

Milton's Good News

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September – “At a Glance”

September was a month filled with Milton Harvest Festival activities, such as, Arts & Crafts, Block Party, POPS concert, parade, and our very own food stand. A huge thank you to all who helped and donated food items.

“Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.” Titus 3:1-2

- Cheri Buss

“Share the Warmth” Coat Giveaway

Our long standing tradition of the “Share the Warmth” Coat Ministry will be in October 7th & 14th from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

If you're doing end of Summer clean-out of your closets, we accept coats/hats/scarves & warm clothing and blankets all year for the Mission. Always looking for all sizes of children's coats.

Please bring in your donations to the church, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 am- 1 pm. or at any Sunday Worship Services.

Need volunteers to help set up and the day of coat giveaway and looking for people to make some, cookies, brownies, snacks for the Fellowship Table.

Volunteers for set up please see Shelly for dates and times.

Please sign up on the sheets in the back of the sanctuary.

Special points of interest:

- “At a Glance” (pg 1)
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From Pastor Bill's Study

Greetings to all,

I just received a message that the newsletter material is due so Cheri can get the notes together and publish the October newsletter. I think to myself it can't be that time already I just wrote one for the September issue. I do a quick check and see it is not only that time but I am late as usual.

I do not know if anyone else has the problem of the clock running faster as due dates are coming due. I start off with the idea that I have lots of time and before you know it my time is all used up and then begins the rush to get everything accomplished.

I was told before I arrived at Bethany that the event of Harvest Fest was a major event in town and I needed to be ready. I thought I was, boy was I surprised! Not only is this a big event in the town but also for the church.

In the last minute rush, the event was planned and somewhat coordinated so we were ready for the events on parade day. With the help of many, the event was pulled off and is now finished and in the books. Of course, now I say there needs to be planning started for next year to find the format and the volunteers to do this event. Time will tell if this happens before September of 2018.

Planning now has moved to the fall and winter Bible studies that will be happening here at Bethany. I plan to start with a study on discipleship and reaching our full potential as individuals and as a church. The title is *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church* by Paul Nixon. Through this study I want the people of Bethany to become the catalyst to church and personal growth.

After that, we will look at an Advent study on *The Journey* by Adam Hamilton. This will be a weekly study and the sermon material for the Advent season.

With all of this planning, I am sure everything will run smoothly and there will be no problems that will come up. Such is life.

Jesus continually spoke to his disciples about planning for the future when he would no longer be with them. They were a little slow on understanding and so I believe they were surprised when everything happened just as Jesus had told them. In John 14 Jesus speaks to his disciples and tells them to plan for his return to bring them to be with the father. How is your planning going? Are you ready? Is your family?

Now is the time to plan and be ready. I do not know when Christ will return but I do not he has promised he will and one thing I do know is that Christ is a promise keeper. One other thing I know for sure is that we are now one day closer to the time of Christ's return to gather his people. I pray that we are not found to be surprised when that day happens because at that time it will be too late to make new plans.

The day to make our plans is yesterday, because today may be too late and tomorrow will never come. Live for today, for that maybe all we have that is why we call it the present. A gift from God so we will be ready when we are called home.

2 Corinthians 6:2

Today,

Pastor Bill

Worship Team “Gathering of the Family of God” Report

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, September 5th. Here are October'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.

October 1st – (Service lead by Janet) This is a Day of New Beginnings (383); In Remembrance of Me (2254); Freely, Freely (389); Psalm 91:1-6, 9-12 (810); 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; “I Remember When...”; World Communion Sunday (Special Offering) **Communion**

October 8th – How Great Thou Art (77); My Hope Is Built (368); When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (298); Psalm 19 (750); Philippians 3:4b-12; “Knowing You”

October 15th – Give Thanks (2036); Take Time to Be Holy (395); Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (160); Psalm 106:1-6 (829); Philippians 4:1-8; “Safety”

October 22nd – Life High the Cross (159); O How I Love Jesus (170); We Are the Church (558); Psalm 99 (819); I Thessalonians 1:1-10; “Examples”

October 29th – Bless Be the Tie That Binds (557); Spirit Song (347); Pass It On (572); Psalm 90:1-6 (809); I Thessalonians 2:1-8; “Sharing”

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

The following is the work of the Worship Team which met on Tuesday, September 5th. Here are October'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.

October 1st – (Service lead by Janet); 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; “I Remember When...”; World Communion Sunday (Special Offering) **Communion**

October 8th – He Knows My Name; Forgiven; You Are My King; Great Is the Lord; Philippians 3:4b-12; “Knowing You”

October 15th – I Will Rise; Draw Me Close, How Great Is Our God; King of Glory; Philippians 4:1-8; “Safety”

October 22nd – Open the Eyes; Mighty To Save; Seek Ye First; You Are My God; I Thessalonians 1:1-10; “Examples”

October 29th - More Love, More Power; All Who Are Thirsty; Shout To the Lord; All the People; I Thessalonians 2:1-8; “Sharing”

Safe Sanctuary Training

Mark your calendars, there will be a Safe Sanctuary Training on Sunday, October 15th at 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm here at Bethany UMC, Milton. Fee: \$3 for booklet and led by Cynthia Willis

To register, contact Bill McNeal at wmcneal@susumc.org or call the church 570-742-9796 and leave a message. Register by October 6.

“Sharing the Table”



“Sharing the Table” 2017 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: October 1st / November 5th / December 3rd

Missions/Outreach Committee...

Milton Panther Packs Program (New Mission: Monthly)

Bethany UMC Mission Committee and St Andrew's UMC will be looking to expand the Milton Panther Packs Program to help provide weekend food items for elementary students in need in the Milton Area School District.

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, October 8th at 5:00 pm.** 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, September 28th at 6:30 pm at the Christ Evan Lutheran Church on Mahoning St, Milton PA.

UMCOR...Cleaning Kits...(Disaster Relief)

9/22/2017

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*“He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others.
When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.”
2 Corinthians 1:4 (NLT)*

So many within our Lewisburg District know the anguish of living through floods and their devastating aftermath. From Berwick to Selinsgrove, Shickshinny to Bloomsburg, and many other places, you have experienced returning home, not even sure where to begin. Hopefully, you also received help and encouragement on that painful journey.

My heart is breaking at what we see happening along the Gulf Coast. When our heart breaks for the plight of another, it is often when God wants to use us for a mighty purpose.

So I'm challenging us, as United Methodist Christians in the Lewisburg District, to shine the light of Christ in a powerful way by collecting Cleaning Kits (formerly known as Flood Buckets) to help replenish the supplies that will surely be decimated by the needs following Harvey.

Between now and our Cluster Charge Conferences, I'm asking you to work together in your church or charge to compile as many Cleaning Kits as possible. Place the attached list in bulletins and newsletters. Contact businesses and other organizations for help. Then, bring them with you to Charge Conference, and we will pray over them together before seeing that they make their way to Mission Central for distribution through our UMCOR partners.

Some of our churches may be able to pull together 2 or 3 buckets. Some may be able to collect 10 times that, or more. What matters is that, when we all do our part, we'll find that we are, indeed, better together!

In Christ's service with you,

Larry Leland

(Copies of what is in the Cleaning Kits are available in the back of the sanctuary)

Ad Board Report

The Christian Education Committee will shortly be in a position to finalize the figures concerning the impact of this year's VBS on their budget and our church's finances. We need only some imminent reportage from Cokesbury as to the exact size of the refund for returned unused program items and a final reconciliation with Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church as to the balance of shared expenses.

We are considering a repeat of last year's Halloween-season Trunk or Treat outreach, and in the interest of the safety of the children, we may approach the Milton Ministerium about doing it in conjunction with other churches.

Bethany PSPRC, having completed its evaluations and recommendations having to do with the retention of the Pastor and the establishment of his salary for 2018, submitted to the Board both the memorandum of the Committee on the subject of retention and its detailed plan for compensation. The Pastor's retention was enthusiastically confirmed, and his new salary package was approved by vote.

In Traditional services, we are going to three hymns per Sunday instead of four, effective in October, and we're going to try forming a small volunteer choir each week to sing the middle song from the chancel. This is in keeping with the general feeling that we need more congregational involvement with our music rather than just more music. And we know from past experience that impromptu participation is welcomed and will succeed.

We draw nearer and nearer to performing an internal audit of the Bethany finances, which will take place as soon as our financial officers and concerned personnel are satisfied that everything is optimally ready in terms of reconciliations, income and expense tracking and transaction responsibility procedures, reportage formats and clarity, and the resolution of any issues. While we have made tremendous progress, there is much yet to be done. But work continues apace in that regard, we're in the fine-tuning stages, and we're fully confident that we'll come out of the other side of our efforts with a much improved overall system.

Rod Moore

Lay Leader's Report

I conducted the full Traditional worship service at Bethany on Sunday, August 20. I also took care of that evening's Contemporary except for its sermon, which was ably delivered by guest speaker Dave Gehrum of Watsontown UMC. I preached the full Traditional Sunday service again on September 17.

I'm sad to report that the Crossroads of Life Prison Faith Community in Central Illinois is undergoing an existential set of problems right now because of seemingly insurmountable barriers that have been put in its way by the Illinois prison system hierarchy. Crossroads has been turned away from prison access and has been denied the coveted chance to take Bible study and any other face-to-face ministry inside the walls of the very correctional institutions that it has served so lovingly and so ably from the beginnings of its efforts. So Crossroads is now at its own crossroads. And I and the other members of the organization's Board can only advise on new directions, make suggestions from afar, vote on procedural matters, pray, and hope, and continue in confidence that the work will go on in the best way and under God's direction and in his good time. I myself am confident that a new Crossroads of Life will spring out of the present crisis of identity and, in some as yet unforeseen way, will soon rebound to at last benefit those who need it.

The Bethany Prayer Circle has been slightly reorganized under the leadership of Sharon Foust and Judy Carl. Shirley Wesner has been added to one group in the chain, and Mike Longenberger, Jamie Aurand and I are now coming on as Group 6. These enlargements take on a lot of importance, because they magnify the already great power of Bethany prayer.

Financial Income–Bethany UMC August 2017 –:

ENVELOPE INCOME TO DATE---2017

August	6	\$597.00	\$5.00		\$602.00	\$22,673.00
	13	\$803.00	\$10.00		\$813.00	\$23,486.00
	20	\$673.00	\$10.00		\$683.00	\$24,169.00
	27	\$848.00	\$10.00		\$858.00	\$25,027.00

PLATE INCOME TO DATE---2017

August	6	\$91.00			\$91.00	\$3,203.57
	13	\$20.00			\$20.00	\$3,223.57
	20	\$90.00			\$90.00	\$3,313.57
	27	\$96.00			\$96.00	\$3,409.57

Bethany UMC Miscellaneous Contributions 2017

Service Electric Utility Reimbursement	
8/6/17--\$96.55	Total=\$96.55

Sunday School Income To Date---2017

August	6	\$7.00			\$7.00	\$253.45
	13	\$9.00			\$9.00	\$262.45
	20	\$9.00			\$9.00	\$271.45
	27	\$9.00			\$9.00	\$280.45

Trustees Memorial Fund Receipts 2017

August 7, 2017
In Memory of Bertha Huff---\$55.00

Contemporary Worship Income To Date---2017

August	6	\$95.00	\$88.00	\$183.00	\$2,587.57
	13	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$95.00	\$2,682.57
	20	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$106.00	\$2,788.57
	27	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$90.00	\$2878.57

Trustees' Report.....

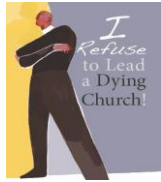
We're almost finished! After a lengthy renovation process, the new restrooms, kitchen and the social hall in the church have received the required final inspection by the Code Enforcement Officer, and we've been given our official occupancy permit. The required inspection of the kitchen by the Department of Agriculture still needs to be completed before we can use the kitchen for church functions and fundraisers.

Because many of the windows on the first floor of the Parish House did not open and close properly, and some were still the original windows, the Trustees have decided to have them replaced. Additionally window treatments will need purchased and installed. This should complete the renovations to the first floor of the Parish House. If you haven't seen the new offices please stop by and check it out. Our intent was to create a more comfortable and efficient work space for the staff and provide a private office for the pastor. Hopefully we've accomplished our goals.

There was a recent break in at Enterline's Florist. The person(s) took numerous keys, one of which was the key to the Center Street entrance door. For security reasons, the lock on the door was changed. If you've had a key in the past and would like a new one, please see Cheri in the office. To ensure we keep better records of who has keys in their possession, Cheri has created a Church Key Distribution Form, which we are asking each person who has keys to fill out and return to Cheri.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

Christian Ed



A Bible study called "*I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church*", will be offered on Tuesdays at 10:00 am and Thursdays at 7:00 pm, starting with week of October 3rd. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary; or let Pastor Bill know, you will not want to miss out on this meaningful study.

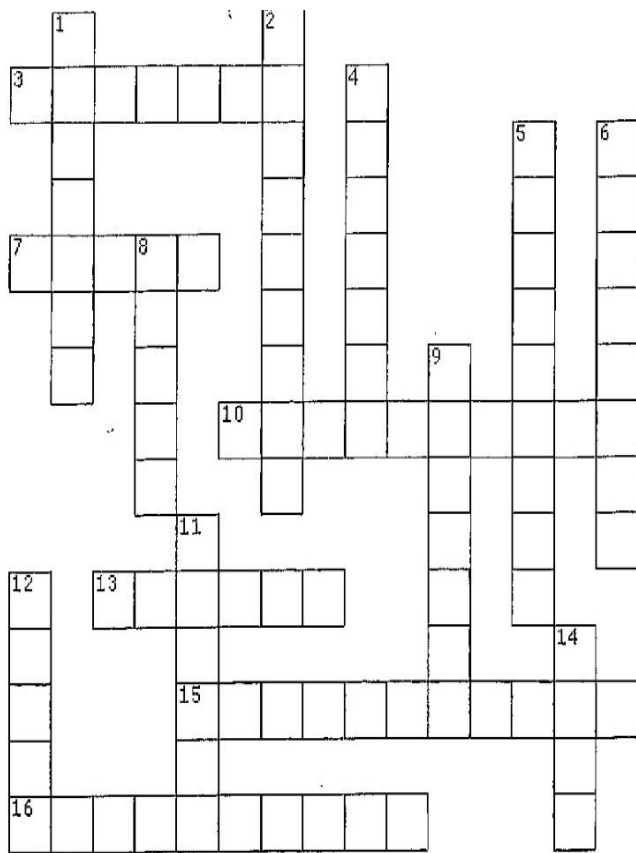
Cookie Sale – December 9th (9 am – noon). Watch for more information and how you can get involved. (Proceeds will benefit next year's Vacation Bible School).

Moms In Prayer

Needing women in the congregation who may be interested in praying regularly for Milton's schools, students, teachers, and staff. Even though the name is Moms in Prayer, all women of any age and stage of life are invited to pray together. If interested please email Stephanie Garman at mrandsjongarman@gmail.com or call at 570-246-5612.

Fun Page

Crossword Puzzle : Places in the Bible



ACROSS

- 3 Sea of ____
- 7 Residents of this city tried to build a tower to heaven
- 10 Jesus was arrested in this garden
- 13 Ancient Jewish kingdom
- 15 Jesus was baptized in this river
- 16 God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on this mountain

- 1 Jesus was crucified on this hill
- 2 Jesus was born here
- 4 The Corinthians lived here
- 5 The Jewish temple was here
- 6 Jesus grew up here
- 8 Moses led the people out of slavery in this land
- 9 Joshua fought the battle of ____
- 11 Noah's ark landed in the mountains of this region
- 12 God destroyed this city by fire
- 14 Jesus turned water in wine at a wedding here

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

Daily Bread – Now Available

September, October, November

Announcements:**Dates to Remember:**

Sept 28th- 6:30 pm – Planning Meeting for Community Dinners @ Christ Lutheran
Oct 1st - 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God “Sharing the Table” / Communion
Oct. 1st (Both Services) World Communion Sunday (Special Offering)
Oct 1st – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion
Oct 1st – 6:00 pm –Worship in Praise, Prayer & Song / Communion
Oct 3rd – 7:00 pm –Worship Teams Meeting @ Bethany
Oct 4th – 7:00 pm – Trustees
Oct 7th – 9 am – 1 pm – “Share the Warmth” Coat Giveaway
Oct 8th – 5:00 pm – Community Dinner @ Christ Evan Lutheran
Oct 10th - 7:00 pm – PSPRC
Oct 14th - 9 am – 1 pm – “Share the Warmth” Coat Giveaway
Oct 15th – 2:00 pm – Safe Sanctuary Training @ Bethany UMC
Oct 17th – 6:30 pm – Finance
Oct 17th – 7:00 pm – Ad Board
Oct 22nd – 7:00 pm – Charge Conference @ St. Andrew’s UMC
Oct 24th – Noon – Riverwoods Auxiliary Luncheon @ Riverwoods
Nov. 13th – 4:45 pm – Milton Harvest Community Dinner @ St Andrews
Nov 18th – 9:00 am – Candy making & fellowship
Nov 22nd – 7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Service
Dec 9th – 9:00 am – noon – Cookie/Candy Sale

Bible Study “I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church”: 10:00 am every Tuesday.

Rockwell Bible Study: 9:00 am every Thursday @ Rockwell.

Bible Study “I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church”: 7:00 pm every Thursday.

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

Oct
2017