

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



Volume 8, Issue 8
August 2021

Milton's Good News

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July – "At a Glance"

Looking back in July for Bethany, welcoming of Pastor Travis & Jessica, Arabella & Elias. Continued Leadership meetings with Poole & Anderson took place. Construction team onsite, major work inside being done, painting, flooring, and kitchen appliances installed from storage.

Worship Team meetings are back!

"On Board" Meeting with Kim Shockley was held with the Leadership Team and Congregation for building relationships and working well together.

"He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning." Daniel 2:21 (NIV)
-Cheri Buss



Returning Home.....Worship Returns to Bethany



Sunday, August 15th is our target date to return back to worship at Bethany UMC (Front & Center St, Milton PA).

Worship Service will go back to our 10:30 am Gathering of the Family of God Worship time.

Note: Adult Sunday School will start back up in September, so



Special points of interest:

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WELCOME  BACK!!!!!!!



From Pastor Travis's Study

Last year my family went on vacation to the Outer Banks in North Carolina. I was really looking forward to this trip as it was the first vacation that my family took together in a really long time. I was also looking forward to the trip because it was going to be a time of rest since COVID first appeared. The time finally arrived and I was sitting on the beach listening to the waves and enjoying a drink (it was a Methodist approved drink). Sitting on the beach the first couple of days I remember thinking that I wish this could be my life every day. Then, something happened about half way through our trip. The excitement and novelty of the trip began to go away. Suddenly, I didn't want to live at the beach every day. I wanted to be home. I began to long for being in my home. I wanted to be in my own space where I knew where everything was. I didn't want to have to worry about making a mess or accidentally breaking something that I would be charged extra for. I really wanted to sleep in my own bed. I just wanted to be HOME.

This must be how the Israelite people felt as they were in exile. They longed for their homeland. They wanted to be in the comfort of Israel. They no longer wanted to be in Babylon and Persia. They even mourned the fact that they could not truly worship God in a foreign land. "How can we sing the Lord's songs in a strange land (Psalm 137:4)."

Friends, this is where we are right now. I am not trying to compare the fire, or the need to worship at West Milton as a vacation or being exiled/punished by God. I am looking at how we are feeling as the building project comes to an end. We are longing to be home in our own church. We want to be in our own space. We want to do the things that we want to do, and not worry about anything. We desire to be in the comfort of Bethany. We are longing for HOME. As we return home, on August 15, let us praise God that He has been with us this entire journey. God has been faithful in returning us to this place to worship Him. Let's not let our excitement wane for the new possibilities that God is doing.

Let us hold onto the promise that God gives us:

THE BEST IS YET TO BE!!!

The Best is yet to Come

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 August they are due: Sunday, August 8, 2021.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Travis at tallshouse@susumc.org. Thank You!

Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

Here are the August's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. **Services held at West Milton UMC at 11:00 am and starting August 15th Bethany returns home for Worship at 10:30 am. (Note: Time change)**

Next Worship Team Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 1:00 pm (Bethany Office)

August 1st - We Gather Together (131); Forward Through the Ages (555); They'll Know We Are Christians (2223); The Church's One Foundation (545); Psalm 51:1-17; Ephesians 4:1-16 / **Communion**

August 8th – Morning Has Broken (145); Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (402); They'll Know We Are Christians (2223); Let There Be Peace on Earth (431); Psalm 116; Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Looking for volunteers to lead Small Group – Adult Sunday School



Looking for volunteers to lead our Adult Sunday School, the small group, which will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am for our Lessons for Life (Adult Sunday School Class). Would like to start these back up beginning of September. So, if you have a study you would like to lead or if you need help finding a study, please contact Pastor Travis and he will guide you. So, pray we **NEED** your help!

Leadership Team Report

The devotions that opened the latest Team meeting were based on John 14:2 and the idea of “heaven.” In our humanity, we think of heaven as a most desirable destination, but since it involves our death as mortal beings, we have a natural predilection to want to “stay here”, holding “going there” as an ideal. One sentence from the devotional says that “such a long-distance move is scary.” Again, that’s reflective of how we think as humans. But is it scary? Are we right to think that way? We leave the known to enter the unknown when we’re born and when we die. Birth and death are similar in that they’re both transitions from something we’ve become accustomed to and learned to love to a sphere of adventurous encounters with what we have not yet experienced. We love God and want to be with Him as much as He loves us and wants us to join Him. But He’s given us life for many reasons of holy design and intent, and He wants that life to be the best we can make it. In due course, though, the question arises – What do we think heaven is? And what does it look like and encompass? What do we expect in it and of it? Of course, all our answers are different. In the long run, heaven is what we imagine it to be, and will remain so until we arrive at our mansions and stand there in joyful amazement at what it truly is. It’s all part of the grand immutable design by the Supreme Architect.

The team has decided on a color for the new roof on the Parish House. It will be a gray that coordinates well with the high outside décor of the new church. That work will take place in August.

The items that responders rescued from the burning church 21 months ago have been sorted out and returned to us for placement in their new home.

We have begun to formulate plans for a celebratory reopening of Bethany. We want to engage the local community improvement group (T.I.M.E.), invite our new Conference Bishops to join us, work with the Harvest Festival organizers on both Saturdays of the 2021 event, and honor the responders who saved our church.

Rod Moore

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



"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, 9 am -1 pm and Fri from 9 am – 12:30 pm.



Next Food Collection Communion Dates: August 1st / September 5th



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

Sponsored by Bucknell University

Monday's Milton Harvest Community Meals are back! These will be pick up only meals on Monday's from 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm at St Andrew's UMC – Parking lot.

Walk-in or drive-through only to pick up meals in the parking lot.

[Don't need volunteers, at this time]

Committee Dinner's are back (St Paul's UCC) NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Next Committee Dinner will be on **August 8th at 5:00 pm**, a drive-up/walk-up only. Location: St Paul's UCC, 1125 Mahoning St, Milton PA. And also planning a drop-off delivery service for Milton Towers & Milton Developmental Services!!! Bethany is in charge of Baked Beans. Please sign up for food items and volunteer of the day of event. Deadline for Food Donations: Thursday, August 5th.

The 9th Annual Milton Island Love Inc 5K Run/Walk

Milton Island Love Inc 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, August 21, 2021

Proceeds Support the Love INC Ministry

Pre-registration \$15 for students 18 and under,
\$20 individual, \$35 family

Must be received by August 3, 2021

Race day registration \$18 for students 18 and under, \$25 individual, \$40 family

Register online at

www.goldenruleloveinc.wixsite.com/website or pick up a form at the Bethany church office.

Course Description:

The entire race is held on the Milton State Park Island (between Milton-West Milton). The course is a cross country style course and not paved.

Send form with check, payable to Love Inc – Milton to: Love Inc-Milton, 102 Lower Market St, Milton PA 17847



Schedule of Events:

7:30 am – Registration begins – ends at 8:45 am

9:00 am – Race begins

Awards:

1st Overall male and female
1st, 2nd, & 3rd by age group

Age Groups:

14 and Under	40 -49
15 – 19	50 – 59
20 – 29	60 +

Milton's Good News

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income June 2021 Reports:

06/06/2021 - Sunday

Offering Envelopes 979.00

Peace With Justice 110.00

Price Hardship Fund 15.00

Plate 3.00

Total for 06/06/2021 \$1,107.00



tithes and offering

06/13/2021 - Sunday

Offering Envelopes 753.00

Peace With Justice 10.00

Price Hardship Fund 100.00

Plate 21.00

Total for 06/13/2021 \$884.00

06/20/2021 - Sunday

Offering Envelopes 459.00

Price Hardship Fund 10.00

Total for 06/20/2021 \$469.00

06/27/2021 - Sunday

Offering Envelopes 601.00

Price Hardship Fund 15.00

Plate 22.00

Total for 06/27/2021 \$638.00

Total Contributions \$3,098.00



Finance Report (June Current Expenses In & Out):

Total Income Received: \$3,098

Total Expenses Paid Out: \$16,229

Average Attendance: 20

Bethany Fire Update: (Follow building progress on FaceBook & Website)



Inside painting on walls, plumbing, bathrooms, flooring, ceiling, electrical, and outside ramp into church work being done.

Total Income Received (June): \$59 / Balance: \$759,489

Total Expenses Paid Out (June): \$12,633



Trustees Report

It's so exciting to know that the wait is almost over. Reconstruction was delayed due to the lengthy insurance investigation, the weather, that little thing termed a pandemic and the associated difficulties obtaining building materials. Finally, we are only a few weeks away from being able to occupy the new Bethany!

Some current bills paid this past month included; the down payment on the Parish House roof replacement (\$6,908.00), the cleaning of the parsonage in preparation for the Allshouse's arrival (\$1,855.25), and the spring servicing by Air Tech HVAC of the units at both the Parish House and the parsonage (\$320.00). Speaking of HVAC, recently there was a problem with the air conditioning at the Parish House. It was determined that a blower motor had gone bad. Thankfully it was still covered under warranty.

With the church rebuilding winding down, our only current other large project is the replacement of the roof, gutters and downspouts on the Parish House. Unfortunately, the color chart which was in the office for folks to look at to pick a color disappeared. Those that got a chance to look at it liked a gray that blended with the new church roof. We still have a few weeks to decide. Ben from Hillside Roofing estimates it will be late August until they start the work.

Here is the quarterly report of the financial assets of the Trustees. The following balances (rounded) are as of June 30 (unless noted otherwise):

- Hudock Capital Group (Pershing) - \$552,262 – a decrease of \$7,444 from the last quarter. We withdrew \$20,000 for current expenses this quarter.
- Hudock Capital Group (Pershing) – Fire Insurance Fund - \$0 – At the direction of the Leadership Team, the entire balance (\$332,717) was transferred to the fire restoration account at Milton Savings.
- Prudential Investments - \$735,709 – an increase of \$39,351 from the last quarter – this is our 'in lieu of flood insurance' account.
- Prudential Investments – The Raudenbush Trust - \$97,546 – a increase of \$2,356 from last quarter.
- Prudential Investments - \$8,909 – an increase of \$172 from the last quarter
- BNY Mellon – The Butler Trust – \$246,914 – an increase of \$10,466 which includes the quarterly disbursement of \$2,200 which is deposited for current expense needs.
- Milton Savings Bank – Fire Restoration Fund – Current Balance (July 2) - \$759,571 – a decrease of \$1,201,436 from the last quarter. All expenses related to the rebuilding of the church are being drawn from this account.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

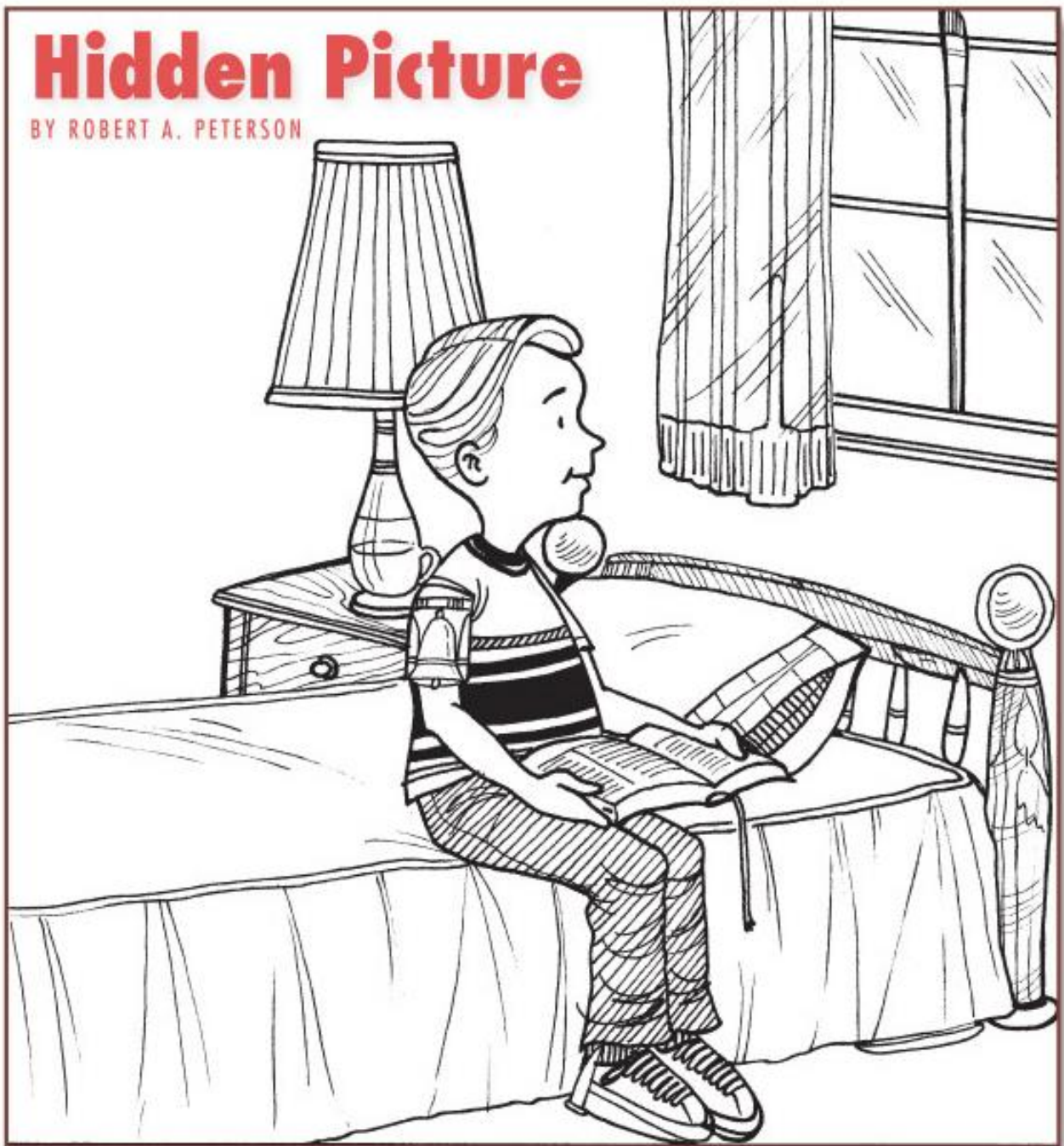
Our Prayer List.....

Edith G - Health
 Shirley & Wesner Family – Richard passed away June 13th.
 Cindy M – Cindy's cancer treatments / Health
 Debbie (Connie's sister) – Cancer and treatments
 Jeff S (Jamie's nephew) – Health / diabetes
 Richard W – Stroke / Now in Riverwoods Nursing Home
 Patti & Bill S – Health
 Florence Y – Cancer/Health, in Bloomsburg rehab & Thomas Y – Health / Afib
 Judy C - Health
 Terrie H – Upcoming tests and treatments & Todd H – Health (Wound) / Continue prayers for recovery.
 Rockman family (Shelly's friend)
 Tom (Shelly's uncle) Health / In hospital and for his wife, Donna.
 David (Karen's friend) Health
 Tina Reed - Death
 Community Meals / Shootings / People in the building collapse in Florida
 Those dealing with Cancer – Cindy, Florence, Thomas, Dan, Mandy, Terrie, Gary, David, Rita, Doug, Debbie, Shirley, Debbie
 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 Travis.



Kati M – Kidney/ Health

Fun Page



This boy is reading his scriptures. He knows that scripture study invites the power of the Holy Ghost into his life and helps him keep his baptismal covenants. Find and circle these hidden objects: an ax, a bell, a candle, a cup, a hammer, a ladle, a paintbrush, a pocketknife, a ring, a sailboat, a spatula, and a toothbrush. Then color the picture.

BETHANY UMC

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

bethany18coffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

August 1st & 8th:

**[Held at West Milton UMC
310 High St
West Milton PA]**

**August 15th & following Sunday's
[Return to Bethany UMC
107 S Front St
Milton PA]**

PASTOR TRAVIS

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

Announcements:**Dates to Remember:**

[We will not be meeting for Lesson for Life (Sunday School) until further notice.]

August 1st – 11:00 am — Gathering of the Family of God

“Sharing the Table” Panther Packs / Communion

August 5th – 10:30 am – Leadership Team W Poole Anderson

August 8th – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner (Drive-Up) @ St Paul's UCC

August 10th – 1:00 pm – Worship Team Meeting (Bethany Office)

August 15th – 10:30 am – Return to Worship at Bethany UMC

August 15th – 6:30 pm – Dessert Night with Pastor Travis & Family @ Parsonage

August 17th – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Ad Board / Finance) @ Fellowship Hall

August 21st – 9:00 am – Milton Island 5K Run / Walk @ Milton Island

August 22nd – 6:30 pm – Dessert Night with Pastor Travis & Family @ Parsonage

Gathering of the Family of God: 11:00 am (August 1st & 8th)

Gathering of the Family of God: 11:00 am (August 15th & following Sunday's)



**BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847**

August
2021