

THE BETHEL NEWS



I bless God
every chance I got;
my lungs expand with his praise. Psalm 143, The Message

Inside this Issue:

- Pastor Bret's Article—Pg. 2
- Council President's Article—Pg. 3
- A Look at our Loyalty—Pg. 4
- Bethel Notes & Youth News—Pg. 5
- Team meetings—pg. 5
- WELCA News—Pg. 6
- Book Club List—Pg. 7
- Notes to the Congregation—Pg. 7
- Trip to Lancaster, Pa (Jonah)—Pg. 7
- Birthdays & Anniversaries—Pg. 8
- Mission of the Month—Pg. 8
- Calendar—Pg. 9





From Pastor Bret:

Happy New Year...Welcome to 2012! Have you made any New Year resolutions? It is always good to regularly set some achievable goals for yourself. These goals keep you moving and growing, hopefully forward, and they help you see progress. One of my regular personal goals is to be sharpening my pastoral leadership skills. I go to two or three leadership seminars a year to accomplish this, as well as, read books from pastoral leaders from across the country on various church subjects. What I have noticed is that at the core of most, if not all, of these learning opportunities is a healthy and close relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ. From visioning to raising funds, it all starts by being in the Word of God, and talking to Jesus through prayer. When this is not happening we are most likely coming up with dreams that are self driven (or no dreams at all) instead of being Christ-driven in our endeavors...as noble as they may be. We wonder why things fail in churches...9 out of 10 times it was something that seemed like a great idea, but was not truly Spirit led.

Same is true in our personal lives. If Jesus is not first, then it should be no wonder why our lives seem out of sorts. Many of us are living life on our own terms and not recognizing that the creator of the universe knows our needs and what will give us lasting joy better than we do ourselves. God also never promised us a life that is free of pain and suffering. In fact, the Bible tells us that God uses these tough times to mold us to His purpose, and it is when one is spiritually healthy that you are able to recognize this and assist in the process.

So why don't you make one of your goals this year to grow closer to Jesus. Start by praying several times a day (some quick check-ins with Him, as well as some deep connection time lasting longer than a minute or two). Read or re-read the Gospel texts of the Bible (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)...take a closer look at Jesus life, and then ask Jesus to guide you in your own. You will not regret it, and you will find a true friend too.

Peace, Love, Joy, PBret



GREETINGS

To Bethel Congregation,

I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and that the New Year brings peace throughout the world.

This past year we have seen some changes in the way we do some things at Bethel. I would like to review some of these changes for your information.

Let us start with offering envelopes. In the past, a booklet of envelopes, for each giving unit, was placed on tables in the Church library to be picked up by members, the one's not picked up were mailed. This year each giving unit will receive offering envelopes in the mail bimonthly. If you give electronically, you will also receive any special giving envelopes in that bimonthly mailing. If giving electronically, and you prefer all contributions to be done this way, let the Church know by contacting Sue Mallery or the church office to request your name be removed from the mailing list. We have twelve giving units that have taken advantage of electronic giving, if you would like to know how this program works, talk with Sue Mallery, Dianna Wiesner, Bill Conkey, or Pastor Bret. The advantage of changing the way we distribute envelopes is, a name can be added or deleted thus, we only pay for the envelopes needed for the year. You should have received your envelopes by the end of December, if not, please contact Sue Mallery or the Church Office. If you have questions or concerns about this change please see Bill Conkey.

Changes to Bethel's constitution and by-laws that were approved at a Congregation meeting June 26, 2011. These changes needed sent to ELCA Northeastern Ohio Synod for review. These amendment shall become effective within hundred twenty days from the date received by Synod, unless the synod informs the congregation that these amendments are in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the ELCA, or the constitution of the Northeastern Ohio Synod. After approved by the Synod, it needs ratified without change at the congregation's next annual meeting. Bethel's next regular annual meeting is May of 2012. If anyone has questions about this process please talk to Don Wiff, Pastor Bret or Bill Conkey.

Amendments to the bylaws approved by the congregation on January 23, 2011, moved Bethel's Annual Congregation Meeting from November to May starting in 2012. The election of Church Council members and other elected committee positions will take place at the annual meeting. Positions that will need filled this coming May are, three persons for the audit committee, one person for the nominating committee, and one person for Mutual Ministry Committee (Staff Support). In addition to these positions, two positions on Church Council for persons that cannot rerun and two positions those council members whose 1st term will expire. Bethel's nominating committee will be contacting members after the first of the year to fill these positions. Please pray and think about where you would be able to serve at Bethel.

Due to the resignation of Bethel's youth directors, help is needed in all aspects of our Christian Education Program. The Sunday School Superintendent will be asking for help with Sunday school programs. Parents will be counting on our support for the youth projects, both monetary, and providing whatever is needed to ensure these activities are successful.

Pastor Bret had a sermon series on the Marks of Discipleship a few years ago. **"MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP"** Pray daily, **WORSHIP** weekly, **READ** the Bible, **SERVE** at and beyond Bethel, Be in **RELATIONSHIPS** to encourage spiritual growth in others and **GIVE** of my time, talents and resources.

Please give these some thought as **YOU** seek to **MAKE JESUS KNOWN**.

God Bless, Bill Conkey

On Going Prayers

Helen Bendel	Deanna Brannigan
Mary Burkey	Rosemary Brocius
Elaine Brocius	Cora Dixon
Dottie Coffin	Johnny Conti Jr.
June Dahlgren	Betty Deskin
Peggy Emery	Donna Fredrickson
Garnet Floor	Mary Gleckler
Bob Graves	Dale Goehring
Mark Guthridge	Howard Hagan
Arvella Harris	Lin Henry
Rick Hungerford	Freda Hofmeister
Norm Johnson	John Kanna
Charlotte Kinnick	Pastor Chuck Lundquist
	Marlene Luzik
Alberta Nelson	Richie Martin
John Masko	Bonnie MacKeown
Howard Hagan	Dick Mumma
Wes Midgley	Rich Neff
Becky Nilsson	Janet Phelps
Leroy Robison	Lillian Robison
Tom Ring	Marie Schneider
Sally Shilliday	Jack Sommerlad
Betty Stevens	Ruth Thomas
Mike Teutsch	Jackie Watson
Kay Varga	Stan Wittenauer
Bea Wilkin	Ginny Zetterquist



A Look at our Loyalty

The Church is a gift...assembly required.

Our Worship Attendance

11/27	146
12/04	206
12/11	202
12/18	182

Sunday School

12/04	35
12/18	30

General Operations Fund

To cover our 2012 approved budget,
We need to bring in \$24,168 per month to
our general fund.

Total received in November \$17,792

Building Fund Income

We need to bring in \$2155 per month to
pay our building mortgage

Total received in November \$5715

Original cost of building \$850,000

We now owe (11/28/11) \$108,091.06

JANUARY ASSIGNMENTS

Assisting Pastor Bret

8:30	Dan Lyden
11:00	Bill Conkey, Don Peterson, Dee Snyder

Altar Flowers:

Dottie Coffin, scheduling
330-758-4283

Ginny Zetterquist, treasurer
330-758-1892

Flower Deliverers:

Dottie Coffin 330-758-4283

Acolytes:

Teresa Reilly 330-757-8586

Counters:

Bill Conkey 330-270-0113

Greeters:

Don Peterson 330-533-4064

Ushers:

Andy Ragan 330-549-2376

Brian Klase 330-707-0508

Ushers this month

8:30 Dig Coffin, Dan Gabriel

11:00 Gary Baker, Jon Johnson
Roy Lowe, Andy Ragan

Altar Group A For JANUARY

Barb Buker, Chairperson
Janice Anderson Beth Applegate
Sandy Dorman Valerie DeMartino
Kay Kish Wanda Wiff

NEEDED:

Volunteers are needed to serve on
communion groups to **PREPARE**
communion for church services.
We have 4 groups, so you would only
serve 3 times a year.

Contact JoAnn Johnson 330-757-9478



Communion groups: Check with Pastor each month you
serve to see if there are any other times for communion.
**Please remember to let the office know when any of the
communion supplies are getting low.**

Dear Members:

Contact for our e-mail for the
Prayer chain is Diana Wiesner Her
email is RX300258@aol.com

If you would like to be a part of the
e-mail prayer chain, contact Diana.
~Thanks Diana!~

Dottie Coffin is the contact
for the phone prayer chain
330-758-4283



**OUR PRAYER LIST is posted
on Narthex Bulletin
Board...
so that you might be able
to send cards to them.**

BETHELNOTES & YOUTH NEWS



7:00 PM TUESDAY
 JANUARY 3RD
 CHRISTIAN ED
 TEAM MEETING



THANK YOU!

Since Christmas is the time of year we think of family and friends and how dear they are to us, we would like to take this opportunity to tell our Bethel kids how much we enjoyed their Christmas program they presented to the congregation on December 18th. We appreciated your message to keep the Christ Child in our hearts during the holiday and all year long. Our youth did an outstanding job singing and we are hoping that they might present for us in the future. We also want to thank Rick and Starr Hungerford and Bob Rider for encouraging the kids and directing them. We know the program took much time and work and we are so grateful to all of you. We also would like to thank our parents for making your children and Bethel a priority this busy holiday season. We know how hectic holidays are and appreciate your help and support to make this special program possible.

To the Congregation, parents and youth of Bethel: Rick and I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Youth/Christian Education Directors over the past six years. Without reservation, I can tell you that it has been one of the most spiritually fulfilling, inspiring and uplifting experiences of our lives. As we taught the children lessons about God's Love, Mercy and Grace...our own faith was strengthened and enabled us to pour our heart and soul into what we offered in our curriculum and programming. I have no doubt that what we lacked in formal training and education was enamored and supplemented by the hand of Christ and the Holy Spirit working through us. We could only hope that we will have left a lasting, resonant memory within the children comparable to the ones we walk away with. Thank you for the love and honor we feel for having spent this time with you. In Christ, Rick & Starr Hungerford

OUR TOM CREW IS HOME FOR
 THE HOLIDAYS -FROM OHIO
 STATE WITH AN EXCELLENT
 GPA 3.223
 ALL PRAYS HE WILL ANSWER
 THANKS BE TO GOD,
 MYRNA LOY SMITH

JANUARY TEAM MEETINGS

Tuesday	January 3rd	7:00 pm	Christian Ed Team
Tuesday	January 3rd	6:30 pm	Worship & Music
Tuesday	January 10th	7:00 pm	Support (Finance)
Thursday	January 12th	9:15 am	Staff Meeting
Tuesday	January 17th	6:30 pm	Welcome
Tuesday	January 17th	7:30 pm	COUNCIL

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Women of the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA** 

WELCA NEWS

ABIGAIL CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, January 10th at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Marilyn Weaver will be study leader.

All women of Bethel and guests warmly welcome.

We are studying "Seven Marks of Discipleship" with this session on "Studying God's Word".

Thank you to everyone that helped in any way for the Homemade Cookie Walk and Soup Sale! WELCA made a net total of \$1661.50.

There were 120 quarts of soup sold and over 325 dozen of cookies sold.

Cookies were sold out in just over an hour! Plan to bake for next year.

The cookies were beautiful and delicious!

Thank you to all who donate hats and mittens for the mitten tree.

Also eyeglasses donated to the International Lions Club and used cell phones sent for battered women.

LYDIA-RUTH CIRCLE NO Meeting in January! See you next month!



NOTES TO THE CONGREGATION:



If you have **Altar Flowers** or a **Candle**: Please pay when you reserve your flower date. Make checks payable to the church \$25.00 for flowers and \$8.00 for a candle, and mail to the church or put in the offering plate.

If you have a date you want, let Dottie know 330-758-4283

Thanks, Altar Flower Committee
NEW FLOWER CALENDAR IS UP FOR 2012



**Thanks from
the Staff**

Pastor Bret, Pastor Paul and all the staff would like to thank you for the "Christmas Purse". It is very much appreciated!



Needed... Due to continued tough times that we are going through our church has had to help more people than usual, which has resulted in the Pastor's Discretionary Fund becoming low. If you are able to help replenish the fund, please designate a check to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Thank you, Pastor Bret



ABIGAIL CIRCLE
Tuesday, January 10th at 7 pm
Study Leader: Marilyn Weaver

LYDIA RUTH CIRCLE
No Meeting in January

**LANCASTER, PA TRIP
TO SEE JONAH
AT THE SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE
THURSDAY & FRIDAY
APRIL 12/13, 2012**

2-day package includes:
Round trip motor coach
1 night's lodging
ticket to Jonah
1 dinner, 1 late lunch buffet & breakfast
admission to all above attractions
local touring & shopping
all taxes, tips & gratuities

\$311 per person, double*
\$282 per person, triple*
\$268 per person, quad*
\$396 single room*

\$100 deposit due upon registration
in order to purchase theatre tickets

*based on 40 passengers
Flyers available by calling the office or on the table
outside the main office. 330-758-5745

BOOK LIST for 2011-2012

NOTE : Meet the last Monday of each month at 12:00pm

January 30, 2012- "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand; leader Nancy Kuivila

Feb. 27, 2012- "The Constantine Codex " by Paul Maier; leader Delaine DeChellis

March 26, 2012- "Her Daughter's Dream" by Francine Rivers; leader Sherri Remias

April 30, 2012- to be announced; leader Ruth Schenker

May 28, 2012- "The Horse Boy" by Rubert Isaacson; leader Dee Beck

*Do you want to read in the summer as well? I am willing! Let me know

Come and enjoy the fellowship! Any questions contact Marilyn Weaver-330-549-2251



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Stan Wittenauer
- 6 Thomas DeChellis, Andy Ragan,
Mason Rassega, Jackson White
- 7 Michael Kovach, Marc Noday
- 9 Michael Zellhart
- 12 Ronald Liga
- 13 John Scacchetti, Jr.
- 14 Maria Bachinger, Jared Buker
- 15 Bob Thomas
- 16 Margit Zielke
- 17 Alberta Nelson, Ryan Pesta
- 18 Kelly Swanson, Jordan Sierra
- 19 Dorothea Coffin
- 20 George Remias
- 21 Faith Morlan
- 22 Janice Anderson, Fern Kelly, Mary Hallewell,
Lauren Sierra, Gianna DeNiro
- 23 Christopher Helsel, Brady Clyde
- 24 Ava DiMaiolo, Philip Snyder
- 25 Eric Wilson
- 27 Jessica Backman, Mia Clyde, Marie Klase,
Ella Tallman (1st)
- 29 John Bachinger
- 30 John Scacchetti
- 31 Alfred Wellman



- 12 Peter & Eva Karsti
- 25 David & Barbara Buker



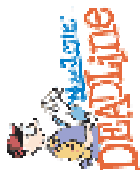

Let the office know of any changes,
corrections or additions,
or if celebrating a
"milestone" birthday or anniversary.
Thank you!

**MISSION OF THE MONTH
FOR JANUARY
Sojourner House**



JANUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00am One Service	2 Office Closed	3 Office Closed 6:30 Worship & Music team 7pm Christian Ed	4	5	6 LYO	7 Gathering
8 8:30 Worship with communion 11:00 Worship	9	10 7:00 Abigail Circle 7:00 Finance	11	12 9:15am Staff Meeting	13	14
15 8:30 Worship 11:00 Worship with communion	16 	17 6:30 Membership 7:30 Council	18	19	20	21
22 8:30 Worship with communion 11:00 Worship	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 8:30 Worship 11:00 Worship	30 Noon Book Club	31 9:00am Newsletter team				

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

425 Crestview Drive
Boardman, OH 44512

Making Jesus Known



2012

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Youngstown, OH
Permit No. 224**

Return Service Requested



Phone: 330-758-5745
Fax: 330-629-8658
Email: office@bethelboardman.org

Worship...Sunday: at 8:30 & 11:00 am

Nursery provided at all Services

Holy Communion:

1st & 3rd Sundays at 11 am & 2nd & 4th Sundays at 8:30 am

Our Staff

The Ministers

Senior Pastor

Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Director of Visitation Ministry

Building Manager

Organist

Director of Music

Treasurer/Financial Secretary

The Entire Bethel Family

Bret D Rizzo

Georgette Kollay

Paul Burgeson

David Walsh

LaRue Murray

Emma Cowell

Paul Orend/Sue Mallery

**Our Web Page:
bethelboardman.org**