

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



Volume 6, Issue 3

March 2019

Milton's Good News

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| From Pastor Bill | 2 |
| Worship Schedule | 3 |
| Leadership Team | 3 |
| N.O.W. Here This! | 4 |
| Lay Leader | 5 |
| Announcements | 8 |

February – "At a Glance"

Looking back on February for Bethany, starting off with a "Souper Bowl Sunday" Community Soup Lunch. A Securing & Protecting Our House of Worship Seminar was held at Christ Wesleyan. Bethany helped with the Milton Harvest Meal at St. Andrew's and also the Community Meal at Christ Lutheran. Free movie night, showing the film "War Room".

*"By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had **marched** around them for seven days."*
Hebrews 11:30 (NIV)
Cheri Buss

Ash Wednesday Service



Bethany UMC & St. Andrew's UMC will be having a combined Ash Wednesday Service on March 6th at 7:00 pm held at St. Andrew's UMC. Communion will be offered.

Soup & The Word



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

Begins Wednesday, March 13th at Noon

For many years now, the churches of Milton have come together during Lent to provide both physical and spiritual food for the flock. This year, the luncheon meetings will be held at **First Presbyterian Church** of Milton, located at 47 Walnut St., with a large parking lot on Upper Market St. behind the church. These six free luncheons, held at noon, are open to the public. All are invited to share delicious homemade soup and warm Christian fellowship. A message is provided each week by a local pastor.

| Date | Speaker | Soup provided by: |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| March 13 | Pastor Steve Shirk | First Presbyterian Church |
| March 20 | Father John Hoke | St Joseph's Catholic Church |
| March 27 | Pastor Bill McNeal | Bethany UMC |
| April 3 | Pastor Jamie Dries | First Baptist Church |
| April 10 | Pastor Don Sharp | Community Mennonite |
| April 17 | Pastor Jill Bond | Revival Tabernacle |

Special points of interest:

- "At a Glance" (pg 1)
- Ash Wednesday (pg 1)
- Soup & The Word (pg 1)
- Leadership Reports (pg 2)
- Easter Flowers (pg 3)
- "Sharing the Table" (pg 4)
- St Patrick's Fellowship Meal (pg 4)
- Movie Night (pg 4)
- Easter Basket Giveaway (pg 4)
- Events in the Area (pg 5)
- 2019 Church Directory (pg 5)
- Daylight Savings Time (pg 5)
- Financial Stats (pg 6)
- Lenten Offering (pg 6)
- Fun Page (pg 7)



From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

On Sunday we had the pleasure to welcome three people into membership here at Bethany. This does help us to live into what it means to be a church, a body of believers dedicated to Christ and helping others to believe in Christ as well. In Matthew 28 it is summed up as go and make disciples.

As believes we join in collective thought and action as we come together to become the church. By living out our pledges we make to each other and to God, this comes about.

So what does that mean and how do we live out our role as members of a church. There are five parts to our pledge and they are by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

The first part is saying we will be in prayer for each other and for the church as a whole. I sum this up by saying we will not just pray for you we will pray with you.

Second, we will be as active as we can be in the life of the church. John Wesley our founder believed in a well-educated church so we are called to be active in being a part of study and worship to learn all we can about Christ and how to best show him to the world.

The third is our gifts; this is one that needs a little bit of explaining. It does not mean that the church is only interested in your checkbook and how much money you can give. It is so much more! What has God blessed you with? Whatever that is we are to give back as a gift to God. If it is money then give as you are able. If you sing well then sing with all you have. Is it a smile then smile at everyone you see! Quite simply give as you are able in any way you are able to help everyone you are able to help.

The fourth is our service; this simply means to be a helping hand as you are able. I think of the obituary I read years ago which stated the Somebody had died. They listed all of the things that Somebody did throughout the community and all of the work done in the local church and service clubs. Because somebody had died it was assumed that Nobody would then take over all of these responsibilities and as it has been proven that is just what has happened. The church cannot function with somebody or nobody it needs you.

The fifth has been added in the last few years and it is one of the most important parts of membership. That is our witness to the world around us. No matter what we say people will remember us for what we have done. We are to have our words and our actions speak for us in all we do as a reflection of Christ in the world.

Membership is not about numbers but it is to be a focus of the church to commit to presenting Christ to the world as a united front to make disciples for the Kingdom.

By the time you read these words, the Special Conference will have met to decide on "The Way Forward" for the United Methodist Church. I know God is in control and I know that no matter what the vote will be there will be disagreement. I pray God will lead us into what ever the next step will be.

Acts 1:14
In Prayer!

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 March they are due: Sunday, March 10th.** 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, December 11th. Here are March's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

March 3rd (Transfiguration Sunday) – Rejoice, the Lord Is King (715); O How He Loves You and Me (2108); Amazing Grace (378); Psalm 99; Matthew 18:21-35; “Two Servants”; **Communion**

March 6th (Ash Wednesday Service) - 7:00pm Combined Service held at St. Andrew's UMC

March 10th (1st Sunday in Lent) – It Is Well with My Soul (377); O How He Loves You and Me (2108); God Will Take Care of You (130); Psalm 91:9-16; Luke 10:25-37; “Good Samaritan”

March 17th (2nd Sunday in Lent) – Lead On, O King Eternal (580); O How He Loves You and Me (2108); What a Friend We Have in Jesus (526); Psalm 27:1-5; Luke 11:5-13; “Friend”

March 24th (3rd Sunday in Lent) – Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (381); O How He Loves You and Me (2108); Count Your Blessings (Insert); Psalm 63:1-8; Luke 12:16-21; “Barns”

March 31st (4th Sunday in Lent) – He Has Made Me Glad (2270); O How He Loves You and Me (2108); Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (348); Psalm 32; Luke 12:35-40; “Watchfulness”

Leadership Team (Ad Board) Report....

The devotions that began the February 19 Leadership Team meeting focused on the lessons of James 2:17 and Romans 12:9-17, and were followed by a discussion on “listening up and leading with your ears”, based on the second chapter of the Farr-Kotan book entitled “The Necessary Nine.” Points to consider: Are we listening to what's going on around us? What is the context of our church? We have to concentrate on building up leaders and disciples. We need to define our mission area and discern people's needs. We should remove labels in describing church services to folks. And we have to listen to the right people in our community, take time to work on the needs we discover, and make clear what we stand for.

Our latest internal financial reports and the recent updates on the standings of the holdings we gave with our two investment firms continue to reflect the stability and good health of all our accounts.

In terms of gifting, we have agreed to stay with donating to each individual; UMC Special Sunday as it comes along during the year instead of trying to combine them into groups.

We're still looking for a part-time custodian to take care of cleaning the church and the Parish House. Currently, we have two leads and are in the process of pursuing both.

Rod Moore

Easter Flowers.....



Easter flowers will be Lilies at \$9.00/Each and Hyacinths at \$8.00/Each

Please give your order with money to Shelly Sholley (Flower forms are in the back of the sanctuary)

Deadline for ordering and money: **Sunday, April 7, 2019**

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 300 children per week, of fruit cups and individual boxes of cereals, increased up from the 284 we've been targeting. Please bring in those items of the first of the month for **"Sharing the Table"**. **Next Food Collection Communion Dates: March 3rd / April 7th.**

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

There will be a Milton Harvest Community Dinner on **Monday, March 11th, 2019** at 5:00 pm. Bethany will be in charge of serving and report at 4:45 pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

(Next Milton Harvest Community Dinners that Bethany will be serving are: April 1st, May 13th, and June 3rd.)

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

There will be a Community Dinner on a **Sunday, April 14th, 2019** at 5:00 pm. Watch for more information.

On Thursday, March 7th at 6:30 pm – Planning Meeting for Community Dinners @ Christ Evan Lutheran.

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! **Items mostly needed are hand towels, deodorant, lotion, feminine products, and individual packets of tissues.**

St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Fellowship Meal



March 17th Bethany UMC will have a St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Fellowship Meal, following the morning worship service.

Need food donations of: Cabbage, carrots, red potatoes, onions, celery, Italian or French bread and Irish Soda Bread.

Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary for the meal and to help donate some of the items above.



Movie Night



Free Movie Night will be held on March 17th at 6:00 pm with the showing of "Miracles from Heaven"

Refreshment will be provided, invite your family & friends! All are welcome!



Easter Basket Giveaway



Easter Basket Candy Giveaway will be on April 10th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm., at HandUp. Can start bringing in candy with suggestions like; marshmallow peeps, chocolate candies (nut-variety ok), Tootsie rolls, animal crackers, goldfish or whales, lollipops, small toys, but PLEASE WE **DO NOT** NEED JELLY BEANS. Watch for more information. Thank You!

Lay Leader's Report

On January 19, Pastor Bill, Janet and I traveled to Williamsport to take advantage of an opportunity to engage in discussions with some of the Susquehanna Conference delegates who have been elected to participate in the February 2019 meeting on the "Way Forward" at the special convention of the United Methodist denomination's General Conference in St. Louis. The Williamsport gathering was held for the purpose of giving central Pennsylvania church leaders a chance to confirm the expectations of the delegation in terms of the direction of the larger conclave, to ask questions of them, to offer them last-minute input, and to encourage them and pray with them for the success of their mission.

My personally-chosen on-line course on Spiritual Formation began on January 21 and is now in Week 5 of a scheduled 6. This is the first of four planned calendar 2019 courses on that subject. The successful completion of all of them will result in my certification in that field of ministry and stands to be of benefit to the spiritual life and direction of Bethany. The organizers have already posted the opening of enrollment for the second course in the series, but it comes at a time that is disadvantageous to me schedule-wise and I have deferred taking that or any other such course until later.

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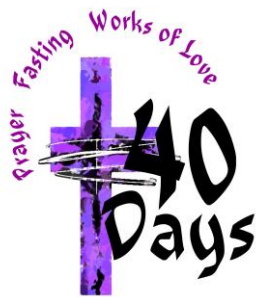
Rod Moore

Events Happening in the Area

[Please see the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary for more details on these events]

Sunday, March 17th – "Puppet Dinner Theater" – Kingdom Kidz Puppet - Home cooked meal at 12:30pm with Puppet Presentation at 1:15 pm. Location: 11 E. 3rd St, Watsontown PA, 570-838-3133.

Thursdays, April 4, 2019 – May 9, 2019 – Hospice of Evangelical are offering a six week bereavement group called "Life After Loss". Learn coping techniques to deal with grief and loss. Fee: \$20.00 (Non-refundable – registration is required by March 29, 2019.) To register, call Hospice of Evangelical at 570-522-2157



**Begins, Wednesday,
March 6th, 2019.**



2019 Bethany Family Church Directory...

The 2019 Bethany Family Directory is now available and you can pick them up in the back of the sanctuary. Please let the office know if you have any corrections or change of address & phone numbers. If you would like a church directory and cannot come to the church, please call the church office (570) 742-9796, to have one mailed to you.

DIRECTORY CORRECTION:

Bill & Patti Scott's Wedding Anniversary is May 9th (Not June).



**Daylight Saving Time begins – Turn those clocks
forward one hour Saturday night, March 9th.**

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income January 2019 Reports:

Envelope Income To Date---2019

| | | Current Expense | Reno | Benev. (Price Fund) | Miscell. | Weekly Total | Year To Date |
|---------|----|-----------------|------|---------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| January | 6 | \$740.00 | | \$10.00 | | \$750.00 | \$750.00 |
| | 13 | \$662.00 | | \$30.00 | | \$692.00 | \$1,442.00 |
| | 20 | CANCELLED | | | | | \$1,442.00 |
| | 27 | \$1,458.00 | | \$3.00 | | \$1,461.00 | \$2,903.00 |

Plate Income To Date---2019

| | | Plate | Benev. | Weekly Total | Year To Date |
|---------|----|-----------|--------|--------------|--------------|
| January | 6 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| | 13 | \$0.00 | | | \$50.00 |
| | 20 | CANCELLED | | | \$50.00 |
| | 27 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$100.00 |

Lessons For Life Income To Date---2019

| | | Weekly Total | Year To Date |
|---------|----|--------------|--------------|
| January | 6 | \$13.00 | \$13.00 |
| | 13 | \$36.00 | \$49.00 |
| | 20 | CANCELLED | \$49.00 |
| | 27 | \$16.00 | \$65.00 |

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2019

| |
|--------------------------|
| IRS Reimbursement |
| 1/6/19---\$927.02 |
| Initial Offering |
| 1/27/19---\$5.00 |

Bethany UMC Special UM Sunday Contributions 2019

| |
|--|
| Human Relations Sunday—01/20/2019 |
| 1/27/19---\$100.00 |

Butler Trust Contributions 2019

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| January 6, 2019---\$2,625.00 |
|-------------------------------------|

Lenten Offering....

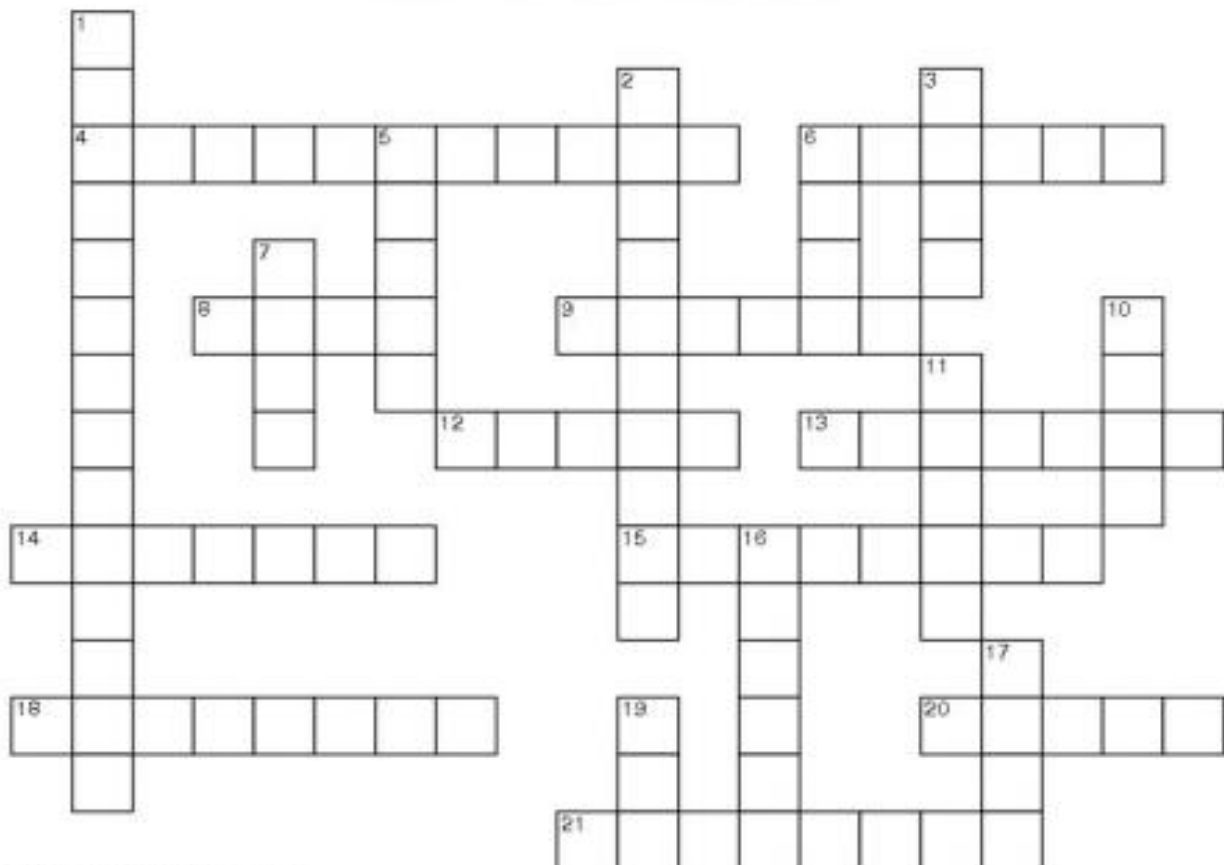
Ash Wednesday starts the first day of Lent, which then ends on Holy Saturday. This 40-day journey called Lent is a wonderful opportunity to grow in your faith. As you are observing Lent and journeying on your spiritual path, we hope that you use the enclosed Lenten envelope to bring your special giving to your church on or before Easter Sunday or mail to:

Bethany United Methodist Church
Attn: Financial Secretary, Shelly Sholley
18 Center Street, Milton, PA 17847



Fun Page

The Lenten Season



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ACROSS

- 4 How Jesus died
 6 Lent's meaning is connected to this earthly season.
 8 To give up food
 9 Jesus' death opened the gates to _____ for us.
 12 Stations of the _____.
 13 The word that recalls the suffering death of Jesus.
 14 Fourth Sunday of lent
 15 Jesus was _____ unto death.
 18 Number of stations presented in the passion.
 20 Jesus died because he _____ us.
 21 The day of the week the priesthood was instituted.

DOWN

- 1 Sacrament that restores sanctifying grace within us.
 2 Another name for the sacrament of penance.
 3 A way to celebrate lent
 5 Number of days in the lent
 6 Jesus died to _____ us from our sins.
 7 The last supper was the celebration of the first _____.
 10 The word that describes the Friday that Jesus died
 11 It's placed on our forehead to remind us of our mortality at the beginning of lent
 16 Lent prepares us for _____.
 17 The week leading up to Jesus' death
 19 The Wednesday event that marks beginning of lent

BETHANY UMC

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

miltonbethanyumcoffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

Lessons for Life: 9:00 am
Gathering of the Family of God: 10:15 am

PASTOR BILL

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

Upper Room – Now Available

March / April

Daily Bread – Now Available

March / April / May

Announcements:

Dates to Remember:

[Note: No regular scheduled Trustees Meeting for this month of March]

March 3rd - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / “Sharing the Table” Communion

March 3rd – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

March 5th – 1:00 pm – Worship Team Meeting

March 6th – 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service @ St. Andrew’s UMC

March 10th - Daylight Saving Time begins (Clocks ahead one hour-Sat night-Mar 9th)

March 10th – 10:15 am – 1st Sunday in Lent

March 11th – 4:45 pm – Milton Harvest Community Dinner @ St Andrew’s

March 13th – Noon – Soup & The Word begins @ 1st Presbyterian Church

March 17th – 11:45 am – St Patrick’s Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Meal

March 17th – 6:00 pm – Free Movie Night “Miracles from Heaven”

March 19th – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Finance & Ad Board)

March 27th – Noon – Soup & The Word (Bethany provides) @ 1st Presbyterian

April 14th – 10:15 am – Palm Sunday

April 14th – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner @ Christ Lutheran

April 21st – Happy Easter!

Bible Study “Book of Daniel”: 10:00 am every Tuesday

Soup & The Word: Noon every Wednesday (Beginning on March 13th) @ 1st Presbyt.

Bible Study “Book of Daniel”: 7:00 pm every Thursday

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

Lessons for Life: 9:00 am every Sunday morning.

Gathering of the Family of God: 10:15 am every Sunday morning.



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

March
2019