



BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

August 2018



When the giant problems of life intersect our path, it is easy for us to be overcome by fear. Fear can have a paralyzing affect on people. I again think of a rock-climbing trip many years ago. On this trip a member of our group during her descent of a 300-foot cliff face looked down and the height of the climb got to her. Despite the equipment that held her safely even if she did fall, she was paralyzed with fear and could not bring herself to let go of the cliff face. Eventually she was rescued by other climbers as they literally had to pry her fingers from the rock in order to get her down.

As I write this article, September is here and as a country we will soon look back upon the horrific events of September 11th and other acts of terrorism both at home and abroad and there is worry about an uncertain future. We to come we realize that we still live in tenuous times. It is hard not to be scared or worried. It is hard not to want to dig in our heels, hold fast to what we know and hide. The truth is that there is some wisdom in that. It feels safe. It feels secure.

We still struggle with the reality that evil exists. We look for security. Realize that the hope and security we seek is present in the body of Christ. The strength we seek is available to us because his love is more powerful than the strongest evil that could ever be thrown against it. Take comfort from these words:

⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

As we continue pray for our country our troops and the families of those who have made the ultimate and most honorable of sacrifices, we also pray for endurance knowing that there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We need look no farther than the living word of God for examples of persevering in the midst of fear, turmoil, and hardship.

Paul writes in the eighth chapter of Romans of about pursuing the call and living the faith even in the midst of fear when he says, “**for your sake, we are being killed all day long. We are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.**” In other words, he is telling God’s people that it’s scary out here. We don’t know from day to day, what our fate will be. But we continue on.

In the midst of fear, these early Christians pressed on. They continued to work, they continued raise their children, they continued to play, they continued to worship. Why because they were the people of the way. They were the light of the world. They had a call to discipleship even in the midst of the tenuous times in which they lived.

The truth of the matter is. As they were we are. We too are the people of Christ and our call to the faith is in no way different from theirs. We are called to overcome fear. We are called to fight the good fight, keep the faith, and finish the race and with the assurance of his presence we will continue to live as a people of hope, a people with a mission; the people of Christ.

We will work, we will play, we will worship, and by the grace of God we will live. Through lives lived in faith we will minister showing to the world that indeed, despite the best efforts of evil to extinguish it, the light of the world will not go out and that ultimately as the Bible promises peace and love will win out.

In Christ ... Pastor Todd



Marilyn O'Neill ~ 08/02

Hazel Adair ~ 08/12

Dorothy Gemmill ~ 08/15

Jack Rowley ~ 08/16

Norma Campbell ~ 08/18

Robert Kikwood ~ 08/18

Bill Pullen ~ 08/20

Nancy Cowman ~ 08/22

Jennifer Henderson ~ 08/22

Kim Rutledge ~ 08/22

Jean Kirkwood ~ 08/23

Douglas Smith, Jr. ~ 08/25

Beverly Schmidt ~ 08/26

Marty Nichols ~ 08/28

Libby Preston ~ 08/28

Debbie Huster ~ 08/30

Mary Beth Scott ~ 08/30



Maurice & Judy Baldwin
August 2nd

Sam & Marsha Brooks
August 5th

Patrick & Norma Campbell
August 8th

Leo & Kathy Fowler
August 18th

Greg & Jane Burgess
August 31st

Ted & Lynda McRee
August 31st

JUST A LITTLE
Reminder

PER CAPITA FEE FOR 2018

\$ 34.38

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, Dorothy Goldstein, George Reeves, Allen Eberwein, Jack Shaul, and Bill Pullen.

Bruce Snyder, friend of John and Sandy Louderback and Carol Morrow.

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

Joseph Biondo, uncle of Gary Lowe.

Dan Kelleher, brother-in-law of Jack and Betty Rogers.

Jay and Martha Elliott's grandson, James Kennedy, friends of Dan and Mary Beth Scott.

Howard Eisner, brother-in-law of Carol Morrow.

Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Benson, friend of Michael & Nancy Alexander.

Into the Church Triumphant:

Garnet Anderson
July 28, 2018

Edwin Sturtevant
July 29, 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

Thank
you 

Dear Friends of Bethel,

Thank you so much for donating the proceeds of your Yard Sale/Flea Market to help those in need. I will be purchasing back packs and binders for our clients. Thank you for helping our clients start the new school year with all the necessary supplies for a great school year!

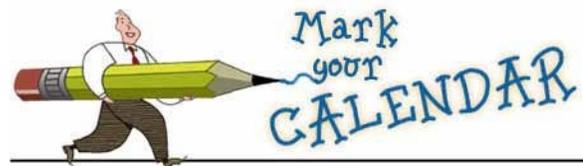
Jane Skrzypiec
Center Director, Highland Office
Mason-Dixon Community Services

Dear Bethel Church,

Thank you for donating to the Harford Community Action Agency. Your gift of \$500 that will go towards the fuel fund will be used to aid the neediest in Harford County in our Food Pantry, our Supportive Services and Homeless Prevention Office, our Case Management Program and in our Energy Assistance Program. Thanks to you, families are provided with the tools they need to meet their basic needs to fight for a way out of poverty.

Your generosity enables us to have these programs. As Harford County's only designated Community Action Agency, we strive 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!

Sincerely,
Pamela Craig
Executive Director
Harford Community Action Agency



Sr. Deputy First Class Brad Crossley of the Harford County Sheriff's Department Community Services Division will give a seminar on Active Shooters at Bethel Church. The seminar is 90 minutes long with a Q&A at the end of the session. We are asking that all of the members of Bethel Church join us on ...

Wednesday — September 19th at 6:30 p.m.



Celebrating The Lowe Family

Lifelong Marylanders, Gary and Gail Lowe have been active members of Bethel since 2000. Gail as a Sunday School teacher and an leader of the Youth Program and Bible School. She was on Session for two terms and now serves on the Deacons and is generous in helping with bereavement lunches and coffee hours. The prayer list published weekly in the bulletin is her responsibility. Gary has been a Trustee for several years and currently is the president of that board. He has helped with setting up for Bible School and in doing his part on Trustee projects. He remains active in support of his son's Boy Scout Troop.

Gail grew up in Overlea and Parkville. She graduated from Overlea High School and was a committed member of Kenwood Presbyterian Church. She has been active in Girl Scouts as a scout and later a leader. Earning an AA in Business Administration at Essex Community College, she next completed a BS in Marketing/Business Management at Towson State. Her degree led her to become a Professional Liability Underwriter for Medical Mutual and later a Risk Manager with Blue Cross/ Blue Shield.

Gary also grew up in Parkville but their paths didn't cross in part because he attended Catholic School and graduated from Archbishop Curley High School. His degree from Towson State was in Mass Communication graduating Magna Cum Laude. After working with his father in construction, he was employed by The Hartford Insurance Company as a Casualty Underwriter remaining for 17 years. He moved to RCM&D insurance as Vice President and broker. For the past 13 years his work has been with PMA Group as Senior Risk Management Specialist.

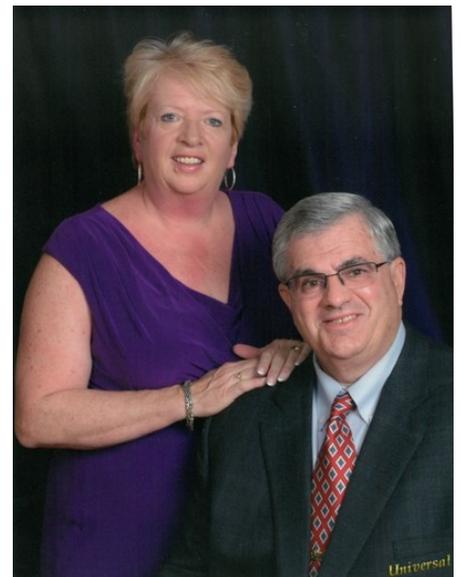
Careers in insurance led to Gary and Gail meeting at an Insurance Class. Their first date was on St. Patrick's Day in 1988. Gary's romantic proposal occurred while they were making Italian Sausage. This speaks to the fact that they are both excellent cooks. They were wed on July 2, 1989 at Kenwood Presbyterian Church

Each of them owned a townhouse when they married, which they sold to build their house on Mid-summer Lane in Jarrettsville. Soon after they moved in, they joined Highland Presbyterian in Street and became contributing members of the congregation. When they transferred to Bethel in 2003, they became assets here

Son, Garrett was born in 1992. He was very involved in Scouting at St. Mary's Church but luckily for Bethel, his Eagle Scout project was five concrete benches edging the road of the graveyard. He graduated from North Harford High and earned a BS in Computer Science at Capitol College in Laurel, MD. Garrett is a software engineer for Lockheed Martin in Rockville, Md.

Daughter Abigail joined the family in 1995. Following graduation from NHHS, she enrolled at Frostburg University and like her brother, earned a BS in Computer Science. (Must be in the genes) She hopes to find employment in a computer related profession.

The Lowe family has been a wonderful blessing to Bethel. We are grateful for all their contributions.



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 **August 1st and 15th 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 **August 14th** in the Foyer of the CE Building.



THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The men's bible study group will meet on **June 3rd and 17th 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 information regarding this group, 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@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

Bethel Church Vacation Bible School event was such an exciting adventure for the children of our church and community. The Christian Education Committee and their volunteers organized a three-day "voyage" that had the children captivated with the Word of God. We greatly appreciate Tom and MaryLee Swift for portraying our Roman Soldier and Slave during Bible Study. We also want to acknowledge the overwhelming generosity of these children and the Bethel Congregation as we were able to raise **\$539.35** !! We are so very thankful and blessed to have such giving and caring people at our church. **THANK YOU !!!** We could not have done any of this without the guidance and dedication from our Youth Director, Chrissie Galliher, and her Committee Members - Ruth Walker, Gail Lowe, Melissa Krawczyk, Jennifer Calary, and Pastor Todd Smith. Thank you all for giving your time and mentoring the children of our church and community. Special thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with the programs each day. Here is what we did this year ...





Church Events

The Bethel Church Annual Picnic was blessed with avoiding the rain this year ! We enjoyed an afternoon of wonderful music performed by Jacob's Ladder, The Kirchner Brothers - Dave (banjo) and Jeff (bass), David "Trip" Clemens (fiddle), Al Fatur (guitar), Hilton Sclauwy (mandolin), and Kirsten Fitzsimmons (fiddle); delicious food and fellowship. We would like to extend a special thanks to David and Nancy Rose for hosting our picnic at their lovely home. We greatly appreciate your hospitality and the ice cream !! Please enjoy some of the snapshots that have been provided by the one and only, Dave Hinkley. Thank you Dave for always having your camera ready ☺



Session Summary

The Session held a regular meeting on June 21, 2018. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Todd, devotion led by Bob Dennison, who also led us in prayer.

Clerk's Report

Approved May 17, 2018 session minutes.
Communion held June 3rd, 2018 by intinction.
Session will not meet July and August, resume in Sept.

Moderator's Report

Use of Facilities Forms – Forms were included in docket for discussion and editing at June meeting. This report will be re-written and brought back to session for approval.

TRUSTEES – Elder Shirlee Nystrom volunteered as Session liaison to Trustees.

ADMINISTRATIVE & PERSONNEL

The AED Unit has been installed between sanctuary and foyer. A member from Jarrettsville Vol. Fire Co. will have a certified member to train church members on the use of the AED Unit. The unit was funded through the Edie Fund.

On July 17, 2018 a deputy from Sheriff Office will have someone do a walk thru of the campus, make suggestions and report back with their recommendations to the Administrative Committee.

The annual review has been completed for Melissa and Pastor Todd.
Motion and seconded to take staff to dinner meeting as a thank you. APPD.
Looking for someone to represent Bethel P. C. at Presbyterian meetings.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

V B S will be July 25 – 27, 2018
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

MISSION

The committee will support the following:

Provide \$1,000 to the Presbytery of Baltimore for Disaster Relief to be divided toward Feugo Volcano in Guatemala, Hawaii volcano and the Japanese earthquake.
Deacons contribution to flea market bake sale in the amount of \$141. given to Mason-Dixon Community Assn. to purchase needed school supplies for low income families.

SBC TASK FORCE

Elder Dennis Kirkwood gave an update from May meeting. Committee is compiling all history booklets and putting information together for the committee. Also discussed major summer events for the community in 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M. with prayer by Pastor Todd.

Respectfully submitted,
Polly S. Winskowski, Clerk of Session

Community Events



2018 Town of Bel Air Summer Concert Series

William A. Humbert Amphitheater @ Shamrock Park

(Behind Town Hall - 39 N. Hickory Ave., Bel Air, MD - Hickory Ave. & Lee St.)

The rain location is Bel Air High School Auditorium.

Please call (410) 803-9784 for rain/heat info. 2 hours before the concert.

From: 7:00 p.m. To: 8:15 p.m. - FREE Admission

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Sun. 6/3 | Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra |
| Sun. 6/10 | Baltimore Symphonic Band |
| Sun. 6/17 | Bel Air Community Band |
| Sun. 6/24 | Bel Air Community Chorus |
| Sun. 7/1 | Bel Air Community Band Jazz Ensemble |
| Sun. 7/8 | 229 th National Guard Band |
| Sun. 7/11 | Duke Thompson & Friends |
| Sun. 7/15 | Blues in the Night Big Band |
| Wed. 7/18 | The Borowsky Family and Intermuse Festival |
| Sun. 7/22 | Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes |
| Wed. 7/25 | The Colliders |
| Sun. 7/29 | U.S. Navy Band Commodores Jazz Ensemble |
| Wed. 8/1 | Annapolis Bluegrass Coalition |
| Sun. 8/5 | Maryland Military Band |
| Wed. 8/8 | Harford Youth Jazz Ensemble |
| Sun. 8/12 | Juliet Lloyd |
| Wed. 8/15 | Sounding Brass |
| Sun. 8/19 | The Starvation Army Band |

Concerts are sponsored by the Town of Bel Air through the Bel Air Recreation Committee

2018 AUGUST

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
9:30 Worship Service			9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers	7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch		Scout Crew #265 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
9:30 Worship Service	2:00 SBC Task Force Meeting 5:30 DCYC Auditions 6:30 Bridge Group	2:00 SBC Task Force Meeting 5:30 DCYC Auditions 6:30 Bridge Group				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 Worship Service Ledonia Kimball 10:30 Hospitality Hour Pastor Todd is on Vacation	1:00 AARP Board Meeting Pastor Todd is on Vacation	AARP Bus Trip - Cars in Lot 1:30 Mary's Circle 6:30 Bridge Group Pastor Todd is on Vacation	9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers 7:00 pm Boy Scout #265 Pastor Todd is on Vacation	7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch Pastor Todd is on Vacation	Pastor Todd is on Vacation	Pastor Todd is on Vacation
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30 Worship Service Ledonia Kimball 10:30 Hospitality Hour Pastor Todd is on Vacation	Pastor Todd is on Vacation	6:30 Bridge Group			10:00 am DCC Meeting	
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Hospitality Hour	7:00 Administration & Personnel	6:30 Bridge Group	6:30 pm Scout Crew #265	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TODAY	4-H Meeting All Day	