
Bethel Prayer Concerns

Sunday, December 11, 2022



PRAYER REQUESTS

The Landers family;
Carol Loucks (*Judy Yeaworth's sister*)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR A HARD CHOICE

First, you must take a deep breath.

Let oxygen dance through your lungs.

Exhale it slowly.

Allow the hurt, the shame, the anger to rise up in you.

Let your mind run wild, like a million loose horses.

Let the narratives unfold, unroll, a river of choppy water.

Ask yourself how you got here.

Look down at your feet.

Roll your shoulders back.

Remember who you are.

Take another deep breath.

Then, walk it back to the beginning.

Instead of looking at your feet, look at hers.

Imagine where she stands.

Imagine what he needs.

Dry the river of false stories in your mind.

Turn rushing water into a dry creek bed,
certainly not clean enough to drink.

Call the horses.

Bring them home.

Watch as they shake off the dust of the day.

Name what you're feeling.

Inhale again.

Now you are ready to choose a better way.

Bethel Presbyterian Church Announcements

Childcare for infants and preschool age children is offered from 9:30 a.m. until noon in the nursery.
The Quiet Room is available during worship.

DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP SUPPER will be **Wed.**

Dec. 14 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to pass, your place settings and your appetite – also invite a friend.

BRING A FINGER DESSERT

The Fellowship Team requests that Bethel members and friends bring cookies and other “finger desserts” to share following the Fellowship Supper and Christmas pageant on **Wednesday, December 14.**

THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT will be held in the sanctuary following the Fellowship Supper (**Wed. Dec. 14, supper at 6 PM, pageant at 7:00**). Invite your family and friends to enjoy this retelling of the Christmas Story and experience the Spirit of Christmas.

FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

As we approach the end of the year, please know that we are grateful for the support you have given the church throughout the year. If you are planning to make additional charitable gifts before the year’s end, please note that all contributions to the church for 2022 tax purposes must be received by the church in 2022 or be postmarked by 12/31/2022 if mailed to the church. Thank you for your faithful support of Bethel and its missions.



There will be no Children’s Sunday School classes on Dec. 25 & Jan 1.

HOME FOOD COLLECTION

For the month of December our items are **Baby Supplies** (diapers, rash cream, baby wipes, lotion, shampoo, bath). Our in-worship collection will be Saturday Dec. 24 at the **Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 PM.**

BETHEL GOES CAROLING – Sun. Dec. 18th

Join us as we carol for local care homes and Bethel members & friends who are shut-ins. Meet in the parking lot on Sunday (12/18) at 4 PM. Once we are finished caroling (or at 6:00 PM for those not caroling), we will go to Rebecca & Joe Pierce's home (149 N. Kentucky St. – a nice walk from Bethel) for food and fellowship. Drinks, coffee and hot chocolate will be provided. Please bring a heavy snack or a dessert to share (e.g. chicken fingers, meatballs, chips and dip, veggies tray, cupcakes, cake pops, Christmas cookies/candy).



At 6:00 pm on Wednesday, Dec. 21

--the longest night of the year--we will have a Blue Christmas service in the sanctuary.

This service recognizes the fact that the holidays are not a time of unbridled joy for everyone, particularly those who have lost loved ones, and can be isolating for those who can't muster the happiness that

seems to be expected this time of year. Blue Christmas is an opportunity for the community to hold pain collectively and is an invitation for anyone who wants to come and set their burdens down. There will be a time for silence, for praying, for singing, for reflecting, and for lighting candles.



Christmas Eve Candlelight / Communion Service Sunday, 12/24 / 7:00 PM

FAMILY PROMISE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Several people have asked about Christmas gifts for our Family Promise families. We are presently sheltering two families that include three teenagers and one 11 year old. It was decided that gift certificates would probably be the best way to address their needs. If you wish to provide money or a gift certificate for Family Promise families, contact Jan Rybka at 865-882-8836; 865-310-8836; jgrybka@hotmail.com.

Bethel Presbyterian Church Calendar

December 11 – December 18



Sun. 11	9:30	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship / 3rd Sunday of Advent (S)
	6:00	Pageant Dress Rehearsal (S)
Mon. 12	6:30	Family Promise Board Mtg (L)
	6:30	Finance Team (Choir Room)
	7:00	Boy Scouts (FH)
Tues. 13	10-Noon	Rug Hooking
	6:00-7:00	Tai Chi (FH)
Wed. 14	4:30-5:30	Choir Practice (C)
	6:00	Fellowship Supper (FH)
	7:00	Christmas Pageant (S)
Thurs. 15		
Fri. 16	10:00	Tai Chi (FH)
Sat. 17		
Sun. 18	9:30	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship / 4th Sunday of Advent (S)
	4:00	Caroling
	6:00	Christmas Party at the Pierce's Home
		- Bring snack/dessert to share

*C=Choir Room, S =Sanctuary, L=Library,
RR=Reading Room, FH=Fellowship Hall, GA=Gathering Area*