

The Bethel Bugle

Newsletter

October, November 2009

Bethel United Methodist Church
Pastor: Marty Martin

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Upcoming Special Events There's Something for Everyone

The Pumpkins Arrive Friday Night October 16

At 8:00 p.m. Friday night, October 16, the pumpkins will arrive from the Navajo Nation. Many helpers (all ages) are needed to help unload and arrange all the pumpkins for the sale that will be held beginning Saturday, October 17 and continue through Friday, October 31. More information on page 4.

Fall Pumpkin Festival Saturday, October 24

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- Don't Miss a Minute!!!

The Festival of Fun for will run from 10:00 - 3:00 p.m. including a moon bounce, face painting and lots of other family fun activities! Lunch available from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. More details on page 4.

UMW Cookie Walk & Holiday Bazaar and UMM Brunswick Stew Dinner Saturday, November 14

This year the UMW annual Cookie Walk and Holiday Bazaar is being paired up with a UMM Brunswick Stew Dinner. Read more about it inside on page 5!!!

EDGE Club for Kids

Experiencing and Discovering God Everywhere! The EDGE Club is an activity for kids (pre-K through 4th grade) that meets on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. If you have a child in that age range, they are welcome to be a part! We have games, a Bible lesson, crafts, music, service projects and fun. Read all about it on Page 7!!

Advent Devotional Booklet

Each year we publish a devotional booklet for Advent written by Bethel members and friends. Do you have a special Christmas tradition, story or remembrance? Do you have a story about how God has been at work in your life? There is a sign-up sheet on the table under the Tree of Life. The deadline for your submission is November 8th. Please send your submission to Pat Martin via email if possible to patandmarty@comcast.net.

A Message from Your Pastor

There are many things on my mind and heart today, but I want to expand on an email that is going around. The email is a replay of a Red Skelton explanation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States. In that short clip, Red renders a deep, heartfelt and passionate understanding of what the pledge means as taught to him by an elementary school teacher. (God bless our teachers.) It provides a deep understanding of what the pledge is all about - unity, selflessness, commitment, and honor.

But unity, selflessness, commitment and honor are not character traits that were born of our country, nor are they unique to our country. Those traits characterize the life that God calls us to live. Unfortunately, I think many folks are lost in a wilderness of selfishness and isolation that destroys unity, fosters selfish commitment to individual best interests, and scoffs at honor in favor of rationalization of our selfish behaviors. We have found a new golden calf to worship - self. (Well, that is not really a new golden calf cause that started with Adam and Eve.) We love our country and we love ourselves and our ways, but have we forgotten how to do more than talk about loving God and one another?

We know that Jesus said that we should love God with our whole being (heart, soul, mind, and strength) and love our neighbor as we love ourselves (let go of our self focus). But somehow that gets lost in translation from our head knowledge to our daily living. We talk about love, but rhetoric about love does not bring the passion and commitment that are required to enact love. We talk about love which is unifying, but we live more about independence which is isolating. We talk about each other instead of with each other.

The time for talking is done! It is time to reclaim both our passion for God and our commitment to God as we pursue unity in the personal and loving relationship to which God calls us. Stay tuned, the opportunities are coming your way, but they will all require commitment on your part. Joshua said, "You must choose whom you will serve." And then

Joshua said, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Whom will you serve? Whom will you put first in your life? Yourself? Your Country? Or our God? It is time as someone once said "to put your money where your mouth is."

Pastor Marty

Memories from Millie

This comes from Millie - hot off the press - with some questions for a few of our members, or at least some clarifications - hmmm.....

The time has come, this writer says, to speak of many things- of memories, Haldeen's pranks and angels without wings.

Why would Haldeen create such a stir one crisp morning at Bethel Church (Hint: We thought she was a homeless lady.) Ask her about this.

And then there are our two special angels, Edythe Burton and Mae Nelson, who lost their wings one night when they were preparing dinner in the old kitchen in Bethel Church. They disobeyed the rules and were even admonished by the minister. Who would have thought!! You will be happy to know that they have regained their wings but you will have to get them to relate the event to you!!

As for memories I could go on and on with some more teasers!!! I will never forget Doloris and Fred Baker giving their rendition of Happy Trails. They had just ridden in from the Old West... and their side-kick Catherine Bowers accompanied them. Please ask Doloris to give you a sample of her 'Soft Shoe' dance. She's a beautiful dancer, don't ya know!

I hope you are staying busy creating your memories.

Love you all, Millie

COUNCIL CORNER

On Saturday, September 19th, your council members spent a glorious “Day Apart” at Macedonia UMC, near Winchester. Hosted by Pastor Jason and the church’s technical director, Frances, they chose for the day the theme of “Blessed to be a Blessing” as they led us through a number of discussions and exercises to help us better focus as a team and as leaders of Bethel. We came away with a lot of good ideas and even more food for thought. One of the things we will strive to do at our council meetings, as a result of our Day Apart, is to focus on the right questions and the right issues at the right time, rather than follow a standard format at each meeting. As a reminder, everyone in the congregation is invited to come to each council meeting -- our next one is October 11th, following the 10:30 worship service -- so please come and see us in our new format.

On Wednesday evening, September 23rd, District Superintendent David Forrest led our annual Charge Conference, which was held in the social hall. We heard our committee chairpersons participate in the State of the Church report by detailing the accomplishments of their respective committees, and both of the District representatives were highly impressed with the number and variety of different and unique happenings and events here over the past year. In fact, they said they were going to use some of our initiatives as examples for other churches in our district to emulate! What a great compliment to the efforts of everyone.

In 2009 and continuing into 2010, our goal at Bethel is to be a Five Talent Church, wherein we engage the talents and passions of each of our members, encourage each other to grow in discipleship, and hold each other accountable to become, and make, disciples for Jesus the Christ. Thanks to our very gifted and passionate congregation, your talents and passions this past year yielded many successful events. What made them successful was the involvement of so many passionate individuals, either as organizers or as participants and attendees.

Please help us focus this coming year on the other part of our goal: growing in our own discipleship, and making other disciples. Take advantage of our many opportunities for Bible Study, and witness to others about the difference Jesus has made in your own lives. At our upcoming council meetings, we’ll be discussing more ways we can center on discipleship. Come join us!

Cathy Bergman, Council Chair

A Five Talent Church *What is it?*

The Bethel Church Council has defined a Five Talent Church as follows:

We understand a “five-talent church” to be a church that engages the talents and passions of each of its members, encourages one another to grow in discipleship, and holds each other accountable to become and make disciples of Jesus the Christ.”

What if?? We each worked to make Bethel Church a five talent church.

What if?? We each became a five talent person - using our talents as God intended us to use them when he gave them to us?

What difference could we make in the world if we all lived as five talent people?

Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 25, verses 14-30.

Bethel’s Sizzlin’ Summer Auction

Bethel’s 2nd annual charity auction was a tremendous success thanks to the contributions and attendance of so many. Over 100 people, young and older, new members and long-timers, and friends of Bethel worked together to bring about this special event. And what a wonderful and inviting event it was, as over 135 folks attended - and over half of them were friends and neighbors outside of the Bethel congregation.

Thank you, thank you, to each of you who donated your time, your talents, your energy and enthusiasm and most of all your constant and cheerful support!! And a special thank you to Kathy Shumate who conducted the live auction.

Thanks to all of you the profit from the auction totaled just over \$13,000 - \$3,000 more than last year!! This money was distributed to several of our local agencies who, in this current economic time, are facing challenges in meeting the needs of their clients. Fauquier Family Shelter Services, Inc. received 50%. The remaining money was divided in varying amounts between the Fauquier County Food Distribution Coalition, Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, Fauquier FISH, and Stop Hunger Now.

“Oh, what a joy it is to give to the Lord!”

As we approach the cooler weather of autumn, we begin to see God at work in the beautiful colors of the leaves and mountains. We begin to think of our Fall Festival, Fall Bazaar, Thanksgiving, and then the Christmas holidays. Sandwiched in between these activities comes Stewardship Sunday, the time when we commit a portion of our resources to God for the coming year. It's a time when we are reminded of the hymn, "Bring Ye All the Tithes into the Storehouse - your money, talent, time and love." For some of us, we dread that time. "Oh, they are asking for money again", some think silently or aloud. But, the real call is found in II Corinthians 9:7 where we read, "God loves a cheerful giver". Giving is really about our relationship with God. It's an attitude that says, "Oh, what a joy it is to give to the Lord!" And, as Christmas follows Thanksgiving, we are reminded of just how very much God gave to us - His only Son who gave His all that we may live abundantly in Him. So, as we approach Stewardship Sunday this year, may each of us prepare our minds and open our hearts to giving as we are able to give, committing ourselves FIRST to a faithful relationship with God. The rest will follow and God will smile upon us and say, "Well done, good and faithful servants". May God continue to richly bless each of us as His children and Bethel Church as His Church as we serve Him always in all ways with joy-filled hearts.

From Your Stewardship Committee.

Friday night, October 16 - Volunteers Needed to Unload Pumpkins

Bethel Church is embarking on its annual Pumpkin Patch!! The venture not only benefits Bethel Church but the Navajo Nation in New Mexico as well. Roughly 2000 pumpkins, along with Indian corn and gourds, will be delivered from the Navajo to Bethel Church on Friday night, October 16 around 8:00 p.m. Lots of volunteers are needed to unload and arrange the items so please consider just turning up and helping out that night!! The sales will begin early on Saturday morning, October 17. From Saturday, October 17 through Saturday, October 31 the Patch will be manned every day by Bethel volunteers. Renee Jamison is coordinating the volunteers. Sign up today (the sheet is on the table under the Tree of Life). There are still a few slots open if you would like to help!

Pumpkin Festival Saturday, October 24

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Excitement abounds as the Bethel annual Fall Pumpkin Festival draws near. Come one, come all, the fun begins at 10:00 a.m. with lots of activities for the kids, a moon bounce, face painting, Halloween bag decorating and lots of other family-friendly activities lasting until 3:00 p.m. In the middle of it all, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. the United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men will have lunch - hamburgers, hot dogs, homemade soup and chili, dessert and beverage - available for purchase. And not to be forgotten, pumpkins - large pumpkins, small pumpkins, middle-sized pumpkins -and gourds and other fall decorating items will be available for purchase.

Get the picture? A full day of fun and fellowship for the whole family!!

Invite your friends, invite your neighbors!!

SPREAD THE WORD!!

**Bethel UMW Annual Cookie Walk and Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, November 14 8:00 a.m.**

New this year

**The addition of the United Methodist Men
Brunswick Stew dinner from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

November 14 is the date set for the United Methodist Women's annual Cookie Walk and Holiday Bazaar. This special event has been going on for over 20 years. Although sponsored by UMW it's really a fantastic all church event with participation from the women, men, youth and children!!

What is a Cookie Walk you ask? Well, we will have literally thousands of cookies laid out on trays. Customers buy an empty container, are given a plastic glove and can just walk around and select their cookies. We also will have a traditional bake sale for all the cakes, pies, breads, jellies, jams and other goodies that are not "cookies". We will need all our bakers to help in this project!! Questions? Talk to Ava Lee about cookies and Carol Walus about the bake sale.

Crafters are needed now so we will have a wonderful selection of handmade gift items for our shoppers to choose from. Please talk to Karen Putnam or Donna Broadbent if you would like to help in this area. Our crafters are always looking for clever new ideas.

So sharpen your needles or pull out your cookbooks - we need you!!

Now - what about the Brunswick stew?? Oh, yes, folks - delicious, authentic, homemade Brunswick stew will be cooking all day during the Bazaar and be ready to eat at 4:00 p.m. For a mere \$10 you can have stew, salad, bread, beverage and dessert. And if you didn't have time to shop earlier in the day - or just didn't get enough of your holiday shopping done - the Bazaar will re-open at 4:00 p.m. to be available after you eat!!

Bethel United Methodist Women

Bethel United Methodist Women meets the first Saturday of each month. The group will meet this Saturday, October 3 and the following meeting will be Saturday, November 7.

Every woman who attends Bethel Church is invited to be a member of UMW. Please come join us as we explore ways that we can be involved in mission and make a difference in the lives of others both locally and globally; as we raise money for our church and other special projects; and as we work together in Christian fellowship. **If you are interested in more information about UMW please contact President Ava Lee at 347-7805 or leisurelee@erols.com.**

Bethel United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month beginning at 7:00 p.m. with food and fellowship. The meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Membership is open to all men of the church. The UMM exists to serve God, the Church, and the community. If you know anyone who needs a helping hand, let us know. **If you would like to join us in any of our activities please call Mike Jamison at 540-428-8790 or e-mail mj.jamison@comcast.net.**

The power of prayer is limitless!! Please join in a ministry of prayer each day for your friends, your loved ones, your neighbors, even your adversaries. Especially include the following people at this time!

Church Family

Doug Bogar (surgery recovery)
Rosemary Cox (health)
Alice and Leo Federline (health)
Deanna Fortney (eye surgery)
Sharon Gray (health)
Ralph Head
Dale Keil
Nell Lewis
Phyllis McBee
Jean McCoy (vertigo issues)
Shelley Murrah
Robbie Smith (health)
Avery Stegmaier
Gordon Sutton (job seeking)
Helen and Irving Thorpe
Mildred Wilkes (health)
Laura Wolfert (surgery recover)
David Yarnell (job seeking)

Follow-up to Stop Hunger Now Day

Stop Hunger Now and Bethel's mission team send all of you a huge thank you for the financial support, the assistance setting up, cleaning up, and packaging 21,106 meals on September 12. We had a lot of fun, making the work of packaging go quickly and efficiently. Imagine, soon there may be 21,106 children eating a nutritious meal instead of mud cookies for their lunch at school. Thanks again for helping; including all of you who offered prayers for the event as well. Check-out the Stop Hunger Now website for more information - www.StopHungerNow.org. Be sure to watch one or two of their You Tube videos.

Upcoming soon: Troop Morale Kits to be packaged for our soldiers overseas in celebration of Veterans Day. Be on the lookout in the bulletin for ideas for contents of the kits and the due dates. We will be working through the M.E.R.C.I. Center in North Carolina for these kits.

Your Mission Team coordinators,
John and Martha Jo Payne

Our list is ever changing as some of those in uniform return home to civilian life and others just begin.....

Protecting Us

The following are names of men and women who are serving in a critical role in protecting our nation. Please pray for their safety and the safety of all the young men and women who may be in harm's way as they work to keep us safe.

If you would like to add someone's name to our list please let me know. AKL

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)
Ryan Tignor (US Army)
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
Grant Brooks (US Army Reserve)
Heather Bevel (US Coast Guard)
Carey North (US Coast Guard)
Robert Bugg (US Border Patrol)

A Special Request from the Trustees

The heating/air conditioning system in the Sanctuary is controlled by the floor, front, side and ceiling vents.

The Trustees have noticed that on occasion folks are covering the vents with purses, hymnals, etc. Please - if the air coming from the vents is too cool for you, sit at the other end of the pew or in a pew not affected by a vent. Blocking a vent actually makes the entire system work harder and limits its effectiveness. If you have questions please speak to a Trustee.

EDGE Club - From the E.D.G.E.

Experiencing and Discovering God Everywhere!

The EDGE Club is an activity for kids (pre-K through 4th grade) that meets on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. If you have a child in that age range, they are welcome to be a part! We have games, a Bible lesson, crafts, music and fun. Part of our program is doing service projects for the church; one of which is to roll the silverware for the monthly UMW Breakfasts. So each time you unwrap your silverware, you can be assured it was rolled with care by a child with a willing heart and very clean hands! We will also be tending and turning the pumpkins for the Pumpkin Patch.

Our focus for the year is "God's Top Ten" and learning how the Ten Commandments relate to us. And we talk together weekly about how we experienced God and demonstrated God to others.

The Sunday afternoon group is led by Miss Pat (Martin) and Miss Joice (Fredenburgh); with loving rotational assistance from Miss Tara (Lee), Miss "T" (Crowther), Miss Martha Jo (Payne) and Caitlin Kenney, our junior counselor. We also have occasional help from parents for "crowd control", etc, but would still welcome you as a periodic volunteer. If you would like to assist us, please talk with Pat about your level of participation. Contact here at patandmarty@comcast.net. or call at 540-972-2798.

Trustee News

Isn't the new planting bed around the base of the entry sign beautiful!! And the best news, all the plants are perennial and will return next spring! Thank you so much T Crowther, and Earl and Geneice Kemper!!

In order to keep the Social Hall entry more open and inviting, the mailboxes have been moved to the back wall near the stairwell entry. Mission projects now have a new home on the window wall that faces the Parsonage. When a project ends please remove signs and items so there will be room for new projects. The two tables at the end of the stone wall are reserved for Youth and Education, and UMW and UMM. All sign-up sheets can be found on the table under the Tree of Life! Also, if you have an event and use more than eight tables and 48 chairs please take down and put away any over that amount that you use.

Alarm System. All doors are now alarmed when the building is unoccupied. If you do not know how to disarm the system please speak to Peggy Goff about training.

Relay for Life Team Co-Captain Needed

Here's a wonderful and fun opportunity! We need someone to help lead our Bethel "Relay for Life" Team for 2010. The event will be held the first weekend in June at Fauquier High School, and team registration has begun. Gayle Wilson has agreed to handle the money collections, so we need someone to organize the team. Bethel has had a "Relay for Life" Team for many years. It's a wonderful cause, a terrific outreach opportunity, and a fun team event. All of our lives have been touched by cancer in some way, so this is a way to help fight this insidious disease through the annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. If you are willing to volunteer or would like more information, please see Gayle or Carol Walus.

Our Church Officers

CO-Lay Leaders	Ava Lee and 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
Pastor-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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