

Bethany Children's Home Alumni/Archives Newsletter

October 2021



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Bethany Legacy Brick Campaign

Become a permanent part of the Bethany landscape, for you or a member of your family! Add a brick to the walkway of More Memorial Park. The Legacy Brick Campaign began September 25, 2021, and will be run in two phases, phase one open to Alumni, employees of Bethany Children's Home and present Board Members. Phase two will begin in January 2022 and will open to community members at large and all churches.

With so many ways to leave your legacy as a permanent part of the Bethany campus, make sure you jump on this opportunity today!

There are several ways to place your order. You can use the link provided below, you can fill out the sheet provided as the last page of our newsletter this month, or you can call into your Development Alumni Coordinator Jennifer Koch, at: 610.589-4501, ext. 305 and she will help you place the order.

[Bethany Legacy Brick Campaign - Fundraising Brick](#)

October Equals Ghost Stories from Bethany

Who doesn't love a good spooky tale while sitting around the campfire with cocoa and marshmallows in hand? Let's fire up those flames and cuddle in because we are back with a few tales of the unexplained...right here from the Bethany campus.



Who Is Visiting Applegate Cottage?

The current residents of Applegate have been far from alone these past few months. As a warm September has moved on to crisp fall mornings, the Applegate visitor has become more active. With a little sleuthing we know that at least two individuals have passed away in the home. However, during the Fall, three others who lived in the house passed away between August and October, so that leaves us wondering who is the spectral visitor?

What has been happening you wonder? It all started innocently with a door opening on its own in a particular room. The door in question was fully closed and latched; how then did it open? Next, there was a female visitor to the home, and she needed to use the facilities. While in there, she was visited by a female specter who whispered in her ear; whatever was said was nonsense, but the encounter left the visitor quite upset and ready to leave the home immediately.

September arrived and with it renewed activity at Applegate in the form of a hand resting on a shoulder, in comfort we believe, at bedtime. Occasionally they find lights being turned on in rooms when no one was home to do so. In one of those rooms the closed and latched door was again propped open. Dr. Birli and his family hold no fear of the activity; in fact, they feel the presence – whomever they might be – is kind and just going about their business in the home they once loved. It leaves all of us wondering...who is visiting Applegate? What do you think?

Grandma Hess at Brobst Cottage?



Our next story comes from Denise Rosenberg at Brobst Cottage. She tells the story of an orb seen by the youth residing in the cottage. They have named her Grandma Hess. The tale begins when one day a youth told Denise that she was watching an orb dance around her as she went down the hallway. Denise has had her own experience with Grandma Hess. While she was in the laundry room and the office, she felt a presence and cold air. “It made the hair all over my body stand on end.” And lastly to round out our friendly ghost story in Brobst, the residents say they see Grandma Hess in bedroom 1 just hanging out. The girls who reside in Brobst do not live-in fear of the friendly visitor, it seems they rather like to share when they see her.

So, my question for all of you to ponder...why is Grandma Hess hanging out in Brobst Cottage; shouldn't she be in her own cottage?



Little Girl Playing at Knerr Cottage

Our next story was provided by Abigail Kokitus, third-shift cottage support at Knerr, sharing the story of a former staff member.

Abigail tells us that although she has not experienced anything, she has been told a story about the voice of a young girl playing and laughing toward the end of her co-worker's shift. She said that after hearing the child laughing, she could still feel the presence with her even as she got into her own car to leave work.

We must assume that if this happened during third shift, everyone in Knerr was fast asleep, or were they?

A Houseparent Continues Their Shift at Knorr

Mr. Antonio tells us that during his third-shift hours he experienced the ghost of Knorr Cottage!

As the youth got ready for bed, in their dorm rooms, all the lights were off except for the emergency lights that automatically come on in the halls. As Mr. Antonio sat at the desk watching down the hallway, he saw a large figure moving down the hallway, away from him. The figure turned the corner and went down the steps. "At first, I thought it was one of the residents and upon checking, all were in their rooms. Then I thought maybe it was my co-worker, only to realize he was off for the night." Hearing movement on the steps, with no one there, and movement on the floor below, Mr. Antonio feels he experienced the visit of a ghost in Knorr.

We think it's a houseparent who came back to finish a job he loved and to be sure children were safely tucked in for the night and then went to check the rest of the house, what do you think?



Bausman's Friendly Ghost

Our final story of the strange and unusual comes from Kindall Wann on the Safety Team; having served as our interim Chaplain at Bausman Memorial Chapel, he relayed his tale.

Kindall feels that he has experienced, at least a few times, while in the building and on the grounds around the Chapel an unseen visitor. "I have been in the Chapel by myself planning the music for FUEL with my back to the pews; it happened twice where I felt someone alongside me. The last time it occurred, the hair on my arms stood up." And next, he relayed, "Definitely a feeling of peace, but someone was there another time was while I was patrolling, I was walking up by Reverend and Mrs. More's resting place and had the oddest feeling someone was looking at me from the line along the Chapel. Of course, no one was there, but the feeling, again all peace, but still eerie."

We are also aware that a few other members of our team have had the feeling of being watched by others unseen when they are in Bausman. It seems we have a very active area here on the Bethany campus between, Bausman, More Memorial Park, Applegate, and Brobst Cottage this year.

That is all folks; always feel free to share your stories!

BETHANY ALUMNI CONNECTION – Let us help you reconnect with your Bethany Brothers & Sisters (“Class of...” we use the year you arrived at Bethany.)

Sandra Lee (Long) Matthews – 1967, last reported living in Ohio, the phone number we have is not valid. We have someone looking to make contact.

The Alumni Coordinator is looking for **CLASS OF 1975-2005**, Bethany Alumni from those years to reach out; we would like to plan an event, and would love your input.

ALUMNI GROUPS AT BETHANY- Get involved with your peers today. Reach out to our Development Alumni Relations Coordinator for more information. jkoch@bethanyhome.org

The Homers – 1920-1969 (Meets bi-monthly)

Bethany Kids – 1970 to present (Events coming)

LOOKING FOR THESE ITEMS TO ADD TO THE BETHANY ARCHIVES:

Anniversary Day Programs: We are missing the following years:
1891, 1893, 1897, 1913, 1954, and 1957

Bethany Cookbooks: We are missing the following editions/years:
2nd & 3rd editions between the years of 1916-1926
7th & 8th editions between the years of 1936-1946 (**Thank you to whomever sent 1939!**)

Bethany Anniversary Day Pins: We are missing the following years: 1901 & 1931-1942

Do you have any Bethany memorabilia? Reach out to the archivist to see what we might be missing from our collection.

NEXT – Homers Breakfast!!

October 14th, right here on the Bethany campus!
Please call to reserve your spot with your Alumni Coordinator.
Cost is \$5.00/pp and is payable that day. Buffet-style breakfast.
Come and enjoy socializing with your Bethany brothers and sisters.

FINAL Summer Concert – This Sunday 10/3 – Stephanie Grace!!!
Starts at 1:00 P.M. Gates open at 11:30 A.M.



Bethany Children's Home 2021 Christmas Gift Drop-Off Times

Thank you for your willingness and generosity to provide a wonderful Christmas and Holiday Season for our Bethany Youth. Your special gifts will bring many smiles.

Christmas Land is at a NEW LOCATION this year! The **Henning Center** will be accepting gifts **BY SCHEDULED DROP-OFF TIMES ONLY**. We have security at all entrances of campus, so we will add your name to the list of visitors for our security team. Please be sure to bring a photo ID.

Please call Craig in the Development Office to schedule your drop-offs: 610-589-6874

Hours for Scheduled Deliveries:

Monday, Dec. 6 - Friday, Dec. 10	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 12	Noon – 3 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 13 - Friday, Dec. 17	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 19	Noon – 3 p.m.

PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR CHRISTMAS DROPS. Additional evening and weekend hours available upon request. Please call the number above.

So that the elves may sort and wrap, we ask that all gifts be delivered by **Monday, Dec. 20, 2021.**

Christmas gifts will **ONLY** be received at the Henning Center located on Ryeland road at our main entrance. Look for the signs!

As an alternative to material gifts, please consider a monetary gift to the **Brighter Futures Fund**, which provides gifts that create smiles all year long!

Donations can be mailed to:
Bethany Children's Home, Brighter Futures Fund
1863 Bethany Road
Womelsdorf, PA 19567



Bethany Children's Home

Christmas Wish List

Thank you for helping create new, positive memories in our youth's lives!

Bethany youth are 10-21 years of age.

We kindly ask that all items are new and unwrapped.

We appreciate age-appropriate gifts with the consideration of parental warnings, modesty and safety.

Cottage Needs: bed pillows • twin sheets • twin zippered waterproof mattress pads • bath towels • shower curtain liners and rings • kitchen dish cloths/towels • twin comforters • 4-slice toasters • flashlights & nightlights • sketch-books • MP3 players • hangers • large duffel bags • hairbrushes • loofahs • shower caddies • conditioner • body wash
Accessories: umbrellas • digital alarm clock with no radio • washbaskets • rain ponchos & boots • wrapping paper • tissue paper • large storage containers

Activity Items: art & craft kits • adult coloring books • paint-by-number • tie-dye kits (with white shirts and pillowcases) • card stock • paint brushes • hand-held games • board games • scrapbook paper • canvas boards • yarn • crochet & knitting needles • colored pencils • hardbound journals

Teen Girls Clothing: (juniors and misses sizes please): sweatpants- small-2X • panties - size 5,6,7 & 8 • sports bras/bralettes- Small-2XL • socks-all types • pajamas - all sizes • bath robes • tank tops • slippers • gym shorts • snow boots

Teen Boys Clothing: (men's sizes please): sweatpants for men-sizes small-2XL • underwear-boxer briefs • socks-all types • pajama pants-Sizes Small-2XL • white t-shirts - all sizes • gym shorts • rubber-soled slippers or slides • robes • snow boots

Education and Recreation: Indoor Basketballs 29.5 inch • Meditation Pillows • Black 3/4inch buckles for paracord • Colored 3/4-inch buckles for paracord • Lego Sets: Classic Cars, Sports Card, Superheroes, Star Wars • Sculpey Clay and Tools • Mechanic Tool Set • Wood Burning Tool • 2 stage or 3 stage locking carabineers • Team Building "Spots" • Nerf Guns and Nerf Ammo • Rollor Blades or Roller Skates sizes 4 to 13 • Bandanas • Multi-tools for fishing • 5 gallon water cooler • Mylec Floor Hockey Balls- Orange • Knee Hockey Sets • 2 part Resin for casting and pouring • Ryobi 18volt One+ power tools • Ryobi 18volt One+ batteries • Bicycle Lubricant-Wet or Dry • Pot and Pan Set for cooking group • Knife set for cooking group • Cutting Board Set for cooking group • 9x13 baking pans • Muffin Pans • Measuring Spoons • Measuring Cups • Whisks • Rubber Spatulas • Metal Spatulas • Mixing Bowls • Mixing Spoons • Oven Mitts • Drying • Towels • Cookie cutters

Music Education: ukuleles • drum sticks • clarinet reeds (strength 2.5 and 3) • acoustic guitar strings • ukulele strings • guitar picks • hand percussion instruments • area rug • bean bag chairs • earbud headphones • Menchey Music gift cards • Woodwind & Brasswind gift cards (online) • boomwhackers • hand drums • books: music, song-writing, music technology, music textbooks, drum set books/music

Book wish list: Visit www.bethanyhome.org/christmas-at-bethany

Art Studio: Michael's or Hobby Lobby gift cards • large & small canvases • acrylic paint • premixed acrylic pouring paint • heavy duty paint brushes • Sharpie markers • stencils • fuse beads & fuse bead bases • wooden boxes for art projects • artist paintbrush set • calligraphy ink all colors • small wooden projects • Gesso paint primer • oven-bake modelling clay

Gift Cards: Walmart, Target, Lowe's, Home Depot, TJ Maxx/Marshall's, Dick's Sporting Goods, Boyer's, Redner's, Dairy Queen, McDonald's, Ross, Michael's, Hobby Lobby, Ulta, local greenhouses

Bethany's Book Wish List

Janie Johnson Series (6 books) by Caroline B. Cooney

Descendants Novel Series Books

Skin Hunger Series

Children Of Jubilee series by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Son of Angels Box Set by Jonah Stone

Magic Thief Box Set By Sarah Prineas

The Inheritance Games books By Jennifer Lynn Barnes

The Witch Haven By Sasha Peyton Smith

White Smoke By Tiffany Jackson

A Twisted Tale Series

Tristis Manor by J.R. Wagner

Sisters of Sword and Song by Rebecca Ross

The Lost Girls By Sonia Hartl

Partials Sequence (3 book series)

The Silent Patient By Alex Michaelides

Milk and Honey By Rupi Kaur

Graphic Novels:

Batman/Fortnite: Zero Point

The Umbrella Academy Series

Marvel or DC superhero Series

Dogman Series

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

Questions regarding gifts? Please call 610-589-6874.

Financial Gifts may also be made to support youth needs and activities throughout the year. www.bethanyhome.org

The official registration and financial information of Bethany Home Inc. and Bethany Children's Home, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



