

Bethel Light

Fall 2022

the quarterly newsletter of

Bethel Presbyterian Church

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HOPE, TRUTH, ENCOURAGEMENT AND PEACE

Fall Bethel Light

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We will be emailing the Bethel Light where possible to reduce postage costs. This document will also be posted on our website. We will only mail to those individuals who do not have access to a computer.

From Pastor Cathie

Dear Friends,

In this space, at the beginning of summer, I invited us to remember the ways that summer was so special when we were children - the adventures, the freedom, the time with friends, the memories made and the long days out in God's world - and then to think about the ways you could recapture those special aspects of summer in your approach to your faith practices over the summer.

I think that this late summer transition into fall gives us a great, similar invitation. Remember the anticipation of that time of year? Teacher assignments came out, school supply shopping would begin, meet the teacher night would be on the calendar, friends started coming back from vacations and the new school year with all its possibilities finally arrived. A new grade, new things to learn, a new teacher, a new cool lunchbox, new friends to meet ...

As summer begins its wrap up and we look forward to Rally Day and the beginning of fall programs here at Bethel Church, I can feel a similar sort of anticipation for a new year to explore new faith practices, to dig into scripture with new eyes, to live in a community together in new and special ways, to learn new songs and expressions of worship, to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones, to serve God in new places and to share God's love and grace in new languages, to grow as disciples with renewed understanding and desire.

When Jesus called his disciples, he invited them to follow after him into a new life - with a new way of thinking, a new approach to their faith in God, a new way of seeing and treating others, a new way of being a community together and engaging in the greater community. This is the same invitation we are given when Jesus invites us to follow him, to be his disciples, to claim the name, "Christian". We are invited to more than just a list of doctrinal items to believe. We are invited to a transformed life. But what does that life look like? If discipleship is more than just believing - if it means doing something and experiencing something - then what is that something? What do disciples - followers of Jesus - do? That is the question we'll be tackling in our worship services this fall. And as we jump into our fall programming, that will be our focus and our invitation - to do the things that Jesus invites us to, to listen more closely to what he teaches us, to practice more faithfully the example he sets for us, to follow more closely - to love more truly - to be changed and transformed more and more each day. This is going to be a special and exciting year in our life together as followers of Christ, serving and growing together, in our little corner of God's big world!

So, enjoy these last weeks of summer - soak up the sunshine, get out in God's world, make some s'mores, have a popsicle. And while you sip some tea on your patio, flip through these pages and feel the anticipation of this new year at BPC and all we will learn and how we will grow in faith and in love together this fall.



*Blessings,
Pastor Cathie*

Christian Education Committee

Children's Footprints

As the second season of my time here at Bethel starts, I reflect on what we (the church) have accomplished. Something new ... Christian Education will be changing its name to Spiritual Formation, as we are a broader scope than just education. We touch on the spiritual aspect of our faith as well by entwining with mission, congregational life, worship and music. I am sure if you look at the groups here at the church, you will find us in almost every corner of Bethel Church.

During Monday Morning Prayer Time, prayers for the church, prayers for members, staff, friends, programs, groups, Preschool and Child Care are ascending, along with asking direction on how we move further into the community ... sending up thankful prayers as we strengthen our faith under the leadership of Pastor Cathie and Session ... and gratitude for Revive as it takes hold and begins to grow and expand. We are pouring out our thoughts to the Holy Spirit. Please consider this an invitation - we meet every other Monday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary or you can join us from home. The September dates are Monday the 12th and 26th. This is an open invitation - Jesus said in Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door is opened."

On Rally Day, September 11th, we will enjoy food trucks, live music, games and our evening worship service, Revive. Many hands are needed for this event! Please sign up in the hallway at the bottom of the Narthex stairs.

Bible Studies are strong, moving forward and ready to start a new year. We offer Monday evening sessions at 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday morning studies at 10:00 a.m. We also are starting a study at Sunrise Senior Living Center. Jesus, Legos and Me is ready for the fall session. Pam Backstrom and Pastor Cathie are starting a Children's Music Class on Thursday evenings, immediately following Jesus, Legos and Me.

Sunday mornings fill us with studies for children, women and men prior to worship. Sunday morning is growing again, as we have added a Topical Class on the third Sunday of the month. We ask for everyone to meet in Galbraith Hall as we welcome our speakers each month. Topics range from mission opportunities, historical talks, The Matthew 25 Project (which you will hear more about) and All Things SHIM. We are very excited to bring this class to you.

Mission is also moving here at Bethel. The team is entertaining new ideas. We are partnering with the Blessing Store in Duquesne at the First Presbyterian Church and delivering clothes, diapers and toilet paper to those in need. This store is nonprofit - only the customers benefit. Lynn (coordinator of the store) is a volunteer who works tirelessly for the needy. We have Jennifer Hoines stopping by for the first Topical Class. She will be on her way back to Guatemala and will update us on how things are going at her three locations that help those with mobility issues. Cliff Decker will update us on the partnership we have with Malawi as a water well is being completed at the orphanage. Our monthly Food Drive is gaining momentum as well. There is a blue Washington City Mission box that will be housed at the top of the lower parking lot for collecting clothing and shoes. PW, Mission and Vacation Bible School attendees had a successful school supply drive for the children of SHIM. Stay tuned as we explore other mission opportunities here at the church!

Christian Education Committee

I am grateful for your responses as you volunteer, for continuing to pray for the church and for supporting all the programs - as we are making a difference as the hands and feet of Jesus who said, "Feed my sheep and follow me" - and as a community of believers reaching out to the community. What a blessing to be a part of this faith community!

Peace,
Barb Clark



"Spiritual Formation News"

Rally Day: Sunday School resumes September 11th, at 9:15 a.m. We will meet in Galbraith Hall to pray and welcome in the new year of studying God's word together. Rally Day will start at 4:00 p.m., with food trucks, games, crafts and live music prior to the evening Worship Service at 6:30 p.m. The food trucks will be open from 4:00-6:00 p.m. (Please consider helping at this event. Many hands make light work. Look for the sign-up sheet at the bottom of the Narthex stairs.)

Something New - Once-a-Month Topical Class: Mark your calendars for the third Sunday of each month. This replaces the regular Sunday morning study. We will gather in Galbraith at 9:00 a.m. The first class will be on September 25th. We will meet Jennifer Hoines. Jennifer is a Physical Therapist who moved to Guatemala a few years ago to help those with mobility issues. Please plan on joining us as we learn what her group does and how we may be able to help. Don't forget to grab your coffee in the McMillan Room beforehand.

Sunday Morning Studies:

- ✚ *Women's Study* meets in the McMillan Room. The topic for the fall is *Women of the Bible Speak*, led by Lora Spence.
- ✚ *Men's Group* meets in the Quilters Room. The topic is *The Life of Paul*, led by Dan Beckstrom. Don't forget to grab your coffee in the McMillan Room before you head to class.
- ✚ *Children's Classes* meet in the Youth Room in the Christian Education Wing at 9:15 a.m. A new addition - breakfast will be served! This fall we are looking at *Prayer, What Is Prayer and Why Do We Need It?*, *All Things Related to Creation* and *The Bible, How Do We Use It?*

Monday Morning Prayer: If you feel led, please meet every other week in the Sanctuary, Mondays at 10:00 a.m. We will begin Monday, September 12th.

Christian Education Committee

Jesus, Legos and Me will be starting the Fall Program on September 15th. We ask for prayers for the program. We also ask for help in the kitchen or on the floor working with the children. We meet from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Contact Barb (barbclarkce.bethelpc@gmail.com) to get more information on how you can help this ministry. Sign your child/children up at www.bethelpresby.org. The cost for the evening is \$5. We need helpers!

Something New - Children's Music: Join us as we begin to learn the bells and a few songs. We meet immediately following Jesus, Legos and Me on Thursday nights, starting September 22nd, from 7:15-7:45 p.m. The children will be sharing their talent with us on Christ the King Sunday - November 20th, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Please be in prayer as we begin this new venture with the children. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Pam Backstrom or Pastor Cathie.

Hope Café Is Returning This Fall: Calling 7th-12th graders! Join us on Saturday, September 17th, at 8:00 p.m. as we gather to listen or participate in live music, play ping pong or just drink coffee, eat snacks and spend time with each other. As always, if you feel called to help with this ministry, please contact Barb Clark or Nick Barilla. Mark your calendars - fall Hope Café dates include September 17th, October 22nd and November 26th.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Returns: We will dive into the Book of Revelation. We meet in the McMillan Room at 10:00 a.m. We will not meet on the first Wednesday of the month as the Naomi Circle meets that day. See you on September 14th at 10:00 a.m.!

Monday Night Study: We look at the book by Gary Chapman titled *God Speaks Your Love Language*. Join us as we learn how to experience and express God's Love.

As we move further out into our community with faith, we ask for prayer as we start a Bible Study at Sunrise Senior Care Living in USC. The study is scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. The first study will be on Tuesday, September 20th.



Congregational Life Committee

The Congregational Life Committee (comprised of Fellowship and Membership Committees) is committed to making Bethel Presbyterian Church a warm and welcoming church home for all people. We focus on welcoming visitors and new members, as well as promoting and creating opportunities for fellowship within the congregation. We strive to create and implement events that are meaningful and enjoyable for people of all ages to help them build relationships and become involved in the life of the church.

We hope you are enjoying the weekly Fellowship Time. It is a great time to meet new folks as well as reconnect with old friends. We are doing the alphabet teams again by last name. (A-C, D-E, F-J, K-L, M-N, O-R and S-Z). When hosting, we need help setting up/cleaning up, serving and, of course, bringing something to share (example: cookies, fruit, cheese).

We have improved our “Informational Center” in the Narthex for anyone looking for more information about BPC. For those who stop by and leave their contact information, they receive a small gift. We also have an “Informational Center” at our Revive Service.

It's not too late to join in the fun. Our Church Picnic will be **Sunday, August 28th, from noon to 3:00 p.m.**, at Woodland Crest in South Park. Bring a dish to share. What a great time to be outside and break bread together.



Are you looking for good food truck food? We have the perfect spot. Join us on **September 11th, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.** for our Food Truck Festival in the church parking lot. Grab some food from Pgh Crepes, Totopo, South Side BBQ and Beedles. This is a great time to invite a neighbor or friend and then stick around for our “Revive” Service at 6:30 p.m.

We need your TRUNKS!!!! Trunk or Treat has been a great outreach for several years. This year, we are planning to have it on **Sunday, October 23rd, from 2:00-3:00 p.m.** Set up will start at 1:30 p.m. in the lower parking lot. Sign up on the board in the hallway or call the church office to reserve your space. Please plan for about 125 children.



If you would like to be part of this exciting committee, please contact Kristen Kiesling or Jack Miller.

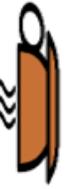
Elders: Chair of Membership - Kristen Kiesling, Chair of Fellowship - Jack Miller

Deacon Member: Pat Brown

Staff Support: Barb Clark, Nick Barilla, (Cathie Smith)

At Large Members: Cindy Fair, Diane Miller and Suzanne Gamble

New Fellowship Dates for Family Alphabet Teams 2022 and 2023

A - C Families	D - E Families	F - J Families	K - L Families	M - N Families	O - R Families	S - Z Families	No Fellowship on Dates Below
Year 2022							
April 24, 2022	May 1, 2022	May 15, 2022	May 22, 2022	May 29, 2022	June 5, 2022	June 12, 2022	
June 26, 2022	July 3, 2022	July 10, 2022	July 17, 2022	July 24, 2022	PW Ice Cream July 31, 2022	Aug. 7, 2022	No May 8, 2022 Mother's Day
Aug. 14, 2022	Aug. 21, 2022	Sept. 4, 2022	Sept. 11, 2022	Sept. 18, 2022	Sept. 25, 2022	Oct. 2, 2022	No June 19, 2022 Father's Day
Oct. 9, 2022	Oct. 16, 2022	Oct. 23, 2022	Oct. 30, 2022	Nov. 6, 2022	Nov. 13, 2022	Nov. 20, 2022	No Aug. 28, 2022 Church Picnic
Dec. 4, 2022	Dec. 11, 2022	Dec. 18, 2022					No Nov. 27, 2022 Thanksgiving
							No Dec. 25, 2022 Christmas Day
Year 2023							
			Jan. 8, 2023	Jan. 15, 2023	Jan. 22, 2023	Jan. 29, 2023	
Feb. 5, 2023	Feb. 12, 2023	Feb. 19, 2023	Feb. 26, 2023	March 5, 2023	March 12, 2023	March 19, 2023	No Jan. 1, 2023 New Year's Day
March 26, 2023	April 2, 2023	April 16, 2023	April 23, 2023	April 30, 2023	May 7, 2023	May 21, 2023	No April 9, 2021 Easter
May 28, 2023	June 4, 2023	June 11, 2023	June 25, 2023	July 2, 2023	July 9, 2023	July 16, 2023	No May 14, 2021 Mother's Day
July 23, 2023	July 30, 2023	Aug. 6, 2023	Aug. 13, 2023	Aug. 20, 2023	Aug. 27, 2023	Sept. 3, 2023	No June 18, 2021 Father's Day
Sept. 10, 2023	Sept. 17, 2023	Sept. 24, 2023	Oct. 1, 2023	Oct. 8, 2023	Oct. 15, 2023	Oct. 22, 2023	No Nov. 26, 2023 Thanksgiving
Oct. 29, 2023	Nov. 5, 2023	Nov. 12, 2023	Nov. 19, 2023	Dec. 3, 2023	Dec. 10, 2023	Dec. 17, 2023	No Dec. 24, 2023 Christmas
							No Dec. 31, 2023 New Year's Eve
Year 2024							
							

Contemporary Worship News

Fall is almost here and that means that our new contemporary service, Revive, will be going weekly on Sunday, September 11th. We have had a great summer of services with great messages from Pastor Cathie and a great group of volunteers from the welcome team, graphics, sound, coffee and our music team helping ensure that things go smoothly each month.

We have started to reimagine the Auditorium space, adding more elements from lighting to more professional sound equipment in order to look and sound our best for congregants and possible new visitors. As we think about having a new service every week, we are still looking for help this fall in all areas of our Revive Service. Going weekly means that we need more hands on deck at these services to help grow our church and reach more people with the gospel in the Bethel Park Community. If you are interested in helping us, please feel free to contact me at: barilla.bethel@gmail.com.

As we move forward with Revive, please note that we are in constant conversation with Supportive Services, the Worship Committee and Session about ways to adjust and improve what we are doing. We appreciate your willingness to work with us as we continue to make future decisions for the betterment of the service!

Lastly, I would like to extend a public “Thank You” to Linette Taylor for joining us in our morning worship services this summer and leading us in song. Linette first joined us in May and wanted to be involved with the Music Team by using her talents while she was here for her internship this summer. We, as a church, have been blessed to have her here this summer. We wish her the best this year in college and look forward for her return sometime in the future.

I hope you will consider joining us and inviting your family and friends back to church this fall so they can witness all the ways that God has been moving here at BPC!

See you around!
Nick Barilla



Digital Media News & Online News

As we approach our Food Truck Festival, Church Picnic and weekly Revive Services this fall, it is essential that we are getting the word out in the community about everything that is happening. As staff support on the newly formed Congregational Life Committee, we have been brainstorming new ways to reach people each month and bring our church up-to-speed.

Each event has been posted to our website, will be emailed to new members and is on all of our social media platforms. As events get closer, we will continue to push sponsored ads out in the community for further promotion on all platforms. There have been event pages started for each of the above events and our committee has been essential in helping prepare for everything.

Look for a big Food Truck Festival banner on the cemetery fence that will be going up soon and feel free to share any ads that you see about the event on social media. We will also be posting signs for the Food Truck Festival at community businesses and Barb Clark has been essential in contacting businesses in hopes of us using their boards for advanced signage.

With so many events happening here at the church, we want to be mindful that everything we are doing is in alignment with our overall mission and vision of the church. While you may notice some subtle changes this fall with the addition of a weekly service and a more constant online presence, let us be mindful that these enhancements were put in place to help us reach others in the community. Follow us on Instagram: @bpconline and continue sharing posts and event pages with your friends and family!

Nick Barilla
barilla.bethel@gmail.com



FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL!!!

SOUTHSIDE BBQ COMPANY

revive.

PGH CREPES

TOTOPO MEXICAN KITCHEN & BAR

beedle's ice cream

FEATURING:
LIVE MUSIC, FOOD TRUCKS, & GAMES!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022
4:00 TO 6:00PM

LOCATED AT:
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2999 BETHEL CHURCH RD.

Deacons

Our Mission: To serve the Lord by ministering to the needs of the church, the faithful and the community.

What's been happening since the previous Bethel Light edition with the Deacons? The Deacons have been visiting shut-ins, sending birthday, get well, sympathy, etc. cards and maintaining the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Shawl and lap robes are given to persons who are ill, suffered a loss or are in the midst of a life crisis. Anyone can make a request for a shawl or recommend a recipient. If you wish to join the Prayer Shawl Ministry and create the Prayer Shawls, you can work independently, you may use your pattern and yarn or we have a very nice selection of yarn and patterns for you to choose from. Before beginning, say a prayer for the individual who may be receiving the shawl. You can pray for healing, good health and peace. Please take the time to repeat your prayer as you knit. Prayer is good for you as well as the one who will receive the shawl. There are no deadlines, just bring the shawl when it is finished. For all those who would be interested in gathering once a month for an afternoon of knitting or crocheting Prayer Shawls and for all information about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, contact Cindy Fair (cafairn@aol.com).

On Election Day, May 17th, the Deacons held a Bake Sale and we certainly appreciated all the delicious homemade goodies from our church members. The sale began at 9:00 a.m. and closed at 6:00 p.m. We were thrilled at the success of the Bake Sale financially, but mostly, we enjoyed meeting and talking with the voters. The fellowship was a real blessing.

On July 3rd, the Deacons and Vitalant held a Blood Drive. Vitalant provided a BBQ apron to each person who donated. The hours were from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Vitalant was delighted with the turn out.

The statistics are as follows:

- 23 Registered Donors
- 25 Collected Blood
- 19 Whole Blood Products
- 3 Double Cell Donations



The Deacons will be holding another Blood Drive on November 27th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Deacons have discussed holding a Soup Sale on November 8th (Election Day). We know Bethel Church has many talented soup makers and, knowing this, we will be asking for donations of quarts of your outstanding homemade soup for the sale. We will provide quart containers and labels for your soup. Complete details for the Soup Sale will be provided following the Deacons' August meeting.



***Dear Lord Jesus,
You are the source of all goodness. Thank you for all the people who help us to grow in goodness and become the best that we can be.
Amen.***

Finance Committee

OUR MONEY IS WORKING FOR GOD'S MISSION!

- ✦ Our pipe organ, which is a crucial part of our worship service, had the leather sealing of the valves replaced over the summer months at a cost of \$7,500. The final phase will be to modernize the electrics as we go from old relays to modern electronic actuation. The last big repair was done in 1988 - 34 years ago. \$13,364 will be used from the McGregor Fund for this project - additional funds have been given for completion.
- ✦ The new LED sign for the front of our church has been ordered at a cost of approximately \$30,000. State and local permitting is now being secured. Partial funding for the sign will come from the Memorial and Building Funds.
- ✦ Recently, five 5-year old orphan girls were matched up with five lady widows at the church orphanage in Lilongwe, Malawi. Piping and electrical cable (\$1,000) for a solar submersible pump were purchased by our Mission Committee to provide much needed running water to the facility!

Thanks for your continued support of our church for the 2nd quarter A.D. 2022!

July 2022 Received Total Offerings	\$149,930
2022 YTD Budgeted Total Offerings	\$137,669
Difference	+ \$12,261
2022 Annual Budget Pledges	\$200,000

Your support is greatly appreciated as our church has experienced unprecedented increases in utilities: January 2021 compared to June 2022 - +106% for natural gas and +52% for electric!

Please join the members of the Finance Committee to extend a huge thank you to the Preschool and Child Care Programs at our church. Nichole was able to secure a grant through the State Child Care Act to cover the entire cost of new flooring for the Child Care and Preschool areas!

Ongoing 2022 "pet projects" for additional giving to our church include: projector for the Sanctuary, mission work with SHIM and Malawi, community outreach with LED signage in front of the church and pipe organ maintenance.

***Helping to serve and support His mission at Bethel Church,
Finance Committee***



Mission Committee

As Christians we are called to continue the mission of Christ in this world; as a Committee we are directed to use our resources with the Matthew 25 initiative focusing on Congregational Vitality by addressing these areas:

- ✚ Overcoming Hunger
- ✚ Seeking Health and Wholeness for All
- ✚ Sharing the Good News



Sharing the Good News our fall events will include the following:

- ✚ **City Mission:** There will be a bin placed in the back parking lot for clothing and shoes benefiting homeless men, women, children and Veterans of Southwestern PA.
- ✚ **Drop-Off Food Drive for SHIM:** A Community Food Drive is planned for the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in support of South Hills Interfaith Movement.
- ✚ **Jennifer Hoines - Therapy International:** Jennifer will be visiting our church on September 18th. She will speak during Sunday School for 30 minutes and will speak during our worship service for about 10 minutes (Moment for Mission). We are excited to hear about the physical therapy she is doing in Guatemala.
- ✚ **Blessing Store - Duquesne Presbyterian:** We will be scheduling various collections, such as paper towels, diapers, gently-used household items and children's clothing. Information detailing the individual collections will be relayed to our congregation in a timely manner.

We also invite you to participate in any of our projects even if you are not a Committee Member, as we offer our projects as a church-wide opportunity to serve.



When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

The Mission Committee: Barb Clark, Debbie May, Joyce Pratt, Larry and Barbara Jay

Music and Worship Committee

It is hard to imagine that August is already upon us and that another summer is nearly behind us. In just a few short weeks (*some even as early as next week*), bus drivers will be starting their engines, school lunches will be packed, new “first day of school” pictures will be taken and we will begin another school year filled with education and learning.

As always, the start of the new school year also starts the beginning of another Choir Season at Bethel Presbyterian Church. September 8th will start my 13th season as the Director of Music and Worship at the church and I am beyond excited to begin another season filled with wonderful music and praising the Lord.

For those of you who are returning or may be interested in joining any one of our music ensembles, our season will commence the week after Labor Day. Bell Choir and Chancel Choir will be starting on Thursday, September 8th, at their respective times (*6:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.*). Both of these ensembles are looking for new members to join and we encourage participation in the Music Program at BPC. If you are interested in joining, please see either myself or one of the members of the Bell Choir or Chancel Choir for more information.

I hope everyone has a safe, happy and enjoyable conclusion to their summer as we enter into another school year and I hope to see everyone in my Choir Room in a couple of weeks for Choir rehearsal!

Blessings,

*Jason Wilcox,
Director of Music and Worship*



Bits & Pieces



ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY / REMEMBRANCE SERVICE:

On Sunday, November 6th, we will once again incorporate the remembrance of our fellow family and friends who have passed away over the last year with our Anniversary Sunday Service.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: We have been blessed with donations of fidget blankets that were donated by a non-member of our church, Gail Schnurr. These are small, square pieces of fabrics that have an assortment of buttons, zippers, rick rack and other tactile decorations on it that are good for use with dementia patients and children with sensory issues. They are very well constructed. These will be displayed on Prayer Shawl Ministry Sundays and are available at any time to give to someone who may have a need. These

have been given to us and it would be wonderful if anyone has any items that could be donated to Gail for her to make new ones. These items could be buttons, zippers, appliques, rick rack, ribbons, fabric or thread. Please contact Cindy Fair if you would like to have one to gift to someone.

Holiday-A-Fair

Vendors, Luncheon (takeout),
Basket Raffle

Celebrating Our 48th Year



Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Bethel Presbyterian Church
2999 Bethel Church Road
Bethel Park, PA 15102
(412) 835-0405

bethelpresby.org
(Sponsored by Bethel Presbyterian Women)

Bits & Pieces

HELP NEEDED! We all enjoy having the slides available on the screen to help us in worship and hearing the music, readings and sermon through the sound system. Having our services recorded has been a blessing and continues to reach so many people. But did you know that those things don't happen without people? A small group of dedicated individuals have made sure that our Sunday tech happens every week so we can have and enjoy worship. But because of college, work, travel and health, we are down to just a couple of tech volunteers and may not be able to provide these needed and appreciated parts of worship unless our tech teams can grow. Helpers are needed to join the rotation in all three areas: slides, sound and recording. All are easier than you think and full training will be provided. Let Pastor Cathie or Nick Barilla know if you are able to help keep this important aspect of our worship going!



ARE YOU RECEIVING EMAILS FROM THE CHURCH? If not, your email address may not be in our database and you may be missing out on important updates. Contact the church office today with your email address.



OUR CHURCH PICNIC will be held on Sunday, August 28th, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Woodland Crest Pavilion in South Park. The pavilion can be found by going up the hill past the Oliver Miller Homestead to the top of the hill. The pavilion is on the left, with a parking lot on the right side of the street. Please bring chairs if possible. There will be bingo and games available with prizes for the winners. The food will be served at 1:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Reminder: There is no electric at the pavilion.

Bits & Pieces

SEND SOME LOVE: The following Bethel Church family members would love to receive notes and emails from us!

Artis Senior Living: Jean Smith (#306), Maria is the Activities Director. Send emails to her ... she will see that the right people get them. Her email is mdeangelis@artismgmt.com; 1001 Higbee Drive, Bethel Park, PA 15102.

Bethel Park Retirement Residence: Charleene Paupa (#335), Rodney Payseure (#232) and Betty Ramsey (#236), 2960 Bethel Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102.

Concordia of the South Hills: Helen Spence, 1300 Bower Hill Road, B169, Pittsburgh, PA 15243.

Country Meadows: Allene Crossman (#210), 3580 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017 and Louise MacLachlan (#48), 3560 Washington Pike, Building 1, Bridgeville, PA 15017.

Heritage Manor: Marilou Booth, The Activities Director will see that the residents receive emails (activities@heritagemanorsl.com); 4220 Saw Mill Run Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15227.

Passavant Community: Bette Wetzel, Passavant Community, Whittenberg Place, 2000 May Drive, Zelienople, PA 16063.

Pro Medica: Ginny Flynn, Pro Medica, 940 Walnut Bottom Road, Carlisle, PA 17015.

Sunrise Senior Living: Art Brandenburg (#305), 500 Village Drive, Upper St. Clair, PA 15241.

The Residence at Bethel Park: Bert Drummond (#201) and Beverly and Mel Lacich (#230), 5851 Keystone Drive, Bethel Park, PA 15102.



Presbyterian Women



OUR PURPOSE: *Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and study. To support the mission of the church worldwide. To work for justice and peace and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.*

Hoping that everyone had a wonderful summer and all are eager to get to a very busy fall schedule!

- ✚ Our first major event will be on Sunday, September 18th, as we celebrate our Eighties Ladies during the church service. We will recognize their long-standing contributions to the work of Bethel Church and Presbyterian Women. By now that special group of ladies should have received their invitations. Instead of having a luncheon after the church service, these ladies will be our guests at the October 1st Harvest Tea. We look forward to seeing you at both events!
- ✚ The next major event will be on Saturday, October 1st ... The Harvest Tea. This luncheon is always a great time to see each other and have some fun, along with enjoying some wonderful food!



***Presbyterian Women Are
Pleased To Present***

"A HARVEST TEA"

Saturday, October 1, 2022

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Cost - \$15

Church Auditorium

*Reservations will be available after church and through the church office.
Please join us and invite some friends!*

- ✚ October 17th is Thank Offering Sunday where we take time to reflect and appreciate all the blessings we've been given by giving to others not so fortunate. We will celebrate with a luncheon during Fellowship Hour.
- ✚ We will be having a Candy Workshop on Friday, November 4th, from 1:00 p.m. to ? ... possibly returning on Saturday morning! Come and join the fun; there are jobs for everyone to do!
- ✚ The major event for this season is Holiday-A-Fair. It is scheduled for Saturday, November 12th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We are busy securing vendors and very soon sign-up sheets will be available after church for all to see where you can help - it could be baking treats for the Bake Sale, making salads for the luncheon, working in hospitality around the church ... there are so many ways to contribute and we need all of you!

Presbyterian Women

- ✚ We again need people or groups of people to contribute gift baskets to our famous basket raffle. They can be a lot of fun to do once you've picked a theme. Here are some suggestions: Italian, Lottery, Pamper/Spa, Pets, Pittsburgh Sports, Coffee/Tea or any other themes you may think of. You can also contribute to our "Travel Around the Country Basket"! Every time you're traveling out of state, bring back a gift of something that is typical of the state you visited and we'll put them all together in one basket!

Please watch the Bulletins for updates on helping opportunities!

We invite all the women of the church to participate in our Circle Meetings which will start up again in September. Both circles run different Bible studies.

- ✚ Circle 1, Naomi Circle, meets at 10:30 a.m. in the chapel at the Bethel Residence across from the church on the first Wednesday of the month.
- ✚ Circle 2, Mary and Martha Circle, meets for dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the McMillan Room the second Wednesday of every month.
- ✚ The PW Board meets the second Tuesday of every month in the McMillan Room at 7:00 p.m.

*Blessings,
Pam Decker, Moderator*

PW CALENDAR

September

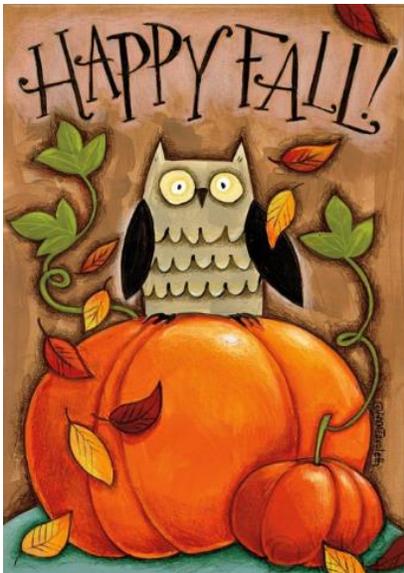
- 7th No Naomi Circle
- 12th Mary and Martha Circle
- 13th PW Board Meeting
- 18th Ladies 80's Celebration

October

- 5th Naomi Circle
- 10th Mary and Martha Circle
- 11th PW Board Meeting
- 16th Thank Offering Sunday

November

- 2nd Naomi Circle
- 8th PW Board Meeting
- 10th Chicken Salad Prep
- 11th Holiday-A-Fair Set Up
- 12th Holiday-A-Fair
- 14th Mary and Martha Circle



Child Care News

Summer sure went fast. As we adjust to our ever-changing world, we are thrilled that this fall our Child Care Center will be a very busy and fun place. There is such anticipation with many of our children returning after the excitement of summer vacations!

We will be learning all about fall and the many holidays that we celebrate. As Thanksgiving approaches, we will be teaching our children to be thankful for the many, many blessings they have been given.

Every year our Child Care Center hires high school seniors from Bethel Park High School who are enrolled in their Vocational Child Care Program. The students take child development classes at the high school and then put their practices to work here at our center. We are blessed to have these ladies joining us from Bethel Park High School this year.

In closing, we hope you enjoy the final days of summer and share in our excitement as we jump into fall.

**Nichole Murphy,
Child Care Director**



*“You can find magic
wherever you look.
Sit back and relax,
all you need is a book.”
— Dr. Seuss*

Preschool News

Summer vacations will soon be over and we'll be getting back into a routine. I would like to thank Bob, Russ and Gary for working so hard this summer to get all of our rooms in the Preschool in great shape for the start of the new school year. After getting new flooring in July, our teachers along with church staff, have been working hard to put our classrooms back together. We cannot wait for our families and students to see the improvements. Everything is freshly painted, clean, neat and in good working order. We appreciate you all very much!

Orientation appointments with the teachers, students and their families will occur during the week of August 29th. The first day of Preschool will be on September 6th! I am looking forward to another exciting year. I can't wait for the teachers and children to come back. Thank you to all who referred us to your friends and relatives. We still have availability in our morning 4-Day 4's Class (Mon.-Thur., 9-11:30 a.m.), our afternoon T-Class (Mon.-Thur., 12:30 p.m.), our morning and afternoon 4 Year Old Class (Mon., Wed. and Fri.) and our afternoon 3 Year Class (Tue./Thur., 12:30-3 p.m.). If you have neighbors, relatives or friends looking for a Preschool, please refer them to our Preschool! It's not too late to register! Happily, our enrichment program, Curious Kid's Club, is full. This has become a very popular program.

We appreciate those of you who include our Preschool Scholarship Program in your giving this year. We already know of a few families who will need help financially this year and your pledges and contributions are needed and appreciated. We are very proud that we can offer this service to families who need it.

We will again be selling Sarris Candies for Christmas in the fall. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we appreciate all your support in our fundraising efforts. Please email Angela at bethelpresps@verizon.net if you would like more information on our fundraisers!

Enjoy the last few weeks of summer as we look forward to having our classrooms busy with learning, growing and playing in a few short weeks! We are so blessed here at Bethel Presbyterian Preschool to have the wonderful support of the church staff, the congregation, our Preschool and Child Care Board and Preschool families and teachers!

We are so lucky to have such a dedicated group of teachers who have built us a great reputation over the years and I would like to wish them all good luck for another successful Preschool year!



Angela Burns - Preschool Director
bethelpresps@verizon.net
412/835-0441

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September Birthdays

*Birthday wishes to the following active members
and their families celebrating birthdays!*

1	Giovanni LaTorre	2	Nicholas Pantano
8	Ryan Schoenberger	9	Dolores Weaver
9	Sally Sinatra	9	Mark Quinlan
9	Matthew Kiesling	11	John Decker
12	Cheryl Williams	15	Alexa Blum
16	Denise Kossan	16	Stephanie Cobb
16	Elliott Carr	17	Marilyn DeHuff
18	Virginia Flynn	20	John Weaver
21	Elizabeth Carr	22	Deborah Williams
23	Cassidy Decker	23	Jesse Long
24	Betty Ramsey	24	James Barr
25	Patricia Kaczmarek	26	Jessica Reed
27	Gregory Opsal	29	Brian Blum
30	Louise MacLachlan		



October Birthdays

*Birthday wishes to the following active members
and their families celebrating birthdays!*

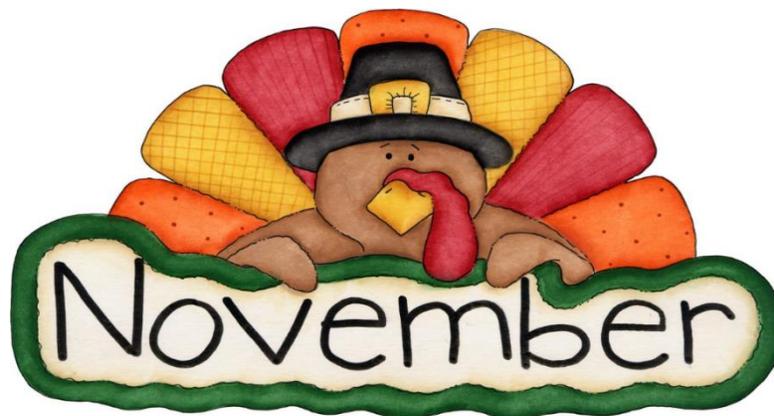
3	Gail Anderson	3	Kyle Anderson
4	Kristi Wade	5	Angel Jackson
5	Hazel Knapp	10	A.J. Palumbo
12	Jonathan Barr	13	Suzanne Gamble
13	Lora Grasky	13	Kai Decker
14	Carl Parise	14	Kristen Blum
15	Carey McGowan	16	Nancy Galbraith
18	Ted Keenan	18	Rachel Virgin
19	Alexis Kiesling	20	Sueann DeFurio
21	Jeff Anderson	21	Landon Blum
22	Cindy Webler	23	Clifford Decker
23	Heather Schultz	25	Max Stotesbery
25	Riley Hunter	26	Deborah Hartman
28	Charleene Paupa	30	Austin Virgin
31	Patricia Brown		



November Birthdays

*Birthday wishes to the following active members
and their families celebrating birthdays!*

1	Monica Day	3	Daniel Beckstrom
4	Erica Stefancin	4	Angie Selle
5	Pamela Decker	7	Morris Lindsay
9	Dorothy Frazier	10	Matthew Doring
12	Elliott Smith	13	Carol Nester
15	Kristen Kiesling	15	Andrew Heidenreich
16	David Cashman	16	Kurt Anderson
19	Kaitlyn Hunter	23	Daniel Smith
24	Marissa Virgin	26	Rebecca Smith
27	Greg Smith		



Our Blanket of Prayer | The Military and Families



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

OUR BLANKET OF PRAYER: Ansley Basso (Virgin), Gary Bittner, Marilou Booth, Marina Bowser, Art Brandenburg, Dawn Clibbens (Carole Legleitner's daughter), Michele Cobb, Marilyn DeHuff, Pete Edwards, Mel Fastuca, Ginny Flynn, Steve Kloc, Dick Kraft, Kim Long, Robin Macherey, Diane Miller, Jack Miller, Emily Parise, Pam Rawlings, George Ritchie, Wendy Roithner, Fred Shoemaker, Sally Sinatra, Jean Smith, Lynne Smith (Pastor Jim's wife), Sheila Vandevander, Edith Wallace

THE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Joshua Croner, Army Reserves, Serving in the Middle East

Robert Dalzell, Department of Defense, Korea

Michael Davis, Marine Corps

Capt. Christopher Demetraides, Marines, Iraq

Pett. Off. 3rd Class Gary M. Dernus, Iraq

CMDR Christopher Rose, U. S. Navy, San Diego
Captain - USS Alexandria
(Son-in-law of Roy & Mary Burford)

Captain Blane T. Shearon, Navy
(Son-in-law of Phyllis Criss)

Private Larry Shoop, Demolition, Afghanistan

Capt. Mike Sieber, Army, Special Services (on third tour in Iraq)

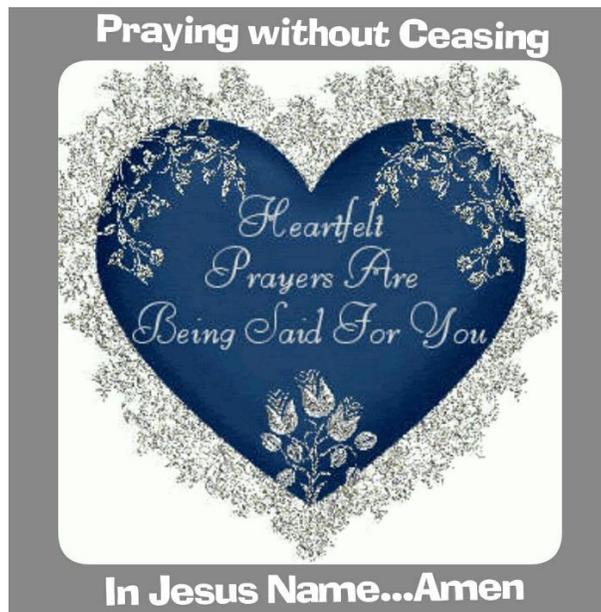
SFC David Williams, Army Recruiter
(Son of Gregory Williams, stepson of Deborah {Werner} Williams)
has been promoted to Station Commander of the Burlington
Recruiting Office in Burlington, VT)



Call Kathy Young with updates and additional names of friends, family or community members who are in the military.

Prayer Concerns

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the Daschbach/Michalski families on the loss of Nicholas Eric Daschbach (infant son of Bob Daschbach and Theresa Michalski) and to the Vandevander/MacDonald families on the loss of Rich Vandevander. May these families find comfort in knowing that our thoughts and prayers are with them during these challenging times.



Staff & Church Contact Information

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412/835-0405 Church Office 412/835-1037 Fax
Website: www.bethelpresby.org
Email: bethelpres@verizon.net

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith, 412/965-4253 or pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com

Worship Leader/Digital Media Coordinator: Nick Barilla, 412/835-0405

Christian Education: Barb Clark, 412/835-0405

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

Organist: Cody Soska, 412/877-9139

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Young, 412/835-0405

Administrative Assistant: Nancy Carr, 412/835-0405

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

Maintenance/Custodian: Russ Young (Night), 412-835-0405

Church Officers

SESSION

Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith, Moderator
Barbara Jay, Clerk of Session
Robin Macherey, Assistant Clerk

Class of 2022

Jack Miller
Carl Parise

Class of 2023

Conrad Adomaitis
Dan Beckstrom
Cliff Decker
Barbara Jay
Robin Macherey

Class of 2024

Pam Backstrom
Kristen Kiesling
Judy Ritchie
Mike Smith

DEACONS

Class of 2022

Pam Adomaitis
Lana Kling
Debbie May
Cheryl Pantano
Joyce Pratt

Class of 2023

Marilyn Beckstrom
Cindy Fair
Diane Miller

Class of 2024

Pat Brown
Joanne Ericson
Pat Kaczmarek
Ted Keenan
Carol MacDonald

