

# The Bethel Bugle

Newsletter

June/July 2009

Bethel United Methodist Church

6903 Blantyre Road, Warrenton, VA, 20187

Celebrating 175 years of Service to the Lord

Pastor: Marty Martin

Church (540)347-4874 Parsonage (540)347-7288

Online at [www.bethelumc.com](http://www.bethelumc.com)

## Remember When?

*A walk down memory lane Saturday afternoon and evening, June 13*

*Plus a great United Methodist Men pork barbecue dinner, dessert included, for just \$10*

*Memories and Dinner from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. -Old Radio Shows Later!*

Bethel's Nurture Committee and Bethel United Methodist Men are teaming up to bring us a fun-filled afternoon and evening on Saturday, June 13. The Nurture committee encourages you to bring your old tools, toys and gadgets for display and have them on view for all to see. What a great way to show our youngsters about life in the past - imagine what they might think of an old rotary dial telephone or a typewriter!! Check your attic and Let Gayle Wilson ([gaylewilson@comcast.net](mailto:gaylewilson@comcast.net) or 347-7456) know what you have to bring so she can arrange for the space - set-up will be around 4: p.m. Tommy Wilson will be bringing an old tractor over and the committee plans to take your picture sitting on it!! Take a break from all the memories and enjoy the UMM wonderful pork barbecue dinner and after dinner, stay around to listen to some old time radio comedy shows. Bring your memories and join us! Tickets for the dinner are available now from Stan Walus (347-2814) or ask any of the UMM members.

## Annual Church Yard Sale

*Saturday, June 20, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Read More Inside*

## Pocahontas Mission Trip

*July 5 - July 10*

Will you join our mission team to work with the folks in Pocahontas? Mike Jamison and Earl Kemper will have details very soon. Please sign up on the table in the narthex area if you are interested in participating. We will need carpenters, painters, and folks with willing hearts. Children and youth may go if accompanied by a parent or grandparent or guardian. Don't have 5 days? Then come for just a couple of days!!

## Camp E.D.G.E. Vacation Bible School

*July 20 - 24 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

Camp E.D.G.E. Vacation Bible School 2009 will take your children to an extreme adventure camp where they Experience and Discover God Everywhere! Camp E.D.G.E. VBS is not your typical stroll through the woods. This will be an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition that teaches kids that their strength and might come from God. Through music, recreation games, mind-boggling science activities, extreme sports videos, and cool, challenging crafts, your kids will learn how to live on the E.D.G.E. in their faith.

**Sign-up will begin soon - stay tuned!!**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sizzlin' Summer Auction

*Have you put this date on your calendar yet? Saturday, August 22 - 5:00 p.m.*

We need lots of helpers and lots of items. There are lots of things to do in advance and lots of fun jobs the night of the event. Please talk to any member of the auction committee about how you'd like to take part. There's something for everyone!! Committee members: Ava Lee, Carol Walus, Donna Broadbent, Bill Nelson, Ken Adams, Renee Jamison, and Gayle Wilson.

## A Message from Pastor Marty

There have been many positive comments about worship during Lent, Holy Week and the Easter season. The beautiful banners created by Sue Smith have hung in the sanctuary as a reminder of the reality of the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus the Christ. And now we are about to celebrate Pentecost - the birth of the church and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

All of this is a reminder that God cared enough about us to sacrifice Jesus, so you and I could live as forgiven and reconciled children of God; just as God intended from the beginning of time. And Paul reminds us that it is God's grace that has redeemed us and given us the gift of new life through our faith. And it is *our* faith that makes the church come alive and makes us truly become the Body of Christ.

So, on the eve of Pentecost and in the light of the Great 50 Days of Easter, I wonder about our faith. During the Easter season we were reminded of God's faithfulness to us. But does God's faithfulness mean enough to us that we will surrender ourselves to the new life God offers? Or have we, like Adam and Eve, got a better idea? Those questions should echo into each of our hearts. And they leave us with the choice of life our way, or the way God intended.

Our response is reflected in what we do and say - here at church, in our homes, on the job, at school, at the grocery store, on the playing field. My prayer is that we choose discipleship over membership, forgiveness over retribution, and relationship over selfishness. My prayer is that each household will be like Joshua's: (Joshua 24:15) that each of us will choose to serve the Lord and grow in our faith.

*Pastor Marty*

### Soles for Souls

How many pairs of shoes are lying around on the floor of your closet or stacked in boxes that are rarely opened? Sunday, June 21 you will have a chance to give those shoes to someone who really needs them. Stay tuned for more details!!!

## Memories from Millie

Tucked away somewhere in my memories are two occasions that often pop into my mind. First -One Sunday morning John P. decided to go fishing instead of going to church. Game Warden, Gordon W., did not appear at church that morning either.....*FIGURE IT OUT*

Second - Years ago, during one Christmas season, Dolores Goff suggested that we have a live nativity on the church lawn. The stable was built, sheep were procured, and I swear I thought we had a mule but I can't find anybody who remembers the mule. I can't remember who she chose for all the characters but I do remember the Gill children who played perfect roles. The Annual Christmas Pageant was being played inside the church and as a finale they all marched out and surrounded the stable and it had just begun to snow and cars were pulling in from the road to check us out. As I sat there portraying Mary, I suddenly heard a voice from the audience say, "Well this is the first time I've ever seen Mary wearing glasses." I felt like sinking into the ground for there I sat in the role of Mary wearing my big horn rimmed glasses. I had forgotten to remove them. Well I didn't let it worry me too much for the night was so beautiful with the snow, and the crowd had begun singing Christmas carols. It was truly a Holy Night. I believe this is my favorite Christmas memory at Bethel. We even made the newspaper on this one!

*Happy Memories*

*Millie*

# ***A Week-end of Celebration to honor Bethel United Methodist Church on it's 175th Anniversary Saturday, August 29 and Sunday, August 30***

Years ago Methodists were famous for holding Camp Meetings - where folks actually went to a church (or a church camp) and camped out for several days. There was preaching, singing, praying and of course - always good food. And none was more famous in its day than Bethel Church because of its site in the country, surrounded by fields, and under the beautiful trees and open skies. So Saturday night, August 29 you are invited to come to Bethel for a true, old-time, camp meeting! There will be games for the youngsters while camp is being set up. And there will be fried chicken and biscuits for dinner, and lots of singing, storytelling, preaching, and praying later. And, oh, yes, you are invited to bring your tents and spend the night.

On Sunday morning, August 30, the day will begin with a pancake breakfast at 8:00 a.m. for the overnight folks (and for anyone *who can't wait to get to church*).

And then, because it is a fifth Sunday, there will be just one worship service at 10:30 a.m. This service will highlight Bethel's past and you will have an opportunity to learn more about the people who followed God's lead as they built and sustained Bethel Church so that we are still worshipping there still today.

Following the worship service there will be a presentation of new leaves on the Endowment Tree and then, something else Bethel is famous for - it's fantastic covered-dish luncheons. Please mark your calendar now, and invite your family and your friends, and anyone you know that may have had a connection to Bethel in the past. Let's welcome them *home* to Bethel!!

Note: If you have any photos of people or events at Bethel (any years) or other memorabilia please contact Ava Lee at [leisurelee@erols.com](mailto:leisurelee@erols.com) or (540) 347-7805. We would like to create a display to have on view that week-end. If you'd like more information about the events being planned or would like to help with any of the activities please contact Gayle Wilson at [gaylewilson@comcast.net](mailto:gaylewilson@comcast.net) or (540) 347-7456.

## **Special News from the Bethel Endowment Committee**

In honor of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bethel United Methodist Church, the Endowment Committee is offering a \$175 discount off any leaf or acorn, etc. that is purchased between now and Bethel's Birthday Celebration Sunday Service scheduled for August 30, 2009. On that Sunday, amid all the celebrations, new leaves will be presented. Please keep in mind, if you want your leaf ready to install on this special Sunday, we will need to have your payment in hand by August 1, 2009. This will allow the four weeks needed to get it engraved. However, this discount offer will be honored right up until that August 30 so purchases made after August 1 will be hung at a later date. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor or memorialize your family or friends.

An Endowment Fund brochure is included with this newsletter. The discount will be taken from the prices listed. Please speak to Ed Worsham or any of the Endowment members if you have any questions and/or want to purchase a leaf. Thank you for considering this fund; designed to maintain Bethel for many, many years to come.

Committee: Ed Worsham, Chairperson; Joe McCoy, Townsend Lunsford, Kevin Lee, Ben Cauthorn, and Paul Goff.

## Please Welcome Bethel's Newest Members

On Sunday, May 31 Bethel Church received eight new members and 9 young members through confirmation. Please welcome the following:

Christen Corbin  
Kirk and Jo James  
Bob and Carol McAndrew  
Joe Miller  
Debbie Mroczek  
Ed Wagner

### Confirmands

Bryan Atwell  
Curtis Braun  
Caitlin Kenney  
Nathan Krauss  
Bethany Lilley  
Sarah Lilley  
Johannah Stone  
Rachel Swatowski  
Anjoleena Thompson

## Confirmation Class 2009

For eight weeks during Lent, 11 of our youth participated in our confirmation class. Confirmation is a time when the youth study the about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the church, the creeds and what it is to be a member of the United Methodist Church. It is not a time to teach them all they need to know in a short time, but it is a time to “connect the dots” of their previous study under the tutelage of their parents, Sunday school teachers, and mentors and to show them how that learning comes together. For the majority of the youth, they were baptized as infants. Their parents and the congregations of which they were members, agreed to raise them in the faith and teach them the stories of God’s faithfulness. In confirmation then, the youth will *confirm* the vows their parents made for them at their baptism as they take those vows for themselves and become full members of the church. This will take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 31.

The nine youth in the confirmation class were: Bryan Atwell, Kurtis Braun, Caitlin Kenney, Nathan Krauss, Bethany and Sarah Lilley, Johannah and Melissa Stone, Rachel Swatowski, and Anjoleena Thompson. And they were accompanied on their journey by mentors from our congregation who are already members and could guide them, along with their parents, on this part of the journey of faith. Thank you to the mentor volunteers who took a time out from their own study and from their normal Sunday activities to help our youth mature in faith.

The youth and mentors participated in seven teaching sessions and one field trip to the Robert Strawbridge homestead, the birthplace of Methodism in the United States. They also attended all of our Holy Week services. And now on Pentecost, the youth will make their decision to publically profess their faith and join the church or not. This is a big step for our youth. They understand the importance of faith and the commitment that joining the church involves. As a result some may say they are not ready yet to make the commitment and that is fine. At the same time, others will believe that they are ready and will join in our congregation as professing members. Regardless of the decisions that the youth make, they have faithfully attended our confirmation training and they know that God is important, so you and I must continue to support them and love them and help them to fully understand the commitment to Christ that we make as members.

During the confirmation sessions, several of the mentors said that the classes would be good for adults as well because adults just join without the benefit of a dot connecting. That said, I have agreed that if there is interest in having an adult informational class like what our youth went through, I would be glad to lead it in the evenings over the summer - perhaps even around a campfire if there is interest. So, if you are an adult interested in such training, please let me know so I can begin to schedule these classes.

## Council Corner

Spring has sprung, and so have the pollen, weeds, and overgrown foundation plants that prompted our Trustees to call for more church "work days" this spring to keep Bethel looking crisp and cared for. On May 9<sup>th</sup> the interior and exterior of the church and parsonage were absolutely crawling with cheerful volunteers, happily sprucing up our beautiful church. Gretchen and Tom Davis provided a very refreshing lunch to re-energize us, and then off we went again to continue our labor of love. What a great time! Our other committees have also been working hard. Our Worship Committee sponsored a dramatic and memorable Lenten season at Bethel; we had our first-ever Sunday School celebration on April 26<sup>th</sup>; the Evangelism Committee held a well-received "Pass it on Sunday; our youth led the entire Mothers Day program; our Staff-Parish Relations Committee sponsored a child protection training day on May 17<sup>th</sup> for everyone who works with the children of our church.

There's much more happening than what I've reported here. We always, always need more of you to help us keep our programs and events going! The volunteers for our events come from the whole church, not just from within the particular committee that sponsors any given program. You can hear more about what our church is up to -- and consider volunteering to help out at the events you hear being discussed -- by attending a council meeting. They're held in the Upper Room following the 10:30 service on the second Sunday of each month (unless otherwise stated.) Hope to see you there!

*Cathy Bergman, Your Council Chair*

## Piano Sought for "Adoption"

Dona Nagy would like to 'adopt' a tunable piano for her son Gary. Her piano has keys that can no longer be tuned or repaired and Gary likes to play almost daily as his form of relaxation. If you have a piano you no longer need and would like it to be in a good home where it will be lovingly played, please contact Dona at 341-7376.

## Nurture News

### *Want To Have Some Fun?*

The Nurture Committee is planning several events and we hope you will join us. In addition to our "Remember When" event scheduled for Saturday afternoon, June 13 we are also trying to plan a **tubing trip down the river in Luray**. If you are interested, please let one of the committee members know ASAP as we need to make reservations.

We would also like to have a **bowling night**. Again, if you would like to participate, please let us know. This event will probably be in the fall.

Do you have a suggestion for a fun-filled, free event? Please let us know! Thank you from your Nurture Committee, Gayle Wilson  
Amy Lunsford, Judy Clear and Kathi Reichel.

## Sunday School

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

Have you heard what's happening in Sunday School? Recently we had our first "Sunday School Celebration." Eighty-eight folks gathered in the social hall for the event. Wow, what a fabulous time of celebrating Christian Education from preschool - adults. If you had a birthday between January and April you could pick a prize from the birthday box and...guess what? Just for being present, you had a chance to win a \$5 gift certificate to Carousel! Our winners were Mary Anne Templeton and Lillian Reed. There was a time of singing and getting to know the teachers and a little about what each class is doing. We finished our time with a wonderful puppet show (those youth sure are talented!) You won't want to miss the next "Sunday School Celebration!" Come join us for a sneak preview of Vacation Bible School, Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 in the social hall. Remember...this isn't just for those who are currently attending Sunday School. it's for EVERYONE! Who knows? You just might be the winner of something special just for showing up to Sunday School!

### **Volunteers needed:**

We need substitute Sunday School teachers and co-teachers in our junior high" department. If you would be interested in serving in Bethel's Sunday School department please contact Rebecca Krauss (540)341-0419.

**Please keep the following in  
your prayers.**

***Church Family***

Charles Billak  
Kelly Cauthorn (healthy pregnancy)  
Rosemary Cox (health concerns)  
Rick Crowther (surgery recovery)  
Tom Davis  
Alice and Leo Federline (health concerns)  
Howard Goff  
Sharon Gray  
Ralph Head  
Dale Keil  
John Lepto (surgery recovery)  
Nell Lewis  
Elsie Mayo (surgery recovery)  
Phyllis McBee  
Shelley Murrah  
Robbie Smith  
Lois Thwaite  
Helen and Irving Thorpe  
Ken Trexler (job search)  
Tom and Tracey Watson (death of Tom's mother)  
Eva and CG Wennerstrom  
Mildred Wilkes (health concerns)  
David Yarnell (job search)  
Those experiencing financial hardship or job loss

***Serving in Uniform***

Jason Reichel (Fairfax County Police)  
Dan Janickey (Fairfax County Police)  
Charles Wolfert (Fairfax County Police)  
Bill Atwell (Fairfax County EMT)  
Ben McGee (US Capitol Police)  
Matt Swain (FSU Police)  
James Sutton (US Air Force)  
John Rhorbaugh (US Army)  
Rick Crowther (US Army)  
Robert Bugg (US Border Patrol)  
Will Corbitt (US Marines)  
Joshua Knefelkamp (US Marine)  
Timothy Robinson (US Marine)  
Jason Osborn (US Navy)  
Brian Tollefson (US Navy)  
Joe McCoy (US Navy)  
Al Lyon  
Lewis Shadle

**TRI-CITIES WORKCAMPS, Inc.**

<http://tcworkcamp.org/>

Ken and Martha Trexler are accompanying a group of teens to Petersburg Virginia, July 6 -12 to participate in the Tri-Cities Workcamp. They provide the following information about the Workcamp and the amazing experience it is for all who participate. Ken and Martha write:

Here is a little bit about Workcamp. The Workcamp is held in Petersburg. Small crews work together each day, Monday through Friday on homes that have been assessed by *TRI-CITIES WORKCAMPS, INC.* Work tasks include porch and step repair, hanging drywall, floor and wall replacement and painting. Evening programs offer inspiration through music, worship, games and projects. Special activities are scheduled throughout the week. Daily seminars are held for adults and campers 19 years old & over. Thursday night is a special night of learning drama, music, liturgical dance and other art that can be presented by the campers at their home churches. Saturday morning's *RE-ENTRY CELEBRATION* is a culmination of the week through art, music, worship and pictures. This celebration is shared with residents, parents, and clergy and church members.

Visitors are welcomed so if anyone wants to come down and see what these youth can do please do. The Trexlers say that the campers really appreciate postcards or cards, small packages of fun items or goodies. It is best to mail the items on the Friday before Workcamp begins so the items are received while camp is going on. Please mail the cards to the individuals, and packages should be sent in care of Ken or Martha Trexler. And the biggest thing you can do is please keep all of them in your daily prayers.

Thanks from the bottom of our hearts; it will mean so much to everyone involved. God Bless You

- Ken and Martha Trexler

**Address:**

Participants Name  
Workcamp 2008  
P.O. Box 1761  
Petersburg, VA 23805

## Bethel United Methodist Women

All women of the church are invited to be a part of Bethel UMW. We meet the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. and begin with refreshments and fellowship, followed by our program and business meeting at 10:30! Our next meeting is June 6. Due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday there will be no July meeting.

We have lots of plans in the works: The annual church yard sale on Saturday, June 20, the Pumpkin Patch in October, and the annual Cookie Walk and Bazaar on November 14. Our fundraisers support mission work at home and around the globe.

*Please join us this week!!*

## Want to reserve space at Bethel for a Special Event? Here's How!!

If you'd like to use the church social hall or another room in the church, here is the procedure to follow.

Put the request, containing the following information, in writing:

- Name and contact information of the person or group making the request
- Whether requestor is a member of Bethel
- The type of event and how many people are expected to attend
- Which space is requested and the beginning and ending time of the event
- Whether there are any special requirements/needs (e.g. audio system)
- Whether someone will be required to unlock and lock the church for you

The request can be filed in one of three ways:

- Email the request to [bumofficeassistant@comcast.net](mailto:bumofficeassistant@comcast.net) or
- Email to [sperrygray@aol.com](mailto:sperrygray@aol.com) or
- Place the request in an envelope and put it in the mailbox cubby marked Office Assistant.

## United Methodist Men

The UMM has been active the past couple of months. We hosted another roast beef dinner last month and received good feedback from those who came. We served 57 Bethel members and 27 folks from the community. It seems that the word is out and these events are growing. This is a good thing. This month, we hosted another chicken barbecue dinner. And on Virginia Gold Cup race day at Great Meadows, we again provided a contingent of men to sell programs and souvenir pins for the Lions Club. We did a good job and raised a sizable sum to help finance our group's activities and pledges.

Last month we had a guest speaker from Habitat for Humanity. It was very informative and we learned a lot about the organization that we support financially and with manpower and lunches.

In June our monthly dinner is scheduled to be 'pulled pork barbecue' with sides, beverage, and dessert. Mark your calendars for June 13th and get your tickets early. It promises to be another Bethel UMM hit.

Men of Bethel, **all of you**, come to the meetings and join in our fellowship, camaraderie, and service to Jesus, our Lord God and Bethel Church. We have a lot going on and can even do more if we would all participate. Our meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning with food and fellowship at 7:00 p.m.

### Our Church Officers

Co-Lay Leaders	Ava Lee & Joe McCoy
Church Council Chair	Cathy Bergman
Vice Chair	Tom Davis
Secretary	Joice Fredenburgh
Trustees Chair	Peggy Goff
Church Treasurer	Donna Broadbent
Financial Secretary	June Rinker
Staff-Parish Relations	Jim Templeton
Annual Conference Delegate	Mike Jamison

### Our Church Staff

Pastor	Marty Martin
Music Director	Gretchen Davis
Nursery Attendants	
	Karen Goula
	Tiffany Kines

### Our Covenant Missionaries

Steve and Diantha Hodges

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