

Bethel Tidings

Message from Pastor Jim

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Life can all change in the blink of an eye.

I am sure that all of us have experienced something that has changed your life at one time or another. It may have been for good or the not so good. It may be that you are having a child; or raising children. Maybe some physical illness has taken some of your mobility away. It could be something as simple as changing a job or moving to a different house. It happens when we least expect it to happen. The most important thing is that these are all human things. It is all created by our actions and behaviors. But what about God? When the trumpet blows, will you be able to raise your hands and praise God, knowing that you have completed your course on earth? It can happen suddenly. It makes us mindful of these passages of scripture:

Matthew 24:44 Always be ready! You don't know when the Son of Man will come.

Matthew 25:13 So, my disciples, always be ready! You don't know the day or the time when all this will happen.

1 Corinthians 15:52 It will happen suddenly, quicker than the blink of an eye...

The world has been changing for me over the past 60 years. I remember going to church when all of the pews were filled, or in a child's eyes, they looked filled. I remember my childhood church as being huge. There had to be at least one thousand people that could sit in the sanctuary. Going to visit recently, I discovered that the church might be able to hold fifty people; and that is if they scrunched together like sardines. We use our memories to help us build our stories. The surprising thing is that we get to a certain age, and in our minds, we remain at that specific age into our golden years. But that is where the problem comes into play.

When we are younger, the urgency to be in the right relationship with Jesus is not a high priority. We know that we need to have that relationship, but it won't hurt if we wait another day. So we put off that devotion. We can see how others are doing and know that we need to form that bond in our minds. That goes into the thirties, forties, fifties, sixties, and on and on.

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I was sitting with a ninety-seven-year-old this last week. She has her life straight now, she said. She told me that it took ninety-seven years to get to that place in her life, though, and she laughed. I have known her for at least ten years and see that she has loved our Lord for a very long time, not just a few days ago.

I pray that we are preparing ourselves to move on to the "promised land" that Jesus promised us. We need to realize that we can only follow Jesus' commandment of "love our neighbors as ourselves" if we allow the Holy Spirit to work within our hearts and open that possibility. Love is hard work! There are people that we don't want to love for whatever reason. When we come to the place that Jesus has called us to be, we will know that the Spirit is alive in us. But we can't wait for the right time because there will never be a suitable time. We will kick the can down the road until there is no longer a road to kick it down.

Friends, prepare for the coming of the Lord in your life today. God is sending you out to testify to the things He has done in your life. That's it! That is helping people to prepare for the face-to-face with God that they will have. Please make sure the oil is in the lamps, and we are remaining awake in our wait. In other words, follow the Boy Scout creed; always be prepared.

May you be filled with the Holy Spirit that is sent to us in the voice of the wind on the day of Pentecost. May you always be prepared, no matter what your circumstance, to be with Jesus.

Peace,
Pastor Jim

What is Happening: **Introducing New Roles...**



Lay Leader:

Shaun Wolfe

I was born in Athens, Ohio and raised in Bethesda, Maryland. I graduated from Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda. I met my wife, Mary Patricia Lough in college and we were married in Martinsburg, WV. I have a Bachelors and Master degree. I retired from the West Virginia Air

National Guard March, 2012. I continued to work for the DOD as a Computer Technician until June, 2018.



Children's Committee Chairperson:

Deb Hollis

In April Deb agreed to become the new chairperson of the Children's Committee. She was the Sunday School Superintendent at Washington Square UM Church in the past. She is a graduate of Frostburg with a degree in psychology with an emphasis on child and family therapy and addictions. She began attending here several years ago and became a member in 2019.

Women at the Well

The Women at the Well weekly meetings are normally at 11:00 a.m. in the church Parlor. Meetings will restart in September. On June 16th, July 21st and August 18th at 11:00 we will gather for brunch. The place will be announced later. This is an open invitation to anyone who would like to join in fellowship.ome when we return.

Call Beverly Miller for more info: 301-739-6270.



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 due to COVID19. 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.

Homebound Birthdays: none in June

Mother's Day

Sunday May 9th the church celebrated the holiday with fresh carnations given. It was also Blanket Sunday with a special collection taken to support this cause with UMCOR. Cathy Grantham has used her creative talents in decorating the Bulletin Board.



The sign says:

**Life doesn't come
with a manual...**

***It comes with
A Mother!***

The Spotlight is on:

2021 Graduates:



Riley House

I have lived in Smithsburg my entire life and will be graduating from Smithsburg High School on June 1st. Throughout high school I participated in the marching, concert, and jazz bands. I was also selected for all county concert and jazz bands during my junior and senior years. Along with my commitment to music, I have excelled in academics, achieving a GPA of 4.38 and being named an AP Scholar with distinction by the College Board. I will be attending Frostburg State University in the fall where I will pursue a degree in music industry. This versatile degree program will allow me to continue to improve as a musician and allow me to learn other aspects of the music industry such as producing, managing, and song writing. I hope to use this degree to continue serving God and expressing my faith through the creation of music.



Katherine “Katie” Phillips

Is the daughter of Chris and Michele Phillips. She is graduating Summa Cum Laude from Chambersburg Area Senior High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society, Marching Band, Concert Band, Drama Club, Glee Club, and Special Olympics Support Team. Beyond her school activities, Katie is a team member at Chick-Fil-A, serving in various positions and volunteers in patient support at the Wellspan Chambersburg Hospital. Katie will be attending The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., Honors Program, majoring in Neuroscience with a minor in Public Policy.

Cheyenne Price

Is graduating from South Hagerstown High School this year. She is the daughter of Batania Price and a sister to Braylen and Jaykob Price.

The Harbaughs:

"It's the journey, not so much the things we pick up along the way."

Our lives are a series of steps on a long journey. We set our sights on a destination, only to take detours and backroads sometimes.

Two lives that we are highlighting this month are Bill and Phyllis Harbaugh. We are reviving a tradition in the church that we haven't recognized in a little while. When I first came to Bethel, Jane Edwards and Mary Forrest interviewed me for a story in the Bethel Connect.



We need to look in our rear-view mirror once in a while to see the road we have traveled. Bill and Phyllis are first in this revival because of a series of circumstances, a detour that led me to their home.

I delivered a package to a neighbor's home and was asked to leave it at the Harbaugh's house, and they would pick it up later. Bill and I have talked about his train garden in the past. We now had the opportunity to visit. This month I wanted to feature them because some of his history is being unassembled. Bill is permanently taking down his train garden. But that is not where the story starts. Let's go to the beginning.

Phyllis has been in the church all of her life; she grew up in the church and Chewsville. She has fond memories of all of the encouragement and direction from names that ring across the ages. She began playing the organ in 1955 and retired from that permanently in 2020. We laughed a little about that statement because she has retired with the previous three ministers. All of them kept the resignation letter on hand but did not accept it. I am number four who delayed the inevitable. The COVID-19 pandemic made it a little easier to make that a more lasting event. None of us like change, but after 65 years of playing, I think that Phyllis has earned her rest. Phyllis and Bill got married in 1959 and have been married for 62 years. It is in 1959 that Bill began attending Bethel. Phyllis and Bill knew each other at Hagerstown High but weren't initially attracted.

Both of them have had a full and exciting life. Phyllis worked at Home Federal Savings and Loan for nearly 30 years. Bill started at Westinghouse in Baltimore and then was a partner at Harbaugh Coin Machine Company, where he mainly repaired jukeboxes and pinball/arcade machines. With the knowledge that Bill has with that work, he built his train garden. With pride, he has displayed his work for many years. Phyllis commented that they will not know what to do when they get the basement back after Bill takes it down and puts it away. Another chapter in life will be started.


Phyllis and Bill are travelers. When they owned a Gold Wing motorcycle, they traveled the country. They took one memorable trip through Sauté Saint Marie, Michigan, and across Canada to Niagara Falls. After a time, travel became more traditional with car and bus trips.

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I can write a book about Phyllis and Bill, but I think that they might find that not as appealing as we would. I encourage you to greet them and share some of your experiences with them. Bill and Phyllis Harbaugh, we honor your continued Love of Christ and your Church family.



	
June 6	Abby Snyder
June 13	Deb Wagner
June 20	Elaine Snyder
June 27	Gene Gross
Call Elaine to sign up! 301-991-9759.	

Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update

Our Food Pantry remains full at this time due to your generous donations during our “Fill the Trailer” week-end in April. We are hopeful that the supplies will last for many weeks to come. We will keep you posted when our supplies begin to dwindle.

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Stewardship May 2020

Date	9:00 am Worship Total	Online	In person S.S./Church	Special Events
May 2	230	182	48	
May 9	242	197	45	Mother's Day Blanket Sunday
May 16	197	141	51	
May 23	188	137	51	Penecost
May 30	174	125	49	Memorial Day



The Bethel Coat Closet:

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

Luke 3:11

Before school begins in late summer, we will have our annual Blessing Day. This year we will be giving away winter coats (and accessories like gloves, hats, and scarfs) and school supplies for this event. Therefore, we would like to remind you to check the back of your closets for unwanted coats. Also, as yard sales resume this summer, please keep an eye out for children's and adult coats of all sizes. Thanks so much for your help with this project. *Additional details on Blessing Day will be provided in a future newsletter.*

Virus Task Force:



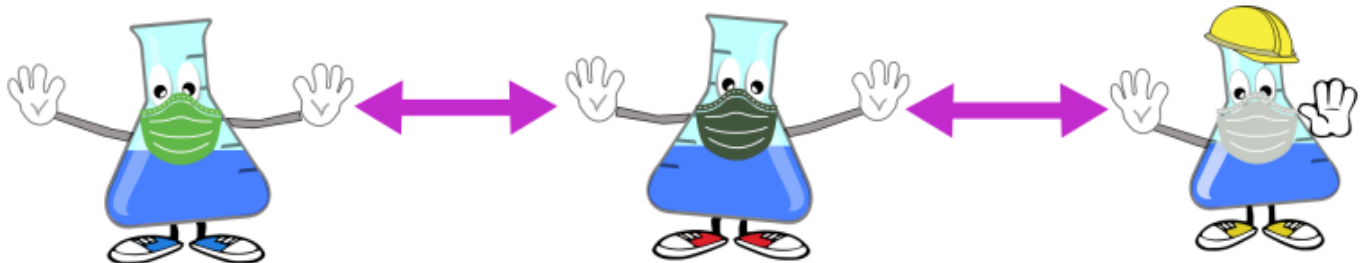
Changes In the building:

Socially distancing, using hand sanitizer and wearing masks if you have not been vaccinated while inside the building remain in place for protection of those still vulnerable. Girl Scouts and Volleyball practices have restarted. Each group has provided COVID protocol for their distancing, masking and cleaning.

Masks may be removed once
seated ... if you have
been vaccinated.



Social distance, please



and use hand sanitizer.

The COVID Taskforce thanks you in protecting others.

Children's Sunday School:

Currently Children's Sunday School for children grades K-5 restarted on Feb 21st. The time has now **changed to 9:00 a.m.**



The COVID restrictions are being followed.
We want to keep our little ones safe.

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>

Adult Sunday School:

A combined adult class led by Pastor Jim is being held at 9:00 a.m. in the Parlor.

The Nursery is open:

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



Blood Drive

The Blood drive at Bethel was Friday May 21st from 1:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Reserve at <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood>.

Thanks to all who continue to donate their gift of blood and to those who help by volunteering their time to serve in this mission.

Altar Flowers:

Sign up!

As we are coming back to the building...flowers can be ordered for use in the weekly service. Just call the office by the Monday prior to arrange. Let the office know by the Wed prior what you would like in the bulletin.

June Anniversaries:



- 1 – Ron & Peggy Snyder
- 2 – Jason & Becky Campbell
- 7 – Denny & Valerie Kaufmann
- 7 - Randy & Diane Stevens
- 9 – Derek & Jenny Ritter
- 10 – Steve & Kathy Rice

- 13 – Steven & Lori Shifflett
- 14 – Lynn & Tric Harshman
- 18 – Larry & Joyce Belella
- 21 – Darryl & Alexa Keckler
- 22 – Chris & Michelle Philips
- 24 – Joe & Aleta Mate
- 27 – Scott & Carrie Johnson-McClure

June Birthdays:



- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Linda Barnhart | 17 Pamela Newman | 26 Mike Sokol |
| 5 Zoe Decker | Tyler Harbaugh | 28 Patrick Eckard |
| 6 Juliette Fulton | 18 Morris Roberts | 29 Mary Pat Wolfe |
| 7 Torrie Smith | Mark Sokol | Frank Rucci |
| Dominic Palmer | 19 Mary Snyder | Jacob Broadwater |
| 8 Carole Pepple | Bradley Rishell | 30 Linda Langley |
| 10 Brian Smith | 20 Brayden Staley | T.J. Snyder |
| Juliet Mallory | 21 Ben Howes | |
| Jordan Maddox | 22 Michelle White | |
| 11 Harold Taylor | 24 Kathleen Webber | |
| Kelsi Harshman | Katie Green | |
| 13 Mary Ann Mertz | Carrie Johnson-McClure | |
| Scott McClure | | |
| 14 Matthew Deal | | |

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

Reach out and give them a call!



**** All below is subject to the building restriction changes.**

June Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 5-9:30 Volleyball	2 7pm SPRC/Parlor	3	4 2 6:00 Girl Scouts/ Parlor & Up x 3 5:30 wed rehearsal	5 1:30 Gowin Carrera wedding & reception
7 Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship FM 97.9 Sermon by Phone	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Honor Grad's 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship FM 97.9 Sermon by Phone	14	15	16	17	18 6:00 Girl Scouts/ Parlor & Up x 3	19
20 Father's Day 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship FM 97.9 Sermon by Phone	21 Newsletter Deadline	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship FM 97.9 Sermon by Phone	28	29	30			

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

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Newsletter Editor:

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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 for pastoral visit during a time of grief or hospitalization, including the birth child. We want to pray and minister to you.

Telephone Prayer Chain:

Beverly Miller

Phone: 301-739-6270

Email: Shanda@myactv.net



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