

Bethany United Methodist Church
"Renewing the Church to change the World"



Volume 7, Issue 9

September 2020

Milton's Good News

August- "At a Glance"

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Looking back in August for Bethany, Bethany UMC still continued having worship services with safety and health restrictions. August was a planning month, which N.O.W. Committee meet early in the month. Planning for the "Share the Warmth" Coat Giveaway and Milton Bridge Walk. Meetings with Architects, general contractors and quote for updated office computer systems from ME Push. A special conference church meeting to vote on building plan is set for August 31st.

"⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11 NIV) -Cheri Buss

Leadership Team Report

Special points of interest:

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The August Team meeting devotional began with a consideration of the word "epitaphs". It was pointed out that the epitaphs of many famous figures are gathered on one web site, and that besides making interesting, even amusing, reading, they often provide good food for thought. Parallel with that is the notion of the "dash" that will eventually appear between the birth and death dates on our grave markers. Through that, we conjure the question "What will we have done with the time on earth that our dash represents?" I was reminded of Dave Gehrum's sermon at Bethany a couple of years ago, the title of which was, in printed form, simply "—". Same idea, and we're urged to think about it. Life has been called a rat race, a feast, and a predicament, among other things. But let's remember that it's a priceless gift from God. How will we be remembered after we're gone? Well, for starters – and even mainly - by our deeds and words today. We consider those who have gone before us, folks who have influenced us positively. And very memorably. We can easily realize that their contributions to those around them were the ways they made their "dashes" worthwhile – and not that they much thought about it at the time. This human phenomenon is something I think of as a sharing of spirit. It may take the form of a bequest of wisdom or the legacy of a kindly, giving lifestyle, but it also happens between the living. I attest that it's happened to me many times over, each occurrence making me more whole than I was before. Could I give examples? Oh, yeah, lots of them. And so could you.

Church leaders will meet with Poole-Anderson on Thursday, August 20 to officially "kick off" the construction part of the Bethany restoration project. In addition, Hemmler / Camayd Architecture will visit the church on that same day to continue measuring ahead of blueprinting for Plan 3A, and Baut Studios will come to Bethany to see what their part in the renovation of doors and stained glass windows figures to be. And then the UMC Board of Church and Location will come to talk with us about the financial as well as the logistical aspects of our restoration. All of this is rapid and very welcome progress as we commence to remake Bethany.

Rod Moore



From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,



September comes to us as a promise of change. The hot humid days of August should be done with and the hard frosts of October are in the future. What we have is a promise of cooler days and nights as we prepare for the harvest of the crops planted in the blessings of spring now take place in the autumn. The cycle of life continues and we live on the promise of what is to come.

When I look at what was planted this spring I am not seeing all of the harvests of life. What I am seeing is a reaping of the winds of change not for the glory of God but for the destruction of what we have known. I see the effects of the planting of Covid-19 and the destruction that has caused not only on our health but also in our well being. Who could have thought of the total disruptions we have been through? Our world has changed in so many ways it is hard to think of or to list them all.

Who would have thought that the arrest of a man would trigger such a serious repercussion? With that arrest and the death of a man and what has been harvested from that event is a total change again in the world we knew.

A new syntax of words has also been added to the common language we use that I never heard until this year. For example, we have "cancel culture, wokeness, BLM" (that has nothing to do with mining). The definition of protesting and rioting being redefined, the total loss of respect for life, property, law, and law enforcement has all been changed and rewritten.

The world is having a great effect upon the culture of today and we have come to where it is considered a sin to bow a knee to God but it is praiseworthy to bow in defiance to the National Anthem.

All of this is to say how can we trust or believe in any words or actions of mankind today. They could be holding up a red flag and saying that this is a new way and people would proclaim that they have finally discovered the truth and everything we have thought to be true is now found out to be false. People are trying to see that history books need to be rewritten and the truth be told. The only problem would be the truth would be at the whim of the author and what points they would want to see made.

The world is trying to turn on the voice of man and many have stopped listening to the word of God. God has promised us a new heaven and a new earth and we may be in the constriction of this new world. I believe that in all that is happening God is still in control and the end will still be the same. The birth pains have started and God's word is still true. I quote from that well known Book of the Bible, Numbers in chapter 23:19. "**God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?**"

My trust and hope is in God and the word of God to be fulfilled, not in the word of mankind that always is changing.

Psalm 121

Know Hope,

Pastor Bill

Leadership Reports...



All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For September they are due: Sunday, September 13th, 2020.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Bill at pastorbill@gmail.com. Thank You!

Worship Team "Gathering of the Family of God" Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, July 14th. Here are September's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. **Next Worship Team meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13th at 1:00 PM. We are now open for worship held at West Milton UMC at 11:00 am (Use masks & keep safety guidelines).**

September 6th – Breathe on Me, Breath of God (420); They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love (2223); Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus (514); Psalm 149; Colossians 4:2-6; *"Holy Living"* / **Communion**

September 13th – Go Down, Moses (448); They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love (2223); Pass It On (572); Psalm 114; Hosea 1:1-11; *"Examples"*

September 20th – O Jesus, I Have Promised (396); They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love (2223); Go Forth for God (670); Psalm 119:57-64; Hosea 2:1-23; *"Grace"*

September 27th – O God, Our Help in Ages Past (117); They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love (2223); Precious Name (536); Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Hosea 3:1-5; *"Reconciliation"*

NOTE: Lessons for Life (Sunday School) Will start back up, Sunday, September 6th at 10:00 am, held at West Milton UMC. Will be studying the weekly Wednesday's devotions from the "Upper Room". Please pick up the Upper Room in the back of sanctuary (West Milton UMC). Discussions will be on this devotion Sunday morning.

Trustees Report...

Finally it feels like we are making progress toward the rebuilding of Bethany. During the past month the Leadership Team has:

- Reviewed the various options for the building layout presented by Hemmler and Camayd Architects. Of the options presented the Leadership Team recommended Option 3A, which keeps the sanctuary in the previous location but reorients it with the altar in what was previously the back of the sanctuary. With this orientation the congregation will be looking toward the beautiful stained glass on the Front Street wall. Where the organ and altar used to be will be a nursery and handicapped accessible restrooms. The Large Sunday School room will be the Fellowship Hall and the Elm Street Lounge will be converted to a kitchen. The recommendation of the Leadership Team will be presented to the congregation to approve during a special Church Conference Meeting on Monday, August 31 at 6:30 PM at West Milton UMC.
- Reviewed five proposals from potential Construction Managers for the rebuilding project. Of the five, Poole Anderson, with offices in State College and Harrisburg, was the low bidder at \$369,690. A meeting was held with representatives from Poole Anderson where they reviewed their proposal and answered questions. The Leadership Team members in attendance were impressed with their presentation and voted to contract with Poole Anderson to become the Construction Manager. A 'kick off' meeting with them has been scheduled for Thursday, August 20 at 10:00 AM at West Milton UMC.
- Reviewed the proposed layout for the new kitchen and made some decisions about the equipment that will be included. The plan incorporates the furnishings and equipment from the kitchen in the basement. Thanks to Bob Fitch for his work on pulling the information together.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand, Trustee chair

Special Church Conference Meeting.....

There will be a Special Church Conference Meeting for the Bethany UMC congregation members on **Monday, August 31st at 6:30 pm** to approve and vote on the building plan.

This meeting will be held at West Milton UMC, 310 High St, West Milton.

N.O.W. Hear This!.....

N.O.W. Meeting on Tuesday, September 22nd at 6:30 pm @ West Milton UMC

"Sharing the Table" Milton Panther Packs Program is a way you can help this important ministry to feed the children in the Milton School District elementary schools. Bethany UMC will be in charge of providing to as many as 350 children per week, of fruit cups and individual boxes of cereals. **Also in need of plastic grocery bags.** Please bring in those items of the first of the month for **"Sharing the Table"** or into the office Mon, Wed, and Fri from 9 am – 1 pm.



Next Food Collection Communion Dates: September 6th / October 4th / November 1st

Milton Harvest Community Dinner (St Andrew's UMC – 201 Lower Market St, Milton PA)

There will **not** be any Milton Harvest Community Dinners for September, per Sarah Wochele, Bucknell. Sarah will let us know if they can start back up. Still trying to see if can offer takeout meals, which Sarah is looking into.

Milton Community Dinner (Christ Evan Lutheran Church – 1125 Mahoning St, Milton PA)

The Community Dinners are postponed until further notice due to the covid 19.

Bethany's

Effort

Toward

Health

"Washed Clean Kits"



BETH "Washed Clean Kits" (Hygiene Kits) Update:

The items that we are accepting for the packs are:

Soap, shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body sprays, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand/body lotion, wash cloths, hand towels, disposable personal/baby wipes, feminine products, toilet paper, and both baby and adult diapers. The small individual, hotel-sized bottles are preferred but any donations are welcomed.

Toasty Toes Sock Ministry....

We have launched a new ongoing ministry here at Bethany. The "Toasty Toes Sock Ministry" will provide new socks to those in need. Socks will be handed out at both of the Community Dinners that we serve and assist with and at Milton Towers and other limited income housing projects in town. We are collecting pairs of new socks in all sizes & genders from infants to adults. Please deposit socks in the laundry basket at the front of the sanctuary on any Sunday.



"Share the Warmth" Coat Giveaway



"Share the Warmth" Coat Giveaway for October 2020: Since the fire we have lost most of our inventory of coats and winter items, which now we are in great need of them.

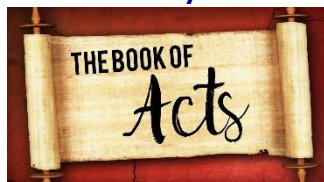
If you're doing end of summer clean-out of your closets, we accept coats/hats/scarves & warm clothing and blankets all year for the Mission. Always looking for coats in children's sizes and large adult sizes.

Can start bringing in donations now and drop them off at the church office on Monday & Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm and Friday 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.

Thank You!

[Watch for more details for the Coat Giveaway]

Bible Study "The Book of Acts"



Weekly Bible Study will begin on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings on Tuesday, September 8th at 10:00 am and Wednesday, September 9th at 7:00 pm. Will be studying the Book of Acts. Pastor will have discussion questions to hand out.

All Bible Study classes will be held at West Milton UMC, West Milton.

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income July 2020 Reports:

Envelope Income To Date---2020

		Current Expense	Reno	Benev. (Price Fund)	Miscell.	Weekly Total	Year To Date
July	5	\$714.00		\$5.00		\$719.00	\$21,755.00
	12	\$705.00		\$410.00		\$1,115.00	\$22,780.00
	19	\$1,105.00		\$50.00		\$1,155.00	\$23,935.00
	26	\$660.00		\$20.00		\$680.00	\$24,615.00

Plate Income To Date---2020

		Plate	Known Givers	Benevolences (Price Fund)	Weekly Total	Year To Date
July	5	\$2.00			\$2.00	\$1,103.93
	12		\$300.00		\$300.00	\$1,403.93
	19	\$2.00			\$2.00	\$1,405.93
	26	\$27.00			\$27.00	\$1,432.93

Lessons For Life Income To Date---2020

		Weekly Total	Year to Date
July	5	CANCELLED	\$154.10
	12	CANCELLED---\$3.00	\$157.10
	19	CANCELLED	\$157.10
	26	CANCELLED	\$157.10

Fire Restoration Fund Income To Date---2020

			Year to Date
July	5		\$18,705.78
	12	\$100.00	\$18,805.78
	19		\$18,805.78
	26		\$18,805.78



Finance Report (July's Current Expenses In & Out):

Total Income Received:	\$6,762
Total Expenses Paid Out:	\$9,617
Average Attendance:	20

Our Prayer List.....

Jeff S. – Health
 Eddie G. – Health
 Rich H – Health
 Richard W & Shirley – Recovery / Health
 Jamie A. – Employment
 Sarah H – Health / Recovery
 Judy C – Eyes / Cataract surgery
 Milton Rehab and Milton Towers (Covid)
 Those dealing with Cancer – Dan, Mandy, Terrie, Gary, David, Rita, Doug, Ann
 Dee & the Family of Barry O. – Barry passed away.
 Family of Carol Anspach – Carol passed away.
 Family of Darron Foust – Darron passed away.
 Bethany Congregation / Restoration & reopening business / churches.
 Leadership Team: Cindy, James A, Rod, Shelly, Bob F, James M, Dick K, Dave W, Mike L, Dorothy, Pastor Bill.
 Praises:
 Terrie H & Dan A – Both show no growth in their cancers. Sarah H coming home from Milton Rehab. Shelly got a new job. Annie, Pastor's dog surgery went well & now recovering.



Cancelled Event:....

The 2020 Milton Harvest Festival in September has been cancelled in light of public health concerns associated with the Covid --19.

Bethany Fire Update:



Reviewing designs from architects and hiring general contractor.

Total Income Received (July): \$100.00 (Account Balance: \$2,696,509)

Total Expenses Paid Out (July): \$9,761

Thank You Letters to those below who donated to the Fire Fund. recently.

Frank & Jamie Salvagni

Bethany thanks all those who contributed to the Fire Fund.



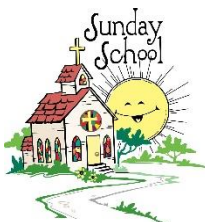
Milton Bridge Walk Canceled and now a "Walk in the Spirit"....



Milton Ministerium presents: "Milton Bridge Walk in the Spirit"

Due to the ongoing uncertainty of the COVID situation and if we can gather or not I am making a decision to not hold the Bridge Walk this year. But because of the ongoing need of the community in which we serve, I would ask that each church within the Milton Ministerium hold a **"Walk in the Spirit"** day on the second Sunday, October 11th with a special offering to be taken to support the Salvation Army and Hands Up in their effort to help meet the needs of the community we serve. All monies raised will be forwarded to the Milton Ministerium and split equally between the two mentioned charities.

Lessons for Life (Sunday School):



Lessons for Life (Sunday School) will start back up on Sunday, September 6th at 10:00 am held at West Milton UMC, 310 High St, West Milton. We will be using the Upper Room and studying the Wednesday's devotion prior to that Sunday. In the back of the Upper Room find that Wednesday date for the discussion questions that the class will go over. Please pick up an Upper Room (September/October) if you haven't already to use for this class.

Fun Page

Fall Fun

Can you find these **19** hidden objects?



Illustrated by Marilee Harrauld-Pilz



needle



snake



glove

crescent
moon

fish



toothbrush



ax



clover



crown



elf's hat



slice of pie



canoe



muffin



mug



fan

Hidden Pictures



carrot



envelope



tent



fried egg

BETHANY UMC

107 S. Front St.
Milton, PA 17847
(570) 742-9796

bethany18coffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

[Held at West Milton UMC

310 High St

West Milton PA]

Lessons for Life: 10:00 am

Gathering of the Family of God: 11:00 am

PASTOR BILL

670 Stamm Rd
Milton, PA 17847
717-968-3500 (Cell)
570-246-5830 (Home)
pastorbill@gmail.com

Upper Room – Now Available

September / October

Daily Bread – Now Available

September / October / November

Announcements:

Note: Lessons for Life (Sunday School) Will start back up, Sunday, September 6th at 10:00 am at West Milton UMC.

Dates to Remember:

August 31st – 6:30 pm – Special Church Conference [Vote] @ West Milton UMC

September 6th – 10:00 am – Lessons for Life (Sunday School)

11:00 am – Gathering of the Family of God / Communion

“Sharing the Table / Panther Packs”

September 6th – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

September 7th – Labor Day (Church office closed)

September 8th – 10:00 am - Bible Study “Book of Acts” @ West Milton UMC (Begins)

September 9th – 7:00 pm - Bible Study “Book of Acts” @ West Milton UMC (Begins)

Sept 15th – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Finance & Ad Board) @ West Milton UMC

September 22nd – 6:30 pm – N.O.W. Meeting @ West Milton UMC

Oct 3rd – Annual Conference @ Williamsport Community Arts

Oct 11th – 11:00 am– Milton Bridge “Walk in the Spirit” Special Offering

Bible Study “Book of Acts”: 10:00 am every Tuesday @ West Milton UMC

Bible Study “Book of Acts”: 7:00 pm every Wednesday @ West Milton UMC

Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday at Rockwell

Lessons for Life (Sunday School): 10:00 am every Sunday morning.

Gathering of the Family of God: 11:00 am every Sunday morning.



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

Sept.
2020