

# **Bethel Tidings**

Christ is the population of the world,  
and every object as well. There is no room  
for hypocrisy. Why use bitter soup for healing  
when sweet water is everywhere?  
Lovers think they're looking for each other,  
but there's only one search: wandering  
this world is wandering that, both inside one  
transparent sky. In here  
there is no dogma and no heresy.  
The miracle of Jesus is himself, not what he said or did  
about the future. Forget the future. I'd worship someone who could do that.  
On the way, you may want to look back, or not,  
but if you can say, There's nothing ahead.  
There will be nothing there.  
Stretch your arms and take hold of the cloth of your clothes with both hands. The cure for pain is pain.  
Good and bad are mixed. If you don't have both,  
you don't belong with us.  
When one of us gets lost, is not here, he must be inside us.  
There's no place like that anywhere in the world.

*Rumi-There's nothing ahead.*

*Friends, there is nothing for us in the past-it; all is before us before we can get situated—more stories to tell.*

Friends, we are in challenging times. The world is unraveling like a ball of yarn. Where do we turn to be able to share in the salvation that Christ left for us? Are you ready to push forward?

I am going to study about the "72" found in Luke 10:1-20. The scriptures tell us what it feels like to be in the footsteps of Jesus as he trained ordinary people to accomplish an extraordinary mission. If you are serious about your discipleship and living life to the fullest, then this is a study you want to take advantage of. This is not about sitting around and doing nothing but instead living out the commands Jesus gave us. "They were not professionals. They were not celebrities. We don't even know their names. But when Jesus asked them to join him in his mission, they stepped up, answered the call, and went out in his name. They were the 72. Will you be one of the 72?"

Peace,

Pastor Jim

## Women at the Well

The Bible Study continues on Wednesdays. In May the dates will be May 3rd & 10th. Devotions will be about Women in the Bible. Brunch on May 17th at Schulas will end the season.

All are welcome to join us for Bible study and/or brunch. Please RSVP to Bev by e-mail [shanda@myactv.net](mailto:shanda@myactv.net), phone 301-739-6270, or in person, by Monday May 15th, so she can call in a reservation.



## Supporting our Homebound

Bethel Caring Connection  
Carry each other's burdens, and in this way  
you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

THANK YOU, thank you, thank you to all of you super caring and creative folks who took an Easter basket to fill for our shut-ins!!!!

The baskets were beautiful and full of goodies to brighten each person's days. The response was so positive and it was fun to see a sparkle in the recipient's eye or hear the laughter in a voice as he or she thanked us for the baskets. Thanks also to those who delivered baskets and pansies after the Easter service. As it has been said, "It takes a village," and we here at Bethel are a village!!!! If you know of someone with a need; transportation, visitation, a meal or other help, please let the church office know or call me at 240-734-1101. Pam Brubaker

The next homebound birthdays: David Starleper – May 4  
18900 Artillery Drive  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Millie Miller – May 31  
154 Artizan St, Rm 226  
Williamsport, Md 21795

## Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update

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

Our blessing box has continued to serve many. This has been such a great blessing to our church family to serve others. At this time we could really use full size boxes of sweetened cereal. We are also in need of mashed potatoes, Rice and noodle side dishes. We can always use canned chicken and tuna. Any donations are appreciated.

Again many thanks go out to Pam Brubaker, Melissa Metzger, Judy Hoffman and Mary Gross. Without these wonderful volunteers this would be a difficult job. Also the blessing box could not work without your love and contributions. If you have any questions please contact me 301-991-9759.



Your sister in Christ, Elaine Snyder



## SUB SALE

Many thanks to all who helped with the subs. 504 were made. Proceeds that totaled \$791.60 will be placed in the trustees fund.



### **Coat Closet:**

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

As yard sale season begins, just a reminder that we are again collecting adult and children's coats and winter items like gloves and hats. When you are out and about at yard sales this summer, please consider picking up coats for the Bethel Coat Closet.

Of note, we will be offering coats to children at our end of summer Vacation Bible School and other events as well. We do also accept backpacks in new or slightly used condition in preparation for back-to-school giveaway as well. Thank you so much for your continued support of this mission. Last year we gave away a total of 400 coats!

Diane Stevens

### **Lions Club News:**

#### **The Vidalia Onion Sale**

will be distributed on Friday, May 12 from 4 to 7pm and Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 12pm.

You may place orders until May 8<sup>th</sup> by calling 717-658-7067 or signing up on the Bethel bulletin board. \$16.00 for 10 lb. bag or \$8.00 for a 5 lb. bag. Monies can be give at the office or on the day of pick up.



### **Begin a garden:**

A new Dogwood Tree has been planted beside the church where the rental property was demolished. This is the beginning of a "Prayer Garden" being designed by Master Gardeners from the Lions and Bethel. If you have perennial plants or would like to donate in any fashion...contact Sandy Hose or Ray Ewan.

### **The Pavilion:**

Past member Arlene Hoover donated funds to be used to upgrade the church sound system and to build a pavilion that could serve the community. It is finished and we hope will be in use soon.

Next will be picnic tables and signs. The Leadership Board is making decisions about the picnic tables, signs and use.





## The Egg Hunt on April 1<sup>st</sup>

We were blessed with 55 adults and 35 children. The weather was iffy and we chose to proceed inside due to the wet lawns and possible high winds. The children were so excited that it was no issue. The event included lunch, games, crafts and indoor activities. A new SENIOR/ Disabled Persons EGG HUNT took place with children helping the Seniors and those with Special Needs. The Lions Club joined Bethel in the planning and the event. Door prizes were given away and the little girl below won the "Big Basket". Thanks to so many for a wonderful event.



## Youth Rally & Fellowship:

Cumberland-Hagerstown would like to announce a Youth Rally and Youth Fellowship Days. Ages 5 and up along with the leaders who have a passion to work with children and young adults are invited to attend. Kickoff will be **Sat, May 6** from 9-1pm at Grace UMC Hagerstown. Additional dates are planned for June, July and August.



## VBS Plans:

On **Fri. June 23<sup>rd</sup>** – 6 to 8pm will begin our **“MINI VBS”**; it will continue **Sat. June 24<sup>th</sup>** from 10am to 4 pm with lunch provided; and finish on **Sun. June 25<sup>th</sup>** at 10am with the children participating in the worship service and followed by a community lunch. The theme is **“GET INVOLVED”**. Please let

the office know if you can help with this. We also plan to repeat with another session in August and combine it with our School Supply Giveaway and the Lions’ backpack event.

We are still in need of a kitchen/food person and at least 5 helpers. Call the office @ 301-733-8387.

## 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.

## VISION STATEMENT

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



**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! Focus on where God has placed us in the community. How can we care for our Elders and our Youth and Children

The Leadership team has welcomed Jaime Anderson as the Strategic Planner.

Names for the Pavilion were discussed along with purchasing picnic tables. Plans are to open for use after the grass has filled in. Electric service is also in the plans.

New security and fire alarm systems are being evaluated, as there have been issues with both.

Help with mowing was discussed and a message in the bulletin and passing a sign up sheet will be done. Call if you want to take a week.

Bethel has agreed to co-sponsor a Valley Little League team with the Lions. Each paying \$400.

A vote approved to pay the 2023 Conference apportionments.

The parsonage needs a new dryer and a repair in the main level bathroom - approved.

## Attendance – April 2023

Date	In person Church	Special Events
Mar 26	58	
April 2	80	
April 6,7,9	9-Thur, 9-Fri, 27 son-rise,25 breakfast 107 Easter Service	Holy week
April 16	60	
April 23	53	

## Lay Readers – April 2023

May 7	Carol Ewan
May 14	Abby Snyder
May 21	Jaime Anderson
May 28	Marty Brubaker

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

## Music - Can you help?

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

How about someone willing to play the piano?

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

## Blood Drive

On Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> 11:30am to 5pm the American Red Cross will be in the FLC for the next Blood Drive. Call 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter Bethel United to schedule an appointment. Call the office to volunteer to help.



## May Anniversaries:

- 8 – Bill & Phyllis Harbaugh
- 13 – Jason & Christie Phillips



## May Birthdays:

- 2 – Harry Saufley
- 2 – Patrick Springer
- 4 - \* David Starleper
- 8 – Barry Sprecher
- 9 – Sue McAllister
- 10 – Teresa Shafer
- 11- Frank Morrissey
- 11 – Jaime Anderson
- 11 – Kyle Akin
- 11 – Anna Johnson McClure
- 14 – Tatum Beella
- 17 – Mary Gross
- 17 – Debra Hose
- 19 – Alexis Jenkins
- 20 – David Wagner
- 20 – Jordyn Phillips
- 22 – Becky Gildersleeve
- 22 – Joey Hoffman
- 24 – Jeanne Dinterman
- 25 – Ernest Paulsgrove
- 25 – Faith Osuji
- 27 – Cathy Boyer



- \* Homebound
- see caring connections for addresses



Bethel Tidings

May 2023						
Sunday	Monday 1 Pastor away	Tuesday 2 6:00 Lions Club /FLC & Parlor	Wednesday 3 10:00 W@W/Parlor  5:30 VB/FLC 7:00 Finance Comm./Parlor	Thursday 4 5:30 VB/FLC	Friday 5 6:00 Girl Scouts/Parlor & Upstairs X 3	Saturday 6
7 <b>Communion</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship 2:00 Western MD Center	8	9  7:30 pm Frostburg Coral Concert	10  10:00 W@W/Parlor  5:30 VB/FLC	11  Deb on Vaca 5:30 VB/FLC	12  Deb on Vaca  11:30 am Blood Drive/FLC	13
14 <b>Mother's Day Treat on the Portico</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	15  Pastor away - educa Thru the 21st	16  6:00 Lions Club /FLC & Parlor	17  11:00 W@W lunch At Schulas 5:30 VB/FLC 7:00 Leadership Board/ Parlo	18  5:30 VB/FLC	19  6:00 Girl Scouts/Parlor & Upstairs x 3	20
21  9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	22  Pastor returns	23	24  5:30 VB/FLC	25  5:30 VB/FLC	26	27
28 <b>Time Capsule</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	29  Memorial Day	30	31  Annual Conference Thru June 3  5:30 VB/FLC			



# 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](mailto:secretary@bethelumchurch.org)

Pastor: Jim Johnson  
Email: [pastor@bethelumchurch.org](mailto:pastor@bethelumchurch.org)

## Administrative Assistant:

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

## Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner  
Phone: 301-733-8387  
Email: [secretary@bethelumchurch.org](mailto: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](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 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](mailto:shanda@myactv.net)



## Bethel Tidings



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

