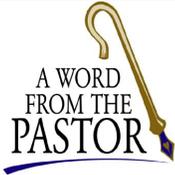




BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

September 2017



Scripture John 4:6-29

What We Should Know First:

In his encounter with the woman at the well, Jesus broke three Jewish customs: 1) he spoke to a woman; 2) she was a Samaritan woman, a group the Jews traditionally despised; and third, 3) he asked her to get him a drink of water, which would have made him ceremonially unclean from using her cup or jar. She was shocked but as the woman began to grasp the reality of her encounter, she begins to see her own life differently even if the disciples do not.

Points of Interest

“Those People”

I have had many conversations over the years where I have heard. If “those people” wouldn’t drink so much pop, booze, or smoke cigarettes, or buy their kids those video games then they might be able to do better for themselves. Those people are like that because of their, race, sexual orientation, gender, nationality, religion, income level, etc. You know how “those people” are. The woman at the well knew that was who she was and yet Jesus talked to her anyway.

If it comes right down to it don’t we all have and do struggle with prejudice and have to fight very hard to not view others as “those people”? How easy is it for us to pass judgment on someone drastically different and even offensive to us?

“Living Water”

Jesus was offering to see her through the eyes of God. He was offering to give her life changing, soul transforming water that would give her eternal fulfillment. The same thing Nicodemus was offered but wasn’t able to or chose at that moment not to accept or understand. This is the water we too are called to offer to the thirsty to lead them to a sense of eternity through Christ. Often instead of offering it we often hoard it because we are unable to see “those people” as us.

At some time, we all were in need of the same “living water” We all needed to have our faith awakened. We have all needed to be rescued from something we were deeply ashamed of. Knowing this why do we still cast a pall of judgment on others?

Evangelism

The woman not only saw Jesus as a prophet but she went into the city and proclaimed him to others as the one who “told her everything she had ever done” but also pointing to the others that indeed this man who transformed me may very well be the messiah. She immediately shared her water and didn’t hoard it. The kicker is she shared his words with people that despised and hated her. As a result, they came out to hear him and received the word themselves. She was in essence one of the first evangelists.

We are all called to be evangelists in word and deed and lead people to the pool of living water. How hard is this especially when people don’t respond to the sharing and living of our faith positively?

Food for Thought Pastor Todd

Fall Service Hours

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service



Beginning on
September 10th

In This Issue

- A Word from the Pastor
- September Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Chain and Thank You Notes
- Celebrating Marianna Putnam
- Church Groups
- Church Events
- Community Events
- September Calendar



Reilly Saneman ~ 09/05

Doris Lytle ~ 09/08

Nelson Berigtold ~ 09/09

Zachary Clayton ~ 09/12

George Reeves ~ 09/12

Bob Horn ~ 09/15

Dave Hinkley ~ 09/16

Bruce Mattheiss ~ 09/18

Charles Saneman ~ 09/18

Nancy Berigtold ~ 09/20

Kathleen Fowler ~ 09/22

Christopher Mitchell ~ 09/23

David Thomas ~ 09/24

David Amos ~ 09/26

Michael Schwarz ~ 09/27

Keith Comer ~ 09/28

Kathleen Clayton ~ 09/29

Gretchen Shanklin ~ 09/30



Eric & Wendy Edie

September 2nd

Anthony & Deborah Saneman

September 16th

David & Sherry Kirchner

September 24th



The Board of Deacons will be having a Fall Luncheon on ...

Sunday, October 8th

immediately following Worship Service. You will receive an official invitation in the mail this month. Please be sure to RSVP no later than October 1st to Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 or email her at this address ...

melissadick@bethel-md.org

DEACON'S UPDATE

We uphold the following members, relatives and friends in our prayers and pray God's healing upon them:

Ongoing Prayers:

Gretchen Shanklin, Billy and Jeane Gross, Bruce Young, Ted Schmidt, Leonora Rose, Jason Rowley, Nancy Sacks, Bill Pullen, Nelson Berigtold, Tom Swift, Betty Saneman, and Frank Hughes.

For Relatives & Friends of Bethel Members:

Bruce Snyder, friend of The Louderbacks and Morrows.
Rev. Bruce and Barbara Barstow, the former pastor at Bethel and his wife.
Maurice "Mo" Howard.
Joseph Biondo, uncle of Gary Lowe.
Ed Sturtevant, friend of Bethel Church.
DiLiello Family, friends of Pastor Todd Smith.
Dan Kelleher, brother-in-law of Jack and Betty Rogers.
Diana Natnaparstek, friend of Nancy Mory and Nancy Cowman.
Gary Elser, friend of Bruce and Carolyn Mattheiss
Bill Hamer, friend of Bruce and Carolyn Mattheiss.
Jay and Martha Elliott's grandson, James Kennedy, friends of Dan & Mary Beth Scott.
The Berrell Family for the loss of their son, Winfield Berrell, Jr., dear friends of Gail Thomas.
Marsha Jones, friend of Laurie Falkner.
Lynn Kiniry, friend of Gail & Dave Thomas.
Lola Beigel, aunt of Carolyn Mattheiss.

Gail Lowe will be updating the Prayer Concerns. If you would like to add someone or you feel someone can be removed from the list, please call Gail at 443-567-0150 or email her at gggalowe@aol.com



To Our Bethel Friends,

Gary and I want to Thank You for all of the wonderful fellowship and memories. We loved Bethel after our first step into the Church. The smiles, hugs and warm wishes surrounded us. We will carry you all in our hearts and prayers.

Love and God Bless,
Mary & Gary

P.S.
This Church needs no last names ... I love it !!



For all committee members, please be sure to check the September calendar for your next scheduled committee meeting as some of the days and times have changed.



Celebrating Marianna Putnam

Marianna Putnam was born Oct. 30, 1941 to Shade and Elizabeth Deets Streett. She grew up with her older brother, Bill, on the family farm near Jarrettsville. Her father farmed and her mother was a nurse. She graduated from North Harford High School in 1959 and then attended Baltimore Business College. Following that she lived and worked in Baltimore for 3 years. In 1962 she and Hayward Putnam were married at Bethel. They built a house on the farm and she still lives there today. She ran a Day Care from her home for 25 years, caring for approximately 30 children through the years, including her own 3 grandchildren. Marianna was widowed in 2013 at the death of Hayward.

Marianna and Hayward had 3 children, Beth, Eddy and Timmy. Eddy died in 2001 at the age of 29 and Timmy died in 1978 after only 12 hours of life. She has 3 grandchildren, Melissa and Jake who are Beth's, and Eddie's daughter, Summer. Melissa now has 2 children which makes Marianna a great-grandmother.

Marianna has been at Bethel all her life, it being the church of her mother's ancestors. She was baptized, confirmed, attended Sunday school and was married here. She has participated in every aspect of Bethel. She has served 12 years as an elder, 9 years as a Deacon and taught 4th grade Sunday school for 25 years. She has been an active member of the Mary Circle and Worship and Music committee for many years. She served on a PNC committee, is the chair of one of the Bereavement committees and is co-chair of the current Nominating committee. She and Hayward were the last officers of the Schooner club.

Marianna feels that she has been deeply influenced, over the years, by many members of Bethel, two of whom stand out in particular. While she was teaching 4th grade Sunday school Ruth Ann Pullen was teaching 5th grade. They always had their opening exercises together with Ruth Ann playing the piano and teaching the kids songs. You can bet that anybody who was ever in Sunday school then can still sing "The Books of the Bible". As Marianna says, "We could probably be heard for miles around".

The other person of great influence was Mary White. She and Marianna worked together on many church projects, the biggest of which was the compiling of the paper history of Bethel. This is now stored in the Presbyterian Historical Society located in Philadelphia. Marianna feels her life would not have been the same without the influence and guidance of these women.

Marianna wishes this to end with the following heartfelt statement. "I love Bethel and the people at Bethel. You're the best." We might also add, You're the Best and thanks so much for all that you have done.

Church Groups

CHURCH FLOWERS

Interested in donating flowers to decorate the sanctuary on Sunday mornings? Please feel free to call Betty Rogers at 410-692-6579.

Let her know if the donation is in memory of a loved one or in celebration of birthdays or anniversaries.



BETHEL CROSS STITCHERS

The Bethel Cross Stitchers will be meeting on **September 6th and 20th at 9:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.



If you would like to enjoy the fellowship of other Christian women while learning a craft, we welcome you join in on the fun.

MARY'S CIRCLE

Women of Bethel, come and expand your knowledge of the Bible. This Woman's Bible Study Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

If you would like to feel the love of other Christian women, you are cordially invited to attend their next meeting on **September 12th** in the Foyer of the CE Building.



THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The Breakfast Bunch will be starting a short series on Scientology with Pastor Todd leading the discussions. We will meet on **September 7th and 28th at 7:00 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall. A continental breakfast will be available. The lesson will end at 8:00 a.m. If you would like more information, please call Bob Horn at 443-807-0563, or send an email to hornsrbb@aol.com



BETHEL'S REFUGE

A small group of women whose goal is to support, encourage and comfort those who are hurting. This support group meets every **Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** in the basement of the Church Office. Light refreshments are served. Join us in this safe environment where you can rediscover your own voice. To learn more, please contact Rita Taylor at 443-243-7225 or email her at ritataylorrealtor@gmail.com



HOME VISITS

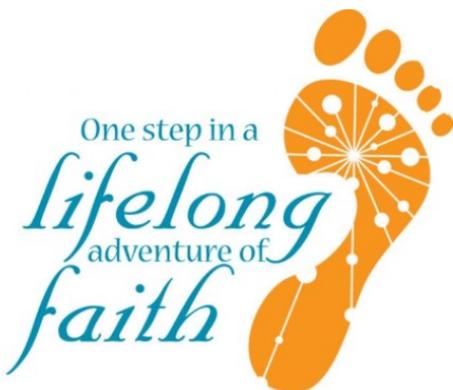
If you need a little extra support and guidance, are having an upcoming surgery, or you need some one-on-one time with Pastor Todd, please feel free to call Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 or you can email her at melisadick@bethel-md.org to schedule a Home Visit.

Your spiritual well being is as important as your physical well being.



Confirmation

Bethel Church Confirmation classes are under way! Our first trip was to the Synagogue in Bel Air followed by a lunch at Rock State Park with a hike to the King and Queen seat. We will be taking a trip for a course of rope climbing as well as work on building teamwork skills. As the classes progress, we will keep you all updated with photos and how our Bethel Church students are doing.





Saturday - September 16th
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

If you are interested in reserving a space,
please contact Melissa Dick in the Church Office
410-692-5282 or melissadick@bethel-md.org

Spaces are \$15

Vendors will park in their space

Call today to be part of this community event 😊

Bethel Sunday School ~ 2017-2018

The Bethel Sunday School Teachers are excited to begin another wonderful year of teaching.

Sunday School attendees will begin each Sunday in their classrooms with their age developed lessons. Then, we will meet towards the end of class for a 15-minute time period as a Bethel Sunday School Family for songs, message and a closing prayer. We hope this will allow us to instill a sense of community and family within the group.

Sunday School Registration

Sunday, September 10th

9:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast snacks provided

Sunday School Begins

Starting September 17th

9:00 a.m. — 10:15 a.m.



The Mission Committee encourages you to donate any of the following items that will be collected through **September** for the Perry Point Medical Center's Long Term Patients. These items will be delivered to them in **October** by some of our Bethel members. The Perry Point Medical Center container will be located in the Foyer Area. We thank you in advance for your many kindnesses of supporting men and women in need that have given so much of themselves for us.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

- Toiletries*: body wash; deodorant; mouth wash (**alcohol-free in plastic containers only**) shampoo; triple-edge disposable razors, shaving cream, aftershave (**alcohol-free in plastic containers only**); combs; toothpaste for sensitive teeth, soft compact head tooth-brushes with cover; lip balm; denture adhesive; denture cleaning tablets
- Forever Postage Stamps
- Simple crafts- coloring books for adults, simple painting crafts, model kits, leather/suede and craft items/kits
- Gloves, hats, scarves, rubber boots or totes
- Undergarments and socks for male and female Veterans (must be new)
- Battery operated radios with headgear type earphones for patients
- Paperback crossword puzzles and word search puzzle books
- Simple board games
- Musical CDs – easy listening, classical, relaxation music
- Books on tape
- DVDs – appropriate ones
- Snack Foods* – commercially prepared, individually wrapped

PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES
we cannot distribute expired items



Concert Event at Bethel **Saturday** **October 28th ~ 7:00 p.m.** **“Broadening Horizons”**

Bethel Church is embarking on a new venture with having our first evening of sacred vocal works by Bach, Fauré, Franck, Bach-Gounod and American composer Paul Leavitt performed by Russian soprano **Yulia Petrachuk** accompanied by our organist, **Kirsten Fitzsimmons**. Ticket costs will be \$35 per ticket. Please mark your calendars for this extraordinary event.

Session Summary

The Session held a dinner meeting on August 17, 2017 at Carolyn Mattheiss home at 6p.m. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Todd, devotions led by Elder Nancy Alexander, who also led us in prayer

CLERK'S REPORT

Approved June 15, 2017 session minutes.

Communion served June 4th, July 2nd, and August 6th 2017 by intinction.

Pastor Todd's vacation time was approved. By consensus.

Approved Deer Creek Youth Choir event dates.

Care & Reach Committee will be doing a new church directory. Tabled until September

Request for facility usage for Cub Scout Pack 809. This is a sponsored event by Bethel no vote needs to be taken. All dates needed are available.

MODERATOR

Approved Deer Creek Chorale practices as scheduled, session requesting to have a written agreement.

Kirsten Fitzsimmons & Bethel Organ – Rev. Todd requested that Kirsten be offered use of the church organ/piano for student lessons. Pastor Todd feels this is a typical add-on to a Music Director's compensation package and costs the church nothing. The committee voted to recommend to the Session that this benefit be added to Kirsten letter of employment for 2018. Carries.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL – Elder Dennis Kirkwood reported annual review for staff have been completed with the exception of Chrissie Gallaher. Dave Thomas will review.

Marianne Putnam & Shirlee Nystrom continue to update the church roles.

Dennis gave all session members a finished Copy of Operations Manual

WORSHIP & MUSIC – The committee suggested that a "thank you" reception be given to Allen Eberwein for his faithful dedication for getting ushers for Sunday services. To take place after a church worship service.

Kirsten looking ahead planning a Baroque mini-concert sometime during the Christmas season.

Dates are needed for Harvest Home Sunday, All Saints, & Advent.

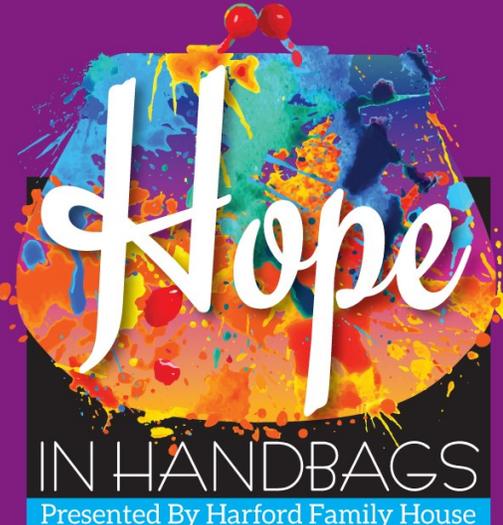
FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP – A motion and second to do Financial Review for 2015.

MISSION – N/R

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Todd.

Respectfully submitted,
Polly S. Winskowski, Clerk

Community Events



9th Annual Hope in Handbags
Silent Purse Auction
& Retail Sale

Exclusive Preview Event
Friday, September 8th, 2017 • 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
\$10 Donation
to have 1st choice of designer handbags, door prizes, plus complimentary food & drink.

Saturday, September 9th, 2017
10:00 am - 3:00 pm • Bel Air Reckord Armory on Main Street

Sponsored By
SAXON'S
DIAMOND
CENTERS

Featuring:
Designer Handbags
Filled with Valuables

Cash & Carry:
Designer, New,
Gently-Used &
Vintage Handbags

For more information call:
410.273.6700
www.harfordfamilyhouse.org



Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church



Salem's Annual Craft Fair will be held on **Saturday, October 7th** from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Stitchers and others have been working since January to prepare for this event. We will also have a flea market, activities for children, and of course our ever popular apple butter.

Please join us for a day of fun, food and shopping!