

Bethany United Methodist Church
"A Church with a Heart of Christ in the Heart of Milton"

Volume 8, Issue 9

September 2021

Milton's Good News

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August – "At a Glance"

Looking back in August for Bethany, finishing painting going on, installing Smart 85" TV's, ordering supplies, cleaning, organizing, and putting things back for our reopening worship service Welcome Back to Worship Bethany UMC! **Huge Thank You** for all those who helped get the church ready for the reopening, August 22nd, 2021.

Dessert Nights were held at the parsonage, hosted by Pastor Travis & Jess for the congregation. Another community Pick Up dinner was distributed to Milton Area.

"Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Luke 24:52 (NIV)

-Cheri Buss

Milton Harvest Festival

45th Annual Milton Harvest Festival - September 10-18, 2021

Milton, Pennsylvania — The **Annual Milton Harvest Festival**, a tradition since 1977, is a community celebration that promotes the people, organizations and businesses of Milton, Pennsylvania and the Central Susquehanna Valley.

Mark your calendar for **September 10-18, 2021** and enjoy these events & more:

Friday, Sept 10th – 6:30 pm – Tomato Bowl Football (Milton High School)

Black Panthers VS Holly Redeemer

Saturday, Sept 11th – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm – Bethany Tours & "Messy Church" Crafts

Saturday, Sept 11th – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm – Arts & Crafts

Saturday, Sept 11th – 9:00 am – Pet Parade – (Elm Street)

Sunday, Sept 12th – 7:00 pm – Harvest Festival Concert "Milton Area Band"

Monday, Sept 13th – 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm – Scarecrow Patch (By Milton Moose bldg.)

Tuesday, Sept 14th – 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm – Pumpkin Roll (Academy & Upper Market St)

Wednesday, Sept 15th – 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Block Party (Bound Ave)

Thursday, Sept 16th – 7:00 pm – Harvest Pops Concert @ St Andrew's UMC

Saturday, Sept 18th – 9:00 am – 12:30 pm & 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – Bethany Tours / Messy Church

Saturday, Sept 18th – 9:00 am – 4:00 am – Arts & Crafts

Saturday, Sept 18th – 1:00 pm – Milton Harvest Festival Parade

Bethany members we are in **need for your help** for **Tour Guides** (1 for Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary) on Sept. 11th 9 am – 4 pm & Sept 18th 9 am – 12:30 pm & 2:30 pm – 4 pm. Please sign up for a time on the sheet (Front right-side window). Thank you!



Messy Church is a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality.

We will also need (3) three volunteers to run craft tables in the Fellowship Hall to launch "Messy Church" on Sept 11th & 18th 9 am – 4 pm.



Special points of interest:

- "At a Glance" (pg 1)
- Milton Harvest Festival And Need Volunteers Tours Guides / Craft Leaders (pg 1)
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From Pastor Travis's Study



Brothers and Sisters in Christ and friends,

Grace to you in peace in the name of Jesus our light and healer of our brokenness:

The wait is finally over. We have returned to our home inside Bethany UMC. August was a busy time for us as a church family. We had many final touches to make on the new building as our reopening approached. I would like to say thank you to all of those who took time out of their schedules to come to the church to help in many ways, from cleaning up all of the items that were placed in storage to building furniture for the nursery. None of this would have been possible without the support of this community. So, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

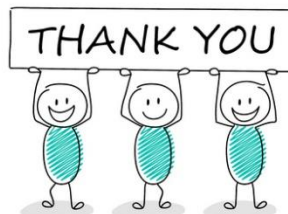
On August 22, 2021, Bethany UMC officially reopened. It was a wonderful time of worship and fellowship. The music within the sanctuary is beautiful because of the design. The new organ sounds beautiful and can fill the whole space. There is an excitement that is felt by all when you enter the building. We know that surely the presence of God is in this place as we gather to worship and share the light of Christ in this world. It was an honor to recognize and give thanks to Gavin McWilliams for showing what a heart for Christ and a heart for community looks like. For those of you who may not recall, Gavin was seven years old when the fire took place. Distraught about people being cold and getting wet during worship, he thought that we would continue to worship inside the church even though there was no roof, Gavin raised \$388 by selling chocolate cover pretzels. In honor of his kindness and generosity, we have named our nursery after Gavin. The nursery is now known as Gavin's Corner.

Now that all of these "official" tasks are complete and the church is open, we must get down to business. We must begin the work of making our mission and vision a reality. Our mission of making disciples of all people for the transformation of the world, and our vision of being a Church with the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Milton, has begun.

You may be asking, what does it mean to be a disciple, and to make more disciples? How do we go about this work? To answer these questions, we are beginning a season of learning about discipleship and creating a discipleship pathway for everybody to start or continue their journey of faith. This series is based off a book called *Stride: Creating A Discipleship Pathway for Your Church*. For the next 10 weeks all of my sermons and all of the lessons in Sunday School, which will be beginning soon, will be based on this book. Books are still available if you would like a copy. Once we know where we are on our own faith journey we can begin the process of helping others start their own.

In closing, I want to let you all know how proud I am and thankful I am to be your pastor. You all have shown great perseverance and strength through tough times, and are now ready to do the work that God has called each of us to. May God pour out His Grace upon us in these days ahead.

Pastor Travis



Leadership Reports...

All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For September they are due: Sunday, September 12, 2021.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Travis at tallshouse@susumc.org. Thank You!

Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

Here are the September's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

Next Worship Team Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 1:00 pm

September 5th – Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (500); Every Time I Feel the Spirit (404); Sweet Hour of Prayer (496); Give Thanks (2036) / Communion

September 12th – Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word (596); Thy Word Is a Lamp (601); Wonderful Words of Life (600); God Be with You Till We Meet Again (672)

September 19th – Spirit of the Living God (393); O Jesus, I Have Promised (396); Lord, Speak to Me (463); All Who Love and Serve Your City (433)

September 26th – All Creatures of Our God and King (62); What Gift Can We Bring (87); Take My Life, and Let It Be (399); Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (89)

Greeters Needed.....



Bethany is in need of more greeters (Center Street Door and Front Street Entrance). Please sign up or let Pastor Travis or office know you can help out. (Sheet located on front right-side window)

Leadership Team Report

The devotions that opened the August 17 meeting were based on Psalm 119:52-56 and were focused on the topic of learning. Learning is a lifelong process, an ever-changing journey. The Psalmist sees faith the same way – faith, too, is a lifelong journey and an integral part of growth. We are well-advised to remember that our faith journeys are never-ending. We have Sunday Schools and Bible studies that send us deep into the word of God, and we have devotions and speak with the Lord in prayer, all the more frequently and fervently as we become older. Why do we do those things? Because faith is a lifetime pursuit and process of learning. We should view each day as a new opportunity to discover how much God loves us, how hard He's working in the world to save all people, the great extent of His forgiveness, and the special creations that He made that we refer to as “ourselves”. As an adjunct to this message, we were asked to think of journeys we've taken and what we enjoyed most about them. To our countless such experiences we might offer, as answers to that question, the trips the Holy Spirit has taken us on – amazing trips that, though they avowedly had beginnings, were never assigned an ETA because (happily) they go on for a lifetime.

We are waiting for Poole Anderson to send us their record of construction costs, which will eventually be compared to the ledger information that the insurance company has. The scenario is that we need Poole's report to be able to complete our application to the insurance people for the issuance of the rest of the money designated for us, without which we cannot pay Poole's remaining bills.

A representative of Hudock Moyer gave the Team a detailed report on the status of Bethany's investment portfolio and the outlook for its future behavior. We are not making or contemplating any adjustments to the structure of this holding at this time because it's performing very well as constructed and as managed.

At our worship service on Sunday, August 22, Gavin McWilliams was recognized for his post-fire fundraising effort on behalf of Bethany. Additionally, we dedicated our new church nursery to Gavin.

Rod Moore

N.O.W. Hear This!..... N.O.W. Meeting on Tuesday, September 7th at 1:00 pm



“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 350 children per week, of fruit cups and individual boxes of cereals. **Also in need of plastic grocery bags.** Please bring in those items of the first of the month for “Sharing the Table” or into the office Mon, Wed, 9 am -1 pm and Fri from 9 am – 12:30 pm.



Next Food Collection Communion Dates: September 5th / October 3rd

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

Sponsored by Bucknell University

Monday's Milton Harvest Community Meals are back! These will be pick up only meals on Monday's from 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm at St Andrew's UMC – Parking lot.

Walk-in or drive-through only to pick up meals in the parking lot.

[Don't need volunteers, at this time]

Committee Dinner's are back (St Paul's UCC) NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Next Committee Dinner will be on **October 10th at 5:00 pm**, a drive-up/walk-up only. Location: St Paul's UCC, 1125 Mahoning St, Milton PA. And also planning a drop-off delivery service for Milton Towers & Milton Developmental Services!!!

Community Meal Ministry Meeting on Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 pm.



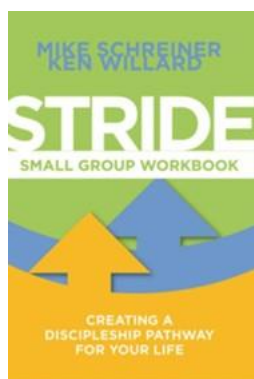
Thank You Note:

Bethany Congregation & Committee Dinner Leaders:

Thank you for another meal for the Milton Towers Tenants! We appreciate all your hard work to make this happen!

-Sincerely, Cindy Whitmer

New Sermon Series & Sunday School



New Sermon Series called, *Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church*, which will begin for worship on Sunday, August 29th at 10:30 am. The Sunday School Series will begin on Sunday, September 5th at 9:00 am. Please pick up a book for this series on the window and/or the table in the Fellowship Hall.

Stride Description: To guide people, challenge them, and nurture them on the journey of faith so that they become deeply committed followers of Christ—this is the challenge of discipleship. Churches of every type and size struggle to “do” discipleship well. *Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church* offers a practical model that works.

Lessons for Life (Sunday School) Starts back up on Sunday, September 5th at 9:00 am.

Milton's Good News

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income July 2021 Reports:

07/04/2021 - Sunday

Offering Envelopes	718.00
Price Hardship Fund	65.00
Plate	3.00
Total for 07/04/2021	\$786.00

07/11/2021 - Sunday

Butler Trust Contributions	2,200.00
Offering Envelopes	976.00
Plate	23.00
Total for 07/11/2021	\$3,199.00

07/18/2021 - Sunday

Offering Envelopes	460.00
Plate	27.00
Total for 07/18/2021	\$487.00

07/25/2021 - Sunday

Community Dinner & A Movie	10.00
Offering Envelopes	510.00
Price Hardship Fund	50.00
Plate	328.00
Fire Restoration Known Givers	200.00
Total for 07/25/2021	\$1,098.00

Total Contributions \$5,570.00



Finance Report (July Current Expenses In & Out):

Total Income Received: \$5,370
 Total Expenses Paid Out: \$12,116
 Average Attendance: 26

Fire Fund:

Income Received: \$200.00

Trustees Report

The wait is over! We have finally moved into the new Bethany! Several worker bees (contractors and church volunteers) spent many hours putting the finishing touches on everything and testing the equipment in preparation for the grand reopening. Cheri has been handing out keys to those who need access to the church and office.

As most of you know, there were three storage units full of items that were salvaged from the church after the fire. The lease on the storage units was ending on July 31, so several of us sorted most of the items into three piles; keep, donate, toss. Some of the items that we kept have found new homes within the church, while others are in various storage areas and will need to be sorted and put away later. Hands Up Foundation was the beneficiary of several pieces of furniture we no longer needed. Thanks to everyone who helped with this important project.

Related to Trustee finances, the only current bill received and paid was an invoice from Air Tech HVAC for the labor on the warranty covered fan motor (\$116.25). We received a settlement check related to a problem with the fees charged for one of our investment funds (\$264.35). In anticipation of the increased current expenses of reopening the church and the new roof on the Parish House, we transferred \$10,000 from our investments to the general checking account. At the last Leadership Team meeting we decided to request meetings with both financial advisors to provide an update of our funds' performance and their thoughts on future performance. In consideration of everyone's time commitments, we asked them to come present the same evening as our meetings. Therefore, a representative from Hudock Capital will meet with us on August 17 and a Prudential representative will meet with us September 21. Both meetings will be at 6:00 PM.

We have chosen a gray color, which blends well with the new shingles on the church roof, for the new roof, gutters and downspouts on the Parish House. It looks like it will be September until Hillside Roofing is able to begin the project.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

Our Prayer List.....

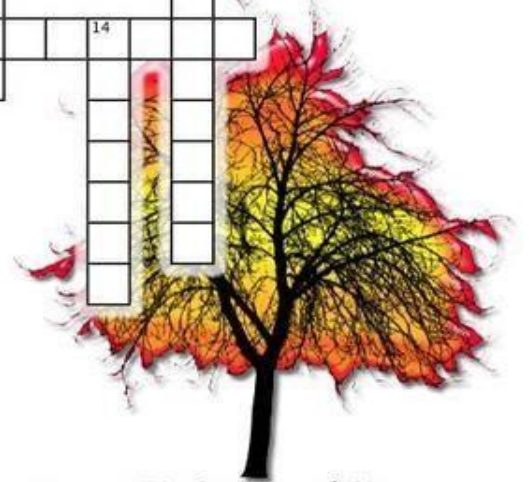
Kathy M – Brain aneurism / Upcoming appointments
 Donna G – Fell, but doing fine, checkup for her pacemaker
 Mark Brumbach – Health issues / cancer
 Peggy S – Fell / Health
 Bob F - Health
 Edith G - Health
 Cindy M – Cindy's cancer treatments / Health
 Debbie (Connie's sister) – Cancer and treatments
 Jeff S (Jamie's nephew) – Health / diabetes
 Patti & Bill S – Health
 Florence Y – Cancer/Health & Thomas Y – Health / Afib
 Judy C - Heath
 Terrie H – Upcoming tests and treatments & Todd H – Health (Wound) / Continue prayers for recovery.
 Tom (Shelly's uncle) Health / In hospital and for his wife, Donna. Katy M – Kidney/ Health
 David (Karen's friend) Health
 Community Meals / Shootings / People in the building collapse in Florida
 Those dealing with Cancer – Cindy, Florence, Thomas, Mandy, Terrie, David, Rita, Debby, Shirley, Debbie
 Bethany Congregation / Restoration & reopening business / Churches.
 Leadership Team: Cindy, James A, Rod, Shelly, Bob F, James M, Dick K, Dave W, Mike L, Dorothy, Pastor Travis.



Fun Page

Fall Crossword Puzzle

Trees and their fruits are the focus of this fun puzzle!



Across

3. The spiky partner of the Ivy from the holiday song.
4. You've got to hand it to Florida for picking this as their State tree!
6. This tree grows in Indiana, not Amsterdam! It's the State tree.
8. Looks like an evergreen, but loses its leaves.
13. This giant is the State tree of California.
16. Shellfish meets orchard fruit?
19. A horse doesn't eat them, despite the name; this tree is also known as the conker tree.
20. I've no "eye-deer" why they thought this tree's fruit looked like a mammal's optical organ!

Down

1. We harvest young Fir, Spruce and Pine trees at this time.
2. The seeds of this tree whirl down to earth like miniature helicopters!
5. If you burn the wood of this tree, you're left with its name.
7. This tree sounds like it has a lot of friends...
9. The tree's not built from bricks and the nuts are hard to crack.
10. All trees which lose their leaves are called this.
11. The tree we get syrup from.
12. Four-legged friends might be tempted to tinkle on the State tree of Missouri.
14. This Willow doesn't really have much to cry about.
15. If there's a shortage of coffee, then the root of this tree is roasted and ground as a bitter-tasting substitute.

BETHANY UMC

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

bethany18coffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

Lessons for Life: 9:00 am
Gathering of the Family of God: 10:30 am

PASTOR TRAVIS

670 Stamm Rd
Milton, PA 17847
717-968-2254 (Cell)
570-246-5830 (Home)

tallshouse@susumc.org

Upper Room – Now Available

September / October

Daily Bread – Now Available

September / October / November

Announcements:

Dates to Remember:

September 5th – 9:00 am – Lesson for Life (Sunday School)

September 5th - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God

“Sharing the Table” Panther Packs / Communion

September 7th – 1:00 pm – N.O.W. Meeting

September 9th – 7:00 pm – Community Meal Ministry Meeting

September 11th – 9 am – 4 pm – Bethany Tours / Messy Church

September 11th – 9 am – 4 pm – Milton Harvest Festival Arts & Crafts

September 12th – 7:00 pm – Harvest Festival Community Band Concert

September 13th – 5:30 pm – Harvest Festival Scarecrow Patch (By Milton Moose)

September 14th – 1:00 pm – Worship Team Meeting

September 14th – 5:00 pm – Harvest Festival Pumpkin Roll (Academy & Upper Market St)

September 15th – 6:00 pm – Harvest Festival Block Party (Bound Ave)

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Sept. 18th – 9 am – 12:30 pm & 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm – Bethany Tours/Messy Church

September 18th – 9 am – 4 PM – Milton Harvest Festival Arts & Crafts

September 18th – 1:00 pm – Harvest Festival Parade

September 21st– 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Ad Board / Finance) @ Fellowship Hall

October 10th – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner (Drive-Up) @ St Paul's UCC

October 16th & 23rd – Coat Giveaway (Watch for more details)

Lessons for Life (Sunday School): 9:00 am

Gathering of the Family of God: 10:30 am



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

September
2021