

Message from Pastor Jim

We are at the end of the summer already. The days are hot and humid. As of this writing, we are not yet in the church for worship. The only thing happening in the building is meetings and the Red Cross Blood Drive. We are still doing the ministry of the church in the world.

I am happy to report that the outreach in the community has been excellent. We are feeding and supplying families with basic staples. It all began with the pandemic. But that is only one part of our outreach. We are continuing with the blood drive and reaching out to our community with the Caring Ministry team. We have been a place of hope for our community. It is following the steps of Jesus Christ.

There is a sense of distress in the community. I am not going to name all of the anxiety. But hope is here! We have been working through the book of Matthew on Sunday. Jesus said to go and make disciples of all of the world, not just who we pick. He calls us to witness to all the people that we meet; telling them what God has done in our lives. The "hope" we give people is that regardless of our situation or what we are going through, God is walking alongside us.

I have found it uplifting to hear and see how God is recognized in people's daily lives. There have been folks who have been excited about the reawakening of that feeling of pure joy. The world is in this together; no one is in it alone. As much as we sometimes feel alone and separated from the world, we should be closer and more engaged with God. Let's not let the different circumstances of the day dismay us. Make sure that you live the life that you have told everyone you are all about. Make sure what you say is how you live.

It's a new day to make new disciples! Let's proclaim the Word of God in our words, song, prayer, and action.

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!

Peace,

Pastor Jim

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Missions and Outreach Ministries



Micah's Backpack ministry is currently on hold until the end of the virus restrictions.. 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! The food stock for this program had dates for expiration before September. Those items were taken to the Hope center.

~ Kim Rishell

Bethel Clothes Closet:

Bethel Clothes Closet

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

“The Bethel Clothes Closet” continues to receive clothing donations, which are sorted each week as they arrive. In one recent week, we received 35 boxes and bags of clothes for a total of over 150 containers of clothes since we began a few months ago. (Of note, many of the recent donations came from another church organization who have made it their mission to assist us with our Clothes Closet.)

So, what are we going to do with all these clothes since the church is currently closed? We are going to have a Community Blessing Day Event to distribute clothes and school supplies to our local community. The event will be held outdoors with COVID precautions. It will be held on August 22, 2020 with a rain date of August 29, 2020. We are distributing school supplies to assist children with their home schooling while schools are closed. We will need a number of volunteers to assist with this event and would greatly appreciate your assistance.

Here is how you can help:

1. Donate gently used children's clothes, shoes, coats or new socks. (We will continue to accept clothing for children and adults but we have a special need for children's items since we have not received many.)
2. Donate school supplies. (pens, pencils, crayons, spiral notebooks, notebook paper, folders, glue sticks, safety scissors, etc.)
3. Sign-up to volunteer to move clothes and racks up to the FLC prior to the event. (Date to be determined.) Contact Deb Wagner @ 301-733-8387.
4. Sign-up to volunteer to set-up and work the event on August 22, 2020. Contact Deb Wagner.

The clothes and school supplies can be dropped off anytime under the Main Sanctuary portico on the side entrance to the church. We will have a box available for donations at the outdoor Sunday Services. It will be located under the lower portico.

Thank you for your support of our clothing ministry and our community.

~ Diane Stevens



Nursery – August 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. All are welcome.

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



Altar Flowers – August 2020

The 2020 sign-up sheet is posted outside of 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>
Aug 2	open
Aug 9	Tim Smith
Aug 16	open
Aug 23	John Langley
Aug 30	Elaine Snyder

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 any time.





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 continues to be a blessing for many individuals and families. The box is being refilled at least every other day due to frequent use. We have overcome some summertime challenges with the extreme heat and ants but we are learning as we go to make the Blessing Box even better.

Our Food Pantry continues to supply the Blessing Box as well as several families in need on a regular basis. **If you know of a family in need or if you would personally like to deliver these items to a family you know, please contact Deb Wagner.**

Thank you for your continued donations to the Blessing Box and Food Pantry. Your support has been amazing and has allowed this ministry to continue during hard time for many families. Often just as we are running low on certain items they will appear in a bag on the portico!

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 frequently used items below:

- Toiletries – all kinds
- Baby wipes
- Little Boxes of juice
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Spaghetti noodles
- Spaghetti-Os
- Kids' Cereals
- Canned meat such as tuna or chicken

Thank you for your support of our food ministry and please contact Deb Wagner at the 301-733-8387 for additional information. ~Diane Stevens

Caring Connection



Supporting our Homebound

Psalm 91:4 (NIV)

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

He will cover you with

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!

Homebound Birthday info for this month are:

Aug 11 – James Manuel – 103 Sunflower Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740

Aug 14 - Evelyn Downs – 20701 Emerald Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Aug 27 – Phyllis Rice – 20426 Jefferson Blvd., Hagerstown, MD 21742

~Pam Brubaker



Lay Readers – August 2020

Aug 2	Christy Phillips Kim Rishell
Aug 9	Jon Snyder Brian Smith
Aug 16	Elaine Snyder Judy Hoffman
Aug 23	Liz Weaver Heather Updegraff
Aug 30	Open Open

Greeters – August 2020

Traditional Service

Teresa Rossiter with Elaine Snyder

Contemporary Service

Joyce & Larry Belella

Jon & T.J. Snyder

Stewardship July 2020

Date	9:00 am Worship Total	Online	Outdoor	Special Events
July 5	321	321		
July 12	584	534	50	1st Outdoor Service
July 19	286	258	28	
July 26				

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

August Birthdays:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1 Gene Gross
Laura Harbaugh
Ashlyn Jewell</p> <p>3 Max Avey
Jordana Lipsitz
Jacob Price</p> <p>4 Kathy Morrissey
Michelle McCartney
Luke Akin</p> <p>5 Jennifer Ritter
Brady Boyer</p> <p>6 Coleen Barkman-
Crowther</p> <p>7 Jesse Englehart
Don Loveland
Danielle Diggins</p> <p>9 Cindy Ritchick</p> | <p>11 ** James Manuel
Deanie Moser
Lori Shifflett
Scott Forrest</p> <p>13 Lisa Sprecher</p> <p>14 ** Evelyn Downs
Tammy Savage
Jason Phillips
MaKayla Phillips</p> <p>15 Benjamin Gantz</p> <p>16 Craig Savage</p> <p>17 Brooke Shilling</p> <p>18 Peggy Baker
Anthony Perry-Roberts
Kaleb Ritter</p> <p>19 William Harbaugh
Mark Claiborne</p> | <p>20 Tara McGhee</p> <p>23 Ralph Brown</p> <p>24 Alexa Keckler
Katie Smith
Matthew Johnson
Quinn Belella</p> <p>27 Camden Mertz
** Phyllis Rice</p> <p>29 Randy Stevens</p> <p>30 Robert Ziegler, II
Courtney Eckard</p> <p>31 Martha Saufley
Jaxon Buhrman
Deacon Buhrman</p> |
|--|---|---|



** homebound - see Caring Connections for their address

Do you see a name of someone who has not been here for a while?

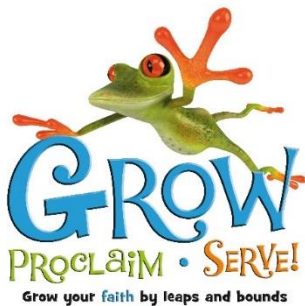
Reach out and invite them back!

August Anniversaries:



- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Kent & Cindy Harshman | 17 - Mike & Marlene Young |
| 5 - Steven & Carol Ganley | 18 - Scott & Rhonda Forrest |
| 7 - Jason & Danielle Kaufmann | 18 - Ronnie & Joanne Harshman |
| 8 - Gary & Emily Nulph | 20 - Mike & Donna Johnson |
| 8 - Joe & Nancy Robinette | 23 - Chris & JoAnn Bolton |
| 8 - Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lipsitz | 24 - Shaun & Pat Wolfe |
| 10 - Mitchell & Carissa Belella | 25 - Steven & Lauren Young |
| 11 - Al & Pam Deal | 27 - John & Linda Langley |
| 11 - Jon & T.J. Snyder | 28 - Keith & Judy Hoffman |
| 16 - Robert & Tara McGhee | |
| 16 - Phillip & Emily Shriver | |

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 August 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 met on Wednesday July 1st and made the decision to reopen with an OUTDOOR service on July 12 at 9:00 a.m. Please pray that we make decisions that protect everyone.



Blood Drive:

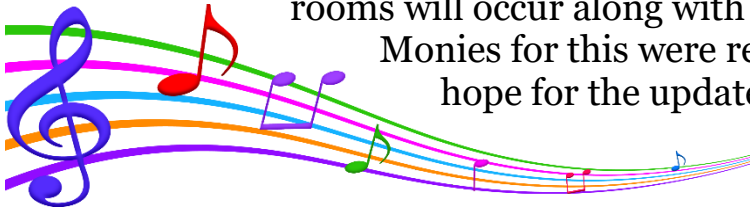
The Red Cross Blood Drive being hosted by Bethel was held on **Friday July 24** from 1:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The reservations showed an almost full schedule.



Music Ministry:

The Ad Council has been meeting and discussing multiple options for updating the sound system. The goal is to get the Main Sanctuary and the Family Life Center Systems updated with audio and video. We have learned recently how important electronic viewing has become. The remote access to all of the church rooms will occur along with installation of more monitor screens.

Monies for this were received from a memorial donation. We hope for the updates to be completed while the building is closed. This will serve us for at least the next 20 years.



Radio Station:

Did you know that you can connect to the Sunday Service by radio FM station 87.7 or 88.1 while on the property if you prefer to stay inside of your vehicle.



What you are seeing as you return:

The COVID Taskforce has been hard at work in preparing for your return. Everything from preparing the building to keep socially distanced to the logistics of the Outdoor Worship. The equipment need, the signs, the safety supplies, the music, the sun, and the heat...so many things to consider. The joy is in the way so many have come together to make it all happen.

As we consider all, it's not so much a problem of becoming infected with the COVID 19 virus; it is passing it on to others. With that, we choose to begin on July 12, 220 with Outdoor Worship.

We are wearing masks until families are seated, all while distancing 6 feet. Hand sanitizer is available along with masks (if you have forgotten yours). The restrooms are open.

The songs are being sung by the Praise team while the audience hums. The prayer requests, scripture readings and prayers continue. Pastor Jim leads us and offers sermons to enrich us.

We say hello at a distance and still enjoy each other in fellowship.
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 your health.



Bethel Tidings

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

August 2020						1
2 9am Outdoor Service	3 6:30 Ad Council/FLC	4	5 7pm COVID Taskforce/FLC	6	7	8
9 9am Outdoor Service	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 9am Outdoor Service	17 Newsletter Deadline	18	19	20	21	22
23 9am Outdoor Service	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9am Outdoor Service	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

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of a Email: bethel.church@myactv.net

Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner

Phone: 301-733-8387

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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

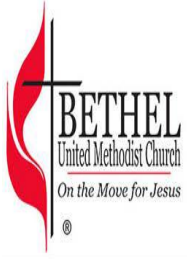
Email: Shanda@myactv.net

Bethel Connect:

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



Bethel Tidings



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