BALTIMORE OFFICE 410-265-8080 or ic3.gov
- MEDICARE 800-633-4227 or
SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL RESOURCE CENTER-877-808-2468
- CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB) 855-411-2372 or
consumerfinance.gov/complaint
- IRS (tax related identity theft)- 800-908-4490
- BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU- BBB.ORG
- EQUIFAX 888-378-4329 or Equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services
- EXPERIAN. 888-397-3742 or Experian.com/help
- TRANSUNION. 800-916-8800 or TransUnion.com/credit-help
- ANNUAL CREDIT REPORT (FREE CREDIT REPORT) 877-322-8228 or
annualcreditreport.com
- NATIONAL ELDER FRAUD HOTLINE 833-372-8311

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER

TO ALL MINISTRY HEADS OR FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Please check your ministry mailbox that's located in the lounge for any mail or reports you may be expecting from the Finance Office.

COPIER IN THE LOUNGE

When using the copier in the lounge please be sure to log in your name or ministry name and the number of copies you are producing. Thank you for your cooperation.

IT SUPPORT MINISTRY

Dear Ministry Leaders,

As we continue to promote our church events, we want to make sure that we are doing so in the most effective and efficient way possible. To help us achieve this, we are introducing a new form that will allow you to upload flyers for your events and have them posted on our social media platforms. Please use the following form to submit your promotional materials:

<https://form.jotform.com/bbcitsupport/ministry-submit-form>

Please ensure that you submit any promotional flyers at least one week in advance of your event to allow enough time for us to post them.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us spread the word about our events. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

BBC IT Support Ministry

MINISTRY ACTION PLAN

Ministry Leaders, this is a reminder to complete the Ministry Action Plan Special Event Form for any major events six (6) months in advance of the planned activity for approval. The objective of this process is to help ministries of our church plan activities prior to committing resources to them. Please see the church office if you are in need of a form. The pastor will meet with each leader to review the proposed activity. Thank you.

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER CONTINUED:

MINISTRY LEADERS

If you would like to hold your ministry meetings or events on Zoom, please contact Sister Bobbie Taylor at 202.635.2883 or submit your request by email: btaylor@bethesdaweb.org.

MINISTRY MAILBOX

All ministry heads or secretaries, please remember to check your mailbox.

RECRUITMENT

1 Thessalonians 5:11: "Therefore encourage one another and build up one another,"

We are seeking volunteers to join our comfort ministry. The cause and effect of comfort is biblical when we comfort others with the comfort that we have received from God and others. Please contact the church office to express your interest.

ROOF REPLACEMENT FUND

We have established a goal of raising \$62,000 over the next 12-months for replacement of the church's roof Section M. We are asking each member to give an extra \$62 per month or \$15.50 per week to the church's Building Maintenance Fund. If 100 members do this on a regular monthly basis over the course of 1-year, we will raise the \$62,000 necessary to finance the first phase of roof repairs. Please use the special "Roof Replacement" envelopes found outside of the church office and Sanctuary vestibule. Thank you in advance for your faithful giving, Bethesda!

"With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." Mark 10:27