

# Milton's Good News

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## October – "At a Glance"

October was a very busy month; first there was the Community Dinner that was held on October 8<sup>th</sup>, and our annual "Share the Warmth" Coat Giveaway held on Oct 7 & 14. Safe Sanctuary training was held on Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. Also "I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church" Bible Study was being held two times a week.

Remember:

**"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."** 1 Chronicles 16:34

- Cheri Buss



### Bethany UMC is in need of a Church Treasurer.

This will be a paid position, part time hours, effective January 2018. If interested please contact Pastor Bill at 570-742-9796 or email him at [pastorbill@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbill@gmail.com).

## Hanging of the Greens

Hanging of the Greens is scheduled for Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> to decorate the church for this Christmas season with a fellowship pot luck meal after morning service. After the luncheon meal we will begin to decorate the church. A sign up sheet will be in the sanctuaries for how many will be attending and to list what you will be bringing.



## Recycle....Bethany Goes Green!

In an effort to take better care of the resources that God has so richly given us, we are excited to share ways that we here at Bethany are making efforts to lower our carbon footprint. We have proudly instituted Recycling here at Bethany for items that are used in the church and offices. Aluminum, cardboard, clear plastic, glass, paper, and Styrofoam items are accepted and must be separated. In the main building, there are green bins located below the coffee station table in the Contemporary Sanctuary that are labeled with the items to be placed in them. In The Parish House there is a box for paper in the administrative assistant's office and bins in the break/kitchen area for the other items. Shelly Sholley will then gather the items and take them to a local recycling center.

Some staff members are reusing papers that have one-sided printing and feeding them back into the printer to print other one-sided documents on in lieu of throwing them away. You will also notice that any 'special offerings' like the 'Fire & Ice' envelopes that you receive will henceforth be re-purposed offering envelopes that we have excess of from past years. Please do your best to help Bethany go green and do our part to save the planet!!





## From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

The fall Bible study has started and the scripture for our class this week was from Deuteronomy 30:11-20. These verses are a part of the speech Moses gave to the Israel people who were preparing to cross into the promised land. Moses presented a challenge to them that day that is still a challenge for us today.

That is will you choose to follow God and live or will you follow the world and die! Moses is encouraging the people to choose to follow God and to choose life. The church of today, our church of today needs to ask ourselves that same question. What are we to choose?

The easiest choice is to choose death because to choose that means we have nothing to do. We can just keep doing what we are doing and all will just take care of its self. To choose life is going to involve work. It is going to mean sacrificial giving of our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. If that sounds familiar then you might be a United Methodist for that is the pledge you make to become a member of the church.

We need to get to work and become the people we promised each other we would be. We need to choose life and to live our lives as those committed to living. To look at the way we are doing things and to find better ways to adapt to what the future will hold for us.

I often tell the story of the Corning Glass factory in State College and how they were at one time one of if not the largest employer in Centre County. They produced television tubes and refused to look at the future and instead relied on what they always had done. When was the last time you bought a TV with a picture tube in it? Because they would not change they died and so did the paychecks of thousands of people.

The future may be out of sight but it is still held in our hands. If we let it slip through our fingers then we will not have a future. If we grab the problem and squeeze it enough the answer will be revealed. We can not give up and we can not let our apathy tell us nothing can be done.

Moses knew the answer and passed it on to the people and the Joshua took those words and the people and went into the promised land to claim what God had given to them. We need know to claim what God has given to us and move into the future.

With God, all things are possible so now we must look into all the possibilities.

Joshua 24: 15  
Choose Life,

*Pastor Bill*

## Lay Leader's Report

I have offered to conduct the full traditional worship service at Bethany on Sunday, November 12, when Pastor Bill will be out of the area.

Our long-time Communion steward, Judy Campbell, is retiring from that position effective at the end of 2017, ending a devotion of years of close and loving attention to that unique ecclesial duty. As we profoundly thank her for all she's done, we necessarily begin to search for her replacement. I'll work with her and the new steward to help make the transition seamless.

The Safe Sanctuaries training session that was held at Bethany on October 15 resulted in the first-time qualification of several church members and the re-certification of several others for five-year periods, giving our church much more flexibility in that very important area of ministry.

## Worship Team "Gathering of the Family of God" Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Here are November's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. To reach out to the unchurched the Traditional Worship Service will now be referred to as: Gathering of the Family of God.

Sunday School will now be referred to as: Lessons for Life.

**November 5<sup>th</sup>** – Precious Lord, Take My Hand (474); Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know (163); We Are The Church (558); Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37, (830); 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; "*Witness*"; **Communion**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>** – When We All Get to Heaven (701); Rejoice, the Lord Is King (715); Steal Away to Jesus (704); Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, "*Pressing Flowers*" (Led by Roderic Moore, Lay Servant))

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** – Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (301); Take My Life, and Let It Be (399); They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" (2223); Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; "*Day Time*"

**November 22<sup>nd</sup> (Thanksgiving Service)** – Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (694); Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (139); For the Beauty of the Earth (92); Psalm 65 (789); 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; "*Enough*"

**November 26<sup>th</sup>** – Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (381); Come, Thou Almighty King (61); Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (103); Psalm 100 (821); Ephesians 1:15-23; "*Open Eyes*"

## Worship Team "Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song" Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Here are November's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. To reach out to the unchurched the Contemporary Worship Service will now be referred to as: Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song.

**November 5<sup>th</sup>** – Give Me Your Eyes; Breathe; Forgiven; Just One Thing; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; "*Witness*"; **Communion**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>** - Trading My Sorrow; I Could Sing of Your Love; The Heart of Worship; Write Your Story; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, " (Led by Janet McNeal, Lay Servant)

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** – Holy Spirit; Wonderful, Merciful Savior; Starry Night; Better Is One Day; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; "*Day Time*"

**November 26<sup>th</sup>** – Open the Eyes of My Heart; All the People Said Amen; Ten Thousand Reasons; You Raise Me Up; Ephesians 1:15-23; "*Open Eyes*"



# November 22nd

Bethany UMC will have a Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm. A time to give Thanks to our Lord & Savior. "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"; so come out and join in to honor our God; all are welcome!

## Daylight Savings Time Ends....

Daylight savings time ends – so don't forget Saturday night, November 4<sup>th</sup> to turn those clocks back one hour.



## “Sharing the Table”



“Sharing the Table” 2017 Schedule (Sponsored by Mission/Outreach Ministries)

“**Sharing the Table**” is a way you can help those in need every month by bringing in canned goods and non-perishable food items for the local food bank.

The first Sunday of the every month during Communion Service we will be collecting food.

Next Food Collection Communion Dates: November 5<sup>th</sup> / December 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Missions/Outreach Committee...

### **Milton Panther Packs Program (Mission: Monthly)**

Bethany UMC will be in charge of providing 120 Fruit Cups, which equals ten donations of a 12 pack of fruit cup for each month. Please bring in your (12 pack) of Fruit Cup and place in the box located in the back of the sanctuary.



### **Feed-A-Friend/Harvest Home** (HandUp Foundation)

(All donations will STAY LOCAL)

Ways you can help support this local cause:

- 1) Non-Perishable food items collection from: **November 5<sup>th</sup> thru November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**  
(Suggested items: Boxed stuffing, Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, mixed), Instant Mashed Potatoes, Canned Yams, Canned Fruit, Gravy (Instant or Canned).  
[These non-perishable food items will be displayed around the Altar and windows.]
- 2) Monetary Donations collection from: **November 5<sup>th</sup> thru November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017. (Purchasing Turkeys)**  
[Please put donations in the plastic bottle in the back of the sanctuary.]

### **Milton Community Dinner (Christ Evan Lutheran)**

There will be a Community Dinner on a **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.** Bethany UMC will be in charge of donating cranberry sauce & applesauce for this meal and help with setup at 3:00 pm. Location: Christ Evan Lutheran Church. Community Dinners to feed low income people in need.

**Planning Meeting for the Community Dinners** will be held on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Christ Evan Lutheran Church on Mahoning St, Milton PA.



## “Share the Warmth” Coat Giveaway – Report

Our annual ‘Share the Warmth’ was again a huge success! We gave away 91 coats, about 2 dozen blankets, and several winter hats and scarves, which is amazing since the temperature both weekends was in the low 80s. As is our tradition, we have stored the extras in the attic so that if a need comes in throughout the year, we will be able to fill it and if coats are dropped off, we will add them to the collection (we received a few this past week after the drive was over). Pastor Bill had the wonderful idea of having a small compliment of varied sizes in the Choir Room closet during our December Cookie & Candy sale so that if anyone is in need we can show them in there to look and try some on. I am also reaching out to Transitions in Lewisburg to make them aware we have a small supply throughout the year.

Thanks to all who donated coats, winter wear and blankets and to Pastor Bill & Janet, Elaine Billhime, Betsy Blyler, Linn Chesney, Sharon Foust, Karen Heimbach, Dorothy Hower, Barb Huff, Kathy Martin, Rod Moore, Lenora Russell, Joan Warburton, West Milton United Methodist Church, & Ruth Williams who lent their time and baking skills and a HUGE thank you to Mike Longenberger for his brute strength & muscles carrying all of the coats down from the attic and back up afterwards!! God Bless all who helped with this important ministry in the community!

## Ad Board Report

We have noticed for some time that more of our parishioners are choosing to pick up the church copies of the Upper Room devotionals in the large print edition, so we are changing the balance of the same total number of copies from ¼ large – ¾ regular to half and half. A welcome coincidental effect is that the switch actually saves us money because of the way the vendor scales the costs.

The Christian Education Committee has now been informed of the exact amount of vendor credit coming back to Bethany from returning unused 2017 VBS items. This enables us to finalize the total that was spent on the event and to square ourselves with our VBS partner church, Christ Evangelical Lutheran, effectively closing the books on that mission.

Our Fall 2017 Bible study, based on the thought-provoking Paul Nixon book entitled "I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church", has begun and will continue through mid-November.

The current and long-time vendor of cut flowers to the church is phasing out of the business, and we thank them for years of devoted service to us. As for the future, we do have promising local options, and we anticipate no major problems in that area.

Rod Moore

## Trustees' Report.....

We're almost finished! The final step in the approved renovations to the church is the required inspection of the kitchen by the Department of Agriculture, which will be completed prior to you receiving this newsletter. We do not anticipate any problems receiving a stamp of approval.

The replacement windows for the Parish House have arrived and are being installed. The final touch will be window treatments. We've met with a few companies who specialize in interior design or window treatments and are expecting proposals from each for blinds and/or drapes.

The only remaining original locks in the Parish House (the inside front door and the rear door) have now been rekeyed to match the rest of the locks in the Parish House, with the exception of the Pastor's Office. Therefore, one key is all that is needed for access to the Parish House and the Center Street entrance to the church. If you need a new key, please see Cheri and please fill out the Church Key Distribution Form and return it to her. We haven't done a very good job in the past of keeping a record of who has keys, so this is a good time to clean up our recordkeeping.

A friend recently reminded me that it's been a while since I've reported on the Trustee's fund balances. The following balances are as of September 30, 2017:

- Hudock Capital Group - \$726,423.25 – This is the account we've drawn from for all the renovations to the church, Parish House, and parsonage. In addition, this is the account which we are currently drawing \$10,000 per month to fund the deficit in current expenses.
- Prudential Investments - \$549,214.17 – This is the account the Trustees created with an initial investment of \$500,000. This account was set up in lieu of flood insurance, to repair any flood related damages we may have in the future.
- Prudential Investments - \$84,632.56 – The Radenbush Trust – We may not use the initial investment, but we may use any gains on the principle, which we have not for quite some time.
- Prudential Investments - \$6,375.02 – A separate small investment account that was set up quite a few years ago.
- BYN Mellon - \$217,564.55 – The Butler Trust – We receive quarterly income from this account of \$2,625.00, which also has been subsidizing current expenses.
- Milton Savings Bank - \$6,550.10 – Enduring Memorial Fund

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

## Bethany UMC 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Current Expense (July – Sept): 2017

### ENVELOPE INCOME TO DATE---2017

		Current Exp	Benev	Reno		YTD
July		\$4,071.00	\$40.00			\$22,071.00
August		\$2,921.00	\$35.00			\$25,027.00
September		\$3,484.00	\$40.00			\$28,541.00

### PLATE INCOME TO DATE---2017

		Current Exp	Benev	Reno		YTD
July		\$483.00				\$3,112.57
August		\$297.00				\$3,409.57
September		\$309.00				\$3,718.57

### Sunday School Income To Date---2017

		Current Exp	Benev	Reno		YTD
July		\$40.00				\$246.45
August		\$34.00				\$280.45
September		\$38.50				\$318.95

(Note) there were no UMC Special Sundays during this quarter, so no statistics for that.

### Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2017

<b>Initial Offering</b>	
7/23/17--\$2.00	
VBS Materials Reimbursement	
7/2/17--\$179.50	Total=\$179.50
Service Electric Utility Reimbursement	
8/6/17--\$96.55	Total=\$96.55
UMCOR Hurricane Relief	
9/3/17---\$20.00	
Panther Packs Donation	
9/10/17---\$50.00	
Worship Planner Reimbursement	
9/10/17---\$21.00	
Harvest Festival Stand Donation	
9/10/17---\$20.00	
9/17/17---\$20.00	

### Trustees Memorial Fund Receipts 2017

August 2017
In Memory of Bertha Huff---\$55.00

## Fire & Ice Campaign....

This fall, we would like you to prayerfully consider making a contribution to **Fire & Ice**. Your contribution will assist in continuing to maintain a comfortable temperature heating and cooling the church and the parish house for the various ministries in the name of Christ. This will also provide you one more opportunity to share the many blessings God has offered you in your life, to act in faith and also to experience the spiritual growth that comes from giving.



## Christian Ed



**Cookie Sale** – December 9<sup>th</sup> (9 am – noon). Watch for more information and how you can get involved. (Proceeds will benefit next year's Vacation Bible School).

**Candy Making & Fellowship Event** – Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – noon. Come help make candy mints for the Cookie Sale for December and share in fellowship with one another.

## Events Happening in the Area....

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

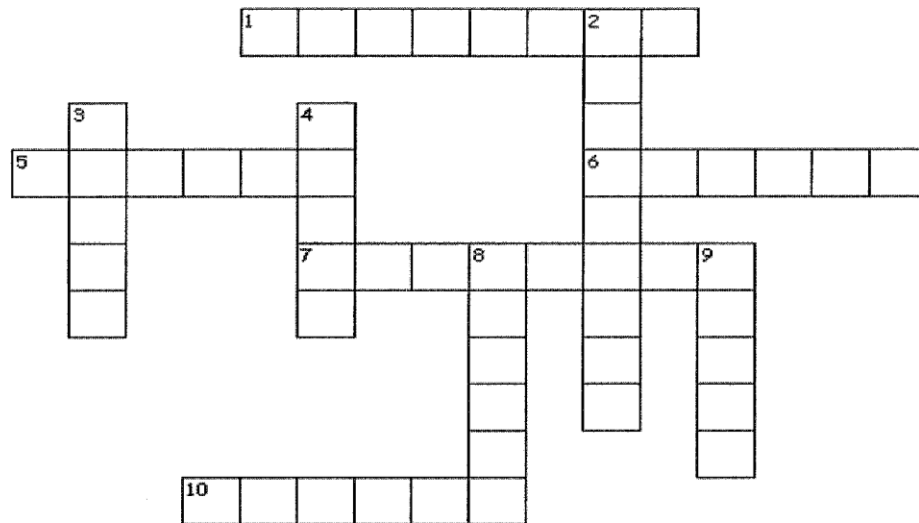
**Friends of Kingdom Kidz Banquet** – Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. 11 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Watsontown PA. Home cooked meal (Ham loaf, mashed potatoes, 2 vegetable, applesauce, roll, dessert & beverage); Kingdom Kidz present skits/songs and speaker, Caz Russell. Cost: \$25.00 Single Reservation and \$35.00 Family Reservation. **RSVP by October 30<sup>th</sup>** at 570-838-3133.

**Coping with the Holidays – Hospice of Evangelical** – Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at Hospice of Evangelical 235 Hospital Dr., Lewisburg. A panel discussion designed to help those who have lost a loved one cope during the holiday season. The program, which will include with refreshments is free and open to the public. More information call 570-522-2550 Hospice of Evangelical.

**The Joe Murray Band "Country Gospel Music"** – Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 39 Paradise St, Turbotville PA. Cost: Freewill Offering (Note: At 5:00 pm, prior to show, Zion's sponsored Boy Scout Troops will be serving Soup & sandwich Meals, cost: Donation.)

## Fun Page

## Thanksgiving Crossword



### Across

1. people who have migrated to a different land from where they were born
5. reddish growth that covers the throat and neck of a turkey
6. a Thanksgiving time of year
7. fills up the bird and then fills up the people
10. main course at Thanksgiving supper

### Down

2. another word for family members
3. another name for corn
4. a celebration including large quantities of food
8. people we visit on Thanksgiving
9. yummy sauce to pour over turkey



**BETHANY UMC**

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(570) 742-9796

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

**Website:**

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

**Sunday Worship:**

Lessons for Life: 9:00 am

Gathering of the Family of God: 10:30 am

Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song: 6:00 pm

**PASTOR BILL**

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

**Upper Room – Now Available**

November & December

**Announcements:****Dates to Remember:**

[Note: No Trustees Meeting this month of November]

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / “Sharing the Table” Communion**

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion**

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm – Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song / Communion**

**Nov 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Worship Teams Meeting @ Bethany**

**Nov 13<sup>th</sup> – 4:45 pm – Milton Community Harvest Dinner @ St Andrew's UMC**

**Nov 14<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm – PSPRC**

**Nov 18<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am – Candy making & Fellowship Event**

**Nov 21<sup>st</sup> – 6:30 pm – Finance**

**Nov 21<sup>st</sup> - 7:00 pm – Ad Board**

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Service**

**Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – 11:45 am – Hanging of the Greens & Fellowship Pot Luck Meal**

**Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – Noon – Riverwoods Auxiliary Luncheon @ Riverwoods**

**Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Community Meal Planning Meeting @ Christ Lutheran**

**Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am – noon – Cookie/Candy Sale**

***Bible Study “I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church”: 10:00 am on Tuesday.***

***Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday @ Rockwell.***

***Bible Study “I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church”: 7:00 pm on Thursday.***

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

***Gathering of the Family of God: 10:30 am every Sunday morning.***

***Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song: 6:00 pm every Sunday evening.***



To all of those who served and those who continue to do so - **We Thank You!**

**Remember our Veterans – November 11<sup>th</sup>!**



BETHANY UMC OFFICE  
18 CENTER ST  
MILTON, PA 17847

Nov.  
2017