



### **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](mailto:churchoffice@bethel-md.org)

Website: [www.bethel-md.org](http://www.bethel-md.org)

Pastor Steve's email: [bethelpastor@bethel-md.org](mailto:bethelpastor@bethel-md.org) | Cell 402-202-2381

#### **Office Hours**

Monday 8:30-12:30 pm; Tuesday 8:00-4:00 pm

Wednesday 1:30-7:00 pm; Thursday 8:00-4:00 pm

Office is CLOSED on Fridays

#### **Staff**

Pastor/Moderator: Rev. Steve Nofel

Music Director/Organist: Kirsten Fitzsimmons

Children's Youth & Family Program Coordinator: Chrissie Galliher

Office Manager: Kelly McLaughlin

Church Treasurer: Bruce Batchelor

Online Giving



# Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church

November 30, 2025

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

1st Sunday  
*of Advent*



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.

Gathering and Welcome

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ is with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements

Voluntary / Lighting of the Church Candles

Lighting of the Advent Candle MaryLee Swift & Joe Ostrowski

Call to Worship Tim Sherwood

Leader: Advent has arrived.  
**People: Let us together prepare the way of the Lord.**

+ Hymn #2 Come Thou, Long-Expected Jesus

Prayer of Confession

**We confess that we are impatient disciples. Forbid that we should lose hope when depending upon you and be led astray. Forgive, O Lord, our wandering ways in which we trust in others or just plain give up. With your healing forgiveness, grant us a renewed sense of your presence and excitement about living lives that imitate Jesus’ life and teaching. We ask it all in the name of your greatest gift. Amen.**

(Silent prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon Rev. Dr. George Toole

Leader: Let us trust in the forgiveness of Jesus.  
**People: It is in God’s grace that we receive pardon.**

+ Gloria Patri

+ The Apostles’ Creed

Church Leadership

Elders (Session)

Meet 3rd Thursday each month

| 2025             | 2026           | 2027             |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Margie Fielder   | Pete Capozzoli | Marsha Brooks    |
| Carmie Messenger | Bob Dennison   | Dave Hinkley     |
| Gary Lowe        | Charles Henry  | Krista Batchelor |

Deacons

Meet 1st Monday each month

| 2025          | 2026           | 2027           |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Donna Jones   | Pat Chlebda    | Rebecca Smith  |
| Terri Schwarz | Rebecca Comaty | Jane Burgess   |
| MaryLee Swift | Jen Seiler     | Laurie Falkner |
| Pam Sherwood  | Gail Lowe      |                |

Trustees

Meet 1st Tuesday each month

| 2025           | 2026            | 2027            |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dave Kirchner  | Tim Sherwood    | Jan Berlage     |
| Sam Fielder    | Brian Calary    | Bruce Batchelor |
| Bob Horn       | Bruce Mattheiss | Greg Burgess    |
| Steve Kauffman | Craig Messenger | R. Donald Scott |

Open and Close Trustee for  
This week is Tim Sherwood  
Ushers this week  
Nancy Mory & Pam Sherwood

The 2025 Per Capita fee per congregation member is **\$42.00**  
Please be sure to submit your portion  
by the end of the year.  
Please write per capita in memo of check. Thank you!

# Bethel Concerns

**Please keep the following in your prayers this week:**

- Kay Geisler, friend of Gail Lowe
- Kathy Mullins Jones, friend of Kristin Comer
- Chuck King, friend of Nancy & Jack Mory
- Carolyn Mattheiss, wife of Bruce Mattheiss
- Gail Lowe
- Tucker Edwards, 11 yr. old fighting cancer, friend of Avalyn Comer
- Jeff Frith, neighbor of Dave Hinkley
- Patty Mory, sister of Jack Mory
- Bonnie Six, friend of Don Scott
- Thomas Smith
- Sam Brooks
- Carolyn Bowers, friend of Andi Holmes
- Susan Wyatt
- Elizabeth Dale, Aunt of Will & Sarah Behner
- Barb, friend of Steve Kauffman
- Dennis Kirkwood, recovering from knee replacement surgery
- The Eberwein family on the death of Ginny
- Eric Benson & family on the death of Eric’s mother, Anne O’Neill
- John Louderback
- Steve Bevard, friend of Bethel & member of AARP
- Sue Hinkley
- Tom & MaryLee Swift
- Mr. & Mrs. Slevin, Tom’s parents



Please continue to use the prayer cards in the back of the pews for prayer requests. You may also email the office.

|                            |                                                        |                           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| + Passing the Peace        | The peace of Christ is with you.                       | <b>And also with you.</b> |
| Time with Young Disciples  |                                                        | Chrissie Galliher         |
| Prayer for Illumination    |                                                        | Tim Sherwood              |
| First Lesson               | Isaiah 40:1-11                                         |                           |
|                            | This is the Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b> |                           |
| Second Lesson              | Mark 1:1-8                                             |                           |
|                            | This is the Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b> |                           |
| Sermon                     | Hope From A Strange Man                                | Rev. Dr. George Toole     |
| + Hymn #9                  | <i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>                        |                           |
| Sharing of Joys & Concerns |                                                        |                           |
| Prayers of the People      |                                                        | Tim Sherwood              |
| <b>The Lord’s Prayer</b>   |                                                        |                           |
| Offertory                  |                                                        | Chancel Choir             |
| + Doxology 592             |                                                        |                           |
| + Prayer of Dedication     |                                                        |                           |
| + Hymn #5                  | <i>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</i>               |                           |
| + Benediction              |                                                        | Rev. Dr. George Toole     |
| Postlude                   |                                                        |                           |

# Announcements

## This Week at Bethel:

Last Week's attendance – 83/(8)

December 1st – Women's Bible Study @ 10:00 am

December 1st – Deacons Holiday Party @ 7:00 pm

December 2nd – Choir Practice @ 6:00 pm

December 2nd – Bridge Game, Fellowship Hall @ 6:30 pm

December 2nd – Trustees Meeting @ 7:00 pm

December 4-5th – AARP using parking lot

December 6th – Blitz Bingo @ 5:00 pm

December 7th – Breakfast Bunch @ 9:00 am

December 7th – Sunday School @ 9:15 am

December 7th – Worship / Communion @ 10:30 am

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wreaths Across America (Troop 265) – December 13th
- Christmas Pageant – December 14th
- Congregational Meeting – December 14th
- ElkrIDGE Harford Hunt Club event – December 22nd
- Family Christmas Service – December 24th
- Candlelight Christmas Service – December 24th
- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL – December 28th
- Worship Service with Rev. Renee Mackey – December 28th

### 2025 Church Finances

| Through October        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Tithes and Offerings   | \$158,528        |
| Investment withdraws   | \$41,710         |
| Rentals/other income   | \$69,471         |
| Total income           | <b>\$269,710</b> |
| Expenses               | <b>\$302,343</b> |
| (Deficient) or Surplus | (\$32,633)       |



The nationwide Wreaths Across America event is **Saturday, December 13, 2025, ceremony begins at 12 noon.**

Parishioners planning to attend should **arrive between 11:30 and 11:45**, gather near the flagpole, and are asked not to park along the cemetery driveway.

Parishioners who wish to place a wreath on a veteran marker for their family member will be invited to do so during the ceremony.

Scouts of America Troop 265 thanks the parishioners for their support to help provide wreaths for all the veterans' graves at Bethel.

<https://wreathsassamerica.org/pages/170763/Overview>



# Christmas Joy



## Sunday, December 7, 2025

The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

| November 2025                                                                                                                          |                                                                              |                                                                                                       |                                                      |                                                                                           |                                                      |                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday                                                                                                                                 | Monday                                                                       | Tuesday                                                                                               | Wednesday                                            | Thursday                                                                                  | Friday                                               | Saturday                          |
| 23<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship<br>7pm Zoom Sunday Study                                                                 | 24<br>10am BWG Bible Study<br>1pm AARP Meeting<br>7pm Safety & Security Mtg. | 25<br>6pm Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Bridge Game                                                        | 26<br>2pm Salem Lutheran service                     | 27<br> | 28                                                   | 29                                |
| 30<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:30am Advent Luncheon<br>3pm Jarrettsville Tree Lighting                                                    |                                                                              |                                                                                                       |                                                      |                                                                                           |                                                      |                                   |
| December 2025                                                                                                                          |                                                                              |                                                                                                       |                                                      |                                                                                           |                                                      |                                   |
| 7<br>Communion<br>9am Breakfast Bunch<br>9:15 am Sunday school<br>10:30am Worship                                                      | 8<br>10am BWG Bible Study<br>1pm AARP Board Mtg                              | 9<br>3:24pm Mission Meeting<br>4:30pm Worship & Music Mtg<br>6pm Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Bridge Game | 10<br>6pm Outreach Mtg.<br>7pm Finance Mtg.          | 11<br>7pm Session Mtg.                                                                    | 12<br>AARP using parking lot<br>8am Set up for bingo | 13<br>12pm Wreaths Across America |
| 14<br>9:15 am Sunday school<br>10:30am Worship / Lessons & Carols<br>11:45am Congregational Mtg<br>1:30pm Troop 809 Mtg<br>6pm 4-H Mtg | 15<br>10am BWG Bible Study                                                   | 16<br>6pm Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Bridge Game<br>7pm Christian Education Mtg.                        | 17                                                   | 18<br>7pm Session Mtg.                                                                    | 19                                                   | 20                                |
| 21<br>9am Breakfast Bunch<br>9:15 am Sunday school<br>10:30am Worship                                                                  | 22<br>10am BWG Bible Study<br>11am Hunt Club Event<br>1pm AARP Mtg.          | 23<br>6pm Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Bridge Game                                                        | 24<br>5pm Family Service<br>11pm Candlelight Service | 25<br>6pm Outreach Mtg.<br>7pm Finance Mtg.                                               | 26                                                   | 27                                |
| 28<br>10:30am Worship with Rev. Renee Mackey                                                                                           | 29<br>10am BWG Bible Study                                                   | 30<br>6pm Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Bridge Game                                                        | 31                                                   |                                                                                           |                                                      |                                   |



- Donna Jones – Nov. 30th
- Steve Comaty – Dec. 2nd
- Kristin Kirkwood – Dec. 3rd
- Lisa Calary – Dec. 4th
- Noah Gravell – Dec. 5th
- William Scott – Dec. 5th
- George Denbow – Dec. 6th

### Card Shower



- Marylyn Bradford
- George Denbow
- Lillian Skidmore
- Polly Winskowski
- Shirley Gillis
- Dr. Moe Howard

*Thank You*

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all Bethel parishioners who supported Wreaths Across America on behalf of Troop 265. Thanks to your generosity, we have received all the wreath sponsorships needed to honor every veteran resting at Bethel this year. Your continued support ensures that their service and sacrifice are never forgotten.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Blitzen Bingo

## December 6<sup>th</sup>

**Tickets \$25 ; \$30 At Door**

**Doors open at 5pm**

**Game starts at 6pm**

**Bingo round prizes : \$50 Gift card to a local store or restaurant**

**Door prizes will be awarded and 50/50 Raffle**

**Food & Bingo supplies will be available for purchase**

**Only 100 tickets available for purchase; contact**  
**churchoffice@bethel-md.org or 410-692-5282**

**To purchase via venmo send to Bethel Presbyterian:**  
**@BPCWhiteHall-MD**

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