



Kitchen Shower

The Community Building Kitchen
is ready to stock

We need your help

Sunday, November 3rd

Bethany Free Lutheran Church

1:00 PM

Soup, Salad & Dessert will be served

Bethany Free Lutheran Church
451 34th St.
Astoria, OR 97103

Worship With Us

8:45 A.M. Glad Tidings Radio 1370 A.M.

11:00 A.M. Worship Services

Live Stream

We live stream our 11:00 A.M. Sunday worship services on Subsplash. If you prefer Facebook we are still there. Sunday sermons are also posted the same day on our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/@bethanyfreelutheranastoria3012/featured>. You can find links to all of these on our website at www.bethanyfree.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am-10:30am

Kindergarten- Adults

Learning God's Word



Deacons & Trustees Meeting

Deacons & Trustees will meet here at church, Tuesday October 7th, 6:00pm.



Bethany Sewing Ministry

The ladies of Bethany will be meeting October 2, 16, 23 & 30 mornings at 10am, downstairs at Bethany. All sewing skills are welcome or if you want to bring you other hand work and just fellowship. A lunch is provided. We work on quilts that are mostly sent to AFLC Alaska Missions in Naknek, AK

They are always more than glad for any donations of fabric. Just drop by on one of the sewing days or contact the church and arrangements can be made.

Brown Bag Ministry

Every Wednesday at 11:00 am, we have our weekly Brown Bag Ministry which prepares brown bag lunches that are distributed in the community, we are always grateful for volunteers.



WMF Meeting



Women's Missionary Federation will meet, Thursday, October 9th, 11am at the church. All Ladies are Welcome, bring a lunch, dessert is provided.

Women's Evening Bible Study

WEBS will meet this month be October 28th, at 7pm. Hosted by Brenda Carr at the parsonage.



Opportunities to Serve

Check out the sign up sheets on the bulletin board. You can sign up to provide after church treats, flowers for the altar, greet and hand out bulletins before church or read the scriptures during church. If any of these sound like something you would like to do, sign up! Thank you!



Kitchen Shower

We are having a Kitchen Shower for our new Community Building Space. Soup, Salad & Dessert, will be served Sunday, November 2nd, at 1pm.

Some suggested items: Cash or gift cards are welcome, Large Soup kettles, Cutting Boards, Large Sheet Pans, Large colander, Commercial Mop & Bucket, Broom, Dish Towels. A great location to purchase items is the Chef Store in Warrenton.

Congregational Meeting

Quarterly Meeting will be Sunday, October 26th, at 12:30pm, following church.

Opportunities to Serve

Check out the sign up sheets on the bulletin board for October, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER ! You can sign up to provide after church treats, flowers for the altar, greet and hand out bulletins before church or read the scriptures during church. If any of these sound like something you would like to do, sign up! Thank you!

Looking Ahead

Fall Festival/Thanksgiving

Will be held November 16th following church service, everyone is invited to join us downstairs. We will be providing a turkey dinner, you are encouraged to bring salads or desserts.



Operation Christmas Child

We are doing Operation Christmas Child again this year, boxes are available at church and you can stop by and pick one up they are due back to Bethany Nov. 16th, so they can be taken to a drop off spot. If you would like to know more about this amazing program you can check it out www.samaritanspurse.org



The Power of the Next

When I was in youth group at my church in Bethel Park PA, I remember a missionary couple that came and spoke at our youth group. They shared of a close friend who had also been serving in the mission field with them. They shared about how this man had been doing a powerful work for the Lord and that many were coming to know Jesus as a result of this man's ministry. Then they dropped a bomb. They shared how this man was killed in cold blood by people that didn't like what this missionary friend was doing.

They explained how at first, they were confused by why God would have allowed this terrible thing to happen. At first, they shared how they argued with God. "This man was doing really good work for you Lord, why take him so soon?" But God laid something on their hearts that was powerful they said. That was when they looked at a room filled with middle and high school aged children. They said that they felt God was preparing others to do the work that this missionary was doing. That God was raising up others to take this man's place and that others would step forward and fill the gap that was left. Then they looked at us and said, will you step forward and fill the gap that was left? At least one person (me) prayed to God and asked God to use me to help fill that gap. Perhaps there were others like me that were moved to action from his death?

For many, Charlie Kirk's death rocked them to their core. His funeral was reported to have had more than 200,000 people in attendance. To put that number in perspective last year's super bowl had just under 66,000 people in attendance (with about 10,000 vacant seats). During that event one of the most powerful speeches given was from Kirk's widow. For many the most shocking of all statements was her forgiving the killer of her husband when she said, "I forgive him." These words uttered by a grieving widow were not political in nature, nor were they designed to whip up the crowd to rally behind some new cause. This act was very simply a Christian woman putting into practice what her Lord demonstrated, as well as commanded us as His followers to do; forgive as we have been forgiven.

Erika Kirk to my knowledge never

wanted to be in the spotlight. Up until her husband's death, I had never heard her say anything publicly. My guess is that she was very happy in her role as her husband's helpmate, as well as being a mom. She didn't appear to ever want to be thrust forward and be in the limelight. Yet at her husband's death, a hole was left. For hundreds of thousands of people across America and even across the world a voice that often stood for Biblical truth was silenced. While some might argue or disagree as to how Charlie engaged people in discussions, or some of the things he said, without a doubt Charlie often pointed people to the cross of Christ, and Biblical truth. Many no doubt questioned God about this loss of life. Why God?

Erika Kirk was able to preach a three-word sermon that could have far deeper and longer lasting ramifications than anything her husband ever did. Just yesterday (I am writing this article September 26th) I read an article about comedian and movie star Tim Allen. He lost his father in an accident that a drunk driver caused when he was a young boy. Up until recently he had never forgiven that man. He said that watching Erika Kirk say "I forgive him," led him to be "deeply affected." Allen said that he now has found the courage to forgive the man who killed his father. I don't know if Allen is a Christian, but I do know that his finding the ability to forgive and let go of hate are critical for him to move forward in faith with Christ. This got me thinking. How many others will be impacted by Erika's demonstration of forgiveness?

I am often reminded that God's thoughts and ways are not my thoughts and ways. I am also pleasantly surprised when I often see God take that which the enemy uses to steal, kill, and destroy and flips it on its head and brings healing, restoration, and peace. The Apostle Paul wrote of this in Romans 8:28. Sometimes we see the results of God handy work, but oftentimes we do not. When life seems to crush the life out of you or another, don't give up. This life is temporary and fleeting. Even the evil that is caused by others, God uses for His glory, even when we don't see it. May we all live by faith in Jesus, and keep our eyes on our heavenly reward as followers of Jesus. Pastor Rich Carr