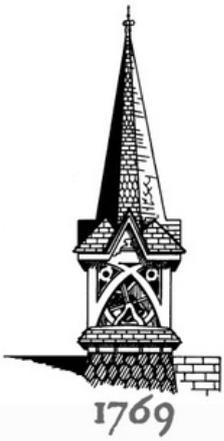


Bethel Presbyterian Review



The Pastor's Corner

Spring is here! Summer is coming!! This is your yearly reminder that as all things are made new in the world around us, don't forget to seek to make all things new within you!! Seek to find new passions, interests and activities and recreate old passions, interests and activities. It is a time for renewal!! God has plans for you!! May we all have the motivation to embrace those plans!!

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

The True Wisdom of God - Romans 5:1-5

1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

How will you recreate vibrancy and anticipation?

I think that one of the most interesting and dynamic ways that we choose to describe our play is with the word "recreation." It is interesting because it infers that when we take time to have fun, we are also afforded the time to be creative and grow. We have time to recreate ourselves in our play.

Sometimes our recreating will be as simple as practicing a golf swing, swimming stroke, casting technique etc. Sometimes it can be as deep as reconnecting and rebuilding family relationships through extra time spent together that just isn't there in the craziness of the school year. Take time within your family to work on family relationships and to seek God's leading in your life together. (continued on P. 2)

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Sometimes our recreating can happen spiritually. Individually seek to spend a little more time each day in prayer and meditation. Seek God's direction in which way you are being called to minister to others in the upcoming year. What gifts are you called to share with your church or community? Open yourself to the recreating energy of the Holy Spirit as God challenges you to grow in your spirituality.

So I challenge you this summer. In your recreation, take time to recreate yourself through play, through the building of relationships, and through your own spiritual growth.

Food for thought...Pastor Todd



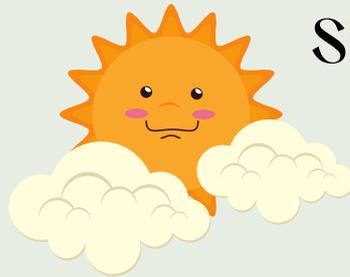
If you would like to dig in to God's Word more deeply in 2021, you may visit this website that offers a variety of plans for how to read through the Bible in one year.
<https://readthebibleinayear.com/bible-reading-plans/>

Welcome, May

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Anthony Saneman 5/1
Melissa Rangel 5/2
Don Scott 5/3
Brandon Smithson 5/3
Zachary Saneman 5/7
Marcanne Saneman 5/11
Shannon Troyer 5/11
Marta Kastner 5/13
Terri Schwartz 5/16
Lynne DiBastiani 5/17
Eddie Calary 5/20
Tanya Mattheiss 5/20
Jennifer Thomson 5/22
Ginny Eberwein 5/22
Ruth Howard 5/22
Amy Kauffman 5/23
Mary Ellen Reeves 5/26
Pat Denbow 5/27
Rebecca Comaty 5/29
Mark DiBastiani 5/29
Barbara Thompson 5/29
James Nystrom 5/31



Shower of Cards

Send a little Sunshine! Each month we select a member (or members) to shower with cards or notes of love, support, encouragement and good cheer!

Our featured Bethel Member for May is:

Ann Edie
1345 W. Jarrettsville Rd.
Forest Hill, MD 21050



Happy Anniversary!

Ron & Andi Holmes 5/1
George & Mary Ellen Reeves 5/5
Franklin & Sandra Hughes Sr. 5/6
Blair & Tanya Mattheiss 5/9
Scott & Jennifer Henderson 5/12
Travis & Christina Galliher 5/17
John & Rita Cairnes 5/18
Jack & Nancy Mory 5/24



Deacon's Update

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

- Gail Kimble, niece of Tom & MaryLee Swift
- The Mattheiss Family
- Dorianne Griffey
- Janet Kauffman
- Billy Gross
- Nancy & Nelson Berigtold
- Martha & Wiley Rutledge
- Barbara, friend of Lisa Robbins
- George Reeves
- Kelly Jarrett Reeves, daughter-in-law of George & Mary Ellen Reeves
- John Louderback
- Brendan Lins, grandson of Ron & Andi Holmes
- Henry Kraft, grandson of Gail & David Thomas
- Frank Clement, friend of Sam & Marsha Brooks
- John Dorn, friend of John and Rita Cairnes
- Beverly Schmidt
- Joe Bradford
- George Cowman
- Betty Rogers
- Howard Eisner
- George Denbow
- Jessica Sambor



Member Notes

To My Dear Bethel Family,

I don't have a big enough vocabulary to express my appreciation for all the kindnesses I have received over my lengthy illness.

The prayers, phone calls, cards, food and visits when possible have all been most welcome and therapeutic.

I can see the light at the end of the tunnel and will hopefully be able to worship with you in person soon.

Love, thanks and blessings to you all!

Fondly,
Shirlee Nystrom



New Ministry!

The Bethel Women's Group is a new ministry to the women of Bethel, their friends and family. The purpose of this group is to offer social and spiritual support for women of all ages.

Our first event will be a Women's Tea on June 6, 2021 at 11 a.m. in the fellowship hall following the church service.

Come for fellowship and a cup of tea! Invite your sisters, nieces, aunts, daughters, grandmothers and women friends.

All women (young women too) are welcome!

Please RSVP by May 30 to Ruth Walker, Lynda McRee, Becca Smith, Kirsten Fitzsimmons or the church office.

Fellowship
Friendship



Tea Time
Conversation



Sunday Schoolers Celebrating Earth Day!



Inspiring future generations to care for our planet!



Bethel Family Life



Douglas Smith and Leah Calary light the candles on Earth Day. Also pictured, Carolina Galliher



Ruth Walker submitted a photo that she took on Easter morning. In her words, it's a snapshot of 2 sets of proud grandparents that are sharing their faith with the next generation. Christ has risen indeed!

Steve Kauffman with Kaiden & Henry, and Kristen Comer with Avalyn.



Douglas Smith turned six at the end of February!

The Bethel Cemetery Players



On Sunday, April 11, the Bethel Cemetery Players put on a short presentation in honor of Nicholas McComas' birthday. The Players included: Donna Jones, Marsha Brooks, Nancy Berigtold, Lisa Robbins, Ruth Walker, Carolina Galliher, John Cairnes, Dennis Kirkwood, Pastor Todd, Bob Horn, and Steve Kauffman.

Historical Tours will be held at 11:00 on the 1st Sunday of each month from May to October (except for in July, when the date will be the 11th instead of the 4th.) Tours will be held weather permitting; in case of bad weather, the tour may be moved to the following Sunday.

The Sunflowers are Coming!

If interested in helping, you are invited to a meeting on Wed., May 19 at 6:30 p.m.

To be held outdoors at Clear Meadow Farm



Member Highlight

Lisa Robbins



Lisa joined the staff of Bethel in November in 2020 and has really enjoyed getting to know the church and its members! She loves the peaceful setting and the warm, kind and thoughtful people she's met. Lisa lives in Bel Air with her husband, Charlie, and their 3 cats. Son Charlie, 23, works for an environmental engineering firm doing surveying and CAD design. Son Henry, 21, is stationed in Houston with the Coast Guard.

Lisa loves being outdoors and has recently started training to become a nature therapy guide for a local non-profit organization called Nature Worx. The program invites people to experience nature using mindfulness activities, and currently focuses on helping people who are dealing with addiction or other difficult life circumstances.

Lisa is also passionate about helping people discover different tools they can use to improve their mental health. She recently led a journaling workshop and shared how she has used journaling to deal with physical pain and create space for healing.

Lisa's love of travel began after her first trip to Germany upon graduating from Towson University in 1991. She spent 2 years in Japan teaching English and loved everything about it, especially the amazing food, skiing, and natural hot springs! She has visited 18 countries over the years, and it's hard to pick a favorite but she would probably say Australia, Thailand, Italy, Portugal, and Costa Rica were the top contenders! She dreams of someday walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain. In the meantime, she and her husband hope to celebrate their 25th anniversary this year with a trip to Oregon for some hiking and sightseeing!

You may be interested to learn that Lisa recently completed something called the "100 Day Dress Challenge," in which she chose to wear the same merino wool dress for 100 days in a row. (If you visited the office anytime in past few months, you would have seen the dress. It's also in the photo above. She even wore it under her costume for the Cemetery Players skit!) Lisa had several reasons for doing this challenge: as a distraction from Covid, to support the environment by choosing sustainable fashion over fast fashion, and as inspiration to pare down her closet and eliminate "decision fatigue" when deciding what to wear. She had fun creating different looks for each day and definitely learned that less is more! If you'd like to read more about Lisa's experience with the dress, here's a link to an article she wrote. <https://lisa636.medium.com/what-100-days-in-a-wool-dress-taught-me-3fef6ae08de2>.

Lisa is very grateful for spring and the return to a sense of normalcy after the challenges of Covid.

Note: the Member Highlight Section of the newsletter will be on hiatus for a while, but we may revisit after some time passes. We seem to have cycled through all the willing participants for now :)

Thank you to Chad Rogers for holding a beautiful recital! About 40 people enjoyed his moving performance. We welcome him back anytime!



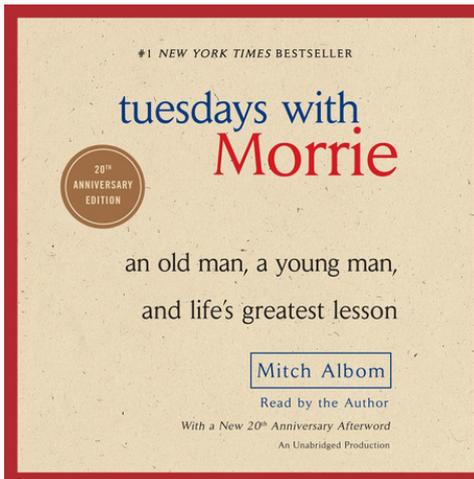
Pause for Poetry

May Night by Sara Teasdale

The spring is fresh and fearless
And every leaf is new,
The world is brimmed with moonlight,
The lilac brimmed with dew.

Here in the moving shadows
I catch my breath and sing--
My heart is fresh and fearless
And over-brimmed with spring.

Do you have a great book to recommend? How about the young people in your lives...do you know what they're reading for their school assignments? Ask them about their favorite book and maybe it can start a great conversation!



This month, Ruth Walker recommends *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. Originally published in 1997, it became an instant classic for its gentle wisdom about life, love and friendship. Ruth recently revisited this beloved book and what struck her is the genuine

friendship that developed between young Mitch and his elderly mentor, Morrie. The lessons each learned were priceless. Ruth thinks we all should have a Morrie in our life!

**Featured Quotes: Love each other or perish.
Love wins, love always wins.**

Bethel Book Corner





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Bobthesignman@yahoo.com

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