

# Milton's Good News

## June – “At a Glance”

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Annual Conference was from June 8th – 11<sup>th</sup>, which Pastor Damien and Rod Moore attended at Messiah College. The following years will be held at the Hershey Lodge.

Worship in the Park was held on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and was a great turnout.

The VBS “Surf Shack” was held on June 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. A special thank you to everyone who helped with their leadership and putting this all together.

*“And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect **unity**.”*  
Colossians 3:14 (NIV) –Cheri Buss

## “A devotion from the Pastor’s desk...”

**LUKEWARM PEOPLE** think about life on earth much more often than eternity in heaven. Daily life is mostly focused on today’s to-do list, this week’s schedule, and next month’s vacation. Rarely, if ever, do they intently consider the life to come. Regarding this, C. S. Lewis writes, “If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were precisely those who thought most of the next. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.”

-Francis Chan

*“For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil. 3:18-20).*

*“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things” (Col. 3:2).*

Where is your mind at? Are you the type of person who places high value on the here and now or do you think in terms of eternity? Our Christian ancestors believed that the end times were coming soon and that it was imperative that they reached out and shared the news of Jesus Christ without concern for health, family, wealth, power, etc... Their minds were on the coming Kingdom. Two thousand years later, it seems that we have lost that drive and have settled into a “comfortable” Christianity that does not take much work or cause great sacrifice on our part. The Kingdom is, however, coming soon, it may be coming tomorrow... wouldn’t you want to see more people saved? May we stop thinking about the present and work for God’s preferred future.

### Special points of interest:

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## Contemporary Worship Report

The Contemporary Worship Team met on June 15<sup>th</sup> select songs and themes for the month of July. July will certainly be a month of exciting topics and heartfelt worship music. We hope that you will join us for worship on **Sunday evenings at 6:00pm!** Take a look at this month's themes, songs, scriptures, and sermon titles:

July 3 – **Baptism**; Great Are You Lord; King of Glory; How Great is Our God; Washed by the Water; Sweet Wind; Your Love is All Around; Wade in the Water; 2 Kings 5:1-14; "The Simple Cure"

July 10 – **Won't You Be My Neighbor**; Christ Be All Around Me; Called Me Higher; Follow You; Jesus Friend of Sinners; Hold Us Together; Live Like That; Open the Eyes of My Heart; Luke 10:25-37; "Who Are Your Neighbors?"

July 17 – **Be Our Guest**; Since Your Love; Jesus Loves Me; Your Glory; In Christ Alone; Mighty to Save; This is Amazing Grace; Who Am I; Colossians 1:15-28; "Full Service"; **Communion**

July 24- **Names**; How Great is Our God; Words; Your Great Name; Your Name; The Only Name; Break Every Chain; All Consuming Fire; Hosea 1:2-10; "Sticks and Stones"

July 31 – **Father of the Bride Part 2**; Good Good Father; Children of God; How Deep the Father's Love for Us; Your Love is All Around; Glorify Thy Name; I Could Sing of Your Love Forever; You Will Remain; Hosea 11:1-11; "Worries of a Father"

## Worship in the Park Report

The Worship in the Park on June 19<sup>th</sup> was led by Pastor Damien, with music by the Praise Band team of Calvin Hoffman (Vocals & guitar), Luke Forbes (Drums), Karen Heimbach (Keyboard), and John Warfel (Bass) from Trinity Lutheran. A good turnout of 50 plus attended the service. After the service there was a community picnic with delicious burgers and hot dogs. A huge Thank You to Mike Longenberger for grilling, Shelly Sholley for coordinating food, Christ Evangelical and Trinity for the sides and for all the people who brought dishes to share. Also, an additional thank you to George Venios for helping fix the grill and allowing the Jungle Teen Center sound system to be available. It was a beautiful day, with many people stopping by during the cookout and a few listening in the distance to the worship.

This was a community outreach under the leadership of the following churches, Christ Evangelical Lutheran, New Hope Ministry Center/Hand Up Foundation, Bethany United Methodist, United in Christ Lutheran, and Trinity Lutheran. Thank you all for the leadership and planning of this wonderful outreach of worship and feeding the community spiritually and physically.

## Traditional Worship Team Report

The following is the work of the Traditional Worship Team, which met on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Here are July's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – And Are We Yet Alive (553); When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (298); Beneath the Cross of Jesus (297); In the Cross of Christ I Glory (295); *Psalm 30, Galatians 6:1-18, "Stop, Look, and Listen Up!"*

July 10<sup>th</sup> – Near to the Heart of God (472); The Church's One Foundation (545); For the Beauty of the Earth (92); To God Be the Glory (98); *Psalm 82, Colossians 1:1-14, "The Son of His Love"*

July 17<sup>th</sup> – Come and Find the Quiet Center (2128); Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (358); Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus (349); Every Move I Make; Be Thou My Vision (451); *Luke 10:38-42, "Missional Focus"*; **Communion**

July 24<sup>th</sup> – There's a Spirit in the Air (192); Take My Life and Let It Be (399); Seek Ye First (405); This Is My Song (437); *Psalm 85, Luke 11:1-13, "Faithful Promises"*

July 31<sup>st</sup> – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (127); Great Is Thy Faithfulness (140); When the Poor Ones (434); Now Thank We All Our God (102); *Psalm 107, Luke 12:13-21, "Saving for Nothing"*

## Trustees' Report

We are anxiously awaiting the architect's plans for the basement renovations and the renovation to the restroom and kitchenette area in the Chapel/Elm Street Lounge.

We experienced some summer like weather early this year. Hopefully everyone who attended services or meetings during that early period of warm, humid weather felt the noticeable difference provided in all areas of the church by the air conditioning system. I'm sure many of you never thought you'd see the day when we didn't need multiple fans running to stay at least semi-comfortable. Thanks to the James estate, we should have a comfortable summer of praise and worship.

Good news! Speaking of the James estate, Attorney Benion held back some funds from the estate for potential taxes. There were none to be paid, so Mr. Benion recently closed out the account and presented a check to the Trustees for \$50,000, plus the interest earned, for a total of \$50,407.54! As we know we will need funds available for the renovations, this money was deposited in the Trustees Checking Account.

At our most recent meeting, we had a presentation from representatives of Prudential Investment Services. As you may remember the Trustees agreed a few years ago to forgo the purchase of flood insurance and instead keep \$500,000 in reserve to pay for any future flood damage. Although the stock market had a recent rough period, as of May 27, 2016 the value of the 'Flood Fund' was \$497,853. In addition, there is still over \$1 million invested with the Hudock Capital Group, so we are still on very solid financial footing.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

## Congregational Life

Due to no Congregational Life meeting in June, there is nothing to report.

## Christian Education Committee....

Christian Education has been quite busy throughout late May and June. Preparations for Vacation Bible School required much time, planning and execution. VBS itself took a lot of time. However, now that we have completed yet another successful year of VBS with many local kids from the community outreached to, it is time to offer up heart-felt thanks and appreciation for all the persons who made it possible. Sharon Foust, Shelly Sholley, Roderic Moore, Karen Heimbach, Calvin & Jacqlene Hoffman, Krista Bower, Dorothy Hower, Rachel Weller, Dan Holmes, Cheri Buss and teens from the Jungle Teen Center. It was an amazing event, clearly blessed by the presence of God.

We have also decided on and bought our Fall Bible Study series. By invitation only, leaders will participate in "Unbinding the Gospel" followed by a congregation study, "Unbinding Your Heart." Pastor Damien will be studying "Unbinding Your Church" and "Unbinding Your Soul" will be sequel offered to the congregation in late fall or early spring. (These are all 40 day (6 week) studies).

## Ad Board

Ad Board did not meet in June. Next Ad Board meeting will be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm following the Finance Committee at 6:30 pm.

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## 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.

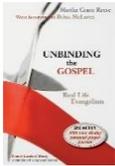
### Milton Community Dinner

There will be a Community Dinner Picnic on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. (Watch for location)

Community Dinners are between Bethany UMC, Christ Evan. Lutheran, Trinity Evan. Lutheran, United in Christ Lutheran, and New Hope Ministry Center HandUp Foundation to feed low income people in need.

**Next Community Meeting will be on Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Christ Evan Lutheran Church.**

## Upcoming Bible Studies in the Fall



### **Unbinding the Gospel (Church Leader's Study)**

*Unbinding the Gospel* is a book for church leaders to study. Reese presents a clear-spoken, hopeful vision for a future and gives us a way to get there without gimmicky formulas, but hand in hand with God



### **Unbinding Your Heart**

*Unbinding Your Heart* is a six-week individual and small-group study for your entire congregation. [It is the culmination of the **Real Life Evangelism Series**, by author, researcher, pastor and attorney Martha Grace Reese.



### **Unbinding Your Soul**

*Unbinding Your Soul* is for small groups. Four short chapters, three weeks of personal prayer journal, prayer partner activities & group exercises prepare church members to *invite unchurched friends* interested in spirituality and faith issues into a *second* three weeks of prayer with four group meetings.

## Together 2016 / Washington DC

Together 2016 is the day our generation will meet at the National Mall in Washington DC to come together around Jesus in unified prayer, worship and a call for catalytic change. We're coming together with as many people as possible who believe Jesus can change everything.

Come out and hear speakers like Josh McDowell and song artists like Michael W Smith, Jeremy Camp, Matt Maher, Matthew West, and Casting Crowns to name a few.

Date: Saturday, July 16, 2016

Time: 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Where: National Mall, Washington D.C., MD 20001

Please sign up, and the group can car pool, and/or individuals can go at different times if can't go the whole day.

**Note:** Pastor Damien will have 3 seats available in his car and will leave around 6:00 am for the whole day.

## Milton's Good News

### “Sharing the Table”



“Sharing the Table” 2016 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: July 3<sup>rd</sup> / August 7<sup>th</sup> / September 4<sup>th</sup> / October 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Altar Stewards Needed.....

Bethany is in need for more Altar Stewards! Prayerfully consider on giving a little of your time to help out with this ministry. Looking for volunteers for the months of **August, October, & December**. Please contact the church office (570-742-9796) to sign up. God bless and Thank you for your act of servanthood.

### Events Happening in the Area.....

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

**Williamsport Crosscutters “All Faith Night”** – July 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:05 pm Tickets \$4.00, need to register 7 days in advance of game day, call church office if interested.

**Evangelical Hospice Volunteer Training** – September 12, 13, and 14, 2016 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at Hospice of Evangelical 235 Hospital Dr, Lewisburg. Fee: Free For more information or to request an application, call the Volunteer Liaison at 570-522-2955.

**Albright Care Services** 100 Years Celebration – August 4 -7, 2016 (Save the Date)

### Lay Leader's Report

The adult Bible study that was tailored to precede the “Surf Shack” Vacation Bible School curriculum was completed by six church members, Pastor Damien and I sharing the teaching responsibilities. Vacation Bible School itself is mostly through its 5 sessions as I write this. We have had an attendance of 8 enthusiastic and attentive children, and the “Surf Shack” Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, and science demos are providing them with an exciting mix of Christian education and good fun.

I conducted the full traditional worship service at Bethany on May 29, in the process composing that day's sermon and the devotional page for the following weekdays. My Bethany preaching schedule for the near future includes the full Traditional Sunday services of July 3 and July 10, when Pastor takes some vacation. The service orders for those two dates were fixed in place at the June meeting of the Traditional Worship Committee.

Calvin Hoffman more than ably conducted the full May 21 contemporary service in the Pastor's absence.

I led Thursday evening Bible studies at the Rockwell Assisted Living Center on May 19 (taking the Pastor's place while he was at a conference in Atlanta) and June 2 (Pastor on vacation). Note that these sessions have been moved from Thursday evenings to 2:00 PM on Tuesdays, effective June 21.

The church's May 20 hymn and praise tune singalong was a great success, thanks to the musical teamwork of Calvin Hoffman and Karen Heimbach, the well-joined vocal renderings of an enthusiastic gathering of people, and the fine potluck meal that followed.

I'm very happy to report, and our attending membership is highly pleased to experience, the effects of the new air conditioning system in the church. It's fast, it's efficient, and it's a hugely welcome change in both worship areas, to say the absolute least.

Pastor Damien and I attended the 3-day UMC Susquehanna Annual Conference in mid-June. As Bethany's Lay Delegate, I prepared a report on the proceedings for the edification of our membership. Copies are available in both of our sanctuaries and can be provided online via e-mail attachment.

**BETHANY UMC**

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Saturday Worship:

Contemporary Service: 6:30 pm

Sunday Worship:

Traditional Service: 10:30 am

Sunday School: 9:00 am

**PASTOR DAMIEN**

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570-246-5514

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Upper Rooms Available

July / August

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

Pastor Damien on Vacation – Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>

Dan (Sexton) on Vacation – Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10:30 am - Traditional Worship "Sharing the Table"

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6:00 pm – Contemporary Worship (New Day & Time)

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day – Office closed – No Disciple I

July 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Trustees Committee

July 12<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Traditional Worship Team @ Parsonage

July 13<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Contemporary Worship Team

July 16<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am – 9:00 pm – Together 2016 @ Washington DC

July 17<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Blended Worship / Communion

July 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm – Contemporary Worship / Communion

July 17<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion

July 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Committee Dinner Planning Meeting @ Christ Evan Lutheran Church

July 19<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Finance Committee

July 19<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Ad Board

July 24<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> - Pastor away at Youth Camp @ Wesley Forest

July 26<sup>th</sup> - 7:05 pm – Williamsport Crosscutter Game "All Faith Night"

August 14<sup>th</sup> - 5:00 pm – Community Dinner - Picnic

***Disciple I Bible Study: 6:00 pm every Monday. (Except July 4<sup>th</sup>)***

***Rockwell Bible Study: 2:00 pm every Tuesday @ Rockwell.***

***Praise Band Practice: 7:00 pm every Thursday.***

***Contemporary Worship Services: 6:00 pm every Sunday evening.***

***No PSPRC meeting for July. (Will meet in August)***



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