

# Milton's Good News

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

"At a Glance"	1
Devotional	1
Traditional Worship Schedule	2
Contemporary Worship Schedule	2
Lay Leader	3
Trustees	3
Missions/Outreach	4
Christian Ed	5
Congregational Life	6
Ignite Youth Ministry	6
Ad Board	7
Announcements	8

## Special points of interest:

- Daylight Savings Time Ends (pg 2)
- Feed-A-Friend Harvest Home (pg 4)
- Advent Bible Study "Down to Earth" (pg 5)
- 'Share the Warmth' Coat update (pg 5)
- Events in the Area (pg 6)
- Thanksgiving Service (pg 7)
- Hanging of the Greens (pg 7)

## October – "At a Glance"

October was a very busy month; first there was the Community Dinner that was held on October 9<sup>th</sup>, the World Hunger Milton Crop Walk on Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, the "Share the Warmth" Coat Giveaway held on Oct 15 & 22. Also "Unbinding the Gospel" Leaders Study was being held with church leaders and staff. Another Bible study on "Zechariah" which was written by Pastor Damien. Then the first time doing a Trunk or Treat night for children outreach. —Cheri Buss

## "A devotion from the Pastor's desk..."

**LUKEWARM PEOPLE** feel secure because they attend church, made a profession of faith at age twelve, were baptized, come from a Christian family, vote Republican, or live in America. Just as the prophets in the Old Testament warned Israel that they were not safe just because they lived in the land of Israel, so we are not safe just because we wear the label Christian or because some people persist in calling us a "Christian nation."

- Francis Chan

*"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven" ([Matt. 7:21](#)).*

*"Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation" ([Amos 6:1](#)).*

**Before I begin, I would like to point out that this applies regardless of political party, I am aware that Francis singles one out, but the case can be made against any and all politicians and their parties. Now, on to the devotion...**

Safety and security are not high on God's list of priorities, in fact if we honestly examine the Bible, God calls us into to some pretty dangerous territory. He calls the Israelites from one hostile land to the next. He sends His own Son, Jesus, up against both the religious and political powers of Israel. He even sends the disciples and Paul into hostile territory, which lands them in jail and the physical dangers of being beaten on several occasions. The Early Church was called to follow Christ even to the point of death, which many of them suffered for not worshipping Caesar. The fact is, lukewarm Christians want to be Christians in name and reward only. They want to feel safe and be assured that their soul will dwell eternally in Heaven and not burn in the fires of Hell or be left isolated and alone in Hell (depending on your view of Hell). On-fire Christians, ones that truly follow Christ, do so at their own peril. They stride boldly into the Lion's Den, take leaps of faith, stare down their oppressors and love their enemies. Safety and security only come in the eternal afterlife.

## Traditional Worship Team Report

The following is the work of the Traditional Worship Team which met on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Here are November's songs, Scriptures, and sermon titles.

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (196); O God, Our Help in Ages Past (117); My Lord What a Morning (719); Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (731); *Haggai 1:15b-2:9*, “Take Heart”;  
**Communion**

**November 13<sup>th</sup>** – This Is a Day of New Beginnings (383); Come, We That Love the Lord (732); For the Healing of the Nations (428); I'll Fly Away (2282); *Isaiah 12*, *Isaiah 65:17-25*, “The End of Suffering”

**November 20<sup>th</sup> – Harvest Home Sunday** – How Great Is Our God (insert); Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (301); God With Us (insert); Victory in Jesus (370); *Luke 23:33-43*, “Mocking Jesus”

**November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Thanksgiving Eve** – Hope of the World (178); Now Thank We All Our God (102); Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (160); You Are Mine (2218); *Psalms 100*, *Philippians 4:4-9*, “Rejoice, Again I Say Rejoice”;  
**Communion**

**November 27<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent; UM Student Day** – O Come, O Come Emmanuel (211); O Day of God, Draw Nigh (730); We Are Called (2172); We've a Story to Tell to the Nations (569); *Psalms 122*, *Philippians 2:1-13*, “Down to Earth Love”

## Contemporary Worship Report:

The Contemporary Worship Team met on October 12<sup>th</sup> to plan for November's worship services. We are excited to gather together to worship and fellowship. We hope to see you there! Here's a look and the songs and sermon titles for the month of November:

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** – Lord, I Lift Your Name on High; Good, Good Father; Touch the Sky; Alive; Famous One; *Luke 20:27-38*; “Life After Life?”

**November 13<sup>th</sup>** – It Is Well; Divine Romance; You Are My All in All; Give Us Clean Hands; The Heart of Worship; *2 Thessalonians 3:6-13*; “Idle Hands”

**November 20<sup>th</sup>** – How Great is Our God; Jesus Messiah; Lead Me to the Cross; God With Us; Christ Be All Around Me; *Jeremiah 23:1-6*; “New Shepherd”

**November 27<sup>th</sup>** – You Are My King (Amazing Love); How Can It Be; Jesus Loves Me; Mighty to Save; Great Are You Lord; *Philippians 2:1-13*; “A Down to Earth Kind of Love”

## Daylight Savings Time Ends....

Daylight savings time ends – so don't forget Saturday night, November 5<sup>th</sup> to turn those clocks back one hour.



## Lay Leader's Report

In continuation of my pursuit of qualification as a District Lay Speaker, I recently completed a second UMC-sanctioned on-line course entitled "Living Our United Methodist Beliefs." Otherwise, I'm currently halfway through the District-required face to face course on preaching, and by October 22 I'll have delivered a mandatory self-composed sermon for evaluation, which will complete that part of my obligation. Beyond that, I still have two service order demos to write and two more on-line courses to take. But if everything goes well for me, and given what I've already accomplished, I should be sanctioned as a District-certified Lay Speaker by Thanksgiving. And giving thanks is just what I'll be doing when that becomes final.

Pastor, Cindy Mohr and I attended a presentation on alternative minimum church board structure that was hosted in Mifflinburg on September 21. The event was conducted by Dennis Otto, the Susquehanna Conference Director of Congregational Development, and was designed to further edify the leaderships of our area churches on the attributes of single-board governance.

Karen Sheaffer and I were recognized as Disciple I Bible study "graduates" during Bethany's traditional service on Sunday September 25. The course was long and intensive, but it was easily worth every moment of the effort involved. From a personal point of view, I was more than honored and more than pleased to have had Karen as my classmate. Her dedication and her contributions were absolutely remarkable. And we were both extremely happy to have been so ably led through the course under the astute guidance of Pastor Damien. The three of us are now considering Disciple II, an equally lengthy study for which Disciple I is a prerequisite. We'll work out a schedule for that in due course.

I recently took advantage of an opportunity to help a new prison ministry obtain approximately 50 Giant Print New King James Bibles for use at the Decatur, Illinois Women's Correctional Facility. Notice of their need came to me through an electronic newsletter published by Reverend Linda Walker, a friend and colleague of Deaconess Beth Galbreath, one of my on-line Lay Servant course instructors. What a superb chance to serve Christ beyond the local norm, and what unique proof of the mysteries of faith.

092116-101716

Rod Moore

## Trustees' Report.....

Renovations to the basement continue. The walls of the kitchen and both the men's and women's restroom are painted. The new concrete floors require a 30 day curing period, which is almost over, before the flooring can be installed. After the flooring is finished, the plumbing fixtures will be completed. A roll up window has been installed to separate the new kitchen from the social hall.

As discussed in the last newsletter, the Trustees have been asked to create more office space in the Parish House. We continue to discuss ideas to renovate the Parish House to provide more work space for Bethany's employees. No definitive decisions have been made, so please pray for guidance to the Trustees in these important decisions.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand

---

## “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: November 6th / December 4<sup>th</sup>

## Missions/Outreach Committee...

Missions & Outreach Committee met on Sunday, October 16, 2016 for the purposes of preparing the budget requests for 2017. The budget request will remain largely unchanged, with the only exceptions being a slightly larger request to cover the two community meals that we spearhead and a moving of funds from the Panther Packs into the Easter Basket give away, due to your faithfulness in meeting our goal of 120 fruit cups (10 boxes of 12) each month. We will do more planning for the Advent season and the December Community Dinner at a later meeting. We would gladly welcome your input for ideas for outreach or mission projects for Advent; please do make any suggestions to the pastor or Mike or Shelly.



### **Feed-A-Friend/Harvest Home** (HandUp Foundation)

(All donations will STAY LOCAL)

Ways you can help support this local cause:

- 1) Non-Perishable food items collection from: **November 1<sup>st</sup> thru November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**  
(Suggested items: Boxed stuffing, Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, mixed), Instant Mashed Potatoes, Canned Yams, Canned Fruit, Gravy (Instant or Canned).  
[These non-perishable food items will be displayed around the Altar and windows.]
- 2) Monetary Donations. (To purchase turkeys). [Please put donations in clear box in the back of the sanctuary.]

### **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 on **December 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.** Location: Christ Evan. Lutheran Church. Looking for Clean-Up Volunteers.

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.

**Community Dinner Meeting** will be on Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Christ Evan. Lutheran Church.

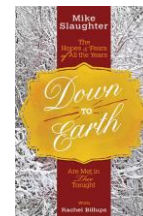
## Advent Bible Study – “Down to Earth” by Mike Slaughter

Advent Bible Study “Down to Earth” by Mike Slaughter. (4 weeks)

Offering two different times:

Tuesdays starting Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am OR Thursdays starting Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm.

A virgin birth. God's son...a helpless baby. Fleeing certain death. Nothing about the Christmas story is ordinary. Mike Slaughter says it's enough to confound the mind and make the heart contrite. In his book, *Down to Earth*, Slaughter presents a four-week Advent study that opens up God's Christmas surprise to us and examines how it changed everything.



Please sign up now on the sheets in the sanctuary or by calling the church office at 570-742-9796.

## Christian Education

Christian Education met on Monday, October 17, 2016, in order to put together their budget request for 2017. It was decided, via email and phone votes, that the Advent Study *Down to Earth* (see separate article) would be the one requested by Worship Team. The study will most likely take place on Tuesdays at 10:00 am and Thursdays at 7:00 pm replacing the *Zechariah* Study and the *Unbinding the Gospel* Study, both of which will end by Thanksgiving. Everyone from the congregation is invited to attend the *Down to Earth* study. Books will cost around \$13 with an optional \$7 Advent Devotional, but if you cannot afford it, PLEASE do not let the cost be a factor - just ask the pastor to get you a copy. We will continue to work and plan for the church-wide study *Unbinding Your Heart* this coming spring, and the 2017 VBS which will be run with Christ Lutheran Church.



## Share the Warmth Coat Giveaway Ministry Update

Again this year our 'Share The Warmth' coat giveaway was a huge success! This year we helped warm 86 community members, gave away 20 blankets, various clothing items, several Winter hats, scarves & gloves. 16 stuffed animals were 'adopted' by local children (and one or 2 adults!). We provided fellowship for many people to enjoy a snack and share a story. A few who have come year after year sat down and shared fellowship with our members. As usual we retained a supply of coats, hats and scarves if there is a need throughout the year (this past year, we had people call throughout the year with needs). We told people about our Contemporary Worship services being held on Sunday nights and handed out flyers for the Trunk or Treat we are holding on Oct. 30 & encouraged them to come to join in our Contemporary Worship with us first and stay for the Trunk or Treat.

Enormous thanks to ALL members of this church for supporting this wonderful, important, much-needed Outreach mission we provide to our community. Special thanks to Pastor Damien, Betsy Blyler, Linn Chesney, Sharon Foust, Edie Getz, Karen & Sarah Heimbach, Dorothy Hower, Barb Huff, Cindy Mohr, Rod Moore, Joan Warburton, & Ruth Williams for donations of snacks, time, and talents. A special 'Thank You' to my most helpful fellow Bethany staff members Cheri & Dan (& his daughter) for help with communication/advertising, the drop off donations & room set-up & break-down. May God Bless you all!

In His Love,

Shelly Sholley

## Events Happening in the Area....

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

**Riverwoods Auxiliary** – November 22, 2016 – Slifer House program by Jessica Owens, Director

**Coping with the Holidays – Hospice of Evangelical** – Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at Hospice of Evangelical 235 Hospital Dr., Lewisburg. A panel discussion designed to help those who have lost a loved one cope during the holiday season. The program, which will include with refreshments is free and open to the public. More information call 570-522-2550 Hospice of Evangelical.

**The Joe Murray Band** - November 6<sup>th</sup> – 5 PM –Soup & Sandwich (Cost: Donations) Prior to the concert and at 6:30 PM - The Joe Murray Band of Country Gospel Music @ Zion Lutheran Church, 39 Paradise St, Turbotville PA (Freewill Offering)



November 11th



## Congregational Life

Congregational Life met on Monday, October 17, 2016, in order to put together their budget request for 2017. They will be working on planning Advent events over the next couple of weeks, including a re-envisioned idea for the Cookie Sale... Stay tuned to the announcements and bulletins for more information.

## Ignite Youth Ministry

Youth Ministries continues to meet informally after the Contemporary Service. Currently, it is a time of games and fellowship, with a little discussion about the Scripture and sermon topics of the evening. Over the next several months, Safe Sanctuaries training will need to be conducted for all the adult volunteers, and clearances will be done as the group moves to a more formalized style and considers other events. Currently, the group is attended by teens who attend service and by children and parents who attend the Contemporary Service. Ad Board will be discussing the formalization of the group over the next few months and whether it needs funding and what type of curriculum and format to use. We will also be doing some joint events with St. Andrew's Youth Group when possible.



## Ad Board Report

This is the season of church budget preparation, and the majority of our committees have submitted their requests for 2017. The Board has examined all that are ready to date, has assisted in making a few minor adjustments to a couple of them, and has unanimously approved them. And on the same pages are the mission and goal statements worked out by each committee for next year.

The Conference form that details pastoral compensation for 2017 has been submitted to the Board and subsequently reviewed and approved.

The Board recently heard Pastor Damien revisit and explain in new detail the Alternative Minimum Structure for church governance that Conference, while not mandating, is slowly and gently promoting as a more efficacious way for many charges to conduct business. After a lengthy discussion about the ramifications of a Bethany switch to such a system, it was decided to table any move to do it, and we will stay with our current governing system for the foreseeable future.

The church's insurance carrier visited Bethany again just lately to conduct their required routine periodic assessment.

It was made known to the Board at its last meeting that (as approved by the Traditional Worship Committee and as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter) the Advent Bible study this year will be "Down to Earth", authored by Mike Slaughter.

Rod Moore



## Thanksgiving Service – Wednesday, November 23rd

There will be a Thanksgiving Service here at Bethany UMC in the Traditional Sanctuary, which will be held on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 pm.

Wishing everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!!!!

## Hanging of the Greens Work Party

Hanging of the Greens Work Party is schedule for Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> to decorate the church for this Christmas season. Time to be announced and watch for more information in your church bulletins.



## Announcements

### BETHANY UMC

107 S. Front St.  
Milton, PA 17847  
(570) 742-9796

[miltonbethanyumcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:miltonbethanyumcoffice@gmail.com)

#### Website:

[bethanyumc-miltonpa.org](http://bethanyumc-miltonpa.org)

#### Sunday Worship:

Sunday School: 9:00 am  
Traditional Service: 10:30 am  
Contemporary Service: 6:00 pm

### PASTOR DAMIEN

670 Stamm Rd  
Milton, PA 17847  
570-412-1943  
570-246-5514

[dbrooks@susumc.org](mailto:dbrooks@susumc.org)

### UPPER ROOMS

November & December  
Upper Rooms are now available  
in the sanctuary.

#### Dates to Remember:

October 30<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Trunk or Treat  
November 1<sup>st</sup> – 6:30 pm – Traditional Worship Team @ Parsonage  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00 pm – Trustees Committee  
November 6<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Traditional Worship “Sharing the Table” / Communion  
November 6<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 pm – Rockwell Communion  
November 6<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm – Contemporary Worship / Communion  
November 8<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – PSPRC  
November 9<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Contemporary Worship Team  
November 10<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Community Dinner Meeting @ Christ Evan Lutheran Church  
November 15<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Finance Committee  
November 15<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Ad Board  
November 20<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am – Harvest Home/Blended Worship Service (Traditional & Contemporary)  
November 20<sup>th</sup> – 1:30 pm – Annual Church Conference @ Christ UMC, Northumberland  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> – 4:00 pm – Thanksgiving Service Eve Service  
November 24<sup>th</sup> – Happy Thanksgiving Day  
November 26<sup>th</sup> – Hanging of the Greens (Time to be announced)  
November 27<sup>th</sup> – United Methodist Student Day (Special Offering) at both services.  
November 29<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am – “Down to Earth” Advent Bible Study (Nov 29<sup>th</sup> – Dec 20<sup>th</sup>)  
December 1<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 pm – “Down to Earth” Advent Bible Study (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>)

**“Unbinding the Gospel” Leader’s Study: 8:30 am every Monday. (Ends Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>)**

**“Zechariah” Bible Study: 10:00 am every Tuesday. (Ends Nov 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**“Unbinding the Gospel” Leader’s Study: 7:00 pm every Thursday. (Ends Nov 17<sup>th</sup>)**

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

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

**Sunday School: 9:00 am every Sunday morning.**

**Traditional Worship Service: 10:30 am every Sunday morning.**

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

**Ignite Youth Ministry: 7:30 pm every Sunday evening.**



BETHANY UMC OFFICE  
18 CENTER ST  
MILTON, PA 17847

