



BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

June 2020



As I sit here to pen my 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 10:30 on a Monday morning. Just a couple of weeks ago the spring flowers outside of my office were barely budding their way out of the ground and now there is a sea of green.

The lawn has been mowed a couple of times, we have fired up the grill and planted the vegetable garden. Sports seasons are on hold but ratings for an exhibition charity golf match were through the roof. Spring is here and it seems as if the cycle of life has once again been renewed. Even in different times like this time still goes on. Memorial Day gives way to reinvented graduation ceremonies and then Independence Day. Summer will happen.

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 burst 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 Pentecost when the Holy Spirit fell upon God's church and fulfilled 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

Worship Service
9:30 a.m.

Virtual Service on
Facebook
9:30 a.m.

Celebrating
Father's Day
June 21, 2020



In This Issue

- April, May and June Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Chain and Thank You Notes
- Celebrating The Messenger Family
- Cemetery Guru Donna Jones
- MD State Boychoir
- Boy Scout Project
- Virtual Easter
- Quarantine Life



April

May

Alyssa Kauffman ~ 04/03

Chuck 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

Judy Baldwin ~ 04/20

Stephen 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

Tony Saneman ~ 05/01

Melissa Rangel ~ 05/02

Don Scott ~ 05/03

Brandon Smithson ~ 05/03

Jane Turner ~ 05/04

Zachary Saneman ~ 05/07

Marcanne Saneman ~ 05/11

Shannon Swinscoe ~ 05/11

Marta Kastner ~ 05/13

Terri Schwarz ~ 05/16

Lynne DiBastiani ~ 05/17

Eddie Calary ~ 05/20

Tanya Mattheiss ~ 05/20

Jennifer Thomson ~ 05/22

Amy Kauffman ~ 05/23

Mary Ellen Reeves ~ 05/23

Pat Denbow ~ 05/27

Barbara Thompson ~ 05/27

Rebecca Comaty ~ 05/29

Mark DiBastiani ~ 05/29

James Nystrom ~ 05/31



JUNE

- Nancy Mory ~ 06/01
- Joe Burgess ~ 06/03
- Elizabeth Holt ~ 06/03
- Grayson Dietz ~ 06/04
- Betty Jane Foard ~ 06/05
- Donita Dietz ~ 06/07
- Bill Pullen ~ 06/07
- Garrett Lowe ~ 06/09
- Sam DiBastiani ~ 06/10
- Scott Henderson ~ 06/10
- Sam Fielder ~ 06/13
- Allen Eberwein ~ 06/14
- Dawson Jones ~ 06/15
- Wanda Edie ~ 06/20
- Heather Yeung ~ 06/20
- Leah Calary ~ 06/21
- Mackenzie Saneman ~ 06/24
- Keeghan Sachs ~ 06/25

Wishing all the

Spring Babies

a very Happy Birthday !!

We wish we could

celebrate with each and

every one of you but please

know you have been in our

thoughts and prayers.





Happy Anniversary

George & Nancy Cowman
April 4th

Michael & Nancy Alexander
April 5th

Ron & Andi Holmes
May 1st

Garry & Martha Smithson
May 3rd

George & Mary Ellen
Reeves
May 5th

Frank & Sandy Hughes
May 6th

Blair & Tanya Mattheiss
May 9th

Scott & Jennifer Henderson
May 12th

Travis & Chrissie Galliher
May 17th

Jack & Nancy Mory
May 24th

Chuck & Kelley Saneman
June 1st

Robert & Cathy Kirkwood
June 5th

George & Pat Denbow
June 13th

Bruce & Carolyn Mattheiss
June 15th

John & Hazel Adair
June 17th

Jack & Betty Rogers
June 17th

John & Sandy Louderback
June 18th

Craig & Carmie Messenger
June 19th

Kirk & Anne Jones
June 24th

David & Gail Thomas
June 25th

Dick & Ruth Walker
June 25th

David & Jessica Sambor
June 27th

DEACON'S UPDATE

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

Prayer Concerns

Billy Gross, Dorothy Goldstein, George Reeves, Jerry Wiley, Sandy Hughes, Carolyn Mattheiss, Shirlee Nystrom, and John Louderback.

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

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

Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback

Charlie Rozek, nephew of Sandy Hughes.

Olivia Demmler, friend of Carol Morrow.

Gail Kimble, niece of Tom & MaryLee Swift.

Hazel Liff, friend of Andi & Ron Holmes.

Kim Rutledge, wife of Jim Rutledge, friend of Dan & Mary Beth Scott.

The Families of Marsha Brooks.

Jean Mattheiss, sister of Bruce Mattheiss.

Leah Ridenour, friend of Gail Thomas.

John Dorn, friend of John & Rita Cairnes.

Mary Borrell, aunt of Gail Lowe.

Lisa Comer Wilson.

Into the Church Triumphant

Gretchen Shanklin
May 1, 2020

Thomas F. O'Neill
May 16, 2020

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 Bethel ...

I want to thank you for the gift you gave for the Gambella Library Project. It is with great joy I want to share with you that everything has come together and I will be taking a team to Ethiopia to build the library. Please keep us in your prayers. In October, I will be taking a second team to shelf the books.

Blessings ... Leah Vander Ploeg

Dear Bethel Family,

Thank you all ever so much for all the birthday cards and well wishes. I certainly appreciate the thoughtfulness. It made for a wonderful birthday.

With Love ... Polly Winkowski

Dear Bethel Congregation,

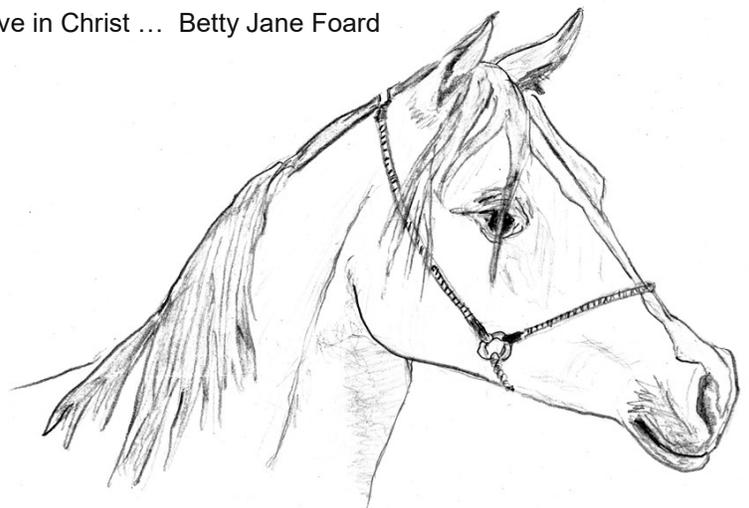
During the recent months of my illness, I received so many heartfelt cards and notes from all of you. I cannot begin to thank you enough for thinking of me with all the prayers, phone calls and well wishes. I've been blessed to have such good friends. Hopefully, I am on the mend and getting better every day and will see you all one Sunday morning. Please keep the prayers coming. I will need them. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your thoughtfulness and kindness.

Kind Regards ... Sandy Hughes

Dear Friends,

On April 13, 2020, I received a package containing a loving card and a copy of Pastor Todd's encouragement as Holy Week began. On April 12, 2020, I made a sketch of a horse's head. This now is my way of reaching out to you. Thank you to the Care and Reach Out Team.

Love in Christ ... Betty Jane Foard



Celebrating The Messengers



Carmie and Craig grew up in Fallston in the same neighborhood. Although Craig was a few years older, they commuted together to St. John's Hydes through their elementary years. Though, they did not start dating until after high school. For High School, Carmie went to Fallston High and Craig elected to attend Harford Vo Tech. It was at Vo Tech, that Craig learned many of the skills that he uses as a custom home builder and remodeler. Carmie attended Harford Community College earning an AA degree. They were married at St. John's in 1993 and soon after moved into the home that Craig created for them on Houcks Road. After years as a stay at home mom, Carmie became a para-educator at Homestead Wakefield Elementary School. She has worked there for 13 years and this year she was given the Super Star Support Staff award from HCPS.

Their children, Jessica and Thomas, attended Jarrettsville Elementary and both graduated from North Harford High School. Jessica graduated from West Virginia University with a degree in Public Health. She has been selected to participate in an elite accelerated Nursing Program. While she decides which university she will attend to study for this program, she works at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV as a clinical associate. Best wishes to her!

Thomas earned the high rank of Eagle Scout with local troop 809. His project was for the Epilepsy Foundation. It included educating his troop members and other groups on how to render First Aid assistance to persons when they have a seizure. A major part of his Eagle project included designing and constructing a Sensory Walk at Goucher College for the education and fund raising activities of the Epilepsy Foundation. Thomas is employed at the Madonna Highs.

Craig serves the community as a volunteer firefighter at the Black Horse Station. The couple has been members of Bethel for over 20 years and both have served on Church Boards. Craig has been on Trustees for several terms and is currently a member of that board, a position that values his building skills. Carmie was a Deacon for several terms and now is beginning her first term on Session.

We all appreciate their service and are blessed by their membership with us.

Our Cemetery Guru ... Donna Jones

You may recognize Bethel member, Donna Jones, as the narrator of the Bethel Cemetery Players cemetery tours! Donna grew up in Baltimore City until her family moved to the Carney area of Baltimore County when she was 7 years old. She attended Parkville area schools and took business classes. This helped her acquire her first job with the telephone company in Hunt Valley where she worked for 32 years before retiring. When one of her positions was moved to Baltimore from Hunt Valley, she took an assignment in the Fraud Investigation Unit and found she had a talent for research.



In 1982 Donna joined the Long Green Volunteer Auxiliary where she was involved in fundraising. In 1995, with the disband of the Auxiliary, the members merged with the main company where she served as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President. She is now a life member. In 1999, Donna developed an interest in genealogy while researching her family tree. She became a member of Baltimore County Genealogical Society and started work with Find a Grave, an internet group who locate, document and photograph headstones in cemeteries.

In 2004, Donna began attending Bethel. She started entering information on “Find A Grave” website for Bethel's cemetery. Donna has also worked on updating and editing Bethel's cemetery book. Donna was able to identify 15 headstones that had not been previously identified. During the planning of the 250th Celebration of Bethel, Donna was invited to join the task force and volunteered to take the job of Cemetery tours. Due to the interest in “Jarrettsville, A Novel”, Donna was encouraged to include the story of Martha Jane which led to the creation of the Bethel Cemetery Players.

Today, Donna continues to work with “Find A Grave”. She is one of the founding members of Bethel Cross Stitchers and enjoys needlework and crocheting. Donna has had a lifetime love of dogs and currently has 3 dogs and 3 cats at home. She also keeps busy with public service through the Long Green Fire Department.

Look for Donna and the Bethel Cemetery Players during the summer monthly tours!

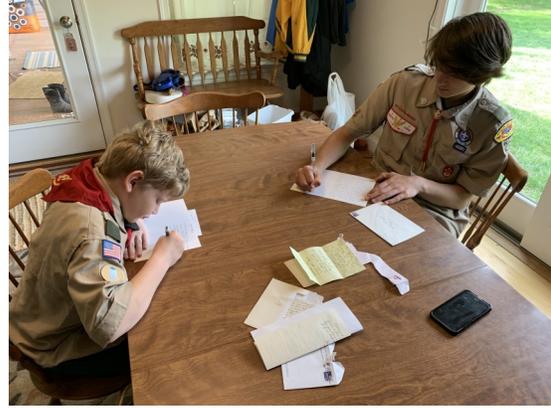
Maryland State Boychoir Concert

On Sunday, March 1, 2020, Bethel Church had the honor of having the Maryland State Boychoir perform for our congregation and community. The 60-boy choir, accompanied by their chaperones, were absolutely astonishing with their performance and we are truly blessed to have had them here. A very special heartfelt Thank You is given to those who helped organize and prepare the dinner that everyone enjoyed after the concert: Ruth Walker, Nancy Berigtold (and her delicious ginger snap cookies), Marilyn Bradford (decadent blondies & brownies), Krista Batchelor, and Janet Henderson. We would also like to recognize Barbara Thompson for donating chocolate chip cookies, Sue Hinkley for donating brownies and Andi Holmes for donating a spice cake for our dessert table as well as to MaryLee and Tom Swift for assisting with the clean up. Many thanks to Rev. Todd Smith and Melissa Dick for setting up the Fellowship Hall and for making the food purchases. This truly was a team effort to plan, organize and execute a wonderful evening for all to enjoy. We hope you will enjoy some of the photos taken by David Hinkley ... thanks for always having your camera ready to go:



Boy Scout Troop 265

How do you keep young men busy when they can't leave the house? What can they do to still feel they are part of our community? How do we stay connected? Boy Scout Troop 265 found a way to stay connected with Bethel Church by becoming pen pals with some of our members. They have taken the time to write letters to some of you to let you know we are in this together and you have support. These dedicated young men have spent hours writing words of encouragement to show they care. Thank you to all the young men who took time to make someone else's day a little brighter and a little less lonely.



Sharing Our Easter Blessings

Though we could not celebrate the Resurrection of Christ together for our annual Easter Breakfast or Run Rise Service, but our Sunday School children did share their festivities with us. We hope to see all of you soon !!



Resuming Worship Services at Bethel Church

May 26, 2020

TO: All Church Members and Attendees
FROM: The Session of Bethel Presbyterian Church
RE: Resuming Worship Services

The Elders of Bethel Presbyterian Church would like to assure every member and guest attendee that we are being diligent in our efforts to make you safe and comfortable when attending Worship Services in our Sanctuary. We are taking every precaution to ensure our place of worship is clean and sanitized. We are taking all of your suggestions to heart and know that many of you still have concerns about resuming services. As much as we want you to be part of our services, we also want you to attend worship services when you feel it is best for you. With that being said, if you do not feel you are ready to worship in the Sanctuary, please continue to view our services via Facebook. Pastor Todd Smith is going to continue with the Live Stream Services.

Governor Larry Hogan has lifted his stay at home order. In his order dated May 14, 2020, houses of worship can reopen to 50% capacity, while maintaining social distancing and taking all safety precautions. County Executive Barry Glassman has directed Harford County to open to the extent permitted by the Governor's Executive Order of May 14, 2020.

The following guidelines have been prepared by the Session that follow all protocols set forth by Governor Hogan and The Presbytery to ensure your safety and comfort for reopening Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Guidelines for Resuming Worship Services at Bethel Presbyterian Church

In keeping with Governor Hogan's Faith-Based Recommendations and the Baltimore Presbytery's General Presbyter's Report on Church Re-gathering, the Session has formulated the following guidelines for resuming Worship Services at Bethel Presbyterian Church.

1. The first Worship Service in the Sanctuary will be held on Sunday, May 31, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.
2. We have determined that 50% capacity in our sanctuary is equal to 50 people. We encourage everyone to please call or email the church to let us know if you will be attending from week to week in order that we may prepare.
3. Our cleaning service has been reinstated to thoroughly clean and sanitize the premises. The entire sanctuary will be cleaned and disinfected, as well as the foyer, the restrooms, all doors and door knobs, handrails and pews prior to each Sunday service to ensure the safety of each member of the church and each guest in attendance. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances for your use.
4. PRIOR TO ATTENDING WORSHIP SERVICE, we ask that you follow these measures:
 - A. Please take your temperature at home. If you have a fever, please stay home. (A member of the Session will be on hand to take anyone's temperature that is not equipped at home to do so.)
 - B. If you are not feeling well for any reason, for your own safety and for the safety of the congregation, please stay at home.
 - C. Please use your restroom at home. The church restrooms will be available for emergency use only. (It is important that we try to minimize the amount of contact.)

5. Masks are to be worn by everyone for the duration of the worship service. Please bring your own mask, but if you do not have one, one will be provided for you.
6. Contactless entrance to the church will be through the Shawsville side door and exit from the church through the Madonna side doors. There will be signs directing you. All other doors will be locked.
7. We will require the 6-foot distance be maintained between each person. Every other pew will be roped off in order to maintain 6 feet of social distancing and spaces will be measured in advance. Family groups will be able to sit together without distancing between persons.
8. For the first few weeks, there will be no bulletin. Instead, the weekly bulletin will be emailed or mailed to each member of the congregation to bring with them to Sunday worship service.
9. All Bibles and hymnals will be removed.
10. The entire service will be displayed on the overhead projection screen, including hymns.
11. Music will be provided by our Music Director, Kirsten Fitzsimmons. We will not be singing aloud during the service, nor will the choir be singing.
12. There will be no communion until further notice.
13. Passing of the Peace will not be practiced until further notice.
14. Pastor Todd will be giving the Children's Sermon from the pulpit. Children should remain with their families and not come to the front until further notice.
15. We will not have live flowers until further notice.
16. There will be no Sunday School, childcare or nursery until further notice, but children are encouraged to attend Sunday worship with their families. (Our Christian Education Director, Chrissie Gallher, has been implementing lessons via Zoom with the students as well as Bethel Newsletter Lessons via Smore and will continue to do so.)
17. Sunday church services will continue to stream LIVE on Facebook, which can be accessed through the Bethel Presbyterian Church website.
18. It is recommended that large committees meet via Zoom (Session, Trustees, Deacons, etc.). Small committees and/or groups can determine for themselves if they would like to meet in person, with the stern requirement that they follow all safety protocols that are in place.

These guidelines have been carefully drafted with much consideration for the care and safety of our beloved church family and guests. We have taken all the necessary precautions for the sake of your health and well-being.

These guidelines will remain in place throughout Phase One of the Reopening of Maryland, and particularly, Harford County. However, if, at any time it is deemed unsafe to meet, we will restructure these *Guidelines*.

If you have any questions regarding any of these measures, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Todd, Melissa Dick, or Rita Cairnes directly.

Pastor Todd Cell: (410) 805-8604 Email: pastor@bethel-md.org

Melissa Dick (410) 692-5282 Email: melissadick@bethel-md.org

Rita Cairnes Cell: (443) 243-7225 Email: ritacairnes@gmail.com

Our Quarantine Life ...

Life as we now know it is drastically different from just a few months ago. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) has made us look at the way we live, the way we work, the way we go about our daily lives in a whole new light. We asked you to send us photos of how you are living your Quarantine Life. Some are hard at work on farms, gardening, baking, cooking, teaching, playing, sewing, cleaning, preaching, singing, making music, tending to animals and children. In all of this, we have joined together virtually in prayer, in teaching and in friendship. We hope you continue to stay connected with each other and with Bethel Church. Enjoy some of the snapshots of the lives of those at Bethel.



4-H Blue Ribbon Club planted flowers at Bethel Church as a Thank You for giving them a place to meet



Teri Schwarz ~ Just some of the beautiful animals she tends to on her farm

Who is that hiding behind that mask ??? Do you recognize anyone ???



The Swift Farm ~ MaryLee and Tom hard at work tending to their garden and animals



Bethel's Virtual Service Team



This is how The Thomas' Quarantine Dave hard at work and Gail baking of course !

Marty Nichols and Amber



And this is how The Galliher Family roll ...



Douglas and Sophia have been doing all the work on The Smith Farm ...



The Brooks — It looks like Sam is taking this Quarantine Life to a whole other level while Marsha is enjoying the beach and making seashell art



Gardening and farming ... The Holts have it all !!



*The Horns
Virtual Happy Hour*



Jack Rogers — always with a smile !!



*Steve Kauffman
Hardest Working Man Alive !*

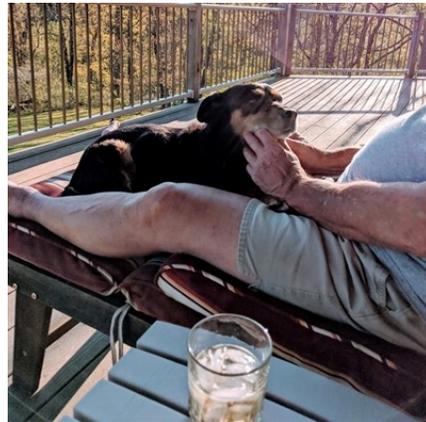
The Walkers — Ruth making masks & Dick out in the fields



The Comaty Family definitely know how to Quarantine !



The McRees — Taking the time to enjoy the veggies of their labors & doing some clean up work at the pond



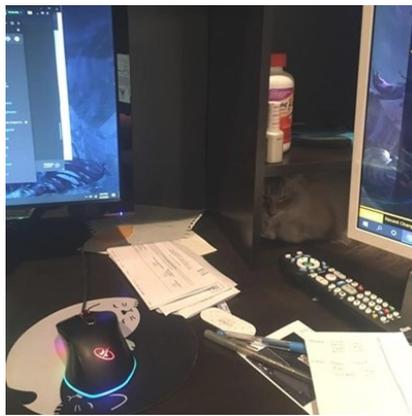
Audrey Dick likes to quarantine with furry friends



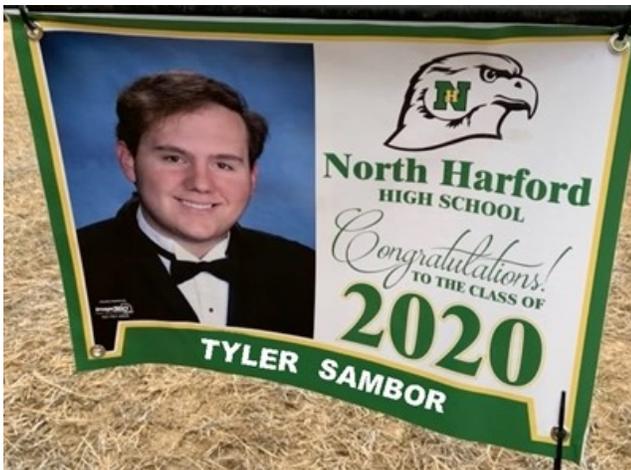
Nancy Mory's little girl Wendy



Kirsten Fitzsimmons — enjoying some wine, some company, and some gardening



The Sambor Family — quarantine life has created a chef (Tyler) and a new addition to the family



Pastor Todd & His Best Bud—Tonka



Thank You!

A heartfelt Thank You to everyone who sent photos and to those who allowed me to borrow them from their Facebook pages. I hope you have enjoyed these glimpses into everyone's Quarantine Life.

Please keep the photos coming as I will continue to share what you are doing during this troubling time in our world.

Always remember we are in this together and you are not alone! We are here for you if you need to talk to someone. We support you and want to make sure you are safe, healthy and connected.

Many Blessings to You All ...

~ Melissa