

BETHANY UMC

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

bethany18coffice@gmail.com

Website:

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

Upper Room – Now Available

January / February

Announcements:

Dates to Remember:

Feb 2 - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / Communion

Feb 3 – 10:00 am – Bible Study (Bible 101)

Feb 14 – Happy Valentine Day's

Feb 16 – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God


Feb 23 – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God

11:45 am – Feb Birthday Celebration

Every Sunday Worship (Gathering of the Family of God) at 10:30 am.

Every Monday (Bible Study) at 10:00 am



 BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

February
2025

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Bethany United Methodist Church

"A Church with the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Milton"

Volume 12, Issue 2



February 2025

Milton's Good News

January "At a Glance"

Looking back in January for Bethany, starting off this month with beginning the New Year with a Wesley's Covenant Prayer. Bethany had a Celebration of Life Service for our dear beloved, Roderic Moore. Bible Study began with studying "Bible 101". A Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for January. Snow began to fall and had frigid temperatures, which canceled our worship service on January 19th. End of the month we celebrate the January birthdays after church with cake and coffee.

"³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."") John 8:31-32 (NIV)

- Cheri Buss

Loss of our dear Brother-in-Christ, Roderic Moore

Rod was born in Milton on December 7, 1938 and went to our Lord in heaven on Sunday, December 22, 2024. Rod was baptized at Bethany, attended here since birth. Rod was a member of Bethany UMC since 1951 (73 years). Rod was a Lycoming Alumni, Lutheran Seminary, American Chemical Society. Rod is known for his loving & giving heart, and dedicated to helping those in need. Rod liked Penn State Football and classical musical. Rod loved to study God's words, write articles, and make everyone laugh. Rod was Bethany's lay speaker and helped Bethany UMC with many projects. Rod was a watchman over Bethany and a doorman to anyone in need. Rod was our historian and very intelligent math and problem solving. Rod was a great co-worker. Rod was so dedicated to his family of Bethany and friends, truly he will be missed.





From our dearly departed brother – Roderic Moore

The Seven Spiritual Gifts

It's amazing how, on occasion, knowledge will sneak up on you if you keep an open mind. This is a short recounting of something I stumbled across that ended up helping me, not only personally, but in my ministry.

The year was 2014. I hadn't really thought much about spiritual gifts beyond the fact that I had inventoried my own a few times, always with the same "top three" categorical results. But one day, while I was watching EWTN, the Catholic Church's dedicated TV channel, there was a 5-minute "filler" segment featuring a Franciscan Friar who was telling of his order's difficulties in getting children in catechesis to remember the seven gifts that Isaiah prophesied to belong to the coming Messiah (Chapter 11, verses 2 and 3). He demonstrated a mnemonic device, however, that he said completely – and almost instantly – solved the problem. Well, my interest was up, and I dropped what I was doing and tried the device. It worked beautifully – and, thanks to that, I know the seven gifts well to this day. Not only so, but the device played an important part in the interactive sermon I delivered in October 2016 as the concluding requirement of my process to qualify as a UMC Lay Speaker.

Here are the Isaiah verses under consideration (King James Version, **gifts bolded**):

*11:2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of **wisdom and understanding**, the spirit of **counsel and might**, the spirit of **knowledge** and of the **fear of the LORD**; 11:3 And shall make him of **quick understanding in the fear of the LORD**: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears."*

And here is the mnemonic:

WISDOM – pat the top of your head.

KNOWLEDGE – Point to your temple.

UNDERSTANDING -- Point to one ear.

COUNSEL – Touch your lips.

MIGHT – Make a bicep muscle and grab it with your other hand.

PIETY – Extend both hands forward and together, palms up.

FEAR OF THE LORD -- Grab the sides of your head with both hands and make a frightened face.

The reason for the two interpretations of the phrase "fear of the Lord" seems to go back to the Latin Vulgate Bible by way of the Greek Septuagint, resulting in the verse 2 rendering of it as "pietas" (piety) and the verse 3 occurrence as "timoris domini" (fear of God). So we have seven gifts instead of an apparent six.

Piety is defined as reverence. According to Pope Francis, it's "a recognition of our belonging to God, our deep bond with him, a relationship that gives meaning to our whole life and keeps us resolute, in communion with him, even during the most difficult and troubled moments". And he adds that "Piety is not mere outward religiosity; it is that genuine religious spirit which makes us turn to the Father as his children and to grow in our love for others, seeing them as our brothers and sisters."

Per Wikipedia, fear of the Lord is akin to wonder (or awe). On this, Francis says that "it is not servile fear, but rather a joyful awareness of God's grandeur and a grateful realization that only in him do our hearts find true peace". A person with wonder and awe knows that God is the perfection of all one's desires." (And at this point I'm remembering J. S. Bach's timeless "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring.") Francis adds "This gift is described by (St. Thomas) Aquinas as a fear of separating oneself from God."

So seven gifts, the identity of the last two of which we will not make a scene about.

Anyway, if you try the mnemonic, and especially if you repeat it a couple of times, I guarantee that you'll never forget those gifts. And from there, you can start investigating the virtues that sprout from them.

-Article by our dear departed Roderic Moore

Leadership Reports...

All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For February they are due: Sunday, February 9, 2025.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Travis at tallshouse@susumc.org. Thank You!

Fun Page



S	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	F	R	W	D	L	O	C	Y	ARROW
R	U	R	A	U	Y	M	J	P	A	A	E	K	X	T	N	A	A	CHILI DAY
E	P	B	T	F	L	S	A	R	G	I	D	R	A	M	S	Y	D	CHINESE NEW YEAR
W	I	N	T	E	R	S	W	E	E	T	H	E	A	R	T	K	I	CHOCOLATE
O	D	M	U	B	R	T	E	S	H	R	V	X	J	E	V	O	L	CUPID
L	G	L	N	R	E	S	G	I	W	A	F	D	R	E	W	M	I	FEBRUARY
F	W	W	S	U	T	P	B	D	L	R	E	H	E	K	F	L	H	FLOWERS
G	R	O	R	A	E	Y	W	E	N	E	S	E	N	I	H	C	C	FRIENDS
G	J	B	I	R	U	K	N	N	U	F	A	U	M	N	A	E	S	GROUNDHOG DAY
R	H	R	R	Y	B	T	S	T	T	I	C	P	L	D	K	R	R	KINDNESS
A	E	E	E	L	I	L	N	S	E	T	U	Y	Y	N	E	R	G	LEAP YEAR
S	E	P	C	N	R	R	O	D	L	I	T	J	K	E	A	A	H	LOVE
S	E	U	E	D	S	Y	E	A	L	R	A	S	G	S	A	R	R	MARDI GRAS
I	T	S	R	E	P	P	I	Y	A	W	T	A	P	S	Q	R	N	NUTELLA
W	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	P	S	G	E	L	K	B	T	O	R	PARTY
C	H	Y	A	D	G	O	H	D	N	U	O	R	G	O	O	W	R	PRESIDENTS DAY
																		SUPER BOWL
																		SWEETHEART
																		VALENTINES
																		WINTER

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income December 2024 Reports:

Financial Secretary's Report: December 2024

Date	Offering Envelopes	Plate Offering	Advent Offering	Community Meal	Price Fund	Fuel & Cool	United Methodist Student	Pastor Christmas Blessing	Totals
12/01/24	\$883.00	\$22.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200.00	\$0	\$1,105.00
12/08/24	\$548.00	\$39.00	\$0	\$0	\$165.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$752.00
12/15/24	\$3,394.00	\$5.00	\$0	\$20.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,419.00
12/22/24	\$568.00	\$45.00	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,087.00	\$2,700.00
12/29/24	\$540.00	\$126.06	\$5,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$200.00	\$0	\$0	\$5,866.06
Totals	\$5,933.00	\$237.06	\$6,000.00	\$20.00	\$165.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$1,087.00	\$13,842.06

Finance Report (December Current Expenses In & Out):

December 2024

Total Income Received: \$13,842.06 + (\$12,807.69 - Close out INV Fund) + (\$1.95 interest) = **\$26,651.70**

Total Expenses Paid Out: \$19,151.31

Average Attendance: 24



Bethany UMC 2024 Annual Current Expense Giving Report:

Month	Total	Month	Total
January 2024	\$8,138.43	February 2024	\$8,487.89
March 2024	\$10,368.00	April 2024	\$14,148.62
May 2024	\$5,756.32	June 2024	\$7,229.60
July 2024	\$6,436.43	August 2024	\$62,351.24
September 2024	\$6,312.40	October 2024	\$9,399.43
November 2024	\$6,124.00	December 2024	\$13,842.06

Thank You Notes.....

Dear Members of Bethany: Thank all of you for your thoughtful gift of the poinsettia and delicious treats. The cookies were delicious and I am still enjoying the candy. I am limiting myself to one of each as an end of day treat each evening. It is nice to think of all of you this way. Your thoughts and kindness mean a lot. May you all have a marvelous Christmas and a good New Year. The poinsettia brings a very cheerful look to my living room – many thanks. – Love to all of you, Flora Price

Dear Members of Bethany: I want to thank you for the beautiful poinsettia, the cookies, and candy. I miss everyone at the church. Thanks for thinking of my. Happy New Year. – Sincerely, Thereasa Hinderliter

Dear Members of Bethany: Thank you for the lovely poinsettia and the delicious cookies. I so much enjoyed them and thanks for thinking of me. A Thank you to Betsy Byler for your visit and delivering my flower and goodies. –Sincerely, Shirley Wessner

Dear Pastor & Members of Bethany: The flowers and chocolate candy pretzels was deeply appreciated. –Thank You – Edna Kobre

Trustees Report

Trustee items in process or completed:

- We renewed the plant care contracts with Creative Landscapes for 2025 at both the church and parsonage.
- We're waiting to hear back from the plumber to schedule the annual backflow preventer test.
- Entoguard Pest Control completed their quarterly service at the church and Parish House on January 16, with no concerns noted.

Here is the quarterly report of the financial assets of the Trustees. The following balances (rounded) are as of December 31:

- Hudock Capital Group (Pershing) - \$387,377 – a decrease of \$5,790 from the last quarter.
- Prudential Investments - \$861,264 – a decrease of \$2,717 from the last quarter – this is our 'in lieu of flood insurance' account.
- Prudential Investments – The Raudenbush Account - \$88,687 – an increase of \$142 from last quarter.
- Prudential Investments - \$0 – This account was closed. We received a check for \$12,807.69 in early December, which was deposited in the general checking account for current expense needs.
- BNY Mellon – The Butler Trust – \$244,920 – a decrease of \$2,365. We received a disbursement of \$1,265 during the quarter.
- Milton Savings Bank – Fire Restoration Fund – \$0 – The balance was getting low, so the account was closed and the remaining funds were deposited in the general checking account for current expense needs.
- Mifflinburg Bank CD - \$100,000 plus interest at 4.5%

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

February Worship Schedule



Sunday, Feb 2 – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / **Communion**

Sunday, Feb 9 – 10:30 am Gathering of the Family of God

Sunday, Feb 16 – 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God

Sunday, Feb 23 – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God
(Derrick Blyler, Jack Williams, Shirley Wesner, Bob Fitch, and Peggy Shellenberger)



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

Hygiene Kits Ministry...



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!!

Bible Study News.....



Bible Study will be on Monday's at 10:00 am.. We will be studying the history of the Bible "Bible 101".

Every Monday at 10:00 am. All are welcome!

91st Annual Oyster Supper @ Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Turbotville would like to welcome you to our: 91st Annual Oyster Supper on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025**, at 6:00 pm. in the fellowship hall of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 39 Paradis St, Turbotville PA. Donation of \$20.00 per person will be requested at the door, call to let them know how many attending at 570-649-5195.

Suring the Waves of Grief

Wellspan Evangelical Community Hospital is having a Surfing the Waves of Grief on Thursday, March 27, 2025 from 10:00 am to Noon or 5 pm to 7 pm. Held at the Public Library for Union County, 255 Reitz Blvd, Lewisburg PA. The workshop is free and registration is not required.

Have you recently lost someone important to you? Are you surprised by your grief and wondering what is normal and how best to cope?

Join us as we: Share and support one another in your grieving experiences. Come to better understand grief and loss.

For more information, call Andrea Runkle at 570-522-2157.

Leadership Team Report.....

There is no Leadership Team Report at this time, due to the frigid cold weather, the Leadership Team meeting for January 21st, 2025, was cancelled. We will reschedule at a future date.



Our Prayer List.....

Concerns:

- Florence Young – Now on hospice care.
- Anna P. – Home from hospital, had (T.I.A – Mimi stokes) Prayer for her blood pressure to go down and her health.
- The Family of Courtney Warburton (Dave's cousin -Tom's daughter) Courtney (35 yrs old) passed away from Leukemia, prayer for the family & friends.
- The Family of Rod Moore – Rod's passing on December 22, 2024.
- Cindy Allshouse (Pastor Travis' mom) – Shoulder injury and recovery.
- Jerry Guyer (Jessica's dad) – Knee injury & healing.
- Julia (Jamie's wife) – Continued prayers health & recovery.
- The Bowman Family (Jessica's school) – Loss of their child.
- Joel (Jim's friend) – Continued prayers for his health
- Family/friends with Cancer:** Rita S, Anna P, Florence Y, Tim C (Friends of Allshouse); Dot (Judy's neighbor); Kenny (Sally's friend). Alicia (Sally); Dale R (Sally's friend).
- Leadership Team:** Cindy, Jamie A, Bob F, James M, Dave W, Mike L, Dorothy, Pastor Travis.

