

Bethel Presbyterian Church

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The Open Door

Volume 15 No. 3

March 2018

Dear Friends,

We continue our Lenten journey together this month. On Ash Wednesday we talked about this being a season not just of fasting but also of feasting. We have added to that conversation in worship each Sunday as well as our Wednesday supper and study time. If you have not yet joined in the Lenten journey, it is not too late. Lent lasts through the end of the month. However you choose to observe Lent, I invite you to reflect honestly about what it means to follow Jesus.

Our world is a noisy place right now when it comes to discerning what it means to be faithful. There are many competing voices. Taking time during this season to listen for the Word of God in the midst of the cacophony of voices is a good practice. If you need aids in doing so, of course you can join us on Wednesdays as we study the Sermon on the Mount and you can join us on Sundays as we

worship together, but there are a number of good devotional guides as well. The PCUSA website has several that are downloadable. Go to www.pcusa.org and type lent devotional in the subject line and you will discover them. May your quiet moments be refreshing.

Be on the lookout later this month for a letter detailing all the upcoming Birthday Celebrations. We are nearing the actual 200th birthday on June 6 and have many ways to celebrate with our church community as well as the Kingston community. When you get the letter be sure to mark your calendars and invite your friends!

This month concludes with Holy Week and Easter Sunday is on April Fool's Day. I can't tell you how many people have been so surprised that Ash Wednesday fell on Valentine's Day and Easter on April Fool's. But so goes life – the church calendar and the world's calendar often collide, just not in so noticeable of ways. It was appropriate to

remember God's love for us on Ash Wednesday as well as Valentine's day and it is fitting really to think of the resurrection occurring on April Fool's Day – the biggest joke on the world ever. God raised Jesus from the dead, pulling one over on death itself.

So on those days when Holy days collide with holidays, take advantage of it and tell the great good news of God's love for us that pulled best prank ever – that turned out to not just get one over on death but change the world forever.

*Grace and peace,
Wendy*



Children's Choir

Beginning Wed, March 7 children aged kindergarten through 6th grade will meet with Becky Price for a children's choir. Children's choir will meet from 5:30pm to 6pm. In March they will practice a song they will sing in worship on Easter Sunday, April 1. The choir will continue through April and May so the children can work on a song Becky is writing for them for the big church birthday celebration. The children will offer their special piece of music in worship on Sunday, June 3 to kick off our birthday week.

Women's Bible Study

Thursday, March 8

10:30 AM – Noon in the Library



Lenten Supper and Study series continues.

We gather at 6pm for a simple potluck supper in the fellowship hall. The Adult study on the Sermon on the Mount and activities for children begin at 6:30pm. The series concludes on Mar 21.



Palm Sunday (March 25)

worship will begin under the drive outside the office. We will parade around the church and into the sanctuary. Gather outside the office at 10:55.

Maundy Thursday

(March 29) dinner and worship beginning at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will share a meal together that will include a Seder Meal and the Lord's Supper. This will be an intergenerational service with KUMC.

Good Friday

worship at 6pm at KUMC. This will be a joint service of the Seven Last Words of Jesus in the KUMC sanctuary.

Easter Sunday



Sunrise joint service with KUMC will be held on the Bethel patio at 6am. Breakfast will follow in the Bethel fellowship hall.

Easter Egg hunt for children at 9:30am. Children will meet near the office and walk together to the Bethel Cemetery.

Easter worship at 11am in the Sanctuary.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Your generous gifts to this special offering help provide relief those affected by natural disasters (Presby. Disaster Assistance), provide food to the hungry (Presby. Hunger Program), and assist in helping to empower the poor and oppressed (Self-Development of People). The three programs all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Bethel will receive our OGHS Offering on Easter Sunday (4/1)

HOME Food Collection

Thank you to everyone who contributed food for our Feb. HOME collection. 174 boxes of Mac & Cheese and 10 assorted foods were collected. Thank you for supporting our local food pantry and helping feed hungry folks in our community.

For the month of March our focus foods are **Canned Fruit / Apple Sauce**. 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, March 18th.

The Open Door

Hello Coffee and Chocolate Lovers!

Celebrate Easter with fairly traded, egg-shaped chocolates!!

Since Equal Exchange is no longer offering special holiday chocolate minis, we will be offering some egg-celent chocolate alternatives through Divine Chocolate!

The boxed Easter Egg is available in milk or dark chocolate. It is 1.9 oz of divine chocolate, and is a wonderful addition to any Easter basket!

Other great options, similar to what we've previously offered from Equal Exchange, are the Easter Egg minis. The egg-shaped minis are made with the finest cocoa, smooth cocoa butter and real vanilla, giving them rich and smooth flavor. These are ideal for Easter baskets and egg hunts. Each bag contains 20 eggs, and are \$6 a bag. Available in milk or dark chocolate.

The order cart will be in the church gathering area on Sunday March 4th - 11th, or you can place your order with me by e-mail. Payment is due before I place the group order. If you order by e-mail, you can drop your check off at the church office or place it in the offering plate. Be sure to write "Fair Trade" in the memo field of your check.

Standard items for the wholesale club are:

Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil – 500 ml (\$11.95 / bottle)
Coffee -
Love Buzz or Breakfast Blend (\$6.40 / bag) Drip or Whole Bean
Proud Mama (\$7.00 / can) Drip Only
K-Cups - Breakfast Blend or Unwind Decaf (\$7/50 / box of 12 cups)
Baking cocoa - 8 oz can (\$5.00 / can)
Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips – 10 oz bag (\$3.60/ bag)
Dark Chocolate or Milk Chocolate minis – 150 minis (\$30 / box)
Tea
English Breakfast Tea - 20 bags per box (\$2.75/box)

You can also pick up items that are currently in stock. The product cart is in the office and purchases can be made during regular office hours.

Our next ordering period will be in May!



Thanks,
Mandy Knies

Birthdays for March

- 2 Dianne Griffith
Bina Kirby
Jean Young
- 3 Duie Swicegood
- 4 Mark Preston
- 5 Hailey Choate
Vic King
Dan McDowell
- 8 Charlie Coen
- 9 Kathy Banker
- 12 Janna Brown
- 13 Linda Choate
Gary Griffith
- 14 Travis Brown
Shawn Hart
- 15 Will Jackson
- 17 Hayden Jacks
- 19 Marge Hettrick
- 26 Justin Murr
- 27 Greg Murr
- 28 Peggy Sheppard
- 29 Nancy King
- 30 Sherry Paris
Viviana Vanegas



We get (and send!) Letters

Thomas McGill's unit is currently deploying to Afghanistan. He is expecting to be there for approximately 9 months. I know he'll appreciate all thoughts, prayers, and support. His address is:

THOMAS MCGILL
D CO, TF RED WARRIOR
APO, AE 09355

(submitted by Scott McGill)

The Equal Exchange Co-op supports fair trade for small farmers around the world. Learn more about how your fairly traded purchases make a difference to men and women, fathers and mothers, around the world at <http://equalexchange.coop>. You may also view the full catalog at this site!

Also, check out Divine Chocolate's website at www.divinechocolate.com. They are the only 100% Fairtrade chocolate company that is co-owned by cocoa farmers. They are also a B Corporation, which inspired companies to not only be the best in the world, but for the world, as well! Find out more at their website.



memorials & gifts

- * WHAT: 3rd ANNUAL FAMILY PROMISE OF ROANE COUNTY RUM-MAGE SALE
- * WHERE: KINGSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY CENTER/120 WEST SPRING STREET
- * TIME: APRIL 6TH AND APRIL 7TH FROM 9 - 3 EACH DAY!!
- * WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU: AS YOU ARE CLEANING OUT THIS SPRING - PLEASE REMEMBER US! WE NEED ALMOST EVERY-THING!

WHAT WE WILL NOT ACCEPT: TV'S, OLD COMPUTERS, CAR SEATS AND HELMETS. NO LINGERIE OR SWIMSUITS.

WE WILL ACCEPT CLOTHING- HOWEVER - CLOTHING GUIDELINES - WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CLEAN CLOTHING DIVIDED BY MALE/ FEMALE OR CHILDRENS. PLEASE SEPARATE BABY CLOTHING.

**** WE WILL TAKE DONATIONS ON ****

TUESDAY, APRIL 3rd FROM 10 - 3 AND AT 6:30 - 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4TH FROM 10 - 3 AND AT 6-7 PM

IF THIS DOES NOT WORK FOR YOU PLEASE HAVE YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR CONTACT DONNA OR JENNIFER PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS OUTSIDE THE FAMILY CENTER IF NO ONE IS THERE.

HOST AND SUPPORT CHURCHES!!

IF YOUR CONGREGATION IS GATHERING ITEMS TO BRING OVER IN ONE BIG TRIP - THAT IS GREAT! PLEASE SEE DROP OFF TIMES.

IN ADDITION TO ITEMS FOR THE SALE WE CAN ALSO USE MUSCLE ON THE DROP OFF DAYS AND HAND TRUCKS OR DOLLY'S TO HELP MAKE THE MOVING OF LARGE ITEMS EASIER.

VOLUNTEERS (MUSCLE!) ARE WELCOME AT THESE DROP OFF TIMES
TUESDAY, APRIL 3RD FROM 10- 3 AND THEN FROM 6:30 - 7:30
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4TH FROM 10 - 3 AND 6-7

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP KEEP THINGS ORGANIZED AND HAULED OUT FOR BUYERS ON THE DAYS OF THE SALE PLEASE LET YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR KNOW!

WE WILL ALSO BE ORGANIZING ITEMS TUESDAY (5:30 - 7:30) AND WEDNESDAY (6-8) AND THURSDAY (6 -8) EVENINGS - IF YOU CAN ORGANIZE DURING DAY HOURS THAT IS GREAT ALSO!!

THIS IS A LOT OF HARD WORK AND IT IS A WONDERFUL FUND-RAISER FOR US!

MOST IMPORTANTLY - COME OUT AND SHOP FOR SOME TREASURES ON THE 6TH & 7TH!

In memory of Sam Sheppard :
Melanie Sherrod
Liz Singley
In memory of Rev. Dick Hettrick:
Mark and Kathy Banker
In memory of Rev. Marc Sherrod
Mark and Kathy Banker
In memory of Jacob Murr:
Jim and Mary B. Hines



Assisted Living and Nursing Homes

Wellington Place

1098 Bradford Way, Kingston
37763

Chris Badger, Room 107

Cornerstone Village North
2-1 Oak St., Johnson City,
37601

Tauno Maki

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Rev. Henry Paris
Carol Brown

Can You Help?

We will be having many fellowship events in the coming months as we celebrate our 200th Anniversary. Our already overworked Fellowship Team can use your help!

If you can provide freezable cookies, or other freezable finger foods, please put them in ziplock bags in the freezer in the kitchen and mark them "Fellowship."

Thanks!

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
EACH WEEK: Bethel Arts Ministry: Art Club—Adults: Mon. 10-Noon & Mon 6:30-8:30 PM Fiber Arts Ministry: Mondays, 12:30 PM Taoist Tai Chi: Tues. 6-7:30 PM, Fri. 10-11:30 AM, Sat. 10-11:30 AM Choir Practice: Wednesdays 7:00 PM / Children's Choir Wednesdays 5:30-6 PM Yoga: Thursdays, 5:30 PM						
				1 Ten 10 Book Club 10 AM	2	3
4 Faith Team 12:15 PM	5	6	7 Simple Supper and Lenten Bible Study 6 PM	8 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	9	10
11 Session 12:15	12 Finance Team 6 PM	13	14 Simple Supper and Lenten Bible Study 6 PM	15	16	17
18 HOME Food Offering	19	20	21 Fellowship Team 5:30 PM Property Team 5:30 PM Simple Supper and Lenten Bible Study	22	23	24
25 Palm Sunday Serve Team 12:15 PM Study Team 12:15 PM	26 Generosity Team 7 PM	27	28	29 Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship @Bethel 6 PM	30 Good Friday Worship @KUMC 6 PM	31