




BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

August 2020

In light of the troubles we have today,
There's just a few things I'd like to say.
Although the days of this feel long,
Together as a country, we stand strong.

Share your kindness and your love.
It's no time to be mean, push or shove.
Hold on to your loved ones, holt them tight.
Listen to the rules and do what's right.

Spend these precious times with your family.
Read, do puzzles, play games and be silly.
Watch Paw Patrol, snuggle up on the sofa,
as Mommy is longer a chauffeur. 

Take time to enjoy all the little things,
and the pleasure they bring.

But most importantly of all,
Stay safe, be brave, we shall not fall !

Saturday
August 29th



8:00 a.m.
until
2:00 p.m.

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Nearly three centuries ago, Soren Kierkegaard said that if he were a doctor and could prescribe just one remedy for all the ills of the modern world, he would prescribe silence. For even if the Word of God were proclaimed, Kierkegaard said, it would not be heard or heeded, for there is too much noise -and busyness in our world. Life is full of noise both outward and inward that can truly impede our ability to truly listen to what God is calling us to but if we heed the scripture for today that is exactly what we need to strive for.

"There is a story told by an auditor at one of John Dewey's famous lectures at Columbia, given long ago after he retired. The hour was spent with a continuous flow of words from the seated figure, he rose, turned, and slowly walked off the dais, and departed, "That is a lot clearer to me now." Those present had not heard a lecture on philosophy; they had witnessed a philosopher at work, philosophizing, in the process of listening to & clarifying his thoughts."

Remember Samuel Lying down in the temple? Presumably down for the night. The voice of God is calling. Twice he is called by the voice of God and he runs to Eli thinking his mentor had called him. The third time Eli perceives what is happening and he tells Samuel to go and open himself to the Lord by saying, "here I am Lord your servant is listening".

I got to thinking how hard it can be to simply listen sometimes. We formulate a response while someone is talking to you instead of listening to them. We often them prematurely respond based on our perception instead of listening and responding to what someone else is trying to convey.

Sometimes we say the words "I don't want to hear it!" when confronted with a particularly bothersome subject to us or worse we zone out and tune out instead of seeking to engage in a conversation that is difficult for us.

Here is the catch. What if these discussions the Holy Spirit is trying to lead you? You will not hear if you are more intent on your own thoughts and speaking them than you are on listening to the other person.

Can we be prepared to hear the voice of God and say "Here I am Lord your servant is listening"? In this age of causes we have begun to lose the art of listening to each other and it is breeding extremism on all sides of the social, religious and political spectrums that threaten our ability to listen to and learn from each other. All because of an initial decision not to listen to what the other has to say. I believe now more than any other time in society, because of the growing lack of interpersonal communication among people, we have lost the art of listening.

What extremism so dangerous is that we begin to worship and be defined by an ideology. Discussion and dialogue then become impossible because a person's cause, mission, or task has been elevated to a level of quasi divinity. Listening may not change our views but may help us to understand the person on the other side of our discourse.

If we as a church, as a country, even as members of nuclear family units, want to lay hold to the unity that is at the heart of the gospel we cannot be afraid to enter into dialogue with those who disagree with us and we cannot be afraid to listen for the voice of God within those discussions.

If we refuse to listen for his voice in such situations, just like Samuel, we will not recognize it even if it is as plain as day. More importantly however, we need to start looking at people not as how we see them but as how God intends them to be. **That is as Children of the Most High, called, sanctified, and sealed by his love.** To look at them that way we need to listen to them with such an attitude. "When we can begin to see everyone in such in light of how God views them", says the theologian Karl Barth, "we come close to touching the heart of the most high."

How can we begin to listen to God?

1. Listen to each other. Within the church we will not always agree but we can avoid much wasted emotional baggage if we all practice the art of listening. Not only today but in everyday life. The more time we practice listening to one another the more we will more hear and the easier it will be to discern spiritual path and vision that God intends for us as a body and individually.

2. Be silent. Eli sent Samuel back to his bed to lay down and be quiet, so that he could hear. We need to take time each day to listen to and clarify our thoughts. Take time each day to simply listen without thinking and rest.

How many times does a solution to a problem arise once we stop searching for it so hard and we begin to rest? We wrestle with a problem all day and even find it hard to get to sleep, and all of the sudden when we do, we wake up with that EUREKA!! feeling. It feels good. It should, but maybe just maybe God is slipping something to us in our sleep that we were too busy to hear when we were awake. Do not let the noise of the world rob you joy of your personal relationship to Christ.

Be silent with God. After you take time to pray begin your time of listening. Maybe even with these words. Hear I am Lord. Your servant is listening!!

Food for thought.....

~ Pastor Todd



AUGUST Birthdays



Marilyn O'Neill ~ 08/02

Hazel Adair ~ 08/12

Brandon Calary ~ 08/13

Jack Rowley ~ 08/16

Norma Campbell ~ 08/18

Robert Kirkwood ~ 08/18

Marylin Bradford ~ 08/19

Bill Pullen ~ 08/20

Nancy Cowman ~ 08/22

Jennifer Henderson ~ 08/22

Kim Rutledge ~ 08/22

Jean Kirkwood ~ 08/23

Douglas Smith, Jr. ~ 08/25

Beverly Schmidt ~ 08/26

Marty Nichols ~ 08/28

Libby Preston ~ 08/28

Debbie Huster ~ 08/30

Mary Beth Scott ~ 08/30

Mo & Ruth Howard
August 2nd

Sam & Marsha Brooks
August 5th

Patrick & Norma Campbell
August 8th

Leo & Kathleen Fowler
August 18th

Joe & Marylin Bradford
August 30th

Greg & Jane Burgess
August 31st

Ted & Lynda McRee
August 31st



2020 Per Capita

Please be sure to submit your
Per Capita fee of
\$35.73
by the end of the year

DEACON'S UPDATE

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

Ongoing Prayers:

Billy Gross, Dorothy Goldstein, George Reeves, Jerry Wiley, Sandy Hughes, Carolyn Mattheiss, Shirlee Nystrom, John Louderback, and Allen Henderson.

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

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

Dan Garey, brother of Sandy Louderback.

Lynn Zeichner, friend of Sandy Louderback

Olivia Demmler, friend of Carol Morrow.

Gail Kimble, niece of Tom & MaryLee Swift.

Hazel Liff, friend of Andi & Ron Holmes.

Kim Rutledge, wife of Jim Rutledge, friend of Dan & Mary Beth Scott.

The Families of Marsha Brooks.

Jean Mattheiss, sister of Bruce Mattheiss.

Leah Ridenour, friend of Gail Thomas.

John Dorn, friend of John & Rita Cairnes.

Mary Borrell, aunt of Gail Lowe.

Lisa Comer Wilson.

Doug Nichols, son of Marty Nichols.

Frank Clement, friend of Sam and Marsha Brooks.

Barbara Mitchell's Family.

Jennifer Henderson, daughter-in-law of Allen & Janet Henderson.

Becky Hoffman, niece of Sam & Marsha Brooks.

Dorothy Ornadoff, friend of Sandy Hughes.

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



Our Dear & Loving Church Family,

I would like to say thank you for all the get well and thinking of you cards I have been receiving. I am a lot better now and getting stronger with God's help!

God Bless ...
Sandy Hughes

Dear Bethel Church,

Your support makes all of us smile! The last three months have been difficult as we have navigated the "new normal" that COVID 19 has brought upon us. Thank you for being a friend to Welcome One by assisting us in our mission to provide safe shelter for those on the streets. You are the reason our residents have hope for the future!

Thank you for standing alongside us and being part of a strong foundation that keeps our organization fulfilling its mission. We could not do it without you!

Sincerely,
Liz Tutino, Executive Director
Welcome One Emergency Shelter

Dear Friends,

Please know that your gift of \$500 for the Disaster Relief Fund for Tornado and Flood Relief, Nashville, TN as well as your gift of \$1,000 for Disaster Relief and PDA Support blesses those who walk the hard road toward recovery, letting them know they are not alone, helping them to find hope in the midst of chaos, and making real the promise of Pentecost - the tangible demonstration of the "mighty acts of God" in healing and restoration ... in the language each one needs most to hear.

In Christ's Peace,
Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Church Events



Each month we will feature a Bethel member we would like to **Show with Cards** of support, encouragement, love and laughter. This month we are sending our thoughts and prayers to ...

Libby Preston
4503 Norrisville Road
White Hall, MD 21161

I'm sure she would love to receive a birthday card (August 28th) or a note letting her know that you are thinking of her and wishing her well during this troubling time with being quarantined at home.



Please be sure to have your child's Back Pack for the new school year ready for our **VIRTUAL BLESSING** during the Worship Service on Sunday, September 6th.

Let's start off the new school year on a positive note !



AppleTreeSigns.com

custom made farm signs of all kinds
- church banners - real estate -
- decals - lots more !

Free delivery it is my way of saying
thank you for your business

Bob is waiting for your call
410-708-1341 or

bobthesignman@yahoo.com

Medical Equipment

If you are in need of a wheelchair, crutches,
cane or possibly a shower chair,
please contact

Melissa Dick in the Church Office at
410-692-5282

to arrange pick up for one of these **FREE**
items to borrow for as long as you need.



Church Events

Flea Market

Bethel is partnering with the Jarrettsville Lions Club to host our Spring Flea Market on ...

Saturday — August 29th at 8:00 a.m.

Spaces are \$15 each



Please be sure to contact Melissa Dick in the Church Office - 410-692-5282 or by email at melissadick@bethel-md.org to reserve your space.



***Fall Service
Hours
Begin on Sunday
September 6th at
10:30 a.m.***



I MOVED !

Polly Winskowski has a new address

336 Martindale Lane
Forest Hill, MD 21050
Cell: 443-655-5048



Bethel Cemetery Tours

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, our scheduled tours have been postponed until further notice but if you would a private tour, please call the Church Office at 410-692-5282.

Our Quarantine Life ...



Marty Nichol's princess Amber and her Christening Gown that she gave to a friend to use for her baby.



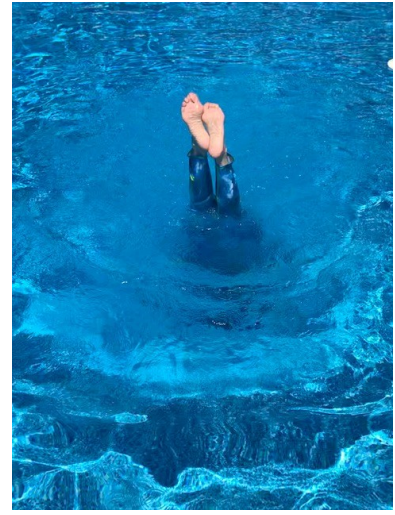
Tom Swift & Jack Rogers solving the world's problems



Carolina Galliher continues to raise Monarch Butterflies and making our world a more beautiful place ❤️



The Rowleys - having fun on the beach and with each other



Tom Swift “catching” up on some much need rest and MaryLee “diving” into what she does best



The Gallihers
Family Fun Time
with cousins
making
Tye Dye shirts
and wearing
Crazy Socks

It doesn't get any
better than this !

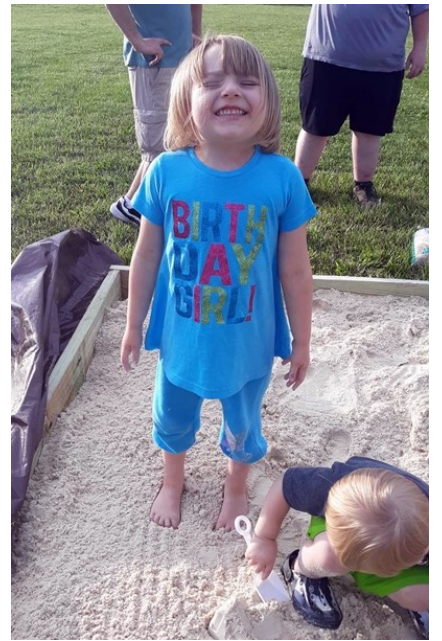


The Smith Family

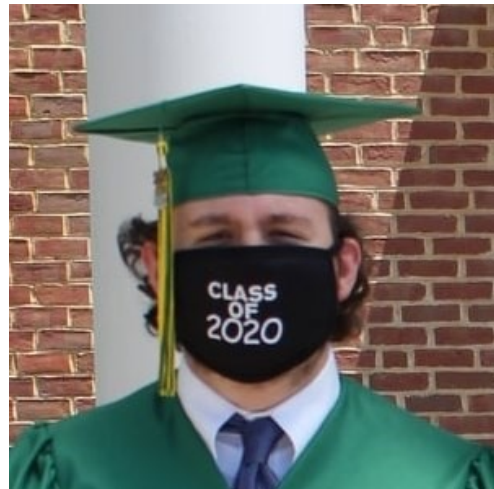
COVID-19 can't slow this
family down ...
Ice cream rides
fresh produce sales
Ratatouille and
Our Little Graduate



The Morrow Family
We Miss You !!
Congratulations Celia ♥



The Calary Kids ... Leah and Brandon having some fun in the sand and celebrating a special birthday girl ♥



So happy to see The Sambor Family celebrating Tyler's Graduation ♥

... Our Quarantining Life



It all began with Sam & Marsha Brooks Their beautiful 7 Grandchildren ♥



The Smiling Seilers
Douglas, Matthew,
Jennifer and Brooke

We hope to see you all soon ♥



The Clayton Clan
Enjoying Quarantine Life Together ♥