

Bethel Tidings

Message from Pastor Jim

"Change is the essence of life. Be willing to surrender what you are for what you could become." (Anonymous)

What do you want people to notice about you? When you enter a place full of people you do not know, what traits do you want them to see first so that they will like you?

I have been in circumstances when I wanted to impress people. I am sure you have as well. At those times, I was amazed at what I put forward as my identity: I am a former athlete. I used to play college basketball for the University of Minnesota, Duluth. I drove a tractor-trailer for many years. I have a beautiful wife and two awesome kids that have grown up to love and serve Jesus.

All these things are true, and none of them is the best thing about me. These are not my identity; they are facts about me but are not who I am.

Have you ever tried to tell people who you are without telling them what you do, whom you are related to, or what things you like or dislike? It's not so easy. We are, unfortunately, too far removed from our true identity. Like superheroes, we keep our true identity secret and go through life with masks on the outside, hiding our authentic selves. We cover our souls with bumper stickers that cannot possibly convey who we are.

Strip away the veneer and reveal the real deal. The real you is who you are when no one's looking. Who you are is indeed more important than what you do. Life is designed to strip away all the masks and bring out the true you hidden inside, the you that Jesus has redeemed, the new you. Spiritual maturity comes when you are willing to strip away the outer shell and allow the redeemed identity of Christ in you to be seen. When we know the stripping process's value and begin cooperating with it, we realize the necessity of revealing the real person inside. Then we are prepared to help others through their stripping process as well. Some people have a Christian identity on the outside but not on the inside, which leads to a tragic end. You must choose between your true identity and the shallow one you show others. You cannot be two people at once. Either you hold on to the lesser self, or you abandon it and allow your real self-the new you-to be revealed.

We can see the Spirit of Christ in Paul (Phil. 2:17-18).

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In verses 6-8, the Spirit of Christ is described: "He did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of me. Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death. Jesus emptied himself in the service of others to the point of death.

"The Spirit of Christ is seen in Timothy (Phil. 2:19-24).

When the Spirit of Christ is in us, we must be "united in spirit, intent on one purpose." You are not to just "look out for your own personal interests, but also the interests of others." This same Spirit is seen later in Timothy. The Spirit of Christ makes us all one body with one Spirit, looking out for each other's interests. Christ's Spirit lives in Timothy. He is a leader who incarnates Christ's attitude for others to follow.

Is the Spirit of Christ evident in you? Are you living in such a way that others see Christ in you and ask, "Where does that come from?" Are you willing to cooperate with the stripping away of the outer veneer of lesser identities so that Christ can shine more obviously through you? When will Christ be enough? What will it take for the Spirit of Christ to be the most noticeable thing about you?

Peace,
Pastor Jim

Women at the Well

Women at the Well will continue the study, "The Chosen", Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fall on each Wednesday. In August, we will meet for brunch at Red Lobster on the 3rd Wednesday August 17.

All are welcome. Please RSVP to Bev by e-mail shanda@myactv.net, phone 301-739-6270, or in person, by Monday, Aug 15 so we can call in a reservation.



F.R.O.G. (Fully Rely On God) Sunday School for grades 4 - 8 is suspended for the summer. Youth Fellowship is Sundays after church on the 2nd & 4th Sundays monthly from approximately 11:30 to 12:30. You can call the office 301-733-8387 to ask for details or you can see the online info @ <https://tinyurl.com/y7g752ut>



Blood Drive:



The most recent drive was Friday July 29th. Many thanks to all who donated and to those who volunteered and helped with their service that day.



Supporting our Homebound

He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. ~Micah 6:8

The next homebound birthdays:

Aug 11 – Deanie Moser
20036 Landis Rd.
Hagerstown, Md 21740

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

Aug 17 – Valerie Eccard
20902 Leitersburg Pike
Hagerstown, MD 21742

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

Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update



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

The items placed in the Blessing Box this month were a challenge due to the heat but it has remained in service to many. We are currently pretty well stocked but the pantry seems to be emptied in about four to six weeks so your continued donations are always welcomed. The current needs are for canned fruit and the “all in one” meals.

Thank you, your sister in Christ, Elaine Snyder

The Lions Club International

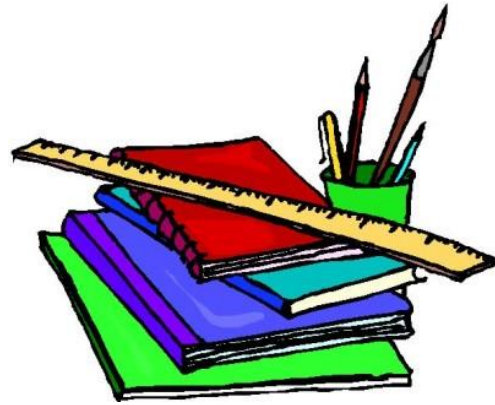
The Chewsville Lions Club under the direction of President Ken Tice will begin meeting at Bethel in the Family Life Center on Tuesday August 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Their regular meeting dates will be the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays monthly.



We look forward to partnering with them to serve the community of Chewsville.

Back to School

This year we will gather supplies and distribute to our Bethel students as well as those in need via requests in the blessing box.



We will collect:

All of the ordinary things:

- wide-ruled paper
 - composition books
 - #2 pencils
 - Black & red pens
 - Highlighters
 - glue sticks
 - pencil box
 - 24 pack of crayons
 - 8 pack of washable markers
 - baby wipes
 - boxes of tissues
 - quart & gallon Ziploc baggies
 - large pink erasers
 - Backpacks are always needed but a gift card may be the way to go as some are specific.
- 3 ring binders
 - rulers
 - single subject spiral notebooks
 - 3 ring binders (1/2 to 2 inch)
 - scissors
 - Dry erase markers-black low odor
 - subject dividers
 - colored pencils
 - post it notes
 - 2 pocket folders

All leftover supplies will then be given to a local school.

Your gifts are always appreciated...just place them on the table in the Parlor.

Coat Closet:

It is hard to think of winter coats and accessories in August when it is sweltering hot outside but cooler weather will be here before we know it.

Now is the time to stock our Bethel Coat Closet to prepare for the fall.

We are in need children and adult coats of all sizes. Nearly all the children's coats we have are for girls. And although we need more girls' coats, we especially need boys' coats. Please ask your friends if they happen to have any coats they would like to donate and please keep an eye out at your local yard sales. Thanks for your continued support of our coat closet.



Stewardship June 2022

| Date | In person S.S./Church | Special Events |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| July 3 | 56 | Treats on the Portico. |
| July 10 | 47 | |
| July 17 | 53 | |
| July 24 | 52 | Lunch on the Portico. |
| July 31 | | |

Lay Readers – July 2022

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Aug 7 | John Shank |
| Aug 14 | Roni McNairn |
| Aug 21 | Drew Ross |
| Aug 28 | Jeanne Dinterman |

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

We are Growing Back!



The Spiritual Fitness Class has restarted their meetings at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the corner classroom under the balcony. Val Kaufmann is teaching.

**The lesson title for July 24th was
“Fellowship With Each Other**

Blessings:

Bulletin Boards:

This summer we will honor our children and their teachers by showing everyone samples of what they are learning.



Fourth of July Celebration:



The entire congregation enjoyed a snack on the Portico. Hot dogs with chips and drinks were provided and enjoyed!

It was so wonderful to see everyone enjoying each other's company. Christian fellowship is such an important part of our walk in life. So many hearts were smiling.

We are going to do this the last Sunday monthly!

Just call the office with ideas or to take a turn.

New Banners:



August Anniversaries:

- 1 – Kent & Cindy Harshman
- 5 – Steven & Carol Ganley
- 7 – Jason & Danielle Kaufmann
- 8 - Gary & Emily Nulph
- 8 – Joe & Nancy Robinette
- 10 – Mitchell & Carissa Belella
- 11 – Al & Pam Deal
- 16 – Robert & Tara McGhee
- 16 – Phillip & Emily Shriver



- 17 – Mike & Marlene Young
- 18 – Scott & Rhonda Forrest
- 20 – Mike & Donna Johnson
- 23 – Chris & JoAnn Bolton
- 24 – Shaun & Pat Wolfe
- 25 – Steven & Lauren Young
- 28 – Keith & Judy Hoffman

August Birthdays:

- 1 – Gene Gross
- 1 – Laura Harbaugh
- 3 – Jaykob Price
- 4 – Kathy Morrisey
- 4 – Michelle McCartney
- 5 – Jennifer Ritter
- 5 – Brady Boyer
- 6 – Coleen Barkman-Crowther
- 7 – Don Loveland
- 7 – Danielle Diggins
- 9 – Cindy Ritchick
- 11 – *Deanie Moser
- 11 – Lori Shifflett
- 13 – Lisa Sprecher
- 14 – *Evelyn Downs
- 14 – Jason Phillips
- 15 – Benjamin Gantz
- 17 – *Valerie Eccard
- 18 – Anthony Perry-Roberts
- 19 – William Harbaugh
- 19 – Mark Claiborne, Sr.
- 20 – Tara Loveland
- 24 – Alexa Keckler
- 24 – Katie Kelly
- 24 - Matthew Johnson
- 27 – *Phyllis Rice
- 30 – Robert Ziegler
- 31 – Martha Saufley



*Homebound
- see Caring Connections
for the address.

Bethel Tidings

| August 2022 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|--------|---------------|
| Sunday | 1 | 2 6:00 Lions Club /FLC | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 9:00 AA |
| 7 Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 9:00 AA |
| 14 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 15 | 16 6:00 Lions Club /FLC | 17 11:00 W@W lunch | 18 | 19 | 20 9:00 AA |
| 21 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 22 Newsletter Deadline | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 9:00 AA |
| 28 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship Treats on the Portico | 29 | 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:

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Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner

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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 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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