



# THIS WEEK AT BETHEL:

August 1, 2021

**Office hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9am-12pm

**Pastor Dave's office hours:** Monday, 9am-12pm

**Welcome to Worship!** We are glad to have you with us today! If you are a first time visitor, we invite you to complete a communication card, available at the Welcome Table. If you have questions or need assistance, please see a greeter or usher. **Welcome Pastor Terry Hannon!** Pastor Dave is enjoying a well deserved vacation today but will return to the office this week. We welcome Pastor Terry Hannon, who is no stranger to Bethel, as our Presiding Minister again today.

**Senior Quilt Sunday(s):** Senior Quilt Sunday is a Bethel tradition where we celebrate our recent graduates, pray over them as a congregation and wish them well in their future endeavors. Today we celebrate Ryan Rosen. Join us next week as we celebrate Katie Bellingham, Katie Bere, Ryan Hoyle, Molly Robinson and Noah Young.

**Altar Flowers:** If you are interested in providing altar flowers for a special occasion, please contact Kim Williams in the church office ([bookkeeper@bethelwinchester.com](mailto:bookkeeper@bethelwinchester.com)).

**Want to assist in worship?** A "Sign Up" genius link for greeters, readers, pray-ers, etc. is available in the weekly e-news and the Bethel Website. Please look for this link where you can sign up to participate in worship when it is convenient for you. You can also see Kristin after worship to sign up.

**WOW:** Worship on Wednesdays will resume beginning August 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the picnic shelter.

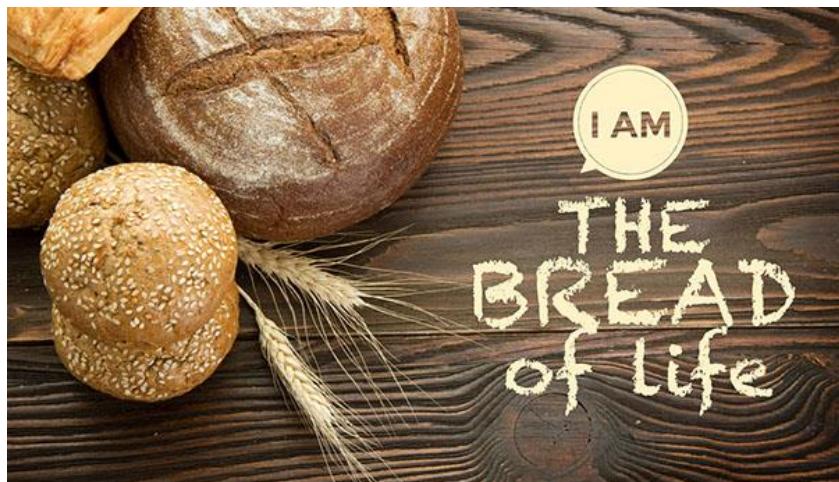
**WATTS Needs your HELP!** WATTS (*Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter*) is opening a Cooling Center at Market Street United Methodist Church. It will be open from August 2nd through October 31st. We will be open from noon to 5 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday and Thursday noon to 4:30 pm. Our Cooling Center is a place to stop in for a few minutes to a few hours from the hottest part of the day, to use a clean bathroom, grab a drink or snack, and charge a phone. Donations of bottled water, iced tea, Gatorade, sodas, coffee and pre-packaged snacks are needed. If you can help, please drop them off at Market Street UMC at the Cork Street entrance. Ring the bell and WATTS Managers will pick it up. If those times, do not work for you, please message or email: [execdirector@watts-homelessshelter.org](mailto:execdirector@watts-homelessshelter.org) to make other arrangements.

**Wheels for Wellness** needs volunteer drivers! Help a neighbor get to and from their medical appointments and treatments. No minimum time commitment, tailor to fit your schedule. Learn more about Wheels for Wellness and volunteer opportunities on their website [wheels4wellness.org](http://wheels4wellness.org). See Karen Shipp for more information.

**Ways to Give to Bethel:** Thank you for your continued support of mission and ministry at Bethel! At this time, we are not passing the offering plate during our worship gatherings, but you can leave your offering in the basket on the welcome table, or use one of the methods below:

1. Mail to Bethel at 2077 N Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603
2. Use the "Give Now" button on our website.
3. Donate via text, by sending the dollar amount you wish to give, including a dollar sign, (ie: \$50/\$50.00) to 844-946-2995.

*For more news and updates on what is happening at Bethel, checkout our Facebook Page and Website: [www.bethelwinchester.com](http://www.bethelwinchester.com)*



## From Rumbling Tummies to Living Bread

Today's texts move us from rumbling tummies and flaring tempers to a refocusing on the blessings poured out and the primary benefactor. We see the gifts of God, which come in a variety of ways: physical nourishment, roles and talents lifted up in community, new life given now and into the ages of ages. We find that the gifts are responses to various actions—complaining, building for the future, longing for signs of promise and hope. Yet each of these actions and the gifts mean little if we are not able to see the one who is the giver and to recognize that the gifts are not merely about what we can do to get them or what signs are needed to prove them; rather, it is about trust in God, who is the source of life and living—the one who provides the true bread from heaven. Our role in this story is to tell the history of God's giving, similar to the psalmist. It is to open our eyes to the way the bread of heaven is sustaining us today, physically and spiritually. And as a community living in God's promise, we look to the one God sends to us as *the bread of life*. In many early Hebrew and Greek writings, the stomach was a driving force and a place where hope and faith were lodged. The readings point us to see how a longing for food opens a greater dwelling place for the gifts of faith and promise. From our physical depths we are called to experience a greater spiritual reality.