

Bethany United Methodist Church
"Renewing the church to change the world"

Volume 5, Issue 5

May 2018

Milton's Good News

April- "At a Glance"

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Looking back on April for Bethany, we celebrated our Risen Lord starting with a Sunrise Service and fellowship breakfast out at the parsonage. Then a celebration of our Risen Lord at 10:30 am and 6:00 pm services. Two community dinners were done, one at Christ Evan Lutheran and the other at St. Andrew's UMC. A "Milton in Motion" Walkathon & Bethany open house will be held on April 28th, with free hot dogs, water, and the playing of music by Karen and Merle.

- Cheri Buss

National Day of Prayer

May 3rd, 2018, represents the
National Day of Prayer:

Our Dear Heavenly Father, while we come to You in complete humility, we also come to You with boldness in the authoritative name of Your One and Only Son, Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. In Jesus' name, fill us now with Your Holy Spirit and lead us as we pray in Jesus' name for America.

Oh God, we are burdened for our nation today. We turn from the sins that we have committed against your Word and your Name.

We pray for unity in America.

We pray for the churches in America to unify in Jesus Christ and to pray as one unified spiritual family for America.

We pray for God's power to unify families, workplaces, communities, schools, and cities in America.

We pray for people of all ethnicities and races in America to come together as one, living in peace and unity together.

We pray in unity for the security of our nation.

We pray extraordinarily for the next Great Spiritual Awakening in America.

In the mighty and majestic name of Jesus Christ who is the Only Savior and the Only Hope in this world, we pray. Amen.

Dr. Ronnie Floyd
President, National Day of Prayer Task Force



This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. 1 John 5:14-15 NIV

Special points of interest:

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Milton Ministerium is having a National Day of Prayer Service (Sponsored by the Kingdom Kidz Puppets)

Date: Thursday, May 3rd, 2018

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Lincoln Park – Gazebo,
Front Street, Milton





From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

Surprise, when I awoke this morning the day after Easter was I shocked when I went to let the dogs out and saw the snow. Somehow during the night, a storm snuck in and coated the ground with a new white blanket.

I was lead to believe that winter had passed and we are to be in the season of spring. I looked out the window of the parsonage and I could see the leaves of tulips poking through the snow on their journey to blooming. They have not lost the drive that God has instilled in them to bloom and to fulfill their destiny of life.

We can learn a lesson from the spring flowers. No matter what else is going on they are called to break forth out of the hard earth and to bloom and to reproduce so that they can continue the cycle of life and death.

How many times have we been in the hard frozen soils of life and when it would be much easier to just give up? But then Christ calls to us to stretch out and to break through the difficulties and to bloom where we are planted. To stretch out and to grow closer to the warmth of the sun (Son).

Botanists may just say the plants are responding to the light cycle of the sun and because of the longer light cycle, they start to grow in response.

Just maybe we could take a lesson from the plants around us. They react to the light and darkness that surrounds them. We also should grow toward the light and cover-up in the darkness. When John opened his gospel message he compared Christ to the light, so should we. We should strive to grow closer to the light and to bloom in our fullness guided by the Holy Spirit.

During this month of May, I pray we would take every advantage we can to grow closer to Christ and to share what we have with those who are shaded and out of God's light.

We have just come through the resurrection of Christ as we went through Lent and the Easter season. We now are headed toward Pentecost and the filling of the church with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Now is not the time to relax and to forget is called to grow and to be disciples of Christ. Teaching and helping others to know the story of redemption and forgiveness.

I have and will continue to pray for each one in the church that we might experience resurrection in Bethany and come out of our tomb cast off our grave clothes and grow toward the light of Christ. A new day has dawned and we should be prepared to accept the newness of rebirth and to share with all we meet the glory of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Paul states in 2 Corinthians 5:17 " Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come." (NIV). Our mission and our vision have not changed. We are called to be disciples and to make disciples of Christ. We just need to focus on the new life in Christ and to grow no matter how hard it might be. May we hear the call of the Holy Spirit and respond with the words here I am Lord use me.

Together we can make a difference not only in our own lives but in the lives of those around us.

Isaiah 6:8

Go forward,

Pastor Bill

Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, April 3rd. Here are May'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.

May 6th – Spirit of the Living God (393); Shout to the Lord (2074); What a Friend We Have in Jesus (526); Psalm 98 (818); Acts 18:5-10; *“Be Not Afraid”* / **Communion**

May 13th – **(Mother's day)** Crown Him with Many Crowns (327); Shout to the Lord (2074); Blest Be the Tie That Binds (557); Psalm 1 (738); Acts 19:1-7; *“Did You Receive”*

May 20th – **(Day of Pentecost)** Sweet, Sweet Spirit (334); Shout to the Lord (2074); Open My Eyes, That I May See (454); Psalm 104:27-34 (826); Acts 20:25-32; *“Advice”*

May 27th – Lift High the Cross (159); Shout to the Lord (2074); To God Be the Glory (98); Psalm 29 (761); Acts 21:37-40; *“Defense”*

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

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, April 3rd. Here are May'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.

May 6th – One Thing Remains; Come to the Table; Fear Not; Have No Fear; Acts 18:5-10; *“Be Not Afraid”* / **Communion**

May 13th – **(Mother's day)** Thy Word; Your Grace Is Enough; Ten Thousand Reasons; Awesome In This Place; Acts 19:1-7; *“Did You Receive”*

May 20th – **(Day of Pentecost)** Even If; I Can Only Imagine; Words of Life; Love Alone; Acts 20:25-32; *“Advice”*

May 27th – Your Love Defends Me; Lord, I Need You; How He Loves; Holy Spirit; Acts 21:37-40; *“Defense”*

Sunday, May 20th – Pentecost Sunday



Monday, May 28th – Memorial Day

This Memorial Day we salute the brave men and women who served to protect our country.

Thank You and God bless!

Milton Community Pool

The Milton Community Pool open early June and plans to include renovations to the shower and restroom areas and a possible replacement of the diving board. Consider a tax deductible donation payable to Milton Borough Community Pool, (See Milton Pool envelopes are in the back of the sanctuary, to help our community pool.)



“Sharing the Table”

“Sharing the Table” 2018 Schedule (Sponsored by N.O.W. Committee)



“Sharing the Table” is a way you can help this important ministry to feed the children in the Milton School District elementary schools which is currently providing weekend meal packs for 266 elementary children.

The first Sunday of the every month during Communion Service we will be collecting food.

Next Food Collection Communion Dates: May 6th / June 3rd / July 1st / August 5th

N.O.W. Committee (Mission Ministries)...

Milton Panther Packs Program (Mission: Monthly “Sharing the Table”)

Bethany UMC will be in charge of providing 288 Fruit Cups, which equals 24 donations of a 12 pack of fruit cup for each month and individual cereal packs (generally comes in 8-packs) Please bring in those items of the first of the month for “Share the Table” now, due to the Hand-Up Food Pantry’s current overabundant blessings.

Milton Community Dinner (Christ Evan Lutheran)

There will be a Community Dinner on a **Sunday, June 10th at 5:00 pm.** Bethany will be in charge of setting up for this meal and providing desserts. Watch for more information. Location: Christ Evan Lutheran Church

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

Bethany will be helping to serve at the Milton Community Harvest Dinner on **Monday, May 14th, 2018** at 4:45 pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary to help serve. Dinner starts at 5:00 pm. Location: St Andrew’s

N.O.W. Committee Reports...

Our St. Patrick’s Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Supper, Maundy Thursday Passover Seder, & Sunrise Service Breakfast were not hugely attended in number but provided not only delicious food and wonderful fellowship. Thanks to Janet McNeal for leading the Seder and providing additional insight into the Passover meal instead of just reading the haggadah. Look for more fun fellowship events in the future!

Our Easter Basket Giveaway at Hand Up Foundation was again a hit! We gave away a total of 32 baskets and have baskets and some candy stored for next year. The remainder of the candy that would have expired before next Easter was bagged and distributed to guests at the Community Dinner on April 8th and they were very appreciative. Thanks to all who contributed candy and to Sharon Foust, Mike Longenberger, Pastor Bill & Janet, Cindy Mohr, Rod Moore, & Joan Warburton who helped with preparations and distribution of the baskets.

The resurrection of our Easter Eve Prayer vigil was success! The vigil had members of Bethany lifting their hearts and voices in prayer for 6 uninterrupted hours. We are going to resurrect the Christmas Eve Prayer Vigil this year as well!

We honored all of our local shut-ins with Easter flower dedications and visited to deliver them. All would like to express their thanks for the flowers and for remembering them in our thoughts and keeping them in prayer. A few are hoping to make it back to church now that the weather is improving!

The Panther Packs program is now providing 266 children in the Milton School District with food to take home for the weekend. Bethany’s original commitment of ten 12-packs per month provides less than half of what they need, so we are asking members to be generous and we will be increasing our donation to 24 of the 12-packs fruit cup packs/applesauce squeeze packs per month (a total of 288 fruit cups) so they have a few extra should their numbers gain increase. Also for us to provide some individual cereal boxes (8 count/case). These items to be brought in the first of the month during our “Share the Table”.

We will again be partnering with Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church for Vacation Bible School this year joined by Trinity Lutheran Church as well! Dates: July 16th – 20th from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm.

For the June 10th, 2018 Community Dinner, Bethany is responsible for set-up and providing desserts (which have to be made in an approved kitchen or purchased) There will be a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary for set-up volunteers & dessert info forthcoming. We may make the dessert prep a fun fellowship event as well!

We are in the works of planning a church picnic to be held possibly in a late afternoon/evening in September. Stay tuned for more info!

- Submitted by Shelly Sholley, Chair

Milton's Good News

Ad Board Report

It was mentioned in the March newsletter that the Board approved the consolidation of the Bethany bank accounts as a move toward more efficiency in conducting the church's fiduciary operations. To that end, a letter is now in the hands of the local bank detailing our intended actions, which will take place as soon as practical.

The Finance Committee and Ad Board, which have been meeting in back-to-back sessions every month for some time, will henceforth be considered one body, to be known as the Leadership Team. As it is, the members of Finance all sit on the Administrative Board anyway, and the Board, in turn, consists of the heads of all of Bethany's committees. So what is happening is a renaming that simply acknowledges how we now operate. It is not to be taken as suggestive of present or impending functional changes to anything of the church's operations - rather, it reflects a management streamlining move in line with what the UMC calls the Alternative Minimum Structure of church governance.

With the approval of the Board that Bethany assist the Milton Ministerium financially, the Pastor will see that the organization receives our entry contribution at the earliest opportunity. The amount is modest, especially when considered against the ecumenical good it will do in the local area, and it will be handled from church finances.

Rod Moore

Miles for Missions Walk/Run-A-Thon

Miles for Missions: Walk/Run-A-Thon to Benefit Bishop's Partners In Mission. Join Bishop Jeremiah Park and DS Larry Leland on Saturday, **May 5th, 2018** at **Wesley Forest Camp & Retreat Center**.

Registrations: 10:00 am (At picnic pavilion)

Walk/Run: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Free picnic lunch to follow.

100% of the donations will go to Bishop's Partners in Mission to support: Imagine No Malaria and Mission Central

To receive a sponsorship form please contact the church office at 570-742-9796 or pick up in the back of the main sanctuary.



St. Andrew's UMC Yard Sale for Panther Packs Ministry

M.A.S.D. PANTHER PACKS / 3rd ANNUAL YARDSALE

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
102 LOWER MARKET STREET, MILTON, PA
SATURDAY, MAY 5TH
8:00AM – 2:00PM

ITEMS FOR EVERYONE!
BAKE SALE – FOOD STAND
(FOOD STAND PROVIDED BY FRED & DEBBIE SIMON)



YARD SALE ITEMS - \$6.00
PER GROCERY BAG (provided)
Donations may be dropped off at St. Andrew's UMC on
Friday, May 4th, from 8:00AM – 6:00PM.
Furniture, TV's, Computers, Printers
& large appliances not accepted.
Leftover items will be given to Hand Up Foundation.



Attn: Bethany Congregation:

If anyone would like to help St Andrew's on this mission, on Friday, May 4th to help setup or at the sale on May 5th, please let Pastor Bill know or call Bethany's church office at 570-742-9796 and will forward names to the director of program.

Bethany UMC Current Expense Income March 2018 Reports:

BUMC Current Expense Income- March 2018

Envelope Income To Date---2018

March	4	\$709.00	\$15.00	\$724.00	\$7,116.00
	11	\$1,039.00	\$85.00	\$1,124.00	\$8,240.00
	18	\$673.00	\$15.00	\$688.00	\$8,928.00
	25	\$715.00	\$25.00	\$740.00	\$9,668.00

Plate Income To Date---2018

March	4	\$82.00	\$82.00	\$816.00
	11	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$861.00
	18	\$57.00	\$57.00	\$918.00
	25	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$936.00

Sunday School Income To Date---2018

March	4	\$6.00	\$129.00
	11	\$34.00	\$163.00
	18	\$12.00	\$175.00
	25	\$12.00	\$187.00

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2018

Lenten Offering
3/11/18--\$20.00
3/25/18--\$115.00
Susquehanna Conference Dividend
3/18/18--\$1,914.00
Soup & The Word
3/18/18--\$10.00
Easter Basket Giveaway
3/18/18--\$5.00

Bethany UMC Special UM Sunday Contributions 2018

UMCOR Sunday—03/11/2018
3/11/18---\$3,065.00

Lay Leader's Report

The Bethany office is currently examining all the information it has on file concerning the current standings of the Safe Sanctuaries certifications and supporting government clearances obtained over time by the church's paid staff and key volunteers. Once it's determined who needs to obtain or update any applicable documentation in that regard, each person will be informed of their status and asked to address whatever specific gaps or lapses may exist in that part of their portfolio.

Pastor Bill and I are in the process of registering to attend the 2018 Susquehanna Annual Conference, which will be held at Hershey Lodge from Thursday, May 31 through Saturday, June 2.

032018-041618

Rod Moore

Thank You.....

To Bethany Congregation: It was such a blessing to be able to fill in as the treasurer and work with a terrific group of individuals. My heart remembers special people like all of you. I was very moved by your generosity. I want to thank you so very much.

-Amy Snyder

To Bethany Congregation: I want to thank my church friends for their prayers and concerns while I recover from my fractured foot.

-Kathy Martin

To Bethany Congregation: I want to thank you for my cards and flowers.

-Peggy Shellenberger

Fun Page

Sunday, May 13th

To all the women out there who gave birth, nurtured, and adopted God's children, bless you and have a wonderful Mother's Day!

Mother's Day

B	G	S	T	Y	A	Y	U	F	Q	H	L	S	Q	D
U	F	N	R	D	L	O	O	R	I	M	Z	P	D	X
F	F	W	I	I	W	R	V	B	E	N	K	E	Z	O
L	V	L	M	R	E	J	U	Z	U	P	X	C	Y	M
L	R	A	O	V	A	V	I	P	Q	I	R	I	R	H
P	F	F	E	W	B	C	H	J	I	M	B	A	O	A
P	E	R	Y	T	E	X	W	T	N	G	O	L	Z	C
S	M	Z	S	S	G	R	S	D	U	H	H	M	A	F
R	E	H	T	O	M	A	S	K	F	E	D	L	M	U
Q	K	M	L	U	F	A	M	A	M	A	W	O	Y	Y
Z	O	O	V	K	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	A	Y
B	V	R	A	L	G	U	W	F	K	T	L	Y	M	C
E	M	E	Q	F	K	I	S	S	E	S	F	V	C	Z
V	R	O	K	F	J	T	R	T	D	O	H	Z	Q	X
B	A	X	M	U	V	C	B	C	T	B	I	Y	G	N

BREAKFAST
FAMILY
HEART
MAMA
MOMMY
UNIQUE

CARING
FLOWERS
KISSES
MAY
MOTHER

CHILDREN
FOREVER
LOVE
MOM
SPECIAL



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

May / June

Daily Bread – Now Available

June / July / August

Announcements:**Dates to Remember:**

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

April 28th – 10:00 am – Noon – Milton in Motion / Health Fair “Bethany -Open House”

May 1st – 7:00 pm –Worship Teams Meeting

May 3rd – 6:00 pm – (Kingdom Kidz Puppets) National Day of Prayer @ Lincoln Park

May 4th – 8:00 am – 6:00 pm – Drop off items to St Andrew's UMC Yard Sale

May 5th – 8:00 am – 2:00 pm – St Andrew's UMC Community Yard Sale

May 5th – 10:00 am - Bishop's Walk/Run @ Wesley Forest

May 6th - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / “Sharing the Table” Communion

May 6th – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

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

May 13th – Happy Mother's Day

May 27th (Both Services) Peace & Justice Sunday Special Offering

May 14th – 4:45 pm – Milton Harvest Dinner @ St Andrew's UMC

May 15th – 6:30 pm – Leadership Team

May 28th – Memorial Day (Office closed)

May 31st – June 2nd – Susquehanna Annual Conference @ Hershey Lodge

July 16th – 20th – 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm – VBS @ Christ Lutheran Church

Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday at Rockwell. (Except May 31st – no mtg)



It is again time for us to be thinking about VBS. We are again joining Milton Lutheran Parish to bring the stories of the Bible, fun and excitement to all children of our community. We are hoping each one of you will start praying to learn where God is leading you to volunteer. We always need help the week of VBS and in the weeks before- decorating, gathering of supplies and food. We are hoping to have it in July 16-20, 2018 from 5:30 PM – 8:00PM. Please pray for our committee organizing VBS. Anything you can do either big or small will be greatly appreciated.

Shelly, Kay, & Krista



BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

May

2018