

BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

April 2018

My Savior

By: Kimberly Chase

He knelt and prayed all alone in the garden
Suffering and carrying each one of our burdens
So much pain and anguish he felt that day
But his love for us pushed him as he prayed
As I think of each blood drop he shed for me
The sorrow the pain as he knelt on his knees
I become so overcome with love and hope
For he is my harness, my lifeline, my rope.

I think of how then he was betrayed by a friend
The hurt the disappointment could have no end
He was persecuted and then hung on a cross
How could they not see what a great loss
But it was our Heavenly Father's grand plan
To bring salvation and eternal life to all men
As our Savior's mortal life was about to end
He asked for forgiveness for all that offend.

So much mercy and love as death he did greet
Then he rose from the tomb to make it complete
Showing each one of us the ultimate love
Eternal life with our Father in Heaven above
I am grateful for the great opportunity
To live with my family for all eternity
It was all because of our Savior's sacrifice
So much love he had that he paid the great price.

Without my Savior I would be a lost cause
With all of my imperfections and flaws
But I know that because of the price he did pay
I can seek forgiveness as I kneel and pray
As long as I am sincere and repent
My slate is wiped clean without any dent
If I try my best and endure to the end
I will be with my Savior, my Brother, my Friend.

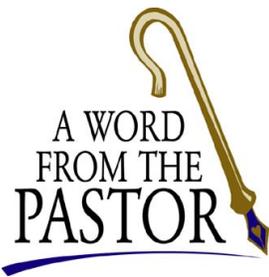
Easter Sunday Schedule



- 7:30 am Early Service
- 8:30 am Easter Breakfast
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Worship Service
- 12:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt

In This Issue

- A Word from the Pastor
- April Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Chain and Thank You Notes
- Celebrating The Fielder Family
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- April Calendar



**Barrie Shepherd:
A glimpse of the atonement in his poem
"The Last Miracle"**

What did you, could you think, as they pounded through your open palms, forcing coarse, bloody iron nails to sink deep into the splintered wood?

Did you feel the grasp of panic, that sudden, stomach-wrenching sense that this, at the very last, is it-no further chance of changing, turning back?

Were you, perhaps, bewildered, having hoped, despite defiant words, for at least one late and minor miracle on your own behalf, considering all the rest?

Did flooding fear compound with rage and hate at the sheer blind brutality of soldiers, fellow sons of God, treating you like meat to be hung raw in a butcher's window?

Or dare we yet believe what was written that your concern was, even at the end, to shield,
to plead the cause of all who wield the whips and crushing hammers of this crucifying world?

It is a reminder of the deep price that was paid for our redemption. A payment for our sin to atone for it if you will as illustrated in this story.

In his book Written In Blood, Robert Coleman tells the story of a little boy whose sister needed a blood transfusion. The doctor explained that she had the same disease the boy had recovered from two years earlier. Her only chance for recovery was a transfusion from someone who had previously conquered the disease. Since the two children had the same rare blood type, the boy was the ideal donor.

"Would you give your blood to Mary?" the doctor asked. Johnny hesitated. His lower lip started to tremble. Then he smiled and said, "Sure, for my sister." Soon the two children were wheeled into the hospital room--Mary, pale and thin; Johnny, robust and healthy. Neither spoke, but when their eyes met, Johnny grinned. As the nurse inserted the needle into his arm, Johnny's smile faded. He watched the blood flow through the tube. With the ordeal almost over, his voice, slightly shaky, broke the silence. "Doctor, when do I die?"

Only then did the doctor realize why Johnny had hesitated, why his lip had trembled when he'd agreed to donate his blood. He's thought giving his blood to his sister meant giving up his life. In that brief moment, he'd made his great decision. Johnny, fortunately, didn't have to die to save his sister. Each of us, however, has a condition more serious than Mary's, and it required Jesus to give not just His blood but His life. That condition is sin.

There have been those in theological circles that would like to de-emphasize the blood imagery and tone down the ugly reality of the harsh pain suffered by our Lord. I admit, it is tempting to do so, after all nobody likes to see the nails, the blood, the pain, nobody likes to say, our own sin points at us and calls us to share in the blame.

In journeying to the cross, we begin share in the responsibility of Christ's death when we recognize the part our sin plays in this most difficult journey towards Easter Morn, take heart, for if we are to understand the true impact of Easter we must experience the horror of the cross. For on the cross Christ bears the burden of our sin-the agony of a painful death wrought by that sin.

Yet in our sorrow, in the pain, therein lies the hope of the Gospel. That leads from the tense shallow joy of Palm Sunday to the passion, the good of good Friday, as through the death of Christ we will understand true redemption.

Whether it is a pleasant thought for us or not, it is through the shedding Jesus' blood that we receive the gift of life, peace, and forgiveness. Through the agony of Christ, the possibility of a relationship with God becomes a reality.

So let us not lighten the Gospel, let us instead embrace it and realize that as unpleasant as it may be, we are bought with a price, the life of our precious savior.

Peace,
Pastor Todd





Vi Smith ~ 04/01

Alyssa Kauffman ~ 04/03

Leonora Rose ~ 04/03

Charles Saneman ~ 04/05

Maurice Baldwin ~ 04/07

Justin Comer ~ 04/08

Carrie Thomas ~ 04/10

Craig Messenger ~ 04/13

Anne Jones ~ 04/14

Blair Mattheiss ~ 04/14

Garnet Anderson ~ 04/20

Judy Baldwin ~ 04/20

Steve Kauffman ~ 04/21

Michael Scott ~ 04/22

Ron Holmes ~ 04/24

Emma Clayton ~ 04/25

Ted McRee ~ 04/26

Bailey Saneman ~ 04/26

Polly Winskowski ~ 04/26

Corbin Rowley ~ 04/28

William Greene ~ 04/29

George & Nancy Cowman
April 4th

Michael & Nancy Alexander
April 5th

Thom & Shirlee Nystrom
April 30th



Dear Friends at Bethel:

Thank you so very much for the outpouring of appreciation, the reception, and gift on Sunday, February 25th. I am overwhelmed and humbled by the recognition for my service to God and Bethel Church. Thanks also for the good wishes for my family as we leave Maryland for a new beginning in a new region. Our 40 years at Bethel has literally shaped our lives and the fellowship and friendships we have made will be with us forever. We will always remember & cherish this and will be sure to visit when we periodically return to the area.

Fondly,
Allen Eberwein

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, 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 Morrows.

Rev. Bruce and Barbara Barstow, former pastor at Bethel and his wife.

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.

Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback.

Anneise Schleich, friend of Tom and MaryLee Swift.

Phyllis Sheridan, friend of Sandy Hughes.

Into the Church Triumphant:

Theodore Schmidt, Jr.

March 21, 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



To All My Bethel Friends,

Many thanks to all who sent cards, made phone calls, and visits during my recent illness. Special thanks to my Deacon, Janet Henderson, and my former Deacon, Mary Kane. Your many acts of kindness are truly appreciated.

Love,
Dot Gemmill

Dear Friends,

I write in this holy season of Lent, when the whole church gathers to enact One Great Hour of Sharing, to thank you for your generous gifts to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, gifts that help to bring renewed hope and joy to those individuals and communities suffering from disaster and its aftermath.

Thank you for your gift of \$1,187 for Hurricane Harvey Relief, \$1,187 for Hurricane Irma Relief and \$1,187 for Hurricane Maria Relief. Your act of open-hearted giving blessed those who walk the hard road toward recovery, letting them know they are not alone, helping them to find hope in the midst of chaos, and making tangible the promise of Easter—which is life out of death, resurrection.

In Christ's Peace,
Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Dear Bethel Church,

Thank you for playing a critical role in ending homelessness in Harford County! We appreciate your partnership; together we can achieve our vision of ending homelessness in Harford County. What a blessing! Thank you for your continued faithfulness in assisting our 33 residents.

With Gratitude,
Liz Tutino
Executive Director
Welcome One Emergency Shelter

Dear Bethel Members,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of Payless Shoe gift cards. As our clients come on to get school supplies for their children, we make sure each child receives 2 gift cards so they can start the new school year with a new pair of shoes. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of others!

Sincerely,
Jane Skrzypiec
Center Director—Highland

CELEBRATING THE FIELDERS



Margie Pullen Fielder, daughter of Bill and the late Ruth Ann Pullen, was born into Bethel, baptized, confirmed and married in the church. She has been a very active member for all of her life. An honors graduate of North Harford High, she completed a degree in Chemical Engineering at University of Maryland and is now employed as a sales engineer for Eastern Controls.

Sam graduated from North Harford High School and University of Delaware with a degree in Agricultural Economics. He is the third generation of Fielders to operate the family dairy farm. The farm has been shipping milk with the MD/VA Milk Coop for 80 years!

After their marriage at Bethel, the couple moved to their house on the Fielder farm. Three daughters were born. Sarah, Laura and Samantha have followed their mother's example. Outstanding students at NHHS, they have been very active in 4-H. Their excellent work in baking and sewing, including wool suits and coats, has won them multiple prizes at the State Fair. They have worn the outfits that they made on interviews for college and jobs. They have been students and aides in the Sunday School Program and are involved in the Bethel Youth program. All three participate in Bible School.

Sarah is a student at University of Maryland studying journalism. She will graduate in May of 2018. Her plans for the future are to be determined.

Laura studies at University of Maryland Baltimore County majoring in Environmental Science. She is currently in a college program at Disney World until May.

Helping with the sound system at Bethel, Samantha is a junior at NHHS. She won the Grand Prize at the State Fair for her wool ensemble and was invited to Atlanta to participate in The National 4-H Congress. At school, she is an honor student and plays lacrosse.

The family has been involved in every activity at Bethel. Margie taught Sunday school, where the daughters won attendance awards. She sings in the choir and currently is a member of the Session.

Bethel is blessed to be the home church of this accomplished family.

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 **April 4th & 18th 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 **April 10th** in the Foyer of the CE Building.

THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The group will continue their series on Isaiah. They will meet on **April 5th and 19th 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

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 our Music Director, Kirsten Fitzsimmons 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.



Church Events

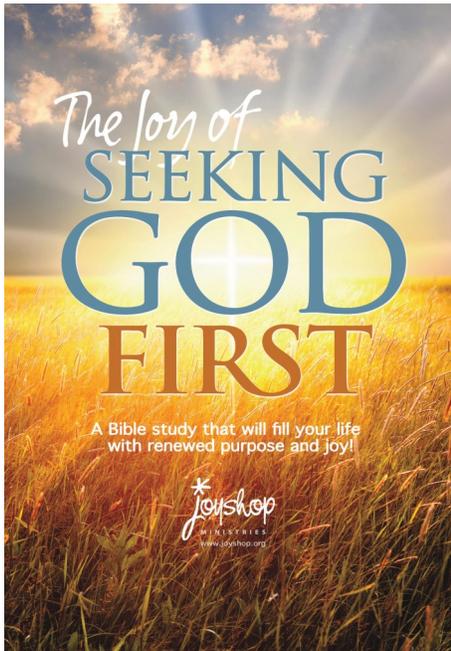
Spaghetti Dinner



What an incredible evening of delicious Italian cuisine, singing, and fellowship with one another during our Spaghetti Dinner event on Saturday, March 24th. We hope you were able to take advantage of this occasion to come out to Bethel Church and share in the night of being with good friends and family. Here are a few snapshots from the event ... Enjoy !



Church Events



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 ~ April 18th



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.

Community Events

B I N G O

Boy Scout Troop #92 will be hosting a Vera Bradley / Tool Bingo on ...

Friday ~ April 27th at 7:00 p.m.



Doors for the Bingo will open at 6:00 p.m.



Advance Ticket Cost — \$20 Door Ticket Cost — \$25 (If available)

Contact: Kirk Jones via email at kdjones106@juno.com



New Freedom Community Center
150 East Main Street
New Freedom, PA 17349



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

**Tuesday ~ May 1st
at 7:00 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

Non-Bethel Members' cost for the concert will be ...

Adults — \$10 Students — \$5

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.

2018

APRIL

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01  Easter Sunday 8:00 Easter Breakfast 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 12:00 Easter Egg Hunt	02 7:00 Deacons Meeting Office is CLOSED	03 4:30 DCYC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Trustees Meeting	04 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	05 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch	06	07 Memorial Service Theodore Schmidt, Jr. 11:00 a.m.
08 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:30 Cub Scout #809 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club	09 1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music	10 1:30 Mary's Circle 2:00 SBC Task Force 4:30 DCYC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg.	11 7:00 Care & Reach Out Team 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	12 7:00 Deer Creek Board Meeting	13	14 Spring Clean-Up Day 
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	16	17 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group 6:30 CE Meeting	18 9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 6:30 pm Woman's Bible Study	19 7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 7:00 pm Session	20 Set-Up Day Seven-O Luncheon All- Day	21  Seven-O Luncheon 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	23 12:00 AARP Monthly Meeting 7:00 Admin & Personnel NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TODAY	24 4:30 DCYC/DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group	25 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	26	27	28
29 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour	30	01	02	03	04	05