

Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville

Bethel Tidings

Nov. 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

We have been going through two sermon series, At The table of God, and now as we conclude our second sermon series, From the Mountaintop, we find ourselves already approaching the season of waiting—Advent—at the end of November. It always feels like a surprise to reach this point in the year. We find ourselves asking, “How is it that we’re here already?” Yet here we are, preparing once again for the hope and promise that Advent brings.

We recently completed a very successful Church Conference, and I am deeply grateful for the many signs of God’s faithfulness among us. Bethel is not only paying its bills, but we are also nearly finished paying off our capital improvements—less than \$7,000 remains of nearly \$100,000! What makes this accomplishment even more meaningful is that every dollar came from the dedication and generosity of our congregation and community—not from our endowment.

In addition, we have now paid our full Mission Shares for this year and for the two previous years—a wonderful milestone for our church family.

As we move forward, I am filled with gratitude and anticipation. The ongoing work of love, grace, and community that defines Bethel continues to shape us into the people God calls us to be. Together, we are building something beautiful—faith that is alive, generosity that overflows, and a community rooted in Christ’s love.

**Grace & peace,
Pastor Jim Johnson
Bethel United Methodist Church**

Continued Events:



Women at the Well

Women at the Well Bible Study (The Chosen) will continue on Wednesdays, 10:00, November 5, 12, 19. We will not meet on November 26. Brunch for November will follow bible study on the 19th at Bob Evans.

Altar flowers:

Bethel continues to be blessed by the talents of the Altar Committee. Please consider signing up on the calendar by the offering plate. The cost is \$45.00 for both flower arrangements (not the vase) that you may take with you after the service. Be sure to let the office know a week in advance what you would like written in the bulletin. Thank you!

Micah's Backpack:



Healthy Meals for Healthy Families

Currently we are providing for 15. We usually build for the next month or so. Snack items are always good. Individually wrapped cookies, crackers, chips. Etc.

Please see the list of items needed in the main hallway.

Readers:

If you would like to volunteer to read the scripture, contact Elaine Snyder at 301-991-9759.

Ushers:

Please let the office know if you can take a turn. Currently we have available openings in November for Ushers. Thank you.

Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update:

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

Donations of nonperishable food and hygiene products are always welcome.





Supporting our Homebound

Bethel Caring Connection

Homebound birthdays...

The next will be on Nov 12

Janet Deibert
8507 Mapleville Rd.
Boonsboro, Md 21713

Attendance 2025

Date	In person Church S.S./ Worship	Special Events
Sept 28	18/73	
Oct 5	17/59/24	Western MD Center
Oct 12	18/54	Pastor Appreciation Day
Oct 19	20/70/43	Laity Sunday Harvest Home
Oct 26		

Coat Closet

Your help is needed.

Our annual coat giveaway event for December has been cancelled by the host church. We were able to provide coats to those in need at the event for a number of years and are sad to see it go away.

However, we will still provide the coats to those in need in our local area at our Halloween event. Please continue to provide coats since our supply is very limited. Your help is appreciated.

Diane Stevens



Leadership News:

To be the people of God on the move for Jesus to transform the world by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Leadership Board Updates:

Oct 15th meeting was canceled.

Spiritual Formation- A devotion focused on the importance of quiet guidance and teamwork in church administration.

Administrative tasks: Conference reports were presented on Sat. Oct 18th.

Trustee: Tim Smith has begun to paint the outdoor trim of the church. The air/heat system in the FLC will be finished soon. The new unit will be outside on the kitchen side. The Sanctuary Furnace work has been completed.

We are looking at options for signs and/or speed bumps in the driveway.

Child/Youth plans- the next event will be Breakfast with Santa on Dec 6th morning.

Facebook homepage updates are in process. Carol has been gathering new pictures that will be placed on our Facebook homepage. Send the office any you have and we will see that she gets them.

Fundraising: Teresa will be leading us in making Soups and Subs this Fall/Winter.

The first Sub Sale was Thursday October 16th. Soup will be Nov 15 & 16.

Training for the audio/video system is looking for volunteers to learn. Contact the office.

Laity Sunday: was on Sunday October 19th along with Harvest Home. It was a wonderful day of celebration with 43 attending.

MomCo- a new group for mothers is in the planning stage. Pastor Jim and Kaelii Boyer will lead this.

A Pavilion Path- needs to be created for safety to get from the parking lot to the Pavilion. Several options are being considered.

Oil tank: since the new furnace will be propane, we are looking for options of removing the full tank of oil under the portico.

The next Leadership meeting will be on Wed., Nov.19 at 7 pm in the Parlor...Join us!

The Church Conference:

Bethel was host to two Church Conference sessions on Saturday October 18th.

From the moment you entered the building, welcome was the theme! It began with the aroma of fresh baked goods. Teresa Rossiter made muffins and cinnamon rolls, a sausage casserole, yogurt, fresh fruit and juices and coffee! Then during the first session she baked fresh cookies!

Many thanks to Sue for playing the music, Jon for managing the sound, Kellar for setting up many tables and chairs, Deb with Kathy and Sandy helping to decorate, Pastor Jim & Deb for having all reports ready, and the children who came and provided special music led by Linda Barnhart. The conference recognized them all.



Pastor Wunderlich led us in worship based on Phillippians 4: 4-9; about being full of joy in the Lord and rejoicing. Experience God's peace and practice what Jesus taught.

The first session included Deerfield & Mt. Zion, Mount Bethel, Garfield & St. Paul's, Otterbein and Bethel Chewsville.

The second session had Bethel Rohrsersville, Mt. Lena, Keedysville Salem, Boonsboro Benevola, Mt. Nebo and Myersville Mount Zion in attendance.

In the "Witness of Joyful Ministry"... all churches were invited to share the news from their congregations. The overall common factor seemed to be that this year has shown new excitement and growth. While the attendance numbers remain down, new souls are joining.

The Benediction:

Go into the world showing a gentle attitude toward everyone. Be joyful and thankful! Fill your mind with those things that are good and deserve praise: things true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable. Put into practice what you have heard here. And may the God who gives peace be each of you.

The Harvest Home & Laity Sunday:



So many participated... The ladies decorating, all of those from the Leadership Board taking part in the service and helping to make it special.

The lunch with 43 attending. Homemade soups, breads, salads and desserts warmed all. Bella and Abby led us in the blessing.

We are so fortunate to be here with one another!



The boiler and furnaces:



Out with the old, in with the new!

The new system is propane fed and we hope it to be cleaner and more efficient.



And here is the start of the heat & air system for the Family Life Center. This was necessary so that the new unit will be placed outside which should make for a much quieter system inside and better acclimated for future service.

Trunk or Treat:

Was held on Friday October 24th. Pictures and news will be in the next Newsletter.



Forever Givers:

There are so many who diligently serve the church. Teresa Rossiter is always here for us. She not only serves on the Leadership Board as the Finance Chairperson, she takes charge of watching over the finances and has transitioned into the Fundraising Chairman.

In addition, she is often our “Lady of the Kitchen”. She not only cooks and bakes but also leads us in the sub-making.

All the while, she continues to teach Elementary Sunday School. She is a jewel!

Thank you Teresa.

New News:

Mitten Tree. A tree will be in place November 2nd in the Sunday School room behind the sanctuary for donations of mittens, gloves and hats for preschool age children infants through age 5. This year, in particular, the most in need are hats for boys and girls ages 4-5. This is a project we have participated in the past number of years with Head Start of Washington county. Items will be collected through December with a drop off the first week of December and another the end of December. Thank you!



Upcoming Events:

Sun Nov 2 – All Saints Sunday/ Communion/Daylight Savings Time

Sat Nov 15/Sun Nov 16 – Soup Sale

Fri Nov 21 - 9:00 am pass out Thanksgiving baskets –donations by Nov 19

Sun Nov 23 - Poinsettia orders due, Snyder BD Lunch for all/FLC

Thur Nov 27 – Thanksgiving - ? if interest in a breakfast

Fri Nov 28 – 9am - put up Christmas decorations

1st Sun of Advent – Nov 30

Thur Dec 4 – Sub Sale

Sat Dec 6 – Breakfast with Santa

2nd Sun of Advent - Dec 7 - 2pm Carols at Nursing Homes, Western Maryland Worship

3rd Sun of Advent - Dec 14 –11:30 am –Christmas Joy: Pot Luck/Ugly Sweater/Talent

4th Sun of Advent - Dec 21 –@ 10am Children's program

Wed Dec 24 – Christmas Eve, 7 pm traditional service, 11 pm candlelight service

Thur Dec 25 – Christmas Day – Merry Christmas (No Services)

Nov. Birthdays:



1 – Ally Boyer
6 – Becky Brown
7 – Cole Shifflett
9 – Shirley Shanholtz
9 – Mike McAllister
12 – * Janet Deibert
14 – Lacey Simmons
14 – Drew Ross
16 – Elaine Snyder
17 – Kim Rishell
18 – Ron Metzger
18 – Tim Rossiter
18 – Tuhin Bhowmik
18 – Abigail Snyder
19 – Jeff Barnhart
23 – Ted Axline
27 – James Johnson

Nov. Anniversaries



Nov 5 – Jeff & Linda Barnhart

Nov 10 – Dale & Julie Beard

Nov 15 – Mike & Sue McAllister

Bethel Tidings

Nov. 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church
2 Communion All Saints day Time Change 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship 1:00 pm SYA Cheer Awards/FLC 2:00 pm Western MD Hospital	3	4 Election Day 6:30 Lions Club/Parlor	5 10:00 W@W/ 1 st floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band	6 6:00 New Beginnings Bible/Parlor	7 12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band	8 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church
9 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	10	11 Veterans Day	12 11:00 W@W 1 st floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band	13 6:00 New Beginnings Bible Study/Parlor	14 12:30-3:30 Band	15 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church 4:00 pm – Soup Sale 5:00 pm SHS Football Banq/FLC
16 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship 11:00 am Soup Sale	17 Newsletter Deadline	18 6:30 p.m. Lions Club/FLC	19 10:00 W@W/ 1 st floor classroom Then lunch at Bob Evans 12:30-3:30 Band 7:00 Leadership Council/Office	20 6:00 New Beginnings Bible Study/Parlor 7:00 Bethel Bible Study	21 9:00 pass out Thanksgiving Baskets 12:30-3:30 Band	22 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church
23 9:00 S School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service 11:00 Snyder/FLC 30-1st Sun of Advent 9:00 S. School 10:00 am Worship & Virtual Service	24	25	26 10:00 W@W/ 1 st floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band/FLC	27 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	28 9:00 am Decorate For Christmas 12:30-3:30 Band	29 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church

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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: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

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Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner

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Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner

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Sunday Service Times:

Traditional mixed with Contemporary

Worship @ 10:00 am

Sunday School 9:00 am

Online Sun 10:00 am @ www.bethelumchurch.org

Family Care Ministry:

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

Telephone Prayer Chain:

Beverly Miller

Phone: 301-739-6270

Email: shanda@myactv.net

Bethel Connect:

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



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Donate with Venmo.

