

Milton's Good News

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May – "At a Glance"

The month of May started off with Annual Conference at Hershey. Then a Prayer & Healing Service hosted by Bethany UMC and an Ascension Service held at the parsonage, which lanterns were released in the air. - Cheri Buss

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

Walking in Christ: part 4

Philippians 3:2-7 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh, although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless. But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

For my final devotion, I will bring you back to one of my favorite passages of Scripture, Philippians 3. Now, while my favorite verses come later, I find these most appropriate for walking in Christ. As Christians our "resumes" become null and void, and thank goodness, since most of our "resumes" are blotched with failures. In this passage, though, Paul is describing how wonderful He was at being a Jew. He was a part of the religious elite and if all of these statements are true, which we believe they are, then Paul was about as "good" as "good" can be. The Jews would have considered him righteous, a poster-boy of their faith and ethnicity if you will. Paul would have been that church member who everyone thought was holier than them. He had a spotless "resume" and yet in the face of Christ, he throws it all away.

No matter how religious you fashion yourself, you are not as good as Paul. Furthermore, no matter how much a sinner that you might see yourself, you were not as bad as Paul. You haven't killed any Christians lately, right? We when become Christian our past is washed clean, our whole past, the good, the bad, the ugly. We are left as children of God. There are no favorites in God's household, save for Jesus. The result is that you are no better or worse than the person sitting next to you, the same can be said for them. Sex, Ethnicity, Social Status, Marital Status, Financial Status, Sexual Preferences (preferences do not mean actions), Skin Color, Abilities mean nothing any longer in Christ. They make you different, but not any more holy or less holy, as Paul puts it, they are a loss for the sake of Christ. So love each other.

Special points of interest:

- In Memory of Donna Croyle (pg 2)
- "Sharing the Table" (pg 4)
- Bicentennial Parade (Hot dog giveaway) (pg 4)
- "Hero Central" VBS (pg 5)
- Events in the Area (pg 6)
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Worship Team Report

The following is the work of the Traditional Worship Team which met on Tuesday, May 2nd. Here are June's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

June 4th – Pentecost – Spirit Of The Living God (393); As A Fire Is Meant For Burning (2237); Deep In The Shadows Of The Past (2246); Forward Through The Ages (555); *John 7:37-39*, "So That They May Hear"; **Communion**

June 11th – Trinity Sunday, Peace With Justice Sunday – All Creatures Of Our God And King (62); Morning Has Broken (145); Go Make Of All Disciples (571); Freely, Freely (389); *Psalms 8, Matthew 28:16-20*, "One Last Commission"

June 18th – Father's Day, Going Away Sunday – O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing (57); To God Be The Glory (98); Blessed Assurance (369); Take My Life And Let It Be (339); *Psalms 116, Matthew 9:35-10:23*, "A Sending And A Going"

June 25th – Just A Closer Walk With Thee (2158); Amazing Grace (378); Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing (400); Near My God To Thee (528); *Psalms 86, Romans 6:1-11*, "Dying To Sin, Living To God"



In Memory....

We have received notice of the passing of Donna Croyle, the daughter of Reverend Robert Croyle, who was our Pastor from 1946 – 1949 when we were still the First Methodist Church of Milton. Donna had been living in Arizona. Please be in prayer for Donna's family.

Contemporary Team Report

Check out the sermons titles, scriptures, and songs for June listed below. We hope to see you'll join us for a wonderful time of worship and fellowship!

June 4th – Pentecost – Open The Eyes Of My Heart; Unashamed Love; Breathe; The Space In Between Us; God With Us; *1 Corinthians 12:3b-13*, "The Empowering Spirit"; **Communion**

June 11th – Trinity Sunday, Peace With Justice Sunday – God Of Wonders; Blessed Be Your Name; Famous One; He Reigns; Indescribable; *2 Corinthians 13:11-13*, "Final Appeals"

June 18th – Father's Day, Going Away Sunday – Good, Good Father; You Raised Me Up; The Heart Of Worship; Ancient Of Days; Better Is One Day; *Matthew 9:35-10:23*, "A Sending And A Going"

June 25th – Your Grace Is Enough; Love Song For A Savior; You Are My King; Trading My Sorrows; Imagine; Deuteronomy 30:11-20 & Romans 5:1-11; " - " by Dave Gehrum, Lay Speaker

Ad Board Report

A debit card is being issued to the church, and a dedicated account has been set up (via a shift in current funds) to accommodate it. Four people will be authorized to use the card, which will be employed mainly to buy relatively small items for the church from local vendors or to make online purchases on behalf of Bethany when a card is the best (or the only) payment option.

Bethany will provide and cook 500 hot dogs for giveaway during the June 17 Milton Bicentennial Parade. Cooperating churches in our Community Meal coalition will help with cost-defraying funding, by providing buns and bottled water, and by supplying physical assistance.

Some of the Board members have again expressed a desire to revive the layperson "choir" that we spontaneously assembled to sing hymns on several occasions during past Traditional services. We will bring this up with Pastor Bill at some near-future point.

Pastor Damien expresses his desire that services and Bible studies continue at the Rockwell Assisted Living Center after he leaves. He says that however this happens, it is important that we keep doing it – not only because of the spiritual benefit to the people of Rockwell, but because Bethany has been the only local church, Methodist or otherwise, to engage the Center's residents in on-site organized services and studies on any kind of regular basis.

Rod Moore



Monday, May 29th – Memorial Day

This Memorial Day we salute the brave men and women who served to protect our country.

Thank You and God bless!

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 Hot Dog Giveaway for the Bicentennial Parade Day on a **Saturday, June 17th at 11:00 am**. Location: Here at Bethany UMC, Front Street. **See Page 4 for more information**,

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.

Next Community Dinner will be held on **Sunday, August 13th at 5:00 pm** at Christ Evan Lutheran.

“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: June 4th / July 2nd / August 6th

Bicentennial Parade Day Hot Dog Giveaway



June 17th for Milton's Bicentennial Parade Day, where Bethany UMC and Community Churches will be giving out free hot dogs & water during the parade starting at 11:00 am.

This will be a great way to serve & interact with the community AND a great place to view the parade when it takes place!

How you can get involved – volunteer!

Need (4) coolers to put the bottle water into.

Also **looking for volunteers** to help set up, hand out hot dogs & water and clean up from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm. Please sign up on the sheets in back of the sanctuaries.



Trustees' Report.....

For the first time in many months the Trustees did not have a lot of business to take care of at their most recent meeting.

The renovations in the church are almost complete. Final measurements of the new kitchen space required a few minor changes to the layout and it saved us some money! We are anticipating a late June/early July installation. The new stair treads and flooring inside the Center Street entrance should be installed soon.

The renovations to the interior of the Parish House are coming along nicely. We approved the painting of the trim. After that is complete the new flooring will be installed and we should be able to move everything out of the current office to the renovated space so it will then be able to be renovated. The new heating and air conditioning should be installed in the next few weeks.

We are busily taking care of the Trustees responsibilities during a pastoral transition. The parsonage will be inspected, painted, cleaned and ready for Pastor Bill and his family when they arrive. At this point the only appliance we believe will need replaced in the parsonage is the refrigerator. Although slightly rusted, it still works so it will be moved to the Parish House for staff use.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

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 17th through July 21st 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 (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.

VBS Meeting schedule on Monday, June 19th at 6:30 pm at Christ Evan Lutheran Church.

Events Happening in the Area

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

“Titanic” – The Musical - Christ Wesleyan Church, 363 Stamm Rd, Milton PA. **Show times:** Thur. June 15th @ 7 pm., Friday June 16th @ 7 pm, Saturday June 17th @ 2 pm & 7 pm, and Sunday June 18th @ 2 pm. **Pricing:** **Adults** – \$13.00 (plus processing fee), **Seniors (Ages 65+)** \$11.00 (plus processing fee), **Children (ages 0-12)** – \$8.00 (plus processing fee) Tickets are available to purchase online or at The Hub on Sunday mornings June 4, 11, & 18 (cash or checks are accepted on-campus).

Re-Creation Group “Changing of the Guard” – Sunday, **June 25th** at 7:00 pm at St. Joseph Parish Center, 854 Cemetery Rd, Milton

Thank You Note...

To Bethany UMC: I would like to thank everyone who helped me fix up my apartment. I love it. I still could use food & entertainment center for DVD's, TV & DVD movies. God shines and He is love. - Edith

Lay Leader's Report

Pastor Damien and I attended the annual convention of the Susquehanna Conference, which this year ran from May 3 to May 6 at Hershey Lodge. As Bethany's lay representative to those proceedings, it's my duty and my stated intention to issue a concise Lay Member's report on those parts of the meeting that most directly pertain to – or stand to affect - our church. I will make that report available to all parishioners by the end of May.

Some of the staff of Crossroads of Life (COL), the UMC-sponsored central Illinois Prison Faith Community with which I've recently become involved as a contributor and as a board member, had a highly successful meeting on April 20 with officials of the Illinois state prison system. One result is that COL will soon be engaging with that area's Logan Women's Prison to create a hospice volunteer program for its residents. Another outcome is that COL will begin to provide art materials for that prison, items which will give residents the opportunity to involve themselves in classroom expressions on behalf of anti-drug education and black history, and women's history through paintings, posters, drawings, and other visual media. Most importantly, COL volunteers are being cleared to start ministry work inside the Logan prison starting May 30. This puts a thankful end to several years of Illinois bureaucratic and budgetary roadblocks that have kept COL from doing the work it really wants – and needs - to do; engage freely in personal ministry to the residents of the institution.

The Susquehanna Conference has asked its members, clusters and charges to pray for the United Methodist Church as a denomination throughout the week of May 7 – 13. This is in connection with many recent complicated developments that have raised serious questions about the overall unity of Methodism, especially along the lines of sexuality and its relationship to the ministry. I answered the Conference's call by setting up a tiny 3-candle “prayer station” in Bethany's main sanctuary where any of us – and any number of us - could go at any time and for any length of time during that week to quietly and privately express ourselves to God on the matter. On a personal level, during that week I also wore the “prayer scarf” that the UMC Youth Services people handed to each member in attendance at the Annual Conference. Although the scarf was not specifically meant to relate to the week of denominational prayer, it served as a constant reminder of the power we have, through Christ, to entreat our Father for His help as we, as individuals and as the wider church all the way up through the UMC General Conference, continue to look for “A Way Forward.”

Fun Page

Sunday, June 18th – Happy Father's Day....

Father's Day Crossword

Down

2.



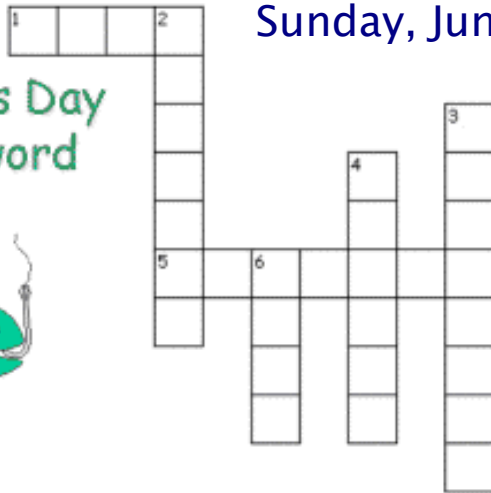
3.



4.



6.



Across

1.



5.



To all the men out there who raised, nurtured, and adopted God's children, bless you and have a wonderful Father's Day!

[Fun Game for Everyone]

Bible Word Search Game:

Can you find all the names and titles of Jesus?

Bible Word Search:

NAMES AND TITLES OF JESUS

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

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| CHRIST | EMMANUEL | JESUS |
| KING of the Jews | LAMB of God | LIGHT of the World |
| LORD | MASTER | NAZARENE |
| RABBI | REDEEMER | SAVIOR |
| SON OF DAVID | SON OF GOD | SON OF MAN |

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

Daily Bread – Available

(June, July, August)

Announcements

Dates to Remember:

- May 28th (Both Services) – Gideon Presentation
- June 4th – 10:30 am – “Sharing the Table” Food donations / Communion
- June 4th – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion
- June 4th – 6:00 pm – Contemporary Worship Service / Communion
- June 6th – 6:30 pm – Traditional Worship Team @ Parsonage
- June 7th – 7:00 pm – Trustees
- June 11th – (Both services) – Peace with Justice Sunday – Special Offering
- June 13th – 7:00 pm – PSPRC
- June 17th – 11:00 am – Bicentennial Parade Day (Hot Dog Giveaway)
- June 18th - (Happy Father’s Day)
- June 19th – 6:30 pm – VBS Meeting @ Christ Evan Lutheran Church
- June 20th – 6:30 pm – Finance Committee
- June 20th – 7:00 pm – Ad Board
- July 17th – 21st – “Hero Central” VBS 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm @ Christ Evan Lutheran Church

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

