

Bethany United Methodist Church
"Renewing the Church to change the World"



Volume 6, Issue 2
February 2019

Milton's Good News

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Pastor Bill	2
Worship Schedule	3
Leadership Team	3
Lay Leader	3
N.O.W. Here This!	4
Trustees	5
Announcements	8

January – "At a Glance"

January is a month to reflect on 2018 and setting up new goals for 2019. The dismantling of the Greens & Luncheon took place. A Bible Study "Book of Daniel" started on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sunday, January 20th service and free movie night was canceled, due to a snow & ice that weekend.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIV)

Cheri Buss

New Member Luncheon

A New Member Luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 10th following the morning worship service. Stay and fellowship with the New Members of Bethany UMC.

Bethany will provide roast turkey and please sign up a dish to bring to share.

Welcome to Bethany's Church Family:

Robert Fitch & Janet Masser

Edith Getz



Special points of interest:

- "At a Glance" (pg 1)
- New Members Luncheon (pg 1)
- Sunday Worship Time Change (pg 1)
- Membership Class (pg 2)
- "Sharing the Table" (pg 4)
- Souper Bowl (pg 4)
- Movie Night (pg 4)
- Events in the Area (pg 5)
- Greeters Needed (pg 5)
- Thank You Notes (pg 5)
- Financial Stats (pg 6)
- Fun Page (pg 7)

Sunday Worship Time Change

Starting in January 2019, Sunday Worship will start at 10:15 am with announcements and then at 10:30 am the Worship Service will begin. Lessons for Life (Sunday School) will still begin at 9:00 am. Please make note of change and spread the word.



From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

While I start to write this month's column it is the middle of January and I must thank everybody for all the blessings, gifts, prayers and well wishes for the New Year. It does seem strange to do this in the February newsletter but such is the time frame of this publication.

The winter term of Bethany's Bible study has now started and I will remind everyone it is not too late to join us any Tuesday morning at ten o'clock or Thursday nights at seven o'clock. We are looking at the Book of Daniel and will study it chapter by chapter taking as much time as needed. I confess to not being an expert on this book of the Bible so we will all learn together.

Please do not feel that you need to be an expert to attend a Bible study. We will not be doing a study to prove how smart we are but we study so we can learn together and draw maybe a bit closer to understanding the nature and character of God. It has been explained to me that in order to understand the New Testament and the words contained in it we must also be familiar with the Old Testament.

During the month of February, we will also be welcoming some transfers and new members to Bethany church. Please plan on attending the greeting meal planned for February 10th. There will be a sign-up sheet in the church if you would like to provide a side dish for the meal. The church will provide roast turkey and table service.

I would be a miss for this month if I did not mention that famous holiday that happens in February. Happy Ground Hog day to everyone! While thinking of this I think of the movie that was out years ago by that name. For those who do not remember or who were trying to forget it is a story of a man trapped in a time warp that each day was the same. When he sees what is going on he makes changes that improve the lives of several of the people in the movie.

If that was our fate that each day would be the same what would we change to make a positive difference in the lives of others? I might suggest that we practice the golden rule and Love others the way we want to be loved.

Another lesser-known day in this month is called Saint Valentine's day. This is a day set aside to show our love for each other. So for all of those who I hold near and dear to my heart, I profess that I love you. Especially to my best blessing I have ever received from God, Janet my best friend and my wife. I Love you!

Deuteronomy 6:5,

Love God

Pastor Bill



Membership Class

Pastor Bill will be conducting a membership class on **Sunday, February 3rd from 11:45 am – 12:45 pm.**, in the lounge. If you have not informed Pastor Bill yet and you wish to join the church, please let him know by phone at 570-742-9796 or email: pastorbill@gmail.com, as soon as possible.

Worship Team "Gathering of the Family of God" Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, December 11th. Here are December's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

February 3rd – Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (361); Let Us Be Bread (2260); Lord of the Dance (261); Psalm 71:1-6; Matthew 13:33-35; "Yeast"; **Communion**

February 10th – **(New Membership)** Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore (344); Let Us Be Bread (2260); Hymn of Promise (707); Psalm 138; Matthew 13:44-46; "Treasure"

February 17th – Jesus Calls Us (398); Let Us Be Bread (2260); Give to the Winds Thy Fears (129); Psalm 1; Matthew 13:47-50; "The Net"

February 24th – Be Still, My Soul (534); Let Us Be Bread (2260); Freely, Freely (389); Psalm 37:1-11; Luke 7:40-43; "Two Debtors"

Leadership Team (Ad Board) Report....

The Leadership Team meeting of January 15, 2019 was the first to be conducted in the new Simplified Accountability Structure format. Opening prayers and devotions were followed by a period of discussion based on the introduction and first chapter of the leadership training book entitled "The Necessary Nine" by Bob Farr and Kay Kotan. The meeting then progressed into brief examinations of the latest church financial reports, and we exchanged such committee reports as we had on hand. Following new business, the meeting ended with prayer.

We are contemplating the arrangement of fresh meetings with the agents of Hudock Moyer and Prudential, the two investment firms with which we work as a church. The aim is to get updates on the performances and trends of our portfolios and discuss possible optimizing adjustments.

Suncom has been contacted about the possibility of providing us with janitorial services in the church and Parish House. Outside volunteers have been enlisted to take care of snow removal.

Bethany will conduct the March 27, 2019 session of Soup and the Word. That will be the fourth of the six Wednesdays in Lent.

We are considering a revival of our Stephen Ministry program, which was successfully launched at Bethany a couple of years ago but never fully implemented.

Dates have been set for the rest of calendar 2019 for Bethany to serve Harvest Meals at St. Andrew's UMC. The full schedule will be published shortly.

Rod Moore

Lay Leader's Report

The Salvation Army conducted a bike giveaway on December 20, 2018, using Bethany's Large Sunday School Room as the venue. We were more than happy to assist in this effort, in which 23 bicycles were distributed to community people who signed up for them, almost entirely on behalf of their children. We especially noted the high quality of the bikes and the smiling faces of the recipients. We should hope and pray that we get to help again in any such effort in the future, because the joy of doing it is absolutely contagious.

On Friday, December 28, 2018 Bethany hosted a group of about 10 people for the purpose of sending off some of them as a team of volunteers to Guatemala on behalf of Kids Around the World. We gathered in our church's sanctuary and prayed orally, one by one, for the safety of the folks making the trip and for the success of the mission.

N.O.W. Hear This!.....

"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 300 children per week, of fruit cups and individual boxes of cereals, increased up from the 284 we've been targeting. Please bring in those items of the first of the month for **"Sharing the Table"**. **Next Food Collection Communion Dates: Feb 3rd / March 3rd**

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

There will be a Milton Harvest Community Dinner on **Monday, February 4th, 2019** at 5:00 pm. Bethany will be in charge of serving and report at 4:45 pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

Milton Community Dinner (Christ Evan Lutheran – 1125 Mahoning St, Milton PA)

There will be a Community Dinner on a **Sunday, February 10th, 2019 at 5:00 pm**. Bethany will be in charge of providing (4) Boxes of saltine crackers. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

On **Thursday, January 31st at 6:30 pm** at Christ Evan. Lutheran will be a planning meeting.

Bethany's

Effort

Toward

Health

"Washed Clean Kits"



BETH "Washed Clean Kits" (Hygiene Kits) Update:

The items that we are accepting for the packs are:

Soap, shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body sprays, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand/body lotion, wash cloths, hand towels, disposable personal/baby wipes, feminine products, toilet paper, and both baby and adult diapers. The small individual, hotel-sized bottles are preferred but any donations are welcomed! **Items mostly needed are hand towels, deodorant, lotion, feminine products, and individual packets of tissues.**



Souper Bowl

Bethany UMC will be having a "Souper Bowl Community Meal" on February 2nd from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. This is a community outreach event – spread the word. Free to the community. Come in for a hot bowl of soup from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Need volunteers for Set Up on Friday Night, Feb. 1st and day of event on Feb. 2nd volunteers for Cooking, Serving, Clean Up & food donations.

Food donations needed: Cans of Tomato Soup & Cream of Potato Soup, Saltine crackers, milk, Instant Ice Tea Mix, and cookies.

Please sign up on the sheets in the back of sanctuary.

Movie Night



Free Movie Night will be held on February 17th at 6:00 pm with the showing of "War Room" a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives.

Refreshment will be provided, invite your family & friends!



Initial Offering Envelopes



Initial Offering Envelopes are enclosed with this February Newsletter, which was not included in your church envelope offering boxes.

Thank you for your contribution of this Initial Offering to help offset the cost of church envelope offering boxes.

Trustees Report....

As required by the Conference, we recently completed the annual Church Trustee's Report. The report includes the appraised value of the church building, Parish House, and parsonage. In addition, it includes questions about owned cemeteries, and if the church operates a day care or school. One key component of the report is the value of the funds entrusted to the Trustees. At the end of 2017 the total balance of all accounts was \$1,581,585, while we ended 2018 with \$1,390,605, a decrease of almost \$190,000. Over half the decrease was due to withdrawals for the new doors and current expense obligations. During 2018 we withdrew \$100,000 from the investments. We also closed three smaller accounts with a total balance of over \$14,000 and deposited those funds in the Current Expense Account. As many of you know, toward the end of the year, the stock market was pretty volatile. The difference between what we withdrew and the closed accounts can be attributed to our loss on investments.

The value of all church assets (property, furnishings, equipment, and investments) at the end of 2018 was \$8,196,206. We also report a value of \$340,000 for the parsonage and the church owned contents and equipment. The full report will be included in the Church Conference materials toward the end of the year. If you'd like a copy earlier, please ask Pastor Bill, Jamie or Cheri.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand, Chair

Greeters Needed....

If you would like to get involved serving here at Bethany, we are looking for some friendly faces to greet & hand bulletins to our worship attenders.

Please call the office to sign up 570-742-9796. God bless & thank you!



Events Happening in the Area

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

February 2nd, 2019 - starting at 1:00 pm – Securing & Protecting Our House of Worship (3-Hour Seminar packed with info! Instructed by a retired FBI Unit Chief / Volunteer Firefighter, with over 30 years experience. Will be held at Christ Wesleyan Church. (See Flyer) (Snow date: Feb. 9th)

February 5th, 2019 at 6:30 pm – 85th Annual Men's Oyster Supper at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Turbotville PA. An approximate donation of \$15.00 per person will be requested at the door. Call 570-649-5195 if you plan to attend.

February 17th, 2019 at 12:30 pm – Dinner & Kingdom Kidz Puppet Theater - Puppet Program to follow at 1:15 pm. Special Guests students from Sunbury Christian School Our Jamaica Mission Trip Program. Dinner is FREE (Donations Accepted) for our trip. Kingdom Kidz Puppet Home 11 E. 3 rd St., Watsontown, PA 17777

Thank You Notes..

To Bethany UMC: Thanks for my gifts and beautiful poinsettia. Very nice of the people at church.

-Peggy Shellenberger

To Bethany Church: I want to thank you so much for the Christmas gifts delivered to me for Christmas. It is very much appreciated, it had many gifts that I use. Thank you so much. I go to Bible Study every week here. There is God in our lives and a memory of Bethany that Allen, the girls, and I share with you.

Thank you, God bless -

Ruth Sampsell

To Bethany UMC: Thank you for your support of the Panther Packs ministry here at St. Andrew's UMC. It has been a blessing to have you join us for this valuable ministry. – Mary Richie, St. Andrew's UMC

Bethany UMC Current Expense Year End 2018 Reports:

Envelope Income To Date---2018

		Envelopes	Reno.	Benev.	Weekly Total	YTD
December	2	\$676.00		\$20.00	\$696.00	\$39,094.00
	9	\$955.00		\$40.00	\$995.00	\$40,089.00
	16	\$563.00		\$5.00	\$568.00	\$40,657.00
	23	\$1,243.00		\$30.00	\$1,273.00	\$41,930.00
	30	\$851.00		\$15.00	\$866.00	\$42,796.00
				\$1,221.00		

Plate Income To Date---2018

		Plate	Benev.	Weekly Total	YTD
December	2	\$85.00		\$85.00	\$3,495.50
	9	\$50.00		\$50.00	\$3,545.50
	16	\$66.00		\$66.00	\$3,611.50
	23	\$68.00		\$68.00	\$3,679.50
	30	\$255.00		\$255.00	\$3,934.50

Lessons for Life Class Income To Date---2018

		Weekly Total	YTD
December	2	\$11.00	\$620.00
	9	\$11.00	\$631.00
	16	\$11.00	\$642.00
	23	\$12.00	\$654.00
	30	\$11.00	\$665.00

Butler Trust Contributions 2018

January 7, 2018---	\$2,625.00	****deposited into Trustees General Checking Acct
April 8, 2018---	\$2,625.00	
July 8, 2018---	\$2,625.00	
October 7, 2018---	\$2,625.00	
		Total: \$10,500.00

Bethany UMC Special UM Sunday Contributions 2018

Human Relations Sunday—01/14/2018
1/14/18---\$100.00
UMCOR Sunday—03/11/2018
3/11/18---\$3,065.00
Native American Sunday—04/15/2018
4/15/18---\$160.00
Peace With Justice Sunday---05/27/2018
5/27/18---\$119.00
World Communion Sunday-----10/07/2018
10/7/18---\$266.00
United Methodist Student Day---11/25/2017
11/25/18---\$285.00

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2018

Initial Offering	Total = \$29.00
Lenten Offering	Total = \$2,368.00
Advent Offering	Total = \$5,430.00
Fire & Ice Campaign	Total = \$3,290.00
Cookie & Candy Sale Income – 12/9/18	Total = \$209.50

For a complete list of the Year End 2018 Expense Report can be found in the back of the sanctuary.

Fun Page



A Valentine's Day word scramble worksheet. The title "Valentine's Day" is written in a large, stylized, red-outlined font, with "word scramble" written below it in a smaller, cursive font. The worksheet contains two columns of scrambled words, each followed by a blank line for the answer. The words are: DER, KNIP, ERTHA, SESISK, OROWA, UFBRYRAE, HOLCETAOC, OPEM, SRHUC, LTETRE, DYNCA, EESTW, VLOE, PELEVEON, NEOYH, and CIDPU. The worksheet is decorated with a red and white striped border and a large, stylized heart shape made of red dots in the bottom right corner.

Valentine's Day
word scramble

DER _____ KNIP _____

ERTHA _____ SESISK _____

OROWA _____ UFBRYRAE _____

HOLCETAOC _____ OPEM _____

SRHUC _____ LTETRE _____

DYNCA _____ EESTW _____

VLOE _____

PELEVEON _____

NEOYH _____

CIDPU _____

Copyright © 2015 Moritz Fine Designs LLC www.MoritzFineBlogDesigns.com

BETHANY UMC

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

miltonbethanyumcoffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

Lessons for Life: 9:00 am
Gathering of the Family of God: 10:15 am

PASTOR BILL

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

Upper Room – Now Available

January / February

Daily Bread – Now Available

March / April / May

Announcements:**Dates to Remember:**

[Note: No regular scheduled Trustees Meeting for this month of February]

Feb 1st – 6:00 pm – Set up for Souper Bowl Community Meal

Feb 2nd – 11:00 am – 1:00 pm – Souper Bowl Community Meal @ Bethany UMC

Feb 2nd – 1:00 pm – Securing & Protecting our House of Worship Seminar @

Christ Wesleyan

Feb 3rd - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / “Sharing the Table” Communion

Feb 3rd – 11:45 am - Membership Class

Feb 3rd – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

Feb 4th – 4:45 pm – Milton Harvest Community Dinner @ St Andrew's

Feb 5th – Noon – Milton Ministerium @ Bethany

Feb 10th – 11:30 am – New Member Luncheon

Feb 10th – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner @ Christ Lutheran

Feb 14th - Happy Valentine's Day

Feb 17th – 6:00 pm – Free Movie Night “War Room”

Feb 19th – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Finance & Ad Board)

March 6th – 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service @ St. Andrew's UMC

March 17th – 11:45 am – St Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Meal

Bible Study “Book of Daniel”: 10:00 am every Tuesday

Bible Study “Book of Daniel”: 7:00 pm every Thursday

Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday at Rockwell.

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

Gathering of the Family of God: 10:15 am every Sunday morning.



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

Feb.
2019