



# Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church

January 18, 2026

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

## 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)

### Office Hours

Tuesday 8:00-5:00 pm

Thursday 8:00-5:00 pm

### Staff

Music Director/Organist: Kirsten Fitzsimmons

Children's Youth & Family Program Coordinator: Chrissie Galliher

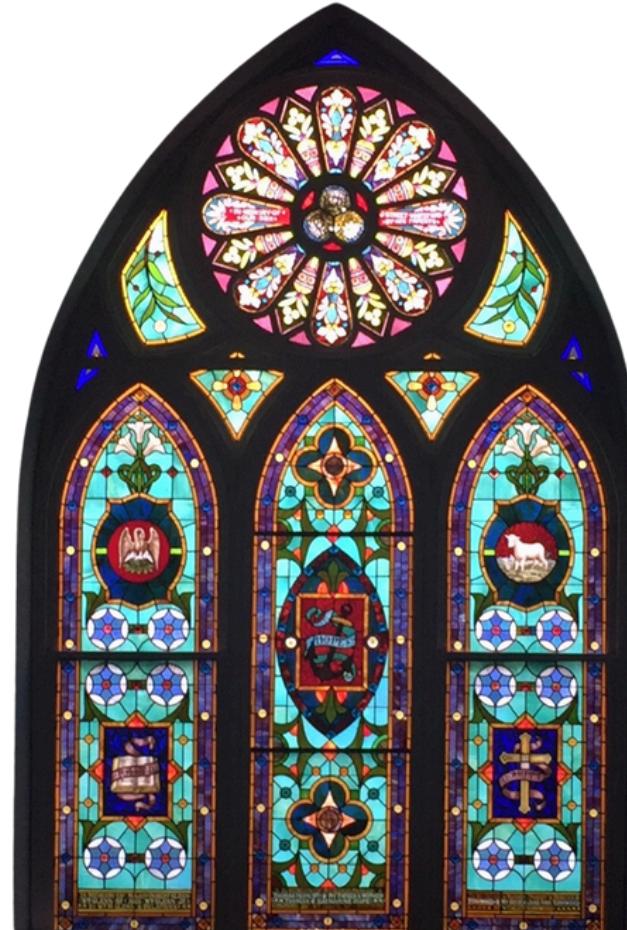
Office Manager: Kelly McLaughlin

Church Treasurer: Bruce Batchelor

Online Giving



**venmo**



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

#### Call to Worship

Tim Sherwood

Leader: Send out your light and truth and let them lead us.

**People: We come to worship you, O God, with songs of praise and lives of dedication to Christ.**

+ Hymn #376

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#### Prayer of Confession

**O God of surprises, you have come to us with a bold love in Jesus and infused our lives with expectation. Yet, we are attracted by the lesser things of this world. Physical possessions beyond our actual needs capture our attention. The praise of others sometimes becomes more important than our being worthy of your praise. Occasionally, our hymns become mere words rather than expressions of our praise. Forgive us and by your pardon make our upside-down lives right side up again. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*(Silent prayer of confession)*

#### Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole

Leader: We gratefully acknowledge the healing forgiveness your pardon provides.

**People: Being forgiven, restored, and empowered by God's kindness, we go forth in Christ's service.**

+ Gloria Patri

#### Church Leadership

##### Elders (Session)

Meet 3rd Thursday each month

2026

Pete Capozzoli  
Bob Dennison  
Charles Henry

2027

Marsha Brooks  
Dave Hinkley  
Krista Batchelor

2028

Margie Fielder  
Robert Horn  
R. Donald Scott

##### Deacons

Meet 1st Monday each month

2026

Pat Chlebda  
Rebecca Comaty  
Jen Seiler  
Gail Lowe

2026

Rebecca Smith  
Jane Burgess  
Laurie Falkner

2028

Pam Sherwood  
Lisa Calary  
Gail Thomas  
Amy Ford

##### Trustees

Meet 1st Tuesday each month

2026

Tim Sherwood  
Brian Calary  
Bruce Mattheiss  
Craig Messenger

2026

Jan Berlage  
Bruce Batchelor  
Greg Burgess

2028

Steve Kauffman  
Steve Comaty  
Sam Fielder  
Dave Kirchner

Open and Close Trustee for  
This week is Steve Kauffman  
Ushers this week  
Bruce Mattheiss & Pam Sherwood

The 2026 Per Capita fee per congregation member is **\$45.00**  
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:

Carolyn Mattheiss, wife of Bruce Mattheiss

Tucker Edwards, 11 yr. old fighting cancer, friend of Avalyn Comer

Bonnie Six, friend of Don Scott

Sam Brooks

Carolyn Bowers, friend of Andi Holmes

Susan Wyatt

John Louderback

Steve Bevard, friend of Bethel & member of AARP

Mr. & Mrs. Slevin, Tom's parents

The family of Betty Batchelor

Thomas Garrison

Sarah Milich

Maddie, great-niece of Gary & Gail Lowe

Travis Johnson, nephew of Pat & Chris Chlebda

Kathy Mullins Jones

Fred Miller, friend of Steve Kauffman

Art Gompf, friend of Steve Kauffman

David Rose

+ The Apostles' Creed

+ Passing the Peace

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

Time with Young Disciples

Chrissie Galliher

Prayer for Illumination

Tim Sherwood

First Lesson

Psalm 63:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson

John 1:35-42

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Flabbergasted and Super Excited

Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole

+ Hymn (page 3 of bulletin)

*I Come to the Garden Alone*

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People

Tim Sherwood

## The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

+ Doxology 592

+ Prayer of Dedication

+ Hymn #371

*Lift High the Cross*

Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole

+ Benediction

Postlude

Please continue to use the prayer cards in the back of the pews for prayer requests.

You may also email the office.

# I Come to the Garden Alone

*In the Garden*

1. I come to the garden a - lone, while the  
2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so  
3. I'd stay in the gar-den with him though the

dew is still on the ros - es; and the  
sweet the birds hush their sing - ing, and the  
night a - round me be fall - ing, but he



voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the Son of God dis-  
mel - o - dy that he gave to me with - in my heart is  
bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is

*Refrain*

clos - es.  
ring-ing. And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he  
call-ing.

tells me I am his own, and the joy we share, as we

tar - ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.

## January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>18</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>19</b> 10am BWG Bible Study 6:30pm Christian Ed Mtg. 6:30pm Troop 265 (Office)	<b>20</b> 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Bridge Game	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> AARP trip
<b>25</b> 9am Breakfast Bunch 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>26</b> 10am BWG Bible Study 6:30pm Deacons Mtg.	<b>27</b> 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Bridge Game	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

## February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9am Breakfast Bunch 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>2</b> 10am BWG Bible Study 7pm Deacons Mtg.	<b>3</b> 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Bridge Game	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour 6pm \$-H Mtg.	<b>9</b> 10am BWG Bible Study 1pm AARP Board Mtg.	<b>10</b> 3:45pm Mission Mtg. 4:30pm Worship & Music 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Bridge Game 7pm Trustee Mtg.	<b>11</b> 7pm Finance Mtg.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Valentine Day
<b>15</b> 9am Breakfast Bunch 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>16</b> 10am BWG Bible Study	<b>17</b> 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Bridge Game	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7pm Session Mtg.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>

# Announcements

## This Week at Bethel:

Last Week's attendance - 95/(31)

January 19th - Women's Bible Study @ 10:00 am  
January 19th - Christian Education Meeting @ 6:30 pm  
January 19th - Troop 265 Meeting, Church office @ 6:30 pm  
January 20th - Choir Practice @ 6:00 pm  
January 20th - Bridge Game, Fellowship Hall @ 6:30 pm  
January 24th - February 5th - AARP using our parking lot during trip  
January 25th - Sunday School @ 9:15 am  
January 25th - Worship Service @ 10:30 am



- Jack Rogers - Jan. 22nd
- Jack Saneman - Jan 24th



January 24th-February 5th - AARP Trip  
February 8th - Coffee Hour, by Boy Scouts



## Card Shower

Sophia Smith - Jan. 10th  
4337 Madonna Road  
Street, MD 21154

Jack Rogers - Jan. 22nd  
3747 Salem Church Rd.  
Jarrettsville, MD 21084

*\*The Deacon's Committee has provided a selection of notecards in the foyer for anyone who would like to send a card.*



# NEW MEMBERS CLASS

**January 25, 2026**

**9:00 a.m.**

If you feel led to learn more about our church family or are considering becoming a member, we would love to have you join us.

To sign up or ask any questions, please call the church office at 410-692-5282.



## Bethel's Helping Hands

Community Outreach with Heart

Bethel's Helping Hands is a caring, needs-based ministry created to support our neighbors who may be facing extra burdens right now. Whether due to age, health, limited resources, or simply being unable to manage certain tasks alone, we want to offer practical help with a compassionate heart.

### Ways We Can Help

- Light household chores
- Small home or yard tasks
- Simple maintenance needs
- Organization projects
- Other small acts of care that make life a little easier

If you, or someone you know, could be blessed by this ministry, please reach out. Every request is received with kindness, respect, and confidentiality. We are honored to serve you.

Because Community Means Caring for One Another

Contact  
Us

churchoffice@bethel-md.org  
410-692-5282