

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



Volume 8, Issue 6

June 2021

# Milton's Good News

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Pastor Bill	2
Worship Schedule	3
Leadership Team	3
N.O.W. Here This!	4
Trustees Report	6
Announcements	8

## May – "At a Glance"

Looking back in May for Bethany, we started off with National Day of Prayer. Continued Leadership meetings with Poole & Anderson took place. Construction team onsite, roof completed and major work inside being done.

Farewell & Retirement Luncheon was held for Pastor Bill & Janet at Country Cupboard. It was such a great honor to work with you both and will truly miss you! Blessings and best wishes to Pastor Bill & Janet!

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8 NIV)*

Cheri Buss

## Special points of interest:

- "At a Glance" (pg 1)
- Honoring Our Graduates (pg 1)
- Leadership Reports (pg 2)
- Farewell Retirement Luncheon (pg 3)
- Food Items for the Allshouse Family (pg 3)
- Community Meals (pg 4)
- Secret Prayer Pal Update (pg 4)
- Watch The Messages (pg 4)
- Wooden Crosses (pg 4)
- Hoagie/Pizza Fundraiser (pg 4)
- Financial Stats (pg 5)
- Bethany Fire Update (pg 6)
- Thank You Note (pg 6)
- Our Prayer List (pg 6)
- Fun Page (pg 7)

## Honoring Our Graduates.....

**Megan Snyder**, (daughter of Amy Snyder & grandmother of Linn Chesney); graduated from Lycoming College with a Fine Arts degree and an Art PreK-12 certification. Currently, Megan plans to sub while looking for a permanent Art Teaching position.

**Caitlin Lowe**, (Amy's fiancée, Steve Lowes's daughter & grandmother of Linn Chesney); graduated from Luzerne Community College with a Nursing degree.

**Andrew Fox**, (daughter of Karen & Brian Fox & grandmother of Linn Chesney); graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a Doctorate in Chemical Engineering.

**Michael Fox**, (daughter of Karen & Brian Fox & grandmother of Linn Chesney); graduated from Slippery Rock with a degree in Health & Physical Education.

We wish you all best wishes and a place where you can shine your knowledge, gifts, and talents.

**Congrats and well done!**





## From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,



It is with a feeling of sadness and of accomplishment that I start to write my last article from the Pastor's Study. Twenty-one years ago, I wrote my first newsletter article and never at that time thought I would someday be writing my last article.

But that time has come and the reality of retirement is becoming more real as the days wind down. Along with the packing and all of the paperwork of retirement I am thinking about what have I accomplished with the time God has given me in pastoral ministry. There are some areas I am proud of, there are some that I did not get done what I wanted and there were some that just plain fell on the floor and went nowhere. But throughout I tried very hard to follow where God was telling me where to go and what to do.

Throughout my life I have found that people, that God has placed in my life have helped me in my ministry either by being the voice of encouragement, reasoning, or the voice of opposition but all have made me what I am. I have smelled the roses and I have felt the thorns and have learned from all.

My time here at Milton though short has been one seeing God's call and a time of growth in myself and in the Spiritual body of the church. A time well spent with friendship and fellowship.

In my other churches when I would leave I would preach from the Book of John the first chapter and verses 22 thru 27. "Finally, they said, 'Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?'" John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, I am the voice of one calling in the desert, Make straight the way for the Lord. Now some Pharisees who had been sent questioned him, why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet? I baptize with water, John replied, but among you stands one you do not know. He is the one who comes after me, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie." I like John was never called to be the savior I am just one pointing the way to the savior. In all that I have done I know that I am not perfect and never try to imitate me, you can use me as an example of what to do and of what not to do. I know that God has called me as a servant and I pray I was obedient to that calling. But I also know I am human and prone to human mistakes.

I also pray that through me or despite me you have grown in your faith and with your walk with Christ. So now I leave you with the Lord's blessing as recorded in Numbers Six verses 24 thru 26; "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

May the Lord's peace, joy, grace, and mercy go with you now and forevermore, until we meet again, Amen!

Psalm 121  
Know Hope,

*Pastor Bill*

**May the Lord  
Bless you and  
Protect you.**  
Numbers 6:24



**Growing Up In Your Faith**



## Leadership Reports...

All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For June they are due: Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Bill at [pastorbill@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbill@gmail.com). Thank You!

## Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

Here are June's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles. [The songs have been scheduled throughout June 2021.] **In person worship is back again, which will be held at West Milton UMC at 11:00 am (Use masks & keep safety guidelines). Sermons will also be posted on the website and Facebook.**

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** - Open My Eyes, That I May See (454); Since Jesus Came into My Heart (2140); Let There Be Peace on Earth (431); Psalm 138; Revelation 21:1-27; “New Jerusalem”

**June 13<sup>th</sup> – (Pastor Bill's Final Sermon)** - Hymn of Promise (707); Since Jesus Came into My Heart (2140); God Be with You till We Meet Again (672); Psalm 20; Revelation 22:1-21; “Coming”

**June 20<sup>th</sup> (Father's Day)** – Be Still, My Soul (534); All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (155); Blessed Assurance (369); Psalm 40:1-3; Isaiah 6:8; “Callings” – Message by Roderic Moore, Lay Leader

**June 27<sup>th</sup>** – In the Garden (314); Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (89); Onward, Christian Soldiers (575); Psalm 8; “Positivity” – Message by Gary Anspach, Certified Lay Speaker

## Leadership Team Report

There was poignancy in the air at the Team's May meeting, as Pastor Bill shared some of his many thoughts about the time he spent with us and on leaving for retirement. He gave us four wonderful years as our Pastor, our friend, and our leader in things both spiritual and practical --in the process selflessly devoting inordinate amounts of his precious time to overseeing the post-fire rebirth of Bethany and preaching for us well beyond the expected time of his appointment. Pastor Bill, like anyone who leaves such a position of loving responsibility and dedication to spiritual caretaking, has his thought about his time with us and his hopes and dreams for our future. His parting inspiration from Scripture, given to us as the Leadership Team but applicable to the entire Bethany membership, is the Aaronic Benediction from Numbers 6 – **“The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance to you, and give you peace.”** We each have a calling to follow Christ, as we're appointed priests in His name and under His guidance. Having heard and answered those calls, we have long since become responsible for the ways we answer and act upon them. And that goes on. And on. Thank you, Pastor McNeal, for everything. We'll miss you dearly, but we'll go on. And on. And we'll always remember why.

The Team voted to proceed with shifting the church's remaining Hudock-Moyer Fire Fund assets to the Fire Fund account at Milton Savings Bank. It's come to the point where we consider it better to consolidate all our fire fund money into the local bank, as it has been the better interest-earner lately – plus, doing so stands to facilitate the payment of our fire- related obligations.

We are interested in hiring newly graduated arts major and honoree Megan Snyder to do some artistic work of her choosing on the walls of the new Bethany nursery. Bob moved, Jim seconded, and the Team voted unanimously to pursue this, with the idea that the church would support the endeavor to the extent of \$1,000.

Rod Moore

## Meals / Items for Pastor Travis & Family

### Pastor's Pantry



We would like to provide some meals and food items for Pastor Travis & family, when they move into the parsonage on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Please see the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary and bring in your items to the church office on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> by Noon.

Some suggestions: Bottle water, milk/juice, lunch meat, bread/rolls, eggs, macaroni / potato salad, Bar-B-Q, Mac and cheese, or gift cards (Weis, Walmart or restaurants).

## 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 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: June 6<sup>th</sup> / July 4<sup>th</sup>**

### **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 (Milton Parish Christ Evan Lutheran)**

Re-launching on **June 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**, the Community Dinner Ministry on a drive-up/walk-up basis operating once again out of Milton Lutheran Parish's Christ Evangelical Lutheran facility and also planning a drop-off delivery service for Milton Towers!!! The Community Meal we will be serving Chicken Corn Soup, salad, rolls, crackers, and dessert. **Bethany UMC will be supplying the Salad and dressing packets.** We will need people to cook, package the foods into servings and then into bags, run them out to the guests, and if all goes well, transport a bulk delivery of meals to Milton Towers, and of course, clean up.

## Secret Prayer Pal – Update



**Please keep the same Secret Prayer Pal you had for 2020** and we will draw new ones in July 2021. End of June 2021, your Secret Prayer Pal will be revealed and for those who would like to take part, in June 2021 there will be a slip of paper in the back of the sanctuary to participate in, simply fill it out and place in basket. Watch for more information. Forms will be available in your bulletin or by calling the church office (570-742-9796).

## Wooden Prayer Crosses....



Eli Manges (Poole Anderson crew member), Eli's father, Nathaniel Manges made these wooden prayer crosses out of one of our old pews. If you would like one, please come into the office (Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 9am – 12:30 pm), to get one while supplies last.

We thanked Nathaniel & Eli and for what a wonderful gift this was to Bethany!

## Hoagie / Pizza Fundraiser for Todd Hauck



Purchase \$6.00 hoagie and/or \$8.00 12" pizza coupons to help with expenses for Todd Hauck. Come to the church office to purchase your coupons and then redeem them at The Breaking Bread Sub Shop on 281 Hepburn St, Milton PA (Corner of Turbot & Hepburn) for your hoagie and/or pizza. Half the proceeds will go to Todd Hauck. Coupons are good until the end of June 2021.

**[Coupons are here in the office or on Sunday's Service at West Milton UMC]**  
Thank You for your support!

## Bethany UMC Current Expense Income April 2021 Reports:

	2021 Butler Trust Contributions			
Month	Date	Curr. Exp.	Total	YTD
January	10	2625	2625	2625
April	4	2200	2200	4825

	2021 Offering Envelopes					
Month	Date	Curr. Exp.	Price Fund	Reno	Total	YTD
April	4	1264	20		1284	11346
	11					11346
	18	1542	35		1577	12923
	25					12923

	2021 Plate Offering					
Month	Date	Curr. Exp.	Price Fund	Reno	Total	YTD
April	4	1264	20		1284	11346
	11					11346
	18	1542	35		1577	12923
	25					12923

	2021 UMC Special Sundays			
Month	Date	Curr. Exp.	Total	YTD
April				
Native American Ministries Sunday	18	3	3	3143

\*\*YTD total= Funds Rec'd for all Special Sundays thus far

	2021 Miscellaneous Income			YTD
April				
Lenten Offering (\$180.00), Hauck Fundraiser (\$100.00)	4	280	280	5803.98
	11			5803.98
Our Daily Bread Offering (\$22.00)	18	22	22	5825.98

\*\*YTD total=All Miscellaneous Income Rec'd thus far

	2021 Fire Restoration Fund			
Month	Date	Reno	Total	YTD
April	4	50	50	3765
	11			3765
	18	475	475	4240
	25			4240



## Finance Report (April Current Expenses In &amp; Out):

Total Income Received: \$5,473

Total Expenses Paid Out: \$16,859

Average Attendance: 21



## Bethany Fire Update: (Follow building progress on FaceBook & Website)



Inside drywall being installed, primer painting on walls, plumbing, electrical work being done.

Total Income Received (April): \$675 / Balance: \$860,518

Total Expenses Paid Out (April): \$643,725



## Trustees Report

The Treasurer has projected we'll need approximately \$20,000 to meet our current expense obligations for May and June. Therefore, \$10,000 was transferred from our investments to the checking account the week of May 10 and has scheduled the other \$10,000 to be transferred the week of June 7.

We continue to plan and prepare for the parsonage changeover from the McNeals to the Allshouse family. The roof and gutters will be replaced by the end of May. Although we don't have a definitive date, Carpetman has assured us the new flooring in the laundry room and one of the bathrooms will be installed prior to the McNeals moving date. Servpro will perform a thorough cleaning, shampoo the carpets, clean the ductwork and perform a disinfectant fogging while the house is empty.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

## Thank You Note...



Dear Bethany UMC, I wanted to again express my gratitude for allowing the Gideons to present their ministry to your body of believers. Also, I once heard of a church in Milton that had a fire. Little did I know that some time later I would have the opportunity to worship with that body of believers. It's my prayer that you might soon be restored to a healthy body in your own beautiful building and able to bring the truth to those in the Milton Community, a truth free of corruptible world, that modern – day Babylon, that your pastor so effectively spoke about on May 16. (2) Bibles donated in honor of Bethany UMC, will be distributed. – Jim & Candace Benner / Gideons

## Our Prayer List.....

Transition of new appointed pastor & family for July: Pastor Travis & Jessica Allshouse

Transition for Pastor Bill & Janet for their journey into retirement.

Florence Y – Cancer/Health, in Bloomsburg rehab & Thomas Y – Health / Afib

Cindy M – Cindy's cancer treatments / Health

Jeff S (Jamie's nephew) – Health / diabetes

Richard W – Health

Judy C - Health

Patti & Bill S - Health

Terrie & Todd H – Health / Continue prayers for recovery.

Sarah H –Future long-term care needs.

Katy M – Health / Kidney

Terry Miller Family – Terry passed away.

Rita Prenestes Family – Rita passed away

Jeff B - Depression

Graduates

Those dealing with Cancer – Cindy, Florence, Thomas, Dan, Mandy, Terrie, Gary, David, Rita, Doug, Debbie, Shirley

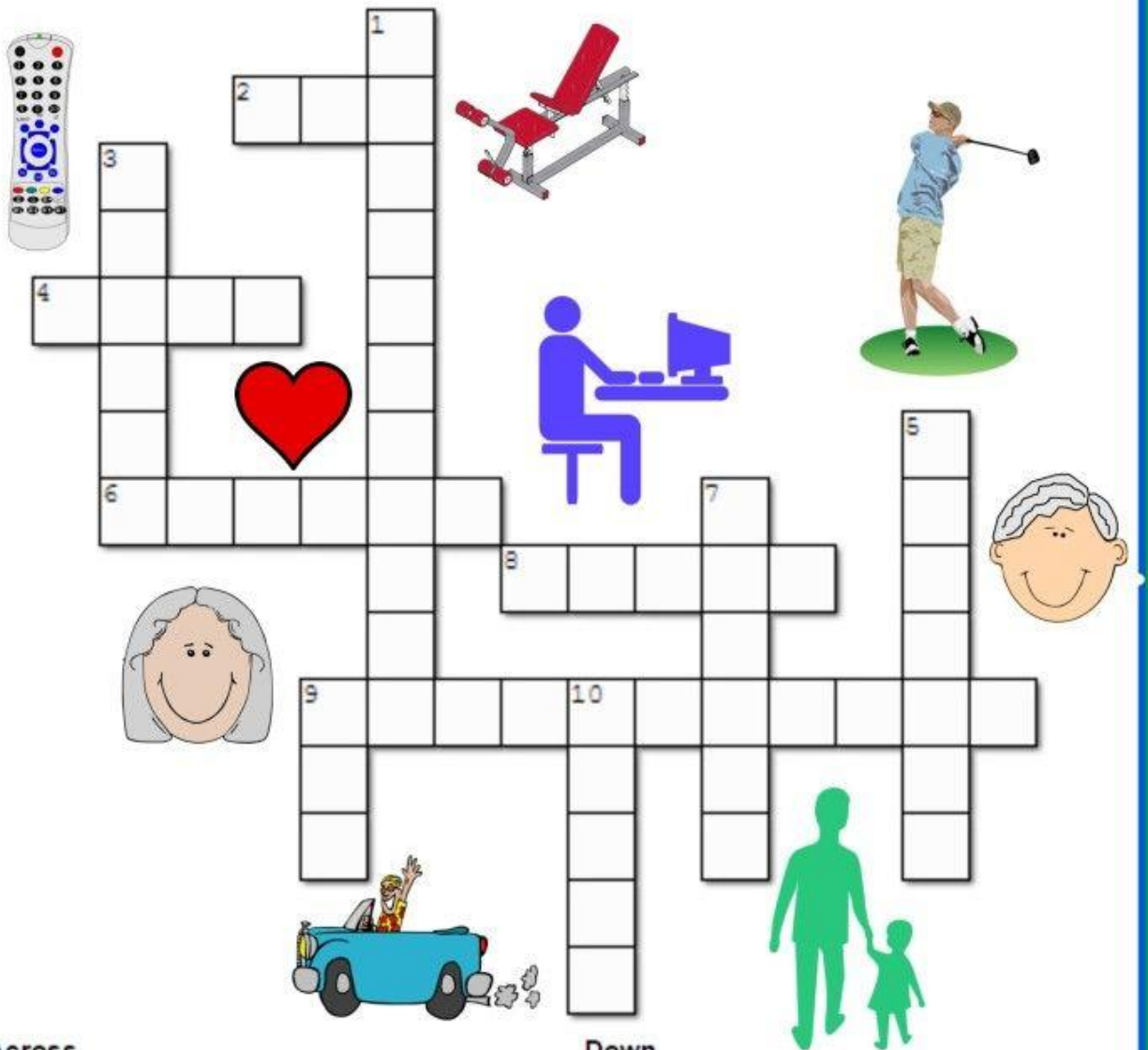
Bethany Congregation / Restoration & reopening business / Churches.

Leadership Team: Cindy. James A. Rod. Shelly. Bob F. James M. Dick K. Dave W. Mike L. Dorothy. Pastor Bill.



## Fun Page

# Father's Day Crossword Puzzle



## Across

2. Dad drives me to school in his \_\_\_\_.
4. My dad goes to \_\_\_\_ every day from 9am to 5pm.
6. My dad loves to watch \_\_\_\_ on TV.
8. I love my daddy and my daddy \_\_\_\_ me.
9. My dad's mom is my \_\_\_\_.

## Down

1. My dad's dad is my \_\_\_\_.
3. When I misbehave my dad \_\_\_\_ me.
5. If I am in danger my father will \_\_\_\_ me.
7. When we watch TV my daddy hogs the \_\_\_\_.
9. My father likes to work out at the \_\_\_\_.
10. Another name for father.

**BETHANY UMC**

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

[bethany18coffice@gmail.com](mailto:bethany18coffice@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[bethanyumc-miltonpa.org](http://bethanyumc-miltonpa.org)

**Sunday Worship:**

[Held at West Milton UMC  
310 High St  
West Milton PA]

Gathering of the Family of God: 11:00 am

**PASTOR BILL**

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

**Upper Room – Now Available**

May / June

**Daily Bread – Now Available**

May / June / July

**Announcements:****Dates to Remember:**

[We will not be meeting for Lesson for Life (Sunday School) until further notice.]

**[Pastor Bill will be out of the office: May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 5<sup>th</sup>]**

**May 27<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am - Leadership Team W Poole Anderson**

**May 30<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am – Trinity Sunday (Peace with Justice – Special Offering)**

**May 31<sup>st</sup> – Happy Memorial Day (Office Closed)**

**June 6<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am – Gathering of the Family of God**

**“Sharing the Table” Panther Packs / Communion**

**June 6<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion**

**June 7<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Bill & Janet move to their new home – Best wishes!**

**June 10<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Leadership Team W Poole Anderson**

**June 11<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Travis Family moves into parsonage – Welcome!**

**June 13<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 pm – Committee Diner (Pick-up / Walk-up) @ Christ Evan Lutheran**

**June 15<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Ad Board / Finance) @ West Milton UMC**

**June 20<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am – Happy Father's Day**

**June 21<sup>st</sup> – 9:00 am – Pastor's Cluster Meeting @ Perkins**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am - Leadership Team W Poole Anderson**

***Gathering of the Family of God: 11:00 am every Sunday morning.***



**Sunday, June 20, 2021**

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



**BETHANY UMC OFFICE**  
**18 CENTER ST**  
**MILTON, PA 17847**

June  
2021