



The Open Door

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH / MAY 2012

Bethel Presbyterian Church

203 S. Kentucky Street
Kingston, TN 37763

To contact us:

Phone: (865) 376-6340

Fax: (865) 376-6390

Email:

1bethel@bellsouth.net

On the web:

www.bethelpcusa.org

Office Hours: 9-3:00 M-F

Sunday Schedule:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
for all ages

10:30 a.m. Fellowship/
Coffee

11:00 a.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. Youth
Sacrament of Holy
Communion is celebrated

On the first
Sunday of
each month.

Bethel
Presbyterian
Church ~ a
community

of faith com-
ing together,
for fellowship, study and
service...seeking God's
peace, justice and love ~



Dear Friends,

We have been talking about our story in worship this Easter Season. Our story is the story of the Resurrection, of our experience of the Risen Christ, of our experience of the Good News of the Gospel. We have been talking in general terms of how we each have a story that we can and should tell, so I thought I might share a bit more of my story with you here.

I am a cradle Presbyterian as we who were born into this church are called. I was baptized by my Great, Great Uncle George Neff who went to Maryville College and served churches in what used to be Union Presbytery in Knoxville. He was assisted by a Scots Presbyterian lay minister who served my parent's church. So in many ways my path was set for me very early, I think.

When I was still pretty young, our church had Sunday Evening Hymn sings. I loved going to those services because we got to request hymns at one point in the service. I always had a song to request – and I was always called on when I would raise my hand, and we always sang the song I wanted. I knew from those early days that I belonged to this group of people as much as anyone else.

Each Sunday morning, we sat in the pew with the man who brought his seeing-eye dog with him. I don't remember the man's name anymore, but his dog was a black lab who lay very quietly in the floor each

Sunday. I longed to pet him and lay there with him, but was scolded by my mother whenever I tried. Still, I remember thinking how great it was that Blackie got to come to church with us

The Presbyterian Women hosted the women from the psychiatric hospital each year for lunch and I often helped serve. It was clear the women from the hospital were ill, but the PWs treated them like they would any guest who came to the church and I learned what it meant to love your neighbor. When I was a bit older, I began advocating for a Youth Sunday and finally the session relented. I was the preacher – at 14 – and well, let's just say it is a good thing my Dad can talk a blue streak because my sermon was a little short, and he jumped in to say a few words so worship wasn't over 20 minutes after it started. Still, that was the first of many youth Sundays to come.

When I was in elementary school, I got really sick once. I had been asleep and awoke when I began to hear a familiar voice. I didn't open my eyes but realized it was the minister. He was praying. I peeked one eye open and saw the minister holding my parents hands standing over me praying. I quickly closed that eye and thought to myself, "I have died. They are praying like this because I have died!!" Was I ever relieved when I decided to open both eyes, to have the minister speak to me and say, "I hope you

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feel better soon, " as he was leaving the house.

I remember the missionaries who came to share their stories of the Congo and other far off places thinking how exciting their life must be. I remember the cards I received encouraging me and offering support when needed. I remember the first time I sat at a table with a homeless person and ate a meal in the church

basement. I remember church campouts, dinner on the grounds, Mrs. Hazel – the best Sunday School teacher ever, and Mrs. Vassar and Mr. B who were like my grandparents.

So much of who I am today has been shaped by the people who loved me, who shared of themselves with me at church. I have been forever affected by their witness, by their prayers,

by their encouragement throughout my life. How I understand the gospel and its good news took form very early in my life and I am grateful for the saints and witnesses of Gardendale Presbyterian Church in Birmingham and of Cottage Hill Presbyterian and of Government Street Presbyterian Churches in Mobile.

Grace and peace, Wendy

Thanks to Penny and Derick Matheny (Nelda Toon's friends) for donating the children's swing set. Thanks to Jim Schall, Andy Avel, and George McGill for going to get the swing set, setting it up at the back patio, and refurbishing some of the wood.

Thanks to Ruth Ann Ludwig and Marilyn Harris for weeding in the labyrinth area.

The Gathering Area and the sanctuary are a true source of beauty on Sunday mornings - thanks to Nancy Braski, Jane Walsh, and Joan Davis for bringing nature inside for us to enjoy.

The coffee bar is a welcome site on Sunday mornings - thank you Liz Singley.

So many people contribute their time, talents, etc. at Bethel - thanks to everyone, Bethel is a special place.

Several huge *THANK YOUS* are coming from the Faith Team. Peggy Shepard, our wonderful communion steward, informed us that some of our 20+ year old communion cups needed replac-



ing. Her best efforts along with those of Helen Stevenson and Liz Singley could not get the cups in shiny and clear condition. Amy

Coen provided the internet research on a source for replacement cups that provided free shipping. There was an immediate and wonderful response from Chris Badger, Celia Simon and Laura Walker who donated 100 new communion cups to Bethel. Chris donated the cups in honor of her father, Rev. Hugh Simon; and Laura in memory of her mother, Alice Morgan. Their generosity is another example of the giving spirit of Bethel. Thanks so much.

Dear Church Family,
Thank-you so much for your kind words, cards of praise and generous love offering as I retired from my choir directing position. It gave me a good feeling to know that my efforts over the years were appreciated.
Laura Walker

Ladies of all ages from Bethel Presbyterian and Kingston United Methodist churches are invited to attend a Mother/Daughter Luncheon that is scheduled for Saturday, May 12, at 12:00 at the Rockwood Grill. Please make reservations BY MAY 8, 2012 by calling the Bethel Office: 865-376-6340.

Graduating?

If any of our extended family of Bethel has a high school, technical school, or college graduate this spring, please let someone from the Fellowship Team know this, so that we may recognize this accomplishment. Session Team Leader: Laura Dailey
LauraPDailey@aol.com

We're Counting Down...

...to Vacation Bible School!

Have you signed up to help yet? We'll be teaming up with Kingston United Methodist to have a joint VBS from June 18-21 in the evenings. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work," and we'd love to have your help. Check with any member of the Study Team, or call the church office to volunteer.

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Going and Coming....

Last month we celebrated Laura Walker's long ministry as Bethel's choir director as she retired. Thankfully Laura isn't going anywhere and has moved from the director's position to the choir loft as a member.

Laura Walker says she first joined Bethel in 1976. Since she had sung in every church choir she was a member of since her teen years, she joined Bethel's choir. Dick Hettrick was pastor then but she doesn't remember the name of the choir director. She was only director for a year or two before she resigned, and Laura remembers Bethel desperately trying to find a new choir director. She says that her orchestra teacher in high school had taught her the rudiments of directing the orchestra during practice sessions but she had no experience directing a choir. She told the choir she would do the best she could for them until they could find a better director, and that is how she became Bethel's choir director.

Laura says the choir has had 10 to 15 members throughout the years. Helen Stephenson, who retired from the choir last year, was a member when Laura started.

Laura says she has always loved the classic and traditional

style of choir music but she has tried to include some contemporary as well as folk and spiritual music. She believes that with a small choir the director needs to choose music that its members can learn well and also has a meaningful message to honor God and inspire its listeners.

Laura says the being a choir director has been both a challenge for her limited education in music but also a great blessing, especially when she hears her choir sing well their praises and God's message of love.

In her retirement, Laura plans to add her voice to Bethel's choir, "as long as God wills it."

This month we welcome Mary Hook into the choir director position. Actually, Mary needs no introduction as she has been serving Bethel as organist/accompanist for several years now. Beginning May 1, Mary will officially be the Bethel Church Musician and serve as both accompanist and choir director. We are excited to begin this new phase of music ministry with Mary. Mary is eager to learn more about our musical gifts and interests, so if you play an instrument or enjoying singing, let her know and she will find a spot for you to share your musical gifts in worship.

Time and Talent Survey from your Fellowship Team

So much of what the Fellowship Team at Bethel does is facilitate relationships. We sit at table together because Jesus did that and lives were changed - remember Zaccheus? We care for one another because that is who we like the early Christians are - remember Dorcas? We have fun together because laughter in good relationships is good for our soul too - remember the Wedding Feast? So here is your opportunity to participate in the life of Bethel through some of the Fellowship Team's activities. When the time and talent survey appears in next month's Open Door or the weekly bulletin, simply check the spot(s) where you want to contribute and return it to the offering plate or the office and someone from the Team will contact you when the need arises.

Welcome!

New members Jeff and Sherry Parris joined us this past Sunday. They come to us from Farragut Presbyterian in Knoxville. If you haven't already done so, be sure to meet them and say hello.

You Are Invited...

Brenda and Larry Strickling will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 9, 2012 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Kingston Community Center. They were married in Fostoria, OH at the First Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Glen Ogden. After a honeymoon in northern Michigan, they settled in their apartment in Lewiston, NY. Larry's first job was with Union Carbide Corp. in Niagara Falls, NY. They have two children, Cynthia Cortesio (husband, Michael Sr.) who live locally and Allen who lives in Parker, CO. They have two grandchildren, Christa and Michael Jr. both residing in northern Iowa.

We request your attendance but please NO GIFTS. As a final enticement, Nelda Toon will be handling the refreshments!

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The next Ladies Day Out event will be on Monday, May 7th at the Historic Tennessee Theatre at Noon

Mighty Musical

Monday with UT Brass Quintet Meet at Bethel Presbyterian Church at 10 A.M. to carpool. This is a free concert and no reservations are required. Doors open at 11:30 A.M. If we are there a little before then we can probably be assured seating and hopefully together. Box lunches will be available for \$5 in the lobby. Anyone interested please contact:

Nancy Maynard at dnmaynard@gmail.com or call Nancy at 376-0436.



Spring Hike on

Mother's Day Afternoon to Laurel-Snow State Natural Area

Join us on Mother's Day afternoon, May 13, for a hike to one of the Tennessee State Natural Areas near Spring City and Dayton. We are looking at either the Stinging Fork Falls natural area trail or the Laurel Falls (not the one in GSMNP) trail in the Laurel-Snow natural area. The first is a slightly shorter drive (maybe 45 minutes) and hike (2 miles round trip). The latter is about an hour away and about 5 miles round trip for the hike. If you are interested in going, contact either Mark Banker (376-2118) or Joe Coen (376-9033). Should you prefer one hike over the other, let us know that as well. Regardless of which destination wins out, you should plan to bring a sack lunch, as we will stop along the way at the Watts Bar Dam overlook for lunch. Veteran Bethel hikers will recall that we picnicked there last Mother's Day on the way to our Piney Falls hike. As usual, we'll carpool from the south (upper) parking lot right after Worship that day.

Dear Bethel Family,

we are getting ready to have a new pictorial directory done and are hoping for a 100 % participation rate. In order for you to plan to have your picture in the directory, here are some dates for you to consider:

Sign-up for your sitting appointment after church on these days:

- Sunday, June 10
- Sunday, June 17
- Sunday, June 24

Photography dates to choose from (sittings in 15-minute increments):

- Wednesday, July 25, from 6 pm to 9 pm

- Thursday, July 26, from 6 pm to 9 pm
- Friday, July 27, from 6 pm to 9 pm
- Saturday, July 28, from 11 am to 4 pm
- Sunday, July 29, from 2 pm to 6 pm
- Monday, July 30, from 6 pm to 9 pm

This new directory is sponsored by our Fellowship Team and will be an all in-house production. The photo team will be more than happy to accommodate folks in Assisted Living and Nursing facilities or those who are homebound.

We look forward to "seeing you in pictures."

Thank you.

The following memorials were received in the month of April:

memorials & gifts

In memory of Bobby Ammons from Terry Ammons
In memory of Marc Sherrod from Mark and Kathy Banker
In memory of Alice Morgan from Laura Walker
In memory of Justin Trivette from Jerry and Jennie Morris
In memory of Hugh V. Simon from Dick Evans and Celia Simon
In memory of Betty Nason from Betty Ulrich

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opportunities for *service*

Our Transitions Ministry has multiple opportunities to serve our community.

Please consider helping us with this ministry.

Check them out!

Love Kitchen at First Presbyterian Church in Harriman

Provide a meal once a quarter to less fortunate residents in Harriman. We can use assistance with funds for purchasing food, side dishes and dessert.

Shoes and Socks for Kids (Drop off location is in Will's office.)

We are looking for **NEW** shoes and socks to donate to local schools for children who do not have adequate shoes and socks

Food for Kids (Backpack meals for children in Roane County) working with Second Harvest

Financial assistance is needed to help fight hunger in our community. Our young adults are wanting be on the front lines of this issue. Hunger among children is a disturbing reality in East Tennessee. 1 in every 4 people in line at a local soup kitchen or shelter, is a child.

Food for Kids provides backpacks filled with kid-friendly food for school aged children to take home after school or on the weekends.

Second Harvest provides each participating school with a supply of new backpacks, along with nutritious, non-perishable food that can easily be prepared by a child.



Neighborhood Missions

School Supplies

There is always a constant need for school supplies in our community.

Finance Team Report

Over the past few years, the group that was originally called the Stewardship and Finance Committee has undergone some changes in focus and we have struggled with exactly what our purpose should be. Now, as the Finance Team, we believe we are on the right track. A new team has been created to take over the stewardship responsibilities and our concentration is now strictly on how to best use the resources provided by the members of Bethel. This includes the continuing operations of the church and the ability to “dig wells” in all of the

various missions we feel called to support.

The Finance Team consists of the church treasurers, the bookkeeper, a member of Session and other Bethel members that would like to be involved in this aspect of the church. We currently have two major house-keeping projects that we are working on. We are updating the Policies and Procedures Manual so that we have a clear understanding of the processes involved in handling the monetary resources of the church. Our second need is to find someone to

complete a review of the financial records for 2011. Our last review was done by Andy Holloway and Vic King. If you would like to help with either of these, please contact a member of the Finance Team. You do not have to join the team to help, but new members are always welcome.

Thanks to all of you for your love, faithfulness and generosity. With God's help we can accomplish wonderful things and make a difference in the lives of people we know and those that we will never know.

igniteFUSION KINGSTON

Woot, woot!! School is almost out! We have a lot of great things happening at Ignite/Fusion Kingston this summer! Everyone did an awesome job at Youth Sunday! We are gearing up for an awesome summer!

May 2- Word Search 6-7:30 PM at the Brown's House.

May 4-5- Camping Trip at the Dailey's property

May 6- Ignition at the KUMC Youth Room at 6 PM-7:30 PM

May 8- Take Time Worship in the Bethel Sanctuary at 7 PM.

May 9- Word Search from 6-7:30 PM at the Brown's house

May 12- CASA Run for the Child at Roane State in Harriman, TN.

Pre-registered entries must be postmarked no later than May 5. Pre-registration is \$20 for adult runners and walkers, \$15 per child under 15. Race-day registration, add \$5. Registration time is 6:30- 7:30 a.m. Race continues rain or shine at 8 AM. Let's show our support for CASA! You can run or walk!

May 13- No Ignition. Spend Mother's Day with a woman who has made a difference in your life.

May 16- Word Search from 6-7:30 PM at the Brown's house

May 18- RCHS Graduation!!!

May 20- It is the night! Bring your rice bowls to Ignition so we can break them open and return our change to the Rice Bowls folks!

May 23- Word Search from 6-7:30 PM at the Brown's house

May 27- No Ignition! Celebrate Memorial Day with your family

May 30- Word Search from 6-7:30 PM at the Brown's house.

Upcoming Events:

June- Monday Munchies & Mission Mondays (Watch for details)

June- Word & Water at Word Search

June 14-16- REACH Middle School Mission Experience (\$70)

June 28-30- GO 2.0 Senior High Mission Experience (\$70)

You can always bring money to Ignition or Word Search for Charity!

Remember to fill your rice bowls every day with loose change. We will collect the rice bowls and smash them open at Ignition on May 20th!



RICE BOWLS

FILL BOWL > FIGHT HUNGER

May Birthdays

- 1 David Wood
- 2 Jennifer Vandever
- 4 Bram Hyder
- 5 Jane Pickel
- 6 Joe Coen
Denise Martin
Doris Ann Parkinson
- 7 Thomas Cantrell
Samantha Rybka
- 9 Rachel Dailey
- 12 Celia Simon
- 14 Ralph Morgan
- 16 Jim Hines
- 18 Linda Gerth
- 19 Maggie Dungan
Marnie Shields
- 20 John Carter
- 21 Ron Thompson
Carolyn Gilliam
- 23 Chuck Bunch
- 24 Ruth Ann Ludwig
Mariana Oonk
- 26 Jane Walsh
Larry Strickling
Mark Patton
- 29 Donald Cross
- 30 Julie Bunch
Karen Hart
- 31 Vernon Law

Transitions Fellowship

May 1- Blue Like Jazz movie in Knoxville (Watch your email and Facebook for information)

May 8- Take Time Worship at 7 PM in the Bethel Sanctuary

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May 20- Ultimate Frisbee at Fort Southwest Point at 4 PM

May 22- Fellowship at 7 PM in the KUMC annex

May 2012



"Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10, NRSV

		1 Transitions: Blue Like Jazz movie	2 "Living Generously" - Brown Bag Bible Study 6:00	3		
6	7 Ladies' Day Out: Mighty Musical Monday @ TN Theater Leave Bethel 10 AM	8 Take Time Worship 7 PM @Bethel	9 "Living Generously" - Brown Bag Bible Study 6:00	10	11	12 CASA Run 6:30 AM Mother/ Daughter Luncheon @ Rockwood Grill 12:00
13 Spring Hike to Laurel Falls after Worship	14 Finance Team 5:30 PM	15	16 Fellowship Team 5:30 Property Team 5:30 Fellowship Supper 6:30	17 Service Team 6:30	18 RCHS Graduation	19
20 Session 12:30 Transitions: Ultimate Frisbee 4 PM	21	22 Transitions Fellowship 7 PM @KUMC	23 "Living Generously" - Brown Bag Bible Study 6:00	24	25	26
27 Study Team Meeting 12:30	28	29	30 "Living Generously" - Brown Bag Bible Study 6:00	31		

Weekly Events:

Brown Bag Bible Study: "Living Generously" Wednesdays 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall
 Bethel Arts Ministry: Mondays, 10-Noon; 6:30-8:30 PM (Adults)/ Wednesdays 4-6 PM (Youth)
 Taoist Tai Chi: Tues. 6-7 PM, Sat. 9-10:30 AM
 Beginning Spanish: Tuesdays 6:30-7:00 PM / Advanced Spanish: Tuesdays: 6:30-7:30 PM
 Choir Practice: Wednesdays 7:00 PM
 Children's Choir Practice: 8:30 AM Sundays in the KUMC Annex
 Ignite/Fusion: Sundays and Wednesdays; check page 6 for times