

BETHANY UMC

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

bethany18coffice@gmail.com

Website:

bethanyumc-miltonpa.org

Sunday Worship:

Gathering of the Family of God: 10:30 am
YouTube: Bethany UMC Milton

PASTOR TRAVIS

670 Stamm Rd
Milton, PA 17847
717-968-2254 (Cell)
570-246-5830 (Home)
tallshouse@susumc.org

Upper Room – Now Available

March / April

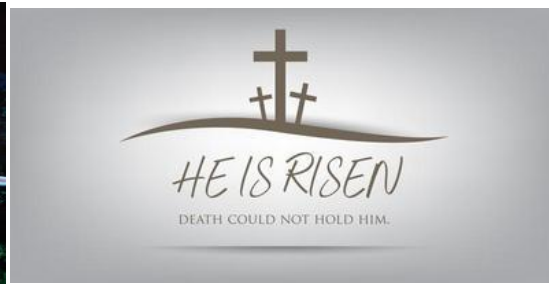
Daily Bread – Now Available


Jan / Feb / March

Announcements:

Dates to Remember:

- March 26th - 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God (Sanctuary)
- March 29th - Noon – Soup & The Word @ 1st Presbyterian Church
- April 2nd - 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God (Sanctuary) Palm Sunday
Communion / Panther Packs (Bring in fruit packs)
- April 5th - Noon – Soup & The Word @ 1st Presbyterian Church
- April 7th – 12:00 pm (Noon) – Good Friday Service @ Bethany UMC
- April 9th – 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God (Sanctuary) Easter Sunday
Happy Easter!!!!
- April 16th – 10:30 am - Gathering of the Family of God (Sanctuary)
- April 18th – 6:00 pm – Leadership Team Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- April 23rd – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God (Sanctuary)
(Special Offering: Native American Ministries)
- April 30th – 10:30 am – Gathering of the Family of God (Sanctuary)
- May 18th – Susquehanna Annual Conference @ Community Airs Center, Wmspt
- May 27th – 2 – 4 pm - Shane Claiborne “RawTools” Event @ Bethany UMC



 BETHANY UMC OFFICE
18 CENTER ST
MILTON, PA 17847

April
2023

Bethany United Methodist Church

“A Church with the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Milton”

Volume 10, Issue 4



April 2023

Milton's Good News

March– “At a Glance”

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Looking back in March for Bethany, Soup & The Word started by 1st Presbyterian. Held a free luncheon for our community leaders to see how Bethany can help them. A good turnout from our leaders, commissioners, mayor, and local organizations, with great discussions and ideas on how Bethany can help in the Milton Community. Huge **THANK YOU** to all who helped with this event! Another huge **THANK YOU** for all those who came and helped clean out the closets and go through boxes!

53 “They came out of the tombs after Jesus’ resurrection and^{al} went into the holy city and appeared to many people” Matthew 27:53 (NIV) -Cheri Buss



Soup & The Word



He has
risen



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

Begins Wednesday, March 1st, 2023 at Noon

Dates:
March 29th
April 5th

Special points of interest:

- “At a Glance” (pg 1)
- Soup & The Word (pg 1)
- Holy Week Scheudle (pg 1)
- Leadership Reports Due (pg 2)
- Our Prayer List (pg 3)
- FREE Event “RAWTOOLS” with Shane Claiborne .. (pg 5)
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Holy Week....

Sunday – April 2nd – Palm Sunday
10:30 am

Friday, April 7th – Good Friday
12:00 pm (Noon)

Sunday, April 9th – Easter Sunday (Happy Easter!!)
10:30 am He has Risen, Risen Indeed!





From Pastor Travis's Study

Brothers and Sisters,

Grace to you and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior and Healer of our brokenness.

I must confess to you that there is one part of the spring season that I do not like. I do not like the time change that takes place. I will be completely honest that I love the time change in the fall when I get one more hour of sleep, but I do not like losing that hour of sleep come spring time. I also do not like the uncertainty that comes with the changing of weather that comes in March and April. I do not like that one day it can be 70 degrees and the next day it will be 30 degrees. I just do not like drastic changes in my life.

I am such a creature of habit. When I find something that I like and I am comfortable with it I just stick with that thing. When I was a freshman in college I really liked the grilled cheese and fries that my school prepared, and it was the shortest line to get through. So, for the entire year I ate grilled cheese and fries for lunch. It was easy, comfortable, and I really liked it.

Unfortunately, this comfort and ease had a negative impact on my health. I gained weight. I found it harder to climb all the stairs that I had to in a day to get to my classes. I would arrive to my classes out of breath because of stairs.

This happens in other aspects of our lives as well. We are currently in the season of Lent. Lent is a way for us to realize that our lives are always changing and sometimes we have to step out of our comfort zones. It reminds us that we must trust God and turn everything over to Him, even our comfort and ease.

When things change how do we handle it? Do we get angry and leave the situation? Do we resist the change at all costs? Do we try to get rid of the one who made the changes?

I would like to take a moment to thank all of those who helped with our Community Leaders Luncheon. It was a wonderful event with great conversations. Now we must pray over what we have learned, and ask God to lead us into the next steps of reintroducing ourselves to our community.

Also, I want to highlight an upcoming event. On May 27, 2023 we will be hosting an event with Shane Claiborne. Shane will be presenting what he calls a Beating Guns event. Shane will take a decommissioned firearm and forge it into a gardening tool. Gardens are places of growth and beauty. They also produce food, and can be a place for people to gather. By taking this instrument of war and violence, we are turning it into a tool used for life. Please join us for this event and share this information with your friends. If anybody asks, WE ARE NOT (or Pastor Travis is not) TAKING ANYBODY'S GUNS AWAY. This is an opportunity to have a conversation around the topic of gun violence.

The good news about Lent is that through the discomfort and sacrifice that we must make, we know that Easter comes. Easter tells us that through the uncertainty of our lives, through our discomfort, even our suffering, that God through Jesus and the Holy Spirit is with us. He is walking beside us and guiding us. He is our certainty even in death. When the outcome of death was uncertain, Christ came and changed that. He showed us that even death will not separate us from God.

Let us go faithfully into this next phase of our lives and life of our church knowing that God, who raised Jesus up from the dead, is with us always.

May God Bless you in the days ahead.

The Best is yet to Be,

Pastor Travis



Leadership Reports...

All Committee/Leadership Reports need to be handed into the church office or pastor, by the second Sunday of each month. **For April they are due: Sunday, April 9th, 2023.** You can bring them into the church or email them to Pastor Travis at tallshouse@susumc.org. Thank You!

Fun Page

Easter Word Search



- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------|-----------|
| Angel | Holy | Messiah | Savior |
| Cross | Hope | Resurrection | Third Day |
| Crown of Thorns | Jesus | Risen | |
| Easter | King | Sacrifice | |
| Empty Tomb | Love | Salvation | |
| Good Friday | Mary | Sunday | |

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Bethany UMC Current Expense Income February 2023 Reports:

Financial Secretary's Report: February 2023

Date	Offering Envelopes	Plate Offering	Lenten Offering	Free Will Offering	Fire Restoration Fund	Hymnal	Total
2/05/23	\$820.00	\$365.00	\$100.00			\$25.00	\$1,310.00
2/12/23	\$662.00	\$13.00	\$45.00		\$315.00		\$1,035.00
2/14/23				\$95.00			\$95.00
2/19/23	\$3,100.00	\$17.00					\$3,117.00
2/26/23	\$812.00	\$5.00	\$100.00				\$917.00
Totals	\$5,394.00	\$400.00	\$245.00	\$95.00	\$315.00	\$25.00	\$6,474.00



*In the spirit of giving,
we thank you for
your generosity!*

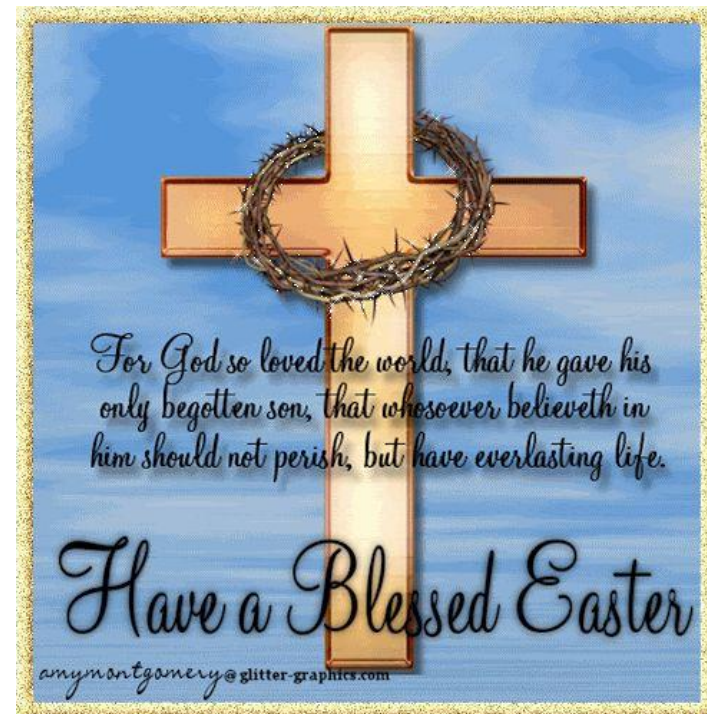
Finance Report (February Expenses In & Out):

Total Income Received: \$6,476.12
 Total Expenses Paid Out: \$18,632.35
 Average Attendance: 20

Fire Fund: Income Received: \$28.00 (Interest)
 Total Expenses: \$0
Balance \$363,907

Come celebrate Easter Sunday Service and bring your family & friends to Bethany UMC at 10:30 am on April 9th, 2023.

Bethany UMC wishes you all a blessed Easter and praising our Lord and Savior for His gift of sacrifice on the cross for us all.



Trustees Report...

Just a few Trustee items to report:

- The supplemental heating project has been completed. Although most of the winter is behind us, hopefully we've resolved the problem for the future.
- The ice machine was recently not making ice. Scott's Refrigeration found there were parts that needed replaced. When testing the power supply, he found the voltage to be higher than it should be. When the electrician was working on the heating installation he found the voltage to be normal. Concerned that the power supply may be fluctuating, PPL has been contacted to make sure there is not a problem with the transformer or electrical feed from the line.
- When reviewing the utility bills, it was noted our supply charges from our current supplier for natural gas and electricity were considerably higher than the price to compare from PPL and UGI, and significantly higher than some of the offers available on the market. We're now locked in with 24 month contracts for electricity and natural gas supply for the church and Parish House, and electricity supply for the parsonage, that are half of what we were being charged previously.
- One outstanding item from the kitchen inspection was to install an automatic closer on the restroom door. We've asked Poole Andersen for a proposal to furnish and install the closer.

Submitted by Jamie Aurand



Our Prayer List....

- Concerns:
- Tina – Anxiety and peace.
 - Denny (Travis' Uncle) – Biopsy tomorrow and for good results.
 - The Family of MariLee (Ron Huff's cousin) – MariLee passed away, Feb 20, 2023.
 - The Budman Family – Passing of Donna.
 - The Smith Family – Passing of Jeff.
 - Joyce – Cancer, starting of chemo therapy.
 - Jess's student – Loss of mother and now living with a sick gram.
 - Anna – Healing of thumb, continued healing with her cancer.
 - Louise – Health Concerns
 - Leaders of United Methodist Churches
 - Turkey / Syria Earthquake / Weather patterns around the world / California
 - Family/friends with Cancer: Florence Y, Mandy (Jim's friend); Rita (Karen's relative); Kenny (Sally's friend). Alicia (Sally); Dot (Judy's neighbor); Denny (Travis' Uncle); Russ W; Bonnie R; Randy; Anna; Joyce.
 - Leaders / State / Nation / Church / Country / Ukraine
 - Leadership Team: Cindy, James A, Rod, Bob F, James M, Dave W, Mike L, Dorothy, Pastor Travis.

- Joy:
- Marge (Travis' Grandmother) – Celebrated her 95th birthday.



N.O.W. Hear This!.....



“Sharing the Table” Milton Panther Packs Program is a way you can help this important ministry to feed the children in the Milton School District elementary schools. Bethany UMC will be in charge of providing to as many as 350 children per week, of fruit cups. **Also in need of plastic grocery bags.** Please bring in those items of the first of the month for **“Sharing the Table” or into the office Mon, Wed, 9 am -1 pm and Fri from 9 am – 12:30 pm.**



Next Food Collection Communion Dates: April 2nd / May 7th

Hygiene Kits Ministry...



Bethany UMC is proud and excited to announce that we are collecting items again for personal hygiene packs ministry for children in our schools and community! Please put into the bins in the Fellowship Hall.

The items that we are accepting for the packs are:

Soap/shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand/body lotion, feminine products. The small individual, hotel-sized bottles are preferred but any donations are welcomed!

We thank you in advance for your support of this exciting ministry!!

April Worship Schedule.....



Sunday, April 2nd – 10:30 am – Palm Sunday
(Communion will be offered)
Bring in fruit for “Panther Packs”



Friday, April 7th – 12:00 pm (Noon) – Good Friday Service @ Bethany UMC



Sunday, April 9th– 10:30 am Easter Sunday
Happy Easter – Our Lord & Savior has risen indeed!

Sunday, April 16th – 10:30 am - Worship

Sunday, April 23rd – 10:30 am - Worship

Sunday, April 30th – 10:30 am - Worship

Leadership Team Report...

Following is a summary of the activities of the Leadership Team that happened at, or resulted from, its February and March 2023 meetings.

The internal audit of the church's financial records for calendar 2022 was successfully completed and filed with the Lewisburg District well ahead of the March 15 submission deadline. Many, many thanks go to the team of Bethany staff and Leadership folks who performed this vital function so admirably.

The church is close to hiring a new custodian and is advancing in its search for an audio/visual technician.

Thanks to the diligence of Trustees Chair Jamie Aurand, Bethany is now in the process of contractually finalizing important and very impactful changes to the suppliers of its energy. Both gas and electricity are being switched to significantly less expensive rates. These types of savings obviously do not come easily in the face of present-day inflation, making us all the more appreciative of the “search and find” operation that stands to save us multiple dollars.

We are working to create a set of rules for those from outside our membership bailiwick who may seek to use Bethany premises, equipment, facilities, and utilities once they properly request any physical interaction with any of it. Such guidelines are aimed at protecting everyone on both sides of any such request. Cindy Mohr and Cheri Buss are taking the lead on drafting a suitable document. And the Leadership Team will make suggestions and edit it as it moves toward completion.

- Rod Moore

FREE Event “RAWTOOLS” with Shane Claiborne

May 27, 2023 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm “RawTools” Free Event with Shane Claiborne held at Bethany UMC. This event will be a time of worship, special music, and message by Shane Claiborne. Then we will walk down the street to the Milton Veteran’s Park, where Shane will melt down guns and repurpose them into gardening tools. Shane is a prominent speaker, activist, and best-selling author. Grace fuels his passion to help stop gun violence and the homeless.

All are welcomed and you will not want to miss Shane’s message.

