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April 2024

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# Bethel Beacon

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



## April Greetings from Pastor Clayton

“Keep everything going as close to normal as possible and don’t mess anything up.” This was the sage advice I received from a fellow pastor. Not bad and two worthy goals for a three-month interim pastoral appointment. Keep everything going and don’t mess up!

Coming to Bethel United Methodist Church is a blessing to me. I love having an opportunity to preach, share in worship, and meet fellow followers in Jesus. For me, It is similar to the blessing of travel; it gives you a chance to see a bit more of the world, to learn about new ways of being and doing. but most of all, what I have always enjoyed about traveling is just getting to know new people. I am looking forward to getting to know each of you.

We are going on a three-month trip together and with God’s help it will be a time of blessing and growth for all of us.

A number of you I have met already. Pastor David’s invitation to speak at the United Methodist Men’s breakfast was a real joy and then it worked out for me to pop in and meet about twenty more of you at the Women’s gathering that same Saturday morning. Plus, I got a great tour of the Bethel sanctuary and the your beautiful fellowship hall.

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## April Greetings from Pastor Clayton



I know there is much to do before Bethel's new pastor arrives the first of July, but we also need to remember that our first calling is to "abide in Christ as Christ abides in us," (John 15:4) If we do that well, all the rest will fall into place. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches, that's what the good Word says, so let us keep the first things first, by allowing Christ to nourish us, strengthen us, and actually live within us. That is what we are called to do, each new day, one day at a time, hour by hour.

In the months ahead, may each day become a new opportunity to open our lives to God's Holy loving Spirit, know God's presence, and become Christ's witnesses in a hurting world hungry to hear some good news about grace and faith, hope and love, joy and abundant living.

May God bless us all, Pastor Clayton

### April Worship Services

**"How Then Shall We Live"** is the theme of this April sermon series. We will lift up writings from John the Apostle and consider how we can live faithfully as part of God's Creation.

**April 7: Second Sunday of Easter**

Title: "Jesus, Our Lighthouse"

Passage: 1 John 1:1-2:2

**April 14: Third Sunday of Easter**

Title: The Miracle of "Metanoia"

Passage: 1 John 3:1-7

**April 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Title: "Saying Yes to God's Tug"

Passage: 1 John 3:16-24

**April 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Title: "Abiding and Blooming"

Passage: John 15:1-8

### Sunday Schedule

**9:00 am:** Sunday School

Adults in the Pavilion Room

Children in the Upper Rooms.

**10:00 am:** Worship in Sanctuary

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

**1st & 3rd Sundays:** Communion Sundays

**1st Sundays:** Youth Motel Ministries

12:00 pm

**3rd Sundays:** Youth Group (BUMY)

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

**Lay Leadership:**

- Lay Leader: Brett Hahne
- Administrative Council Chair:  
Nancy Pinson
- Vice Council Chair:  
Carlton Hayden
- Staff-Parish Relations:  
Rosanne Williamson
- Finance Committee Chair:  
Lewis Lee
- Finance Vice Chair:  
Travis Taylor
- Trustees Chair:  
Ava Lee
- Church Treasurer:  
Donna Broadbent
- Finance Secretary  
TBD
- Recording Secretary:  
Gary Pinson
- Worship Committee Chair:  
Nancy Pinson
- Sunday School Superintendent:  
Crystal Taylor
- Nurture/Fellowship Committee  
Chair:  
Charlene Hahne
- Mission & Outreach Committee  
Chair:  
Sandra Colvin,  
Karla Yocum
- United Women in Faith  
President: Dolores Goff
- United Methodist Men  
President: Joe Florence
- Lay Member to Annual  
Conference: Brett Hahne
- District Conference  
Representative & Steward:  
Murray Edwards



To my Bethel family. Sunday was so special seeing you at the Son-Rise service and then at our Easter Sunday service. Baptizing Buddy was extra special as this was the final Holy Sacrament with you. I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for trusting me, accepting me, and laughing with me as we did our best ministry together. I will never forget you all! Pastor David



**April Birthdays**

- 4 Sarah Hundley
- 5 Judy Green
- 7 Sarah Taylor
- 9 Ervin Teets
- 10 Steve Kalinsky
- 10 Christine Winters
- 12 Dona Nagy-Sutton
- 14 Mary Grace Reichel
- 15 Jennifer Bartlebaugh
- 17 Emily Williamson
- 18 Callaway Lee
- 19 Cindy Rainger
- 21 Sharon Sutton
- 22 Avery Ford

**April Anniversaries**

- 2 John and Beth Chadsey
- 18 John and Joan Bacot
- 18 Ervin and Mary Ann Teets
- 29 Ted and Betty Zyla

*Have a  
blessed  
Easter!!*

**Easter Flower Garden**



**Buddy DePhillip's Baptism**



"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."  
John 11:25-26

## Finance Report

Welcome to our quarterly finance report where we will share financial goals, challenges and successes that relate to our church family.

The first of the year has many upfront costs for the year such as:

Heating fuel \$2496.84

Insurance premium \$14,774.00

We look forward to the plan for our new pastor and will be taking financial steps to support them through the guidance of our SPRC committee

Some of these decisions will include

Pastor housing costs

Pastor Moving expenses

We are starting into 2024 with goals that will benefit from everyone's support. One of which is beginning a community pancake meal to reach out to new individuals in our community. This outreach will benefit the church as well through proceeds from the meals.

Thank you from the finance committee

Lewis Lee, Travis Taylor, Donna Broadbent, Jennifer Sellers, Eric Zitzmann,

Brett Hahne, Rosanne Williamson, Nancy Pinson, and Ava Lee

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## BUMY (Bethel United Methodist Youth)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting/Activity</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday, April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Motel Ministry
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday, April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Ice Skating and Dinner with Devotion/Message
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting

At the current time, the following Adult Volunteers are working with Bethel United Methodist Youth (BUMY): Joice Fredenburgh, Debbie Mroczek, Karla Yocum, Karen Nelson, and Sandra Colvin. The contact person will be Joice Fredenburgh. We will be meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays for right now due to the busy schedules of our participants in BUMY.

## Mission/Outreach Committee

The Mission/Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued support for our missions and outreach projects.

We will continue to collect donations for Motel Ministry. Our next visits will be April 7<sup>th</sup>. Your donations may be put in the bin in the Social Hall. We are in need of the following items:

Canned Food----meats (chicken and tuna), soups, spaghetti, beef stew, chili, fruit, etc.

Deodorant (men's and women's)

Can openers

Men's and Ladies' Disposable razors

Small packs of cookies and crackers

Capri Sun Drink Packets

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Mustard and Mayonnaise



Karla continues to work with the “Kairos Prison Ministry.”

Ed Stouffer is our Computer Ministry representative. He will be needing help in moving computers from our storage areas to a new location very soon. If you are willing to assist him with moving the computers, please let him know. I know he would appreciate any assistance you could give him!

Our Bethel family is always so generous with their support of our projects. It helps us “Live Our Faith and Share God’s Love”.

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

## United Women of Faith Book Table and Library

Dona Nagy-Sutton manages and maintains Bethel’s United Women of Faith book table and has earned a number of accolades for her success in the reading program. Please stop by the UWF table of books for all ages in the Social Hall. If you have exhausted all of these books, head up to the church library in Room 303. The stairwell is past the kitchen, go up one floor and the library is down the hall. We also have an elevator that you can use. The library offers a variety of subjects ---take a book or two home for your reading enjoyment. Bethel UWF

## Worship Reminders

We 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.

## Finance Monthly Report

### Income & Expenses\*

March Income: \$27,747.00      March Expenses \$38,452.73

YTD 2024 Income: \$67,189.00      YTD 2024 Expenses: \$88,501.58

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

## Attendance & Giving

Date	Views	In-Person Adults/ Kids	Average	Giving
March 3	71	102	79.10	\$11,370.00
March 10	27	69	78.18	\$3,572.00
March 17	20	86	78.83	\$3,910.00
March 24	136	92	79.85	\$6,274.00
March 31		114	82.29	\$2,621.00

## Events and Meetings

Tuesday, April 2	Fauquier Quilters, 6:00 p.m. Social Hall
Saturday, April 6	UWF Meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Pavilion Room
Sunday, April 7	Motel Ministry, 11:30 a.m. Social Hall
Sunday, April 14	Education Meeting, 11:30 a.m. Upper Room
Sunday, April 14	Trustees, 11:30 a.m., Parish House, Rm 201
Sunday, April 14	Worship Meeting, 11:30 a.m. Pavilion Room
Thursday, April 18	Ruritans Dinner 7:00 p.m. Pavilion Room
Saturday, April 20	BETHEL YARD SALE 8 a.m. to Noon
Sunday, April 21	SPRC, 11:30 a.m. Parish House Living Room
Wednesdays	Prayer Gathering, Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays	Hymndingers Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m. in Rm 301
Thursdays	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Clayton Childers  
clayton.childers@gmail.com  
202/341-1534

Music Director:  
Pat Martin  
pat88piano@gmail.com

Accompanist:  
Joan Bacot

Director of Hymndingers  
Joice Fredenburgh  
dfredenburgh@verizon.net

Administrative Assistant:  
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540/347-4874

Office Hours:  
Monday—Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Virginia Conference Bishop:  
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**Facebook**  
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**Ending Notes**SUNDAY FLOWERS

How many of you remember the poster that says "Uncle Sam Wants You"? Similarly, "Our Flower Ministry Needs You" to sign up for Sunday flowers. If you would like to participate, there are many open spots on the flower chart where you can sign up to contribute to this long-time tradition. Just pick a Sunday, or two or more, and provide your name and phone number on the Sundays you would like provide flowers. The sign up chart is on the kitchen counter, and you can reach me at **Susan Higgins rsjsm@yahoo.com**

On Palm Sunday there was a white rose on the communion table. A white rose is a symbol of purity and innocence. It also symbolizes a new start or a new beginning. The white rose on the communion table was to celebrate the birth of, and to welcome, Cora Rose Gibson. Please let the pastor know if a little one has come into your life so we can all celebrate with you.

HYMNDINGERS

We will play again in worship on April 14. It is still Easter and we will be playing two very celebratory pieces, **All Glory, Laud and Honor**, and Handel's **And the Glory, the Glory of the Lord**. The latter is one of the most difficult pieces of music we have ever attempted to play and many hours will have been spent practicing this particular selection. **Joice Fredenburgh**

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Thank you for joining us at our breakfast meet and greet with Pastor Childers. I look forward to seeing you all again on Saturday, May 4 at 9:30 a.m. We will gather in the Social Hall as the United Women in Faith will meet in the Pavilion Room. **Joe Florence**