



The Star-Ledger

Bridgeton News

Bethany Presbyterian takes to streets

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

By SANDRA JOHNSON

sjohnson@sjnewsco.com

BRIDGETON - "Don't Go to Church - Be the Church."

On Oct. 11, the pastor and congregation of Bethany Presbyterian Church will follow the above credo - but they're not holding their regular Sunday worship inside the church.

In fact, they are going to serve God out in the Bridgeton community, as the culmination of the church's Faith-In-Action campaign.

"God has called us to not be pew warmers, but world changers," Pastor Robin Weinstein said. "Our Faith-In-Action campaign reminds us of God's call for us to be His ambassadors in the community.

"Jesus served us, and we need to serve others. We want to let the community know in a tangible way that God loves them by showing His love for them through our service."

Both the church volunteers and others from the community will join together on Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to noon to sell baked goods at local stores to benefit local food banks, do a trash cleanup on Pearl Street, and host a "Yours for the Taking" Community Giveaway.

A new spin on community yard sales, the "Yours for the Taking" giveaway at the 31 N. Pearl St. church will offer, no questions asked, free clothes, furniture, household items and other things.

Donations, which will go to the Food Bank of South Jersey, will also be accepted, for those who want to join Bethany in this community outreach.

Donations for the giveaway and bake sale can be dropped off at the church between 3-5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10 or between 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Oct. 11. Big furniture items also need to be dropped off on Oct. 11.

Volunteer forms are available on the Web site at www.bethanyinbridgeton.com.

"We invite the community to join us in not just going to church, but being the church," said Weinstein. "If you would like to volunteer, provide baked goods, or donate something to the community giveaway, please contact the church office."

Faith-In-Action will kick off on Sept. 20, with Bethany's annual Homecoming & Friends Sunday at 11 a.m.

Special music will be provided by Cecil McPherson, Teri Bodine and Don Martindale, and Weinstein's sermon will be "Love Revolution."

Continuing the campaign is a Sept. 27 service featuring guest speaker Mrs. Quincy Lucas, who is the president and founder of Witney's Lights.

Witney's Lights is a non-profit grassroots organization that hopes to eliminate domestic violence with education, prevention, awareness, and advance initiatives in the landmark Violence Against Women Act of

1994.

"We are very excited to host Mrs. Lucas and to hear her powerful story of how God can use tragedy to help others," said Weinstein. "Witney's Lights has been highlighted by President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden as an important grassroots educational nonprofit designed to educate people about domestic violence."

Also during the service, Weinstein will deliver the sermon, "Voices in the Wilderness."

On Oct. 4, parishioners will get a lesson in Faith-In-Action by focusing on Christians need to have the eyes of Christ and be His hands in a world in need.

Bethany's worship services are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m.

For more information, please contact 451-4601, visit www.bethanyinbridgeton.com, or e-mail info@bethanyinbridgeton.com.

©2009 Bridgeton News

© 2009 NJ.com All Rights Reserved.