

Bethel Banner

February 2017

Claim The Name

During 2017, we are offering an emphasis that will coincide with the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

Our discipleship theme is #ClaimtheName. This emphasis is centered on claiming the promise of our baptism where we are marked with the cross of Christ forever. Like Martin Luther and the Reformers, we seek to find our hope, strength, and comfort “in Christ alone.” Therefore, let us “Claim the Name” as individuals and as a congregation.

I invite you to listen to my sermon from January 1 as a preamble to this emphasis. You can access my sermon via our website (www.bethelwinchester.com).

To invite others into this emphasis with us, I ask you to place our hashtag – #claimthename – into emails or Facebook posts or in tweets. Maybe we can get it trending!



A Preview for Lent 2017

During Lent, which will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 1, Bethel will continue with an emphasis on the Reformation 500 celebration by using the Small Catechism as our theme for our midweek Lenten gatherings.

As has become our custom here at Bethel, we will offer two Ash Wednesday worship experiences, one at 12:00noon and another at 7:00pm.

Beginning Wednesday, March 8 and continuing each subsequent Wednesday through April 5, we will offer a Soup and Sandwich gathering at 6:00pm, followed by worship at 7:00pm. At each of these worship services, we will focus on one of the key components of the Small Catechism (Baptism, Holy Communion, Lord's Prayer, 10 Commandments, and the Apostle's Creed).

What will be new is that the topic for each evening will be shared by a different Lutheran pastor from the area.

Baptism – Pastor Cam (Trinity Lutheran)
Holy Communion – Pastor Martha (Grace Lutheran)
10 Commandments – Pastor Jonathan (Grace Lutheran)
Apostle's Creed – Chaplain Bill (The Village at Orchard Ridge)
Lord's Prayer – Pastor Dave (Bethel Lutheran)

During Holy Week, we will offer two worship services (12:00noon and 7:00pm) on Maundy Thursday (April 13) and Good Friday (April 14). On Easter Sunday, we will worship at both 8:30 and 11:00.

Another fun experience will be our Cross-Generational learning time during Sunday school. Our elementary youth and our adults will be sharing and learning together. We hope you will take time to participate as the relationship between youth and adults is one of the most fruitful ways that discipleship and faith is caught and taught.

Finally, we will offer a Lenten themed program for our LIFT (Living in Faith Together) intentional small group ministry. It will dovetail with our midweek Lenten program on the Small Catechism. Small group discussion questions and readings will be available on our website.

Lent has traditionally been a time of intentional spiritual growth. We hope that our offerings this year will engage you and invite you to continue in your ongoing discipleship.



SMALL GROUPS AT BETHEL

What are Small Groups?

Faith is something best shared! Small Groups are an important foundation of the ministry, mission, and congregational life at Bethel. Small groups of 6-12 people meet weekly/bi-weekly and generally in the homes of group members.

Why are Small Groups important?

Life revolves around relationships, the most important one being a personal relationship with our heavenly Father through his son, Jesus Christ. It is sometimes hard to form relationships and come into community with other church members if your only connection is sitting together in the same row during the weekly worship service. We believe that life change happens best in Small Groups. Why? Because that's the way Jesus did it! Jesus became the first small group leader when he gathered his disciples to learn about him and grow in their faith. And that's exactly what Small Groups at Bethel are designed to do.

Small groups offer a Christian community, growing deeper in faith and wider in love, where everyone is cared for. Small groups promote unity, a sense of belonging to one another and a place to bless, grow, serve and challenge one another using each person's spiritual gifts.

LIFT (Living in Faith Together) is the name we've given to our intentional Small Group ministry at Bethel. The LIFT groups will be invited to meet for a set period of time (usually 4-6 weeks), several times a year. During these dedicated times (i.e. Lent, Summer, Fall) every LIFT group will be using a common curriculum (www.liftatbethel.blogspot.com).

How do we coordinate Small Groups at Bethel?

Your church needs someone who is great with matching people together, either into existing Small Groups, or in the creation of new ones. This opportunity for you to share your gifts calls for a weekly update of the existing small groups and those who are looking to join or create one. **Facilitatus Maximus!** Put your facilitator skills to

use. Please contact Pastor Dave, the church office, or David Griffin, Congregational Life Board Chair, if you have questions or interests in serving your congregation to grow Bethel's small group program.



GIFT (Growing In Faith Together)

Sundays in Lent, 9:45 a.m.

Beginning March 5

Discipleship Hall

We bring generations around the cross together to bring out the playful wonder of the child, embrace the wisdom of each other, make deep connections together and receive the gift of living encounters with God.

We know many parents' prayer is "HELP!" and our world cries out "HEAL US!". We believe the great GIFT of Jesus' love injects life into us together. Let's have some creative singing and dancing, hugs and high fives, and playful adventures for every night and every home! **This is GIFT!**

Come and see, bring a friend or a family and Grow In Faith Together!



Global Missions Team Thanks God - and YOU!

Bethel's Global Mission Team is so grateful to our Bethel family for their continued support of the four mission partners we feature in our Global Christmas program - our only "official" fundraising outreach for our work. (We are always grateful for and need the support that comes through the weekly offerings through the year!) Our 2016 Global Christmas brought in over \$8500 -- providing the following:

Concordia Children's Services - \$2200.00

- 17 months of daily lunches for their Street Children program
- 3 months of diapers and laundry supplies for a child at the orphanage
- 2 months of nourishing meals for a child at the orphanage
- 12 months of medical care and immunizations for a child at the orphanage
- 4 months of infant formula for the babies at the orphanage
- plus funds to replace worn toys and equipment

Massae Girls Lutheran Secondary School - \$2175.00

- 36 months of internet access for the computer lab
- 8 girls will receive a bible and Swahili/English dictionary
- 8 national curriculum textbooks for the school
- 3 girls will receive a new uniform and shoes
- 4 gifts of chemistry and biology lab supplies
- 1 girl sponsored for the year

Selian Lutheran Hospital/School of Nursing - \$1605.00

- 8 dental clinic visits
- 10 textbooks for the nursing school
- 7 fetal stethoscopes or thermometers
- 8 weeks at the Plaster House for children recovering from surgery
- 3 children suffering burns will receive surgery or skin grafting
- 4 children will receive surgery to correct leg deformities

Bethania Kids Ministries - \$1335.00

- 11 children will receive new school uniforms
- 2 gifts of library and computer resources for students and teachers
- 9 days of meals for a children's home
- 85 children will receive medicine, vaccines and medical supplies for one year

And our special ornament brought in **\$1200 to purchase sewing and embroidery machines** for Bethania's Women's Empowerment Programs in India.

This is fantastic! Look at what we have accomplished this year - thank you so very much!

Darline DeMott was recently contacted by and spent a couple of hours with Bethania's Director of Development, Wendy Osterling, sharing samples of the full details and structure of Bethel's Global Christmas. Bethania Kids is celebrating their 30th anniversary this year, and one focus is on congregational outreach. Wendy wants to use our program as a model and provide our materials as samples/templates for other churches to develop their own programs. The Global Missions Team is excited to see how God will use our vision and work to inspire other congregations, and to bring more people to understand that their individual gifts collectively make a very big difference in the lives of children around the world.

Mission of the Month 2017

During 2017, we are promoting some important missions of our congregation in a new way. You can always give to any mission at any time. Still, we hope to make it easier by organizing our support so as not to overwhelm you each week with different meaningful giving opportunities. We also feel that this will give each of these missions a dedicated time to promote their ministry appropriately and not get lost amid a myriad of other options.

There will be special RED giving envelopes in the pew racks. As you use these, it will go to the specified mission for that month.

February	WATTS
March	Jones/Joyner Music Fund
April	Bethel Youth Ministries
July	“Christmas in July” Community Ministries (CCAP, Faith in Action, Give Back with Cuts)
August	World Hunger (Harvest Sunday)
October	Bethel Youth Ministries
December	Global Missions

We will also offer two food drives during the year as we have in the past – one during Lent and one during Advent.



What is WATTS? It's 20+ places of worship that provide shelter throughout the winter from 7pm – 7am for 35 men and women.

How Can I Help? You can help fix dinner or breakfast, wash dishes, register guests, play cards or just sleep on a cot. There will also be an opportunity to provide needed items for the week.

When is Bethel's Week? February 20- 27th

Sign Me up!!: We encourage you to visit Our Sign-Up Genius site to volunteer @ <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a094aa8ac22a64-watts1>

Or find Judy McKiernan or Marion Schottelkorb on Sunday mornings

Isaiah 25:4 For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, February 5, 9:45 a.m.
Discipleship Hall**

Women's Ministries

All women of Bethel and friends are invited to attend Wild Women events and activities. If you are interested in receiving Wild Women e-mails, please contact Donna Turrill at 540-409-7015 or turrills@comcast.net.

First Friday Fellowship

*February 3, 9:30 a.m.
Firefly Café*

We will meet at the **Firefly Café** in Creekside the first Friday of every month. The coffee shop offers a variety of drinks and pastries for you to enjoy. Karen Nguyen will lead a short devotional. Any questions- call Karen at 540-303-1189.

Third Tuesday Dinner

*February 21, 6:00 p.m.
Roma's, 120 Fairfax Pike, Stephens City*

We will meet for dinner and fellowship beginning at 6:00. There is no need to RSVP.

WATTS Dinner

On Thursday Feb. 23, the Wild Women will provide dinner for WATTS. Emily Whitacre is creating a sign-up sheet. We will need 7-8 volunteers to be at the dinner from 5:45-8:00. We will also need assistance with providing and preparing the meal. If you have questions or are interested in serving, please contact Emily at whitacre0621@yahoo.com.

Lenten Soup and Sandwich

On March 29, the Wild Women will provide soup and sandwiches for the Lenten mid-week service. Mark your calendars. A sign-up sheet will be created closer to the date.

Other Upcoming Events

On May 21 at 1:00, Kitty Miller will be putting together a "birthday celebration." We also plan to have a walk and picnic on June 11. Go ahead and mark your calendars with these dates. We will share details as we get closer to the events. We also plan on assisting with the Yard Sale and the Hoe Down.

Men's Ministries

Men's Breakfast

*Saturday, February 4, 8:30 a.m.
Backseat Bar and Grill*

We meet for a time of fellowship, food, and Bible study. It is a great time to connect with other men in the congregation and share our faith with each other and support one another.

Men's Fellowship Dinner

*Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.
50/50 Taphouse (Cork Street, Winchester)*

It's a great time to invite some friends to join us and let them get to know us in a relaxed and fun setting. Hope to see you there.

Men's Steering Team

Be a part of the Steering Team, praying about, discerning, and discussing God's vision and mission for Men's Ministries at Bethel. The Bethel Men's Ministry is a strong group of dedicated men serving an essential part of our Congregational Life. This is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation! This is going to be an amazing year! Come and join this group in planning for 2017. Contact the church office or the Congregational Life Board Chair Dave Griffin at grifdog@icloud.com to join.

Council and Board Chairs for 2017

President - **Tom Milburn**
Vice President – **Bob Hollingsworth**
Secretary - **Rose Pierce**
Treasurer - **Traci Shoberg**
Worship Board – **Pastor Dave**
Prayer and Care Board – **Pat Blevins**
Learning Board – **Trevor Brazelton**
Servant Board – **Julie Shanabrook**
Congregational Life – **Dave Griffin**
Ministry Support – **Adrian Pullen**

*****All Minutes from Council Meeting and Financial Information are posted on our website at www.bethelwinchester.com under the "Publications" tab.*****



ELCA Youth Gathering

Underground!

Sunday, February 5, 6:00 p.m.

BIG BIBLE TIME – Painting, music, poetry, and ancient art will be interactive parts of BIG BIBLE TIME. We will create our own modern parables and discover our own favorite stories! **Bring:** your favorite bible.

Sunday, February 19, 6:00 p.m.

WE ARE ALL REFUGEES Jesus was a refugee and we all are too. Together we will act out stories of biblical characters, hear from modern day refugees from around the world, and learn how to love and be safe spaces for each other. **Bring:** something from home that tells a bit of your family's history!

7th Day is coming March 4-5th!

Hey 5th & 6th grade families! It is our annual overnight event with hundreds of youth from our area! ***Register by February 8th online at vasynod.org.*** During 7th Day weekend participants are part of a "Shepherd Group" with other youth and adult leaders and explore a story of the Bible through drama, games, crafts, and music. In the evenings youth and adults will have time to relax in their Cottages with their congregation and other congregations from Virginia and discuss how 7th Day is going. It's a wild and authentic experience of Christian community and space to discover what life is all about together.

Student Care Packages

As one of many groups within Bethel's Congregational Life, this group is an important part of our ministry as a beacon from home base to our students who are taking the leap to higher education. For many, it is the final step out of the family nest. These packages are a reminder to our students that they remain a part of the Bethel family and community of faith, and that they have our love and support. This is a great group led by Cynthia Lauster, and they will be sending packages out in April before finals and again later in the year. If you would like to join this group, please either contact the church office or Cynthia at cynthialauster@gmail.com.

Coming up in 2017! Put in your phones!

Vacation Bible Camp – June 12-16, 2017 (mornings).

High School Mission Week–July 9-15, 2017. We are sent to listen, learn and live like Jesus together in Nicholas, Green Brier and Clay Counties, West Virginia. We help begin the rebuilding process with Community Lutheran Partners, FEMA and the Red Cross. This experience is open to all current 8th – 12th grade youth and adult shepherds. Total cost per person is \$300. Signup on our website at bethelwinchester.com.

Bethel Week at Camp - - Put in your calendars **July 30 – August 4, 2017** for our week of camp for all kids and youth! First 5 kids that are registered get a special prize during camp week + save \$\$\$ by registering early! See carolinefurnace.org for Potomac river, Horse Camp, Survivor Camp and much more.

Later Life And Legacy

Space still available for Seminars II & III

These Free Seminars discuss subjects that many of us really don't want to talk about i.e. our Senior Years and the decisions we'll need to make as we age. On Saturday mornings February 4 and February 11, knowledgeable speakers will present information on these topics:

Seminar II - Legal/Financial Issues (Feb. 4)

Seminar III - Final Arrangements (Feb. 11)

LL&L Brochures are located in the Narthex Pamphlet Display Board. We sincerely hope you will do yourself and your family a big favor by registering for any or all of the LL&L Seminars. Attendees do not have to be a member of Bethel.

Martin's Cards Are Back!!!

Do you buy groceries? Do you buy gas? Of course you do. Next time you do these, help out our youth at the same time. Our youth are always in need of financial support and in 2018 our youth will ascend on Houston for the National Youth Gathering. Martin's gift cards are an easy and very effective way to help our youth program at Bethel. For every \$100 in gift cards we sell, Bethel receives \$5. A 5% return in investment without added work is a great return. These cards work at all of the Martin's in the area, as well as the Martin's gas stations. Make this a part of your monthly budgeting and help our youth at the same time. A kiosk in the Narthex will be available to purchase cards every other week on February 5 between church services. Any questions, please see Rachel Carlson or email at rcarlso2@su.edu.



Thiel Choir in Concert at Bethel Lutheran Church

Friday, March 10, 7:00 p.m.

The forty-voice Thiel Choir from Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania, will present a concert at **7:00 p.m. Friday evening, March 10, 2017.**

The performance is part of the Thiel Choir's 2017 spring choir tour. The ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Michael Bray, reflects the diverse interests and disciplines of the Thiel College student body. In his twenty-first year as Director of Choral Activities, Bray conducts the Thiel Choir and Chamber Singers, Thiel College Handbell Ringers, teaches private instruction in voice, music history, world music and conducting.

Thiel College, a four-year, coeducational, liberal arts college located near the Pennsylvania-Ohio border approximately equidistant from Erie, Pittsburgh and Cleveland, enrolls 1000 students. Thiel College is a college of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America** and its 135-acre campus is located in Greenville, a community of 7,000.

The choir will perform a variety of sacred works by Hans Leo Hassler, Henry Purcell, Rene Clausen, Jean Berger, F. Melius Christiansen, Vincent Persichetti, Michael John Trotta, Knut Nystedt and Robert Wetzler, and arrangements of both American folksongs, hymns and spirituals. For this 500th anniversary year of the Reformation, excerpts from the writings of Martin Luther will help weave a narrative for our time.

There will be no charge for admission, however, a freewill offering will be taken.

What a privilege to have the Thiel Choir perform for us at Bethel. Look for details in upcoming Sunday bulletins for how you can show Christian hospitality to this wonderful group.

Molly Beyer will be the lead contact. If you are interested in hosting students, please contact her at mbeyer821@gmail.com.

February Birthdays

- 1 - Will Sigler
Kathy Brown
- 2 - Pat Clevenger
- 3 - Mack Cain
Micah Young
- 5 - Jim Ramey
Isabelle Cupp
- 6 - Matthew Dietz
Dalton Clark
Bill Hall
- 7 - Sophia McAllister
- 8 - Gretchen Meade
Dario Savarese II
- 9 - Jason Whitacre
- 10 - Clare Milburn
Andrew Collins
- 12 - Trevor Brazelton
- 16 - Eva Shifflett
- 19 - Georgia Boswell
- 20 - Kaylie Riggelman
- 22 - Cara Bere
Kylie Bere
- 23 - Molly Robinson
- 24 - Daniel Milam
- 25 - Connor Lothrop
- 26 - Micah Carlson
Amy Jaster
- 27 - John Adair
Suzanne Gregory
Jane McAllister
Heidi David-Young
- 28 - Ron Lauck
Patti Collins
Leslie Hoover
- 29 - Mia Hudson
Brady Robinson

February Anniversaries

- 13 - Mark and Cristyn Everly
- 14 - Alvin and Joline Schultheis
- 21 - Wayne and Judy McCaughey
- 26 - David and Alice Matvay

Thank You!

Thank You from Lutheran Family Services of Virginia! One of the missions of Cave Quest Vacation Bible School was providing the supplies to help the 2016 summer program of called Therapeutic Day Treatment in Winchester.

"There was a tremendous amount of regional support for our Therapeutic Day Treatment summer session in 2016. There is a story of generosity and commitment behind every donation made for this program. Each donor made a unique contribution that fit their area of mission and, together, created a memorable session for the students and staff. Kim Harrison said it best in her feedback report, "...it was more than we ever expected." Thank you to all of our donors that made this year's summer session so successful."

Lutheran Family Services in VA

Around the Congregation

Congregational sympathy is extended to Shari Fletcher and her family on the passing of her father in December.

Congregational sympathy is extended to Patty White and her family on the passing of her mother, Cindy Lynch.

Facts & Figures

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

. . .for your generosity, support, and partnership in ministries here at Bethel, to our community, and to God's world.

"You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us."
(2 Corinthians 9:11)

Average
Worship Attendance
December

275

Designated Offering Thru December

For the World:

World Hunger Appeal
\$7,393

Global Missions
\$21,645

Harvest Sunday
\$2,077

For the Community:

CCAP
\$8,476

Jones/Joyner Music Fund
\$7,091

Good Samaritan
\$674

For the Bethel Community:

Student Missions
\$825

Jubilee/Mortgage Principal
\$50,989

Scatter Garden
\$4,600

Principal Balance on Mortgage as of December 31, 2015	Principal Balance on Mortgage as of December 21, 2016	Decrease in Mortgage Principal 2016
\$392,128.39	\$341,304.23	\$77,824.16

	MSP	Offerings	% of MSP	Total 2016 MSP
	Needed to meet MSP	Actual		\$528,255
December 2016	\$58,901	\$45,293	77%	
YTD as of December 2016	\$528,255	\$466,191	88%	

For more detailed information, please visit www.bethelwinchester.com.
The most current financial update will be located under the "Publications" headline.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2077 North Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603, 540-662-3245

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

www.bethelwinchester.com

Rev. Dr. David N. Young, Pastor

pastordave@bethelwinchester.com, Ext. 105

Darline DeMott, Director of Music Ministries

darline.demott@gmail.com

Larry Correll, Organist/Choir Director

larryg.correll@gmail.com

Sue Correll, Accompanist/Organist

sueellen.correll@gmail.com

Bryan Jaster, Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation

bryan@bethelwinchester.com, Ext. 104

Terri Hollingsworth, Director of Office Ministries

office@bethelwinchester.com, Ext. 100

Kim Williams, Director of Finance

bookkeeper@bethelwinchester.com, Ext. 103

Pat Shields, Director of Information Management

BethelDatabase@aol.com

Cliff Crowder, Director of Facility Management

office@bethelwinchester.com, Ext. 106

Arlene Gavitt, Faith Community Nurse

office@bethelwinchester.com

Patty White, Director of Custodial Ministries

annwhite54@aol.com

Gretchen Meade, Director of Nursery Care

office@bethelwinchester.com

**The deadline for articles for the
March issue of the
Bethel Banner
is 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 15.**