

**“The Good Work of Resurrection”**

**This year, Easter comes early. There’s something about an early Easter that feels a bit like a surprise—like the dawn arriving before we’ve fully shaken off the chill of winter. And yet, perhaps that’s exactly the point. Resurrection doesn’t wait for perfect conditions. New life breaks in—sometimes earlier than expected, sometimes before we feel ready—but always right on time in God’s unfolding story.**

**April has always been a meaningful month in my own life. On April 10, 1982, Debbie and I were married—a moment that feels both like yesterday and a lifetime ago. This month also holds Debbie’s birthday, another reminder of the gift of shared life, love, and faithfulness through the years. When I think about these milestones, I am reminded that the most important things in life are not built overnight. They are cultivated through daily acts of commitment, grace, forgiveness, and love.**

**In many ways, that is also the story of the church. At Bethel United Methodist Church, we are engaged in what I would call “the good work”—the kind of work that doesn’t always make headlines but changes lives nonetheless. It is the quiet work of showing up. The faithful work of praying for one another. The generous work of giving, serving, and reaching out. The courageous work of continuing forward even when the path feels uncertain.**

**We have seen that good work take shape in so many ways:**

- In the meals shared and the tables extended**
- In the small groups forming and deepening discipleship**
- In the outreach that stretches beyond our walls into the community and beyond**
- In the technology that allows us to remain connected with those who cannot be physically present**
- In the simple, sacred act of gathering week after week to worship, to listen, and to respond**

**None of this is accidental. It is the fruit of a congregation that is committed to being the body of Christ in real and tangible ways. And here’s the beautiful truth: the good work we are doing is not ours alone. It is God’s work in us and through us. The same power that raised Christ from the dead is still at work—bringing life where there was weariness, hope where there was uncertainty, and purpose where there was doubt. Easter reminds us that what may seem small or even hidden is never insignificant in God’s kingdom. So as we move through this early Easter season and into the days of April, I invite you to pause and reflect: Where have you seen signs of resurrection in your life? Where have you witnessed the**

good work of God unfolding—quietly, faithfully, persistently? And perhaps most importantly: Where might God be inviting you to join in that work? Because the story of Easter is not just something we celebrate once a year. It is something we live, together.

With gratitude for each of you, and with hope for all that God continues to do in and through this church,  
Pastor Jim

## Continued Events:

### Women at the Well

Women at the Well Bible Study “Walking in God’s Promises” started Feb 15<sup>th</sup> and now continues on Wednesdays, at 10:00 am. Lunch is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Shula’s restaurant will be reserved for April 15<sup>th</sup> @11:00 am. Please contact Bev Miller.



### Altar flowers:

Bethel continues to be blessed by the talents of the Altar Committee. Please consider signing up on the calendar in the main hallway. The cost is \$45.00 for both flower arrangements (not the vase) that you may take with you after the service. Be sure to let the office know a week in advance what you would like written in the bulletin. Thank you!

### Micah’s Backpack:



Currently we are providing for 15. We usually build for the next month or so. Snack items are always good. Currently we could use boxes of individual oatmeal packets, short stacks of Ritz or Club crackers and individually wrapped cookies, chips, etc. Please see the list of items needed in the main hallway.

### Readers:

If you would like to volunteer to read the scripture, contact Elaine Snyder at 301-991-9759.

### Ushers:

Please let the office know if you can take a turn. Or you can sign up on the 2026 calendar in the hall by prayer request basket. Thank you.

### Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update:

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

This ministry continues to aide those in need. Cereal, Tomato & Chicken noodle soup, canned – Tuna, Chicken, Vienna Sausages, and canned peas are current needed items.

Donations of nonperishable food and hygiene products are always welcome.

Expired food cannot be used if dry goods are outdated by 3 months or canned foods by 6 months.





**Supporting our Homebound**

**Bethel Caring Connection Homebound birthdays...**

Jacquie Starleper – April 8th  
 18900 Artillery Dr.  
 Hagerstown, MD 21740

**Healthcare Ministry**

Tammy Smith has begun to offer confidential Blood Pressure Screenings in the office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday monthly. This will be before or after the 10am worship service. You can share with her if you have medical needs and she will help to find assistance.



**MomCo-** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday monthly at 6pm in the Parlor, is a place to **fellowship, connect, and grow alongside other mothers** who understand the joys and challenges of the journey. No matter where you find yourself in motherhood, there is a seat for you and a community ready to walk with you. We invite you to consider joining us. Come as you are—there’s a place for you here. Free childcare is available. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the office, Kaelii Boyer or Pastor Jim: 301-733-8387 or 410-688-4089 to RSVP.

**Attendance**

**2026**

Date	In person Church S.S./Worship	Special Events
Mar 1	17/70/18	WMC
Mar 8	18/63	
Mar 15	15/65	
Mar 22	20/74	
Mar 29		

## Leadership News:

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:

#### Administrative tasks:.

**Capital Campaign Poster:** This is now on the hallway bulletin board. You can see what has been done and what is on the list coming up.

#### Trustee:

We will be looking at placing barriers around the heating/air unit outside.

**Child/Youth plans-** This will be the main focus of the church in the upcoming months. A Missions day trip will take place on April 11<sup>th</sup> will also include adults.

**Facebook homepage updates** are in process. Carol and Pastor Jim will be updating our Facebook homepage. Send the office any pictures you have and we will see that they get them.

**Fundraising:** The Sub Sale was March 26.

Training for the **audio/video system** is looking for volunteers to learn. Contact the office.

**Carpet:** The hallway and FLC Welcome Area carpet was replaced on Monday March 2nd.

**Drinking Fountains** in the FLC hall will be replaced soon. The Lions will donate half of the cost. Total is approx. \$1,500.00. A donation was received that will pay for this.

**AED unit** has expired. Carol has applied for a grant to replace it.

The **next Leadership meeting** will be on Wed. April 15th at 7 pm in the Office or Parlor...Join us as all are welcome!

## New News:

### Bible Studies:

Mondays at 7pm – a Lenten study led by Pastor Jim.

Wednesdays at 10am – Women of the Well -“Walking in God’s Promises”.

Thursdays at 7pm – a study of Romans led by Jaime Anderson.



## Upcoming Events:

Thur. April 2 – 7pm Maundy Thursday Service.

Fri. April 3 – 7pm Good Friday Service.

Sat. April 4 – Egg Hunt – a wonderful community event. Carol & Deb are planning. Let them know if you can help. Then on that morning, we will need extra people for just a few hours to help with food and games.

Sunday April 5 – 6:45am Son-rise Service followed by breakfast. 10:00 Easter Worship

Sat. April 11 – Mission day – help repair a home after a fire.

Mon June 15 – Fri June 19 VBS...Camp Chaos.

## Forever Givers:



Sandra Hose is one in a million.

She quietly gives to her church, often coming several times a week to prepare the altar flowers, pull the weeds, help at the Reach shelter and always bakes for the bake sales.

Changing the Altar colors and filling the communion cups are second nature for her.

She was a major part of planning the new gardens around the property. Helping to research and plant the beautiful flowers and shrubs.

Best of all...she is smiling while she works! We think she is a great example of using the talents God gave us. You so adorn this Lord's house!

Sincere Gratitude,  
Your Church

# EASTER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8

Across

- 3. Yellow flower that blooms in spring
- 6. Jesus is \_\_\_\_ (came back to life)
- 8. You wear fancy new \_\_\_\_ on Easte

Down

- 1. An animal with soft fur and floppy ears
- 2. Jesus rose from the \_\_\_\_
- 4. Soft colorful material in baskets
- 5. Chocolate shaped like a bunny
- 7. You color and decorate these

**SUPERSTARWORKSHEETS**

Images: (c) Rainbow Sprinkles Studio, Rebecca B., Jax and Jaki, Bunny on a Cloud

Please look on the bulletin board for the answers.

## April Birthdays:

- 1 – Perry Miller
- 5 – Ronnie Snyder
- 7 – Debbie Johnson
- 7 – Kinsley Shifflett
- 8 - \*Jacquie Starleper
- 9 – Alicia Guzowski
- 17 – Duane McNairn
- 18 – Phillip Baker
- 20 – Walter Miller
- 20 – Michael Young
- 28 – Callie Rishell
- 29 – Keith Hoffman
- 29 – Teresa Rossiter
- 30 – Ryker Guzowski



## April Anniversaries



April 8 – Marty & Pam Brubaker

April 9 – James & Katie Kelly

April 10 – James & Debbie Johnson

April 16 – Mike & Linda Sokol

April 20 – Lacey & Barbara Simmons

April 25 – David & Mary Lidie

April 29 – David & Susan Brandenburg

Bethel Tidings

April 30 – Gene & Mary Gross

Bethel Tidings

April 2026	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday</b>			<b>1</b> 10:00 W@W/ 1 <sup>st</sup> floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band  5:30 Boomers V Ball/FLC  6:00 MomCo/Parlor	<b>2</b> 5:30 Boomers V Ball/FLC  7:00 Bethel  Bible  Study/office	<b>3</b> 12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band	<b>4</b> 9am-5pm Haitian SDA -downstairs 11am Egg Hunt 4:30- Flower delivery
<b>Communion</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 5 6:45 Son-rise & breakfast 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship  2:00 pm Western MD Hospital	<b>6</b> Easter Monday – OFFICE CLOSED	<b>7</b> 6:30 Lions Club/FLC	<b>8</b> 10:00 W@W/ 1 <sup>st</sup> floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band  5:30 Boomers V Ball/FLC –last day	<b>9</b> 5:30 Boomers V Ball/FLC-last day  7:00 Bethel & New Begin  Bible Study	<b>10</b> 12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band	<b>11</b> 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church/FLC  9:30 Canal District Mission
<b>B/P Screening</b>  <b>12</b> 9:00 Sunday School  10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 11:00 W@W lunch 12:30-3:30 Band  7pm Leadership Board/Parlor	<b>16</b> 7:00 Bethel Bible Study/ Office  7:00 New Begin Bible Study/Parlor	<b>17</b> 12:30-3:30 Band	<b>18</b> 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church
<b>19</b> 9:00 Sunday School  10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	<b>20</b> Newsletter Deadline	<b>21</b> 6:30 Lions Club	<b>22</b> 10:00 W@W 1 <sup>st</sup> floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band	<b>23</b> 7:00 Bethel Bible Study/Office 7:00 New Begin Bible Study/Parlor	<b>24</b> 12:30-3:30 Band	<b>25</b> 9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church
<b>26</b> 9:00 Sunday School  10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 W@W 1 <sup>st</sup> floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band	<b>30</b> 7:00 Bethel Bible Study/Office 7:00 New Begin Bible Study/Parlor		


## 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](mailto:secretary@bethelumchurch.org)

Pastor: Jim Johnson  
Email: [pastor@bethelumchurch.org](mailto:pastor@bethelumchurch.org)

### Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner  
301-733-8387  
Office hours: 9 am – 1 pm Mon.-Fri.  
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### Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner  
Phone: 301-733-8387  
Email: [secretary@bethelumchurch.org](mailto:secretary@bethelumchurch.org)

### 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](http://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](mailto:shanda@myactv.net)



## Bethel Tidings



**Pastor Jim Johnson**  
Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville  
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301-733-8387



Donate with Venmo.

