



## Bethel Presbyterian Church

203 S. Kentucky Street  
Kingston, TN 37763

To Contact Us:

Phone: 865.376.6340

Email: [1bethel@bellsouth.net](mailto:1bethel@bellsouth.net)

Website: [www.bethelpcusa.org](http://www.bethelpcusa.org)

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# THE OPEN DOOR

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Volume 16, No. 9

September 2019

Dear Friends,

I am sitting at my desk after a three-month sabbatical overwhelmed with gratitude for all of you. Thank you for the gift of a sabbatical. Sabbaticals are meant to create space for pastors to rest, renew and re-energize. I was most definitely able to do all those things and so I come back excited to be about ministry and faith formation with you all once again. During my sabbatical, I was able to travel, cook and bake, and read novels - lots of them, as well as binge watch Netflix series and movies. It was a great gift. And while I very much enjoyed the freedom to do all those things, I also began to miss planning worship, visiting with you, teaching and preaching. I even found myself writing liturgy before my sabbatical was over! I am excited about making plans for worship and education and mission and congregational care.

I am grateful to Dan McMillan for walking with you all and watching over you during the sabbatical. I know you were well cared for during the summer. I look forward over the next few weeks to hearing about your summer, your experience of sabbatical and your hopes and dreams for the ministry and mission of Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Grace and peace,  
Wendy

**Wednesday Night Programs –  
September and October**

- September 4            Dan Hyder will present a program on laws that are designed to protect the environment. Are those laws working or are they failing to protect us?
  
- September 11        Mary Ann Smith will be our presenter. She serves on the Roane County Environmental Review Board.
  
- September 18        Monthly Pot-luck Dinner
  
- September 25        Penny Neal will present a series on mental health
  
- October 2             Penny Neal on mental health
  
- October 9            Penny Neal on mental health
  
- (Specific topics to be determined later)
  
- October 16            Monthly Pot-luck Dinner
  
- October 23           Wendy Neff will present a series on religions of the world
  
- October 30            Wendy Neff on religions of the world

Dinner is at 5:45 pm

Programs begin at 6:15 pm

**Tai Chi**

The scheduled times for 2019 fall Tai Chi classes held at Bethel are changing. Beginner Classes will be on Tuesday evenings, 5:30-7:00pm starting Sept. 3, and Friday mornings 9:30-11am starting Sept. 6. What is Tai Chi? We sometimes refer to it as Exercise for Life, that includes:

- **Stretching deeply** with full range of motion, continuous spine turning
- **Engaging the whole body** through muscular, skeletal, and circulatory systems
- **Strengthening the body** through deep relaxation
- **Calming the mind** with gentle internal movement and balance

Come give it a try and enjoy its health benefits. To learn more about the Taoist Tai Chi Society and the times and locations of other classes visit the website, [www.TaoistTaiChi.org](http://www.TaoistTaiChi.org).

**Family Promise - Volunteers needed!**

Family Promise of Roane County has officially launched. This will allow the faith community and other interested civic organizations in Roane County help homeless families and children.

Bethel will be the first church to host families, starting Nov. 3rd.

We need volunteers to help with several aspects of welcoming these guests. Overnight staff, food prep, setup and tear down, van drivers and people to wash linens. If you are interested in volunteering, official training for Bethel volunteers is Saturday, Sept., 14th from 9-12 a.m. to be held at the Rockwood Housing Authority.

If you have questions, or wish to get on board for this exciting and fulfilling opportunity to live our faith, contact Bethel's volunteer coordinator for Family Promise, Eric Windhausen. [Ewpromtestguy@hotmail.com](mailto:Ewpromtestguy@hotmail.com) or call 402-304-2263.



**Fair Trade**

Mandy Knies will have the Fair Trade cart in the gathering area, on **Sunday, September 1st and 8th**. Orders can be made at the cart or by email: [bethelpcusa@gmail.com](mailto:bethelpcusa@gmail.com). The next ordering period will be in November.



**Women's Bible Study**

Women's Bible Study resumes Thursday, Sept 12 at 10:30. We will study the Book of Job. Job is an oft quoted book but equally as oft misunderstood. Job directly and deeply deals with the human experience of suffering as well as mines the depths of what justice is. It also courageously delves into the relationship between human beings and God. As Kathleen O'Connor says, "Because it refuses to settle for any easy answers about any of its subjects, the book of Job is a classic of world literature."

Long time members of the women's Bible study class as well as newcomers are welcome.

**Youth Sunday School**

I will resume teaching/leading the Youth Sunday School class on September 1. We will talk about the ideas of light and dark in scripture as well as movies and music. The Youth are invited to bring songs, movies or even books that they would like to add to the conversation. Breakfast will be served!

**Church Picnic**

The annual Church Picnic will be Sunday, Sept. 22nd at Marge Hettrick's house. The picnic will start at 3 pm and food will be served at 5 pm.

Bring a finger dessert, drink, table setting and lawn chair.



- 3 Liam Choate  
Tammy Holloway
- 4 Shara Cross  
Lisa Pickel
- 6 Kathy Francis  
Bonnie Phillips
- 7 Brad Parish
- 10 Adam Badger  
Bobbie Martin
- 12 Amber Jacks
- 14 Laura Dailey  
Eli Jacks
- 15 Sue Jones
- 18 Corey Preston
- 20 Pat Harvey
- 24 Grayson Pierce
- 27 Frank Harris  
Dianne Russell  
Bill Shenk
- 29 Chris Guy  
April Jackson  
Jeanette McElhinney
- 30 Marianne Shadden

**Wendy's Doctoral Fellowship Reception**

On Sunday, September 8th, we will celebrate Wendy's accomplishment. We will be presenting her with her new robe during worship service, and we will be having a fellowship luncheon immediately following worship. The luncheon will be a taco bar, catered by Salsarita's.

**H.O.M.E. Food Collection**

Thank you to everyone who contributed food for our August HOME collection, which helps to support our local food pantry and helps feed hungry folks in our community.

For the month of September, our focus food will be **Canned Fruit/Applesauce**. These and other non-perishable food items can be brought in throughout the month and placed in the HOME collection basket in the Gathering Area. Our in-worship collection will be **Sunday, September 15th**.



Diapers and Pull-Ups are always in need.



### Landscape Committee Update

Some of you may have noticed a few changes to our landscape. We want you to know that we have not abandoned our calling to provide food and housing for the creatures that dwell in our midst. We have birds in our nests, lizards and bunnies in our beds, as well as bees and butterflies feasting at our plants. However, that being said, we do need to make a few adjustments.

Many of the folks that have faithfully tended the beds in the past have had to resign from their work due to their personal health or the health of their families. With the numbers of workers dwindling, we have decided to remove some of the less noticeable and productive beds and place them in grass. There have been plants that have failed to flower, and therefore, the space they used may be better suited for different flowering plants that produce more pollen and nectar.

If you enjoy the beds and are engaged with the mission of providing resources for our creatures, we hope you will consider helping us with even a small section of the landscape.

If you are not sure what is a weed and what is a flower, we will work with you so there is no need to worry about pulling something that was a valuable plant. If we can maintain our beds, they actually become less work. If you can offer part of a day or just a few hours on occasion, that would be very helpful. So please consider lending a helping hand. Contact Elaine Steele at [elainesteele05@comcast.net](mailto:elainesteele05@comcast.net) if you are interested. Thank you.

### Kingston Public Library Exhibit

Kingston Public Library is excited to announce the upcoming exhibit of Tennessee Waters: Shaping our land, lives, and future in September. Presented by Humanities Tennessee, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Albert Gore Research Center, the exhibit is a statewide touring panel exhibit that tells about water's impact on our lives, our history, and our society.

The display will be at the library beginning September 1 through September 30, 2019. In addition to the display in September, the library will host speakers Hobart Akin, Cultural Resources and Exhibits Specialist with the Tennessee State Parks and Dr. Robert Cogswell, Director, TN Arts Commission, Folk-life Program, 1984-2014.

Humanities Tennessee is a non-profit organization that fosters community and civility in Tennessee through engaging programs that examine and reflect upon ideas, stories, history, arts and culture. In addition to their own programming, Humanities Tennessee partners with a variety of organizations across the state who are similarly encouraging community dialogue and activities that push individuals to think deeper and develop mutual respect and understanding for each other. For more information please visit <https://www.humanitiestennessee.org/>.

### Laundry Love

Laundry Love will now be held on the second Tuesdays of the month for the remainder of this year. Laundry Love dates are September 10, October 8, November 12, and December 10.



# September 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 <b>Labor Day</b>	3	4 Supper and Study 5:45	5 Book Club 10	6	7
8 Fellowship Reception for Wendy	9	10 Laundry Love 6-8:30	11 Supper and Study 5:45	12 Women's Bible Study 10:30	13	14
15 H.O.M.E Collection Session Meeting 12:15	16	17	18 Fellowship Supper	19	20	21
22 Church Picnic 5:00	23	24	25 Supper and Study 5:45	26 Women's Bible Study 10:30	27	28
29	30					

**EACH WEEK:**

Bethel Arts Ministry: Art Club Monday 10-Noon & Monday 5-7 pm

Taoist Tai Chi: Tuesday 5:30 -7 pm, Friday 9:30-11 am

Choir Practice: Wednesdays 7 pm

Yoga: Thursdays 5:30 pm