



BETHEL CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

4135 Norrisville Road

White Hall, MD 21161

Office Phone: 410-692-5282

Office Email: churchoffice@bethel-md.org

Website: www.bethel-md.org

Rev. Todd Smith's email: pastor@bethel-md.org | Cell 410-805-8604

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Office is CLOSED on Fridays.

Staff

Pastor/Moderator: The Rev. Todd D. Smith

Music Director/Organist: Kirsten Fitzsimmons

Children's Youth & Family Program Coordinator: Chrissie Galliher

Office Manager: Kristen Hamann

Church Treasurer: Lynda McRee

Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church

December 15th, 2024

Sunday School 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.



3rd Sunday of Advent

Lessons and Carols

Our worship begins with the entering of the Light of Christ.
Please silence all electronics and be prayerfully attentive to the quiet presence of God.
+ indicates standing; congregational readings/responses are shown in bold print.

Welcome and Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Pastor Todd Smith

And also with you

Voluntary

Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella

Handbells

Call to Worship

Nancy Mory

Leader: And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear,

People: We may have confidence and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

Prayers of the People

Dennis Kirkwood

+Hymn #56

The First Nowell

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Matt, Jenny, Brook, and Owen Seiler

As we light the candle of Joy let us pray together, Dear Jesus, brighten our spirits by your birth and dispel the darkness of sin with your presence with us now. Amen

Advent Reading

Matt, Jenny, Brook, and Owen Seiler

Children's Conversation

+ Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Carol (40)

Joy to the World

Offertory

Away in a Manger

Handbells

+ Doxology #592

Christmas Flowers



A freewill donation will be taken this year in memory of or in honor of your loved ones. Please fill out the form below with the information you would like in the Christmas Eve Bulletin. A special flower arrangement will be prepared for the Christmas Eve services to honor and remember. We would ask that you have your donations in by **December 15th** so we can have the insert prepared for the Christmas Eve Service. Please contact the church office with any questions.

In Memory of _____

By: _____

In Honor of: _____

By: _____

In Memory of _____

By: _____

In Honor of: _____

By: _____

Church Leadership

Elders (Session) -- Meet 3rd Thursday
each month

2024	2025	2026
Krista Batchelor	Margie Fielder	Pete Capozzoli
David Hinkley	Carmie Messenger	Bob Dennison
Kirk Jones	Gary Lowe	Charles Henry

Deacons -- Meet 1st Monday each
month

2024	2025	2026
Jane Burgess	Donna Jones	Pat Chlebda
Sandy Louderback	Terri Schwarz	Rebecca Comaty
Rebecca Smith	MaryLee Swift	Gail Lowe

Trustees -- Meet 1st Tuesday each
month

2024	2025	2026
Bruce Batchelor	Dave Kirchner	Tim Sherwood
Jan Berlage	Sam Fielder	Brian Calary
R. Donald Scott	Bob Horn	Bruce Mattheiss
Greg Burgess	Steve Kauffman	Craig Messenger

Open and Close Trustee for

This week is Don Scott

Ushers this week

Steve Kauffman & Dennis Kirkwood

The 2024 Per Capita fee per congregation member is

\$40.00

**Please be sure to submit your portion
by the end of the year.**

Please write per capita in memo of check. Thank you!

Scripture Reading Genesis 3:14-15

Nancy Mory

The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Carol (53)

What Child is This

Scripture Reading Genesis 22:15a and 17a

Pastor Todd Smith

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham: I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.

Carol (31)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:6

Nancy Mory

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and, he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Carol (41)

O Come All Ye Faithful

Scripture Reading Micah 5:2

Pastor Todd Smith

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Carol (28)

Good Christian Men Rejoice (1st and 2nd Verses)

Scripture Reading Luke 1:35-38

Nancy Mory

The angel said to her. "The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

Daily Bible Readings for the Second Week of Advent

Grace is the touch of God that pulls us out of
our darkness and into His Marvelous Light

-Anne Graham Lotz

(Daily Bible readings for the second week in Advent.)

Grace beyond measure..... 1 Timothy 1:14

Inheritance of Grace.....Acts 20:32

Riches of Grace..... Ephesians 2:7

Sufficient Grace.....2 Corinthians 12:9

Sacrificial Grace Romans: 4:16

Abundant Grace.....2 Peter 1:2

Chosen by GraceRomans 11:15



Carol (44)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Scripture Reading Luke 2:10-11, 14-15

Pastor Todd Smith

The Angel said do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Carol (38)

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Scripture Reading John 1:1-3a

Nancy Mory

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

Carol (29)

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Benediction

Pastor Todd Smith

Postlude

Make a joyful
noise to the Lord,
all the earth.

—Psalm 100:1

Announcements

This Week at Bethel:

Last Week's attendance 92(23)

December 15th Happy Birthday Jesus Party 9:15am

Zoom Bible Study - off until Jan 5th

BWG Bible Study - off until Jan 6th

December 18th - Choir Practice, Church @ 6:00 pm

December 17th - Bridge, Fellowship Hall @6:30 pm

Pastor Todd office hrs 12/16 10:30-2:30, 12/18 12:30-3:30, 12/12 9:30-12:30

Christmas Flower - Last day to submit

A freewill donation will be taken this year in memory of or in honor of your loved ones. Please have donations in by **December 15th**.

(see back page of bulletin)

Christmas Joy Offerings - Today

Please use your Christmas envelope or write in the memo of your check.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Giving for 2024

Please make sure that you get your gifts and offerings in by Sunday

December 29th to be included in your 2024 tax documents

Upcoming Events

- Giving Tree - November 17- December 15th
- Children's Play - December 22nd 10:30 am
- Family Candlelight Service 5 pm & 11 pm (communion @ 11pm)
12.24.24
- Congregational Meeting-January 5th approve bylaws/ receive the slate from nominations
- Installation Service - January 12th
- Annual Report Meeting - February 16th

Opportunities for Giving Back

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s.



Donations to this worthy cause are accepted throughout December.

Please use your Christmas offering envelope or write Joy in the memo.

The Christmas Joy Offering supports church workers and their families in the PC(USA) who need critical financial assistance. Your congregation has the opportunity to make an impact. You can be the difference between financial hardship and a blessed breath of relief. The Christmas Joy Offering is committed to helping promote educational opportunities and leadership development, in Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Your congregation can enable these institutions to provide students with a transformative education.

Bethel Joys & Concerns:

Happy Birthday: Ann Edie, Maurice Howard, Theresa Sachs, Kristin Comer, Joan Murrell, Rita Cairnes, Abigail Lowe

Please keep the following in your prayers this week:

Lee Ann Masters	Clark Scott - Dan's Brother
Family of Pat Denbow	Mary Omerzu, Pastor Todd's friend
Sandy Hughes	Allia - Friend from youth group
Beverly Schmidt	Pat St Clair-Wertman-Lynda's Sister
Susan Wyatt	Debbie Bulstrum
Jack Healy, Friend of Dave Hinkley	Darlene Shuttlesworth, Sister of Nancy Cowman
Terri Dannettel	John Dale- Will Behner's Uncle
Heidi Nash	Linda Berberich- Sam Brooks Sister
Emily Mowbray- Bettie Clarks's Granddaughter	Brian - Cousin of Amy Kauffman
Amy Litchfield - Becca's SIL	Dawn Zipay
Sandy Louderback	Carol Hays, friend of Nancy Mory
Betty Jane Foard	Bob Jacobs. friend of Nancy Alexander
Mary Martha Rutledge	Jane Wilson Branham friend of Nancy Alexander
Marylin Bradford	Alexander
Carolyn Mattheiss	Christine Zurenko Friend of Dan & Mary Beth Scott
Ed Chwalek - Friend of Bruce Mattheiss	



Please submit your prayer request on the prayer cards provided in the pews or call the office with updates.

Christmas Play

December 22

10:30 am



“A mom is decorating her home with her children. As they add different items to their home, they discuss the meaning behind each item and how they all lead to Jesus.”

Please plan to come enjoy this presentation on Sunday Morning.