

# ECHO

SPRING EDITION - APRIL 2017  
A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM  
BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME



## Shelter Care Program at Bethany Children's Home



**T**he Shelter Care program at Bethany Children's Home is a trauma-informed focused program designed to provide immediate placement to youth in crisis while awaiting court or placement decisions. Youth are placed into care by a County Children and Youth Service Agency, Juvenile Probation or a private child care agency. The goal of the program is to assist youth during a time of crisis to transition into a secure, safe and structured environment to develop a plan of service that would best suit their individualized needs.

Upon admission to the Shelter Care program, youth are provided with their most basic needs of food, shelter and clothing in addition to case management and counseling services. They are also provided with a physical and eye and

dental care within 30 days. Within seven days of admission, youth are enrolled in education services through the Conrad Weiser School District. Youth are also engaged in art, music and recreation programs while in placement. In some cases, youth in this program are referred to Bethany's Residential, Short Term or Independent Living Programs.

***Duration of Program:***

Typically will be for a period of approximately 30 days.

***Location of Program:***

The Shelter Program is located on the Bethany Children's Home Campus in the Henning Center. The building has the capacity to serve 32 youth.

***Target Population:***

The Shelter Program serves a co-ed, school aged population from 8 to 20 years old. Many of the youth have experienced significant trauma in their lives and may have emotional difficulties. In addition, some youth placed into care may be adjudicated dependents or delinquent. All youth being placed into care must be able to reside in an open setting without causing harm to themselves or one another. Bethany accepts referrals from 21 counties in the State of Pennsylvania and three agency partners.

***\*See Shelter Wish List on page 4\****

# Bethany Welcomes New Board Members

*The Bethany Board of Directors have welcomed three new board members at their April 27, 2017 board meeting. Joining our Board this year are Dr. Betsy Adams, Steve Bobick and Jim Stubblebine.*



**Dr. Betsy A. Adams**, Retired Principal of Conrad Weiser High School has worked tirelessly to advocate for youth in our community. Her education career spanned over 40 years from serving as Math Teacher to an Assistant Principal to coming back to her roots in 1993 as the Principal of

Conrad Weiser. During her tenure at Conrad Weiser she was named the PAESSP High School Principal of the Year in 2001 and inducted into the Conrad Weiser Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005. In addition, she helped to design and then move to a new high school building; designed the Community Service/Service Learning Program; and started a Distinguished Alumni Program.

In retirement, Betsy serves as the Berks County Truancy Coordinator working to address the critical issue of truancy in our local schools and to reengage students into the school systems and to increase graduation rates. She also serves on the Steering Committee of the Berks County Truancy Prevention Task Force; Member, PA Education Success and Truancy State Workgroup; Member, Berks County Interscholastic Athletic Association; and Chair, Conrad Weiser High School Distinguished Alumni Committee.

Betsy was raised with her four brothers, John, Russell, Garnet and Tim at Bethany Children's Home where their father served as Superintendent for 35 years until his retirement in 1989.



**Steve Bobick**, President and Founder of UtiliTech, Inc, a utility bill auditing firm. Steve's background includes 23 years in the computer industry. He is a former partner in Professional Computer Sciences (PCS), a business that owned and operated

three ComputerLand Stores in Reading, Allentown and Wilkes-Barre. With his depth of experience, Steve has the ability to design state of the art software to emulate utility tariffs, laws, rates, formulas, borough ordinances and state and local tax laws to check bills for discrepancies

that result in savings.

Steve currently serves on the Board of Director with The Highlands of Wyomissing, Prospectus Berco, South Mountain YMCA Camps, The Vision Resource Center of Berks County, Shared Growth, Inc., Trinity Lutheran Church (Robesonia) and Olivet Boys & Girls Club. Steve also serves on The President's Leadership Council of Lycoming College and is a volunteer mentor for SCORE.



**Jim Stubblebine**, Senior Marketing and Advertising Consultant for the Reading Eagle Company since 1990. Jim has received many accolades for his work in the marketing industry including the Penn Advertising Sales Person of the Year Award; Pennsylvania Newspaper

Association Competitive Selling Seminar Presenter; and numerous sales achievements and awards throughout a 26 year career at the Reading Eagle.

Jim has served as a member of Bethany's Development and Marketing committees since 2014 and has chaired the marketing efforts for Anniversary Day, Over the Edge Campaign and Summer Concert Series. In addition to his service to Bethany, Jim serves as a Board Member, Western Berks Ambulance Association; Member, Marketing Committee, Western Berks Ambulance Association; Union Negotiator (Management), Western Berks Ambulance Association; Board Member and Treasurer, Cushion Peak Rod and Gun Club; Member of Professional Resource Program Berks County Chamber of Commerce.

## 2017-2018 Board Members:

Dr. Betsy Adams  
Mr. Ronald Bashore  
Mr. Steve Bobick  
Mr. Benson Campbell  
Mr. Peter Connors  
Rev. Dr. Tyson Frey  
Mr. Jeff Howell  
Mrs. Hillary Malone  
Mr. John Richardson  
Rev. Lee Schleicher  
Rev. Dr. S. William Tyson

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

Bethany Children's Home  
1863 Bethany Road,  
Womelsdorf, PA 19567  
[www.bethanyhome.org](http://www.bethanyhome.org)



*Featuring:*

**JULY 7**  
**Pandora's BOXX**

**JULY 14**  
**Reading Buccaneers**  
**& Alumni Drum & Bugle Corp**

**JULY 21**  
**Know Return**  
**A Kansas Tribute Band**

**JULY 28**  
**Tin Bird Choir**

**AUGUST 4**  
**Stephanie Grace**

**AUGUST 11**  
**The Uptown Band**



**RAIN OR SHINE • FREE ADMISSION**

Freewill offering accepted. Proceeds to benefit Bethany's mission.  
Concessions available. *Please no weapons, tobacco, alcohol or pets.*  
Seating is on the lawn, so please bring your favorite chair or blanket.

**PRESENTED BY:**





# Remembering Dr. James W. Bright, Longtime Bethany Board Member

Reverend Dr. James W. Bright, Jr., 84, of Lancaster, and formerly of Manheim, died peacefully, surrounded by

his family on Friday, April 28th, 2017 at Landis Homes Healthcare Center. Born in Philadelphia, "Jim" was the son of the late Reverend Dr. James W., Sr. and Esther Bruns Bright. Jim was the loving husband of Sarah "Sally" Rogers Bright and they observed their 59th wedding anniversary on January 1st of this year.

Surviving in addition to his wife is a son, Dan Bright, partner of Melanie Whipple of Orlando, FL; a daughter, Audrey, wife of David Stroman of Schwenksville; a granddaughter, Sarah, wife of David Rasmussen; a grandson, Sam Stroman; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a sister, Phyllis Rogers.

Jim, known to many as "PB" (Pastor Bright),

dedicated his love, time and talents to his family, the members of the church, and to the community, seeking always to serve the Lord and His creation with humility, gentleness and grace.

He graduated from A.D. Eisenhower High School in Norristown; he received a Bachelor Degree from Ursinus College, Colledgeville and his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary, and was ordained in 1957 at Ascension UCC, Norristown. Jim continued his education, receiving a Master of Sacred Theology from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. and later received a Doctor of Divinity Degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Throughout his 60 years of active ministry he served as pastor at the former St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Lancaster (now Church of the Apostles); Bethel UCC, Arlington, VA; and St. Paul's UCC, Manheim, where he is Pastor Emeritus. Jim served in leadership roles on the Board for World Ministries, Bethany Children's Home, and was Trustee Emeritus of the Board of Trustees of

Ursinus College. He was a missionary through the UCC for Puerto Rico, Micronesia, and Namibia. Jim helped on the UCC Board for Central Atlantic Conference and later served several years as the moderator for Penn Central Conference of the UCC. Following retirement Jim continued his involvement with Penn Central Conference by serving as interim pastor in several area churches and as chaplain for Homestead Village and was a founding member of Manheim Transitional Housing and Manheim Stiegel Roses. Jim is a member of Trinity United Church of Christ, East Petersburg.

Music was an essential part of "PB's" life. He was a lifelong trumpeter with membership with the Lititz Community Band and sang with the Ephrata Cloister Chorus. He took great pleasure in model railroading and trains, gardening, carpentry, fishing, camping, travel, watching and participating in sports.

Those desiring may send contributions in Jim's memory to: Bethany Children's Home, 1863 Bethany Road, Womelsdorf, PA 19567.

## Henning Center Wish List

### Personal Care Items: (nothing with alcohol please)

- Plastic soap container that closes for bar soap
- Small toothbrush covers
- Small bins with handles to hold toiletries
- Wash cloths
- Disposable Razors – for men and women
- Travel-size toothpaste
- Regular size deodorant
- Regular size shampoo and conditioner
- Regular size body wash
- Hair gel
- Ethnic hair supplies
- Hair brushes & combs

### Women's clothing: (juniors and misses sizes please)

- Shorts - all sizes
- Sweatpants for female youth – sizes small through XL
- Panties – size 5,6,7,8
- Sports Bras/Bralettes-sizes small through 2XL
- Socks-all types
- Pajama pants– all sizes\*
- T-shirts-all sizes
- Non hooded sweatshirts – all sizes

### Men's clothing: (men's sizes please)

- Sweatpants for men-sizes small through 2XL
- Underwear-assorted sizes and styles
- Socks-all types
- T-shirts-all sizes
- Pajama pants-sizes small through 2XL\*
- Non-hooded sweatshirts-sizes small through 2XL

### Miscellaneous:

- Art and Craft Kits
- Adult Coloring Books and Colored Pencils/Markers
- Paint By Number
- Card Stock
- Paint Brushes
- Glue Sticks
- Ziplock Snack Bags
- Stress balls
- Fidgets\*
- Duffle bags\*
- Laundry bags\*
- Twin Sheet Sets\*

*\*Those items in greatest need*

*Please note that all items must be new. We cannot accept used items. Thank you!*

**Will you go #OTE4BETHANY with us?**

# Over the EDGE



**Bethany Children's Home is a place where youth can heal from their pasts, learn how to live safely today, and prepare for their futures.**

**When you participate in #OTE4BETHANY you support Bethany's mission to provide healing and help reunify youth in their local community.**



 **Bethany Children's Home**

## Will you go Over The Edge for Bethany???

Over the Edge is a unique opportunity to provide individuals the opportunity to rappel down the side of 525 Student Apartments located on Lancaster Avenue on September 22, 2017. This is our 2nd year hosting this special fundraising event in Reading, PA. Individuals and teams join together to earn a spot to rappel by raising a minimum of \$1,000 from friends, family, and colleagues. Last year we raised over \$95,000 for Bethany! Go over the edge with us!

### *How will my gifts make a difference this year?*

The 2017 Over the Edge Campaign will provide support for the health and medical needs of the youth served at Bethany. Many youth come into care with specialized medical needs and/or in need of basic medical care not previously received.

Here are some of the services that our youth receive on a daily basis coordinated by our on campus Health Clinic Team:

- Annual Physicals
- Immunizations
- Dental Care
- Eye Exams/Eye Glasses
- Daily health services for colds, illness, allergies, minor injuries, cuts, etc...
- Wellness Classes and Health Education
- Dental and Vision Appointments
- Medications
- Specialized Medical Equipment

Please join us on September 22, 2017 to watch our Edgers go "Over The Edge". Our Base Camp will be offering health and wellness information as well as food and fun!



# Around Bethany's Campus...

**WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!**



Harvest Bible Chapel Volunteers



Materion Volunteers

**MS WALK  
"TEAM CINDY"  
GRING'S MILL**



BB&T Lighthouse Volunteers



Bethany Children's Home participated in the MS Walk with Team Cindy with 275 participants on May 7th at Gring' Mill in Wyomissing.

**EGG HUNT**



**PROM!**



**STUDENT ART  
AWARD WINNERS**



# Events, Volunteers, Donations, oh my!



KJ Plastics, Lansdale



Trinity Lutheran Church, Robesonia



We were so fortunate to receive a donation of an original stained glass window from 1883. Larry and Barb Brenneman were pleased to donate this piece of Bethany history back to us, which they saved from destruction many years ago.



The United States Army Brotherhood of Tankers



Health Kits for Youth from EITC Grant



Weikel Sportswear



Berks Quilter's Guild

## **BETHANY LADIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Serving Bethany since 1886, the Ladies Committee is a volunteer group which assists with campus activities and special events to support the youth in care.

The Committee meets three times a year in April, July and October with varying projects throughout the year.

If you are seeking a new opportunity to share your time and talents, we would love to have you.

For More Info Contact:  
Susan Snyder, President  
610-926-4937



St. John-Hill UCC, Boyertown

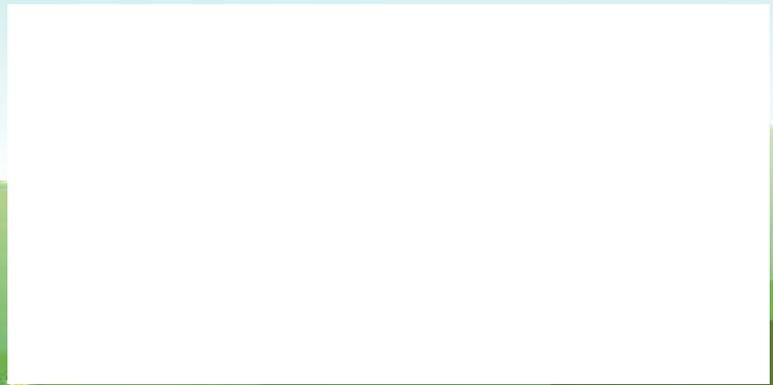


Reformed Church of the Ascension, Jeffersonville



1863 Bethany Road  
 Womelsdorf, PA 19567  
[www.bethanyhome.org](http://www.bethanyhome.org)  
 610-589-4501

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



## ABOUT BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME

Founded in 1863, Bethany Children's Home has provided a safe place of nurture, protection, and supportive care to aid youth in their own self awareness, growth, and healing for a brighter healthier future. Everyday youth who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned are taking back their lives with the help of Bethany.

**Services:** Music Therapy, spiritual services, arts & recreation, Safe Spaces, anger management, social services, and more are provided to every youth at Bethany.

**Programs:** Bethany offers individualized programs for youth who for whatever reason cannot live with their family or a substitute family. From Emergency services to longer term Residential Treatment programs, Bethany supports youth while they heal and prepare for the next steps of their journey.

To learn more, visit [www.bethanyhome.org](http://www.bethanyhome.org) and follow us on:



Bethany Children's Home is an approved EITC organization for the FY 2016-2017. Education Improvement Tax Credit funds will be used to enhance the academic support and enrichment programs provided at Bethany through the

Haas Learning Center. Funds from EITC benefit education remediation for youth served at Bethany. The program focuses on a balance of individualized services and group learning based on academic and educational needs.

To find out how to support Bethany through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program program, go to: [www.bethanyhome.org/get-involved/eitc/](http://www.bethanyhome.org/get-involved/eitc/) or call 610-589-6828

## A Simple Gift

through your will or estate will help us with what we do today and far into the future. It's a simple gift that costs nothing during your lifetime. To learn more about Bethany's planned giving program, please call 610-689-6827 or [www.bethanyhome.org](http://www.bethanyhome.org)

