



BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

January 2018

A New Year's Plan

~ Mary Fairchild

I tried to think of a clever new phrase – a slogan to inspire the next 365 days, a motto to live by this coming New Year, but the catchy words fell flat to my ear.

And then I heard His still small voice saying, "Consider this simple, daily choice: with each new dawn and close of day make new your resolve to trust and obey."

"Don't look back caught in regret or dwell on the sorrow of dreams unmet; don't stare forward anchored by fear, no, live in this moment, for I am here."

"I am all you need. Everything. I Am. You are held secure by my strong hand. Give me this one thing – your all in all; into my grace, let yourself fall."

So, at last, I'm ready; I see the way.
It's to daily follow, trust, and obey.
I enter the New Year armed with a plan,
to give him my everything. All that I am.

Celebrating
250
Years!

We would like volunteers to be part of our Task Force in planning our year long celebration in 2019 for Bethel Church's 250th Anniversary.

Please contact **Melissa Dick** if you are interested in being a member of the Task Force for this monumental event.

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Sam & Margie Fielder
January 27th

Barbara Shaul ~ 01/01

Eric Edie ~ 01/06

Elizabeth Henderson ~ 01/07

James Boyd ~ 01/08

Andrea Wiley ~ 01/09

Ruth Calary ~ 01/10

Rachel Mitchell ~ 01/10

Hope Smithson ~ 01/13

Jack Rogers ~ 01/22

Jason Rowley ~ 01/24

John Saneman ~ 01/24



We have a new website

bethel-md.org

Come see all the
wonderful things we
have to offer

Thank you for helping us bring the
good news of Jesus into the world
of teenagers.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!

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 Gross, Bruce Young, Ted Schmidt, Leonora Rose, Jason Rowley, Nancy Sacks, Betty Saneman, Frank Hughes, Dorothy Goldstein, and Bud Lytle.

For Relatives & Friends of Bethel Members:

Bruce Snyder, friend of the Morrrows and the Louderbacks.
Rev. Bruce and Barbara Barstow, former pastor at Bethel and his wife. Maurice "Mo" Howard.
Joseph Biondo, uncle of Gary Lowe.
Ed Sturtevant, friend of Bethel.
Dan Kelleher, brother-in-law of Jack and Betty Rogers.
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 and Mary Beth Scott.
Howard Eisner, brother-in-law of Carol Morrow.
Lola Beigel, aunt of Carolyn Mattheiss.
Justin Comer, grandson of Allen and Janet Henderson and son of Keith and Kirsten Comer.
Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.
Charles and Mary Rosseau, friends of David and Gail Thomas.
Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback.
Marie Vales, past secretary of Bethel.

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



Thank
You

To the Carolers and Teacher,

Thank you to all who came to sing Christmas songs for me at my home. You have such a nice group of students and I did so enjoy how much you put into the performance. I have always enjoyed music, it is so relaxing. Also, I greatly appreciated the plant you brought for me. I will take very good care of it. You all deserve an A+.

Sincerely,
Ruth Calary

Dear Bethel Family,

I would like to say thank you to everyone for your very generous gift card to Cracker Barrel. It is one of my most favorite places to dine. I am truly blessed to be part of this wonderful church and to have all of you in my life.

Warmest Regards,
Melissa Dick

Dear Bethel Church,

Thank you for your ongoing support of Harford Family House. Because of your support over the past year, an unprecedented 90% of the families graduating from our program have been successful in transitioning into permanent, stable housing! Together, we will continue to end homelessness in our community, one family at a time.

Sincerely,
Robin Tomechko, CEO
Harford Family House

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 **January 3rd & 17th 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 **January 9th** in the Foyer of the CE Building.



THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The group will continue their series on Isaiah. They will meet on **January 4th and 18th at 7:00 a.m.** in the 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 hornsrb@aol.com



CHANCEL CHOIR



Choir Rehearsal

Bethel Chancel Choir will have rehearsals every **Wednesday at 7:15 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. We would love to have you join our choir. Please feel free to attend

rehearsal and lend your voice for our Worship Service each Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Fitzsimmons, Music Director, via email at ...

kirstenfitzsimmonsmusic@hotmail.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 melissadick@bethel-md.org to schedule a Home Visit.

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



Church Events

Christmas Shoe Tree

We “kicked off” our annual Payless Shoes Gift Cards Tree in December. The shoe gift cards provide much needed support for growing families in our community. Ten dollars (\$10) buys one gift card. To date, we have collected \$1,115. Thank you to everyone who has given generously to this worthy cause that we partner with the Mason Dixon Community Services.



Christmas Around the World

It was our honor to have the men’s ensemble Quorus perform for us on Saturday, December 16th. Our Music Director, Kirsten Fitzsimmons, was able to arrange for this incredibly talented group of young men to share their love of music with all of us. We are truly grateful to Quorus for taking time out of their busy schedules to celebrate Christmas with us.



Advent Luncheon

The Christian Education Committee's annual Advent Luncheon was spectacular from the magnificent holiday decorations to the delicious meal that was prepared for everyone to enjoy. We were blessed to have MaryLee Swift lead us in singing Christmas songs while playing the piano. We hope that you enjoyed your day with all of us at Bethel.



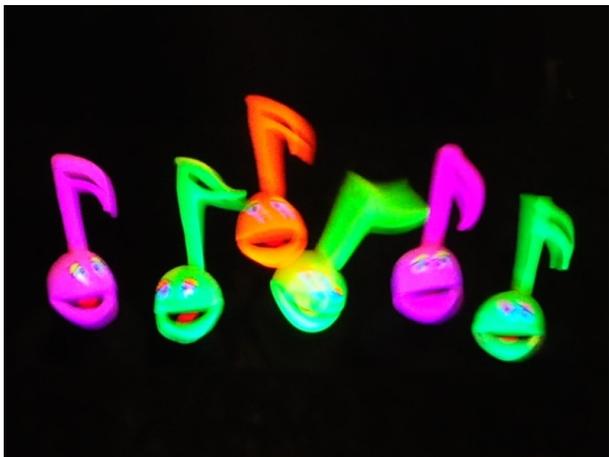


Our Eagle Scout, Tyler Sambor, was very successful with his fundraiser for the Bethel Swing and Fire Pit. He was able to raise \$350 to continue with his project. Everyone enjoyed a wonderfully prepared breakfast of pancakes and sausage. Our guest of honor ... Santa ... made the celebration one to remember.



Christmas Puppet Service

What an amazing event at Bethel Church ! We had the pleasure of having the Yadah Ministries perform a Christmas Puppet Program on Sunday, December 17th. All who attended this special service were treated to the talents of the puppeteers and uplifting music. This is definitely a program we would love to have again at Bethel. Here are a few spotlights of the program.



Christmas Caroling & Holiday Party

Sunday, December 17th was an eventful day at Bethel. Our Sunday School and Youth Group students participated in our annual Caroling at the homes of some of Bethel Church members. Later in the evening, they returned to Bethel for a Christmas Celebration. Because they worked so hard on the Operation Christmas Child Boxes, they received a tray of chicken nuggets from Chick-Fil-A to enjoy at their party. As you can see, a great time was had by all !



Session Summary

Incoming Session members, Sherry Kirchner and Ruth Walker, were welcomed, moved and seconded for them to vote.

Dave Hinkley and Steve Kaufman from Trustees had discussion with session members addressing use of sanctuary for AARP and a discussion for ways to compromise.

Church security was discussed. Some members of the congregation attended seminar at Mountain Christian Church offered by Sheriff's Dept. offering guidance on security to groups and have an action plan for security.

Sesquibicentennial Task Force –to make plans for steering committee for this event. More to follow in January.

Digital LED Sign – an anonymous donor to contribute up to \$20,000 for digital sign. Would like a concept drawing of preliminary design of the new structure of the LED sign incorporating the existing sign. By consensus.

Moved and seconded to spend up to \$500. For smart TV to be installed in meeting room of Brick House for all to use. Money to be taken from session discretionary fund.

Congregational meeting will be called for Sunday Jan. 21, 2018

Worship & Music – Positive feedback on Puppet Ministry 12/17/17. Christmas concert was held Sat. Dec. 16, 2017. String quartet performed at both church services on Christmas Eve.

Sunday School – Confirmation class will start Sunday, January 14, 2018.

The Mission Committee to support the following:

\$500. Harford Co. Fuel Fund

\$950. to the Presbytery for wild fire relief at Ventura, CA.

\$1,000. Christ Our King for 2018 Thanksgiving boxes.

Session thanked Nancy Mory and Marianna Putnam for their service as Elders.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Todd.

Respectfully submitted,
Polly S. Winskowski
Clerk of Session

2018

JANUARY

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:30 Scout Troop #809	01  1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Deacons Meeting	02 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Trustees Meeting Office is CLOSED	03 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	04 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting	05 Office is OPEN	06 Scout Crew #265 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
07 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:30 Scout Troop #809	08 1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Deacons Meeting	09 1:30 Mary's Circle 4:30 DCYC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg.	10 7:15 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 Care & Reach Out Team	11 7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting	12	13
14 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:00 Confirmation Class 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club	15 1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Deacons Meeting	16 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 CE Meeting	17 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:30 pm Woman's Bible Study 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	18 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 pm Session	19	20
21 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 11:35 Congregational Meeting	22 1:00 AARP Monthly Meeting 7:00 Admin & Personnel	23 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group	24 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	25	26	27
28 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	29 1:00 AARP Monthly Meeting 7:00 Admin & Personnel	30 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group	31 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	01 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TODAY	02	03