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July 2023

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# *The Bethel Beacon*

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Living our faith, sharing God's love.*



## Pastoral Column — July 2023

It has already been a year since I first arrived here at Bethel. Little did I know that I would be missing all these weeks because of my health issues. For those of you that didn't know, I went to the ER on June 13th because I was having abdominal pain. After many tests, the doctor discovered that I had an infection in my body and it was due to my gallbladder. On Thursday June 15, the doctors took the gallbladder out and on Saturday I was released to go home.

Unfortunately, I began to struggle with my breathing the following Sunday and on Monday I decided to go back to the ER to triage my situation. It turned out that my right lung had fluid in it and there also was fluid leaking from the common bile duct. On Wednesday June 21, the doctors put a port in to drain the fluid in my abdomen. Although they released me to go home, I was still struggling with my breathing.

One thing I discovered is when the doctor prescribes specific medicine, there is a good reason for it. I wasn't sure if the muscle relaxant or the nerve blockers was helping me, so I stopped taking it the fourth day. I quickly realized that it was not only necessary, but it also would have helped me with my breathing. I also recognized that the pain meds prescribed to me helped me sleep at night.

## Pastoral Column — Continued

Although it has been three weeks, I am now 90% recovered. My appetite has been good, and my lungs are getting stronger each day. I know for a fact that I would not be where I am today if it wasn't for the prayer gatherings you all had while I was at the hospital.



I also saw God's hand move in my life as I was gifted with a much-needed recliner to help me manage my days resting. Finally, when Pat Martin brought all the cards and well wishes to my house and I read each of them, I was moved to tears.

What is my takeaway from all this? I won't take any visitations to a hospital lightly anymore. Each time I see someone recovering from a procedure or an illness, my heart will be there with them because I finally know what it is like to be in the hospital, let alone have surgery. This was my first surgery in my life and first time being admitted in the hospital. I hope it will be my last and I know I will come back stronger, both physically and spiritually thanks to all of you.



I want to thank all my leaders who have tirelessly organized each Sunday service with the upmost care. It was good worshipping with everyone on Sunday July 2 and a special shout out to Rev. Dr. Steven Hundley for preaching the Word. I know my heart wants to come back sooner than later, but I hope to take the pulpit again on August 6 as we move forward into a brand-new sermon series. Thank you again and God bless you all.

Rev. David Ryu

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: David Ryu  
 pastordavidryu@bethelumc.com  
 858/344-5354

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 Pat Martin  
 pat88piano@gmail.com

Accompanist:  
 Joan Bacot

Interim Director of Hymndingers  
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 Glen Allen, VA 23058-5606  
 804/521-1102

Northern Virginia District  
 Superintendent:  
 Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert  
 3600 Chain Bridge Rd., Fl 1  
 Fairfax, VA 22030-3236  
 703/820-7200

**Sunday Schedule**

9:00 am: Adult Sunday School

10:00 am: Worship in Sanctuary & Online

1st & 3rd Sundays: Communion Sundays

4th Sunday: Youth Motel Ministries—12:00 pm

*Join our Sunday morning ministry team. To volunteer:*

- ◆ *to read scripture, contact Jane Brewer at 540-428-0038*
- ◆ *to usher, contact Tom Ferrell at 540-439-9043*
- ◆ *to help before and after communion, contact Cathy Carayas at 540-219-2575*
- ◆ *to assist with tech, contact Sarah Hundley at 540-589-5564*
- ◆ *to assist with the Youth, contact Sandra Colvin at 540-347-2375 or Karla Yocum at 540-514-6070*

*We appreciate all of our volunteers and can always use more!*

**July Worship**

July 2 — Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: "WE WIN!" — Rev. Dr. Steve Hundley

Scripture: Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 — Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: "Taking the Yoke" — Karla Yocum

Scripture: Matthew 11:25-30

July 16 — Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: "Seeds in the Dirt" — Rosanne Williamson

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9

July 23 — Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: "Shine Like the Sun"— Ken Trexler

Scripture: Genesis 28:10-19a

July 30 — Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Hymn Sing

**Upcoming Events**

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm: Devotional Prayer Time—Sanctuary

Tuesday, July 11, 7:30 pm: Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 25, 7:00 pm: Admin Council Meeting

**Lay Leadership:**

Lay Leader: Brett Hahn

Administrative Council Chair:  
Nancy Pinson

Vice Council Chair:  
Carlton Hayden

Staff-Parish Relations:  
Rosanne Williamson

Finance Committee Chair:  
Lewis Lee

Trustees Chair:  
Ava Lee

Church Treasurer:  
Donna Broadbent

Finance Secretary  
Christine Winters

Recording Secretary:  
Gary Pinson

Worship Committee Chair:  
Cathy Carayas

Sunday School Superintendent:  
Linda Hayden

Nurture/Fellowship Committee  
Chair:  
Charlene Hahne

Mission & Outreach Committee  
Chairs:  
Sandra Colvin,  
Karla Yocum

United Women in Faith  
President: Dolores Goff

Lay Member to Annual  
Conference: Brett Hahne

District Conference  
Representative & Steward:  
Murray Edwards

**Music Notes**

The Choir had a little celebration after our last rehearsal June 15th.



Pat Martin, Music Director  
[pat88piano@gmail.com](mailto:pat88piano@gmail.com)

**July Birthdays:**

02 Mark Langan  
 05 Courtney Asawadeekul  
 07 Brian Bartlebaugh  
 12 Greg Steinmeyer  
 15 Karen Putnam  
 20 Cameron Lee  
 23 Mary Ann Teets  
 24 Jennifer Sellers  
 26 Linda Hayden  
     Travis Taylor  
 28 Brett Hahne

**July Anniversaries:**

07 Michael & Sherrill  
     Moore  
 18 Gary & Nancy Pinson

## Becky Crouch Recognized for 50 Years of Service to Girl Scouts

Fauquier Now Online Article

Warrenton resident Becky Crouch was recently recognized for 50 years of participation and outstanding volunteer service at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital held in Germantown, Maryland.

Originally from the rural eastern shore of Maryland, Crouch began her Girl Scout journey as a child. But it wasn't until she moved to Fauquier County in 1977 and her two daughters were recruited to join the Girl Scouts that she became more involved in the organization.

Crouch said she became a troop leader after both her daughters were recruited to join the Girl Scouts.

"When I became a mother, and the recruiting happened at my daughter's elementary school, that's when I then became active," she told FauquierNow. "I have two daughters who both went all the way through 12 years of scouting, and both of my girls and I are lifetime members."

Although her daughters are now grown, Crouch said her granddaughter was the most recent family member to join the Girl Scouts.

"It's really fun to have a third-generation Girl Scout," Crouch said.

Throughout her Girl Scout career, Crouch has served as the leader of Brownie, Junior, Cadette and Senior troops in Fauquier.

She's also held leadership positions at the local (Service Unit), regional (Association) and Council levels. Crouch has represented the Council at National Conferences in Miami, Long Beach, Fort Worth, Kansas City, Atlanta and Indianapolis. Currently, she serves on the Service Unit Team as treasurer, a position she's held for more than 20 years.

Over her many years of service, Crouch has received several accolades, including the Knox Award -- the highest award for an adult volunteer. She has also met "wonderful adult women" who Crouch said she would have otherwise never crossed paths with.

But Crouch emphasized the accolades she received and places she's traveled were just "a plus."

"I do this for the girls," Crouch said.

When Crouch started as a troop leader, many of the girls she led were in first or second grade, and some now have children of their own. She said watching them grow "into wonderful adults and remodels" has been one of the greatest joys in her life. She said she takes pride in the feeling that she made a difference in the lives of the young girls she mentored.

"It's rewarding to see what the scouts did for them," Crouch said.

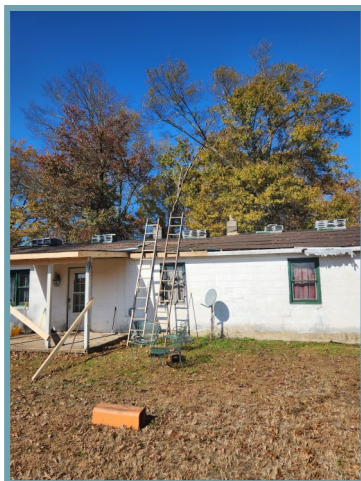


## Bethel Breakthrough Prayer

God of grace and power, thank you for loving us and for hearing our prayers. Break through into Bethel Church, into our lives, our families, our community, and our world, with healing power and visible signs of your grace. Guide us in the ways of Jesus. Send the Holy Spirit to lead us into the future you desire for us; even when the present is full of uncertainty and anxiety. Lord, we are asking, seeking, and knocking. Open doors that will lead us on paths of faithful discipleship; and give us the courage to walk through those doors as we live our faith and share God's love. Amen.

## Methodist Outreach Ministry (MOM)

The Mission Committee has decided to resurrect MOM. For those of you who don't know, we formed MOM a few years ago with other Methodist churches in the northern end of Fauquier County to help those in need of home repair.



Right now, we have a project we need help with in Midland and we thought this would be a good opportunity for our church to take on this project. It will be mostly painting. We are picking three dates to work on this, so it gives several opportunities to help.

The dates are July 8, 12, and 15. It's open to adults and youth group. If you are interested let me know.

Thank you, Earl Kemper

(540) 229-1738 [egkemper1@gmail.com](mailto:egkemper1@gmail.com)

## Motel Ministry

June's Motel Ministry volunteers Brody, Sandra, Karla, and Gary shared lots of food, fruit, water, and toiletries with the residents. They were most appreciative of everything. It is always good to "live our faith, share God's love."

Just a reminder that we are in need of items for Motel Ministry. Your donations may be left in the container in the Social Hall (to the right of the piano).

The followings items are needed: canned items — soup, chili, beef stew, chicken, tuna.

Other items are individual fruit cups, snacks, granola bars, chips, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, and lotion, soap, body wash, toilet paper, and laundry pods. Your donations are most appreciated!

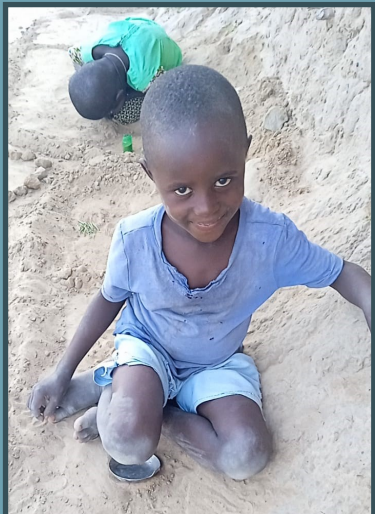
We will be going to the Motel Ministry again on Sunday, July 9th.

Thank you, Sandra Colvin and Karla Yocum Co-Chairs for Mission/Outreach Committee



Look who we ran into after Motel Ministry—Amy and Eric!

## Bethel Computer Mission Ministry



As many of you know my work in Kenya started two years ago with bringing over laptops to two schools in the Mombasa area of Kenya. This is an update of where we are today. After we outfitted the schools with laptops, we started helping with sustainable food and Christian education in a village.



The village had not seen rain in 5 years as I recall; God's timing at work. We have over 25 acres of maize, beans, and other greens growing in the very desolate area outside Mombasa called Mariakani.

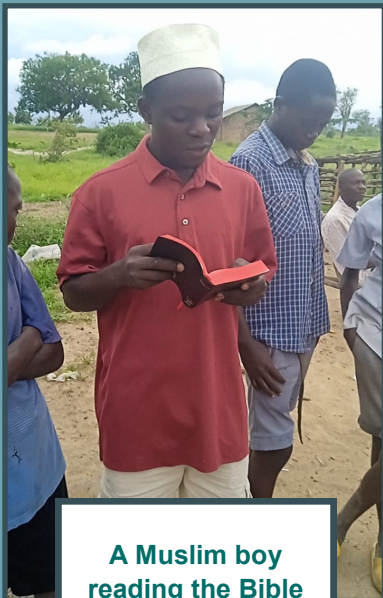


We teach Saturday lessons on computers and children's church. This includes a meal for the approximately 70 children we work with including freshly baked bread. Thirty percent of the children are Muslim. God is using us in this village, and it seems to be just the start. They need fresh water but a well is not possible because the water table is too salty.

I know many of you have prayed and donated to Omar (pictured right). He is on chemo and has been very sick and in the hospital from the cancer treatment. This little guy is so tough. He was asked when he went in for his eye surgery if he was afraid. He said, "No, I have Jesus."

Although I have never met Omar (pictured left), I have been helping him through Angie Mitchell out of St Louis. She works with The Royals School where we





**A Muslim boy  
reading the Bible  
to the children.**

**For more information:**

[Mikindani Royal  
Comprehensive School  
on Facebook](#)

[E3kids International](#)

[Angie Mitchell's Mission:](#)  
Harvest Assembly Africa  
Missions  
209 Trotter St  
Essex MO 63846

## Bethel Computer Mission Ministry—con't.

installed the computers and does ministry in the villages, so we have some common goals. I sent Angie a laptop to help Omar with his education because he cannot go to school and then learned his mother was paying to charge the laptop; things we never think about because we take electricity for granted. We purchased a small solar charging system and Omar is happy because his laptop can stay charged. The family is happy now that they have lights at nighttime. Omar and his mother were Muslims when Angie first met them a few years ago. The father remains Muslim.

There is a great hunger for the Word, and we really could use funds for Swahili Bibles. We have 12 Bibles now but need many more because the area we are covering has over 500 people. Even Muslim parents are hungry for the Word since we started teaching because the children are listening better! I was told yesterday the seeds we gave have reached people we don't even know - it's like Jesus' teaching. I never dreamed this was going to happen when I started! Debbie Bowers asked if I could use school uniforms and I said I would find them a home.

I don't have time to tell you about the housing upgrades we did for three ministers or the two pastors taking a Homiletic class at Ethos College here in Warrenton. Of course, this is via the Internet. God is moving and this is just the start! It's humbling to be able to boast about all that God is allowing me to be involved in.

If you feel called to help with clean water, food, children's or women's challenges, please let me know. I have two avenues that we can donate to (e3kids or Angie's church in St Louis) or you can give to the Missions fund at Bethel, and I will distribute the funds from there.

I have friends heading over in August for a medical mission in Samia Kenya. If you are feeling a pull let me know how you would like to help.

I post pictures and updates on my Facebook page at least once a week so you can follow the journey there. The pictures are amazing and their smiles and the light in their eyes are breathtaking; it was not like that when we started this journey.

Thank you for your support,

Ken Trexler  
540-272-1478  
trexken@aol.com



**Ink Cartridges**

Donating used ink cartridges to the church helps us to get rewards at Staples that we use to purchase copy paper and other office supplies.

Thank you to all who donate!

**Backpack Project**

It is time for us to participate in the annual “Backpack” Project for students in Fauquier County (through Fauquier FISH—Fauquier For Immediate Sympathetic Help). The average cost for each backpack is \$80.00, but you can contribute any amount. All monetary donations are appreciated. Please write in the memo section on your check or on the envelope for cash donations “Backpack Project” so that we will get your donation into the right fund. Your donations must be turned in by July 30, 2023.

Again, thanks for your contributions—our Bethel family is always “Living Our Faith and Sharing God’s Love.”

Sandra Colvin and Karla Yocum, Co-Chairs of Mission/Outreach Committee

**Finance & Worship Attendance**

**Income & Expenses\***

June Income: \$15,926.00          June Expenses: \$24,508.99

YTD 2023 Income: \$135,921.25    YTD 2023 Expenses: \$159,151.39

\*Because the Beacon is published monthly, finances for the prior month will be reported.

**Attendance & Giving**

Date	Views	In-Person Adults/ Kids	Average	Giving
June 4	47	73	124.27	\$6,566.00
June 11	47	51	123.13	\$3,800.00
June 18	54	62	122.83	\$2,100.00
June 25	67	55	122.80	\$3,460.00

**Worship Update**

We recently changed our mask mandate for worship and all other events at Bethel. If you feel safer or want to protect family members at home, please feel free to wear a mask. If you want to come without a mask, you are welcome to do so. We continue to meet in the Sanctuary. Air purifiers are running in the sanctuary before, during, and after worship service.

Communion will be served by intinction on the first and third Sundays of the month. Those who prefer the self-serve elements or the gluten-free elements can ask the server when they come up.

**Bethel United  
Methodist Church**

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