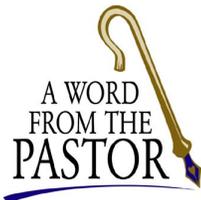




# BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

February 2018



Read John 14:1-6

## What We Should Know First:

Jesus is alone with the people who have been his world over a three year period and they are very clearly receiving the message that their world is about to change and that Jesus will be with them no longer.

He also introduces them to a paradigm shift in promising to bring them to the place where he is going. Being well schooled in Judaism to the disciples the very notion that they could be in the "place where God resides" would have been very foreign to them. Yet here they are being told that they will indeed be in the place that God resides with the Lord.

## Points of Interest in this scripture and questions to ponder:

Thomas asks, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" It is not a question of confusion as much as a questioning of how that which was never thought possible can really be true. There was and is not concept of "heaven" in the way we now understand it in Judaism. Yet this new truth puts heaven within our reach.

**Have you ever had an experience where a core belief that you held was redefined and a new definition of truth came to you? How easy or difficult is that to accept.**

## *The Ultimate Promise*

Jesus proclaims, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' It is the basis for the Christian that Jesus is the way through which we not only know God but ultimately come to be with God in eternity. This is not only a new truth for the Jewish followers of Christ but will become a central truth for the Christian faith as it evolved and grew. If the "truth" be told, it has also has been a statement that Christian and non-Christian alike have wrestled with when pondering the subject of eternity. If one looks back twenty years it is safe to say most of us can find one, probably more, things that were truth for us then that may not necessarily be true for us today. It can be heady subject to weigh.

**Can things we wrestle with as "truth" still be unsettling for us? Does it make them any more or less "truthful"?**



Community Service at  
Jarrettsville UMC  
Soup & Bread Dinner  
at 6:00 p.m.  
Worship Service  
at 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday  
February 14<sup>th</sup>**

Full Community Lenten  
Service Schedule  
is on Page 7

## In This Issue

- A Word from the Pastor
- February Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Chain and Thank You Notes
- Celebrating Steve and Amy Kauffman
- Church Groups
- Church Events
- Session Summary
- February Calendar



Jacob Holt ~ 02/2

Jordan Comer ~ 02/05

Susan Wyatt ~ 02/05

Sarah Wiley ~ 02/06

Wendy Benson ~ 02/07

Daniel McRee ~ 02/07

Travis Galliher ~ 02/10

George Cowman ~ 02/11

Mark DiBastiani ~ 02/12

Gail Thomas ~ 02/16

Gregory Thomas ~ 02/16

Shirlee Nystrom ~ 02/17

Shelby Jones ~ 02/20

Jessica Messenger ~ 02/22

Lindsay Saneman ~ 02/22

Gary Lowe ~ 02/23

Kelley Saneman ~ 02/23

Sarah Fielder ~ 02/24

Ruth Walker ~ 02/24

Jack Mory ~ 02/26

Pastor Todd & Vi Smith  
February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Keith & Kristin Comer  
February 14<sup>th</sup>

David & Sue Hinkley  
February 16<sup>th</sup>

Steve & Betty Saneman  
February 16<sup>th</sup>

Eric & Wendy Benson  
February 27<sup>th</sup>



Dear Carolers,

A big thank you to all who came to sing before Christmas. I truly did appreciate each and everyone of you. Thank you too for the nice green plant. It will constantly remind me of your kindness.

Love,  
Dot Gemmill

Dear Carolers,

Many thanks to the Carolers for again coming to us and bringing such joyful songs of Christmas to our home. They will always be with us.

Christ Be with You All,  
Ted and Beverly Schmidt

# 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.  
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.  
Anneliese Schleich, friend of Tom and MaryLee Swift.

***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***



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to Heifer International. Your generosity means a struggling family will now be able to start earning income to feed their families, improve their shelter, and pay for health care and school for their children. You are helping us bring lasting change to some of the poorest places on the planet. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for joining with us!

Sincerely,  
Pierre Ferrari  
President & CEO, Heifer International

Dear Bethel,

On behalf of Christ Our King Presbyterian Church, I would like to thank you for your donation to our 2017 Giving Boxes Project. Your generous donation went directly to help those in need have a complete Thanksgiving dinner as well as other nutritious food items. We were able to distribute food to over 1,200 families in Harford County, Baltimore County and the surrounding areas.

In Christ's Service,  
Marlene Butler  
Missions Outreach

Dear Bethel Friends,

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your donation of \$1,764, which you have generously contributed to It Is Well International in 2017. We are grateful for th support to aid in supplying clean water internationally. Your donation will go towards digging fresh water wells around the world.

In 2017, we have been working in Uganda where 4 borehole wells were completed, Zambia with 1 well completed, Malawi with 8 shallow water wells and 13 well rehabilitations and Nigeria with 3 borehole wells completed that will serve over 24,000 people.

In Regards,  
Carol A. Deel, Ph.D.  
CEO, It Is Well International, Inc.



# Celebrating Steve & Amy Kauffman

These two wonderful contributors to Bethel have been members for about twenty years. Steve is a Trustee and Amy is a faithful member of Deacons.

Steve is THE "Go to Fix it Man", and knows the facilities of Bethel better than anyone. Although Steve has no formal engineering education, he is the consummate engineer always willing and able to fix most anything. This know-how makes him a major asset to our church. Not just fixing things, he serves in many capacities as a regular volunteer ushering or serving as liturgist. He is also a member of the Breakfast Bunch. "If Steve's truck is at the far end of the parking lot, all is well at Bethel." His welcoming, ready smile is such a pleasant sight coming in the door of the church on Sunday morning.

When asked how he learned to do so many handy tasks, he replied, "poverty and necessity". Growing up on the family farm in Harford County just across the Baltimore County line, he had many opportunities to put his talents to work. The distinctive license plate on his truck, "Got Hay", tells a tale. He and Amy live in the original farmhouse which they have remodeled for their family.

Amy is also a major contributor to Bethel although less visible at the church than Steve since she works full time as a nurse on the cardiac unit at University of Maryland Hospital downtown. That is job #1. Her second job is studying for a Master's degree in Leadership and Management in nursing and certifying as a nurse anesthetist. In addition, she cares for grandsons Henry and Kaiden while their mother also works as a nurse at University of Maryland Hospital. When asked what her outside interests are, she replied, "Painting, decorating, baking and caring for a perennial flower garden." Besides all this, Amy is a faithful and valuable member of Bethel's Deacons. She enjoys helping to plan and facilitate the dinners that the Deacons host for our members. She is very conscientious about doing her part with this valuable group. Always quick to help with any project.

Amy grew up in Middle River and met Steve through mutual friends at a party. Their children are Alyssa, nurse and mother of two boys, and Stephen who is a commercial pilot in Alaska.

Bethel is blessed to have these energetic couple with us. We celebrate their being a valuable part of the church.

# 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 **February 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> 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 **February 13<sup>th</sup>** in the Foyer of the CE Building.

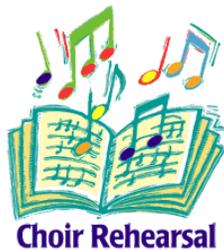


## THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The group will continue their series on Isaiah. They will meet on **February 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 ... [kirstenfitzsimmons@hotmai.com](mailto:kirstenfitzsimmons@hotmai.com)

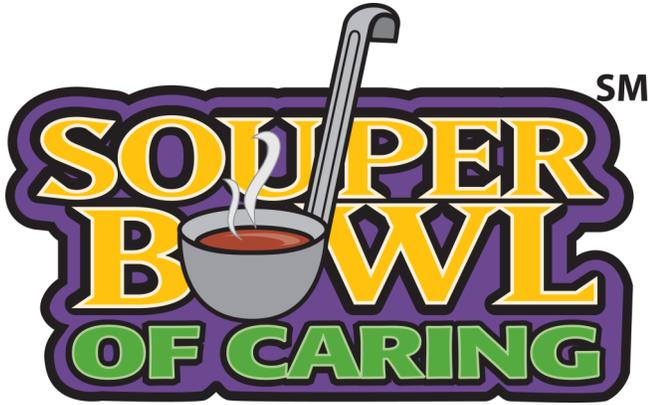
## HOME VISITS

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](mailto:melissadick@bethel-md.org) to schedule a Home Visit.

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



# Church Events



**The Sunday School Students  
Youth Group Members  
are asking for you to bring non-perishable  
food items to Worship Service on ...**

**Sunday ~ February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**All of the donated food items will be  
Distributed to local food banks.**

**Thank you for your kindness and generosity**

**With your help we can make a difference**

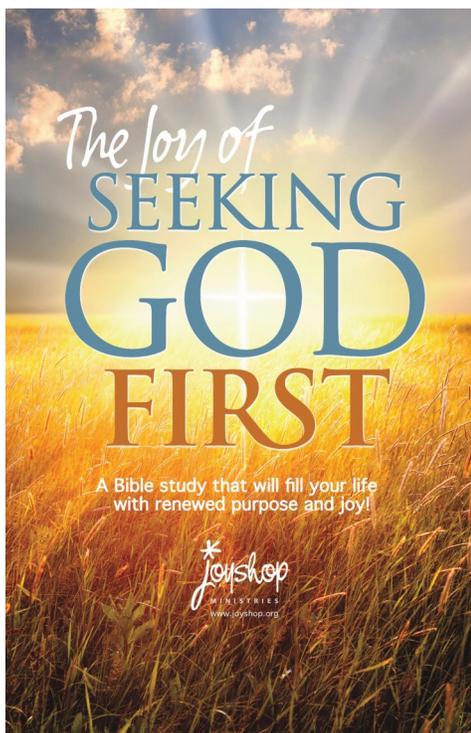
**Boy Scouts Sunday  
February 4<sup>th</sup> — 10:30 a.m.**



We hope that you will be able to join us as we recognize the Boy Scouts for their service to Bethel Church during the year.

The Boy Scouts will host the Hospitality Hour so be sure to stop in and thank these young men for all they do for our community.

We would like to recognize Daniel Barlow and Dylan Sambor for being our Liturgists as well as Garrett Ulmer, James King, Kyle Shenton, and Ryan Webb for being the Ushers. Thank you for being part of our Worship Service.



## **Women's Bible Study**

Please join us for this monthly study group that will begin with *The Joy of seeking God First* workshop that will fill your life with renewed purpose and joy

The group will meet the third Wednesday of each month for the next 6 months at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Office Conference Room

**Wednesday ~ February 21st**

First Meeting

# Church Events

## Lenten Services at Bethel “Spiritual Practices”

Wednesday, February 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Ash Wednesday</i></b> – Soup & Bread Dinner Worship Service at Jarrettsville UMC Hosted By: Centre United Methodist Church Pastor: Rev. Mark Gorman	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 21 <sup>st</sup>	Soup and Bread Dinner Worship Service Bethel Presbyterian Church Hosted By: Norrisville United Methodist Church Speaker: Pastor Melissa McDade	6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Soup and Bread Dinner Worship Service Bethel Presbyterian Church Hosted By: Bethel Presbyterian Church Pastor: Pastor Todd Smith	6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Soup and Bread Dinner Worship Service Bethel Presbyterian Church Hosted By: William Watters United Methodist Church Pastor: Rev. Ken Fizer	6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday, March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Soup and Bread Dinner Worship Service Bethel Presbyterian Church Hosted By: New Beginnings Pastor: Rev. Ernest Gayles	6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday, March 21 <sup>st</sup>	Soup and Bread Dinner Worship Service Bethel Presbyterian Church Hosted By: Jarrettsville United Methodist Church Pastor: Rev. Nick Bufano	6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.

*Free-Will offerings will be collected at each service to be given to local area rotating shelters.*

# Session Summary

The Session held a regular meeting on January 25, 2018, a week later because of bad weather on scheduled date. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Todd, devotion led by Elder Shirlee Nystrom, who also led us in prayer.

## **CLERK ' REPORT**

- Approved Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> session minutes.
- Communion served Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> by intinction.
- Elected Tom Nystrom as treasurer for 2018.
- Elected Polly Winskowski as Clerk of Session for 2018.

## **MODERATOR'S REPORT**

Dan Harner, President of the AARP Madonna Chapter, was invited to speak with Session and have discussion of the use of the sanctuary for their monthly meetings. Heard pros and cons for using the sanctuary. A decision will be made by Elders at their next meeting. However, AARP will stay in sanctuary until painting is finished in auditorium. and some type of blind will be procured for auditorium.

Pastor Todd will be on study leave March 14-March 20, 2018. Approved.

## **Kitchen Inspection Citations**

Bethel Presbyterian Church has undergone its first kitchen inspection with the Harford County Health Department on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. The following areas were cited and need to be repaired within the next 30 days.

- Triple sinks need new stoppers.
- Thermometers need to be placed in each refrigerator including the mini refrigerators under the counter.
- Metal shelving under the sink for cleaning products need to have caps on all four poles.
- Metal thermometers for food testing need to be purchased.
- Antibacterial wipes need to be purchased to clean the food testing thermometers before and after each testing.
- Hand Washing sign needs to be revised to include "Hands need to be washed prior to and after handling food".
- Gloves need to be worn by all who are in the kitchen handling food.
- Shatter-proof light bulb needs to be installed in the refrigerator.
- Floor drain needs to be cleaned.
- Drain pipes from the triple sink leading to the floor drain need to be raised 1" above the floor drain.

The inspector stipulated that all food that is being served to the congregation and to the community needs to be prepped, cooked, and served according to the guidelines given by Harford County Health Department and then any leftover food can either be given away to the congregation or community or discarded after the event. **NO LEFT OVER FOOD CAN BE SAVED IN THE KITCHEN REFRIGERATORS.** The only food items that can be reused and stored are condiments with a valid expiration date, beverages with a valid expiration date, unopened butter/margarine with a valid expiration date, salad dressings with a valid expiration date, juice with a valid expiration date.

There will be a meeting with two members of each board and any committee that would like to have a representative present with Pastor Todd, Melissa Dick, and our cleaning service, Tina Williams. Carol Morrow, Ruth Walker, and Bob Horn from Session will attend on Sun. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> after church service. The re-inspection will take place on Wednesday, February 21st at 1:00 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE & PERSONNEL** — The Session moves to create a Sesquicentennial (SBC) Task Force coordinate and implement the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2019. Funds to be used will come from Grimmel and Cairnes memorials.

Dennis would like all committees and boards to look over Manual of Operations and see if any changes need to be made. If so, please let Melissa know.

Saturday, March 24, 2018 — Tentative date for Spaghetti dinner.

Saturday April 14, 2018 — Tentative date for joint meeting for elders and deacons.

**WORSHIP & MUSIC** — Recommends to honor Allen Eberwein on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> for his many years of service as Usher Coordinator. Carries

**FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP** — A revised budget for 2018 was approved. By consensus

**CARE & REACH OUT** — N/R

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Todd.

Respectfully submitted,  
Polly S. Winskowski  
Clerk of Session

# 2018 FEBRUARY

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
<b>Boy Scouts Service</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:30 Scout Troop #809	7:00 Deacons Meeting 9:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music	4:30 DCYC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Trustees Meeting	9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 7:15 pm Chancel Choir  7:00 Care and Reach Out Team 7:15 pm Chancel Choir <b>Happy Valentine's Day</b>	7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch		Scout Crew #265 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club	1:30 Mary's Circle 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 Lion Scouts #809 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg.	4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 CE Meeting	9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:00 Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 Worship Service Bethel Church 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music	4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 CE Meeting	7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 pm Session			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 CE Meeting	9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:00 Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 Worship Service Bethel Church 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:15 pm Chancel Choir				
25	26	27	28	01	02	03
9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	1:00 AARP Monthly Meeting	4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group	<b>Lent Service</b> 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:00 Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 Worship Service Bethel Church 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TODAY		