

BLESSINGS FROM BETHEL

“Bethel United Church of Christ is called to be a welcoming Christian community of faith as we worship, learn, grow and serve.”

www.betheluccspringgrove.com

September / October

Coming events:

- Outdoor Service on 9/4 @ 9:00 AM
- Labor Day on Monday 9/5
- Consistory Meeting 9/12 @ 7:00 PM
- Trimming the Bushes around the church 9/24 @ 8:00 AM. Contact Ed Miller or Fred Brillhart.
- Children and Youth Sunday School begins 10/2.
- Fundraiser for Zook Meat pies and Apple Turnovers scheduled for October and November. More to follow.

Bethel United Church of Christ Pastoral Report for July, 2016

Meetings:

- Consistory meeting - July 11, 2016
- Ministry & Advisory - July 11, 2016
- Ad Hoc Worship Planning Meeting - July 12 (to plan 9/11 interview sermon), July 20

Worship - July 3, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31

Visitations and Contact

- 6-member visits
- 6 - (member) hospital/temporary nursing home visits
- 34 - contacts with members (phone/email/mail)
- 4 - contacts with the greater church & church community

Other

- 1.5 hours July 1 - Emergency "on call" response to Hanover Hospital
- Healing Service - July 10th - 11 attendees plus Pastor
- Corresponded with visitors - 2 families

Hours worked during July - 109.50



From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

Summer and early fall are a wonderful time to rest and relax, to enjoy all the gifts of the dog-days of summer: dips in a refreshing pool; a raspberry swirl ice-cream cone; planting tomatoes and praying for the day when you pick the first ripe fruit from the vine; and, perhaps enjoying a campfire with ooey-goey marshmallows. If you're like me, these are things which I eagerly anticipate during the summer and fall.

I strongly encourage you to re-connect with family and friends and to take time to relax and savor the seasons. Rest is important for your mental and physical well-being and it is one of God's greatest gifts to humankind.

So as to remind us that we shouldn't get ***too complacent or comfortable***, our scripture readings remind us that this is also a "season of action." Many of our recent readings included stories of very active people: the Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the persistent friend, and the Rich Fool. Just like us, they cooked meals and entertained visitors. And, they were continually challenged by God to *act upon their beliefs*. Each of them had to discern how best to act in order to maintain the will of God.

Often, in our own lives, we are faced with weighty decisions. Sometimes, we'd much rather relax and table a decision because the timing isn't right (it's time to relax, remember?), we aren't in the right mindset to make a decision, or we hope that if we just ignore the situation, it will work itself out. Yet, God reminds us that because he has done so much for us, he expects something of us in return – whether it is bitter-cold winter or sweltering summer. He expects us to discern and ask, "what does the Lord require of me at this moment in time? Will I honor Him with my decision?"

When we continue to actively engage in the world, I can assure you that God will heed your call, help you to find peaceful solutions, and still provide you with ample time to savor the seasons.

God's claim on our lives is not just for one season, it is for all the moments and seasons of our lives. We are expected to engage in a radically different way of loving, seeing, and doing in the world. Spring to action when called! Ask yourself, "what does the Lord require of me? How can I honor Him?"

And then, after answering God's call by acting upon your beliefs, take a rest. Lounge in your hammock and enjoy the fresh breezes and falling leaves.

See you in church - ***Pastor Sue***

Pastor Fritz's Goals

July 1, 2016- September, 2016

Worship Leadership

- Additional services – Healing Service – July 10; Host a Vesper service on September 18
- Ad hoc “worship team” – organize and meet with a team to develop plans for the months of November and December (organize in August, meet in September).

Leadership Development

- Introduce one “**leadership development learning moment**” into each month’s Consistory meeting
- Prepare and plan a fall retreat for all church leaders (Consistory members plus anyone else in the congregation who is interested in advancing the mission of Bethel UCC). Focus of this retreat: beginning the development of a Vision for Bethel UCC (hold in October or early Nov., based on Consistory availability)
- In conjunction with the Ministry and Advisory Committee, begin the development of a “mutual accountability” assessment tool for personnel (please note: this is the beginning of a conversation about a process which may take several months to complete; I don’t expect it to be completed by the end of these three months).

Pastoral Care

- Continue regular rounds of visitations with members

Spiritual Care

- Plan an evening in July when I will be at the church, available for confidential individual prayer concerns/counseling

Christian Education

- We need to have a plan in place for our youth for the fall/spring season of 2016-2017. Lindsay will be having a baby, there is interest on the part of our youth in “mission work” projects/learning, and we need to discuss how we will proceed beginning in mid-September (after Labor Day). I would like to spear-head a gathering of folks interested in figuring out how we can radically engage our youth in their faith while at the same time, creating an environment which energizes them. I envision activities that may be multi-generational and involve a “decompression” time which includes what we learned from the experience and how it relates to our faith.

Administration

- Written policies
 - July – with the input of Consistory, arrive at a consensus concerning which functional acts of the church should have written policies; place these in priority
 - August – September: in conjunction with others, begin the development of a policy manual by working on at least one policy (not putting a time frame on this because sometimes policies/procedures require more thought than initially projected).

LIST OF SHUT-IN AND PRAYER CONCERN MEMBERS

Robert Lindsey Sharon's Personal Care 1441 Baltimore St. Hanover, Pa. 17331	RUTH STERNER P.O. Box 330 Hanover, Pa. 17331	Charlotte Miller 5394 Lehman Rd Spring Grove, Pa. 17362
Janet Barnhart Brethren Home 2990 Carlisle Pike New Oxford, Pa. 17350		

From the Congregation's Life:

CHARLETTE MILLER: Keep Charlotte in our prayers as she faces life without Curt.

GENETTA FAHNESTOCK is doing better but she still needs our prayers.

ROBERT LINDSEY was in Hanover Hospital and has been transferred to Health South Rehab Center. Our prayers are with Bob as he gains his strength.

We also uplift many of our congregation and friends who have been going through some rough times. 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

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! **Donations for September** canned meats like tuna. **Donations for October** are Pastas and Sauces.

HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES: (September)

- **PAL Needs:** Coffee, Tuna Helper, Vinegar, Sugar
- **CLOTHING BANK Needs:** Shampoo and Body Wash, Full size and Hand Towels, Deodorant
- **CHANGING LIVES SHELTER Needs:** Disinfectant wipes and spray, Air Freshener, Coffee
- **RUTH'S HARVEST Needs:** *(All single servings Please)* Tuna Kits, Vegetables, Drinks, Cereal, Peanut Free Snacks, Mini-Meals.

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 LEPPPO 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 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.

LEBANON VA NEEDS:

The Elks Club is gathering personal care items to deliver veterans in November and December. Donations will be accepted at Bethel during this time. There is a box designated in the Narthex.

COMING EVENTS:

- **Worship:**

- **SPIRITUAL CARE “DROP IN” NIGHT: Aug 31 from 6 to 7:30 PM.** If you have spiritual concerns for yourself, a friend, a neighbor, ect. And would like to discuss this confidentially with the Pastor, please stop by during this time. Folks will be seen on a first come, first served basis.
- **OUTDOOR SERVICE ON SUNDAY September 4TH AT 9:00am:** Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy nature around our pavilion.
- **Special Services beginning in September**
 - **9/11:** The sermon will be in an interview format where the pastor will interview a member of the congregation on his faith journey. Participants are Pastor Sur and Larry Vickers.
 - **9/25:** The sermon will focus on “Disciples Practice Generous Financial Stewardship” and enjoy the skit “Who Wants to be a Good Steward”. Participants are Pastor Sue, Sue Tharp and Nancy Vickers.
 - **10/2:** Worldwide Communion: Communion will be served with breads representing different countries. Other items from different countries will be on display in the church. The focus of the sermon will be “Disciples Pass on Faith to Our Family” Participants are Fred Brillhart and Dave Bankert.
 - **10/25:** Laity Sunday where the service is lead by the congregation with the focus on “How Do We Grapple with God and Faith”
 - **10/30:** Reformation Sunday and will highlight Martin Luther’s 95 thesis that were nailed to the door in Wittenberg Germany. Rumor has it that Martin Luther will make a visit.

- **Church Care:**

- **9/24:** Trimming of the bushes beginning at 8AM
- **SOCIAL ROOM CLEANING:** There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. A lot of work has already been completed but there is still some areas that need attention.

- **FUNDRAISER**

- **Zook Meat Pies and Apple Turnover Sale** are slated for October and November. More information to follow.
- **Gift Cards:** Gift Cards will also be available for the holidays.

YOUTH REPORT

Hello kiddos!

Wow - Can't believe the Fall season is already approaching! Most of you have returned to school or maybe even preschool. And it's soon time to think about returning to Sunday School too! Pastor Sue has shared some new and exciting ways to enjoy Sunday School and we are anxious to try these new ideas this fall. I am excited for both of our age groups of Youth...from our teenage group to our preschool/early elementary group.

Also, I want to say Thank You to all of you for joining us at Vacation Bible School this past summer, whether as a student or a volunteer. We had a lot of fun with our theme of "Submerged." A huge thank you to our "head" leaders – Lindsay Byrnes (Story Time), Crafts (Danetta Lochbaum), Activities (Fred Brillhart/Dave Bankert), and Snacks (Tammy Diehl). Next year, we look forward to many of our teens providing a lot more assistance...graduating from being a student 😊. During our Vacation Bible School, we participated in two different outreach opportunities. Our monetary offering for the week (along with additional congregational donations), I can proudly say totaled \$285.00, was sent to the flood victims of West Virginia. We also collected school supplies and canned goods that were donated to New Hope Ministries. New Hope Ministries was very grateful for our donations and referred to our donation of 80 pounds of school supplies and canned goods as 80 pounds of "Love".

Looking forward to seeing ALL of you soon! Have a great school year!

God Bless, Lori



Consistory Minutes

July 11, 2016

Meeting called to order by F. Brillhart at 7:00 PM with a spiritual reading and prayer lead by S. Tharp.

Attendance: T. Allison, D. Bankert, F. Brillhart, R. Ernst, Pastor Fritz, P. McCawley, E. Miller, S. Tharp, N. Vickers. K. Weaver and C. Worley

The following reports were distributed and reviewed;

Minutes from last meeting, Treasurers report, Pastor's report, Outreach, Offering and Attendance, and Website. C. Worley made a motion to accept the reports as presented with a second motion from S. Tharp and everyone approved.

Leadership Development (Pastor Fritz)

1. Each consistory member should respond independently to accept or reject a motion asking one's self if the item for approval is God's will. By asking ourselves this question, we should be able to distinguish between what God would have us do rather than listening to our wants.
2. Pastor Fritz reviewed "Hosting a Meaningful Meeting". Each meeting will have an agenda, facilitator (President or Vice President), Timekeeper and a Process Observer. Reports will be available to consistory prior to the meeting for their review.

Old Business:

1. Church Directory (D. Bankert) The congregation made corrections to the directory which was located in the rear of the sanctuary. D. Bankert will have the updated directory ready for review by the next consistory meeting.
2. Pastor's Job Description (Pastor Fritz) The Pastor's job description needs to be reviewed by consistory by the next meeting.
3. Social Hall Cleaning (F. Brillhart) A sign-up sheet will be placed in the Narthex.
4. Ad Hoc Worship Planning Group (Pastor Fritz) This planning group consists of D. Bankert, F. Brillhart, Larry and Nancy Vickers, and Pastor Fritz. Its function is to look at ways to enlighten our worship experience. The first meeting was June 20th. Several ideas were discussed and another meeting on July 20th is scheduled to bring these ideas together.
5. The wax candles continue to be an issue. When the wax melts, it is dripping on the carpet and several of the candelabra candles fail to light during special services. The oil candles will eliminate both of these problems. T. Allison made a motion to replace the wax candles with the oil candles and use the memorial funds to pay for them, A second motion was made by P. McCawley and everyone approved. S. Tharp will order the new candles.
6. Policies and Procedures (Pastor Fritz) Pastor Fritz asked consistory to review and prioritize the list of policies and procedures she distributed. Please return the prioritized list to Pastor Fritz by the next meeting.

New Business:

1. Rotation of devotions at the beginning of the meeting (Pastor Fritz) D. Bankert will lead devotion for the August meeting.
2. There are responsibilities that the pastor has to the congregation and wider church (Pastor's job description and creed) and the "Local church Responsibilities". This form includes responsibilities to the pastor and the wider church. The form will be posted in the Narthex and also be included in the next newsletter.
3. Larry Vickers volunteered to teach a mosaic class at Bethel. A motion was made by S. Tharp and a second by T. Allison with all approving. More to follow on the class.
4. The question of the security of the office door was discussed. Churches have experienced break-ins and computer and other electronics were stolen. T. Allison will look for a better door and lock for the office.

5. Outdoor Service on 7/31 beginning at 10 AM followed by the church picnic. Church will supply chicken corn soup and hotdogs. Everyone should bring a covered dish and place settings. A campfire will be held on Saturday 7/30 beginning around 6 PM. bring your favorite campfire goodies and enjoy the social time.

Future Business:

We are looking for suggestions for future fundraisers.

Next meeting will be Monday August 8th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM with a motion from S. Tharp and 2nd by T. Allison and everyone approved.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by

David Bankert



September Birthdays

- 1 - Stephanie King
- 1 - Robert Ernst, III
- 1 - Joshua McMaster
- 2 - Josh Lochbaum
- 7 - Lori Noel
- 7 - Kim Weaver
- 8 - Edward J. Miller
- 20 - Tess Weaver
- 23 - Wade Jacoby
- 26 - Lexie Lochbaum
- 29 - Theodore (Ted) Kreitz, III

October Birthdays

- 4 - Drew Frebertshouser
- 5 - Robert E. Thoman
- 5 - Walter Miller
- 9 - Dequay Lauchman
- 14 - George Shue
- 15 - Steve Beard
- 19 - Kayla Stevenson
- 20 - Jean Masenheimer
- 22 - Deb Bankert
- 22 - Anna Bankert
- 29 - Andrew Stevenson
- 29 - Diane Nace

September Anniversaries

- 6 - Gary & Rose Simpson
- 9 - Dennis & Rachel Nelson
- 17 - Jason & Danielle Spahr
- 19 - Josh & Danetta Lochbaum
- 24 - Brian & Connie Martz

October Anniversaries

- 4 - Ted & Georgetta Kreitz
- 7 - Gene & Diane Nace
- 10 - Greg & Tina Main
- 14 - Tom & Rhonda Allison
- Clay & Jamie McKim

Season after Pentecost Year C	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate* First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Proper 18 (23) Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 4, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 18:1-11</u> <u>Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18</u>	<u>Deuteronomy 30:15-20</u> <u>Psalm 1</u>	<u>Philemon 1:1-21</u>	<u>Luke 14:25-33</u>
Proper 19 (24) Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 11, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28</u> <u>Psalm 14</u>	<u>Exodus 32:7-14</u> <u>Psalm 51:1-10</u>	<u>1 Timothy 1:12-17</u>	<u>Luke 15:1-10</u>
Holy Cross September 14, 2016	<u>Numbers 21:4b-9</u> <u>Psalm 98:1-5</u> <i>or</i> <u>Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38</u>		<u>1 Corinthians 1:18-24</u>	<u>John 3:13-17</u>
Proper 20 (25) Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 18, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 8:18-9:1</u> <u>Psalm 79:1-9</u>	<u>Amos 8:4-7</u> <u>Psalm 113</u>	<u>1 Timothy 2:1-7</u>	<u>Luke 16:1-13</u>
Proper 21 (26) Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 25, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15</u> <u>Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16</u>	<u>Amos 6:1a, 4-7</u> <u>Psalm 146</u>	<u>1 Timothy 6:6-19</u>	<u>Luke 16:19-31</u>
Proper 22 (27) Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 2, 2016	<u>Lamentations 1:1-6</u> <u>Lamentations 3:19-26</u> <i>or</i> <u>Psalm 137</u>	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u> <u>Psalm 37:1-9</u>	<u>2 Timothy 1:1-14</u>	<u>Luke 17:5-10</u>

Season after Pentecost Year C	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate* First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Proper 23 (28) Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost October 9, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7</u> <u>Psalm 66:1-12</u>	<u>2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c</u> <u>Psalm 111</u>	<u>2 Timothy 2:8-15</u>	<u>Luke 17:11-19</u>
Canadian Thanksgiving Day October 10, 2016	<u>Deuteronomy 26:1-11</u> <u>Psalm 100</u>		<u>Philippians 4:4-9</u>	<u>John 6:25-35</u>
Proper 24 (29) Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost October 16, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 31:27-34</u> <u>Psalm 119:97-104</u>	<u>Genesis 32:22-31</u> <u>Psalm 121</u>	<u>2 Timothy 3:14-4:5</u>	<u>Luke 18:1-8</u>
Proper 25 (30) Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost October 23, 2016	<u>Joel 2:23-32</u> <u>Psalm 65</u>	<u>Sirach 35:12-17</u> <i>or</i> <u>Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22</u> <u>Psalm 84:1-7</u>	<u>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</u>	<u>Luke 18:9-14</u>
Proper 26 (31) Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost October 30, 2016 <i>(If All Saints not observed on this day)</i>	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u> <u>Psalm 119:137-144</u>	<u>Isaiah 1:10-18</u> <u>Psalm 32:1-7</u>	<u>2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12</u>	<u>Luke 19:1-</u>

Bethel United Church Of Christ

September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
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October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep 2016</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Nov 2016</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				1
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">2</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship Service (Worldwide Communion)</p> <p>10:30 AM Children and Youth Sunday School Begins</p> <p>10:30 AM Adult Sunday School</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">3</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Zook Pie Fundraiser Begins</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">4</p> <p>9:00 AM Bible Study at Ruth Sterner's House</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">5</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">6</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">7</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">8</p>																																																																																				
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