

**BETHANY UMC**

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

[bethany18coffice@gmail.com](mailto:bethany18coffice@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[bethanyumc-miltonpa.org](http://bethanyumc-miltonpa.org)

**Sunday Worship:**

Gathering of the Family of God: 10:30 am  
YouTube: Bethany UMC Milton

**PASTOR TRAVIS**

670 Stamm Rd  
Milton, PA 17847  
717-968-2254 (Cell)  
570-246-5830 (Home)  
[tallshouse@susumc.org](mailto:tallshouse@susumc.org)

**Announcements:**

**Dates to Remember:**

[Wednesday's at Noon – Soup & The Word @ 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church (Ends 3/27)

February 25<sup>th</sup> – 11:45 am – February Birthday Celebrations / Cake

February 26<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am - Lenten Bible Study @ Bethany UMC

February 28<sup>th</sup> – Noon – Soup & The Word @ 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / Communion

[Deadline for Easter Flower Orders]

March 6<sup>th</sup> – Noon - Soup & The Word @ 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church

March 9<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Savings Time (Tune clocks ahead 1 Hour before turning in)

March 10<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Special Offering: UMCOR Sunday

March 11<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am – Lenten Bible Study @ Bethany UMC

March 17<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 18<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am – Lenten Bible Study @ Bethany UMC (Last one)


March 19<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm – Leadership Team Meeting

March 24<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / Palm Sunday

March 29<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service @ Bethany UMC

March 31<sup>st</sup> – 9:00 am – Easter Breakfast / March Birthday Celebrations

10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / Easter Sunday

 BETHANY UMC OFFICE  
18 CENTER ST  
MILTON, PA 17847

March  
2024

**Bethany United Methodist Church**

*“A Church with the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Milton”*



Volume 11, Issue 3

**March 2024**

**Milton's Good News**

**February– “At a Glance”**

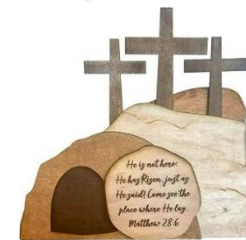
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Looking back in February for Bethany, Ash Wednesday Service this year was with the Milton United Methodist Cluster, which took place at St. Andrew's UMC. Also the Milton UMC Cluster offered a Lenten Bible Study on Monday's, which was held at Bethany UMC. Thank you to everyone who brought in refreshments for the Bible Study. Soup & The Word began and was held at 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church again this year on Wednesdays. Ending the month with a celebration of February Birthdays.

*“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.” James 4:10 (NIV)*

- Cheri Buss



**PASTOR'S WIFE  
APPRECIATION MONTH  
MARCH 1-31**

**Thank You  
Jessica, We  
all Love  
You!!!**

\* Please send an Encouragement / Thank You Card to our beloved Pastor's Wife, Jessica.

**To Jessica; our beloved Pastor's Wife:**

For consistently supporting your husband spiritually, emotionally, and physically. **Thank you!**

For all of your sacrifices, both visible and invisible. **Thank you.!**

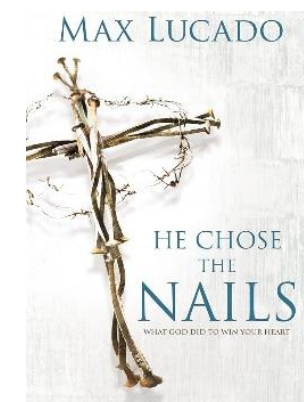
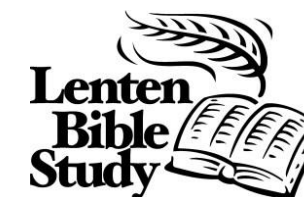
For embracing the privilege and high calling of ministry, for saying “yes” to life with a pastor. **Thank you!**

From your; Bethany Congregation and Staff, We Thank God for you in our lives, you are a true blessing!! God's blessings to you!!

**Special points of interest:**

- “At a Glance” (pg 1)
- Pastor's Wife Appreciation Month (pg 1)
- Lenten Bible Study (pg 1)
- Leadership Reports (pg 2)
- Worship Schedule (pg 3)
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**Milton UMC Cluster Lenten Bible Study**



The Milton UMC Cluster will be having a Lenten Bible Study on **Mondays at 10:00 am held at Bethany UMC** started on **February 19, 2024**. Each pastor from the churches will lead the Bible Study and Bethany UMC will provide the refreshments. **[Please let Pastor know if planning on attending.]**

Topic: He Chose the Nails” By Max Lucado.

**Bible Study Dates: Feb 26<sup>th</sup> / March 4<sup>th</sup> / March 11<sup>th</sup> / March 18<sup>th</sup>**

[Milton UMC Cluster includes the following churches: Bethany UMC, St. Andrew's UMC, Montandon UMC, St John's of Dewart, Trinity UMC of New Columbia, Faith Chapel of White Deer, and St. John's of ElimSPORT].

**Bethany congregation please sign up each week for refreshments on the sheet in the fellowship hall.**

**Thank You!**



### From Pastor Travis's Study

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace in the name of Jesus Christ who is our Savior and healer of our brokenness.

As we come into the month of March, I cannot help but get excited. Not only is it the month that I was born in (March 14), or that the ACC and NCAA basketball tournaments are soon here, or that baseball season is soon to start, I am also excited that Spring is almost here. I love the spring and summer seasons.

When I was younger, I could not wait for Spring to come. It meant that I could go outside and play with my friends. We could go outside for recess and play kickball. It meant that many of my evenings and Saturdays would be spent at or on a baseball field. I love the sound of a ball being hit by a baseball bat. It is a moment of pure excitement, and a lot of prayer. The prayer usually was "Dear Lord, don't let me mess this up."

Spring is so full of resurrection, growth, and life. Grass begins to turn green and grow again. The trees begin to blossom and grow again. Animals return from trying to stay warm. Those of us who hate the winter and cold begin to emerge from our homes again. Life just seems to get going again.

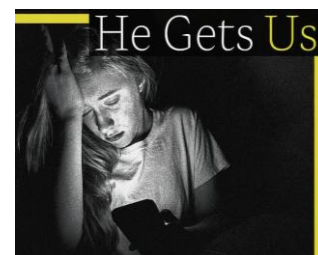
This is also the season that we celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Lent and Easter are almost upon us. This is a time for us to reflect on our need for salvation and healing from our sins. It is a time for us to give thanks to God for His love in offering that healing and salve through Christ. It is a time for us to give thanks for Christ's resurrection and conquering of death. We are told by Paul in Romans 6:23 that "the wages of sin is death. But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

So, as we enter into the season of Lent, here are some things that we are going to be looking at. Our Sermon Series for Lent is He Gets Us. We will be using the marketing ads "He Gets Us." This ad campaign has been in the news lately because of the Super Bowl. Many people ask why people would spend so much money on a commercial during the Super Bowl when that money could be spent helping those in need. Others do not like the way that Jesus is presented in the commercials because they are not presenting the "gospel the right way"(whatever that means). These commercials also show us something else. They show us the places where we try to find division in our lives and our faith journey. They show us the places where we can be better about the ways in which we share the Gospel with others. Most importantly, they remind us of the love of Jesus because He Gets Us. Please join us in person for worship to hear the ways that Jesus gets us, or watch online at YouTube (in the search bar type in Bethany UMC Milton).

May God Bless you all in the days to come.

And, remember: The Best Is Yet to Be!!!

Pastor Travis



### Leadership Reports...

All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For March they are due: Sunday, March 10, 2024.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Travis at [tallshouse@susumc.org](mailto:tallshouse@susumc.org). Thank You!

### Fun Page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- |            |               |              |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash        | Holy Week     | Palm Branch  |
| Wednesday  | Holy Thursday | Forty Days   |
| Sacrifice  | Good Friday   | Jesus        |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover     |
| Prayer     | Easter        | Foot Washing |
| Fasting    | Palm Sunday   | Resurrection |
| Lent       | Purple        | Love         |





## Bethany UMC Current Expense Income January 2024 Reports:

### Financial Secretary's Report: January 2024

Date	Offering Envelopes	Plate Offering	Butler Trust Fund	Initial Offering	Human Relations	Lenten Offering	Free Will Offering	Totals
01/07/24	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	Snow-No Church
01/14/24	\$1,226.00	\$10.00	\$1,265.43	\$88.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,589.43
01/21/24	\$3,616.00	\$0	\$0	\$10.00	\$175.00	\$0	\$0	\$3,801.00
01/28/24	\$1,738.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$1,848.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$6,580.00</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$1,265.43</b>	<b>\$98.00</b>	<b>\$175.00</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$8,238.43</b>

### January 2024

Total Income Received: \$8,238.43 + (\$1.61 Interest) = \$8,240.04 - \$100.00 (Check returned/no signature) = **\$8,140.04**

Total Expenses Paid Out: **\$18,153.91**

Average Attendance: 17

**Fire Fund:** Income Received: \$7 - Interest  
Total Expenses: \$0  
**Balance \$83,999.16**

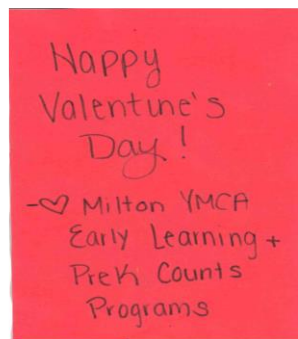


**Come celebrate Easter Sunday Service and bring your family & friends to Bethany UMC at 10:30 am on March 31, 2024. Come early at 9:00 am for an Easter Breakfast Fellowship.**

**Bethany UMC wishes you all a blessed Easter and praising our Lord and Savior for His gift of sacrifice on the cross for us all.**

## Happy Valentine's Day Note / Picture....

Bethany UMC received a Valentine's Day Picture and note, from our beloved children from Milton YMCA. The Early Learning and PreK all stopped to delivered this heart picture and note to us all! (Copy on the right) A special thanks for thinking of them in October the children said! God bless our little children!!!!



## 2024 Altar Flower Sign Up Chart....

The 2024 Altar Flower Sign Up Chart is now on the table in the Fellowship Hall, which you can sign up for the Sundays you wish to put in Altar Flowers. If you wish to put in fresh flowers, contact Charlene's Petal Talk, 200 N Arch St, Milton at 570-490-9597 or use one of the silk flowers from our church. **Please let Cheri, Administrative Assistant** know what you wish for the bulletin and also what flowers you will be using (Florist you called or silk flowers). Thank You!



## Leadership Team Report...

The Leadership Team did not formally convene in either December 2023 (normal holiday hiatus) or January 2024 (weather). What follows is from its meeting in February.

The Team asked into the current status of the Bethany Hygiene Kit program, which has, for a long while, been guided on the giveaway side by Jessica Allshouse. Jess takes what is donated (mainly personal care products, like soaps, deodorants, and grooming supplies) to the Shikellamy School District where she works. The goods are dispensed free and freely to students, not as kits containing specific items, but out of bins a la carte. The program is doing very nicely and will continue as it now goes. This update will come as welcome news to our membership, many contributing members of which are to be thanked for their support of this initiative.

Bethany will provide a special breakfast casserole on Easter Sunday, March 31, at 9:00 AM (worship service at the regular 10:30 AM time).

Bethany was recently graced with a heartwarming "thank you" card from the YMCA daycare children that were treated last Halloween in front of the church office. That had been a special treat that we aimed specifically at those particular kids, and their gratitude, both at the time and through their card, so moved us that we wasted no time deciding to do the same sort of candy handout for them for Easter. This is a very brightening thing, not only for the church, but for the delighted kiddos and their appreciative morning Y staff monitors.

We are still waiting to hear from our contactor contacts and the Conference Property/Casualty Insurance firm as to (a) whether the check we received to repair the church's northern Front St. hand railing is at all adequate to the cover the expected cost (we think not), and (b) who would be the logical choice to do the work in view of who the original installer was. . Meanwhile, the damaged railing will be taken away from that area, largely because it's high time to undo the eyesore.

We approved obtaining a standalone speaker that would have amplification enough to help with the audibility of our large TV and with that of people speaking/ teaching / leading in the church's fellowship area.

Rod Moore

## March Worship Schedule



**SUNDAY MORNING** **Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
**Communion will be offered**

**Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30 am Gathering of the Family of God / 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
**UMCOR (Special Offering)**

**Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God / 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent



**Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God / **Palm Sunday**

**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** – 7:00 pm – **Good Friday Service**



**Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** – **9:00 am – Easter Breakfast** / March Birthday Celebrations  
10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God / **Easter Sunday**



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

### Spring forward



**Daylight Saving Time begins – Turn those clocks forward one-hour Saturday night, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024; before turning into bed.**

## Hygiene Kits Ministry...



**Hygiene Kits Needed**

Bethany UMC is proud and excited to announce that we are collecting items again for personal hygiene packs ministry for children in our schools and community! Please put into the bins in the Fellowship Hall.

**The items that we are accepting for the packs are:**

Soap/shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand/body lotion, feminine products. The small individual, hotel-sized bottles are preferred but any donations are welcomed!

We thank you in advance for your support of this exciting ministry!!

## Soup & The Word



**Wednesday Weekly Lenten Luncheons**  
**First Presbyterian Church 47 Walnut Street, Milton PA**

*Begins Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at Noon*

. All are invited to share delicious homemade soup and warm Christian fellowship. A message is provided each week by a local pastor.

**Dates:**

**March 6<sup>th</sup> / March 13<sup>th</sup> / March 20<sup>th</sup> / March 27<sup>th</sup>**

## Holy Week at Bethany UMC



**Sunday – March 24 – Palm Sunday**  
**10:30 am Worship Service**

**Friday, March 29 – Good Friday Service**  
**7:00 pm @ Bethany UMC**

**Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday (Happy Easter!!)**  
**9:00 am – Easter Breakfast**  
**10:30 am – Worship Service “He has Risen, Risen Indeed!”**



## Easter Flowers.....

_____ 4" TULIPS	\$10.00 Each	TOTAL: _____
_____ 6" LILIES	\$15.00 Each	TOTAL: _____



**Please return your order with money to the church office. (Forms are in office and/or sanctuary)**  
**Deadline for money and ordering: Sunday, March 3, 2024**

## Trustees Report

Trustee items completed or in process:

- I forgot to include in my report last month that Air Tech HVAC completed the winter service of the heating systems in the parsonage, church and Parish House in December.
- With Pastor Travis' and Cheri's assistance, the Annual Trustee Report for 2023 was completed and submitted to the Conference District Office by the January 31 deadline.
- The contracts for maintenance of the landscaping (trimming, fertilizing, spraying for pests) with Creative Landscapes for the 2024 season for the parsonage and church were signed and returned with payment. We took advantage of the 4% discount offered by paying in full.
- The plumber completed the annual test of the backflow preventer on the church water supply on February 15. It's working properly. The plumber will file the necessary paperwork with the water company.
- Based on my concern regarding the high water bills for the church, I contacted the water company for further information. What I learned is that the sprinkler system requires a 4" line and meter. The monthly fee is based on the size of the meter, which is approximately \$285 plus the cost of water used.
- Bob is contacting Hemmler and Camayd to check on the progress of the design of the roof over the Center Street Ramp. Our intention continues to be to seek out a grant or grants to help offset the cost.
- Pastor Travis has been trying to reach our contacts at Poole Anderson to find out who fabricated the railing for the north Front Street entrance so that we can get an estimate of the replacement cost of the railing, any repairs to the steps, and the installation. We're still skeptical that the amount of the check received (\$2,011.08) is sufficient to cover the repairs.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

## Our Prayer List.....

**Concerns:**

- Betsy – Now home from hospital, due to a car accident on Saturday, Feb 10. Prayers for healing of broken clavicle (collarbone) and heart issues.
- The Family of the Gloria Baker, who passed away in Sat. Feb 10, in a Milton car accident and all who were involved.
- Humbert Family – Former member, F. George passed away Feb 7.
- Fogelman Family - Norm (Greeter at Walmart) passed away Feb 5.
- Dorothy (Jamie's Mom) – In rehab, prayers for strength.
- Lindsay – Continued prayers for health concerns.
- Lindsay's nephew – Loss of his father.
- Rita S – Continued prayers / cancer.
- Israel – Mourn the loss / Peace & safety those caught in the middle of war.
- Guidance to our Community Leaders & Bethany UMC
- Family/friends with Cancer: Rita S., Anna P, Florence Y, Mandy (Jim's friend); Rita (Karen's relative); Kenny (Sally's friend). Alicia (Sally); Dot (Judy's neighbor); Denny (Travis' Uncle); Bonnie R; Randy; Dale R (Sally's friend), Tim (Friends of Allshouse).
- Leaders / State / Nation / Church / Country / Ukraine / Gun violence / Canada and California wild fires / Flooding
- Leadership Team: Cindy, James A, Rod, Bob F, James M, Dave W, Mike L, Dorothy, Pastor Travis.

