

Bethel Banner

March 2015

“Imagine a world where every person feels loved, valued, and heard. Imagine a church that seeks God's wisdom, will, and Word together. Imagine an intimate, affectionate community where every day is an experience of caring, sharing, comfort, and peace.”

Faith5 is the car that drives us to the world we imagine together! **Faith5** is Five little “Enrichuals” for everyone

Share, Read, Talk, Pray and Bless



Connect with us on Wednesday nights during Lent at 6:00pm for Soup and Sandwich Supper and Faith 5! Come join the fun!



Pastor's Page

What are you "taking on" for Lent?

So often, we look to the Lenten season as a time for "giving up" something. The reason for doing this, as far as I can tell, is that by sacrificing something in our life (i.e. a food we love, something that is harmful to us, or something in our behavior that causes us issues) we are better able to connect with Jesus and his sacrifice for our sin. There is some historic precedent for this to be sure.

Many Christians "fast" during Lent (especially on Fridays). This leads to hunger pains at some point in the day, and for many this can be an effective, even meaningful, experience that reminds them of Jesus, his suffering, and makes us viscerally aware of what sacrifice means. I have done this from time to time in my own life, and I would agree that it can be meaningful.

More often, however, folks give up something along the lines of Chocolate, or TV, or dessert, or something of this kind. While I can appreciate the sentiment and by no means want to dissuade people from something that may have become a meaningful ritual for the Lenten observance, I do wonder if this is the best way to observe this season.

I have been heartened by folks who have given up a meal during the week, saved that money, and given it at the end of Lent to a food pantry. Or those folks who have "purged" their closets of the plethora of "stuff" that they own and given them to Goodwill. This, in my judgment, gets a little closer to what Lent is really about.

In recent years, I have tried to "take on" something, instead of giving something up. This year, I have taken on the discipline of getting up three days a week around 6pm to have devotions and centering prayer with Heidi. Already, I can tell a difference in my life and ministry. While I have always been pretty disciplined in my own personal devotions, making time to share them with Heidi has been wonderful. I actually find myself looking forward to getting up with her and entering the Word and sharing prayer.

What might be Jesus calling you to "take on" this Lenten season? Perhaps daily devotions if

you don't already do so? Perhaps taking on the commitment of being in worship every week? Perhaps it is the discipline of giving a tithe for this season only (trying it out so to speak with no long term commitment)? Hopefully, you will come to find, as I have, that the old adage my mother would share with me at supper time to be true: *how do you know you won't like if you haven't even tried it?*

Lenten Shalom,
Pastor Dave

Lenten Activities:

"40 Days of Life Together"

Our Lenten theme this year is "40 Days of Life Together" and this springs from our emphasis in 2015 on developing meaningful spiritual relationships. In keeping with this emphasis, we will be studying one of the most influential Christian books on discipleship and community, *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Our Wednesday evening gatherings during Lent will focus on five chapters of the book:

- February 25: Community
- March 4: The Day with Others
- March 11: The Day Alone
- March 18: Ministry
- March 25: Confession and Communion

The week of each of these Wednesday night Lenten worship services, I will be posting some discussion questions, conversation starters, and Bible verses for you to use in small groups, in coffee groups, as spouses/families. You can access these at our Lent 2015 Study Blog: www.lent2015atbethel.blogspot.com.

I will be offering two separate five-week study opportunities for you to gather for discussion of the weekly themes from Life Together:

Wednesday evenings at Bethel from 7:30-8:30
(begins February 25)

"Brown Bag and Bible" study group on Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 at Bethel **(begins March 4)**

Council Highlights

Call to Order

The February meeting of the Congregational Council of Bethel Lutheran Church was held on February 11. President Tom Beyer, Vice President Karla King, Treasurer Traci Shobert, Secretary Bruce Lothrop, Cory Carlson, Adrian Pullen, Julie Shannabrook, Greg Brondos, and Bryan Jaster were present at the meeting. Pastor David Young was out of town. Facilities Director Cliff Crowder also attended the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Giving was approximately \$4,000 less than anticipated on the ministry-spending plan. Facilities income was approximately \$1,000 less than expected, but the difference will likely be made up in February. In addition, facilities expenses were much higher than planned. In total, expenses exceeded income by nearly \$16,000. While a deficit was anticipated for January, the actual deficit was about \$9,000 more than expected. January is typically a weak month in financial terms. Council will take action if the trend continues.

Furnace

During routine inspections, representatives of ME Flow found problems with the furnace in the old Sunday School wing of the church. While no failure has occurred to this point, ME Flow recommended that Bethel consider replacement before a critical failure occurs. A new model would likely be far more energy efficient than the current unit. Ideally, the unit would be replaced in April or May when HVAC use would be minimal. ME Flow would replace the furnace with a comparable, more modern model for about \$15,000. Council requested that Cliff obtain one or two more quotes before Council makes any decision with regards to the furnace. Cliff agreed that additional quotes would be useful and will contact other vendors.

Follow up on Congregational Meeting

It would be helpful to send financial information by mail prior to the meeting so that members of the Congregation can familiarize themselves with the information prior to the meeting.

Newspaper Advertising

Trinity Lutheran, Grace Lutheran, and Bethel have traditionally shared an ad in the Faith section of the Winchester Star. Trinity has withdrawn from the arrangement. As a result, Bethel would need to either abandon the ad or commit to paying a larger portion. After discussion, council agreed that the newspaper is no longer a common method for locating a Church. Various simple Internet and smart phone searches were found to suggest Bethel when appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bruce Lothrop
Secretary

Council Members for 2015

Tom Beyer - President
Karla King - Vice President
Bruce Lothrop - Secretary
Traci Shoberg - Treasurer
Cory Carlson
Tom Milburn
Greg Brondos
Adrian Pullen
Julie Shanabrook

Women's Ministries

Girls' Morning Out

March 14, 9:30 p.m.

Come join us for a morning out at Bob Evans! RSVP to Susan Asmussen if you plan to attend (asmussen10910@gmail.com or 703-615-7289)

Bob Evans is located at 816 Millwood Avenue, Winchester

Women's Spring Retreat

April 10-12

Priestfield Retreat Center in Inwood, WV

From Soul Keeping: "Jesus calls us to a deep life, one that goes beyond our everyday interests and desires. A rested, well-cared-for soul has the capacity to empathize and understand profoundly, to ask questions and not simply go through the motions of faith. It holds our connection to eternity and can help us see past the petty concerns of the present. It has access to the kind of peace, gratitude, freedom, and blessing that comes only from a heavenly well-spring....Your soul is waiting. It longs to return to its...only resting place—God."

LADIES, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF...DON'T MISS THIS RETREAT – SOUL KEEPING – LEARN HOW CARING FOR YOUR SOUL MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

Registration forms will be available soon.

Men's Ministries

Join us at 8:30 a.m. on the first Saturday each month at the Back Seat Bar and Grill. Please note the new time!

Music and Arts Ministries

Calling all voices... as we look to Lent and Easter Worship, we need your voice!

Where's the best seat in the house? The choir loft! Come join us as we begin preparing exciting music for this Holy Season. Rehearsals are Thursdays from 7:15 PM to 9:00 PM in the Music Room. We invite you to join us for either the 8:30 or 11:00 Worship Services weekly. For more information, see any choir member or "just pop in"! Let's celebrate the life of Christ and share His story (and HISTORY!) through song. All voice parts are needed. What are you waiting for?! Come and SING!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU... for your continued generous donations to Bethel's Jones Music Fund. Because of your donations last year, we were able to add more special instrumentalists to our music, present concerts, and even hire an accompanist to our music staff. The Jones Music Fund exists in memory of a great heritage of music at Bethel. Your continued donations to this fund ensure that more offerings of great music can happen. If you would like to donate to this fund, simply mark your check "Jones Music Fund" or designate it on your offering envelope. **NEW!!! You can now also give to this fund via the online giving option on Bethel's Web Page!**

A Musical Lenten Journey! Concert Series at First Baptist Church, Winchester (141 North Washington Street) Friday, March 6 Featuring George Donovan, Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 21 at 7:00 PM.

*Piano/Organ Duets
Local Vocalists
Instrumental Music
F.J. Hayden's "The Seven Last
Words of Christ"*

Youth Ministries



Acts 17:28a, "In God we live, move, and exist."

Save the Date: June 14th-18th, 5:30-8:30 PM - for all kids 4 years old and up! Youth, Parents and all, there are spaces for you in G-Force!

Help Us Prepare. During the month of March we are in looking for:

- Helpers to lead specific tasks (leaders during the week, behind the scenes, and planning!)
- Financial Donations for science supplies, music cds for kids, t-shirts, stage and decoration (Mark "VBS" on your check!)
- Please connect with Bryan Jaster (bryan@bethelwinchester.com) to help

Spring Work Weekend

Camp Caroline Furnace - March 13-15

Please connect with Reuben Todd at Camp if you are interested in helping at our Lutheran Camp! It's a new day at camp with LOTS going on - come help! Email: reuben@carolinefurnace.org

Road Trip

*Camp for All 6-12th grade youth
May 9, 10-4pm @ Caroline Furnace*

Cost \$15 per person. We'll be doing the ropes course, hiking, eating together, and building stuff for Camp. Funtastical day together!



ELCA Youth Gathering "Rise Up"

Detroit, July 12-19, 2015

Thanks to ALL who supported the fabulous Souper Bowl Soup Sale - Bethel purchased over \$2000 in soup this year! THANK YOU!

Team Meet up Dates!

March 15 – 4pm, all Gathering Participants in the Underground

March 29 – 4pm, mandatory parent and youth gathering in the Underground

April 19 – 4pm

May 9 – 10-4pm, Caroline Furnace with Muhlenberg youth

May 17 – 4pm

June 14 – 9:30am

July 8 – 6:30pm – all parents & participants



Underground Youth

living and loving like Jesus together

High School – March 15@ 6pm - "Love is Grace", karaoke lip sync and Tank

Middle School - March 22@ 6pm - gargle song, nine square in the air, and minute to win it!

2015 Seniors & Families!

We love blessing our graduating seniors with a Quilt made in the colors of the college you will be going to! It is a gift from our whole church to remember that you are loved by us and are following Jesus wherever you are. If you are a senior and happen to know what college you will be heading to please contact Pat Blevins @ ptblevins12@gmail.com.

Adult Forum

Adult Forum Schedule (March)

We begin our next 7 week study in the *Ani-mate* series with "Practices." We will be focusing on the important practices of the faith that guide and lead us toward deeper faith and wider love. We will also be offering our presentation on our mission trip to Tanzania this month (rescheduled because of snow).

- March 1 Prayer (Oriented Toward God)
Brian McLaren
- March 8 **Presentation on Tanzania from Mission Trip participants**
- March 15 Food (Eating with Jesus)
Sara Miles
- March 22 Worship (Seeking God's Presence)
Mike Slaughter
- March 29 Money (The Joy of Sharing)
Shane Claiborne

Brown Bag and Bible midweek study returns for Lent



You are invited to join Pastor Dave for mid-week devotions and study of the Lenten book, "Life Together" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We will begin on Wednesday, March 4 and continue through Wednesday, April 1 (Holy Week). We meet at 12:00 noon -1:00 p.m. in the conference room. You are welcome to bring a "brown bag" to enjoy with conversation and sharing before we begin our study of the texts and themes for the season. No RSVP is needed, just show up when you can. All are welcome, so invite friends!

Lent 2015 Schedule

Midweek Worship

(February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25)
6:00 pm Lenten Dinner
7:00 pm Lenten Worship
7:30 pm Lenten study group
(Discipleship Hall)

Maundy Thursday Worship (April 2)

12:00 noon at Bethel
7:00 pm at Bethel

Good Friday Worship (April 3)

12:00 noon at Bethel
7:00 pm at Bethel

Easter Sunday Worship (April 5)

8:30 and 11:00 am
An Easter breakfast will be available from 7:30-10:30 in Discipleship Hall.

Returning Thanks

Returning Thanks is a ministry that has been going on at Bethel for many years. Twice a year (Good Friday and the Friday before Thanksgiving) members gather for a morning of "giving thanks and giving back" by doing small jobs for those in our community who need a little extra help. We have raked leaves, hauled brush, cut wood, cleaned windows, painted, mulched, and worked on a variety of other odd jobs.



A Team Leader is needed if this ministry is to continue at Bethel. Please prayerfully consider if this might be one of your gifts. If so and you would like to lead this team, notify the church office as soon as possible at 662-3245 or at office@bethelwinchester.com.

Centering Prayer Retreat During Lent

The Centering Prayer Group at Bethel is sponsoring another Centering Prayer Retreat this Lenten season on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to noon in Discipleship Hall. We will have a brief introduction to Centering Prayer and then sit in prayer and silence for 20 minutes of Centering Prayer. We will follow that with a brief period of meditative walking. We will continue in this pattern until we have done three periods of Centering Prayer and 3 periods of meditative walking. After completing our prayer, we will have time for reflection and discussion.

Centering Prayer is our attempt to be present to God, by noticing our every day thoughts, and then letting them go, and simply attempting to be present in the moment. We sit in silence for 20 minutes because it usually takes that long for our thoughts to quiet down, and for us to enter the peace and tranquility that is God within us.

As we continue our journey this Lent toward the cross and ultimately, the resurrection, we remember the willingness and consent Jesus demonstrated for us by his obedience to God unto death. Centering Prayer is an opportunity to practice our own willingness and consent to God. It is an opportunity to say "yes" to God and the work of the Spirit in us. It is an opportunity to imitate Jesus' obedience, and in some small way, return a little of the love, care and attention God has always shown us.

We would love for you to join us and experience this powerful, ancient way of praying and being present with God.

WHEN: March 28

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to noon

WHERE: Discipleship Hall

WHAT: 3 periods of Centering Prayer, and 3 periods of walking meditation with Intro. to Centering Prayer to begin and discussion to close

WHO: You!!

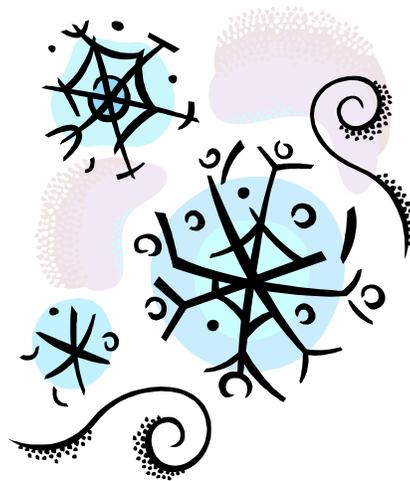
Attention Kids!

On Sunday, February 1, the children's sermon was based on Romans 8:28. Paul says, "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

We learned that even bad, hurtful, disappointing things are good in God's kingdom. We find that we need His help to overcome them sometimes. That pulls us closer to Him, through reading His word, the Bible, and praying to Him.

I am praying that you are sculpting your snowflake, as you pray to Him for help. Bring it Easter Sunday, so we can "Let it go", along with all those hurts that, ended up being good, bringing you closer to Jesus.

See ya' Easter Sunday,
Joy Stull





At the close of each WATTS week at Bethel Judy and I struggle to find the words that even remotely convey our gratitude and appreciation for this Bethel Community. We struggle to find ways to even adequately describe the unselfish and gracious giving of time, talents and resources, how we know if we just ask you respond, how you shown up to help even when we don't ask and how we believe that Bethel provides a Grace filled and loving refuge for our homeless guests.

As we close another phenomenal WATTS week at Bethel we do not need to search for words. Instead we are blessed to be able to share this beautiful perspective and thank you from a guest:

"Thank you so much for all the love Bethel Lutheran. Here is a poem for you"

In This Little Church

**I saw the light in this little Church
I've Felt His Mercy and Grace Shine on me in this little Church
I've made friendships in this little Church that reminded me of my salvation
I've felt a Love so overwhelming in this little Church
I've learned to love my Lord ever so more in this little Church
I've learned how to live and pray because of the blessings I've received in this little Church
Thank you Lord for this little Church**

On behalf of all of our guests Bethel Lutheran we say THANK YOU!!
Our "Little Church" was filled with God Winks and God Sightings each and every WATTS day.

Judy and Marion

Inquirers' Day @ Bethel New Member Sunday

On **Saturday, March 21** from 9:00-11:30 am, we will host a day for perspective members of Bethel as well as anyone interested in simply learning more about our ministry. Childcare will be provided and Breakfast will be served. Come meet members of our Church Staff, our Church council, as well as our Ministry Board Chairs. Pastor Dave will give an overview of our mission and vision at Bethel and Pat Shields, our Director of Information Management, will walk you through a process to discern your spiritual gifts.

In all it will be a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends, share in fellowship, and encounter how Bethel is living out our vision to be *"a community growing deeper in faith and wider in love."*

New Member Sunday will be on March 29.

Please fill out a registration postcard and place in the offering plate or return to the church office no later than March 17. Postcards are located in the "Visitor Information" pamphlet display board.

Holy Hoops Returns!

"Holy Hoops" - Tuesdays @ 7pm March through May - Basketball for 6th grade on up. We gather at Winchester Church of God until 8:30pm each Tuesday to play, meet new people, pray together and have some moderately competitive basketball.



Global Missions/Tanzania Trip

A presentation of the recent mission trip will be shown during Adult Forum (9:45 a.m.) on Sunday, March 8, in Discipleship Hall. Please plan to attend to see and hear about all the exciting ministry going on in Tanzania. Here is a little "taste":

In January, 9 members of Bethel (Bob and Terri Hollingsworth, Jennifer and Wayne Lafollette, Daniel Milam, Reann Cummings, Urve Crowder, Jack McAllister and Pastor Dave) joined with friends from around the country to experience a truly unforgettable trip to Tanzania. Bethel has been in shared ministry with Operation Bootstrap Africa (OBA) since 1986. Our congregation has made significant financial contributions toward the work of OBA ever since, including: building the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center, developing the MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School (where we built the Hottle House as the residence for the school chaplain), building the Plaster House (which performs surgery on needy children and allows them to stay for rehab and recover), and sponsoring the new Nursing school run by ALMC. From supporting students at the Girl's school with scholarships, to providing stethoscopes to the nursing students, to paying for the medical school of Nanyoke Nasiri, the first Maasai female Doctor in Tanzania, Bethel sees this support as vital to our congregation mission of being *A community growing deeper in faith and wider in love.*



The Chapel at MaaSae Girls' Lutheran Secondary School
Monduli, Tanzania

Still, what we have received from those we have sought to help has dwarfed our contributions. Seeing the genuine and loving people who are truly doing "God's work" in each of these places is amazing and humbling. There are simply too many pictures and experiences to recount here. However, suffice it to say that the leaders who work so hard "on the ground" to make sure these ministries occur are "living saints."

Of course, we took some time to see the "sights" (which included elephants, giraffes, lions, rhinos, zebras, and birds of seemingly every stripe). Still, the greatest sight we saw was the active work of the Holy Spirit breathing new life and new hope into and through the lives of so many incredible people. God is always up to stuff, and most assuredly he is through Operation Bootstrap Africa, through the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center, and the good and beautiful people of Tanzania. We at Bethel are just so pleased that God sought to bring us along for the ride!



Dr. Nanyoke Nasiri and Dr. Jack





Speaking of soup and sandwich suppers.

. . please talk to your small groups, women’s groups, men’s groups, Disciple Bible Study groups, choir groups, or any group of people you would like to join up with to help provide a meal for one of the Wednesday evenings during Lent. Sign your group up at the Lenten Narthex display. These meals are to be very simple. Just a few crock pots of soup and some basic sandwiches. We also need a few people to be responsible for the set up which consists of getting out bowls, plates, napkins, plastic ware, cups and water pitchers. Clean up is just that; put everything away, make sure dishes are washed and put back, tables are wiped off, and most importantly. . .the trash is taken out to the dumpster.



Are You Missing Something?

Please take a look at the coats on the coat rack in the church narthex. There are many that have been hanging there since November. Please take your coats with you.

Community Bulletin Board

Located in the “Crossroads” (just outside the church office) is a Community Board where you can post items that might be of interest to the congregation. Stop by and look over these items too. There might be something happening in the wider community that you would like to be a part of or attend.

For example:

“Crop For Kids”

March 7, 9am-9pm

To benefit the children of the Winchester Day Preschool and Childcare Center. A fee of \$35 for full day or \$25 for half day will provide meals, snacks, drinks and work space. 100% of fee goes to the Preschool. Event to be held at the Woodmen Lodge off Senseny Road in Winchester.

To register or if ?s contact Sherry Newman



2015 Bethel Board Chairs

- Worship Board – **Pastor Dave**
- Prayer and Care Board – **Irene Cockerham**
- Learning Board – **Amy Jaster**
- Servant Board – **Dean Cole**
- Congregational Life – **Jennifer LaFollette**
- Ministry Support – **Shawn Garner**

Something New for Easter!

This year, we will offer two options for your donations to honor or remember loved ones on Easter Sunday. Many years, there have been so many lilies that the overwhelming scent has been difficult for some people to enjoy the service. Also, many lilies are left after service and have to be thrown away. Several other churches have been offering an alternative so we thought we would give it a try this year. You may purchase a lily as you have done in the past or you are welcome to give a monetary gift to support the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Both options will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin.

You may use the form printed here or fill out one that will be included in your Sunday bulletin beginning March 15. All forms and donations must be received in the church office no later than **March 29**.

Thank you for your willingness to try something new!

SPRING Forward!

Daylight Savings Time
Begins
Sunday, March 8

Set Your Clocks Forward
One Hour on Saturday Night
before going to bed.



Easter Lilies/ELCA World Hunger Appeal

Would you like to give an Easter lily to help beautify the sanctuary on Easter morning? Or perhaps you would like to make a monetary donation to support World Hunger. Both options will be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Simply fill out the form below, place it in the offering plate with your check or mail to the church office.

Your Name _____

Number of lilies ordered (\$8.00 each): _____

Number of ELCA World Hunger Appeal donations (\$8.00 each): _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____



Please make checks payable to Bethel Lutheran Church and indicate "Easter Lily" or "ELCA World Hunger" in the memo line.

All orders must be received by **Sunday, March 29**.

Thrivent Choice \$\$\$\$

As a Thrivent member, you may be able to designate Bethel Lutheran Church to receive these \$\$\$\$.

With Thrivent Choice®, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go. Since 2010, eligible members have used this program to direct more than \$225 million to churches and nonprofits nationwide.

HOW THRIVENT CHOICE WORKS

Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. Eligible members are designated Choice Dollars that they can direct to enrolled charities. Please visit their website (www.thrivent.com) or call your representative to find out more about this program.

Lenten Food Drive

February 22 through Passion/Palm Sunday

The Food Drive continues as donated food items and financial assistance benefits low income disabled and elderly clients of the Frederick County Dept. of Social Services. Items need: canned vegetables, canned fruit with no sugar and diabetic foods, canned meats, breakfast items, peanut butter, jelly, honey, coffee, juice, pastas and spaghetti sauce. Postage stamps are always welcome as well as personal care products, paper products, and cleaning products. For those of you who prefer not to shop, the grocery gifts cards (Kathy Brown will be glad to assist with Martins cards each Sunday) are a big boost to the limited budget of those on fixed incomes. As always, Thank you

Please contact **Karen Shipp** for more information: shipp.karen@gmail.com or (540) 664-6465.

"Holy Hoops" March Madness Watch Party

w/ P-Diddy and Rev. Run

On **Thursday, March 19** the NCAA Men's basketball tournament begins in earnest with a smorgasbord of games beginning at noon. You are invited to join *P-Diddy* (Pastor Dave Young, Bethel Lutheran Church) and *Rev.Run* (Pastor Jonathan Boynton, Grace Lutheran Church) at Buffalo Wild Wings for a watch party! Invite friends, enjoy camaraderie, and enter the "Holy Hoops" Nets for Nets challenge. Fill out a bracket, donate \$10, and the money will go to the ELCA Malaria campaign to provide Mosquito nets for those in need.



(A mosquito net hanging from a bed in Africa)



Thank You!

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift to Global Health Ministries which help support medical missions in Tanzania. This past year has been particularly difficult for many of our overseas partners. Yet despite this, their work continues. There are so many ways our partners are improving health in their communities. By sharing our resources and the gifts we have been given, Global Health Ministries supports them and encourages them in this work.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry.

Blessing,
Kim Dickey
Director for Mission Development

Dear Bethel Choir,

The CD is great! The music brings me great comfort and joy.

Keep up the good work!

Dear Fantasy Football Players,

Thank you for the donation to Blue Ridge Hospice in memory of my dad and husband. Blue Ridge Hospice is a worthy cause and has brought comfort and peace to many.

Sincerely,
Sara Smith

To the Congregational of Bethel Lutheran Church:

The Adult Protective Services Unit of the Frederick County Department of Social Services would like to thank you for your very generous donations of food, grocery gift cards, and cash. The Adult Protective Services Unit provided food baskets which included canned goods and staples, paper products, ham or turkey, and fresh fruit to 45 elderly/disabled adults in Frederick County this past Christmas. This would not be possible without your support.

Many of our elderly/disabled clients have no friends or family members involved in their lives. Almost all of our clients are on fixed incomes, and items such as ham, turkey, and fresh fruits are luxuries to our clients who cannot afford them. Words simply cannot express how rewarding it is to see our clients' faces light up when we deliver these food baskets to them. They are so appreciative to be remembered at such a special time of the year.

Thanks you so much and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2015!

Sincerely,
The Adult Protective Services Unit
Susan Hockensmith
Cynthia Cohen
Jamie Eddy
Jennifer Rinker

March Birthdays

- 01 - Kristy Sikora
- 02 - Madison Savarese
- 05 - Darby Garner
 - Julia Havron
 - Bryan Jaster
 - Vonda Wilt
- 06 - Brian Brooks
- 07 - Joline Schultheis
- 08 - Ella Carlson
 - Ryleigh Stinedurf
- 09 - Amelia Riley
- 10 - Sandy Hulver
- 11 - Hannah McKiernan
 - Betty Nichols
 - Ethan Swaim
- 12 - Gus Brondos
 - Payton Grooms
 - Jo Adkins
- 13 - Irene Cockerham
 - Greg Brondos
 - Brian Boswell
 - Duane Wernecke
- 14 - Terri Ramsey
 - Edel Frank
 - Wayne LaFollette
- 15 - Mazie Clark
- 16 - Peter Griffin
 - Doug Nichols
- 17 - Michael Miller
 - Bert Poling
 - Tootie Russell
- 19 - Brenda Ramey
- 20 - Hazel Eckert
 - Madison Carhart
- 21 - Rowan Hudson
- 22 - Tom Beyer
- 23 - Kate Marsh
- 25 - John Stanfield
- 26 - Christopher Francis
 - Bruce Lothrop
- 27 - Molly Beyer
- 28 - Joy Stull
 - Shari Fletcher
- 29 - Becky Hall
 - Mike Barnes
 - Wes Brondos
 - John Sheehan
 - Jim Sayers

March Anniversaries

- 16 - Jim and Karen Shipp
- 16 - Bryan and Amy Jaster
- 22 - Clarence and Loretta Hohner
- 23 - James and Martha Jenkins
- 31 - Dennis and Beth Shelburne

Around the Congregation

We rejoice at the birth of Isabelle Morgan Cupp, born on February 5, 2015. Isabelle's parents are Darcy and Bill Cupp, and her big sister is Lilyan.

Congregational sympathy is extended to Crystal Pullen and her family on the passing of her mother.



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 January 252

Designated Ministries Offering Thru January 31

For the World

World Hunger Appeal

\$433

Global Missions

\$345

For the Community

CCAP

\$179

Jones Music Fund

\$905

Good Samaritan

\$0

For the Bethel Community

Student Missions

\$115

Jubilee/Mortgage Principal

\$10,218

Bethel Park

\$0

Principal Balance on Mortgage as of December 31, 2014	Principal Balance on Mortgage as of January 21, 2015	Decrease in Mortgage Principal 2015
\$464,285.42	\$456,768.60	\$7,768.79

Ministry Spending Plan Update

	MSP	Offerings	% of MSP	Total 2015 MSP
	Needed to meet MSP	Actual		\$512,000
January 2015	\$37,683	\$33,639	89%	
YTD as of January 2015	\$37,683	\$33,639	89%	

For more detailed financial information, please visit www.bethelwinchester.com and click on Publications.

Bethel Lutheran Church

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PASTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. Dr. Conrad Christianson

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NURSERY ATTENDENT

Gretchen Meade

The Deadline for the April
Bethel Banner is 3:00 p.m. on
Monday, March 23.