

Bethel Tidings

July 2020

Message from Pastor Jim

I have been wondering how I can encourage people with the continued shutdown because of the COVID-19 virus? I have been wondering how I can support all of my black friends and the BLM movement? I have been wondering how I can support all of my law enforcement friends? The problem lies in the facts. Have you felt particularly stressed lately? Have what seemed to be routine tasks, all of a sudden, become monumental tasks? Have you thought that you are less of a person if you don't support someone's cause or movement?

It isn't right to ignore all of the problems of the day. There are things that we do need to be aware of and correct the trajectory of the problem. There are things that we forget that also need to be addressed.

Society is rapidly changing. We hope that with some help, it will be a little more gentle and civil. We are trying to make things more equitable from the beginning so that every person has an equal opportunity to resources. We are trying to make things as available as they can be, regardless of the color of your skin or the person you choose to love. That is society today.

I have been wondering whether any have considered our older generation? Have you considered the sacrifice that they gave so that you might have your freedom today? Have you reviewed all those who lost their lives so that we might be able to have the equality that is tried today? How many have not met grandparents or parents because of their sacrifice in WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Afghanistan, Iraq, or other conflicts? We are quick to judge what is wrong with our society without thinking about how that generation is impacted. The cries of injustice ring right, but don't forget how we arrived at this place. Let's not forget that the freedoms we experience are available because of the lives that earned it on the battlefield. I hope that all the differences that we are experiencing are growing pains. I hope that we continue to follow God's Word as our guide. God gave us a manual of the progression of humankind. The Bible doesn't change; the people do. Take heart in knowing that you are all God's children.

The celebration of Independence Day is an essential reminder that freedom comes with a cost. As you celebrate the day, I pray you remember why we celebrate it, and the people who continue to make it happen today.

Happy Fourth of July.

Inside this issue:

<i>Missions/Outreach</i>	2
<i>Caring Connections</i>	4
<i>Women at the Well</i>	3
<i>Altar Flowers</i>	3
<i>Nursery</i>	4
<i>Lay Readers</i>	5
<i>Greeters</i>	5
<i>Stewardship</i>	5
<i>Anniversaries/Birthdays</i>	6
<i>Sharing the News</i>	7-9
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	10

Missions and Outreach Ministries



Micah's Backpack ministry is currently on hold until the end of the virus restrictions. If additional "drops" are arranged, we will be participating. When school resumes, we will restart as well. If you would like to make a monetary donation a check may be mailed to the church with a note in the memo line for Micah's Backpack. It truly does make a difference in the lives of the children! ~ Kim Rishell

Mission Serve:

The plan for the youth to make their annual mission trip in July has been cancelled. If you have any ideas for other projects that can be done locally...let us know!

Bethel Clothes Closet:

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

"The Bethel Clothes Closet" continues to be in full swing with the collection of men's, women's and children's clothes and shoes. Melinda Smith and Diane Stevens are managing the clothing donations which involve the weekly sorting and organization of the clothes as they come in. To date, we have been blessed to receive over 85 bags of clothes from our church family and our surrounding community. We would like to sincerely thank all who have donated clothes. Due to your donations we have already helped several families and will be helping many more.

The former Sunday school room in the basement on the left has been transformed into the Clothes Closet. Several church members have generously donated a total of 9 clothes racks which have been very helpful in the organization of the clothes.

We hope to have a community event in late summer. The community event would involve the giveaway of clothing and school supplies to families in need. The ability to have this event will be dependent on the status of the COVID virus and the church reopening. However, we are preparing for this event in the hopes it can be held at some point. **Therefore, we are in special need of gently worn children's clothes and coats. (Please ask your friends and neighbors if they have any children's items to donate.) We are also asking for school supplies and new socks in preparation for the community event.** The clothes and school supplies can be dropped off anytime under the portico on the side entrance to the church. *Of note, we do not accept bathing suits, underwear, nightgowns or used socks.*

We would like to thank Pastor Jim for his continued support and help with this ministry. Please continue to donate. When the virus wanes, we will be asking for additional volunteers, especially for our community event. Your help would be appreciated. Please call Deb Wagner in the office at 301-733-8387 with any questions. Thank You!



Nursery – July 2020

Contact Abbie Barnhart at 240-818-7543/ abbie.barnhart@yahoo.com

Volunteers are needed weekly for both services and Sunday School.

This service is currently closed.

Women at the Well

by: Beverly Miller

The Women at the Well meetings have closed for the summer with a plan to restart in September pending the building restrictions at that time.

Normally monthly brunch outings are held on the third Wednesday at 11 am in local restaurants.

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



Altar Flowers – July 2020

The 2020 sign-up sheet is posted outside the sanctuary. Please consider ordering flowers for the altar in the Sanctuary or the Family Life Center to honor or remember a loved one or to celebrate an event. The cost is \$45 for both vases. They can be taken home with you following the worship service or can be given to a homebound member.



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
July 5	open
July 12	
July 19	open
July 21	open

If you have a specific kind of flower or color you would like, please contact Sandy Hose (240-527-5167) or Melissa Metzger (410-251-8439). All orders are called in the Wednesday before the Sunday you have signed up for.

Let Deb Wagner know the message you would like included in the bulletin by the Tuesday prior to the service. Thank you!

Sermon by Phone:

301-298-1064

A new service. Just dial the number. No codes or prompts to enter, just listen...it will be the most recent Sunday Service or any scriptures or announcements. Call it at anytime.



The Blessing Box & Food Pantry

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Matthew 25:35

The Bethel Blessing Box has become a true blessing to many individuals and families. The box is filled with food donations from our food pantry and is currently replenished every other day due to frequent use. We have changed the items available in the blessing box for the hot summer months and have placed some of the items in plastic bags to prevent ants. Of note, toiletries seem

to be the most needed items.

In addition to the Blessing Box, Pastor Jim has given out food directly from the pantry to families as needed. We have also recently received several food drops of fresh vegetables and dairy products from Mt. Pleasant Church of God in Foxville. We do not know in advance when we will receive these items and they require quick distribution to avoid spoiling. **We are asking for help in identifying families who could use these items; please contact Deb Wagner in the office at 301-733-8387 to be placed on our list for deliveries.**

We have been blessed to receive food and money donations for the food pantry and the blessing box from our church members as well as a number of people who do not attend our church. If you would like to donate money, write a check to Bethel United Methodist Church and indicate it is for the food pantry in the memo section of the check. Grocery gift cards are also accepted. For grocery donations, see the list of currently needed items below:

Shampoo
Conditioner
Body Wash (can't use bar soap in blessing box)
Dish detergent

Small boxes of tissues
Baby wipes
Spaghetti
Macaroni & Cheese

Toothpaste
Canned tuna or chicken
Little boxes of juice
Cereal

Caring Connection



Psalm 91:4 (NIV)

his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge. His faithfulness shall be your shield & rampart.

Please continue to pray daily for our homebound. Cards and phone calls are also greatly appreciated. Recently, I had a phone call from a homebound member who was so excited to get my card and learn that I prayed for her. She was also so grateful for another Bethel friend who calls her regularly. It brought home to me how God works through all of us to help relieve pain and loneliness. Thank you all for your help with this ministry. It truly takes a village!

Supporting our Homebound

He will cover you with

Homebound Birthday info for this month is: Jackie Manuel on July 13th @ 103 Sunflower Dr. Hagerstown, Md 21740

~Pam Brubaker



Lay Readers – July 2020

July 5	Christy Phillips Kim Rishell
July 12	Jon Snyder Brian Smith
July 19	Elaine Snyder Judy Hoffman
July 26	Liz Weaver Heather Updegraff

Greeters – July 2020

Traditional Service

Teresa Rossiter with Elaine Snyder

Contemporary Service

Joyce & Larry Belella

Jon & T.J. Snyder

Stewardship June 2020

Date	8:45 am Worship	Sunday School	11:00 am Worship	Special Events
June 7	Online		300	
June 14	Online		250	
June 21	Online		233	
June 28	Online		317	

Weekly offering totals are in the bulletin. A Treasurer's Report is always available in the office if more detail is desired. Just ask!

Online giving is available through our website: bethelumchurch.org

July Birthdays:



1	Peggy Snyder	17	Carissa Belella	24	Beverly Miller
3	Betty Souders	18	Jean Avey		David Lidie
4	Marlene Young	20	Betty Johnson		Lewis Reed
	Rick Hose		Rhonda Forrest	25	Madison Snyder
	Billy McCartney	21	Valerie Kaufmann	26	Kassie Symonds
5	Cullan Ganley		Cindy Spickler	28	Alvey Moser
9	Nancy Robinette		Samantha Rossiter	29	Jeff Guzowski
10	Brent Savage	22	Sam Palmer	30	Victor Springer
	Faith Palmer	23	Celia Ausherman		Barbara Simmons
11	Terry McKinney		Pam Brubaker	31	Steven Rice
	Robert McGhee		Joan White		Daniel Brechbill
13	Rebecca Ziegler		Joe Robinette		John Kalbflesh
	Emma Broadwater				
	Jackie Manuel **				

** homebound - see Caring Connections for their address

Do you see a name of someone who has not been here for a while?
Reach out and invite them back!

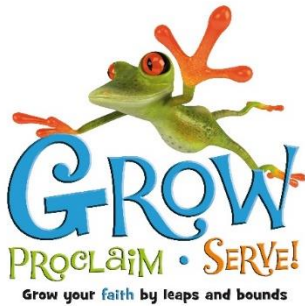
July Anniversaries:

- 5 - Tim & Carrie West
- 7 - Daniel & Erica Rishell
- 10 - Ron & Lori Mertz, Jr.
- 13 - John & Gwenella Kalbflesh
- 13 - Duane & Roni McNairn
- 14 - Tim & Teresa Rossiter
- 15 - Alvey & Deanie Moser
- 19 - Patrick & Courtney Eckard
- 27 - Billy & Michelle McCartney
- 28 - Ernest & Connie Paulsgrove



- 20 - Paul & Tammy Gantz
- 27 - Ron & Mary Ann Mertz, Sr.

Sunday School is available for all @ 10:00 am



Nursery: Ages 0 – 3 years (beside Family Life Center)
Age 4 – Grade 2 - Upstairs Room 2-03
Grades 3 – 5: Upstairs Room 2-04
Youth: Grade 6 – Grade 12: Downstairs
Adult Classes: Bethel Believers – Parlor
Spiritual Fitness – Under the balcony
One Loaf – Upstairs behind balcony

The children's Sunday School will not be taking place until the building restrictions are fully lifted. Until that time, all children must stay with their family during worship. The nursery is closed.

Children's Ministry:

Vacation Bible School that was scheduled for June has been cancelled.

Parent's Night Out that is normally held the 2nd Friday monthly is on hold with a plan to reconsider restarting in the fall if able.

Family Fun Night is also on hold with a plan to question the congregation about events in the future.

Virus Task Force:

Please know that the Pastor has put together a task force of key members that have experience in the medical field, administrators and church leaders to collect all the different recommendations and make decisions about how and when we will open the building. They will meet on Wednesday July 1st to make a definitive date decision as to when to reopen the building. Please pray that we make decisions that protect everyone.

Blood Drive:

The next Red Cross Blood Drive being hosted by Bethel will be **Friday July 24th** from 1:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Bethel United to schedule an appointment.



Music Ministry:

Come; let us sing praise to the LORD!

Let us shout praises to the Rock who saves us.

² Come and worship him with songs of thanks.^[a]

Let us sing happy songs of praise to him.

³ For the LORD is a great God,

We are blessed. The Trustees, Music Committee and Ad Council have been working on purchasing a new sound system for the entire church. A member of the congregation left money to only be used for two things; a new sound system and a pavilion. The new sound system is being worked on first because we will be able to install it while we are still not meeting in the church. One of the considerations has been a video and audio recording system update. The previous system has served us well over the last twenty years. It is important to update it while we have a new need in the church. We have been trying to figure out how to reach everyone, those without computers or electronic capabilities and those that do not subscribe to the various social media platforms. We will hopefully be unrolling your new technology soon.

Jesus said, "Shout from the mountain top, proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God!"

A Ministry:

If you're doing it because no one else will, it's a job.

If you're doing it to serve the Lord, it's a ministry.

If you're doing it well enough just to get by, it's a job.

If you're doing it to the best of your ability, it's a ministry.

If you'll do it only so long as it doesn't interfere with other activities, it's a job.

If you quit, because no one praised you or thanked you, it was a job.

If you stay with it even when no one seems to notice, it's a ministry.

If you do it because someone else said it needs to be done, it's a job.

If you do it because you are convinced it needs to be done, it's a ministry.

It's hard to get excited about a job.

It's almost impossible not to get excited about a ministry.

People may say "well done" when you do your job.

The Lord will say "well done" when you complete your ministry.

The average church is filled with people doing jobs.

A great church is filled with people involved in ministry.

If God calls you to do a ministry, for heaven's sake don't treat it like a job.

If you have a job in the church, give it up, and find a ministry!

God does not want us feeling stuck with a job,

But excited, fulfilled, and faithful in a specific ministry.

~Anna Sandberg

What you will see when you return:

The re-entry to the church team has been hard at work in preparing for your return. My interest is in keeping everyone who comes into the building as safe as we can. I know that there is only so much that we can do. Some of the precautions must come from the congregation that gathers.

It has been a difficult time in the church. We read about the gathering of the crowds around Jesus and the disciples and long for that again. We hear of Jesus laying his hands on people to heal them. Don't you miss hugging each other and shaking hands? That is the problem that we face in the re-entry in the church. It's not so much a problem of becoming infected with the COVID 19 virus; it's passing it on to others. With that, we are going to start preparing the operation protocol.

We have been collecting masks, hand sanitizer, hand sanitizer stands, and cleaners. We have begun marking the floors to help determine proper distancing. There are new entrance and exit signs that are going to be at separate doors. The songs will be played, but singing is not going to happen right away; we will most likely hum along with the music. We are not trying to make the experience so controlled, but having the protocol in place will help protect the vulnerable in our church. I care about each person and want to ensure everyone's safety. God knows your heart and will walk with you on this journey of your life.

Please know that we love each one of you. You mean so much to us that we don't want to do anything to jeopardize that relationship.


We are meeting on July 1st to have further discussion and updates. Stay tuned.

Peace

Pastor Jim

- Sunday services will begin in the Family Life Center
- Social distancing starts as you exit your vehicle
- All enter thru the FLC door
- All who enter must have & wear masks (ask if you have forgotten)
- Hand sanitizer will be at the entrance for use as you enter
- Keep your family together and 6 feet apart from the next family
- Look for the blue floor markings
- Electronic communications will be in effect to avoid using paper
- You may **hum** but **not sing** aloud to prevent germ transmission
- Communion will be given to you individually as you exit to take at home
- Restrooms should have no more than 2 in the room at a time
- All will exit thru the side door of the FLC

**** All below is subject to the building restrictions being lifted.**

July 2020			1 7:00 AA/Upstairs 7:00 CSU/Parlor	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 Girl Scouts/Upstairs & Parlor	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY  9:00 AA/Lower 9:30 CSU/Parlor
5 Communion 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary	6	7	8 7:00 AA/Upstairs 7:00 CSU/Parlor	9	10 5:3- Parents Night Out/FLC	11 9:00 AA/Lower 9:30 CSU/Upstairs
12 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary	13 7:00 Ad Council/Parlor	14	15 11:00 W@W Brunch 7:00 AA/Upstairs 7:00 CSU/Parlor	16	17 6:00 Girl Scouts/Upstairs & Parlor	18 9:00 AA/Lower 9:30 CSU/Parlor
19 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 7:00 AA/Upstairs 7:00 CSU/Parlor	23	24 1:30 Blood Drive	25 9:00 AA/Lower 9:30 CSU/Parlor
26 B/P checks 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary	27	28	29 7:00 AA/Upstairs 7:00 CSU/Parlor	30	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: bethel.church@myactv.net

Pastor: Jim Johnson

Email: pastorjim@myactv.net

Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner

301-733-8387

Office hours: 9 am – 1 pm Mon.-Fri.

of a Email: bethel.church@myactv.net

Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner

Phone: 301-733-8387

Email: bethel.church@myactv.net

Sunday Service Times:

Traditional Worship 8:45 am

Contemporary Worship 11:00am

Sunday School 10:00 am

On line Sun 9:00 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

Bethel Connect:

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



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