

BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

January 2019

New Year Prayer

Thank You Lord for giving me

The brand new year ahead.

Help me live the way I should

As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom

That I might help a friend,

Give me strength and courage

So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty

Help me will it with good things

Each new day filled with joy

And happiness it brings.

Amen

Let the Celebration
Begin !



Please be sure to read
through the
Events Booklet
found in the back of the
Sanctuary and on our
website for upcoming
events

In This Issue

- January Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Chain and Thank You Notes
- Celebrating Allen and Janet Henderson
- Church Groups
- Church Events
- 250th Anniversary Update
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Barbara Shaul ~ 01/01

Eric Edie ~ 01/06

Elizabeth Henderson ~ 01/07

James Boyd ~ 01/08

Ruth Calary ~ 01/10

Rachel Mitchell ~ 01/10

Hope Smithson ~ 01/13

Jack Rogers ~ 01/22

John Saneman ~ 01/24



Sam & Margie Fielder
January 27th



On behalf of Bethel Church, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to ...

Jack Rogers

for the incredible work he did on refurbishing the table that is in the Foyer of the CE Building that the Luckey Bible resides on. The hard work and dedication you display time and time again for Bethel Church is beyond words. The significant contribution you made in restoring a piece of our history will be cherished for many years to come.

From all of us here at Bethel Church, thank you ever so much for all you do for all of us.

In Christ's Love ...

The Congregation of Bethel



We have a new website

bethel-md.org

Come see all the wonderful things we have to offer

DEACON'S UPDATE

We uphold the following members, relatives and friends in our prayers and pray God's healing upon them:

Ongoing Prayers:

Gretchen Shanklin, Billy Gross, Bruce Young, Leonora Rose, Jack Shaul, Dorothy Goldstein, George Reeves, and Jerry Wiley.

Bruce Snyder, friend of the Morrrows and the Louderbacks.

Rev. Bruce and Barbara Barstow, former pastor at Bethel and his wife.

Dan Kelleher, brother-in-law of Jack and Betty Rogers.

Jay and Martha Elliott's grandson, James Kennedy, friends of Dan and Mary Beth Scott.

Howard Eisner, brother-in-law of Carol Morrow.

Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback.

Gary Dillard, friend of The Swifts.

Charlie Rozek, Sandy Hughes' nephew.

Olivia Demmler, friend of Carol Morrow.

Gail Lowe will be updating the Prayer Concerns. If you would like to add someone or you feel someone can be removed from the list, please call Gail at 443-567-0150 or email her at gggalowe@aol.com

Dear Bethel Church,

As the Executive Director of Massanetta Springs, I would like to extend our most sincerest gratitude for your contribution to our Living Waters Campaign. The funds that you have so generously given will help in our efforts to refurbish our facility with repairs to our flooring, restrooms, and place a donor recognition sign in our Historic Hotel Lobby to celebrate the generosity of so many like you.

The Board of Trustees and I look forward to updating you with our accomplishments and I look forward to being able to invite you back to enjoy another fulfilling experience with us.

In Christ,
Clayton Rascoe
Executive Director
Massantta Springs Camp & Conference Center

To the Members of Bethel Church,

Your generosity is greatly appreciated in assisting in our efforts to provide families with livestock, resources and training needed to lift the impoverished up and out of poverty. Thank you for supporting our mission and enabling us to continue our work here at Heifer International.

Sincerely,
Thi
Volunteer for Heifer International

Dear Bethel Family,

Thank you all ever so much for the outpouring of love I received during the Christmas Holiday. I greatly appreciate all the beautiful cards and generous gifts. My family and I truly are blessed to be part of this wonderful family.

All My Love ...
~ Melissa Dick



Celebrating Allen & Janet Henderson

Allen grew up in Jarrettsville where he was baptized and confirmed at Bethel. His family were faithful members there and where generations of his family worshipped.

Growing up on a farm in Street, Janet met Allen at North Harford High. Allen played trumpet in the band and she was a cheerleader. Following graduation from NHHS in 1963, Janet attended Strayer Business School while Allen attended Shepherd College in West Virginia. He then went on to Strayer for business courses.

Following their marriage in 1966 at Slate Bridge Presbyterian, Janet's home church in Cardiff, they built their house. Janet joined Bethel and they began their life in Jarrettsville.

Allen worked at the family business, Harford Propane Gas Company. After selling the company to Southern States, Inc., Allen continued to manage the business until his retirement. Allen has been a faithful member of the Jarrettsville Fire Company for over 50 years responding to fire and emergency calls which has kept him busy in service to the community.

After being a mom to Kristen and Scott, Janet worked in several County offices before becoming Harford County's Jury Commissioner. She retired in 2004.

The couple's activities at Bethel include Allen's service as Trustee and on the cemetery committee and caring for the Henderson Memorial Garden. Janet is a Deacon serving on the Worship and Music Committee, as a hard working member of the bereavement committee and is a past Ruling Elder.

The Henderson's are blessed to have Kirsten, husband Keith Comer, sons Justin and Jordan and granddaughter Avalyn Comer living close by in Norrisville. Their son, Scott with his wife Jennifer and their daughter Elizabeth live even closer....next door.

Spending time at their condo in Ocean City, being close to family and lifelong friends is their joy in retirement. Both enjoy playing golf and travelling far and wide.

Thank you to both Allen and Janet for their service to Bethel.

Church Groups

CHURCH FLOWERS

Are you interested in donating flowers to decorate the Sanctuary for Sunday services? Please call Betty Rogers at 410-692-6579 to learn how you can have an arrangement made in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a birthday/anniversary, or to show your kindness to a friend.



BETHEL CROSS STITCHERS

The Bethel Cross Stitchers will meet on **January 2nd & 16th at 9:00 a.m.** in the Foyer of the CE Building.

If you would like to enjoy the fellowship of other Christian women while learning a craft, we welcome you join in on the fun.

Cross Stitch Heaven

MARY'S CIRCLE

We welcome you to join the Women of Bethel on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Foyer of the CE Building to share your love for God as well as your knowledge of the Bible.

The next meeting will be held on **January 8th.**



THE BREAKFAST BUNCH

The Men's Bible Study Group will begin a new series on Solomon. They will meet on **January 10th and 24th at 7:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. A continental breakfast will be available. The lesson will end at 8:00 a.m. If you would like more information, please call Bob Horn at 443-807-0563, or send an email to hornsrb@aol.com



CHANCEL CHOIR

If you love to sing and would like to be part of the Bethel Chancel Choir, we ask that you come to rehearsals held on Sundays at 11:50 a.m. or you can contact our Music Director, Kirsten Fitzsimmons via email at kirstenfitzsimmons@hot.com



HOME VISITS

If you need a little extra support and guidance, are having an upcoming surgery, or you need some one-on-one time with Pastor Todd, please feel free to call Melissa Dick in the Church Office at 410-692-5282 or you can email her at melissadick@bethel-md.org to schedule a Home Visit.

Your spiritual well being is as important as your physical well being.



Church Events

Advent Luncheon

The Christian Education Committee hosted our annual Advent Luncheon on Sunday, December 2nd. It was a wonderful way to start the Christmas season with delicious food, fellowship and singing with the accompaniment of MaryLee Swift on the piano. We hope all who were able to attend this festive afternoon luncheon enjoyed their time with their Bethel Family. Please enjoy some of the photos that captured the spirit of Christmas



Church Events

Christmas Shoe Tree

What a glorious way to show the children of our community that Bethel Church supports them in their time of need than with gift cards to help with the purchasing shoes. The Deacons are so very thankful for your generous donations this Christmas season. Your contributions will go to purchase \$1,510 worth of gift cards ! Thank you to all who were able to help make a difference in the lives of so many children in our community. You truly are doing God's work!



Puppet Show

Please join us for an exciting adventure with the Yadah Ministries Puppet Show on

Saturday ~ January 19th at 6:00 p.m.



We will have a Free-Will Offering to help support the Mission work Yadah Ministries do through the art of puppetry to teach the word of the Lord in our communities

Feel free to invite your friends, family, and neighbors to this joyous event.

We hope to see you there !

Women in our Church

Over the course of history, women have played an intricate part in our church. We would like to celebrate the women who have paved the way with their faithfulness and dedication to God with an All-Women's Service on ...

***Sunday — January 20th with Guest Minister
Rev. Kimberly Secrist Ashby***

Please be sure to join us as we will also be celebrating music written by women and performed by our Music Director, Kirsten Fitzsimmons.

Recognizing Our Community

You are invited,

The Congregation of Bethel Presbyterian Church in Madonna will celebrate our 250th Anniversary in 2019. We look forward to highlighting the history of our faith and service with a year-long celebration centered on special services, community events, musical performances, and other memorable activities. We truly believe this is an opportunity to share not only our individual church's heritage and history but to celebrate with all Christians and people of faith in this special recognition.

As part of these celebrations, one Sunday of each month, we plan to recognize the various occupations and vocations of our congregation and of our community. Faith has guided us in choosing our profession. How we worship on Sundays carries throughout the remaining week days in how we relate to others in our place of employment and in our family gatherings and in our recreational activities, practicing stewardship and faith. Bethel recognizes that faithfulness in your practice.

During Bethel's beginning, a large portion of our congregation were farming families. On Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 10:30 a.m., during our worship hour, we will recognize the agricultural occupations of Bethel members and descendants as well as those of the community. We invite you, a faithful steward in the agricultural field, to join us in worship on this day, as we share our appreciation and memories in faith. Come and share the ever-expanding role of the farmer as that profession has grown through the years. Let us give thanks and worship together.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

Rev. Todd D. Smith
Minister

Ruth Walker
SBC Committee Member



Moments in Time

As we begin our joyous celebration of the 250th Anniversary of Bethel Presbyterian Church, each month we will give you a look into what was going on in the church as well as in our area, state and country. Please enjoy a walk down memory lane ...

Bethel Presbyterian Church — 1761 - 1800

When Bethel Church was begun this area was a wilderness and largely populated by Indian tribes with whom the settlers often had conflict. Maryland was also still an English colony, ruled by a Royal Governor appointed by King George III to whom all owed allegiance. The people were also taxed to support the Church of England, to which very few belonged. It is interesting to note that Bethel is 9 years older than our country, 16 years older than the Baltimore Presbytery and 20 years older than the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

2019 marks the 250th anniversary of the official first call for a "settled minister". However, the October 20, 1761 minutes of the New Castle Presbytery, to which this area belonged at the time, show a request for "supply ministers" for the area then known as Upper Node Forest or sometimes referred to as Ye Head of Winters Run. So, we are probably at least 8 years older than we thought we were. In 1765 Robert Kirkwood is quoted as saying, "there was already a large congregation at Bethel". In 1769 91 "subscribers" gave 80 pounds, 2 shillings and 16 pence for the pastor's salary, an amount which would have been about \$400.00. This was considered a very good salary. It is also mentioned that the salary was sometimes provided in grain, grown by the local farmers. The Rev. John Clark answered the call and stayed at Bethel until 1775, after which he did some supply work here.

At a date unknown to us now, a log cabin was built for the purpose of worship. It was located in what is now the cemetery near the grave of Rev. George Luckey. The oldest recorded grave is that of Charles Kerr who died Oct 22, 1777.

In 1784 George Luckey was called as the 2nd minister. His tenure here is the longest, having served for 39 years. He is also known for the Luckey Bibles, having bought 40 of them in 1789 and then sold to local people. Bethel's copy is in a sealed case in the foyer.

These sketches will continue throughout the year in each newsletter, accompanied by concurrent national and world events in order to provide perspective. For those interested in more detailed history, there are 2 books, both titled "Bethel Presbyterian Church". The 1st, by Laura Cairnes, was published in 1938 to mark the 50th anniversary of the present building. The 2nd, by Anna Lee Kirkwood Smith, was published in 1969 to celebrate Bethel's 200th anniversary.

Nation's History — 1761 - 1800

- 1770 The Boston Massacre occurred when the British shot into a crowd of demonstrators
- 1773 Boston Tea Party
- 1775 Paul Revere's Ride
- 1775-1783 Revolutionary War
- 1776 Declaration of Independence - 4 signees from Maryland
William Paca
Charles Carroll
Thomas Stone
Samuel Chase
James Watt develops steam engine
- 1777 Stars & Stripes flag was approved
- 1781 British General Cornwallis surrenders to the Americans at Yorktown, VA
- 1782 Congress approves Great Seal of the United States and bald eagle as its symbol
- 1786 Congress adopts silver dollar and decimal system for money
- 1789 George Washington elected the First President of the United States

Constitution of the United States was signed and had three Maryland signees
Daniel Carroll
James McHenry
Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer
- 1790 District of Columbia established as the seat of the U.S. Government
Benjamin Franklin died
- 1791 U.S. Bill of Rights was ratified
First Bank of the United States was established
- 1794 Eli Whitney invents cotton gin
- 1795 Johns Hopkins Hospital founded
- 1796 First elephant arrived in the U.S. from India
- 1798 Edward Jenner invents first vaccination
- 1799 Construction of Fort McHenry begins

Session Summary

The Session held a regular meeting on Dec. 20, 2018. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Todd, devotion led by Pastor Todd, who also led us in prayer.

CLERK'S REPORT

Approved November 29, 2018 session minutes.

Communion held on Dec, 2, by pew.

Julie Culotta Deer Creek Youth Choir Director would like to hold an "Open Mike" for the youth choir on Feb. 15, and concert on June 18 to help fund the youth choir's trip to Cincinnati, Ohio. No decision at this time was made.

MODERATOR REPORT

Sanctuary thermostat – The thermostat in sanctuary needs to be at 60 degrees at all times in order for piano and organ to stay in tune.

Much discussion of outside organizations and the use of Bethel facilities. Session asked that Trustees bring back a proposal they think would be fair and bring back to Session. The Session approved \$1,000. For Deer Creek Chorale and \$500. for AARP as annual donation to Bethel.

Moved and seconded to give Gossert Forestry Timber company a time extension because of the weather.

WORSHIP & MUSIC – No Report

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP – Dan Miller, C.P.A. was hired to perform the job as our treasurer. Don will receive \$300/mo. for his services. Lynda McRee will join Finance Committee and will be transitioning to the role of permanent treasurer upon her retirement in Aug. 2019. Dave Hinkley will continue as interim treasurer.

Treasurer's Report

Operating Income — YTD (Nov):	\$182,296	-34678 vs PY
Includes Offerings and Other Income		Lake House rent +5100
		Env income -68737
Operating Expense — YTD (Oct):	\$231,020	-16109 vs PY
Includes Personnel, Programs, and Trustees		Music & Wor +3804
Off sup: +4549 Staff: - 9189 Trustees: -13,311		
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(\$48,724)	— excludes investment and restricted expenses

Status of Investment Accounts (12/6/2018)

A balance of \$25,416 was reported in the Restricted Accounts.

A balance of \$1,013,831 was in the investment accounts as of 11/30/2018. The balance at the beginning of the year was \$1,009,278.

In May, \$15,000 was transferred from the General Fund to cover the operating deficit. In August, another \$15,000 was transferred. The committee approved the transfer of another \$15,000 in November.

Budget 2019

The Personnel Committee submitted a recommendation for Terms of Call of the Senior Pastor and salary adjustments for the other staff members. After discussion with the FC, the following recommendations are being made for 2019:

Terms of Call for Senior Pastor: 5.3% (Cash salary increase of 6.5%)
Other members of staff: 3%

A draft budget has been prepared with the following projections:
Operating Income: \$171,726 Operating Expenses: \$277,862 Op-
erating Deficit: (\$106,136)

Details available on 2019 Budget spreadsheet

The personnel committee submitted a recommendation for Terms of Call for Senior Pastor and salary adjustment for the other staff members. The Finance Committee recommendation are being made for 2019.

Terms of call – Sr. Pastor 5.3 % (cash salary increase of 6.5%)

Other staff members – 3%

Moved and seconded to send letter to congregation explaining the current spending deficient and encouraging additional gifts between now and end of year. Carries.

Session action – appoint the following individuals to have signature authority for all Bethel brokerage accounts at PNC investments.

Dave Hinkley, Gary Lowe, Robert Horn

EDUCATION - Confirmands to be confirmed 3rd Sunday Feb, 2019

SBC TASK FORCE – The committee continues to work hard on the 250th anniversary for the coming year, there will be a celebration booklet, guest ministers, special music, memorabilia, history artifacts, something for everyone.


The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:45 p.m. by Rev. Todd

Respectfully submitted,
Polly S. Winskowski, Clerk of Session

2019

JANUARY

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
<p></p> <p>9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:30 Scout Troop #809 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club</p>	<p>7:00 Deacons Meeting</p> <p>1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music 7:00 Finance & Stewardship</p>	<p>6:30 Bridge Group</p> <p>Office is CLOSED</p> <p>1:30 Mary's Circle 2:00 SBC Task Force Meeting 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers</p>	<p>7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals 7:00 pm Deer Creek Board Mtg.</p>		<p>Scout Crew #265 11:00 am - 2:00 pm</p>
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
<p>9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:00 Confirmation Class 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club</p>	<p>7:00 Deacons Meeting</p> <p>1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music 7:00 Finance & Stewardship</p>	<p>1:30 Mary's Circle 2:00 SBC Task Force Meeting 6:30 Bridge Group 7:00 Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers</p>	<p>4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals 7:00 pm Session</p>		<p>Yadah Ministries Puppet Show 6:00 p.m.</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 1:00 Confirmation Class 6:00 Blue Ribbon 4-H Club</p>	<p>1:00 AARP Board Meeting 4:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Worship & Music 7:00 Finance & Stewardship</p>	<p>6:30 DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group</p>	<p>9:00 am Bethel Cross Stitchers</p>	<p>7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals 7:00 pm Deer Creek Board Mtg.</p>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Kimberly Secorist Ashby Proclamation - Chad Shrodes 11:30 Hospitality Hour</p>	<p>5:30 Staff Meeting 6:30 DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group</p>	<p>7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals</p>	<p>7:00 am The Breakfast Bunch 4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals</p>	<p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TODAY</p>		
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
<p>9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Hospitality Hour 11:35 Congregational Meeting and Installation of Officers</p>	<p>1:00 AARP Monthly Meeting 7:00 Admin & Personnel</p>	<p>7:00 DCC Rehearsals 6:30 Bridge Group</p>	<p>4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals</p>	<p>4:30 pm DCYC Rehearsals</p>		