

# Milton's Good News

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## June – “At a Glance”

The month of June started with the Graduates for their Baccalaureate Service held at Revival Tabernacle. A wonderful celebration for the Milton's Bicentennial Parade Day, which Bethany and Community Churches gave out free hotdogs and water. VBS planning for July VBS “Hero Central”.

A farewell and prayers for Calvin Hoffman, Music Director, for his call to a church in Lancaster area.

A farewell and prayers for Pastor Damien on his new call of ministry in the Towanda area.  
- Cheri Buss

## Pot Luck Brunch / Meet & Greet Pastor Bill

Come out for a brunch and meet & greet Pastor Bill on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 11:00 am (Located in the Contemporary Room)

Please sign up (sheet located in the back of sanctuary) to bring a breakfast or lunch dish to share and meet Pastor Bill.

Bethany UMC extends a warm welcome to Pastor Bill McNeal and his wife, Janet.

## Special points of interest:

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## Congratulation to the Graduates....

Congratulations to the below Graduates and prayers for them all for God's guidance as they embark on their next life journey.

Megan Snyder – Milton High School

Gabrielle Ricco – Milton High School

Calvin Hoffman – Penn College of Technology

Jacqueline Hoffman – Bloomsburg University





## From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

I was recently reading an article about the church and it stated that in order for the church to grow larger, the people had to grow smaller. With the way I think, that is like saying in order to look taller you should hang around with shorter people.

However, the lead-in line of 'growing smaller' did raise my interest so I read on. It talked about how, in order to build up the church, we are to come to the understanding that the congregation is not the driving force present. Instead, it is to be the Holy Spirit guiding us to achieve grander goals than we as mere humans can even imagine.

We must take on the role of the humble servant. We must take up our bowl and cloth and be ready to serve where we are needed just as Christ demonstrated in John 13; the account of Jesus washing the disciples' feet before they shared their last Passover meal together.

Reading the article also triggered a memory from long ago when I read a story that talked about "Worm Training". The author spoke in reference to the line in Psalm 22:6, "*But I am a worm, and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people.*"(NIV)

This psalm, written by David, speaks to the misery David felt over his rejection by the people; and what he [wrongly] believed was his rejection by God. He went from greatness and high standing to being despised, ridiculed and even hunted. In the psalm David quickly discovers that he can accomplish nothing in his own power, but only through the power of God can the situation be changed.

On July 1<sup>st</sup> I will officially begin my appointment to the position of Pastor for Bethany UMC. If I am to be successful here I must first recognize that it is only through God and the Holy Spirit that anything can be accomplished. If I try to have it be my own plan it will fail. For if and when I try to work from my own perceived power or ability, it will very soon become evident as that idea, though it may grow quickly, will also die quickly, and without bearing fruit. Only when an idea or vision is born of the Holy Spirit, grown in the care of Christ and bearing fruit from God will it last and prosper.

With that thought in mind, I must become like John the Baptist. I know that Jesus must become greater, and I must become less. My role is to point the way to Christ, not to become Christ. I am to proclaim the crucified, dead, buried, and risen Christ as told in the Gospels. I am called to be an interpreter of God's word provided in the Bible and not a re-writer of the messages it contains. I am called to become a lowly worm!

I firmly believe that God has called me to Bethany for a purpose. I seek your affirmation of this calling to fulfill His purpose of lifting up and proclaiming the message of God's love for us through His son Jesus Christ.

I pray we will go through "Worm Training" together and will become a church that is focused on how big our God is, and how, through God, we can become the church we are called to be. We must become smaller as individuals, as a church, as a community of believers, so that God can be revealed in the true realm in which His power and majesty reigns.

In order to become bigger, we must become smaller. It is the only way to reach our full potential and live as God calls us to live.

Galatians 2: 20

Blessings,

*Pastor Bill*

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## Worship Team Report

Here are July's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Be Still, My Soul (534); All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (155); Blessed Assurance (369); This Is a Day of New Beginnings (383); Psalm 13; *Luke 24:13-16, 30-32, "My Story"*; **Communion**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>** – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (384); Soldiers of Christ, Arise (513); Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (500); To God Be the Glory (98); *Psalm 45:10-17; Romans 7:15-25a; "I Do / I Don't"*

**July 16<sup>th</sup>** – O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (57); Breathe on Me, Breath of God (420); Spirit of the Living God (393); Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing (671); *Psalm 119:19-34; Romans 8:1-11; "In the Spirit"*

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (139); The Church's One Foundation (545); Gather Us In (2236); God Be with You till We Meet Again (672); *Psalm 139:1-12; Romans 8:12-17; "Abba"*

**July 30<sup>th</sup>** – The Gift of Love (408); O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go (480); I Love to Tell the Story (156); I Am Thine, O Lord (419); *Psalm 105:1-11; Romans 8:30-39; "God's Love"*

## Thank You Note....

To Bethany UMC: It was a great pleasure for me to be part of your worship services. The warm and gracious reception of the part of Bethany UMC family was genuinely felt and appreciated. The offering that was given in the amount of \$158.00 are evidence of what we consider to be partnership between your church and the Gideons International in providing God's Word to a lost world.

My wife and I are donating 3 Bibles in appreciation of Bethany's support of The Gideons ministry.

Thank you especially for your gracious hospitality and your prayerful support.

– Anthony Kidd, Gideon Presenter

## Contemporary Team Report

Here are July's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Open the Eyes of My Heart; Change My Heart, Oh God; Give Me Your Eyes; Love Take Me Over; *Luke 24:13-16, 30-32, "My Story"*; **Communion**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>** – Called Me Higher; Come However You Are; Set the World On Fire; Give Us Clean Hands; *Romans 7:15-251; "I Do / I Don't"*

**July 16<sup>th</sup>** – I Can't Believe; Jesus, Friend of Sinners; Spirit Speaks; How Can It Be?; *Romans 8:1-11; "In the Spirit"*

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Good, Good Father; Brighter Days; Never Beyond Repair; Song of Hope; *Romans 8:12-17; "Abba"*

**July 30<sup>th</sup>** – Yesterday, Today & Forever; I Will Rise; He Is With Us; Whom Shall I Fear?; *Romans 8:30-39; "God's Love"*

## “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: July 2<sup>nd</sup> / August 6<sup>th</sup> / September 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Missions/Outreach Committee...

### 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 a **Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Trustees' Report.....

As mentioned last month, the renovations in the church are almost complete. The kitchen equipment was installed in the middle of June. As of this writing, the plumbing needs hooked up to the new sinks and the electrical work needs finished. It will be great to have a usable kitchen again! We are anticipating the installation of the new stair treads and flooring inside the Center Street entrance soon, which should finish off all ongoing renovation projects in the church.

The renovations to the interior of the Parish House continue to move along nicely. Installation of the new heating and air conditioning system is moving along. The 'front office' and the 'middle room' are now complete. All desks and equipment were moved into this space so that the office that's been used for many years could be renovated. New flooring is being installed in the vestibule and the new restroom. As mentioned previously, at the conclusion of the project, the pastor will have his own office and the other staff will have much more space to do their work.

We are busy getting the parsonage ready for Pastor Bill and his family. Now that Pastor Damien's belonging have been moved out, the interior of the house will be painted and cleaned. Because we don't think it's ever been done before, the internal ductwork will be cleaned prior to our new residents moving in.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

## Ad Board Report

The Board used its June 20 meeting time to discuss matters pertaining to the church budget, which is being affected by the imminent change in our pastoral leadership, by the recent departure of our Music Director, and by recent developments in matters of cash flow.

Other influences are the state and future of our Contemporary worship service and the financial commitments resulting from the projects that are taking place around the church, the Parish House, and the parsonage.

Recognizing that incoming Pastor McNeal needs time to get to know the details of our fiscal methods and operations, as well as a chance to familiarize himself with the particulars of our accounts and investments, there will be no meeting of either the Finance Committee or the Administrative Board in July. Both entities will resume their regular meeting schedules in August.

In the interim, Pastor Bill and the Bethany staff will work together to gather and discuss pertinent information in preparation for any needed budgetary adjusting when we officially convene again in two months.

The long-awaited church debit card is now in hand and has been put to use once already. The benefit of having the card lies chiefly in its transactional (and trackable) ease of use for relatively small or routine purchases. The card is attached to a separate account that has a per-event spending limit, and we have given individual signature authority to four members of our church leadership to draw on it for approved church-related purchases only, up to that limit.

Rod Moore

## Vacation Bible School.....



Bethany UMC and Christ Evan Lutheran Church are joining partners for this years VBS.

This years Vacation Bible School theme is "Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God!", which will be held at Christ Evan Lutheran Church, 1125 Mahoning St, Milton PA.

**Please note VBS Date change – [Now in July 2017]**

**Date/Time: July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Dinner will be at 5:30 pm and VBS 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.**

Hero Central is designed to teach children 5 exciting lessons to help you discover your strength in God.

The Scriptures that we will cover are 1 Samuel 16:1-12; 1 Samuel 25; Luke 2:41-52, Matthew 4:23-5:12, and Acts 2:1-41.

Register your child and as a volunteer online at [www.bethanyumc-miltonpa.org](http://www.bethanyumc-miltonpa.org) (Under VBS tab) or call the church office at 570-742-9796.

Watch for more details on how you can help out with this years Vacation Bible School.

## Note for the Offering Counters.....

### Reminder for the Offering Counters

With summer being a popular time for vacations, just a friendly reminder that if you are unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please try in advance to make arrangements to switch with another counter and then advise Shelly of the switch. If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact Shelly in advance and she will make arrangements. This will help alleviate confusion and last-minute scrambling on the day of to find replacements when people no-show.

The current weekly rotation is as follows: Dorothy Hower & Cindy Mohr, Mike Longenberger & Linn Chesney, Amy Snyder & Roderic Moore, Barbara Huff & Donna Gundrum, Jamie Aurand & Karen Heimbach. Alternate: Terri Hauck.

Thank you so much for your consideration!

-Shelly Sholley, Financial Secretary

## Giving Stats of May 2017.....

### Giving Stats--May 2017:

Envelopes:	\$3,115.00
Plate Offering:	\$ 342.00
Sunday School:	\$ 31.00
Price Hardship Fund:	\$ 40.00
Pastor's Continuing Education Return:	\$ 20.00
TOTAL INCOME RECEIVED THROUGH GIVING: \$3,548.00	

## Lay Leader's Report

The Milton Cluster of United Methodist Churches held a joint prayer service at Bethany on May 17, with Pastor Damien, Pastor Bob Rice of the West Milton Charge, and Pastor Dale Hippensteel of St. Andrew's presiding. The service was held in conjunction with the Conference's recent week of prayer for the health and future of the Methodist denomination as it faces many challenges an uncertain future and potentially divisive issues, particularly over matters of sexual orientation vis-à-vis the ministry and unity of the greater church.

Those of us who attended the May 25 Ascension Day service at the Parsonage were spiritually uplifted by the included ceremony of releasing lanterns into the dusky sky to mark and celebrate the taking up of Jesus into heaven at the end of His earthly ministry. There is a special poignancy and an almost inexpressible feeling of personal joy and hope that comes with a participatory event like that.

Gideon International representative Anthony Kidd visited both of our services on Sunday, May 28 to speak to our congregations about people around the world whose lives have been profoundly changed because of the Society's placements of the word of God within their reach. The stories of man and Bible meeting for the first time were especially inspiring.

Treasurer Donna Riccio and I attended a special open-invitation Sunday afternoon service on June 4 that brought together clergy, support staff, members, friends, and guests of several local Lutheran churches and St. Joseph Catholic to observe the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. The service was held at Trinity Lutheran in Milton, with Father John Hoke of St. Joseph and the Reverends Fladland of Trinity, Glasoe of Follmer, and Middernacht of Christ Evangelical Lutheran presiding. Attendance was easily 200 people. The tenor of this beautiful service was ecumenical in nature and generally reconciliatory.

Fun Page

# God's Creation

In the beginning God created the earth, then he created Adam and Eve and gave Adam the job of naming the animals. (Genesis 1)

HEAVENS  
EARTH  
WATERS  
LIGHT  
DAY  
NIGHT  
SKY  
LAND  
OCEANS  
PLANTS  
TREES  
SUN

MOON  
BIRDS  
FISH  
BUGS  
COWS  
HORSES  
MONKEYS  
MAN  
WOMAN  
APPLES  
BANANAS  
GRAPES

Find the listed words hidden in the puzzle. Words can be forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonal.

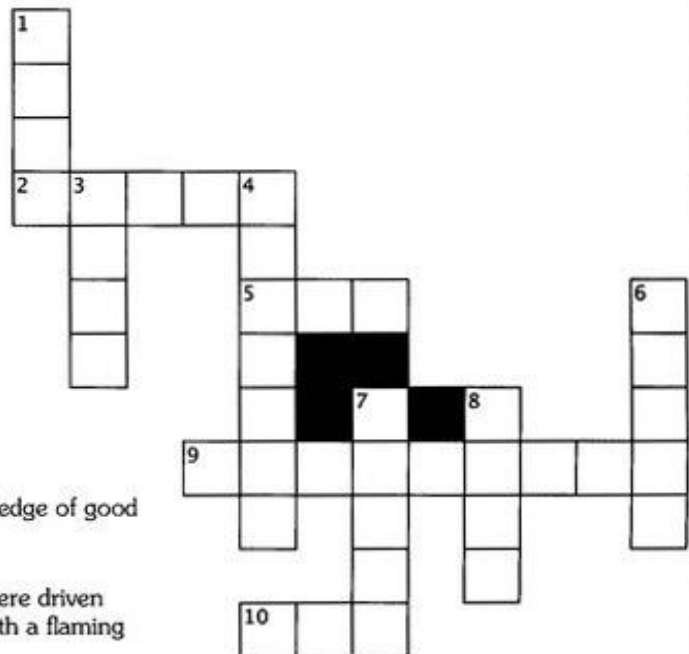
X P B K X V Z Z S I Y G M A N  
O S L N C S T H H G B A W V M  
F M T M A M A T E I U Q D K R  
G X S N X M R N R A F B E R S  
I J E V A A O D A M V Q S L E  
P K S W E L S W W N C E U X P  
Y M R A A D P F H O A P N P A  
Z O O M Y T I O W S L B H S R  
E O H Y C S E S C N Y I A V G  
U N T R E E S R K I V D G B X  
T A P P L E S O S G M N S H J  
Y H A P N U O B O H P A K L T  
M O N K E Y S I P T I L Y F Y  
N W Y R P E S S N A E C O S T  
X U J V F I S H N K L Y Q S C

**Across**

- 2. What did Adam give to all of the creatures? (Genesis 2:20)
- 5. God made Eve with one of these from Adam. (Genesis 2:21)
- 9. God told Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree of \_\_\_\_\_ of good and evil. (Genesis 2:15-17)
- 10. When Adam and Eve realized they did wrong, what did they do when they heard God? (Genesis 3:1-10)

**Down**

- 1. Adam and Eve's first son. (Genesis 4:1)
- 3. Adam and Eve's second son. (Genesis 4:2)
- 4. What creature tempted Eve? (Genesis 3:1-4)
- 6. When Adam and Eve ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, they realized they were this. (Genesis 3:1-7)
- 7. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were driven from the garden. It was guarded by cherubim with a flaming \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 3:21-24)
- 8. Adam and Eve's third son, born after Cain killed Abel. (Genesis 4:17)



**BETHANY UMC**

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**Website:**

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

**Sunday Worship:**

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

**PASTOR BILL**

670 Stamm Rd  
Milton, PA 17847  
717-968-3500 (Cell)  
570-246-5514 (Home)  
[pastorbill@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbill@gmail.com)

**Upper Room – Available**

(July & August)

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

July 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10:30 am – “Sharing the Table” Food donations / Communion  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6:00 pm – Contemporary Worship Service / Communion  
July 4<sup>th</sup> – Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!!! (Office closed)  
July 5<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Trustees  
July 8<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am – Pot Luck Brunch / Meet and Greet Pastor Bill  
July 11<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – PSPRC  
July 12<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Traditional & Contemporary Worship Teams @ Bethany UMC  
July 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – “Hero Central” VBS 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm @ Christ Evan Lutheran Church  
July 21<sup>st</sup> – Raup Wedding Rehearsal  
July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 3:00 pm – Raup Wedding

**Correction to calendar: The below committees will NOT meet in July**  
**Finance Committee (Next meeting – August 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm)**  
**Ad Board (Next meeting – August 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm)**

***Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday @ Rockwell.***  
***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  
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MILTON, PA 17847

July  
2017