

Bethel Presbyterian Review

The Pastor's Corner

Bruce Larson tells of the guide who was hired by some hunters to take them into the backwoods of Maine. After some days, they became hopelessly lost and quite naturally began to doubt the competence of their guide. "You said you were the best guide in Maine," they reminded him. "I am," he said, "but I think we're in Canada now." You are no longer a "guide" when you yourself are lost. It is just as hard to decipher our Christian identity when we cannot recall what it is that makes us Christians in the first place.

For those of us who would be followers of Christ, the most basic question we need to ask ourselves is "What is a Christian?" We are living in a world where there is now virtually a "Christian" everything. Look around you. There are now Christian Counseling Centers, Christian Comedy Clubs, Christian Dance Clubs, Christian Athletes, Christian Coalitions, Christian Bookstores etc. In the Christian Yellow Pages, you can find Christian schools, Christian plumbers, Christian doctors, Christian bakers, Christian bankers, and even Christian lawyers.

The church is no different; we have Christian Pentecostals, Christian evangelicals, Christian Liberals, Christian Conservatives, Mainstream Christians, Christian Charismatics, and the list can go on and on.

Baptist minister and writer Gordon MacDonald many years ago in a moment of frustration said, "I have had it with the word 'Christian'! It hardly means a thing any longer". He began to term himself as a Christ follower. At the time he was criticized and looked at with suspicion in some theological circles.

In ministry, I have been confronted by those who have examined my theology and called it too evangelical, I have had others in the community look at that same theology and call it too liberal. It causes me to ask myself how the Christian faith can be described in so many ways?

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Why is it dangerous to regularly use the word Christian as an adjective? It's back to fourth-grade elementary school. What do adjectives do? They modify nouns. Adjectives modify things that are larger and more important than they are. Adjectives limit nouns; they qualify nouns; they distinguish nouns. Adjectives are ornaments and lights you hang on nouns so that nouns become more alive and meaningful.

It stems from the fact that using the word Christian as an adjective minimizes its meaning. The word "Christian" began as a noun, not as an adjective. The word, used three times in the New Testament, means literally "disciple of Christ."

When we make our faith an adjective, it becomes very easy to make the dangerous step of beginning to believe that our brand of the faith is the only valid flavor. But the truth, is we are not Christian Pentecostals, we are not Christian Evangelicals, we are not Christian Liberals, we are not Christian Conservatives, we are not Mainstream Christians, we are not Christian Charismatics, we are not Christian men or women, we are not Christian scholars, we are not Christian parents, we are not Christian patriots, we are Christians. Period!

Food for thought...Pastor Todd



"Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can."

— John Wesley

c//ay.





Anthony Saneman	5/1
Melissa Rangel	5/2
Don Scott	5/3
Brandon Smithson	5/3
Zachary Saneman	5/7
Marcanne Saneman	5/11
Shannon Troyer	5/11
Marta Kastner	5/13
Terri Schwartz	5/16
Lynne DiBastiani	5/17
Eddie Calary	5/20
Tanya Mattheiss	5/20
Jennifer Thomson	5/22
Ginny Eberwein	5/22
Ruth Howard	5/22
Amy Kauffman	5/23
Mary Ellen Reeves	5/26

Happy

Ron & Andi Holmes	5/1
Garry & Martha Ann Smithson	5/3
Franklin & Sandra Hughes Sr.	5/6
Blair & Tanya Mattheiss	5/9
Scott & Jennifer Henderson	5/12
Travis & Christina Galliher	5/17
John & Rita Cairnes	5/18
Jack & Nancy Mory	5/24

2022 Per Capita

The Per Capita fee for each congregation member for 2022 is **\$38.13.** Please be sure to submit your portion by the end of the year.

Thank you!





Shower of Cards

Our featured Bethel Members for May are:

Mary Ellen Reeves 112 Chestnut Hill Rd. Forest Hill, MD 21050

and

Sherry & David Kirchner 2417 Hess Road Fallston, MD 21047 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!



The Deacon's Committee is happy to provide a selection of notecards in the foyer. They are available year-round for anyone who would like to send a card



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

- Eleanor Miller
- Marsha & Sam Brooks
- The Kirchner Family
- Sandy Benson
- Sherry Kirchner
- Scott Nicklas
- John Cairnes
- Leila Roland and the Vaughan-Roland family
- Linda & Michael Steele, friend of the Mitchells
- Doris Lytle
- Louis Berlin, friend of Dan & Mary Beth Scott
- Janet Carty, friend of Nancy Mory
- Sandy Hughes
- Charles McKenzie, father of Gail Lowe
- Holly Robinson, sister of Becca Smith
- Ed Calary
- Max Montfort, friend of Tom and MaryLee Swift
- Janet Kauffman
- Kelly Jarrett Reeves and Robbie Reeves, son & daughter-in-law of the Reeves
- Brendan Lins, grandson of Ron & Andi Holmes
- Henry Kraft, grandson of Gail & David Thomas
- Frank Clement, friend of Sam & Marsha Brooks
- John Dorn, friend of John and Rita
- Beverly Schmidt
- George Denbow
- Howard Eisner
- Debbie Dahl, friend of Lisa Robbins



Join us on
Sunday, May 8th
in the foyer after
worship service
to celebrate
Mother's Day
with a cupcake
reception.





Mission Committee Notes:

Calling all Condiments!

Bethel is collecting condiments for Mason Dixon through May 22nd. Examples are: mustard, ketchup, mayo, salad dressing, sauces, pickles, olives, etc. Regular sized (not jumbo or super-sized) items are best, as some clients don't have access to storage or refrigeration. You can leave them in the sanctuary or the church office.



Sweet Puffcorn

Submitted by Marianna Putnam

Ingredients

- One 1-pound package vanillaflavored almond bark (you could also use chocolate)
- Two 3 1/2-ounce bags of Chester's Butter Puffcorn (not cheese!)



Directions (makes about 9 & 1/2 cups)

Melt almond bark in microwave-safe bowl in 30-second increments. Place the puffcorn in a large bowl. Pour the melted almond bark over the puffcorn and mix well.

Spread mixture out onto parchment paper in a single layer and let set about 10 minutes.

Store in an airtight container. If left uncovered for too long, the puffcorn will get soggy. Enjoy!





This is Tricia Yearwood's recipe and it's always a hit!



Easter at Bethel

What a wonderful time we had celebrating Holy Week at Bethel! We held a Maundy Thursday service, a Good Friday service with Norrisville United Methodist, and a special Easter Vigil. The congregation enjoyed a sunrise service on Sunday, followed by an Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt, and then our Easter Sunday Worship. We are grateful that we could celebrate this Holy Week together.





































治: He is Risen!



























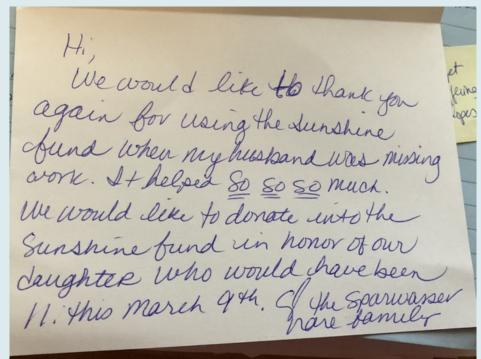




Thank You!



Melissa McDade shared this thank you note. This is a family that we helped back in the fall, and they came to pitch in at the sunflower fields in October. Now, they're paying it forward!



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Cemetery Tours:

The Cemetery Committee has come up with a list of tentative dates for cemetery tours through October. The dates will be:

5/15, 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, 9/18, 10/16.

There was great interest in the church itself at the tour on 4/10 so Donna will add a tour of the church after the cemetery tour for anyone interested.

Donna is also looking for any "actors" who would like to join us or at least back ups in case someone can't make a particular date so be on the lookout for anyone interested-not necessarily have to be church members. Any thoughts or suggestions are welcome!

National Day of Prayer is May 5th

The sanctuary will be open for prayer from 10–2. Devotionals will be provided.



Children's Sunday is May 22nd

This will be the last day of Sunday School and the children will get their Sunday School Awards.



Flea Market

Bethel will be hosting a Flea Market on Saturday, June 18th from 8 am to 2 pm. (Lot will be open at 6:30 am for setup.) Contact the church office for more information.



May 2022	N			Su Mo Tu We Th	6 7 50 Mo 6 7 5 6 20 21 12 13 20 27 28 26 27	Tu We Th Fr Sa 14 15 19 11 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 1	2	3	4	5	9	7
10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study (Zoom)	10:00am Bethel Women's Group Study (Fellowship 7:00pm Deacons meeting	6:30pm Bridge game (FH) 6:30pm DCC rehearsals (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Trustees	1:00pm Private Appointment - 7:00pm NA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	7:00am Breakfast Bunch - Men's book club (Fellowship Hall) 4:30pm DCYC (Fellowship Hall)		
8	6	10	11	12	13	14
10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study (Zoom)	10:00am Bethel Women's Group Study (Fellowship 4:30pm Worship and Music Committee	6:30pm Bridge game (FH) 6:30pm DCC rehearsals (Sanctuary)	7:00pm NA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	4:30pm DCYC (Fellowship Hall)	7:00pm Blue Ribbon 4H (Fellowship Hall)	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 12:00pm Cemetery Tour (Bethel Cemetery) 6:00pm Zoom Bible	10:00am Bethel Women's Group 7:00pm DCC Board Mtg (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Admin &	6:30pm Bridge game (FH) 6:30pm DCC rehearsals (Sanctuary) 6:30pm CE Committee	7:00pm NA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	7:00am Breakfast Bunch (Fellowship Hall) 4:30pm DCYC (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Session Meeting	5:00pm Finance Committee (Church Office Conference Room)	
22 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study (Zoom)	23 10:00am Bethel Women's Group Study (Fellowship 1:00pm AARP Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	6:30pm Bridge game (FH) 6:30pm DCC rehearsals (Sanctuary)	7:00pm NA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	26 4:30pm DCYC (Fellowship Hall)	27	28
29 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study (Zoom)	30 10:00am Bethel Women's Group Study (Fellowship Hall)	6:30pm Bridge game (FH) 6:30pm DCC rehearsals (Sanctuary)	Jun 1	2	m	4
lisa@bethel-md.org						4/26/2022 1:27 PM

Bethel Presbyterian Church 4135 Norrisville Road White Hall, MD 21161



