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



Volume 6, Issue 4 **April 2019**

Milton's Good News

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March - "At a Glance"

Looking back on March for Bethany, starting off with Bethany helped served at the Milton Harvest Meal at St. Andrew's and Bethany UMC held a Free St Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner and Free movie night, showing the film "Miracles from Heaven". (Which was opened to the public with a great turnout). Thank You to all who helped in these ministries. Soup & The Word began to kick off Lent and Bethany to serve on March 27th.



Pastor Bill from the St Patrick's Dinner

AND

"He is not here; he has **risen**, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:6 (NIV) Cheri Buss

Soup & The Word

Soup & The Word Wednesday Weekly Lenten Luncheons First Presbyterian Church

47 Walnut Street, Milton PA

Begins Wednesday, March 13th at Noon

For many years now, the churches of Milton have come together during Lent to provide both physical and spiritual food for the flock. This year, the luncheon meetings will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Milton, located at 47 Walnut St., with a large parking lot on Upper Market St. behind the church.

Date	Speaker	Soup provided by:
March 27	Pastor Bill McNeal	Bethany UMC
April 3	Pastor Doug Diven	HandUp
April 10	Pastor Don Sharp	Community Mennonite
April 17	Pastor Jill Bond	Revival Tabernacle

Easter and Holy Week

This Easter Season, Holy Week Services will begin:

Sunday, April 14th at 10:15 am - Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service HOLY WEEK

Friday, April 19th at 7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 20th from Noon to 6:00 pm - Easter Prayer Vigil

(Pray at home or in the church)

EASTER

Sunday, April 21st at 6:30 a.m. - Easter Sunrise Service @ Parsonage [Following this service will be an Easter fellowship breakfast @ Parsonage]

Sunday, April 21st at 10:15 a.m. – Easter Service - Gathering of the Family of God Service



Greetings to all,

In the wake of the special conference to establish the standard by which United Methodist will follow there has been much said, there has been much written, and much misunderstanding.

If anyone had a doubt I believe in the sanctity of the Bible and the wording of the Book of Discipline (BOD) as a standard to live by. I am finding out there are many within our denomination who say they cannot abide by these archaic words. This is a new day and we need to adapt to the changes that surround us.

What I feel and believe that yes we are living in a new world but that does not mean we need to forget the truth and find a new understanding of Biblical truth. If this is so I did not receive the memo so until I do I will follow the last order until a new order is given.

There has also been much discussion as to the hatred of those who have viewed the Traditional Plan as a direction in which the church should go. They voice how hateful it is against anyone who is not just like those who follow this course. We are called homophobic and narrow in our view. If that is the case then I will say narrow is the way into heaven.

Several years I took the stand that it is not what I am for it is what I am against. I am against the idea that we hate those not like us and are driving them away. The fact is I love them enough to offer to them the grace of Christ for salvation.

What I am against is blessing those who are living in sin. This goes across the board as is not tied to just one sin or one individual group. When Jesus spoke in Matthew 5: 17-20 I believe it is clear that the Levitical laws were not replaced but what Jesus offered was grace and forgiveness to overcome our sinfulness.

I also know I am not the final judge, as a matter of fact, I am not to judge anyone, but I can love someone enough to bring them to Christ for his advice.

I have been asked where do we go from here? If you listen to those around there is much talk of schism and a start of a new order of Methodism. I can only base my beliefs on who is it we are following? The ideas of the new generation and leading of Post Modernism or a Biblical understanding of interpretation as our understanding.

In many ways, history will be our judge as to which way is correct. For me and my house, we will follow Christ as he will have the final word. I will leave you with a statement that made at the conference when one of the delegates state "Better division on truth the unity in a lie."

Malachi 3:6-7 Return to me

Pastor Bíll



Leadership Reports...

All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For April they are due: Sunday, April 14**th. You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Bill at <u>pastorbill@gmail.com</u>. Thank You!

Noah – April 9th, 11th & 13th, 2019.

Let us all pick a date and go as a church group to see Noah at the AMC Theater (Susquehanna Valley Mall-Selinsgrove). Tickets \$12.50 Each

<u>Show Dates/Times:</u> Tuesday, April 9th at 2:30 pm & 6:30 pm Thursday, April 11th at 6:30 pm Saturday, April 13th at 12:55 pm

Worship Team "Gathering of the Family of God" Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, March 5th. Here are April's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

April 7th (5th Sunday in Lent) – Have Thine Own Way, Lord (382); Sanctuary (2164); Only Trust Him (337); Psalm 126; Luke 13:6-9; *"Fruit*"; Communion

April 14th (Palm Sunday) – I Stand Amazed in the Presence (371); Sanctuary (2164); What Wondrous Love Is This (292); Palm 118:19-29; Luke 14:15-24; *"Banquet"*

April 18th (Maundy Thursday) 7:00 pm – Were You There (288); Let Us Break Bread Together (618); I Love You, Lord (2068); Psalm 116:1-4; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; *"Feast"*

April 19th (Good Friday) 7:00 pm – Alas and Did My Savior Bleed (359); When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (298); Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (301); Psalm 22:1-8; Hebrews 10:19-25; *"Offering"*

April 21st (Easter Sunrise Service) 6:30 am – In the Garden (314); He Lives (310); Because He Lives (364); Luke 24:1-12; *"At the Tomb"*

April 21st (Easter Service) 10:15 am – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (302); Sanctuary (2164); Up from the Grave He Arose (322); Psalm 118:1-7; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; *"Easter Sunday"*

April 28th (2nd Sunday after Easter) – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (139); Sanctuary (2164); Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (348); Psalm 150; Luke 15:1-7; *"Lost Sheep"*

Lay Leader's Report

I completed the first of my four six-week on-line courses in spiritual formation (BeADisciple.com IFDC-220, entitled "Spiritual Disciplines for Personal and Parish Renewal), having posted my final submission to the leader on March 6. I was one of 14 students from around the country, and once the last of our weekly papers gets graded and the whole body of each person's work over the length of IFDC-220 is put together and evaluated, we'll all be told how we did.

The next course in the spiritual formation series, IFDC-210 entitled "Teaching Biblical Faith for Spiritual Formation", is set to begin on March 11 and run through April 26 (with a break for holy Week). I had said earlier that personal considerations would prevent me from taking part in the 210 course, but I since recanted and enrolled in it anyway. It, too, will be a six-week on-line course, and I've already obtained the three textbooks for it.

021919-030919

Rod Moore

Welcome of Bethany's New Sexton...

Bethany UMC welcomes our new Sexton, Josie Stevenson. Josie began working for Bethany UMC on March 18th, 2019.

Josie has been a resident of Milton since 1996 and moved from Tallahassee Florida with her 2 sons; Andrew & Allen. Josie is original from Guam.

Easter Flowers.....

A ST

Easter flowers will be Lilies at \$9.00/Each and Hyacinths at \$8.00/Each

Please give your order with money to Shelly Sholley (Flower forms are in the back of the sanctuary) Deadline for ordering and money: **Sunday, April 7, 2019**

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N.O.W. Hear This!..... N.O.W. Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

"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: April 7th / May 5th.

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

There will be a Milton Harvest Community Dinner on Monday, April 1st, 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.

(Next Milton Harvest Community Dinners that Bethany will be serving are: May 13th, and June 3rd.)

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

There will be a Community Dinner on a Sunday, April 14th, 2019 at 5:00 pm. Bethany is to provide 14 large jars of Applesauce. Also need Set-up volunteers (3:00 pm) and Servers at (4:45 pm). Dinner starts at 5:00 pm. Please sign up!.



"Washed Clean Kits"

Movie Night

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.



Free Movie Night will be held on April 28th at 6:00 pm with the showing of "An Interview with God"



Refreshment will be provided, invite your family & friends! All are welcome!

Easter Prayer Vigil



Bethany UMC is having an Easter Prayer Vigil on Saturday, April 20th, 2019 from Noon to 6:00 pm. Bethany will be open that day for the vigil but members may also choose to pray at home during their selected timeslots. Please sign up on the form located in the back of the sanctuary.

Easter Basket Giveaway



Easter Basket Candy Giveaway will be on April 10th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm., at HandUp. Please bring in candy with suggestions like; marshmallow peeps, chocolate candies (nut-variety ok), Tootsie rolls, animal crackers, goldfish or whales, lollipops, small toys, but PLEASE WE DO NOT NEED JELLY BEANS. Also need volunteers for distribution (April 10th) from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm, at HandUp. Please sign up to help! Thank You!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be the week of June 17th through 21st, from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm at Christ Evan Lutheran. Will need volunteers to help out. Theme: The Incredible Race. Watch for more information on how you can help volunteer.



Leadership Team (Ad Board) Report....

The devotions that began the March 19 Leadership Team meeting were based on Matthew 28 and on the topic of "angels." Angels have been in vogue lately, and while we shouldn't get caught up in thinking about them to the exclusion of God, we ponder this - who in our life has been an angel?

Some of the meeting-opening period was devoted to discussing Chapter 3 in the Kotan book entitled 'The Necessary Nine", which concerns "adopting a bias for action." We have the perfect tools to keep what we have now.as a church, but the key is what we want our church to become – what to add, what to remove.

We need to build relationships with people in our community as a prelude to inviting their engagement with God in our company. Furthermore, our congregation must be part of our decision-making process, this notion bringing on a discussion of the possible revival of the church-wide visioning meetings we held in past years.

Our detailed internal income and expense reports, current through the end of February, show normal activity, expected cash flows, and healthy account balances. In addition, the church books have been completely and successfully audited for calendar 2018, and the results have been forwarded to District as mandated.

We note that our boxed gifting envelopes for this year include enough spares to cover each and all of the "5th Sundays" on the 2019 calendar. We will announce that to our congregations as appropriate.

Rod Moore

Trustees Report

At the January Leadership Team Meeting the group discussed meeting with the Investment Advisors, as had been done in the past with the Trustees. On February 18 both representatives from Prudential and Hudock Capital Group met with the leadership team to review the current balances, recent performance, and discuss any recommended changes to portfolios. As of the end of 2018 the values of the two accounts we have with Prudential were approximately \$539,800 and \$84,700. Hudock Capital reported the balance on the current date to be approximately \$581,300. The Prudential representatives recommended a minor change to higher yield bonds in the portfolio, but keeping the same percentage allocations across stocks, bonds, money markets, and cash. Since we don't have any major projects planned at this time, the representative from Hudock recommended we leave our current portfolio allocations with them unchanged.

In other Trustee happenings, with the help of A&S Mechanical we were able to change the water system backflow preventer in the church from a commercial to a residential model. The benefit of a residential model is that it only needs tested every five years, which will save us about \$175 per non testing year. The cost to complete the work was \$362.

As many of you know, there was a recent problem with the organ. The initial concern was it might be the large electric motor, but upon further examination by Bonnie, T-Ross Brother's electrician, it was determined that a very old leather strap inside the inner workings of the blower had worn out. A craftsman from a leather shop in Mifflinburg made a new piece, which Bonnie and another helper from T-Ross installed. Thankfully the organ is working well again.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

Thank You Notes....

Dear Bethany Family: Thank you all so much for the prayers, phone calls, and cards, while I was at Riverwoods Rehab Center. It was very much appreciated. -Sarah Heimbach

Dear Ones: Thank you to everyone who sent birthday cards, phone calls and good wishes. Your kindness and love is very much appreciated! - Karen Heimbach

Dear Bethany Family: I want to thank you all for your prayers, cards, and calls to me during my healing of my head injury. So thoughtful and I was deeply touched – God bless you all! -Cheri Buss

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income February 2019 Reports:

Envelope Income To Date2019						
		Envelopes	Reno.	Benev.	Weekly	YTD
				(Price	Total	
				Fund)		
February	3	\$1,651.00		\$70.00		\$1,721.00
	10	\$743.00		\$1.00		\$744.00
	17	\$665.00		\$18.00		\$683.00
	24	\$1,040.00		\$5.00		\$1,045.00

Plate Income To Date---2019

		Plate	Benev.	Weekly	YTD
				Total	
February	3	\$45.00		\$45.00	\$145.00
	10	\$31.75		\$31.75	\$176.75
	17	\$41.00		\$41.00	\$217.75
	24	\$35.00		\$35.00	\$252.75

Lessons For Life Income To Date---2019

		Weekly Total	YTD		
February	3	\$27.00	\$92.00		
	10	\$12.00	\$104.00		
	17	\$11.00	\$115.00		
	24	\$12.75	\$127.75		

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2019

Initial Offering	
2/3/19\$15.00	
2/10/19\$35.00	
Washed Clean Hygiene Kit Ministry	
2/3/19\$65.00	
2/17/19\$15.00	
SUMC Pastor's Salary Supplement	
2/10/19\$1,000.00	

Events Happening in the Area

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

Saturday, March 30th, 2019 – 1:00 pm – "Paul – Apostle of Christ" at Campus Theatre, Lewisburg. Present by: St Joseph Milton & Sacred Heart. Admission is free. There will be a free will offering of money or non-perishable food to be donated to the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank.

Thursday, April 11, 2019 – 6:00 pm – 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner Golden Rule Love Inc at St. Andrew's UMC. Please call (570-742-3561) by March 29th if you wish to attend.

Saturday, April 13, 2019 – 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm – "Safe-Guarding our Marriage" with Dave Musser, LMFT. Held at Community Mennonite Fellowship, 2985 Broadway Rd, Milton PA. Cost: \$30.00 per couple. Register call (570) 742-7315 by April 8th.

Sunday, April 14, 2019 – 11:00 am to 2:00 pm – Milton Fire Department's 26th Annual Palm Sunday Ham Dinner at Milton Fire Department on 121 Ridge Ave, Milton PA. Adults \$10.00 and children 4-12 years \$4.00. Free delivery for Senior Citizens within Borough of Milton, call by April 13th at 570-742-9895 to arrange a meal to be delivered.

Saturday, April 20, 2019 – 8:30 am – 10:30 am – 2019 Men's Resurrection Breakfast at Watsontown Alliance Church Gymnasium, 1165 8th St, Watsontown. Featuring special guest speaker Leo Wisniewski, Director of the Locking Arms Men ministry. Tickets are \$12.00 per person and \$5 for youth ages 18 and under. Reservations are necessary by April 15th. For reservations, tickets or more info, please call: 570-966-4800.

Kingdom Kidz, Inc – Help make a difference and make a donation to the Kingdom Kidz Inc Puppet Ministry. Send checks to Kingdom Kidz Inc, 11 E. Third St, PO Box 23, Watsontown PA 17777. Help them serve the community.

Fun Page

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BETHANY UMC

107 S. Front St. Milton, PA 17847 (570) 742-9796 <u>miltonbethanyumcoffice@gmail.com</u>

> Website: bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

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

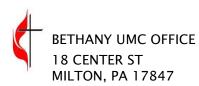
PASTOR BILL

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

Upper Room – Now Available

March / April

Daily Bread – Now Available April / May / June



Announcements:

Dates to Remember:

Jates to Remember.	
[Note: No regular scheduled Trustees Meeting for this month of April]	
March 27 th – Noon – Soup & The Word (Bethany provides) @ 1 st Presbyterian	
April 1 st – 4:45 pm – Milton Harvest Community Dinner @ St Andrew's	
April 2 nd – 10:00 am – Bible Study (Daniel)	
April 2 nd – Noon – Milton Ministerium @ The Well; Christ Wesleyan	
April 2 nd – 7:00 pm – N.O.W. Committee meeting	
April 4 th – 7:00 pm – Bible Study (Daniel) [Last night of study]	
April 7 th - 10:15 am – Gathering of the Family of God / "Sharing the Table" Communion	
April 7 th – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion	
April 9 th – 10:00 am – Bible Study (Daniel) [Last day of study]	
April 10 th – 9:00 am 3:00 pm – Easter Basket Giveaway @ HandUp	
April 14 th – 10:15 am – Palm Sunday	
April 14 th – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner @ Christ Lutheran	
April 16 th – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team (Finance & Ad Board)	
April 18 th – 7:00 pm – Maundy Thursday Service	
April 19 th – 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service	
April 20 th – Noon – 6:00 pm – Easter Prayer Vigil	
April 21 st – 6:30 am – Sunrise Service @ Parsonage	
(Easter Breakfast following the Sunrise Service)	
April 21 st – 10:15 am – Gathering of the Family of God, Happy Easter!	
April 28 th – 6:00 pm – Free Movie Night "An Interview with God"	
May 18 th – 9:00 am – Spring Clean Up & Organization Day	
May 30 th – June 1 st (Annual Conference) @ Hershey Lodge	
June 17 th – 21 st - 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm – Vacation Bible School @ Christ Lutheran	
Soup & The Word: Noon every Wednesday (Ending on April 17 th) @ 1st Presbyt.	
Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday at Rockwell.	

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.

> April 2019