



APRIL 2021

Bethel Presbyterian Review

The Pastor's Corner

What a strange and trying year it has been for all of us here at Bethel. Through trial, however, our faith is sharpened and reliance on God takes on a whole new meaning. This time last year we were asking ourselves not just how we as individuals were going to manage the separation that we were being confronted with, but we were also questioning how as a church this was going to happen?

I said last year, "When you look at Bethel's history, we are reminded of how its ministry has had local, regional, national, and international impact for over 2 ½ centuries."

How we would maintain ministry on this level was truly a quandary last March, but we have proved that 2 ½ centuries of experience was not put to waste. As a congregation locally, we found new ways to gather through technology. Meetings were held, plans were made, and the ministry went on.

Worship started out with a couple of weeks of only email communication, but the leadership of Bethel and the people of Bethel pulled together. It wasn't long before we were worshipping together once again, first wirelessly and then with modified in-person services. It was inspirational to see how we gathered each week and how, even amidst all of the challenges, we were able to love and uplift one another.

Bethel rallied and gathered in worship and in ministry and got the work done, leaving nobody behind. It is a testament to the strength and resilience of this congregation, but most importantly it is a testament to the deep and abiding faith of its members. The changes and challenges of life during the pandemic made Bethel stronger. (continued on Page 2)

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Through the wonders of technology, we are reaching people all over the country; some weeks we get responses from people across the globe. Praise God for the privilege we have in spreading the Gospel in word and deed.

The mission commitments of the church have also remained strong. We've especially seen this in the support Bethel has given to address the exponential growth in food insecurity that hit our area over this past year. Bethel has donated thousands of pounds of food to Mason Dixon to feed the hungry.

I am humbled and moved by the way the members of Bethel have loved one another, looked out for one another, and offered selflessly of their time and talents to make sure that not one person felt alone in this very difficult year. You have brought each other meals, called each other on the phone, assisted one another in the use of technology and been there for each other in so many other ways time and time again. The Session, Trustees and Deacons have provided strong, compassionate, creative, and inspirational leadership this past year in making sure that we were all "connected to the vine." I truly feel blessed to be a part of this church family.

As we move forward into this new year of transition and recovery, I am encouraged and excited for what the future holds as we take all that is new and couple it with the gradual return of the fellowship and gathering traditions that have been sorely missed. Hugs and handshakes are just around the corner!!

As I have ended the last two annual messages to the congregation, "Let us move forward holding close the words of Jesus, 'Be not afraid.' In success and failure, in trial and triumph, in times of mourning and times of celebration, the risen Christ is present as we move forward in the year to come." May it be a blessed one for us all.

Pastor Todd

REJOICE
AND BE GLAD

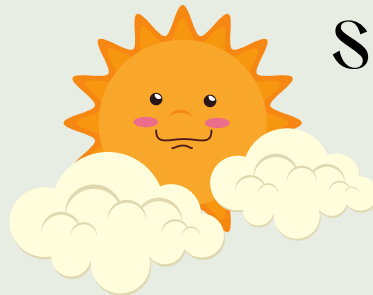
If you would like to dig in to God's Word more deeply in 2021, you may visit this website that offers a variety of plans for how to read through the Bible in one year.
<https://readthebibleinayear.com/bible-reading-plans/>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Alyssa Kauffman 4/3
Charles Saneman 4/5
Maurice Baldwin 4/7
Justin Comer 4/8
Carrie Thomas 4/10
Craig Messenger 4/13
Anne Jones 4/14
Blair Mattheiss 4/14
Judy Baldwin 4/20
Stephen Kauffman 4/21
Michael Scott 4/22
Ron Holmes 4/24
Emma Clayton 4/25
Ted McRee 4/26
Bailey Saneman 4/26
Polly Winskowski 4/26
Corbin Rowley 4/28

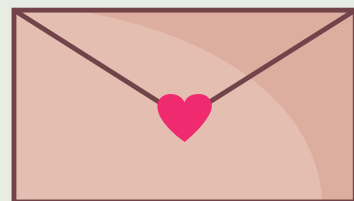


Our featured Bethel
Member for
April is:

Marianna Putnam
4250 Federal Hill Road
Street, MD 21154

Shower of Cards

Send a little
Sunshine! Each
month we select a
member (or
members) to shower
with cards or notes
of love, support,
encouragement and
good cheer!



Happy Anniversary!

George & Nancy Cowman 4/4
Michael & Nancy Alexander 4/5





Deacon's Update

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

- Janet Kauffman
- Nancy & Nelson Berigtold
- Martha & Wiley Rutledge
- Barbara (friend of Lisa Robbins)
- John Louderback
- Shirlee Nystrom
- Brendan Lins, grandson of Ron & Andi Holmes
- Henry Kraft, grandson of Gail & David Thomas
- Janet Henderson
- Sam Fielder, Jr., Father of Sam Fielder III & Father-in-law of Margie Fielder
- Frank Clement, friend of Sam & Marsha Brooks
- John Dorn, friend of John and Rita Cairnes
- Beverly Schmidt
- Joe Bradford
- George Cowman
- Betty Rogers
- Nancy Thompson (friend of the Swifts)
- Lenny Downs (niece of the Swifts)
- Jean Mattheiss (sister of Bruce)

CONGRATULATIONS

Our very own Carol Morrow was recognized as a "Harford County Living Treasure" by the Harford County Council at their meeting last month! Her nomination was sent to our county's Cultural Arts Board before it was sent to the County Council for approval. Councilman Chad Shrodes read the proclamation, honoring her for her many years as a volunteer for Bethel Presbyterian Church, the Jarrettsville Lions Club, Mason-Dixon Community Services, and the Madonna AARP. She was completely surprised as her son visited her for dinner one evening and put the Council meeting on his computer!

Congratulations to Carol for this well-deserved honor!!



See the Easter Bunny!

The Auxiliary to the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company will be holding a free **Easter Bunny** Event on Saturday, April 3rd from 1-3 pm. The Easter Bunny will be there and there will be free crafts for the children.



Raffle baskets for adults and children will be offered for a chance to win a bushel of crabs or a Yeti cooler.

Several food trucks will be there as well.

Come and have an enjoyable afternoon!



- Crafts!
- Raffles!
- Food Trucks!



In partnership with the **Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake**, the Susquehanna Parish is planning two events to take place the week of Earth Day, April 22. The first event will be viewing a film and participating in a panel discussion. The film is called "**Earth Water Woman.**"

Part Two will take place on Saturday, April 24. Our plan is still in formation, but we hope to hand out wildflowers, particularly milkweed, because it attracts Monarch butterflies. The Monarch population is only 10% of what it was a few decades ago. Global warming and other man-made influences have decimated the species.

Providing the butterflies a place to nest, eat, and grow is one small, but significant thing each of us can do to save this beautiful creature of God.

Here is the link to the registration page for the film:

https://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/one_water_partnership_earth_day_event

For more info:

One Water Partnership Earth Day Event – Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
[interfaithchesapeake.org](https://www.interfaithchesapeake.org)



Member Highlight

Laurie Falkner



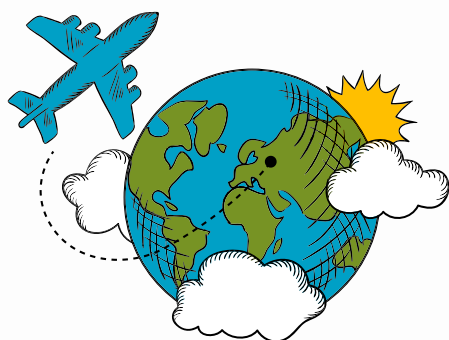
Laurie Falkner was born in New York and raised mostly in New England. She attended college at Susquehanna University in PA, where she met her husband, Mike, whose family lived in Reisterstown. After graduating with a degree in English, she studied to become a paralegal, and moved to Baltimore to be nearer to Mike and his family. Laurie and Mike were married in 1974 and moved to the Catonsville area, where Laurie became active in the choir, played hand bells, and directed the children's choir. After several years as a paralegal, she took a "mommy break" to concentrate on raising their 2 children, Julie and Tim.

The family moved to Harford County in 1987, where their children attended North Bend and North Harford schools. The children were serious swimmers and Laurie and Mike were the super swim parents for many years. Mike still helps manage swim meets for various high school teams.

Laurie continued her education to get a certification in Elementary Education and a Master's degree from Loyola University. She taught elementary school for many years, 25 of them in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, and still substitutes in the northern Harford area elementary schools.

Laurie attended Highland Presbyterian for many years, where she was the choir director, leader of a mission team, deacon and trustee. She joined Bethel fairly recently to worship with her brother and sister-in-law, Dave and Sue Hinkley. Laurie enjoyed helping Bethel celebrate our 250th anniversary by serving on the SBC Committee. She sings in the choir and is currently serving as a deacon.

Laurie and Mike love to travel and have especially enjoyed trips to New Zealand, Iceland, Spain, and Portugal. They love to visit the British Isles, where Mike was born and still has family, and are looking forward to another trip there and to northern Portugal when restrictions are lifted. They enjoy relaxing time in Ocean City, and visiting their grown children and families in Harrisburg and Meadville, PA. In addition to travel, she enjoys gardening, attending the Fulton Theater, and Ironbirds games, watching the Ravens and Orioles, reading, singing in choirs, playing cards, and playing with their Labrador, Lizzie.



Bethel Family Life



Jack Rogers is ready for
St. Patrick's Day!



A sampling of
flowers from
Lisa's backyard.
Spring has
sprung! What's
blooming for
you?



Nancy Berigtold brought a copy of
the book *Church Signs Across
America* into the church office. It's
full of great messages!

**You are invited to a
Free Concert!**



Bettie Rogers' grandson, Chad,
will be playing his bass,
accompanied by a friend on
piano. Please come and enjoy
some live music!

**Sunday, April 25th
7 pm**



The Mission Committe has received several notes of thanks. Here are a few excerpts:

"Your support is **such a blessing** to our clients and our agency! We are so grateful for your church and for these much-needed items! Thank you for helping us serve this community! Your **kindness and generosity** mean so much to us."

--Jane Skrzypiec, Mason-Dixon Community Services



"We cannot touch everyone in need, but we can pray, and we can give, and when we do, we become a visible witness of the **loving heart** of God, and the **hands and feet of Jesus**. Your **generous** gift makes divine comfort real, helping those afflicted by disaster and violence touch the tangible presence of Love. May

peace be with you. In **gratitude and peace**,

--the Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



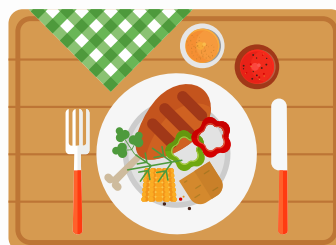
We also received a Certificate of Appreciation from Marlo Thomas/St. Jude in recognition of **outstanding support** in helping St. Jude Children's Research Hospital keep its promise to children and families battling cancer and other deadly diseases.



Thank you all for your amazing generosity with donations for Mason Dixon's Easter project. Together, we collected and delivered

1,632 pounds

of food that will provide a beautiful Easter meal for families in our area.



Pause for Poetry

Spring is the Period

by Emily Dickinson

Spring is the Period
Express from God.
Among the other seasons
Himself abide,

But during March and April
None stir abroad
Without a cordial interview
With God.



He IS NOT
here!
FOR HE HAS BEEN
resurrected
just AS HE
said

MATTHEW 28:6



Holy Week Services

Maunday Thursday
April 1 @ 7 pm

Good Friday
April 2 @ 7 pm

Easter Vigil
Midnight Friday April 2 to
Midnight Saturday April 3

Easter Sunday
April 4 @ 9:30 and 11:00 am

Please contact the church
office to reserve a spot for the
Easter Vigil or Sunday Service



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