

Milton's Good News

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December – “At a Glance”

December started off with a wedding, congratulations to Donald & Emily. Delicious cookies and candies were sold at the Cookie/Candy Sale. A huge thank you to all the ones who prepared the delicious treats & volunteered at the sale.

This year we had an Angel Tree and gifts were purchased for area children for the Salvation Army along with gifts for our home bound members.

Poinsettia Flowers ordered and placed at the altar. Thank you Shelly Sholley for taking care of the flowers again this year.

A Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will take place, Sunday, Dec. 24th at 7:00 pm.

“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.”
Isaiah 61:1 (NIV)

- Cheri Buss

Special points of interest:

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FAMILY
is where LIFE begins
and LOVE never ends
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Secret Prayer Pal

If you would like to be someone's secret prayer pal throughout the year of 2018; (to pray for them, send them encouraging notes & birthday cards in secret) here is how you can get involved.

End of December 2017, your Secret Prayer Pal will be revealed and for those who would like to take part in this next year for 2018, there will be a slip of paper in the back of the sanctuary to participate in, simply fill it out and place in basket. Don't forget to get your new prayer pal slip.





From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

Blessings for a blessed and wonderful New Year. My prayer for you and for all is that Christ will fill you to overflowing and his love will be the catalyst that propels Bethany into an explosion of shared faith.

To help in this event like all explosions we will need three parts to bring everything together. You will need fuel, heat, and oxygen. If any of these elements are not present then nothing will happen. But when all are present then we have a reaction known as fire. Within the next year, I plan on this church being on fire for the Lord and to facilitate a change within Milton and where ever our members may be.

For fuel, we are going to use the words of our Bibles to lead us in the direction we need to go. I know I have attended far too many seminars and teachings of man's ideas of what we as a church should be doing to have growth and impact upon the community in which we serve. What I have learned is that each one is trying to find the golden key to open the door of evangelism. What this key is called is obedience to God's word. So I am going to lead our leadership and this church into the teachings of the Bible to become the church God is calling us to be.

For heat, I am going to concentrate on preaching and teaching the truth of God as recorded in the Bible. We will start the New Year with a sermon series studying the book of the *Acts of the Apostles*. I believe if we are going to start something we should begin at the beginning. If we want to empower the church then I will use the original formula for church growth as lead by those who were committed to obedience to Christ and to the task that was set before them. That is to go out into all the world as spoken of in Matthew 28: 19 and make disciples. I believe that when we are faithful to God's words God will be faithful to us.

For oxygen, I will rely on the origin of the breath of God that blew across the earth as God created and breathed life into what was created. The Hebrew word is **Ruach Elohim** which translates to the breath of God. The Latin is **Spiritus** which translates to breath and Greek is **Pneuma** which translates into wind or spirit. The term also used in English is the **Holy Ghost**. So by what powered the beginning of creation, the spoken word of God, the breath of God we will call to create in us a newness, a rebirth of the power of God to transform us into the church we are called to be. Remembering our first love of Christ and a renewing of the church to change the world.

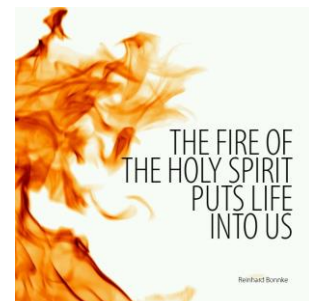
This will be our theme, our vision, and our mission for Bethany. ***"Renewing the church, to change the world"***. I have believed for a long time that what is the call of the followers of God is to be a difference in society to point toward the one true God. But I believe also that the world has become so polluted with evil, that it has changed the church. It is the time we take back what was taken from us and reclaim it by becoming the church of power and of the Spirit of God starting a fire in us that spreads to where ever we are.

The time is now for tomorrow may be too late!

Matthew 3:11

Receive the Fire,

Pastor Bill



Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, December 5th. Here are January's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. To reach out to the unchurched the Traditional Worship Service will now be referred to as: Gathering of the Family of God.

Sunday School will now be referred to as: Lessons for Life.

January 7th – (Baptism of the Lord) - Spirit Song (347); Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know (163); All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (154); Psalm 72:1-7 (795); Acts 1:4-9; “Revealed”; **Communion**

January 14th – Open My Eyes, That I May See (454); Shall We Gather at the River (723); Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (402); Psalm 139:1-6 (854); Acts 2:36-41; “Baptized”

January 21st – Blessed Assurance (369); Trust and Obey (467); To God Be the Glory (98); Psalm 62:5-12 (787); Acts 3:24-26; “Foretold”

January 28th – There's Something About That Name (171); His Name Is Wonderful (174); Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus (514); Psalm 111 (832); Acts 4:8-12; “Rejected”

Worship Team “Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song” Report

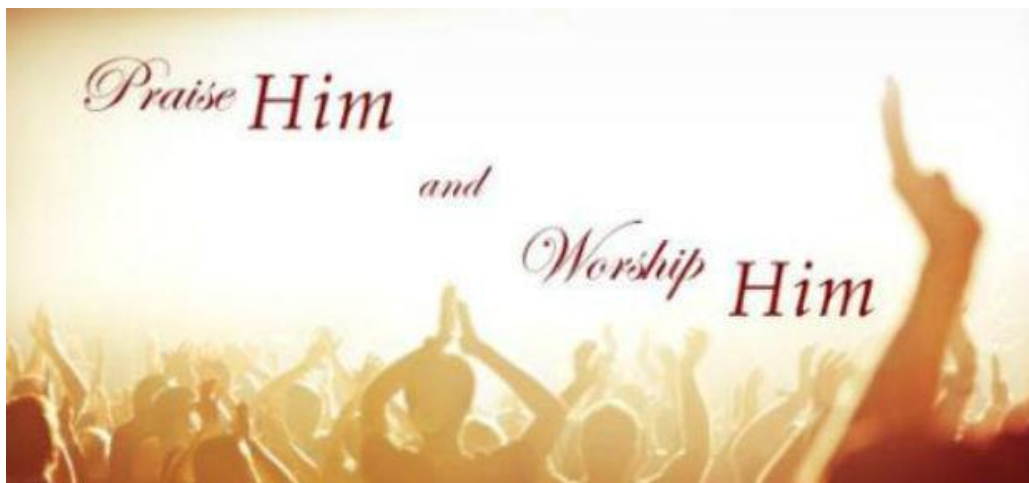
The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, December 5th. Here are January's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. To reach out to the unchurched the Contemporary Worship Service will now be referred to as: Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song.

January 7th – Holy Spirit; Famous One, Spirit Speaks, Hear the Sound; Acts 1:4-9; “Revealed”; **Communion**

January 14th – All the People Said Amen; Washed By the Water; Oceans; Your Grace is Enough; Acts 2:36-41; “Baptized”

January 21st – Word of God, Speak; Indescribable; Breathe; Your Love is All Around; Acts 3:24-26; “Foretold”

January 28th – Above All; Cornerstone, How Can It Be; Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone); Acts 4:8-12; “Rejected”



"Sharing the Table"



"Sharing the Table" 2018 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: January 7th / February 4th / March 4th / April 1st

Missions/Outreach Committee...

Milton Panther Packs Program (Mission: Monthly)

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, February 11th at 5:00 pm**. Watch for the sign up sheet in the back of the sanctuary. Location: Christ Evan Lutheran Church. Community Dinners to feed low income people in need.

Planning Meeting for the Community Dinners will be held on Thursday, February 1st at 6:30 pm at the Christ Evan Lutheran Church on Mahoning St, Milton PA.

Milton Community Harvest Dinners (St. Andrew's UMC)

Bethany will be help serve at the Milton Community Harvest Dinner on **Monday, January 29th 2018** at 4:45 pm. Watch for the sign up sheet in the back of the sanctuary to help serve. Dinner starts at 5:00 pm.

Upcoming 2018 Dates for Bethany to help serve for the Milton Community Harvest Dinners at St. Andrew's UMC, Milton PA: January 29th, March 5th, April 16th, and May 14th.

Bishops Walk/Run...

Rev. Larry L. Leland, Jr., District Superintendent is looking for volunteers for a planning team for the Bishop's Walk/Run for Missions scheduled on May 5, 2018. Anyone interested please let Pastor Bill know, you can reach him by phone (570) 742-9796 or email at pastorbill@gmail.com.

2018 Altar Flower Sign Up Chart....

The 2018 Altar Flower Sign Up Chart is now up and you can sign up for the Sundays you wish to put in Altar Flowers. You can contact one of the florists; Charlene's Petal Talk, 200 N Arch St, Milton at 570-490-9597 or Enterline's Flowers, Queen St, Milton at 570-742-9783 or use one of the silk flowers from our church. **Please let the Administrative Assistant** know what you wish for the bulletin and also what flowers you be using (Florist you called or silk flowers).



Recycling Note

When placing plastic water, tea, soda, etc. bottles in the recycling bins, please be mindful that the bottle caps/tops are **not** recyclable and must be removed and disposed of prior to placing them in the bins.

-Thank you



Milton's Good News

Ad Board Report

Due to Ad Board not meeting in December there is no report. Next Ad Board meeting is scheduled Tuesday, January 16th at 7:00 pm. Finance will meet at 6:30 pm on January 16th.

Trustees' Report.....

Nothing new to report for Trustee's. If something comes up a meeting will be called after worship service or at some other time.

- Jamie Aurand

Church Cancellation ? / Tune into WGRC 91.3

Due to unpredicted weather patterns of winter storms, please have your radio tuned into WGRC 91.3 to find out if church services would be canceled due to winter weather. Thank You!



Lay Leader's Report

The Bethany organ was tuned on December 12, restoring its tonal accuracies and magnificent sound qualities to peak condition in advance of winter season.

Bethany hosted the wedding of Donald Ross and Emily Fetterolf on December 2, the ceremony taking place in the special atmosphere of our Advent-decorated sanctuary. The presence of our full array of candles, wreaths, and garlands made the occasion extra beautiful and all the more memorable for our guests that day and gave us great satisfaction in the providing.

There have been no questions or comments about our recent change in the method of administering Holy Communion, whereby we've gone to intinction rather than separate elements. We have taken the absence of parishioner feedback as a general acceptance of the new procedure, although we certainly remain open to discussion about it.

We were able to take our latest donations of Panther Pack fruit cups to St. Andrew's UMC in time for their early December packing party, thus doing our part to help them serve the greatest possible number of children before the long Christmas school holiday stretch. And I take this opportunity to pass along to you, the readers of this copy, the great thanks of the program organizers for your faithful attention to this very effective community service.

In that same vein of compassionate giving, we responded beautifully to the Salvation Army Christmas Tree Angel Tags by which our members could provide gifts to the children of some of the more needful families in this area. And we brought a lot of joy to our home-bound members through our Christmastime Bethany Tag effort. And on both counts, yet more thanks are due to you, the members of this great church.

Bethany UMC Current Expense (Nov): 2017

ENVELOPE INCOME TO DATE---2017

November	5	\$1,256.00	\$30.00		\$1,286.00	\$33,794.00
	12	\$512.00	\$30.00		\$542.00	\$34,336.00
	19	\$557.00	\$20.00		\$577.00	\$34,913.00
	26	\$1,196.00			\$1,196.00	\$36,109.00

PLATE INCOME TO DATE---2017

November	5	\$77.00			\$77.00	\$4,104.57
	12	\$60.00			\$60.00	\$4,164.57
	19	\$79.00			\$79.00	\$4,243.57
	26	\$131.00			\$131.00	\$4,374.57

Sunday School Income To Date---2017

November	5	\$14.00			\$14.00	\$385.95
	12	\$6.95			\$6.95	\$392.90
	19	\$12.00			\$12.00	\$404.90
	26	\$13.00			\$13.00	\$417.90

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2017

Fire & Ice Fund						
11/05/17----\$3,100.00						
11/26/17----\$75.00						
Gideons International Offering						
11/19/17----\$61.00						

Bethany UMC Special UM Sunday Contributions 2017

United Methodist Student Day---11/26/2017						
11/26/17-----\$222.00						

Thank You Notes.....

Dear Bethany Friends in Mission: Thank you for your generous gift for \$5,315.00 for the recently several Hurricanes hit the US and Caribbean. - Grace & Peace UMCOR The Advance

Dear Bethany UMC: I want to thank you all for your prayers & cards for myself and family during our losses of family members. God bless you all!. Cheri Buss

2018 Changes....

2018 New Mission / Vision Statement for Bethany

"Renewing the church to change the world" will be Bethany's UMC new mission / vision statement starting in 2018.

Altar Stewards

Starting in 2018 the Altar Stewards will take on the responsibilities & duties of the Communion Steward, due to the small amount of people. The Altar Steward would prepare for communion; bread & juice on the 1st Sunday's of each month.

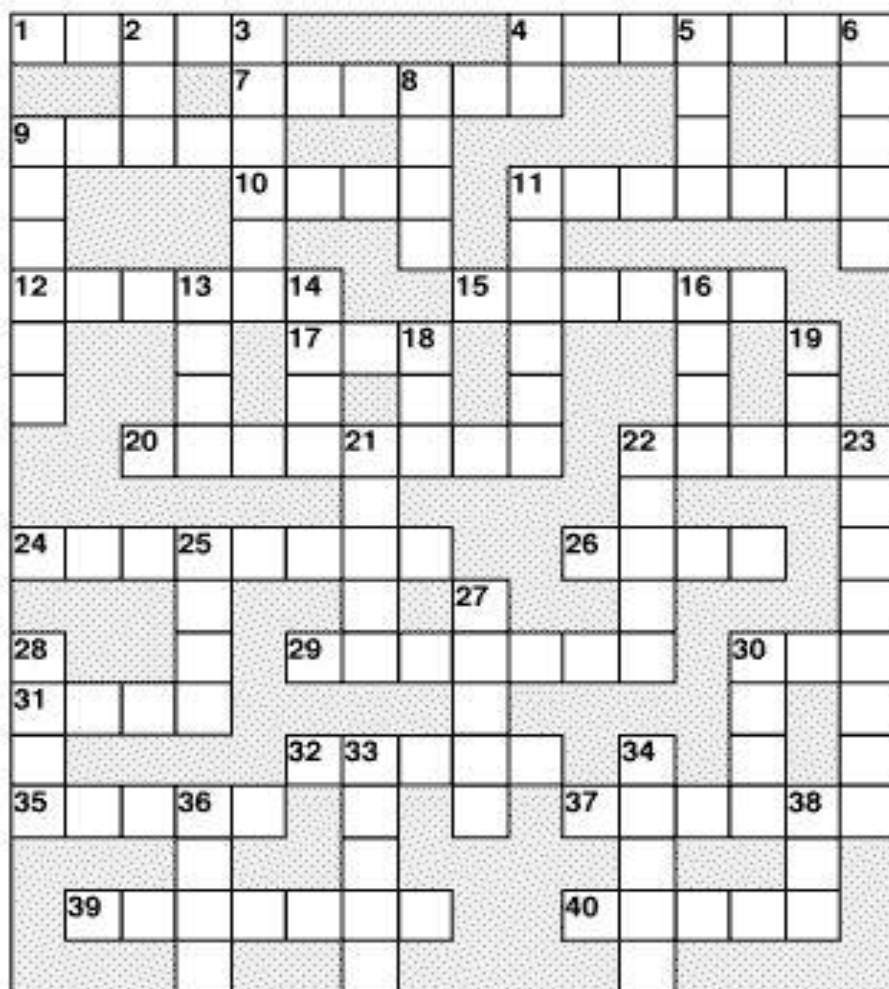
N.O.W. (Nurture, Outreach & Witness)

Starting in 2018 the Congregational Life, Christian Ed and Missions/Outreach will be all under a N.O.W. Committee (Nurture, Outreach & Witness). This committee will meet quarterly throughout the year. A meeting will take place on **Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00 pm.**

Fun Page



Winter Crossword

**Down:**

- 2. Frozen water
- 3. Small
- 4. Myself
- 5. Small pie
- 6. Neck warmer
- 8. Chilly
- 9. Used to move snow
- 11. A season
- 13. Strong emotion
- 14. Ripped
- 16. Nil
- 18. Bath _____
- 19. Cloud of water vapour
- 21. Last month of winter
- 22. Wooden snow vehicles
- 23. Winter road condition
- 25. Be carried on
- 27. Locomotive
- 28. Carried along by wind
- 30. Piece of hockey equipment
- 33. Make this in the snow
- 34. Winter foot wear
- 36. Faucets can do this
- 38. You hear with this

Across:

- 1. Sudden cold breeze
- 4. Hand warmers
- 7. Hanging spike of ice
- 9. Freezing rain
- 10. Show and _____
- 11. Conditions outside
- 12. Flowering plant, colour
- 15. Achoo
- 17. Not in
- 20. Month of winter
- 22. Carols, etc.
- 24. Valentine month
- 26. Thaw
- 29. Keeps drinks warm
- 30. Small dog
- 31. Winter Olympic sport
- 32. Silky material
- 35. Breezy
- 37. Ice sport
- 39. Foot warmer
- 40. Direct a vehicle's course



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: 10:30 am
Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song: 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

January & February
2018

Announcements:**Dates to Remember:**

[Note: No regular scheduled Trustees & PSPRC Meeting for this month of January]

Jan 1st – New Years Day...(Office closed)

Jan 2nd – 7:00 pm –Worship Teams Meeting

Jan 7th - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / “Sharing the Table” Communion

Jan 7th – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

Jan 7th – 6:00 pm –Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song / Communion

Jan 9th - 7:00 pm – N.O.W. (Cong. Life, Christian Ed, Missions/Outreach

Jan 14th (Both Services) Human Relations Day – Special Offering)

Jan 16th – 6:30 pm - Finance

Jan 16th – 7:00 pm – Ad Board

Jan 29th -4:45 pm – Milton Harvest Community Dinner at St. Andrew's

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: 10:30 am every Sunday morning.

Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song: 6:00 pm every Sunday evening.



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

Jan.
2018