

Bethel Tidings

If a man happens to be 36 years old, as I happen to be, and some great truth stands before the door of his life, some great opportunity to stand up for that which is right, and that which is just, and he refuses to stand up because he wants to live a little longer, and he is afraid his home will get bombed, or he's afraid that he will lose his job, or he is afraid that he will get shot, He may go on and live until he's 80 and the cessation of breathing in his life is merely the belated announcement of an earlier death of the spirit. -Martin Luther King, Jr.

We are in the season of Lent. We are on a journey with Jesus to the cross. What stands out most is that being on a journey indicates that we are moving. We can't be sitting and contemplating in this season. We have a destination and are on the path moving toward the cross. We aren't just randomly walking in the wilderness; we have set our sights on Jesus and the salvation he offers us.

Our destination is more real and more painful, and it requires more sacrifice and more surrender. It is a wrestling match with ourselves.

Lent is a season in that we prepare ourselves for baptism and, ultimately, our preparation for the coming of our Savior. If we focus solely on the inward part of the journey, then we probably won't experience suffering. We can come in confession and repentance, but we must be ready to rise up, serve, and love in Christ's name. This is about us and a world that wrestles daily for a sense of God's peace. This Lent, shall we give of ourselves wholly (Holy)?

Be the Good News to a hurting world.

Peace, Pastor Jim

Women at the Well

The Bible Study (The Chosen) continues on Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 22, 29, 11:00 in the parlor. Brunch at Bistro 11, Fountainhead, on March 15th, at 11:30. All are welcome to join us for Bible study and/or brunch. Please RSVP to Bev by e-mail shanda@myactv.net, phone 301-739-6270, or in person, by Monday, March 13th so she can call in a reservation.



Supporting our Homebound

Bethel Caring Connection

And the King shall answer and say unto them, verily I say unto you, in as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Matthew 25:40 KJV

I learned the above Bible verse in Christian Endeavor under the tutelage of Katherine Shilling, Janet Deibert's mother, when I was a child. Indeed, serving others in the church, the community, and even the world has always been a hallmark of Bethel {House of God} Church. And that has continued with Bethel groups today.

I thank our Caring Connection committee for meeting several weeks ago to plan a ministry that shows God's love and care for our shut-in members. At this time, we are asking church members to fill an Easter basket for these folks.

The baskets can be found on the table in the church parlor with directions for filling. Please stop by and take one. We are asking that they be delivered to the shut-in member by April 7th or back to the church parlor by April 2nd in order for us to deliver before Easter.

Thank you for sharing God's love through Bethel Church.
Pam Brubaker (301-992-7831)

The next homebound birthday: Liz Weaver – March 14, 11951 Comanche Dr. Smithsburg, MD 21783

Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update

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

Many thanks to all who have continued to show support to our food ministry. The challenge to "bring a can" of food during Lent will surely help to restock the almost empty pantry. While the women do shop for needed items, it does put a financial hardship on the church. We are fortunate to also have those who donate funds specifically for this purpose.

Anyone can bring in items and place them on the kitchen island at any time.

Your sister in Christ, Elaine Snyder

The Leadership Board:

This year the Administration Council has changed to a “One Committee” format.

This Board will work together on all projects and focus on following

Bethel’s Mission & Vision.

Opportunities to join the group are open. Let us know if you want to participate on the Board or a Committee.



MISSION STATEMENT

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:

1. Through prayer, worship and education, we will be seekers of God’s will,
2. Through witness we will kindle the fire of spiritual and physical growth, and
3. Through Christian community, we will love, nurture and support each other and those in need throughout the world.

VISION STATEMENT

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

Members:

The Leadership team is made up of

David Wagner, Chairman 301-991-1234 or wagner2121@myactv.net

Duane McNairn, Trustee Chairman 301-797-5748 or mcnaidua@gmail.com

Karen Keffer, SPRC Chairperson 717-552-8338 or klkeffer73@gmail.com

Four other members are:

Jon Snyder 301-462-9095 or jsnyder886@gmail.com

Linda Barnhart 301-824-7577 or immusicmom@myactv.net

Deb Wagner, 301-992-6865 or secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Pastor Jim 301-733-837 or pastor@bethelumchurch.org

Lori Shifflett 301-824-6290 or slkshifflett@myactv.net

Drew Ross 540-336-6110 or drew_dunny5@yahoo.com

Jeanne Dinterman 301-824-9002 or jtdinterman@myactv.net

Phil Baker (member at large) 301-739-0829

Please feel free to contact any members, most are available anytime. Drew, Jon and Karen work day-time jobs so call them in the evenings please.

This “Unified Board” works together to decide on what the needs of the church are and to create work teams. Plan ahead, not fix after! If no interest, then table the item (i.e. Harvest Home and Centerpiece making that were very poorly attended). Focus on where God has placed us in the community. How can we care for our Elders and our Youth and Children?

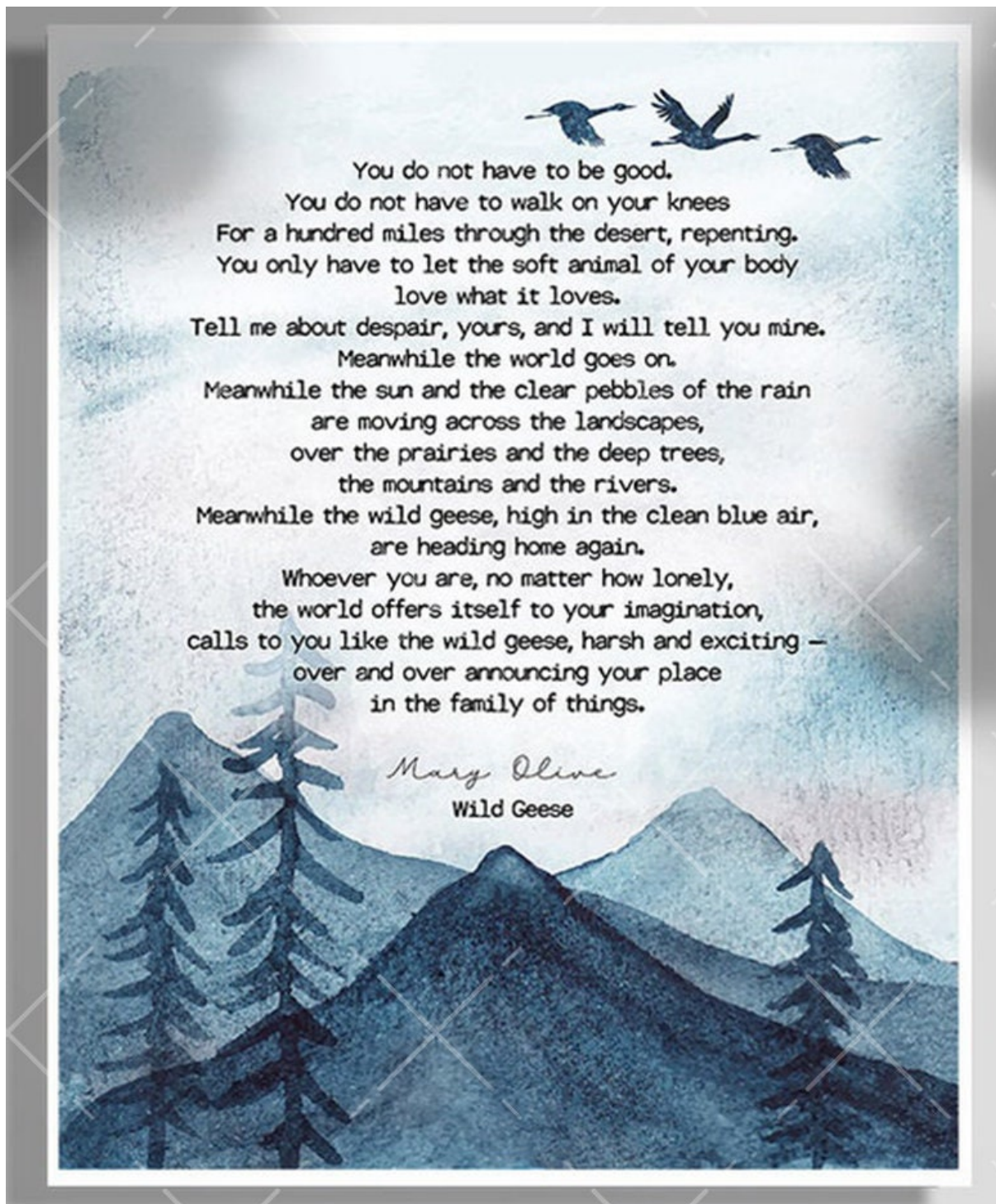
Meeting Dates:

This Board meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Parlor. Exceptions will be made to accommodate full attendance. The March meeting has been moved to the 22nd as 2 members were on vacation. With this new configuration it is highly important that all members attend.

Finance information:

Phoenix Rising Financial Service who has experience working with UM churches has been contracted to take over the bookkeeping duties. David Wagner and Martin Brubaker are now the signatories for the bank accounts. All invoices and receipts will be channeled thru the office and most banking will take place electronically. Please feel free to ask the office if you as a member would like to see monthly reports or have any questions.

Comfort for you...



You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
For a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting –
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

Mary Oliver
Wild Geese

Can you help?

Do you know anyone interested in learning to play the organ – Sue is willing to teach.

How about someone willing to play the piano?

Could you help with mowing, maintenance, or changing letters on the Marquee?

Do you know past attendees? Would you help to review the membership list?

Attendance – February 2023

Date	In person Church	Special Events
Jan 29	70	
Feb 5	76/52	Brandenburg reception
Feb 12	66	
Feb 19	62	
Feb 26		Blanket Sunday

Lay Readers – March 2023

March 5	Elaine Snyder
March 12	Val Kaufmann
March 19	Abby Snyder
March 26	Deb Wagner

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

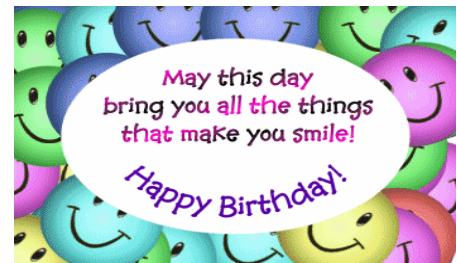
March Anniversaries:

- 2 – Tim & Tammy Smith
- 8 – Fred & Peggy Baker



March Birthdays:

- 1 – David Robinette
- 2 – Mary Lidie
- 2 – Aubrinna Guzowski
- 4 – McKenzie Wagner
- 8 – Linda Warehime
- 9 – Zakarri Wagner
- 10 – Cokey Robertson
- 10 – Tammy Smith
- 12 – Kayla Wagner
- 13 – Tim Smith
- 13 – Sean Walters
- 14 – * Liz Weaver
- 17 – Joe Purcell
- 18 – Ellie Akin
- 19 – Meghan Jenkins
- 22 – Batina Price
- 22 – Michael Rishell
- 23 – Madison Mertz
- 25 – Cory Brandt
- 27 – Charlene Robertson
- 27 – Blair Rishell
- 29 – Aldine Moser, Jr.
- 30 – Rachel Matlock
- 31 – Whitfield Gildersleeve



- * Homebound
- see caring connections for addresses

Liz Weaver

11951 Comanche Dr.

Smithsburg, MD 21783

Bethel Tidings

March 2023	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday			1 10:00 W@W/Parlor 7:30 VB/FLC	2 7:30 VB/FLC	3 5:00 Reach Shelter 6:00 Girl Scouts/Parlor & Upstairs x 3	4
5 Communion 2 nd Sun of Lent 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	6 5:00 Barcelona Soccer/ FLC	7 6:00 Lions Club /FLC & Parlor	8 10:00 W@W/Parlor 7:30 VB/FLC	9 7:30 VB/FLC	10	11
12 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS 3 rd Sun of Lent 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	13 Deb on vaca 5:00 Barcelona Soccer/ FLC	14	15 11:00 W@W lunch 7:00 Leadership Board/ Parlor 7:30 VB/FLC	16 7:30 VB/FLC	17 St Patrick's Day 11:00 Blood Drive/FLC 6:00 Girl Scouts/Parlor & Upstairs x 3	18
19 4 th Sun of Lent 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	20 Deb returns Newsletter Deadline 5:00 Barcelona Soccer/ FLC	21 6:00 Lions Club /FLC & Parlor	22 10:00 W@W/Parlor 7:30 VB/FLC	23 7:30 VB/FLC	24	25
26 5 th Sun of Lent 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	27	28	29 10:00 W@W/Parlor 7:30 VB/FLC	30 7:30 VB/FLC	31	

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

Pastor: Jim Johnson
Email: pastor@bethelumchurch.org

Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner
301-733-8387
Office hours: 9 am – 1 pm Mon.-Fri.
Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner
Phone: 301-733-8387
Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

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

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



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Pastor Jim Johnson
Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville
21006 Twin Springs Drive
Smithsburg, MD 21783
301-733-8387

