

Milton's Good News

February- "At a Glance"

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Looking back on February for Bethany, starting off with a "Souper Bowl Sunday", bring a can of soup with you to worship; Bishop Jeremiah Park speaking on the future of our churches "Way Forward"; a Community Dinner took place; an Ash Wednesday Service held at Bethany; a Lenten study "I Am, Saying of Jesus" took place twice a week, and Soup & The Word on Wednesdays at First Presbyterian began.

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."
Romans 12:10 (NIV)

- Cheri Buss

St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner / Easter Basket Giveaway Preparation Fellowship Event



March 17th Bethany UMC will have an Easter Basket Preparation Event and then a St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner.



Starting at 3:00 pm with preparation of baskets/candy for the Easter Basket Giveaway and following with a Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner.

Please watch for more information in the worship bulletins.



Special points of interest:

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Easter Basket Giveaway.....

Bethany UMC, in cooperation with the HandUp Foundation, is sponsoring an Easter Basket give away on **Wednesday, March 28th**, 9:00 am. -3:00 pm.

N.O.W. Committee are asking members to donate Easter candy, baskets, and monetary donations; along with helping set up to distribute the baskets.

Please let Pastor Bill or Shelly Sholley know if you can help to set up and distribute.

Deadline for dropping off baskets, candy & donations will be **March 25th**.





From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

On February 11th several leaders from Bethany Milton attended a special district-wide meeting with Bishop Park and Superintendent Rev Larry Leland. At that meeting, we were introduced to the recent findings of a special commission to look at the future of the United Methodist Church. The findings are called "The Way Forward" and they outline several possibilities for our denomination in our understanding of the homosexual agenda within the United Methodist Church.

Those findings are stated below:

1. Affirm the current Book of Discipline language and place a high value on accountability. The church policy book says the practice of homosexuality "is incompatible with Christian teaching" and lists officiating at a same-gender union or being a "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy member as chargeable offenses under church law.
2. Remove the Book of Discipline's restrictive language and place a high value on contextualization. This sketch also specifically protects the rights of those whose conscience will not allow them to perform same-gender weddings or ordain LGBTQ people.
3. Create multiple branches that have clearly defined values such as accountability, contextualization, and justice. This model would maintain shared doctrine and services and one Council of Bishops.

All three models come with a way for churches to exit the denomination.

There was a time for questions and answers but it ended with more questions than there were answers. The three options are a consideration that the Council of Bishops are going to have to meet and discuss to see if they support any of these or if another course will need to be taken.

I know that I have my opinion as to where God wants the church to go, there are others who do not share this same opinion. Time will tell who is correct in their interpretation of God's word as contained in the Bible.

What I do know is that the decisions will not come quickly and implantation will take even longer. And all during this time, there is no respect for the rules and regulations that are in place.

If I were asked, I believe there should be accountability within the Denomination and with God in particular. If there is no accountability and people are given the chance to set their own rules then we will soon dissolve into the very thing that we are to be preaching and teaching against. We will be chasing the idols and beliefs of the current times in which we live.

I also believe we should all be in prayer for the commission on the Way Forward and for the Council of Bishops as these decisions are made. They are going to be the ones to set the standard for what the United Methodist Church is going to be.

I am going to be in prayer that it is the Spirit of God they hear the loudest and not the will of the people. Throughout history whenever the people make the decisions they tend to follow their own will and not the will of the Lord.

Lord God help us in our time of searching that we search for the right things. I pray we seek your will and follow where you lead us.

Psalm 121

Know Hope,

Pastor Bill

Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, February 6th. Here are March'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.

March 4th (3rd Sunday in Lent) – The Old Rugged Cross (504); Take Time to Be Holy (395); Beneath the Cross of Jesus (297); Psalm 19 (750); Acts 9:23-28; “*Barnabas*”

March 11th (4th Sunday in Lent) - Give Thanks (2036); O How He Loves You and Me (2108); Living for Jesus (2149); Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (Reading); Acts 10:34-38; “*Favoritism*”

March 18th (5th Sunday in Lent) - Breathe on Me, Breath of God (420); Jesus Calls Us (398); Spirit Song (347); Psalm 51:1-12 (785); Acts 11:15-18; “*Holy Spirit*”

March 25th (Palm Sunday) – Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley (2112); Tell Me the Stories of Jesus (277); Were You There (288); Psalm 31:9-16 (764); Acts 12:6-11; “*Freedom*”

March 30th (Good Friday) – (7:00 PM) Tenebrae Service - The Tenebrae is an ancient Christian Good Friday service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial.

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

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, February 6th. Here are March'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.

March 4th (3rd Sunday in Lent) – You Raise Me Up; Mighty to Save; Who Am I; I Walk by Faith; Acts 9:23-28; “*Barnabas*”

March 11th (4th Sunday in Lent) – Awesome in This Place; Think About His Love; I Can Only Imagine; Awesome God; Acts 10:34-38; “*Favoritism*”

March 18th (5th Sunday in Lent) – Spirit Speaks; Holy Spirit; Give Me Your Eyes; Wonderful, Merciful Savior; Acts 11:15-18; “*Holy Spirit*”

March 25th (Palm Sunday) – Come, Now is the Time to Worship; Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone); I Am Free; Trading My Sorrows; Acts 12:6-11; “*Freedom*”

“Soup & The Word”



Soup & The Word
Wednesday Weekly Lenten Luncheons
First Presbyterian Church
47 Walnut Street, Milton.

Begins Wednesday, February 21st 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. These six free luncheons, held at noon, are open to the public. All are invited to share delicious homemade soup and warm Christian fellowship. A message is provided each week by a local pastor.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Soup provided by:</u>
February 28	Community Mennonite Fellowship	Community Mennonite Fellowship
March 7	Revival Tabernacle	Revival Tabernacle
March 14	Bill McNeal	Bethany UMC
March 21	First Presbyterian Church	First Presbyterian Church
March 28	Hand Up Foundation	Hand Up Foundation

“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: March 4th / April 1st / May 6th / June 3rd

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

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, April 8th at 5:00 pm**. Watch for more information. Location: Christ Evan Lutheran Church. Community Dinners to feed low income people in need.

Planning meeting for Community Dinner will be held on Thursday, April 5th at 6:30 pm at 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, March 5th 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.

Ad Board Report

Bethany is trying hard to find someone within the church membership who is both able and willing to assume the chairmanship of its Finance Committee. This is a volunteer position with certain stipulations as to eligibility. If you think you could be that person, please see Pastor Bill to discuss the requirements and responsibilities of this important position, and praise be for your stepping forward to at least discuss it.

The Board has approved to allow the Finance Committee to consolidate certain church bank accounts in an effort to streamline and simplify the writing of checks, the keeping of records, reporting, and auditing.

Through the diligence of our Financial Secretary, Bethany has saved over \$200 on the cost of its calendar 2019 membership gifting envelopes by finding a different supplier for them.

A recent meeting of Bethany personnel with Milton Borough officials shed some valuable light on how the community's T.I.M.E.-ordered Front Street renovations stand to affect church accessibility and whatever outdoor events it may plan for later in 2018. The contractor responsible for the work has until August 1, 2018 to finish the entire project, beyond which financial penalties would apply – so we appear to be on course to be fully able do what we want for the September Harvest Festival. The Borough will shortly have us sign off on the details of those parts of their plans that involve us. This is both a courtesy and a necessary chance for final approval that's being extended to all Milton businesses and civic organizations that have street frontage in the working area.

Rod Moore



Daylight Saving Time begins – Turn those clocks forward one hour Saturday night, March 10th.

Lay Leader's Report

I have now obtained the final book in the 4-volume series entitled "The New Cambridge History of the Bible", which I intend to study alongside related materials in hopes of someday organizing a short, broad-brushed course on how the Bible came to be and how it is that it exists in so many versions today. What were the aspects and workings of its evolution? Through what social and historical events and forces, and by what earthly auspices or authorities, were various versions of the Scriptures created, or even thought to be necessary? Who accepted which books into the canon, and when, and why were some excluded? So many questions about the Bible abound in the mind of the truly curious, and I'd like to help others get some answers with me.

It is a particular requirement of the United Methodist Church that Certified Lay Speakers stay qualified by taking a prescribed Lay Servant Ministries course every three years. To that end, and having originally been certified in November of 2016, I'm currently considering taking either of two on-line studies offered by BeADisciple.com, one on Teaching Adults and one on Bible Interpretation in Leading Bible Study. Whichever I choose for now (and either would be immensely valuable), I'm going to try to get it done sometime later in this calendar year.

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Rod Moore

Holy Week / Easter Services.....

This Easter Season, Holy Week Services will begin:

Thursday, March 29th at 7:00 p.m. Seder Meal

Friday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service [**Tenebrae Service**]

Sunday, April 1st at 6:30 a.m. – Easter Sunrise Service @ Parsonage
[Following this service will be a fellowship breakfast]

Sunday, April 1st at 10:30 a.m. – Gathering of the Family of God Service
and at 6:00 pm – Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song Easter Service



Easter Prayer Vigil

Bethany UMC is having an Easter Prayer Vigil on Saturday, March 31st, 2018 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 Flowers.....



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, March 18th, 2018**

Welcome Our Newest Staff Member

Bethany UMC would like to welcome our newest staff member, Ed Coup, as our Church Treasurer. Also a huge thank you to Amy Snyder for all her hard work and dedication on filing in as acting church treasurer. Please read the below Bio from Ed.

Ed Coup Bio (Church Treasurer):

I am a lifelong resident of Milton, retired, am married to my wife, Penny for 42 years, and have two grown married children, Jamie and Scott. I am an Authorized Lay Worship Leader, an active volunteer at Evangelical Hospital, and also for the Special Olympics and the American Field Service (a foreign exchange student program). In my spare time, my wife and I like to visit our children and grandchildren.

Bethany UMC End of January 2018 Reports:

Envelope Income To Date---2018

		Envelopes	Reno.	Benev. (Price Fund)	Weekly Total	YTD
January	7	\$826.00		\$5.00	\$831.00	\$831.00
	14	\$989.00			\$989.00	\$1,820.00
	21	\$1,004.00		\$75.00	\$1,079.00	\$2,899.00
	28	\$762.00		\$43.00	\$805.00	\$3,704.00

Total: \$123.00

Plate Income To Date---2018

		Plate	Benev.	Weekly Total	YTD
January	7	\$60.00		\$60.00	\$60.00
	14	\$40.00		\$40.00	\$100.00
	21	\$125.00		\$125.00	\$225.00
	28	\$54.00		\$54.00	\$279.00

Sunday School Income To Date---2018

		Weekly Total	YTD
January	7	\$10.00	\$10.00
	14	\$7.00	\$17.00
	21	\$31.00	\$48.00
	28	\$11.00	\$59.00

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2018

Initial Offering
1/07/18---\$11.00
1/14/18--\$7.00
1/21/18--\$8.00
Advent Offering
1/14/18--\$100.00
Lenten Offering
1/28/18--\$3.00

Bethany UMC Special UM Sunday Contributions 2018

Human Relations Sunday—01/14/2018
1/14/18---\$100.00

Trustees General Account Receipts 2018

Sunday, January 7 th , 2018—Butler Trust--\$2,625.00

Events Happening in the Area

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

Kingdom Kidz Puppet Benefit Concert with "Crossfyre Ministries" – Saturday, March 10th at 5:30 pm. at Kingdom Kidz Puppet Home in Watsonstown PA. Any questions call Kingdom Kidz at 570-838-3133.

Palm Sunday Ham Dinner – March 25th, 2018, 11:00 am – 2 pm at the Milton Fire Department, 121 Ridge Ave., Milton PA.

Cost: \$9.00 Adults and \$4.00 Children (Ages 4 – 12 yrs old).

Navigate – Creating Discipleship Pathways – April 28th, 2018 at Lewisburg High School. Topics: Discipleship Development to Leadership Development & Ministry Alignment for Discipleship. Register at susumc.org/navigate (Early bird pricing until February 28th: \$39.00 individual - \$30.00 per person for groups of 4 or more.)

Fun Page



Easter Story

Word Search

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

APOSTLES
 BETRAYAL
 CAVE
 CHURCH
 CROSS
 CROWN
 CRUCIFIXION
 DISCIPLES
 FAITH
 GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS CHRIST
 JUDAS
 LAMB
 LAST SUPPER
 LENT
 MARY
 MIRACLE
 PASSOVER
 PENANCE
 PENTECOST

PRAYER
 REDEMPTION
 REJOICE
 RESURRECTION
 RISEN
 SAVIOR
 SON
 THORNS
 TOMB



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

March / April

Daily Bread – Now Available

March / April / May

Announcements:**Dates to Remember:**

[Note: No regular scheduled Trustees & PSPRC Meeting for this month of March]
Feb 28th - Noon – Soup & The Word @ First Presbyterian Church
March 4th - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God / “Sharing the Table” Communion
March 4th – 2:00 pm – Rockwell Communion
March 4th – 6:00 pm –Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song / Communion
March 5th - 4:45 pm – Milton harvest Dinner @ St Andrew’s UMC
March 6th – 7:00 pm –Worship Teams Meeting
March 10th – Daylight Saving Time (Turn clocks ahead 1 hours before going to bed)
March 11th – (Both Services) – UMCOR Special Offering
March 17th – 3:00 pm – St Patrick’s Corned Beef Dinner / Easter Basket Prep Event
March 18th (Both Services) Deadline for Easter Flower Orders
March 20th – 6:30 pm - Finance
March 20th – 7:00 pm – Ad Board
March 25th – (Palm Sunday) and Deadline for candy/basket/donations
March 28th – 9:00 am – Easter Basket Giveaway @ HandUp
March 29th – 7:00 pm – Seder Meal
March 30th – 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service
March 31st – Noon – 6:00 pm – Easter Prayer Vigil

Lenten Study “I Am” Sayings of Jesus: 10 am every Tuesday- Feb 6 – March 20
Soup & The Word: Noon every Wednesday – Feb 21 – March 28th @ First Presbyt.
Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday at Rockwell.
Lenten Study “I Am’ Saying of Jesus: 7 pm every Thursday – Feb 8– March 22
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

March

2018