

ECHO

SPRING EDITION - APRIL 2016
A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM
BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME

Bethany Youth Group Active with Chaplain, Reverend Kim Kendrick

Under the direction of Rev. Kim Kendrick, our youth have weekly opportunities to participate in youth group activities and study sessions.

F.U.E.L. (Faith Used in Everyday Life) is a weekly youth group where the youth look at biblical texts to see how God is speaking to us today. According to Pastor Kim, "The bible is the focus, and we also use YouTube clips, current event headlines, and youth personal accounts to drive the conversation.



"We discuss everyday situations that challenge and grow our faith."

In two, six week sessions, youth are discussing concepts and experiences around deception, name calling, family fights, dreams, relationships, and reconciliation.

Reading Musical Foundation Donates Cello to Music Therapy Department



In February, the Reading Musical Foundation provided a special gift of a cello to Bethany's Music Therapy department through Operation Replay.

The cello has fulfilled a special request from one of our youth to learn how to play and perform. Bethany currently offers youth opportunities to learn a variety of musical instruments including violin, viola, bass, cello, guitar, piano, and drums.

According to RMF, Operation Replay provides used instruments to financially disadvantaged students who would like to participate in a community or school music program. Instrument donations are tax deductible and a wonderful way to provide a deserving child with an opportunity to make great music.

To date, more than 1000 instruments have been collected, refurbished and placed with students in Berks County Schools.

Bethany enjoyed being able to give back to this program and support other local musicians with a donation of brass instruments and sheet music.



READING
MUSICAL
FOUNDATION

Bethany Recreation Department Takes a Hike in Hamburg

Two Bethany youth enjoyed a hike with Recreation leader Sarah Sechrist. The group hiked at Pulpit Rock in Hamburg in early March. The youth each had a pair of binoculars to better enjoy the views.



“Hiking through the forest and up the boulders was relaxing and fun. We saw Berks County from a new perspective. It was actually a very humbling experience,” say the youth.

With spring approaching the rec. department is looking forward to getting outside more!

Youth Attend Reading Royals Game

Through a donation of tickets from Boscov’s and the Reading Royals, our Recreation Department was able to organize a trip to a Reading Royals game in March. The youth had a blast and appreciated the outing, complete with snacks!

“We get these opportunities to get off campus thanks to people in the community who support our growth while we are at Bethany. These experiences are incredible and help us feel good about how we’re spending our time,” say the youth.



Morgan Stanley Presents:

Bethany's 2016 Summer Concert Series

Bethany Children's Home
Summer Concert Series
Friday Nights 7:00 PM

Featuring:

JULY 8

Burning House Band

JULY 15

The Ringgold Band

JULY 22

**READING
Buccaneers &
Alumni Drum
& Bugle Corps**

JULY 29

Caroline Reese

AUGUST 5

The Dave Mell BAND

AUGUST 12

**UPTOWN BAND
& FIREWORKS!**



FREE

ADMISSION

RAIN Freewill OFFERING Accepted. Proceeds to benefit Bethany's mission.
SHINE Concessions Available! *Tobacco, Alcohol, & Pets PROHIBITED.*
Seating is on the lawn so please bring your fav **CHAIR** or **BLANKET**.

Bethany Children's Home Anniversary Stage
1863 Bethany Road, Womelsdorf, PA 19567

www.bethanyhome.org

PRESENTED BY:

Morgan Stanley



Bethany Alumni Appreciation Day Scheduled for Friday, August 12, 2016



Bethany welcomes all alumni to a special Alumni Appreciation Day on Friday, August 12, beginning at 1:00 PM and continuing into the evening with Bethany's final summer concert featuring Uptown Band and fireworks!

Alumni will have an opportunity to tour campus and walk through one of our historic cottages. Also available that day are visits to Bethany's Archives Collection, swimming in the pool, and a family style dinner.

While our alumni enjoy each other's company and catching up, each alumni will have an opportunity to share and record their memories in Bethany's campus TV studio.

After dinner alumni are invited to stay for the concert and enjoy ice cream from the Sweet Ride Vintage Ice Cream Bike. If anyone needs a snack, Bethany will be serving hot dogs, chips, and soda!

The Uptown Band will take the stage at 7:00 and play until 9:00. Fireworks will begin when the band finishes their show.

Friday Concert
Featuring:

Uptown Band 7:00 PM
SWEET RIDE
VINTAGE Ice Cream BIKE
& FIREWORKS

Alumni Day Includes:

Campus Tours,
Memory Sharing
& Recording,
Archives,
Alumni Dinner,
& More!

Attention Alumni!
SAVE THE DATE

Bethany Children's Home
Alumni Appreciation Day
Friday, August 12, 2016

1863 Bethany Road
Womelsdorf, PA 19567

Brenneman Family Creates Fund for Bethany High School Seniors



Larry and Barbara Brenneman with their dog Molly in the living room at Smith Lodge on Bethany's campus.

The Larry R. and Barbara K. Brenneman and Family Graduation Fund has been created to recognize the achievements of graduating seniors at Bethany Children's Home.

Upon graduation, Bethany youth receive several gifts from the organization which will now include a financial gift from the Brenneman Family. The fund was created in honor of W. Earl Brenneman and Grace I. Brenneman, parents of Larry Brenneman; and Alvin G. and

Elizabeth G. Laudenslager, parents of Barbara Brenneman.

Earl Brenneman was employed for 45 years by Bethany Children's Home as business manager and supervisor of buildings and grounds. Grace was raised at Bethany and graduated in 1936. She later was hired as a relief nurse and served as a house parent with Earl. Grace served as the secretary of the Alumni Association for more than 35 years.

Barb and Larry have served as relief house parents, special summer trip chaperones, and were volunteers for many years. Today, Barb serves on the Bethany Ladies Committee and Larry is an archives volunteer.

The Brenneman's said, "We love to see Bethany youth succeed and we enjoy supporting them."

We are thankful to Larry, Barb, and their families for their ongoing support and the opportunities they provide for our youth.