

Milton's Good News

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

"At a Glance"	1
Devotional	1
Traditional Worship Schedule	2
Contemporary Worship Schedule	2
Lay Leader	3
Trustees	5
Missions/Outreach	6
Ad Board	7
Announcements	8

March – "At a Glance"

Looking back on March for Bethany, starting off with an Ash Wednesday Service held at St Andrew's UMC, a Lenten study "Unbinding Your Heart" took place twice a week, and Soup & The Word on Wednesdays at First Presbyterian took place. A St Patrick's Dinner with corned beef & cabbage was done. There was another Community Dinner held at Christ Evan Lutheran Church.

Plans being made for the Community Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Basket Giveaway. Also this month we had to turn our clocks ahead one hour.

- Cheri Buss

"A devotion from the Pastor's desk..."

Walking in Christ: part 2

Colossians 3:12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

God chose us long before we ever chose God. Being the chosen of God is an honor, but it is also meant to give us life. As the chosen ones of God we need not live in fear or in vain selfish ambition. We have the ability to live as if our needs will be met. We can live without concern for our egos or our time. To walk in Christ is to place the needs of others before our own because we can trust that God will meet our needs. We can build others up because we can live without the fear that they may be more successful or have more possessions. We can be compassionate when others are not, because our compassion flows from God, from the love we feel for others. We can be kind in the face of adversity and hatred because we can keep their words and actions from harming our spirits. We can rise above the hatred and violence just as Christ rose above the insults and injuries forced upon Him. We can be patient when others are demanding because we have infinite time, we have eternity.

Walking in Christ allows us to do life as Christ did. It means that we live differently from the rest of the world. We live differently because we are of heaven and not of the world when we put on Christ. This is not about rules, this is about freedom. We are free to live like members of the kingdom of heaven while others toil and struggle to live as the world lives. Are you ready to be freed from your chains? Are you ready to let go of the daily struggle over self-image and acknowledgment? Then learn to live as the chosen one of God. A person who has all of their self-worth found in Christ, who loves unconditionally and who has all the time in the world. Not only will your life be better but you will make the world a better place through your actions.

Special points of interest:

- Altar Stewards (pg 3)
- "Sharing the Table" (pg 4)
- Soup & The Word (pg 4)
- Holy Week (pg 4)
- Community Easter Egg Hunt (pg 5)
- Events in the Area (pg 6)
- "Easter Basket Giveraway (pg 6)
- Easter Flower Form (pg 7)

Worship Team Report

The following is the work of the Traditional Worship Team which met on Tuesday, March 7th. Here are April's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

April 2nd – 5th Lent – This Is a Day of New Beginnings (383); Now the Green Blade Riseth (311); Lord of the Dance (261); Just a Closer Walk with Thee (2158); *John 11:1-45, "Missed It By That Much"*; **Communion**

April 9th – **Palm Sunday** – Tell Me the Stories of Jesus (277); Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (278); All Glory, Laud and Honor (280); Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (160); *Psalms 118; Matthew 21:1-11, "Wave Him Through"*

April 13th – **Maundy Thursday (6:30 pm)** – Last Supper Meal

April 14th – **Good Friday (6:30 pm)** – Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed (359), O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (286); He Never Said a Mumbling Word (291); The Old Rugged Cross (504); When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (298); Were You There (288); *John 18-19, There will not be a sermon, but rather a time for you to pray before the cross in preparation for Easter.*

April 16th – **Easter (6:30 am)** – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (302); In the Garden (314); Forever; In Christ Alone; *Psalms 118, Colossians 3:1-4, "Revealed With Christ"*; **Communion**

April 16th – **Easter (10:30 am)** – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (302); Up from the Grave He Arose (322); Christ Is Alive (318); He Lives (310); *Psalms 118, John 20:1-18, "Filled Graves Or Empty Tombs"*; **Communion**

April 23rd – Fairest Lord Jesus (189); Jesus the Very Thought of Thee (175); The Day of Resurrection (303); To God Be the Glory (98); *Psalms 16, 1 Peter 1:3-16, "Christ Jesus – The Living Hope"*

April 30th – Amazing Grace (378); It Is Well with My Soul (377); Nothing but the Blood (362); Blessed Assurance (369); *Psalms 116; 1 Peter 1:17-23; "Bought with Blood"*

Contemporary Worship Report:

The Contemporary Worship Team had a successful meeting on Friday, the 3rd of March! The team gathered to plan out the songs for the month of April. We look forward to celebrating together this Easter season! We hope you'll join us! Check out the sermons titles, scriptures, and songs for April!

April 2 – The Stand; Spirit of the Living God; Oceans; From the Inside Out; *Romans 8:6-11; "Spiritual Life"*

April 9 – Hosanna; Jesus We Love You; Glory & Wonder; I Will Follow; Great Are You Lord; *Matthew 21:1-11/Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29; "These Are Not the Droids You're Looking for"*

April 16 – Forever; How Can it Be; King of My Heart; Cornerstone; This is Amazing Grace; *John 20:1-18; "Not Surprising"*

April 23 – Break Every Chain; I Surrender; By His Wounds; Resurrecting; We Are Blessed; 1 Peter 1:3-9; *"Inheritance Taxes"*

April 30 – How He Loves; King of Glory; Love Came Down; Good, Good Father; Rising Sun; *1 Peter 1:17-23; "Eternal Love"*

Lay Leader's Report

The Milton Borough Bicentennial Celebration Service that Bethany hosted and helped conduct on Sunday, February 26 was a great success. Our church seated about 200 people for the event, many of them community and area governance officials and historians. A special treat was that Bethany's once and long-time organist Merle Nicholas joyously and gratefully accepted the honor of playing the church's well-known and greatly-respected instrument during the entire ceremony. On special request by the organizers, he performed (with his characteristic skill and fervor) the exact same music for this celebratory event as he did for the equivalent service during the Borough's Sesquicentennial in 1967.

Ash Wednesday 2017 was observed with a joint Communion service between Bethany and this year's host church, St. Andrew's UMC / Milton. Correlatively, this Lenten season's "Soup and the Word" series got under way on March 8 with Bethany taking the lead for a noon hour of fellowship and a homiletic offering by Pastor Damien, all at the First Presbyterian Church here in town.

Bethany lost one of its dearest friends on February 27 when long-time member A. Barney Price passed into glory. But I can't use the word "lost" as if it were definitive of something. In reality, Barney is, and always will be, with us. He was, is and always will be a significant part of our church – part of its heart, in truth. We can rather say "So long, Barn – thanks for being with us for so long. We'll absolutely see you again." And we and his family, his friends, and his wonderful wife Flora can celebrate his victory, because we know what he has won, how he has won, and what his winning means.

I recently took advantage of another opportunity to support the ministry of the Crossroads of Life Prison Faith Community, a central Illinois United Methodist organization that exists to render Christian services to the populations of the men's and women's state detention facilities located in the area of the town of Lincoln in that state. A newly-instituted effort of theirs focuses on the need for new prison arrivals to be provided with basic toiletries, since they get to the jails without benefit of personal care or hygienic amenities and most times must then work and wait for weeks or even months to establish their commissary accounts before they can acquire anything along those lines. I recently funded the first whole year's worth of kits that will fill that need at Logan Women's Correctional Facility, a prison just south of Peoria, Illinois. The kits have already begun to arrive out there, I'm told, so this is a "mission accomplished" in the face of tight money and a tangle of Illinois state restrictions and regulations about permissible items and their sources.

022017-032017

Rod Moore



Altar Stewards Needed.....

Bethany is in need for more Altar Stewards! Prayerfully consider on giving a little of your time to help out with this ministry. Looking for volunteers for the months of **June, August, & December**. Please contact the church office (570-742-9796) to sign up. God bless and Thank you for your act of servanthood.

“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: April 2nd / May 7th / June 4th / July 2nd

“Soup & The Word”



Soup & The Word
 Wednesday Weekly Lenten Luncheons
 First Presbyterian Church
 47 Walnut Street, Milton.

Begins Wednesday, March 8th 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. This year's theme: Easter Meditations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Soup & dessert provided by:</u>
March 29	Kingdom Kids	Kingdom Kids
April 5	Jennifer Burke	Salvation Army
April 12	Cynthia Kirk	St Paul's A.M.E. Church

Holy Week / Easter Services.....

This Easter Season, Holy Week Services will begin:

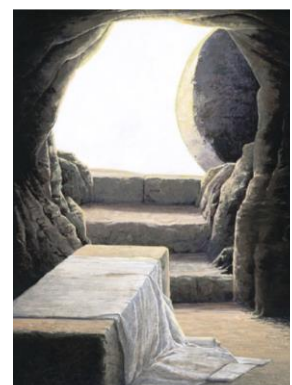
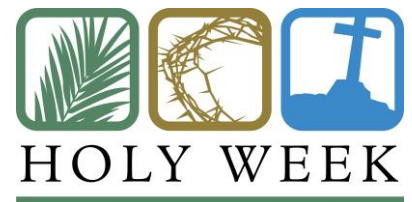
Thursday, April 13th at 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday / Last Supper Meal
 [Participatory Recreation of the Passover.]

Friday, April 14th at 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Service
 [This will be a time of reflection, music, and prayer.]

Sunday, April 16th at 6:30 a.m. – Easter Sunrise Service @ Parsonage
 [Following this service will be a fellowship breakfast]

Sunday, April 16th at 10:30 a.m. – Traditional Easter Worship Service and
 at 6:00 pm – Contemporary Easter Service

Happy Easter to everyone and Christ has risen indeed!!!!!!



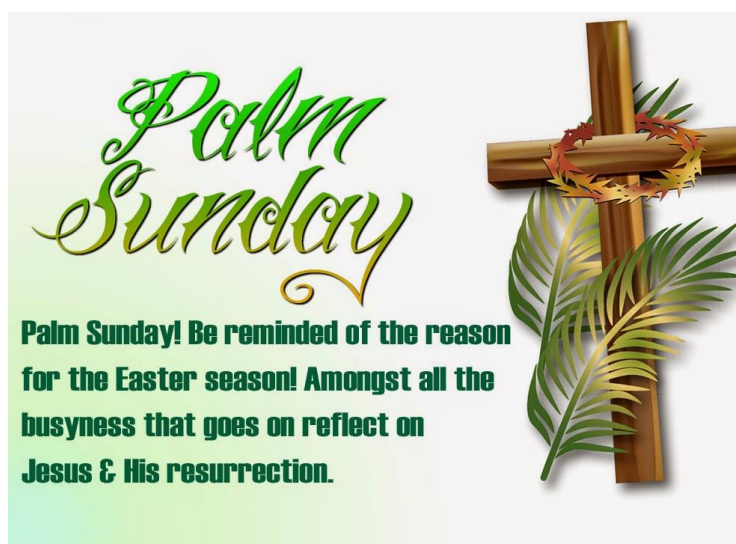
Trustees' Report.....

The renovations inside the church continue. The old restroom in the Elm Street Lounge/Chapel has been removed and a new handicapped accessible restroom is currently being constructed in its place. The construction of the new restroom will require the kitchenette to be installed on the exterior wall. Because there was some existing water damage on the ceiling and some cracking in the ceiling and walls in the room, the Trustees have decided to have the entire room painted. At our last meeting a representative from Atlantic Equipment Specialists discussed with the Trustees the development of a plan to furnish the kitchen with the appropriate appliances and equipment.

In Parish House news, the first floor has been cleaned out and the renovations have begun. The contractor is currently covering all the walls with new drywall and building a new wall at the bottom of the stairs so the heat and air conditioning does not travel up the stairs. As we've shared, the end result should be a nice office for the Pastor and a separate office for the rest of the staff.

Submitted by: Jamie Aurand

April 9th is
Palm Sunday



Community Easter Egg Hunt



Community Easter Egg Hunt will be on **Saturday, April 1st** at Brown Ave Park, Brown Ave, Milton PA.

Time: 11:30 am

There will be age groups up to 12 yrs old.

Congregational Life Committee are asking for donations of small Easter candy (Please no hard & peanut butter candies) to stuff in the eggs or there can be pre-stuffed eggs for the event. Also money donations to purchase prizes. Deadline for dropping off candy will be **March 26th**.

This event will be a community Easter Egg Hunt involving Bethany UMC and St Andrew's UMC, sponsored by Bethany's Congregational Life.

Events Happening in the Area

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

Palm Sunday Ham Dinner – April 9th, 2017 at the Milton Fire Department, 121 Ridge Ave, Milton PA.
Cost: \$9.00 Adults and \$4.00 Children (Ages 4-12 yrs old).

Life After Loss – Wednesdays, May 3 – June 7, 2017 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Hospice of Evangelical, 235 Hospital Dr, Lewisburg. **Fee: \$20.00 Non-refundable** Registration is required by April 27, 2017, call Hospice at 570-522-2157 to register.

LuLaRoe Multi Consultant Fundraiser Event for Pure Joy Missions – April 22nd, 2017 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at First Baptist Church, 316 Golf Course Rd, Milton PA. Tickets \$5.00 per person, for tickets and more information call Sue Roberts at 570-713-9779 or email Stacey at staceyroartyularoe@gmail.com.

Missions/Outreach Committee...

Easter Basket Give Away - Bethany UMC, in cooperation with the HandUp Foundation, is sponsoring an Easter Basket give away on **Wednesday, April 5th**, during the regular food bar hours of 9:00 am. -3:00 pm.

Mission/Outreach Committee are asking members to donate Easter candy, baskets, plastic eggs, and monetary donations; along with helping set up to distribute the baskets.

Please let Pastor Damien or Mike Longenberger know if you can help to set up and distribute.

For monetary donations make checks payable to: HandUp Foundation

Deadline for dropping off baskets, candy & donations will be **March 26th**.



Milton Panther Packs Program (New Mission: Monthly)

Bethany UMC Mission Committee and St Andrew's UMC will be looking to expand the Milton Panther Packs Program to help provide weekend food items for elementary students in need in the Milton Area School District.

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.

Milton Community Dinner (Christ Evan Lutheran)

There will be a Community Dinner on **Sunday, April 2nd, 2017 at 5:00 pm**. Location: Christ Evan. Lutheran Church.

Community Dinners are between Bethany UMC, Christ Evan. Lutheran, Trinity Evan. Lutheran, United in Christ Lutheran, and New Hope Ministry Center HandUp Foundation to feed low income people in need.

Community Planning Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11th at 6:30 pm at Christ Evan Lutheran.

Ad Board Report

The church will soon have its own debit card. This will greatly facilitate the purchases of locally available small items that are needed quickly, as well as items that are best (or, in some cases, only) obtainable on line. The card will operate off its own dedicated church bank account and have spending limit and clearly-defined church personnel signature restrictions.

There promises to be a short period in late June when Bethany's pastoral transition necessitates the engagement of Lay Speakers for two Contemporary services and at least one Traditional. PSPRC is working to assure the seamless continuity of service leadership through that time frame, pending definitive schedule developments.

Pastor Damien has the 2017 Susquehanna Annual Conference and another mandatory Spiritual Retreat coming up in May, but those are weekday events that will not affect his Bethany preaching obligations.

The Board, responding to Sarah Heimbach's request to be relieved of the leadership of the Bethany Prayer circle, has formally named Sharon Foust and Judy Carl as co-coordinators. And in doing so, the whole church membership acknowledges, with many thanks, Sarah's long and highly valued service in that position.

Rod Moore



EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Name _____

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

_____ LILIES	\$7.00 Each	TOTAL: _____
_____ HYACINTHS	\$6.00 Each	TOTAL: _____



Please give your order with money to Shelly Sholley
 Deadline for ordering and money: **Sunday, March 26th, 2017**

Announcements

BETHANY UMC

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

miltonbethanyumcoffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

Sunday School: 9:00 am
Traditional Service: 10:30 am
Contemporary Service: 6:00 pm

PASTOR DAMIEN

670 Stamm Rd
Milton, PA 17847
570-412-1943
570-246-5514

dbrooks@susumc.org

Dates to Remember:

April 1st – 11:30 am – Community Easter Egg Hunt @ Brown Ave Park, Milton
April 2nd – 10:30 am – “Sharing the Table” Food donations / Communion
April 2nd – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion
April 2nd – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner @ Christ Evan Lutheran Church
April 2nd – 6:30 pm – Contemporary Worship Service / Communion
April 4th – 6:30 pm – Traditional Worship Committee @ Parsonage
April 5th – 9:00 am – Easter Basket Giveaway @ HandUp
April 5th – 7:00 pm – Trustees
April 6th – 9 am – 3 pm – Pastor away “Right Start” Mtg @ Faith UMC
April 7th – 6:00 pm- Contemporary Worship Team Meeting
April 11th – 7:00 pm – PSPRC
April 13th – 6:30 pm – Maundy Thursday Service / Last Supper Meal
April 14th – Deadline for May Newsletter Articles / Office closed for Good Friday
April 14th – 6:30 pm – Good Friday Service
April 14th – 7:30 pm – Praise Band Practice (Time change due to Good Friday Service)
April 16th - 6:30 am – Sunrise Service @ Parsonage (Breakfast to follow service)
April 18th – 6:30 pm – Finance Committee
April 18th – 7:00 pm – Ad Board
April 25th – 2:00 pm – Pastor meeting with Williamsport District
April 30th – (Both services) – Native American Ministries Special Offering
Lenten Bible Study: 10:00 am every Tuesday until April 11th (Unbinding Your Heart’)
Soup & The Word: 12:00 noon every Wednesdays (March 8th – April 12th) @ 1st Presby.
Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday @ Rockwell.
Praise Band Practice: 7:00 pm every Friday. (except April 14th, which will be at 7:30 pm)
Sunday School: 9:00 am every Sunday morning.
Traditional Worship Service: 10:30 am every Sunday morning.
Contemporary Worship Service: 6:00 pm every Sunday evening.



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

