



Bethel Presbyterian Church

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THE OPEN DOOR

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September 2018

Dear Friends,

As we begin to approach the stewardship season in October and November, I invite you to begin to think about the gifts, ideas and skills you have to share in service to God in the world. Bethel has many wonderful ministries in which your contributions would be welcome. There are flower beds that need a green thumb, there are shut-ins that need a visitor, there are meals that need a cook, there are newcomers that need a welcome, music that needs to be sung and played. There are events that need to be imagined, planned and executed. There are stable ministries that need to be shepherded and there are new ministries that need to be dreamed.

All of your gifts together make Bethel the great place of fellowship and ministry that it is; your gifts ripple out into the community through RCCM, Family Promise, Hands of Mercy, and so much more, as we serve God in the world together. So what is it that you would like to do? Where is it that you feel called to serve? What ministry would you like to join or maybe even start?

There will be more opportunities in the coming months to learn about the teams at Bethel and what they do, to learn about the specific ministries our mission money supports, to discover all the behind the scenes things that contribute to making worship, education, and fellowship go so smoothly around here.

The mission of this community of faith happens each day in our building as community groups use space regularly and sporadically. Any given night of the week, the building is in use, just as we had hoped during the renovation that made the building accessible to everyone. We have come a long way in paying off that debt from renovation, but we aren't quite there yet. So as you are contemplating your gifts to share, consider also a contribution to the building fund which supports much more ministry and mission in the community than is advertised or often visible on a Sunday morning.

Let us boldly imagine what God is calling us to do in our next 100 years even as we prayerfully imagine how God is calling us as individuals to be part of it.

Grace and peace,
Wendy

Adult Sunday School

Members of the adult class that meets in the Barber Library at 9:30 each Sunday morning invites members and friends of Bethel to join us this fall in reading and reflecting on Rachel Held Evans' *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*.

The key word in that curious title is again. A fellow East Tennessee native, Ms. Evans' personal encounter with formal religion echoes in many ways experiences of many who worship at Bethel. Here is how Amazon describes *Inspired*

Drawing on the best in recent scholarship and using her well-honed literary expertise, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, soliloquies, and even a short screenplay. Undaunted by the Bible's most difficult passages, Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries. The Bible, she discovers, is not a static work but is a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding book that is able to equip us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world.

Used copies of the book can be purchased on line for around \$12. If you have questions about our plans for the fall, contact Mark Banker at MTBanker1951@gmail.com.

Bethel Chancel Choir

The Bethel Chancel Choir will resume regular Wednesday evening rehearsals on September 5th.

We welcome all who love to sing and are willing to commit to rehearsing for about an hour each Wednesday, from the beginning of September through Pentecost Sunday. As an added incentive to joining our group, the choir will be donning brand new robes this year! If you are even a little bit interested in joining us, or available only on a semi-frequent basis, please let Mary or one of our members know. We'd love to have you sing with us!

Being Mortal

Beginning Wednesday nights in September, Cyndi Fowler will lead a discussion of the book *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. This book takes us through an honest look at aging and helps shine a light on the end of life stages and choices. Please bring your book, if you have a copy, and be prepared for discussion and exploration of the road ahead. Sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45pm September 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th. The session on the 12th will be a video based on the book.

Children's Choir Resumes

The children's choir for kindergarten through fifth grade resumes in September and there will be harp choir for the girls who received harps in June. Mrs. Becky Price will lead both choirs. The schedule is as follows for September:

Sept 5	5-5:545pm	Harp choir
Sept 12	no class;	
Sept 19	5-5:15	Harp choir
	5:15 -5:45	children's choir
Sept 26	5-5:15	Harp choir
	5:15-5:45	children's choir
Oct 3	5-5:15	Harp choir
	5:15-5:45	children's choir

All elementary aged children are welcome to join the children's choir. They will be working on a song to offer in worship on Oct 7, World Communion and Peacemaking Sunday.

Women's Connection

Mark your calendar for August 9-11, 2019 to attend the women's retreat at Montreat with guest speaker Valarie Kaur. See Susan Garner or Sherry Paris for details and housing accommodations.

New Times: Supper & Study

Please note that there is a new time for supper and study and for choir. The supper will begin at 5:45pm with the study and program at 6:15pm. For those who cannot make it to eat at 5:45, you are welcome to eat during the study/program time. This new time will allow adults who participate in choir to also stay for the whole of the study/program. Choir will now begin at 7:15pm each week. We hope this slight shift in time will make it possible for everyone to join the activities of the week.



H.O.M.E. Food Collection

Thank you to everyone who contributed food for our August HOME collection, and supporting our local food pantry and helping feed hungry folks in our community. For the month of September, our focus foods 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 16th.

memorials & gifts

In memory of Teresa Hettrick
from Liz Singley

In memory of Rev. Marc Sherrod from
Mark and Kathy Banker

In memory of Rev. Dick Hettrick from
Mark and Kathy Banker

In memory of Jacob Murr
from Greg and Margaret Murrs

In memory of Dick Evans from
Jim and Mary B. Hines

In memory of Jerry Morris from
Jim and Mary B. Hines



3	Liam Choate
4	Lisa Pickel
7	Brad Parish
10	Adam Badger Bobby Martin
11	Gary Lemasters
13	Corey Preston
14	Laura Dailey
15	Sue Jones
24	Grayson Pierce
27	Frank Harris Bill Shenk
29	April Jackson Mike McElhinney
30	Marianne Shadden

Fair Trade

Mandy Knies will be taking up
Fair Trade orders
September 2nd - 9th.
Orders can be placed at the
cart in the Gathering Area on
Sunday the 2nd and 9th, or
by email:



Tai Chi

Tai Chi beginner classes are about to start this fall. **Saturday's class starts September 8, 2018 at 10:00-11:30.** **Friday's class starts September 14, 2018 at 10:00-11:30.** Come learn the mysteries of the orient. We'll more specifically learn to move your body in ways to improve your balance, flexibility and endurance.



Baby Shower

The Church will host a baby shower for Amy Evans Rourke on Sunday, September 16th at 2 pm. Come celebrate and shower Amy and Baby Rourke with love!

Reminders:

- The Church Office is closed on Monday, September 3rd for Labor Day.
- Faith Team will meet on the second Sunday, this month.

Birthday Celebration Follow up

Many of you have asked about the group picture taken the day of the birthday celebration. We will have 8x10s available for purchase at \$2.00. This is slightly above the cost to print, however the difference will go to the building fund. The pictures will be available in the church office. Alf Rybka is working on DVDs of the play. If you would like one please let Alf know.

The Minutes for History were a wonderful way for us to both remember and learn about significant moments in Bethel's life. We would like to continue those, having one a month. If you would like to share your memories of Bethel, please let Wendy Neff or Mark Banker know so you can be placed on the schedule. In addition to minutes for history in worship, we are going to put together short videos of Bethel members and friends sharing what is special about Bethel. Watch the announcements for more information about how you can participate in that project too.

The birthday team is working on a Bethel 200th memory book that would include the minutes for history, articles, pictures and more. There is also an opportunity for you to share with Mark Banker your memories of the birthday celebrations in 2017 and 2018 to also be included. Please send contributions to him at mtbanker1951@gmail.com by Nov 1. We hope to have the books available for purchase in time to give as Christmas gifts.

Don't forget there are still cookbooks available. Both the original and the new one are in the office. You can purchase one cookbook for \$20 or both for \$35. The proceeds of the cookbook will be divided between the Bethel Building Fund and the Presbytery Hunger fund.

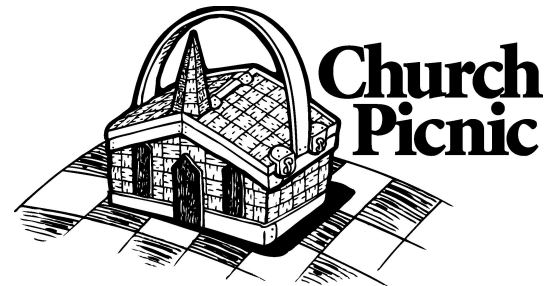
Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Mortgage Birthday offering. Gifts totaled \$52,800, which was more than double our original goal of \$20,000. Your generosity means we have been able to pay down the principle and reduce interest costs. Thank you!

International Peacemaker

We are pleased to host Rev. Jerome Bizimana, from Rwanda on Sunday, Oct 7. Rev. Bizimana serves as the President and Legal Representative of Remera Presbytery. He is the initiator of the Light Group, a cluster of former detainees of genocide perpetrators against the Tutsi Rwandans in 1994 and genocide survivors. Rev. Bizimana Nk. Jerome studied Peace Building and Conflict Resolution in Zambia in 2004 – 2005 at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation.

Watch for upcoming announcements to learn more about Rev. Bizimana's time with us on Oct 7.

Church Picnic



Come fellowship

with us at the church picnic. The picnic will be held at Marge Hettrick's house on Sunday, September 23rd at 3pm. Please bring a finger dessert, drink, and a chair. For the address or directions to Marge's house, please call the church office, or see Marge or Wendy.

Thank You

- Nancy Braski would like to thank everyone at Bethel for the well wishes and prayers during her recovery!
- The Phillips/Knies family would like to thank everyone at Bethel for their many prayers and cards for the passing of their father. We are grateful for those who could attend the memorial service. A special thank you to Wendy and Anne Horner for a wonderful service to honor the life of our father!

September 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Labor Day	4	5 Harp Choir 5 pm Supper & Study 5:45 pm	6 Book Club 10 am	7	8
9 Faith Team 12:15	10	11	12 Supper & Study 5:45 pm	13 Women's Bible Study 10:30 am	14	15
16 H.O.M.E Collection Session 12:15 Baby Shower 2pm	17	18	19 Harp/Children's Choir 5 pm Fellowship Team 5:30 pm Property Team 5:30 pm Supper & Study 5:45 pm	20	21	22
23 Serve Team 12:15 pm Study Team 12:15 pm Church picnic 3pm	24	25	26 Harp Choir 5pm Children's Choir 5:15pm Supper & Study 5:45 pm	27 Women's Bible Study 10:30 am	28	29
30						

EACH WEEK:

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

Taoist Tai Chi: Tuesday 6-7:30 pm, Friday & Saturday 10-11:30 am

Choir Practice: Wednesdays 7 pm

Yoga: Thursdays 5:30 pm