



10/29/2018

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## BETHANY ARCHIVES NEWS

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### BETHANY HONORS ONE OF HER OWN

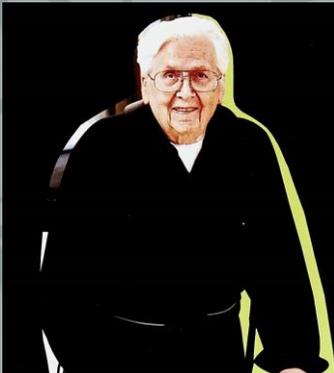
Joseph Christ

1927-2018

Our Dear friend Joseph Christ passed away this month at 91 years of age. Joe was a resident of Bethany for more than 11 years, and Alumnus (President, Trustee, and Historian). Joe and wife Liz became ardent original supporters of the archive program – both financially and as a representation to the Alumni Association and the Board of Managers.

Joe and Liz became the translators of the old German documents which have become our legacy; the coordinators with the Boehringers and Bob Wiedemer for the gravesite Memorial to our Founder at the Emmanuel UCC Church in Bridesburg; the host for the Boehringer family as they recreated the Boehringer genealogy; and co-workers for the creation of the Boehringer Memorial plaque found in our Main Lobby.

Joe received the Alumni of the Year Award in 1988. He was recently involved with an Oral History project, along with his friends Leroy Gensemer and Floyd Humphreys. At his service, I found that Joe was an avid motorcyclist and NASCAR racecar driver. When I would call to speak to him at home, it took some time for him to come to the phone – only to say he was “under” or “inside” his restoration auto. Rest in peace, Joe, rest in peace.



<https://www.mcall.com/news/local/bethlehem/mc-veterans-day-joseph-christ-german-pow-camp-20161110-story.html>

## Jennifer's Corner...of the archives at Bethany

### The holiday season is coming to Bethany

As I digitize our extensive collection, there are certain things that bring a smile to my face while, at the same time, tugging at my heartstrings; the holiday pictures are one of those items. Over the 155 years that Bethany has been in existence, the holidays have come and gone and the community has always remembered the children of Bethany.

Whether it be the summer holiday in the form of kindness with a weeks excursion at the shore, a trip to an amusement park or during Easter or Thanksgiving the local businesses coming together to donate a bountiful meal with all the fixings. Who can pass up those visits from the Easter Bunny or Santa Claus as he rides in on the Reading Railroad or a Harley! The thousands of gifts the children receive designed to remind them that they are important and are not forgotten, are just gravy when you consider all of the ways the Bethany Family works to make every holiday the very best memory it can be!

From the early beginnings of 1863 to our present incarnation, each year the Superintendent reaches out to the community and requests that love abound in the form of donations to our children. It is not only the outpouring of love the children receive in beautifully wrapped gifts, there is soul-filling value in the kindness and the spirit of the holiday season. I ask you, how can one look at the beautiful faces of the innocent children we serve and not want to provide joy to them right here in their home away from home?

Pictures speak a thousand words and I wanted to share some of those pictures with you, our readers. As Thanksgiving and Christmas approach remember the children and send your unwrapped donations to help make their holiday that much brighter!

The Development Department is asking that any donations be received by December 16<sup>th</sup> and should be mailed to: 1863 Bethany Road, Womelsdorf, Pa. 19567



Stuffed Bear Holiday Gift



Easter



Christmas



Halloween



Santa & the Train