

BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

March 2018



As I sit here to pen my bi-monthly musings, I am struck by of all things the weather. A week ago, it was wet rainy and cold struggling to get out of the forties and now its seventy degrees outside at 1:30 on a Tuesday afternoon. Just a couple of weeks ago the spring flowers outside of my office were not above ground and now the spring flowers are starting to make themselves known.

Soon the lawn will be ready for mowing and gardens for mulching. Baseball spring training will be well under way as basketball and hockey season fade away. Spring is almost here, and the cycle of life has once again been renewed. Soon it will be time for graduation and the fourth of July. Time seems to go by so quickly. Winter always seems to pass a little more slowly and then, just when we think it will never get here, Spring bursts forth with all of its majesty and beauty.

So, it is often in life. There are times when life at its best is confusing and at its worse makes no sense at all. We all know what it is to suffer through difficult times in our lives. Sometimes those times indeed become a winter for our soul. We long so much for the warmth of spring yet it just seems a bit out of reach. Then Easter happens, and we are reminded that there is no depth so great, no pain so horrible, no hurt so deep, that God would not bridge that gap for us. It is a promise renewed for us in the celebration of Easter and then Pentecost when first the way for the advocate is paved through the death and resurrection of our Lord, and then Holy Spirit falls upon God's church and fulfills Christ's promise to be ever present with us.

In the celebration of Easter, we indeed see the reality of life springing forth from death. In the celebration of Pentecost, we see the Easter promise fulfilled. In the person of Jesus Christ our every hope is fulfilled as he has shown us a way to see and to touch the divine to indeed turn our mourning into dancing. Praise be to God!

Food for thought ... Pastor Todd

Daylight Savings Time Begins !



Don't forge to set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour on **March 11th**

In This Issue

- A Word from the Pastor
- March Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Chain and Thank You Notes
- Celebrating George and Nancy Cowman
- Church Groups
- Church Events
- Session Summary
- March Calendar



Sandy Louderback ~ 03/02

John Louderback ~ 03/03

Tom Swift ~ 03/03

Leo Fowler ~ 03/05

Lillian Skidmore ~ 03/05

Jason Troyer ~ 03/07

Melissa Krawczyk ~ 03/09

Marie Newcomer ~ 03/11

Danielle Saneman ~ 03/11

Mary Rutledge ~ 03/12

Carolyn Mattheiss ~ 03/13

Sam Brooks ~ 03/15

Christine Horn ~ 03/15

Jennifer Dietz ~ 03/17

Justin Troyer ~ 03/17

Thomas Messenger ~ 03/18

Catherine Smith ~ 03/20

Andi Holmes ~ 03/22

Frank Hughes ~ 03/22

Chrissie Galliher ~ 03/24

Barbara Mitchell ~ 03/24

Allen Henderson ~ 03/25

Patricia Troyer ~ 03/26

Nancy Sacks ~ 03/3

Elizabeth Burgess ~ 03/30

Steve Kauffman ~ 03/31



Mark & Lynne DiBastiani
March 7th

Allen & Janet Henderson
March 12th

Wiley & Mary Rutledge
March 13th

Michael & Terri Schwarz
March 27th



7:30 a.m. Early Worship Service

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

12:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Per Capita for 2018

The cost of the Per Capita per person for 2018 is **\$34.38**. Please be sure to send in your portion by the end of the year. If you receive contribution envelopes, you will find a **blue** Per Capita envelope in your box for your convenience. You can drop it in the offering plate on Sundays.

DEACON'S UPDATE

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

Prayer Concerns

Gretchen Shanklin, Billy Gross, Bruce Young, Ted Schmidt, Leonora Rose, Jason Rowley, Nancy Sacks, Betty Saneman, Frank Hughes, Dorothy Goldstein, George Reeves, Allen Eberwein and Jack Shaul.

Bruce Snyder, friend of The Louderbacks and Morrrows.

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 & Janet Henderson and son of Keith & Kirsten Comer.

Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback.

Anneleise Schleich, friend of Tom and MaryLee Swift.

Into the Church Triumphant:

Sterling "Bud" Lytle

February 19, 2018

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 Bethel Sunday School,

I want to thank you for the Valentine card you made for me. Thanks so much for thinking of me. Your card was vey nice and I really appreciate how nice it was made.

Thanks so much,
Ruth Calary

Dear Bethel Sunday School,

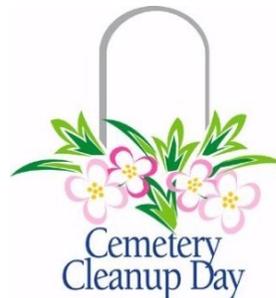
It was so special to find your bright card in my mailbox !

With Love,
Betty Jane Foard

Dear Bethel Church,

Your contribution of \$500 that is used for our fuel fund is greatly appreciated. Your generosity enables us to have programs that help us to assist all county residents experiencing financial hardships with meeting their housing, food, energy/heating, and budget and family counseling needs. Thank you for your support as we carry on this mission!

In gratitude,
Pamela Craig
Executive Director
Harford Community Action Agency



The Cemetery Committee would like for any flowers, wreaths, and any decorations from the Christmas Season to be removed by **March 18th** in preparation for the Easter Holiday and Spring Season. Please be sure to take your flowers or decorations from the cemetery home with you. Thank You !!



Celebrating George & Nancy Cowman

Meet Nancy & George Cowman, who have been attending Bethel Church since 1971. Nancy was born and raised in the Highlandtown area of Baltimore City. She graduated from Patterson High School in 1958. George was also from Baltimore City, in Hamilton. He graduated from Polytechnic High School in 1956.

Sparks flew when Nancy and George met. She was just 16 years old when George rescued her with a dead car battery at the "Hot Shop" a local Harford Road hangout. A romance and marriage followed with three beautiful daughters, Cheri, Cindi and Michelle. They started out in an apartment on Loch Raven Blvd and in 1971 moved to Monkton to obtain a larger home.

George attended Johns Hopkins University, where he earned a degree in Engineering. He worked for Black and Decker. Nancy was a homemaker and continued her education at Harford Community College. She worked in the dental field where she is still employed part time. Nancy and George will be celebrating their 59th Wedding anniversary on April 4th, 2018!

When they moved to Monkton they transferred their church membership from Aisquith Presbyterian to Bethel. Nancy and George were active in the Bethel youth group as youth advisers. Nancy has served the church as a Deacon for 9 years.

George is a violinist for the Susquehanna Symphony for many years. They also enjoy traveling to France, Hawaii, Alaska and are anxiously awaiting their next journey! They both enjoy their three talented granddaughters who also share their musical and artistic talent. They play Pickleball which is similar to tennis with an over-sized paddle played over a net!

We are very fortunate to have such long term and loyal members at Bethel.

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 **March 7th & 21st 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 **March 13th** in the Foyer of the CE Building.



THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The group will continue their series on Isaiah. They will meet on **March 8th and 22nd 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 ...

kirstenfitzsimmons@hotmaill.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.





Bethel Presbyterian Church
4135 Norrisville Road
White Hall, Maryland 21161
410-692-5282
churchoffice@bethel-md.org
www.bethel-md.org

Dear Friends and Family of Bethel,

In just three years, Bethel Presbyterian Church will celebrate its 250th anniversary as a congregation. For two and a half centuries, we have served our congregation, community and our God with commitment, courage, and patience. For this we give thanks and praise to all who have kept the faith through the years.

One service to our members and their families that has been provided from our beginning in 1769 is our beautiful and peaceful cemetery that surrounds the back of the sanctuary building. With the oldest marked grave dating to 1777, many generations rest in eternal peace, with their families knowing that the church is committed to perpetual care for their loved-ones.

As with all aspects of Bethel, this care is funded by the generosity of the members and friends of the church and the nominal cost of gravesites. With rising expenses for maintenance and very low interest rates on our dedicated cemetery funds, we are finding it increasingly difficult to meet our obligations without drawing down our reserved capital.

As one who has family and friends buried at Bethel, we are asking you to consider a fully tax-deductible gift to our cemetery fund. These gifts will remain in a dedicated fund for the maintenance and upkeep of our cemetery and will be conservatively invested. Checks in any amount will be greatly appreciated and should be made out to the *Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery Fund* and mailed to:

Bethel Presbyterian Church
4135 Norrisville Road
White Hall, MD 21161

So that we can acknowledge all gifts with a return letter for your records, please include your name and address.

Our cemetery remains open at all times for visits from family and friends. Gravesites remain available for sale for members of the congregation and their families, as we have reserved plenty of space for future generations. We thank you for your past support of Bethel and sincerely hope that you will consider this need as you plan your charitable giving. May God's blessings continue to support you and all your loved ones.

Sincerely,

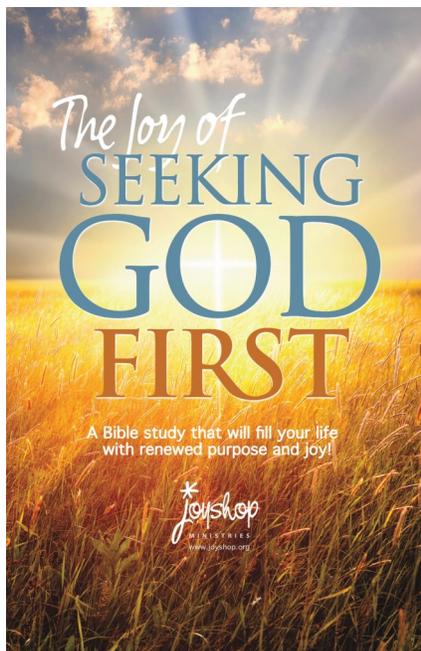
Stephen Saneman
Chair, Bethel Cemetery Committee

Church Events

Lenten Services at Bethel “Spiritual Practices”

Wednesday, March 7 th	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 th	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 st	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.



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 6:15 p.m. in the Church Office Conference Room

Wednesday ~ March 28th

Church Events



Won't you join us for an evening full of delicious cuisine, music and singing, fellowship with great friends and family. The Bethel Men's Organization is hosting this event to benefit the Youth Groups of Bethel. We would love to see you all on ...

March 24th ~ 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Adults Meals—\$8.00

Children 12 & Under—\$5.00

Take-out will be available

Please contact Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 to make a reservation

EASTER EGG HUNT



In planning for the Easter Celebration, the Christian Education Committee is looking for donations of small items (i.e. pencils, stickers, erasers, chocolate coins, etc.) and individually wrapped candy (i.e. Snickers, Milky Ways, small bags of M&Ms, Twix, Kit Kats, Smarties, etc.) for our Easter Egg Hunt.

Donations can be brought to the Hospitality Hour each Sunday and placed in the specified box no later than **March 25th**.

Thank you for your continued support of our programs for our children !!

Church Events

Candlelight

Worship

March 29, 2018

**Maundy
Thursday**



The Maundy Thursday Candlelight Service will be held on March 29th. Please join us for the soup and bread supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by the worship service at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 by **March 26th** with your attendance number for the supper.



A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. For those wishing to give, envelopes for One Great Hour of Sharing can be found in your box of envelopes or in your Sunday bulletin.

Thank you for your support during this Easter holiday !

Church Events



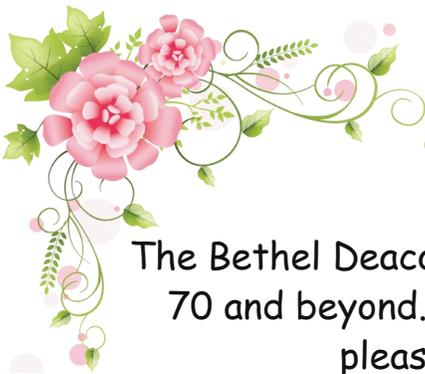
Celebrating Holy Week and Easter Sunday



We will be decorating the Sanctuary for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. If you would like to recognize a loved one or friend, please be sure to look for the information form in your Sunday Bulletins through Lent to have your sentiment listed in our bulletin.

Easter Sunday Breakfast

Gail and David Thomas will be hosting the Easter Sunday Breakfast on **Sunday, April 1st at 8:30 a.m.** Please be sure to look for the information form in your Sunday Bulletins through Lent. We would greatly appreciate any volunteers to help with setting up for the breakfast and cleaning up afterwards.



Seven-O Luncheon

The Bethel Deacons are preparing a luncheon to honor our members age 70 and beyond. The luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Hall and please be sure to use the easy access entrance.

They will be hosting the luncheon on

Saturday ~ April 21st at 11:30 a.m.

If you were born in 1948 or before and you have never attended the Seven-O Luncheon, please let us know by contacting Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 or Vi Smith at 443-966-5626.

We want you to be our guest and enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

Church Events

DEER CREEK Youth Choir

The Deer Creek Youth Choir will be performing for Bethel Church on ...

Saturday ~ May 5th at 2:00 p.m.

Please be sure to mark your calendars and call Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 or email her at melissadick@bethel-md.org to let us know that you will attending this **FREE** concert

BETHEL FLEA MARKET

We are partnering with the Jarrettsville Lions Club to host our Spring Flea Market on ...

Saturday — June 16th at 8:00 a.m.
Rain Date — June 23rd

Spaces are \$15 each

Please be sure to contact Melissa Dick in the Church Office - 410-692-5282 or by email at melissadick@bethel-md.org to reserve your space.



Session Summary

The Session held a regular meeting on February 15, 2018. The meeting was called to order by Pastor Todd, and devotion was led by Elder Ruth Walker, who also led us in prayer.

CLERK ' REPORT

Approved Jan. 25, 2018 session minutes.

Communion served Feb. 4th by intinction.

Updated communion assignments for session.

March session meeting will be held March 22nd, a week later, as Pastor Todd will be on study leave

Mar. 18th we will have a guest preacher. To be determined.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Date of Officer's Training and Staff Meeting Seminar - to be announced at a later date.

Trustees

The Session made decision that AARP will be going back to the CE auditorium for their meetings. The Trustees will take the tables down in the auditorium prior to their meeting and arrange the chairs and set up for AARP meeting.

Moved and sectioned that Bethel Presbyterian Church will purchase 30 more chairs and a single level chair rack which will become Bethel's property. Also, Bethel Church will purchase blinds for the windows in the CE auditorium. Funds for this project will come from the Capital Fund. Carries.

Finance & Stewardship

At their special meeting Session 1/21/18 several changes were approved for the 2018 budget.

Deacons – increase from 737 to 1500.

Personnel resources – increase from 250. To 350.

Insurance – reduced from 13596. To 3755. because a portion was prepaid in 2017

Worship & Music

Final plans were made for the Allen Eberwein Appreciation Sunday.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Polly S. Winskowski
Clerk

2018 MARCH

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	26 7:00 Deacons Meeting	27 4:30 DCYC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Trustees Meeting	28 Lent Service 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:00 pm Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 pm Worship Service Bethel Church 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	01 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting	02	03 Scout Crew #265 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
04 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club	05 1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music	06 1:30 Mary's Circle 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg.	07 Lent Service 6:00 pm Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 pm Worship Service Bethel Church 7:00 pm Care & Reach Out 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	08 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting	09	10
11 Daylight Savings Time 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club	12 1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music	13 1:30 Mary's Circle 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg.	14 Lent Service 6:00 pm Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 pm Worship Service Bethel Church 7:00 pm Care & Reach Out 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	15 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting	16 <i>Pastor Todd - Out of Town</i>	17 <i>Pastor Todd - Out of Town</i>
18 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service with Ron Lee 11:30 Hospitality Hour <i>Pastor Todd - Out of Town</i>	19 9:00 AARP Monthly Meeting 7:00 Admin & Personnel <i>Pastor Todd - Out of Town</i>	20 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 OE Meeting <i>Pastor Todd - Out of Town</i>	21 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:00 pm Soup & Bread Dinner 6:45 pm Worship Service Bethel Church 6:30 pm Cemetery Committee 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	22 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 pm Session NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TODAY	23 Set-up for Spaghetti Dinner	24  Spaghetti Dinner 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
25 Palm Sunday 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	26 1:00 AARP Monthly Meeting 7:00 Admin & Personnel	27 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group	28 6:15 pm Women's Bible Study 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	29  MAUNDY Thursday 6:30 p.m. Soup & Bread Dinner 7:30 p.m. Worship Service	30 	31