

Milton's Good News

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August – “At a Glance”

The month of August there was a Community Dinner, which was a picnic style dinner, was held at Christ Evan Lutheran. Special thanks for Mike Longenberger for grilling and all those who helped support the community dinner. Bethany also helped served at the Milton Harvest Dinner this month and a thank you to all who helped be a part of this.

- Cheri Buss

Milton Harvest Festival

Milton Harvest Festival - A Bicentennial Harvest - September 8-16, 2017

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 8-16, 2017** and enjoy these events & more:

Friday, Sept 8th – 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm - Music in the Park – (Lincoln Park-Milton)

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

Wednesday, Sept 13th – 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Block Party (Bound Ave)

Thursday, Sept 14th – 7:00 pm – Milton Pops Concert @ Milton High School

Saturday, Sept 16th – 9:00 am – 4:00 am – Arts & Crafts

Saturday, Sept 16th – 10:00 am -12:00 pm – Senior Health Fair @ Merle Phillips Park

Saturday, Sept 16th – 1:00 pm – Milton Harvest Festival Parade

Bethany members we are in need of your help for the food stand on Sept 16th, for setup, grilling, volunteers for stands & clean up. Please sign a time on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!

Special points of interest:

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From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

In the wake of the recent events that have happened around the world, the news has been filled with the reports of terror and of death. In Charlottesville, the protest against the removal of a statute leads to a counter-protest and the death of three people. In Barcelona Spain, a driver again drove into a crowd and killed people who had only moments before had just been everyday people until they became a target for an individual with a plan of destruction.

In both of these cases, the overriding issue is one of a spiritual nature where hate has over ruled the thoughts of the individual and common sense and the consequences were over ridden and evil prevailed.

To say these were terrorist attacks would be a truthful statement because of the end effect of the act. Terrorist win when they make people fear the every day of life. Because of these acts, there have been several responses about how can we be protected from further attacks. The simple answer is we cannot! There is no way to legislate safety. So until there is the end of hate in the world we will be subject to terror.

What we can do is not overreact and just make the matter worse because then the terrorists win again. Are we to remove every statue that depicts our history? Think for a moment what that would look like. Starting with the invasion of the eastern world into the western world and the overtaking of the Native Americans, and then up to today's times. In order to be politically correct then every statue would need to be taken down because it disturbs someone.

What we as Christians can do is trust in God and in the Son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit to lead us and direct us in the ways we should go. 1 John 4:18 (NIV) says, There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We are not called to be fearful for what can mankind do to us. But we are called to be safe in the arms of God.

We should be aware of the world of today but remember who controls tomorrow. We should not overreact out of fear but we should act out of love as Christ has called us to be. We are called to take a stand against evil and to over come evil with good.

At this time we pray for a day and time when evil will be no more, but until that time we pray that the good we can do will make a difference in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

Isaiah 5:20
Remember Good

Pastor Bill



Worship Team Report

The following is the work of the Traditional Worship Team which met on Wednesday, August 9th. Here are September's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

September 3rd – This Is a Day of New Beginnings (383); Holy Ground (2272); Fill My Cup, Lord (641); Let There Be Peace on Earth (431); Psalm 105:37-45; Romans 12:9-21; "Defeat Evil"; **Communion**

September 10th – We Are Called (2172); How Great Thou Art (77); The Gift of Love (408); Something Beautiful (394); Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; "Debt"

September 17th – Jesus, United by Thy Grace (561); We've a story to Tell to the Nations (569); There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (121); Lord, Speak to Me (463); Psalm 93 (813); Romans 14:1-12; "Welcome"

September 24th – Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (133); Here I Am, Lord (593) I Love to Tell the Story (156); Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing (671); Psalm 23 (754); Romans 15:14-22; "Ministers"

Contemporary Team Report

The following is the work of the Traditional Worship Team which met on Wednesday, August 9th. Here are September's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

September 3rd – How Great is Our God; Awesome In This Place; Redeemed; Hear the Sound; Romans 12:9-21; "Defeat Evil"; **Communion**

September 10th – The Power of Your Love; I Could Sing of Your Love Forever; Mighty To Save; Love Take Me Over; Romans 13:8-14; "Debt"

September 17th – Come, Now Is the Time To Worship; I Will Rise; All Who Are Thirsty; Your Grace is Enough; Romans 14:1-12; "Welcome"

September 24th – Hunger (Falling On My Knees); Spirit Speaks; You Are My All in All, This Is Amazing Grace; Romans 15:14-22; "Ministers"

Safe Sanctuary Training

Mark your calendars, there will be a Safe Sanctuary Training on Sunday, October 15th at 2:00 pm here at Bethany UMC, Milton. Watch for more details.



“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: September 3rd / October 1st / November 5th

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, October 8th 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.

Planning Meeting for the Community Dinners will be held on Thursday, September 28th at 6:30 pm at the Christ Evan Lutheran Church on Mahoning St, Milton PA.

Milton Harvest Parade Day Food Stand

Bethany will provide a food stand on the parade day of the Milton Harvest Festival on **Saturday, September 16th.** Need volunteers to run food stand, grill, and serve. Set up at 7:00 am; serving at 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Please sign up on the sheets in the back of the sanctuary.

Events Happening in the Area

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

Lay Servant/Speaker Advance Course – being offered in the Lewisburg District – to register go to: <http://ja3360.wixsite.com/lsmlewisburg>

Preaching and Worship (In Person Course), Led by Rev. Brian Lucas, Paxtonville UMC. Please purchase the following books: "From Your Heart to Theirs", and "Go Preach!". September 9, 16 and 23, 2017. Time: 9am-3pm. Cost: \$30.

Evangelical Hospital Hospice Volunteer Training – September 11 & 12, 2017 from 9 am – 3 pm. Fee: Free. For more information or to request an application, call the Volunteer Liaison at 570-522-2955.

Life After Loss – Hospice of Evangelical - Wednesdays, September 20th – October 25, 2017 from 1 – 3 pm. Fee: \$20.00 non-refundable. Learn coping techniques to deal with grief and loss. Pre-registration is requested by Sept. 15. To register call Hospice of Evangelical at 570-522-2157.

Trustees' Report.....

We're almost to the point where we won't have progress on the renovation projects to share anymore because they will be completed! With a work group scheduled to thoroughly clean the new kitchen in late August, the kitchen will be ready for its required inspection. That should conclude the renovations projects we've committed to in the church.

Although it's not related to the renovations, you may have noticed a larger refrigerator in the Elm Street Lounge. Because of the large size of the refrigerator which came from the parsonage, we decided to put it in the Elm Street Lounge and move the smaller refrigerator over to the Parish House.

In the Parish House, the new doors (front, stairway, office and restroom) have been installed and painted. Now that the flooring has been shored up from underneath, the finishing touches are being completed in what will be Pastor Bill's office. The previously mentioned work team will also be focusing their efforts on moving furniture around and eliminating the temporary eyesore of storing office furniture on the Parish House porch. Other finishing touches include, repairing or replacing some of the windows which don't open or close well, and the installation of blinds for the windows.

Our sincere thanks to office staff for their patience while they've had to work with, and around, the construction crews over several months and to the entire congregation for their patience through the various renovation projects.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

Lay Leader's Report

In Pastor Bill's absence, I conducted the full Traditional worship service at Bethany on Sunday, August 6 and Dave Gehrum of Watsontown UMC delivered the sermon at that evening's Contemporary service. The same format will apply on August 20, and for the same reason. Additionally, the Traditional sermons on those dates have been, and will continue to be, structured in accordance with the series on the Book of Romans that Pastor Bill I has scheduled for every Sunday morning throughout the summer.

Vacation Bible School 2017, which ran from July 17 through July 21, was a rousing success, largely due to the distinct advantages of our partnership with Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Because of ongoing changes in the local Lutheran system, it's not yet clear (and won't be for some time to come) whether we will be able to mount such an effort in the same way again next year, but those of us who participated in conducting it this year are certainly hoping that we can.

On July 26 I paid a visit to some good friends who are on the staff at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. One of the highlights was that I was invited to participate in one of the Seminary's Lay School classes (which was a privilege I also experienced in 2016). The LTSG Lay School is offered at about the same time every year, and always consists of five consecutive daily sessions of several hours duration. The themes of the courses vary from year to year, and for 2017 the focus was on what the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) calls their "Book of Faith" Initiative. This is a long term program that seeks to increase Biblical literacy and fluency for the sake of the world. By it, they're committed to encouraging their members, congregations and synods to dig deeper into the Bible – the "Book of Faith." On the day I was there, I got engaged in a long and somewhat intricate conversation with a group of four ELCA lay people about Scriptural relationships to the state of the modern church, such that my Methodist perspective and their Lutheran understandings met to form an interesting exchange of ideas that none of us had really anticipated. The Book of Faith effort has its place, certainly, and when I came home, I started to probe the ELCA initiative more deeply. As I continue to examine it, I hope to be able to find ways to apply some of its methods here.

Financial Income–Bethany UMC July 2017 –:

ENVELOPE INCOME TO DATE---2017

July	2	\$876.00	\$10.00		\$886.00	\$18,846.00
	9	\$815.00	\$10.00		\$825.00	\$19,671.00
	16	\$771.00	\$5.00		\$776.00	\$20,447.00
	23	\$908.00	\$10.00		\$918.00	\$21,365.00
	30	\$701.00	\$5.00		\$706.00	\$22,071.00

PLATE INCOME TO DATE---2017

July	2	\$127.00			\$127.00	\$2,574.57
	9	\$112.00			\$112.00	\$2,868.57
	16	\$70.00			\$70.00	\$2,938.57
	23	\$127.00			\$127.00	\$3,065.57
	30	\$47.00			\$47.00	\$3,112.57

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2017

VBS Materials Reimbursement	
7/2/17--\$179.50	Total=\$179.50

Sunday School Income To Date---2017

July	2	\$9.00			\$7.00	\$215.45
	9	\$7.00			\$7.00	\$222.45
	16	\$6.00			\$6.00	\$228.45
	23	\$8.00			\$8.00	\$236.45
	30	\$10.00			\$10.00	\$246.45

Ad Board Report

Pastor McNeal opened the August 15 Finance Committee / Ad Board meeting by involving the participants in a special time of ceremonial devotion, based on Jesus' demonstration of humble servanthood as described in the Gospel of John. This was very effective in centering us all in preparation for the evening's work, and we hope to make such a valuable pre-convention observation a permanent fixture.

The latest financial reporting shows that we're making great progress in improving the ways in which we manage the church books, track our cash flows, and tend to our payments. An interim internal audit will take place as soon as the system is pronounced fully readjusted and ready.

The church-owned laptop computer that was formerly used by the Music Director (position now open) has been suggested as a dedicated device for financial record-keeping. That avenue will be pursued, but with regard to preserving the former files on a separate drive so as not to sacrifice any of the information presently built up on it.. Note, however, that while the use of the laptop is viewed as a satisfactory near-term measure that utilizes our current equipment to the fullest, that move does not obviate the future possibility of getting a new desktop for finances if circumstances warrant.

The Board unanimously approved of opening Bethany to the August 22 funeral of Fred Kurtz, a former member of the church and a long-time Milton fire chief. The service will be conducted by Rev. Arlene Beechert of Muncy UMC.

Pastor Bill is arranging for our church to host a session of Safe Sanctuaries training. The date stands to be Sunday, October 15. Confirmation and further details will follow.

The 2017 Church Conference will be held on October 22 at St. Andrew's UMC Milton. As one of the preparations for that session, our Nominations team will soon confer with the Pastor about committee staffing and changes.

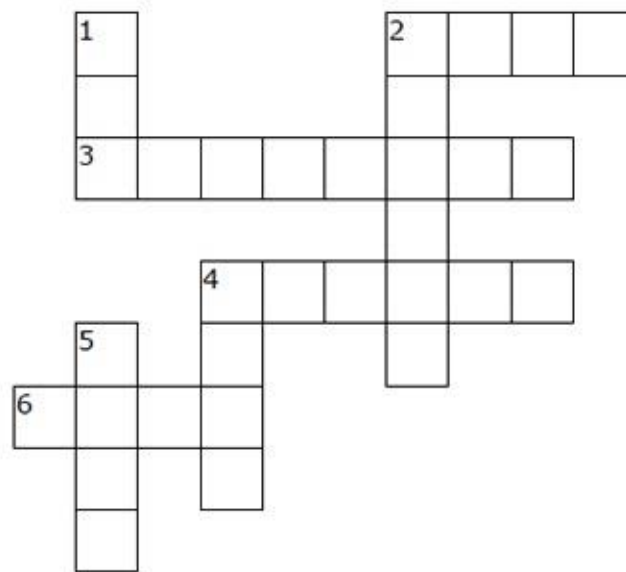
Rod Moore

Fun Page

A Neighbor's a Neighbor!

" 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' " Luke 10:27

Based on Luke 10:25-37



ACROSS

2. A pathway for vehicles, people, and animals
3. Someone who lives very near to you
4. A person who performs religious duties in the church
6. To hit someone again and again

DOWN

1. An adult male human
2. Someone who takes money or property illegally from another person
4. To feel sympathy and sorrow for the misfortune or suffering of another
5. Not living

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 BILL

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

Upper Room – Now Available

September & October

Daily Bread – Now Available

September, October, November

Announcements:**Bethany UMC Congregation: Index Card**

You will see an index card on the table in the back of the sanctuary asking for the following: 1 - Your name & address; 2 – Directions from Bethany to your residence; 3 – Your best day of the week & time of day for a Pastoral visit. Please put your finished card in the box provided. This will help the Pastor for visits. Thank you very much!

Dates to Remember:

Sept 3rd – 10:30 am – “Sharing the Table” Food donations / Communion

Sept 3rd – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

Sept 3rd – 6:00 pm – Contemporary Worship Service / Communion

Sept 4th – Labor Day (Office Closed)

Sept 5th – 7:00 pm – Traditional & Contemporary Worship Teams @ Bethany

Sept 6th – 7:00 pm – Trustees

Sept. 9th – 9 am – 4 pm – Milton Harvest Festival – Arts & Crafts

Sept 12th – 7:00 pm – PSPRC

Sept 13th – 6 pm – 9 pm – Milton Harvest Block Party (Bound Ave)

Sept 14th – 7 pm – Milton Pops Concert @ Milton High School

Sept 16th – 9 am – 4 pm – Milton Harvest Festival – Arts & Crafts

Sept 16th – 10 am – 12 pm – Senior Health Fair @ Merle Phillips Park

Sept 16th – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm – Bethany Food Stand at Parade

Sept 16th – 1:00 pm – Milton Harvest Festival Parade

Sept 19th – 6:30 pm – Finance

Sept 19th – 7:00 pm – Ad Board

Sept 28th– 6:30 pm – Planning Meeting for Community Dinners @ Christ Lutheran

Oct 7th & 14th – 9 am – 1pm – “Share the Warmth” Coat Giveaway

Oct 22nd – (TBA) – Charge Conference @ St. Andrew’s UMC

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
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

Sept
2017