

BPC REVIEW

Bethel Presbyterian Church Newsletter

September 2020

I found this older article from 2005. I hope you enjoy it:

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you know that you should reach out to someone in Christ and share your faith, but were too scared or even a bit ashamed to do so, thinking someone might label you a "religious fanatic", "self-righteous", or "holier than thou".

I have often found myself in situations that I felt the urge to share and didn't because I thought it would be awkward or not well received. When and how to share your faith can be a difficult and ominous decision. A small article I came across recently may help. It helped me very much to put my insecurities in perspective. Lih Yuh Kuo relays the following story:

A little boy invited his mother to attend his elementary school's first teacher-parent conference. To the little boy's dismay, she said she would go. This would be the first time that his classmates and teacher would meet his mother and he was embarrassed by her appearance. Although she was a beautiful woman, there was a severe scar that covered nearly the entire right side of her face. The boy never wanted to talk about why or how she got the scar.

At the conference, the people were impressed by the kindness and natural beauty of his mother despite the scar, but the little boy was still embarrassed and hid himself from everyone. He did, however, get within earshot of a conversation between his mother and his teacher, and heard them speaking.

"How did you get the scar on your face?" the teacher asked.

The mother replied, "When my son was a baby, he was in a room that caught fire.

Everyone was too afraid to go in because the fire was out of control, so I went in. As I was running toward his crib, I saw a beam coming down and I placed myself over him trying to shield him. I was knocked unconscious, but fortunately, a fireman came in and saved both of us". She touched the burned side of her face. "This scar will be permanent, but to this day, I have never regretted doing what I did."

At this point, the little boy came out running toward his mother with tears in his eyes. He hugged her and felt an overwhelming sense of the sacrifice that his mother had made for him. He held her hand tightly for the rest of the day.

The sacrifice that Jesus made for us was monumental. His beam was a cross and on it he not only gave his life for ours, but he also took on the heavy burden of any sin we have ever committed in order to give to us an eternity of peace, love, and joy in both good times and bad.

When looked at in this perspective the, sharing of one's faith can become a joyous experience of grace as we share with people the grace and love of a God that loves us so much that he would give up his life for our sakes. What glorious good news! It's worth sharing, isn't it?

Food for thought. . . Pastor Smith

Fall Service Hours

We are
Continuing our
Worship Service
In-Person and
on Facebook
at 9:30 a.m.



In This Issue

- September Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Prayer Concerns
- Thank You Notes
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SEPTEMBER Birthdays

Reilly Saneman ~ 09/05

Doris Lytle ~ 09/08

Nelson Berigtold ~ 09/09

Zachary Clayton ~ 09/12

George Reeves ~ 09/12

Bob Horn ~ 09/15

Dave Hinkley ~ 09/16

Bruce Mattheiss ~ 09/18

Chuck Saneman ~ 09/18

Nancy Berigtold ~ 09/20

Kathleen Fowler ~ 09/22

Christopher Mitchell ~ 09/23

David Thomas ~ 09/24

David Amos ~ 09/26

Keith Comer ~ 09/28

Kathleen Clayton ~ 09/29



Eric & Wendy Edie
September 2nd

Anthony & Deborah Saneman
September 16th

David & Sherry Kirchner
September 24th



2020 Per Capita

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



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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, Allen Henderson, Ron Holmes, Maurice Baldwin, Beverly Schmidt and Joe Bradford.

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.

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.

Doug Nichols, son of Marty Nichols.

Frank Clement, friend of Sam and Marsha Brooks.

Becky Hoffman, niece of Sam & Marsha Brooks.

Dorothy Ornadorff, 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



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your very generous donation of \$500 that we received in May. Throughout COVID-19, we have continued our food distribution at the offices in drive-through manner in addition to operating pop-up food distributions throughout our service area. The number of households that we serve has increased significantly. Your donation made an impact on our ability to respond to this rising food insecurity as well as to other needs of our residents that have come out of the pandemic.

We are deeply grateful for this support and the support that you have given us over many years. It is a great blessing to be part of such a compassionate and generous community.

With warmest regards,
Cynthia Abbott
Executive Director
Mason-Dixon Community Services, Inc.



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

George Reeves
112 Chestnut Hill Road
Forest Hill, MD 21050

I'm sure he would love to receive a birthday card (September 12th) or a note letting him know that you are thinking of him and are wishing him well.



Celebrating The McRees

While relatively still newcomers to Bethel, Lynda and Ted have been attending Bethel for almost ten years.

Lynda's ties to the area include the ancestors of the St. Clair and Jarrett families, dating back to the establishment of Jarrettsville. Her paternal grandmother, Virginia C. Taylor St. Clair was a direct descendent of the founding Jarrett family. Her paternal grandfather, great-grandfather and great – great grandfather were dairy farmers in the Rocks area. St. Clair Bridge Road is named after them. Some of these relatives are buried in the Bethel and North Bend Church cemeteries. Growing up in Towson, Lynda spent summer vacations on the farm – making friends of the calves, collecting chicken eggs and riding horses with neighboring children.

Charles W. St. Clair, Lynda's father, and her uncle, James Thomas, began Jarrettsville Nurseries Christmas tree farm. Many summers and weekends from Thanksgiving to Christmas, were spent planting, preparing and selling Christmas trees. Although this business has been sold, Lynda is still into trees. She and her brother have recently planted one hundred orchard trees – peaches, apples and pears. With lots of TLC she hopes to harvest her own fruit in a few years.

Ted (the son of a Lutheran minister) and Lynda met through family members. It was clear early on that they were meant to be together. They married at Lynda's home in Relay, MD and shortly after moved to Ted's home in Fort Washington, MD. This home was designed and built by Ted. It was the "house in the woods", designed to blend into the landscape. Ted designed and built two subsequent homes – one in Hickory, NC and their current home on St. Clair Bridge Road.

When their son, Daniel was 1 year old, they moved to Newton, NC to start a business as a distributor and design center of kitchen cabinetry to local builders. In addition to the business, Lynda worked in accounting and payroll with Alcatel Fiber Optics. She was an active member of Sardis Lutheran Church – singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School and VBS, leading the finance committee, youth leader, and cub-scout leader. After 21 years, Ted said they could move back to the family farm if she could find employment. To his surprise, she quickly obtained a position as payroll manager at Sheppard Pratt Health System and so, in 2010 they returned to MD. Ted retired from the business and took on the task of building their home.

Looking for a home church, Betty Jane Foard introduced Lynda to Bethel. Having visited several area churches and she found Bethel to be the most welcoming and friendly of all. She continues to be an active church member - singing in the choir, Jacob's Ladder, finance committee, deacons and liturgist.

Lynda, now retired, spends her time with church, the family farm, looking after the home place, tending the orchard, and her garden.

She says "I may be retired, but God isn't finished with me yet. Where He leads, with the talents and gifts He gives, I will follow."



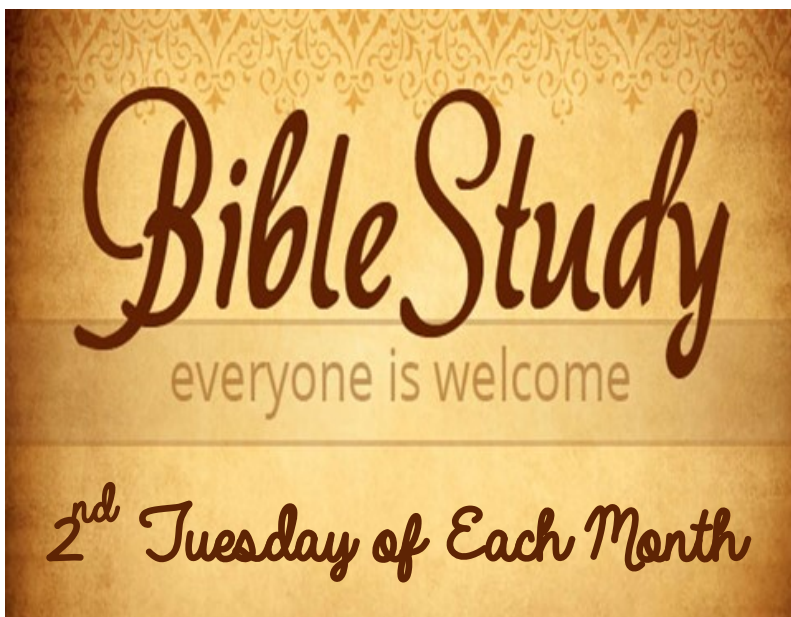
Bethel Church is having VIRTUAL Sunday School !

Join us each month for a virtual experience learning about God while making new friends and staying connected to each other!

This Fall we will be starting Sunday School out with Virtual Lessons. You and your family will receive lessons via SMORE Newsletters, which can be found on our website at www.bethel-md.org under the Sunday School tab. We are following recommendations from the Presbytery. We will be scheduling an Outdoor Bethel Movie Night; a bring your own blanket and socially distanced event. Keep your eyes open for information coming soon. We will continue Zoom monthly calls and may even have a special virtual event you won't want to miss!

The schedule for the Zoom Monthly Meetings will be ...

Sep 6, 2020 06:00 PM	Dec 6, 2020 06:00 PM
Oct 4, 2020 06:00 PM	Jan 3, 2021 06:00 PM
Nov 1, 2020 06:00 PM	Feb 7, 2021 06:00 PM



John and Rita Cairnes are hosting a monthly Bible Study Group in the Fellowship Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning on September 8th at 7:00 p.m.

If you are interested in attending this group, please be advised that face masks will be required, seating will be social distanced in the hall, and we ask that you email Rita to let her know you will be attending at ritacairnes@gmail.com

Church Events



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.



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 !

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



Our Cemetery has a new look! We have a lot more sunshine bearing down on our grave-stones among our loved ones. The reason for this radiant appearance in our Cemetery is due to the removal of our maple tree on the Madonna Road side. A few weeks ago during one of the many storms that hit our area, the old oak was struck by lightning leaving one of the large branches split and fallen on the ground below it.

We give our thanks and gratitude to Tom Swift for having several arborists come to assess the tree for recommendations. The tree was found to be diseased and needed to be removed so that no other damage would occur to our headstones or potentially hurting anyone visiting our cemetery. We believe the tree may have been at least 90 years old. During your next visit to the Bethel Cemetery, please take the time to look at the new appearance and appreciate the sunshine !

Congratulations to the Happy Couple !

Our heartfelt and sincerest congratulations go to Todd and Lumi on their recent wedding ceremony! May you both be blessed with love, laughter and peace for many years to come ♥



Our Quarantine Life ...



LEFT PHOTO

Look who turned
2 !!!!
Happy Birthday
Brandon Calary

RIGHT PHOTO

Wendy Mory
(right) and her
boyfriend, Zachary
Hays, vacationing
in July at Deep
Creek with their
families!

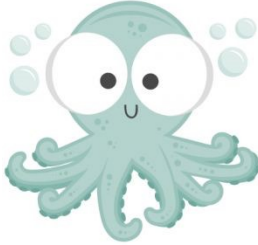


How we love
The Smith Family !!
They have been very
busy with canning all
their delicious veggies
this summer !





The Swinscoe Family ... celebrating summer in a fun way at the beach!
Congratulation to all on the latest Graduate of 2020 ☺



COVID-19 can't stop
The Thomas Family
from having a fun time at
Rehoboth Beach !

Love the t-shirts ☺

