

SCRIPTURE Genesis 15: 1-6

SERMON Count the Stars

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY Gloria Te Deum Nancy Galbraith

\* DOXOLOGY

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Lord, you take delight in us and fill us with every good thing so that all who hunger may share in our joy. Receive what we offer as testimony to your goodness; and let these gifts lead to rejoicing in your church and all your world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

\* SONG FOR SENDING

How Great Thou Art #467

\* BLESSING

\* POSTLUDE March in A Minor

Upcoming Dates!

July 23rd - 27th Vacation Bible School
July 29th VBS Celebration
Aug. 3rd - 5th Bethel Serves Weekend, Friday - Worship, Saturday - Work, Sunday - Picnic
Aug. 11th Young Families Play Date
Aug. 25th Deacons' Rummage Sale

Stephen Ministry

Sadness ...A sadness settles so softly on us. It is seemingly without cause. Yet it lingers like the winter fog. A caring, trained Stephen Minister is ready to help you find your way through the mist. He or she will not judge you or push you to get better; instead, your Stephen Minister will listen and care for you while you work through your feelings.

WORSHIP NOTES

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS, as well as audio listening devices, are available from the Worship Welcome Team.

MONTHLY CONGREGATIONAL LETTERS: On communion Sundays, five letters will be placed in the Narthex and then taken to Fellowship in Galbraith Hall. Please add a quick note to each letter ... these letters provide an important link to those members unable to join us during worship each week.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION: Will be observed on Sunday, August 5th, Team 3

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

LITURGISTS: Angel Jackson: July 15th Barbara Jay

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: Families A & B: July 15th Families C & D

CHILD CARE: Stacey Lucidore: July 15th Schultz Family

WORSHIP WELCOME TEAM: Team 4: Cindy Fair, Mary Pursglove, Brooke Cashman, Dottie Frazier\*, Tom Hultz\*, (\*Chairlift) July 15th Team 5 - Dave Long, Carl Parise, Russ Lautenschlager, Marilyn\* & Dan\* Beckstrom (\*Chairlift)

SANCTUARY COORDINATORS: Gary May; July 15th Gary May

GRAPHICS TEAM: Larry Jay; July 15th Robin Macherey

SOUND BOARD: Steve Kloc; July 15th Gail Anderson

CHANCEL FLOWERS: In Loving Memory of Loretta Korchok, given by her husband Edward.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Rob Backstrom, Hartley Baird, Hank Barr, Gary Bittner, Marilou Booth, Art Brandenburg, Ginny Burford, Michele Cobb, Sueann DeFurio, Cliff Fair, Jean Fishel, Ginny Flynn, Bettyjean Gamble, Linda Hackett, Dick Jones, Dick Kraft, Pat Kraft, Jack Miller, Emily Parise, Donna Puglisi, Betty Ramsey, Dave Rawlings, Ann Reid, Sue Schoenberger, Joan Sherbak, Anne Unger, Sheila and Rich Vandevander, Kristi Wade, Edith Wallace, Russell York, Kathy Young, Sam Zimmerman



Did you miss a sermon? Past sermons are now available to listen to on our website!!

Recordings include music, prayers and other parts of the worship service, too!

www.bethelpresby.org/sermons

Congregation Life Weekly Newsletter July 8, 2018

HEARTFELT APPRECIATION (From Kathy Young): I have to be one of the luckiest people to receive so many cards, flowers, basket and, most of all, the prayers from my friends. I realize what a fortunate day it was for me when I came to BPC and I wouldn't change a minute of it. It is a privilege to know you all and I can't wait to be back at my desk. Love & appreciation, Kath

SMALL CHANGE COLLECTION SUNDAY: Sunday, July 8, will be Small Change Collection Sunday for South Hills Interfaith Movement. SHIM has been helping our neighbors in the South Hills for fifty years. During this past year the Food Pantry has supported more than 1,700 individuals. In order to fully stock the shelves at the Food Pantry, SHIM is requesting donations of canned pineapple, tomato soup, and food low in sodium. Plastic grocery bags are needed, so that produce from the gardens can be bagged for the clients. All donations are appreciated and can be left at the Marshall Entrance.

JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER BIBLE STUDY! We are diving into the book "Six Themes in Matthew Everyone Should Know" by Dr. James Davison. Pastor Cathie and Jessica are leading this study in the McMillan Room at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. The book is \$10, but is not required to join us for the study. Any questions, please contact Jessica Kelecava.

SOUTH HILLS INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOOD PANTRIES: SHIM hosts food pantries at three sites. They are requesting donations of ketchup, canned pineapple and salad dressing, but any nonperishable food item is appreciated. Plastic grocery bags are also needed so produce from the gardens can be bagged for the clients. Please leave your donations at the Marshall Road entrance.

DEACONS RUMMAGE SALE: It's time to donate your extra stuff. The Deacons are having a Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 25th. We will accept books, children's clothing, stuffed animals, furniture, toys, household, yard, garden, kitchen, and holiday items, tools, jewelry, and games. We cannot accept Readers Digest books, encyclopedias, medical texts, school texts, TVs, electronics, mattresses, and upholstered furniture. Please make sure all items are clean and gently used with no missing parts. The sale of your stuff will benefit our missions. There will be a Deacon's Rummage Sale Meeting July 10th at 7:00 p.m. to continue planning the sale. Please join us if you wish to help.



## MALAWI PARTNERSHIP - A NEW HORIZON FOR BPC

Please read the following letter from Marissa Virgin introducing you to this new partnership!

Hello all!

I am so thrilled to be finally sharing the good news that Bethel Presbyterian is taking part in the International Partnership of Pittsburgh Presbytery with the Synod of Blantyre in Malawi and the South Sudan Presbyterian and Evangelical Church. For my first letter on the partnership, I would like to take a moment to share with you all the journey that I, and the Mission and Outreach Committee, took to get to this place.

I first became aware of the partnership between Pittsburgh Presbytery and the Synod of Blantyre when I was in high school (circa 2004). My good friend, Brooke Merry, had just returned from living in Malawi for a year, where her dad, Rev. Dan Merry, was acting as a liaison between the Presbytery and Synod. It was from hearing those first stories of this country that I knew something special had been developed. I knew that Bethel Presbyterian needed to be a part of this, but it was not yet the time. For the next 13 years, I kept praying that one day we would have the opportunity!

Well, in the early parts of 2017, opportunity came "a-knocking". Once again, Brooke was going to live in Malawi for a year. She encouraged me to take this as an opportunity to come visit the "warm heart of Africa". As excited as I was at the prospect of travelling to Malawi, I knew that this was the time for Bethel Presbyterian. It was our time to step out of the rocking boat on the troubled seas and trust that God has a plan for our congregation.

What transpired rather quickly over the course of the next year was myself presenting the partnership idea to Pastor Cathie, sharing the idea with Jessica, meeting individually with members of Pittsburgh Presbytery's Partnership Committee, presenting the idea to Mission and Outreach, attending Partnership Meetings at Pittsburgh Presbytery, presenting the idea to Session and praying, praying, praying for wisdom and certainty that this was God's plan for us. Often, you hear people talk about God's timing. I never really knew what that felt like until this process. It seemed like every step of the way was a smooth transition into the next. As a Committee, Mission and Outreach voted to take the idea to Session, who unanimously voted to move forward with the partnership right before a cohort from Pittsburgh Presbytery was set to travel to Malawi. During that visit, they matched us with a congregation called Nthemba, meaning hope. In July, I will have the privilege of visiting that congregation as the first representative from Bethel Presbyterian in order to kick off our partnership! I hope that you are as excited as I am that we are embarking on this new spiritual partnership! Over the course of the next few months, I ask that you please pray for me and my journey to our sister church. If you feel so called to support this trip in any manner, I would greatly appreciate it. In closing, I would like to encourage you to pray about God's plan for your involvement in our new adventure!

Blessings,  
Marissa Virgin

### CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

2999 Bethel Church Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102  
412/835-0405 Church Office 412/835-1037 Fax

Website: [www.bethelpresby.org](http://www.bethelpresby.org)

Email: [bethelpres@verizon.net](mailto:bethelpres@verizon.net)

**Pastor:** Rev. Cathie Smith, 412/965-4253 or [pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com)

**Director of Discipleship:** Jessica Kelecava 412/835-0405 or  
[jessica.discipleship.bethelpc@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.discipleship.bethelpc@gmail.com)

**Director of Music and Worship:** Jason Wilcox, 412/651-4638

**Organist:** Cody Soska, 412/877-9139

**Administrative Assistant:** Kathy Young, 412/835-0405

**Financial Secretary:** Nancy Carr, 412/835-0405

**Custodian (Day):** Bob Murphy, 412/835-0405

**Custodian (Evening):** Rob Roche, 412/835-0405

## CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

**Sunday, July 8** (Daily Readings: Psalm 108; 150; Num. 27:12-23; Acts 19:11-20; Mark 1: 14-20)

10:30 a.m. Worship,  
Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith  
(child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)  
Baptism: Austin James Virgin and Logan William Virgin

11:30 a.m. Fellowship – Families A & B

3:30 p.m. All Church Family Outing  
3:30 p.m. Christian Concert  
5:35 p.m. Wild Things Ballgame

**Monday, July 9** (Daily Readings: Psalm 62; 145; Num. 32: 1-6, 16-27; Rom. 8: 26-30; Matt. 23: 1-12)

1:00 p.m. Church Staff Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 215 Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, July 10** (Daily Readings: Psalm 12; 146; Num. 35: 1-3, 9-15, 30-34; Rom. 8: 31-39; Matt. 23: 13-26)

10:00 a.m. Quilters Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Soccer Shots  
7:00 p.m. Coin Club  
7:00 p.m. Deacons Rummage Sale Meeting

**Wednesday, July 11** (Daily Readings: Psalm 96; 147, 1-11; Deut. 1: 1-18; Rom. 9: 1-18; Matt. 23: 27-39)

7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Macdonald Band Practice  
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study ( Matthew)

**Thursday, July 12** (Daily Readings: Psalm 116; 147: 12-20; Deut. 3: 18-28; Rom. 9: 19-33; Matt. 24: 1-14)

5:00 p.m. Kinder Karate

**Friday, July 13** (Daily Readings: Psalm 84; 148; Deut. 31: 7-13, 24-32: 4; Rom. 10: 1-13; Matt. 24: 15-31)

**Saturday, July 14** (Daily readings: Psalm 63: 149; Deut. 34: 1-12; Rom. 10: 14-21; Matt. 24: 32-51)

**Sunday, July 15** (Daily Readings: Psalm 103; 150; Josh. 1: 1-18; Acts 21: 3-15; Mark 1: 21-27)

10:30 a.m. Worship  
Pastor: Cathie Smith  
(child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)

11:30 a.m. Fellowship Families C & D  
11:30 p.m. Prayers Shawl Meeting  
12:00 p.m. Youth (Water, Games & Pizza Party)  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Leaders Meeting



**Bethel Presbyterian Church**  
**Worship for the Lord's Day**  
**July 8, 2018**  
**10:30 A.M.**

**"Changed by Christ So We Can Change the World"**  
**\* Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.**

Prayer Request Cards are located in the pew racks. If you have a request, please complete a card and hand it to an usher during the first hymn. **(Prayer cards are not used on the Sundays we observe the Lord's Supper or perform baptisms.)**

**PRELUDE** *Just As I Am*

**THE RINGING OF THE BELL**

**PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE AND CLAIM OF FAITH**

**\* SONG OF PRAISE**

*Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show* #481

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**Please sign the friendship pad (the red folder) and pass along to others in your row, greeting others by name after worship.**

**SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING: Marissa Virgin (Malawi)**

**THE APOSTLES CREED**

**We believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord. Conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,, suffered under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, dead and buried. On the third day, he rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in The Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Austin & Logan Virgin**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**Our Father who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

**BAPTISM HYMN**

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* #498

**STORY MOMENT**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**