

January 2022

# Bethel Tidings

***Blessings to ALL who give of themselves to sustain our church. You are so appreciated!  
Happy New Year!***

*From the staff at Bethel: Pastor Jim, Deb Wagner, Kellar Smith, Sue McAllister, Duane McNairn, Linda Barnhart, and Riley House.*

## Message from Pastor Jim

Happy New Year! We have entered 2022.

Have you carefully written down your New Year's resolutions, goals?

Have you thought what it means to prepare for the coming new year and how the resolutions, goals, are going to change the look of this year?

January gives us an opportunity to reset our lives. We can prepare ourselves by resolving to stop doing the things that are holding us back and doing the things that will bring us where we want to go. We can change the direction of our lives by just making a few changes, and we make the resolution to make that happen.

The book of Nehemiah is a book written with goals and rebuilding in mind. We all need goals; goals that reflect vision, goals that really matter, goals that include God. Nehemiah's goal was to "rebuild" the walls of Jerusalem.

Our goals should be to rebuild the relationships that have eluded us during this pandemic. Each of us ought to have genuine compassion for others who have spiritual or physical hurts. To feel compassion yet do nothing to help is unfounded biblically. At times we may have to give up our own comfort in order to minister to others. We must totally believe in a cause before we will give our time or money to minister properly to others. When we allow God to minister through us, even unbelievers will know it is God's work.

One of the greatest challenges to the church in this century is its lack of connection to its community. Your community is your congregation. It is important to set our goals in the beginning of the year so that we can live out our call to God's restoration.

I pray that your goals and resolutions are blessed by God's Grace.

Happy New Year.  
Pastor Jim



## Christmas Meal Boxes:

We would like to once again express our extreme appreciation to our congregation for their generous donations to our Christmas meal project. This year we were able to provide Christmas meal boxes, hams and gift cards to **10 families**. As with the Thanksgiving meals, the families we helped were all Blessing Box families and are very local to our area. Thanks so much to each of you for making it possible for us to help these families. You are a true blessing to the Food Ministry of Bethel.

Pastor Jim, Deb, and Diane



## Adopted family:

A single mother named Amanda and her 3 children received gifts for each along with monies and a Christmas meal. The family lives in Hagerstown and was able to get assistance for their rent. The mother let us know that if not for Bethel, there would have been no gifts for the children (or her).

Believing and knowing that your kindness sincerely has an impact on others! Thanks!

## Women at the Well

Women at the Well will have bible study has cancelled all January meetings. This group normally meets at 10am on Wednesdays and enjoys a lunch together on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Please contact Beverly at [shanda@myactv.net](mailto:shanda@myactv.net) if you have any questions.



## All Women Together...

Quarterly the ladies of the Altar Committee, Caring Connections, Food Pantry/Blessing Box, Hospitality Volunteers and Women at the Well join together to discuss the upcoming needs of the church. Originally scheduled for Dec 1<sup>st</sup> the meeting has been moved to February – date to be announced. Activities for Lent & Easter will be discussed.

## Hat & Mitten Tree:

Thanks to all who participated by donating hats, mittens and gloves for infants through 5 years. We dropped off a total of 63 items on Monday, November 22nd to Head Start of Washington County and collected 54 more items through December 19<sup>th</sup>. Many blessings to those who knitted hats as we know your love is in each stitch.



**Children will be blessed by you!**





## Caring Connections

### **Supporting our Homebound**

**Let us not become weary of doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9 (NIV)**

Please pray for our homebound as well as our other members who have concerns and conditions that do not allow them to be out and about. Preparing cards and delivering poinsettias were our projects for December.

The next birthdays are listed below with addresses. Cards and phone calls are always welcome. Call Pam Brubaker or the church office for addresses and phone numbers.



Mary Warrenfeltz – Jan 12  
628 Butler Ave.  
Winchester, VA 22601

Phil Petry – Jan 19  
Regency Health Care – 9101 Second Ave.  
Siler Spring, MD 20910

## **Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update**

***A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25***

The Food Ministry has continued over these many months due to the kind financial support and food donations of our church members. Please know your generosity is a true blessing to many families in our local area. Thanks so much to each of you.

Another important part of this venture are all of those who pray for this ministry. It is amazing to see how often when we are nearly out of something that is the next item that is left in a bag in the hall or set on the island. Now

that Pam Brubaker and Melissa Metzger are on board...the rotation lightens the load but more importantly gives others the pleasure of serving.

I personally felt called to this ministry and am blessed to be a part of it. I would love to share stories of this blessing with you. Call me for needs or donations.

Elaine Snyder 301-991-9759.



## Lay Readers – January 2022

<b>Jan 2</b>	Drew Ross
<b>Jan 9</b>	Billy Bollin
<b>Jan 16</b>	Roni McNairn
<b>Jan 23</b>	Deb Wagner
<b>Jan 30</b>	Cameron Bollin



Call Elaine to sign up! 301-991-9759.

## Virus Task Force:

### **Changes In the building:**

Social distancing, using hand sanitizer and wearing masks while inside the building continue to be recommended. Girl Scouts and A.A. have restarted. Volleyball practice has started. Each group has provided COVID protocol for their distancing, masking and cleaning. The FLC is open again for events And we have been very cautious in having church events.



**Please consider ways you might be able to serve your worshipping community.**



## Blood Drive



The Blood drive at Bethel scheduled for Jan 21st Has been cancelled due to a Red Cross staffing issue.

## **The Bethel Coat Closet:**

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*He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none.*  
**Luke 3:11**

Our church members participated in the Reach Cold Weather Shelter event “Cold Hands & Warm Hearts” on December 11<sup>th</sup>. This event was held at the St. Johns Lutheran Church in Hagerstown. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we were able to provide 64 coats to individuals and families in need. The members participating were Pastor Jim, Pam Brubaker, Deb Wagner, and Deb’s granddaughter Jaye Lynn Stone. All who participated felt blessed to be part of this wonderful event. Special thanks to Kellar Smith who worked sorting and bagging the coats prior to the event.

We have also been able to recently provide coats to several local families in need. We do still have a small supply of nice children’s coats (mostly girls) available for local children.

We will now begin to restock our coat closet, so please continue to provide coats anytime in the months ahead. Our goal will be to fill the coat closet and to participate in this event next year as well as our continuing our mission to serve our local community. (Of note: we are only accepting coats and cold weather items at this time.) Many thanks for your continued support of our coat closet ministry.

Diane Stevens

## **Adult Sunday School:**

A combined adult class led by Elaine Snyder is being held at 9:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Let us know if you are ready to create a new class or restart your adult classes.

\*\*\*\* Restarting Spiritual Fitness?????????  
\*\*\*\* Or One Loaf?????



Other classes are speaking of how much they miss their time together.  
It only takes one to start it growing again...  
COULD IT BE YOU????? Talk to the Pastor.

**Stewardship    December 2021**

Date	In person S.S./Church	Special Events
Dec 5	65 36	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of Advent Communion with lunch
Dec 12	67 14	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Advent Movie & Caroling
Dec 19	80	4 <sup>th</sup> week of Advent
Dec 24	25 36 16	5:00 Christmas Eve 7:00 11:00
Dec 26	41	



Currently **Children's Sunday School** for children ages kindergarten and younger are meeting in the Nursery and grades 1-4 are upstairs. The time 9:00 a.m.



The COVID restrictions are being followed.

We want to keep our little ones safe.

Abbie is back with her helpers to tend to babies thru pre-k during Sunday School and during the church service.

**F.R.O.G.** (fully rely on God) Sunday School for grades 4 - 8 has started a new venture... for youth grades 5 thru 8  
Youth Fellowship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays monthly from 6:30 to 7:30.

You can call the office 301-733-8387 to ask for a monthly lesson packet,

Or

You can see the online info @ <https://tinyurl.com/y7g752ut>



## Memories of Advent...



### Advent Calendar 2021:

Sun. November 28 – **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - HOPE**

“How do we make room?”

Centerpiece making and cookie decorating.



Sixteen attended and approximately 18 centerpieces were made.

Sun. December 5 – **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Peace**

“A place at the table” shared meal.



For lunch, 36 were served a lovely meal of ham, mac & cheese, green beans and apple cobbler. The Pastor served us communion with the dinner rolls and the pine centerpieces were given as door prizes.

Sun. December 12 – **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Joy**

Family Movie with cookies, popcorn & drinks. Then caroling. The smell of popcorn filled the air and many hands as we watched “It’s a Miracle” and then caroled on the front lawn.

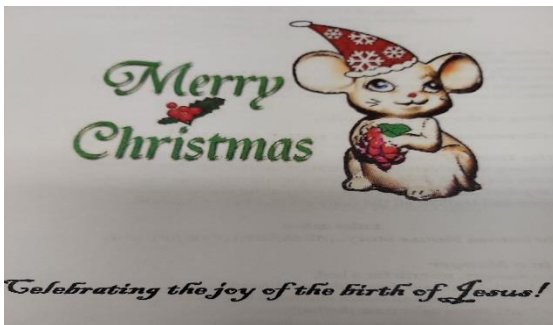
Sun. December 19 – **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Love**

“A Room with a View”. A Ragman visit.

**Fri. Dec 24 – “The Inn”**

**Christmas Eve Services:**

**5:00 p.m.** – Gifts of fruit, nuts and chocolates and an ornament for the children.



Family Service

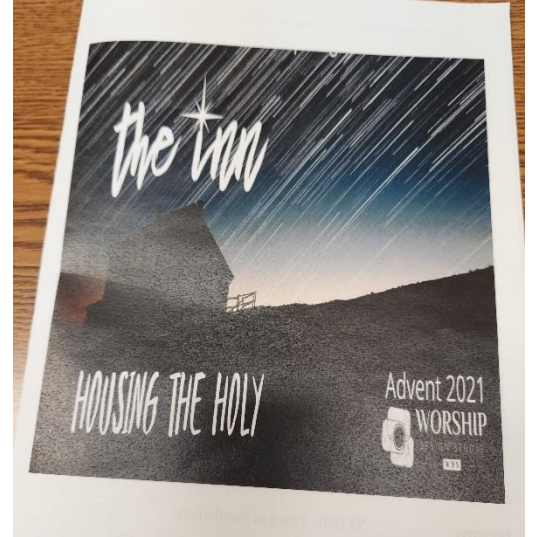
The children did an impromptu version of the nativity while the “Christmas Mouse” story was narrated. The mouse was able to quiet a crying Jesus in the manger by singing “Silent Night”.



**7:00 p.m.** – Donation offerings for the Board of Childcare.  
Traditional Candlelight Service

The traditional service was full of beautiful songs, communion and candlelight. There were 36 in attendance.

Pastor Jim spoke of “The Inn” which was a stable and the importance of Jesus having been born in a place that all would feel comfortable approaching. Each family was given an angel ornament from the tree.



**11:00 p.m.** – Donation offerings for the Board of Childcare.  
Midnight Candlelight Service.

It was a quiet gentle service filled with a specialness of the evening. While only 16 were here...the joy of the celebration was present for us all. Communion and candlelight were enjoyed. Angel ornaments were gifted to each family from the Sanctuary Christmas Tree.





**HOPE!**

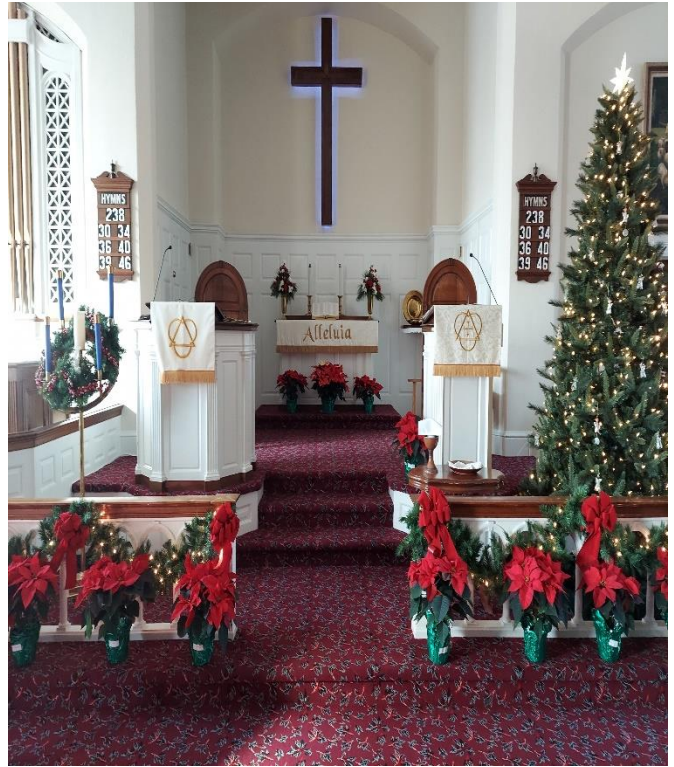
**PEACE!**

**JOY!**

**LOVE!**



## Bethel Tidings



## January Anniversaries:



- 3 – Ron & Melissa Metzger
- 7 – Mark & Kerry Claiborne, Sr.
- 8 – Jason & Melissa Broadwater
- 23 – Harold & Ann Taylor
- 25 – Michael & Lisa Morgan

## January Birthdays:

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 Steve Shifflett     |                       |
| 5 Lisa Morgan         |                       |
| Michael Bennett       |                       |
| Jason Kaufmann        |                       |
| 7 Vivian Michael      |                       |
| Kellar Smith          |                       |
| 8 Amy Smith           |                       |
| Cally Brandt          |                       |
| 9 George Brandt       |                       |
| 10 Katie Gantz        |                       |
| 11 Martha Lynch       |                       |
| 12 * Mary Warrenfeltz |                       |
| 13 Mary Mowen         |                       |
|                       | 18 Gretchen           |
|                       | Buddenhagen           |
|                       | Julie Beard           |
|                       | Tric Harshman         |
|                       | 19 *Phil Petry        |
|                       | Ronald Poffenberger   |
|                       | 20 Velma Filzinger    |
|                       | 21 Judy Hoffman       |
|                       | Barb Tolley           |
|                       | 22 Brandon Morgan     |
|                       | 23 Alexis Spickler    |
|                       | 24 Mitchell Belella   |
|                       | 25 Rose Bowser        |
|                       | Priscilla Miller      |
|                       | 26 Sylvia Rider       |
|                       | Todd Roberts          |
|                       | 27 Heather Rucci      |
|                       | 29 Stephanie Rossiter |
|                       | 30 Steven Ganley      |
|                       | 31 Joseph Boward      |
|                       | Kathy Rice            |



**Do you see a name of  
someone who is a  
member but has not  
been here?**

**Reach out and give them  
a call!**

\*Homebound

# Bethel Tidings

January 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				5:00 Volleyball/FLC	6:00 Girl Scouts/ Parlor & Up x 3	1 9:00 A A
2 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	3 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	4 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	5 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	6 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	7	8 9:00 A A
9 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	10 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	11 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	12 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	13 5:00 Volleyball/FLC	14 6:00 Girl Scouts/ Parlor & Up x 3	15 9:00 A A
16 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	17 Newsletter Deadline 5	18	19	20	21	22 9:00 AA
23 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	24	25	26	27	28	29 9:00 AA

# Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville

**Our Mission:** To be the people of God on the move for Jesus and to transform the world by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Our Vision:** To be the Church of Jesus Christ to all God's children through discipleship grounded in God's Holy Word. We pledge to God and each other to accomplish our mission: Through prayer, worship and education, we will be seekers of God's will. Through witness, we will kindle the fire of spiritual and physical growth. Through Christian community we will love, nurture and support each other and those in need throughout the world.

## Church Office:

Phone: 301-733-8387

Email: [bethel.church@myactv.net](mailto:bethel.church@myactv.net)

Pastor: Jim Johnson

Email: [pastorjim@myactv.net](mailto:pastorjim@myactv.net)

## Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner

301-733-8387

hours: 9 am – 1 pm Mon.-Fri.

of a Email: [bethel.church@myactv.net](mailto:bethel.church@myactv.net)

## Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner

Phone: 301-733-8387

Email: [bethel.church@myactv.net](mailto:bethel.church@myactv.net)

## Bethel Connect:

Be connected, join our Google Group, search for Connect @ Bethel.

## Sunday Service Times:

Traditional mixed with Contemporary

Worship @ 10:00 am

Sunday School 9:00 am

Online Sun 10:00 am @ [www.bethelumchurch.org](http://www.bethelumchurch.org)

## Family Care Ministry:

Please let us know if you or a family member wish a pastoral visit during a time of Office grief or hospitalization, including the birth child. We will pray and minister to you.

## Telephone Prayer Chain:

Beverly Miller

Phone: 301-739-6270

Email: [Shanda@myactv.net](mailto:Shanda@myactv.net)



## Bethel Tidings



**Pastor Jim Johnson**  
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