

# BLESSINGS FROM BETHEL

[www.betheluccspringgrove.com](http://www.betheluccspringgrove.com)

July/August, 2013

## Coming Events:

July 10 – Trip to Sight & Sound  
July 7 and 21 – Outdoor Worship

August 3 – Campfire & sleepover  
August 4 – CHURCH PICNIC –  
worship, 10:00 am  
August 18 – Outdoor Worship

**LOOKING AHEAD: September 1 will be the last outdoor worship this year.**

**Fund raisers: Sandwich sale late September.**

**Butter Braid sale late October.**

## Greetings to you, and, peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ!

I will have to admit that I have gained a deeper understanding for what many people experience in life. I don't mean to minimize the deep importance of the experience these people have by comparing what I am talking about, but there are similarities in some ways. I can better identify with parents of new born infants who feel sleep deprived because of getting up for the night time feedings or getting awake because their spouse is getting up.

You may remember that Jeri and I now have another member in our household. Pudder has become a dominate force in our family. You may remember too that I have shared how she never goes to Jeri when she is ready to be fed and begin her morning jaunts (anywhere from 3:00 am to 4:30 am). She comes to me and gets me awake by whatever means necessary. I have adapted my evening schedule and have been going to bed a bit earlier than I used to do. But, I will admit that I now have begun to try to plan nap time whenever I can. In some ways I feel that I am sleep deprived and have found that my eyes burn more than they feel comfortable. I have also gained an appreciation for the early morning hours – the sounds of the birds, the comparative quietness from less traffic, etc. And, I have also seen many beautiful sunrises.

Many days as the sun is coming up and the sky begins to loose the blackness of night, I think about the gift of life that God gives us. And, I affirm that each new day brings another opportunity to give our very best to the glory of God. When I see an awesome sunrise I have a tendency to sigh and pray, "Lord, this looks like a beautiful day and I pray that I can say I truly served you today." I will admit that there are some days I have not offered this "breath prayer" (a prayer that can be said in the length of time it takes to exhale a breath). I certainly hope that I offer this prayer more days than not. And, some mornings that are overcast and I cannot see the sunrise I also need to keep in mind that even though the beauty of the day may not be as evident, the "dark" days are just as big an opportunity to live a beautiful day for God. So, I hope that I can keep this as a focus in my life and I hope you do as well. I know some of you also see the sun rise every day, but for those who don't, keep in your mind the beauty of a sunrise.

Of course, you are familiar with how my mind connects some things together and I know too that you have all heard of the phrase – "SON rise". So, my hope is that all of you will know continually the beauty of the Lord RISING to the top focus in your daily life as I hope that is always where I put my focus and loyalty!

I want to take a moment to offer my very **SINCERE THANK YOU** to **LARRY VICKERS**. A number of months ago I mentioned in this column that I have had a dream of a special visual aid for many years, I said that I could only hope that someone would create a "Shadow of the cross in the manger" to be used at Christmas and Easter services. Larry is a talented wood worker and spent many hours (doing a few prototypes) until he came up with a visual aid that I can use to emphasize at Christmas how the shadow of the cross is an influence in our celebrations and at Easter we need to remember the love of God that came down at Christmas. Needless to say, I am so looking forward to the Christmas services this year to share with you the creation Larry has made!

God Bless!!!!!! And, have a blessed day! Love, Pastor Lou Ann

## Monthly Pastor's Activity Report

Month: June, 2013

**Worship Services:** 6/2 – Graduate Recognition, Baptism: PATRIK MELVIN McKEE  
6/9  
6/16 – Outdoor Worship  
6/23 – Outdoor Worship  
6/30

**Meetings:** Consistory – 6/3  
Ministry Advisory – no meeting  
Bible Study – 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25

**Visits:** Home: 5  
Nursing Home: 5  
Contacts: 24  
Hospital: 3  
Home Communion: 2

**Other Activities:** Bar-B-Q signs – 6/8  
Bar-B-Q supplies – 6/21  
Bar-B-Q – 6/22  
VBS – 6/24, 6/25, 6/26, 6/27  
Historical Service Choir – 6/30

<b>Complete Days Off:</b>	4	
<b>Sick Days:</b>	0	Total for the year: 8
<b>Vacation Days</b>	2	Total for the year: 2

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Lou Ann Jones

Consistory Minutes  
June 3, 2013 Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Ernst. Rev. Lou Ann led the group in a prayer.

Members in Attendance: Jolene Ernst, Lynn McJunkin, Sue Tharp, Jim Knaub, Jeri Jones, Jill Kuhn, Kim Weaver, Bob Murray, Dave Bankert, Bob Ernst III, Jolene Ernst and Rev. Lou Ann,

May minutes were reviewed. Several small corrections were made. S. Tharp made a motion to accept the minutes and seconded by L. McJunkin. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report (K. Weaver): The May report was reviewed. B. Murray made a motion to accept the report as printed and seconded by J. Knaub. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report (Rev. Lou Ann): May report was presented. D. Bankert made a motion to accept the report and seconded by S. Tharp. Motion carried.

Church Care (B. Murray): Mowing going well. Bushes will stay in now. Repair to basement lights were done. Walter Miller will further check the lights. Wood preservative still needed for pavilion and posts.

Social (L. McJunkin): About 40 people attended June Social. Church picnic is on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Outreach (M. Leppo/Pat Smeltzer): (See below)

Education (J. Kuhn): June 9<sup>th</sup> is last day of Sunday School; Children doing drinks at Chicken BBQ; Bible School starts June 23<sup>rd</sup>; July 10<sup>th</sup> is Sight and Sound trip; Pretzel Sale was a success.

Worship (Rev. Lou Ann): Will be in church on June 9<sup>th</sup> and not going to conference; Will be outdoors on June 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Outdoor service will be on the first and third Sundays of July and August and Labor Day weekend.

Rentals (S. Tharp): July 21<sup>st</sup> is a rental.

Offering and Attendance (R. Ernst, III): Reviewed May numbers.

Fundraisers (J. Jones): Chicken BBQ all set. Need several more volunteers in Jefferson. Set sandwich sale at July meeting.

Website (J. Jones): Everything good

Ministry and Advisory (S. Tharp): Next meeting in August.

Old Business:

Bylaws: Need to discuss at September meeting the idea of reducing Consistory members by two.

New Business: Letter of invitation to join Spring Grove Area Ambulance Club Subscription Drive. J. Knaub made a motion to table the idea and seconded by B. Murray.

B. Ernst introduced the problem with the candelabras. Problem needs to be resolved, maybe by purchasing a new set with memorial money. A total of memorial money and cost of new candelabras will be discussed at the July meeting.

Can the church have a stand at the Codorus Blast? Jeri will talk to Warren at Codorus about ideas.

Thanks to the youth for singing at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> service.

Next meeting is July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri L. Jones  
Consistory Secretary

May Outreach Report from Pat Smeltzer:

Cards	
Birthday	13
Anniversary	6
Get Well	6
Sympathy	4
Thinking of You	1
Total	30

## July Birthdays

3 – Rose Becker  
4 – Leah Shyk  
6 – Rose Simpson  
11 – Leona Ernst  
13 – Isabell Kuhn  
14 – Tom McCollum  
15 – Dave Bankert  
16 – Matthew McKee  
21 – William Dubs  
22 – Dixie Brillhart  
22 – Deb Yost  
24 --Tom Allison  
24 – Ruth Snyder  
26 – Burnell Trone  
28 – Danetta Lochbaum

## July Anniversaries

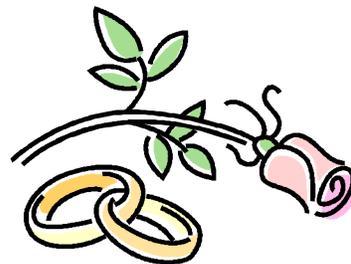
7 – Tom & Diane McCollum  
15 – Joe & Connie Delozier  
29 – Raymond & Phyllis Warner

## August Birthdays

1 – Steven Yost, III  
5 – Edith Lauchman  
5 – Jeff Shyk  
6 – Nadine Trone  
8 – Phyllis Warner  
10 – Katie Jarvis  
10 – Jamie Nace McKim  
18 – Steven Yost, Sr.  
19 – Tina Main  
19 – Evelyn Grubb  
21 – Marg Lingg  
23 – Lester Frey  
24 – Fred Wentz  
24 – Jenna Yost  
25 – Kevin Byrnes  
26 – Ed Masenheimer, III  
27 – Benjamin Kreitz  
27 – Elizabeth Kreitz  
29 – Courtney (Rice) Spencer  
31 – Danielle Spahr

## August Anniversaries

10 – Jeff & Leah Shyk  
22 – Bob & Rose Becker  
24 – Walter & Josie Miller  
24 – John & Marg Lingg



## LIST OF SHUT-IN AND PRAYER CONCERN MEMBERS

JOYCE REICHERT

KATHRYN KALTREIDER

RUTH STERNER

JANET BARNHART

Room 215B  
Colonial Manor Home  
970 Colonial Ave  
York, PA 17403

Room 316  
118 Pleasant Acres Rd  
York, PA 17402

P.O. Box 330  
Hanover, PA 17331

Room 3177, Brethren Home  
2990 Carlisle Pike  
New Oxford, PA 17350

**MELLIE SIMPSON**  
Room 4562, Brethren Home  
2990 Carlisle Pike  
New Oxford, PA 17350

**MELVIN RICE**  
Columbia Cottage, Rm 14  
2288 Grandview Rd  
Hanover, PA 17331



## *From the Congregation's Life:*

**JANET BARNHART** is now in room 3177 at the Brethren Home. She will be staying there instead of going to another facility. She is doing well and wishes she could walk better. We certainly pray that her hopes come true! GOD BLESS, JANET!

**JOAN MURRAY** is doing much better with her digestive system but still has problems with swelling. We keep her and Bob in our prayer thoughts that she can get this under control.

**RUSSELL WENTZ** passed away May 23. The family held a private funeral following the viewing on May 28. We keep FRED and all of his family in our prayer thoughts! God bless, FRED!

**JIM KNAUB** is doing well following the slight stroke but now he has been coping with Shingles. This is definitely a painful time for Jim and our prayers are he is soon free from this pain! GOD BLESS, JIM!

**MELLIE SIMPSON** is currently in Hanover Hospital with complications from COPD. She had been in the hospital recently for the same problem and has also been in the New Hope area of the Brethren Home. She has also affirmed that she will not be able to return to her apartment and will transition to the nursing care unit at the home. This is definitely a trying time for her so we pray that God gives her peace of mind as well as ease in breathing. Our prayers are with you, MELLIE!

We also uplift many of our congregation who have been going through some rough times: **MELLIE SIMPSON, CURT & CHARLOTTE MILLER**. We do keep many friends of our faith family in our prayers!

*We certainly apologize if we fail to mention anyone going through any illnesses or other experiences we mention during our prayer concerns at church! We do keep you in our prayers!*

Have you checked out the church website? You can find us at [www.betheluccspringgrove.com](http://www.betheluccspringgrove.com)

Our e-mail address: [betheluccspringgrove@g-mail.com](mailto:betheluccspringgrove@g-mail.com).

## **COMING EVENTS:**

**REMEMBER OUR OUTREACH MINISTRIES:**

**God's Meal Barrel** – Continue to fill our shopping cart with donations that we give to Doris and God's Meal Barrel as they provide supplies to the needy of the Hanover area! We have been supporting this ministry for many years and are so thankful that you have been so generous! THANK YOU!!!!

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION.** Many products we buy at the grocery store have these coupons on them. Collect the coupons and bring them to church. There will be a box to receive them. We can donate these coupons to Hoffman Homes or even divide them between the school districts our children attend. This will be an ongoing project just like another one we have in process.....

**POP TOP CAN TABS** – MARG LEPPA has been collecting Pop Top tabs for HOMEWOOD HOMES. She has contributed a couple of thousand of these so far and we are helping her with this project. So, ANY pop top tabs you may have, collect them and bring them to church. There is a plastic container on the table in the Sanctuary to collect the tabs for Marg. THANK YOU!!!!

### **SPECIAL OFFERINGS:**

We have a few requests for special offerings for our members:

The second Sunday of each month we ask for a Love offering from our congregation to help cover the salary cut to Pastor Lou Ann from last year.

Also, we are aware that sometime in the future we will have major expense with either the Heat Pumps or maybe a new roof. In order to prevent a major blow to our reserve funds, we are asking people to use the special **Building Improvement Fund** Envelopes to help build up funds we would have available to replace anything we may need for the church building! There are envelopes available in the pews as well as one for each month in the envelope boxes and can be given anytime.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** During the summer months, the children do not meet for Sunday School. They will resume classes in mid August.

### **FUND RAISER RESULTS -- CHICKEN BAR – B – QUE!!!! Saturday, June 22**

We definitely express our sincere THANKS to EVERYONE who supported our Bar-B-Q. We had announced a figure for our profit but at Consistory that was corrected. We have profited a little less than \$1,200.00. (The exact figure will be in next month's minutes.)

## **PICNIC WEEKEND HAPPENINGS!**

Our Annual Church Picnic will be held **AUGUST 4**. The activities for the weekend are:

**CAMPFIRE and FELLOWSHIP TIME** Beginning about 5:00 in the afternoon on AUGUST 3 we will gather for a doggie roast and mountain pie fellowship. We will provide the supplies but we ask you to bring other munchies that you would like to share. This will be a time to eat together, talk, play games or whatever you prefer to do. If you have any questions, see DAVE BANKERT or Pastor Lou Ann.

**SLEEPOVER.** In years past we have had people sleep at the pavilion. If you would like to do this, you are more than welcome to bring a camper and park on the grass or pitch a tent or sleep on a picnic table. Whatever you would prefer! If anyone would like to sleepover at the church, we will let the doors unlocked for bathroom access. Let us know if you would like to camp out at the church!

**WORSHIP SERVICE** – Prayer and Praise in the Pavilion – 10:00 am. We will begin our worship service one hour later because of transitioning into the church picnic. MARK THIS ON YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!

**CHURCH PICNIC** – About 11:15 am we will share in our COVERED DISH church picnic. We ask that you bring plates and table wares as well as bring a picnic dish to share with others. The church will provide Hot Dogs and Chicken Corn Soup. If you also have some activities to share at the picnic, please bring your ideas along. We always have a good time talking and eating and we hope to enhance this with some fun games and activities!

**LAST OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE --- SEPTEMBER 1, 2013.**

It is hard to believe but the summer worship schedule is already half past. We have four outdoor services remaining. The dates are: July 21, August 4 (picnic day), August 18 (Rev. David Kirk, supply pastor) and September 1. We certainly enjoy the beauty of our surroundings for our outdoor worship services!

**ADULT CHOIR RESUMES: September 4, 2013.** If you are astute about dates you may already be saying..... but the date should be the 3<sup>rd</sup>. For the past many years, choir has been on Tuesday evenings. We have decided to have our rehearsals on WEDNESDAY evenings beginning in September because whenever we have Thanksgiving Eve and Lenten services, we have had choir on Wednesday evenings. So, we will see how this new schedule works. If you are interested in singing in choir, please join us beginning Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES:** Any children from the congregation age 12 (or about) who are interested in becoming a member of the church should begin Confirmation Classes. We will have to see what meeting time works best for all interested. We will hold classes from the middle of September through Confirmation Day on Pentecost Sunday. If your child is interested in starting Confirmation, please contact Pastor Lou Ann.

**VACATION DAYS:** Pastor Lou Ann is planning vacation Days from August 15<sup>th</sup> through August 31. There will be someone available for any pastoral needs you may have during that time. If you have need of pastoral assistance, please contact the church office and the phone message will give a contact number for you. We will also be posting the contact numbers in the church bulletins.

# July 2013

Bethel United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Outdoor Worship - 9:00 am  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am	8  Consistory - 7:00 pm	9	10  Trip to NOAH	11	12	13
14  Worship - 9:00 am  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am	15	16  Bible Study - 9:00 am	17	18	19	20
21  Outdoor Worship - 9:00 am  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am	22	23  Bible Study - 9:00 am	24	25	26	27
28  Worship - 9:00 am  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am	29	30  Bible Study - 9:00 am	31			

# August 2013

Bethel United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Campfire and Sleepover - 5:00
4 Prayer and Praise in the Pavilion - 10:00 am  Church Picnic - 11:15 am	5 Ministry Advisory - 6:00 pm  Consistory - 7:00 pm	6 Bible Study - 9:00 am	7	8	9	10
11 Worship - 9:00 am  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am	12	13 Bible Study - 9:00 am	14	15 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	16 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	17 Pastor Lou Ann vacation
18 Outdoor Worship - 9:00 am  Rev. David Kirk, supply pastor  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am  Pastor Lou Ann vacation	19 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	20 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	21 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	22 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	23 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	24 Pastor Lou Ann vacation
25 Worship - 9:00 am Rev. David Kirk, supply pastor  Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am  Pastor Lou Ann vacation	26 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	27 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	28 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	29 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	30 Pastor Lou Ann vacation	31 Pastor Lou Ann vacation