

September 2023

Bethel Tidings

Hello,

As we end another church year, it's an appropriate time for introspection and gratitude. We want to express our appreciation for your unwavering commitment and hard work throughout the year. Without your support, we could not have accomplished all that we did.

We understand that the past year has been filled with significant challenges. Nevertheless, we faced them head-on and emerged more resilient and united than ever before.

We're thrilled to announce our upcoming church conference on October 14, 2023, at 8 AM. This is an excellent opportunity for us to come together as a community and celebrate our accomplishments while also looking forward to the future. We hope you join us for this significant event.

As we approach the end of the church year, let us recall the many blessings we have received and continue to work together to create a brighter future for our congregation.

Warm regards,

Pastor Jim



Women at the Well

The Women at the Well will return to their study of The Chosen on Wednesday, September 6, from 10:00 to 11:00 am in the church parlor. The Chosen, a highly acclaimed video series, is based on the life and teachings of Jesus and his followers. The third season in this series begins with Jesus delivering the most famous sermon in history - The Sermon on the Mount. What follows are the consequences of living out his teachings. The world changes because of this sermon, and the believers in (and enemies of) Jesus increase exponentially.



We invite you to join us on Sept. 6, at 10:00 as we view the first episode, followed on the following Wednesday by a discussion and study using the guide The Way of the Chosen. We will follow this pattern each week, with the exception of the third Wednesday of each month, when all are invited for fellowship and lunch at various local restaurants. This study is open to all. (men and women) Please contact Beverly Miller (shanda@myactv.net) or Valerie Kaufmann (kaufmval@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us. We will need a count of how many are planning to attend so that study guides can be ordered ahead of time. Sept. 20th will be lunch in the pavilion. We hope you will join us!



Supporting our Homebound

Bethel Caring Connection

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

Thank you so much for sending cards to our homebound and continuing to pray for them. I hear stories of the good our members are doing for these folks and I am so thankful for all you do.

If you need a current list of our homebound members email Deb at secretary@bethelumchurch.org and she can email you a list or call her at the church at 301-733-8387 or call me at 240-734-1101.

Please use that same email address and phone numbers if you know of someone who needs help such as sitting with folks, transportation to appointments, meals etc. Blessings, Pam Brubaker

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. Canned corn and green beans. Any donations are appreciated. Again many thanks go out to our wonderful volunteers. 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



Youth Rally & Fellowship:

Cumberland-Hagerstown District hosted a Youth Rally August 2nd with a “Game Day” at Bethel.



Game Day

Activities included a free meal and outside games.



FOOD
KICKBALL
WATER BALLOON TOSS
FILL THE BUCKET RELAY

WE WERE ALL BLESSED!



Coat



Closet:

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

Here is an update on our collection of coats for our coat closet. We have not been receiving any coats. We currently have no children's coats and only a few adult coats. So just a reminder that we are collecting coats and winter items like gloves and hats. If we are able to collect enough coats, we will be offering them to those in need again this fall. We would like to keep this mission going. Last year we gave away a total of 400 coats!

Of note, we are also accepting backpacks in new or slightly used condition in preparation for our back-to-school supplies giveaway in August as well. Thank you so much for your continued support of this mission.

Diane Stevens

School supplies:

This year we will be letting this project up to the schools as we were informed by an administrator that each school has supplies to assist with any child in need.

All Women Together:

On Wednesday September 6th at 11:00 a.m. a meeting to plan the Fall and Winter activities will be held in the Parlor. This is your opportunity to share your ideas about what events, decorations, children's programs and worship ideas you have. All are welcome, please join us.

The Leadership Board:

VISION STATEMENT

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

Leadership Board Updates:

The Pavilion sign, "Bethel Community Pavilion" has been placed. The Hoovers and Smiths will be honored with plaques as they provided all the funds for this project. Guidelines for it's use and Use of Facility contracts have been created. Electric connections and lights are to be installed soon.. A dedication event is being planned; the date is to be announced, likely in the Fall.



The Financial status was discussed as weekly offerings are not meeting the budgeted amounts. Your Leadership Team is keeping a close watch on this. The Net Operating Loss from January to July has been \$62,983.00.

Security System has been chosen and is in the process of being updated. This may cause some inconvenience as it is installed.

A Hospitality Committee remains a much needed concern. Speak up if you can help. A leader or perhaps two to share.

The Parsonage shrubs are being replaced. See the pictures that follow.

The church trim painting has been started but there is a lot left to finish. If you can help, please, let the office know.

Church Conference yearly forms are being completed and submitted. The conference date is Saturday October 14th at 8:00 am. Hospitality services will be needed for that day.

The parsonage is updated:

Before...



Bethel Tidings

After...

Attendance – Aug 2023

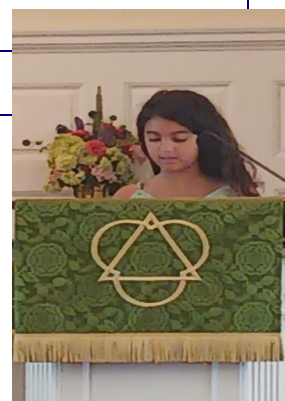
| Date | In person Church | Special Events |
|--------|------------------|----------------|
| Aug 6 | 65 | 22 @ WMC |
| Aug 13 | 51 | |
| Aug 20 | 63 | |
| Aug 27 | | |
| | | |

Lay Readers – September 2023

| | |
|---------|----------------|
| Sept 3 | Sue McAllister |
| Sept 10 | Roni McNairn |
| Sept 17 | Cathy Grantham |
| Sept 24 | Karen Keefer |
| | |

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

Bella Wagner is welcomed as a new reader.



Sept Anniversaries:

8 – Blair & Kim Rishell
9 – George & Debra Brandt
10 – Jeff & Laura Harbaugh
10 – Jon & Angie Backus



11 – Paul & Cathy Boyer
20 – Harvey & Connie Leisinger
21 – John & Jeanne Dinterman

Sept Birthdays:

1 – Maria Axline
1 – Dale Beard
5 – Ronald Shanholtz
6 – Abbie Barnhart
9 – Larry Belella
9 – David Brandenburg
9 – Lyric Wagner
12 – Nora Boyer
14 – Kristen Akin
16 – Lou Bachtell
20 – Kian Roberts
23 – Gary Johnson
23 – Allison Palmer
25 – Debra Brandt
25 – Jon Snyder
26 – Linda Sokol
27 – David Wagner, Jr.
28 – Paul Gantz
28 – Christie Phillips
29 – Hannah Smith



* Homebound
- see caring connections for addresses



Want to walk with us?

The Family Life Center is open from 8:30am to 8pm daily. Kellar and Deb walk from 8:30 to 9:00 before work. Open to community.

Bethel Tidings

| Sept 2023 | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|-----------|---|---------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday 1 | Saturday 2 |
| 3 Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship 2:00 Western MD Center | 4 Pastor on vaca | 5 6:30 Lions Club/FLC | 6 10:00 W@W/Parlor 11:00 All Women Together/Parlor | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 11 | 12 Pastor returns | 13 10:00 W@W/Parlor | 14 | 15 10am AIM annual meeting/West River | 16 |
| 17 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 18 Newsletter Deadline | 19 6:30 pm Lions Club/FLC | 20 10:00 W@W lunch @ Pavilion 7:00 Leadership Board/ Parlor | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 25 | 26 | 27 10:00 W@W/Parlor | 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

Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Pastor: Jim Johnson

Email: pastor@bethelumchurch.org

Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner

301-733-8387

Office hours: 9 am – 1 pm Mon.-Fri.

Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

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.

Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner

Phone: 301-733-8387

Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Telephone Prayer Chain:

Beverly Miller

Phone: 301-739-6270

Email: shanda@myactv.net

Bethel Connect:

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



Bethel Tidings



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

