



Bethel Presbyterian Church

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THE OPEN DOOR

Volume 16, No. 2

February 2019

Dear Friends,

At the annual session retreat, we read Micah 6:1-8 and discussed particularly what it means to “do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.” We will continue to talk about that with each other at monthly session meetings. I want to invite you to consider that question as well.

How do we do justice in our corner of the world? How does social media and 24 hour news affect our ability to do justice? What does it look like to love kindness in our interactions with others, in our choice of words and actions? How do we know if we are walking humbly with God or not?

As you ponder those questions and the others that come to you, also imagine and remember the people in your life who do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. What is different about them? What is the same about the them? How does their way of being in the world make a difference?

Whatever stage we are in life, these words of the prophet Micah are instructive and illuminating. May they be your companion this month as you ponder what it means to “do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.”

Grace and peace,
Wendy

Women's Connection 2019

Women's Connection 2019 will be August 9th-11th at the Montreat Conference Center. This is a time to connect with others, care for yourself and worship. The Keynote speaker will be Valarie Kaur. Valarie is a seasoned civil rights activist, award-winning filmmaker, lawyer, faith leader, author and founder of the Revolutionary Love Project. Sunday morning, August 11th, special guest Amy Grant will be joining to help close out the conference. Amy is a Grammy award-winning singer, songwriter, musician and author.

Registration for this event begins on February 1st. See Sherry Paris and Susan Garner for more details and to plan accommodations.

From the Choir

In February, the choir will be donning new, beautiful robes. The old ones served well for many, many years, but were beginning to fray, and stains were difficult to remove. Plus, they were HOT, being made of a heavy polyester fabric.

We ordered a few extra robes of varying dimensions with the hope of adding new members.


If you love to sing, please speak to a Mary or any choir member. We have a lot of fun, and would love to have your participation.



A Thank You Note from the Family of Aileen McElhinney

Thanks to everyone for your cards, thoughts and prayers on the passing of my mother. But even more, thanks to everyone for speaking to my mom, welcoming and supporting her when she attended church at Bethel. Sunday service at Bethel was undoubtedly the highlight of her week. She loved Wendy's sermons, the choir's singing and the expressions of friendship from all.


Mike



WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.



God is our _____ and _____,
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

"Surely I am with you _____." Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
your hearts and your minds in
_____. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

Answer: refuge, strength, always, peace, Christ Jesus, love, Perfect

Love Kitchen

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, February 9th for the Love Kitchen. You can help by providing food or by helping to serve at the event which is held at First Presbyterian in Rockwood. See Marge Hettrick for more details.

H.O.M.E. Food Collection

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

For the month of February, our focus food will be boxed **Macaroni & Cheese**. 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, February 17th.



Pull Ups and Size 4 Diapers are in high demand!

Annual Congregational Meeting

At the end of this month, we will hold our annual congregational meeting. Mark your calendars now to attend the meeting on Sunday, Feb 24 following worship. We will share a meal together and then conduct our business. This is a great time to learn more about what is going on at Bethel as well as what Session is planning for in the year to come. I hope all of you will join us for the annual meeting on Feb 24.



H.O.M.E Donations

Hands of Mercy Donations
Many of you are aware that the session decided several years ago to use monies budgeted for Hands of Mercy to buy food each month that is delivered rather than just send a check. We have been doing that successfully now for several years. Beginning now, any monetary donations that we receive for Hands of Mercy will be added to the budgeted monies to buy food that will be delivered. Thank you for your ongoing support of this food ministry in our community.



2	Rebecca Shelby
4	Bonnie Anderson Mark Banker
5	Jon Rybka
8	Brenda Strickling
11	Esther Parish
13	Jennifer Kolwyck
14	Pedro Crocker
15	Callahan King
17	Mary B. Hines
18	Sarah Dungan Liz Singley
19	Melanie Sherrod
23	Phil Walsh
24	Karen Schall
27	Jennifer Choate Deb Hyder

Thank You

To our church family: Thank you for the many cards, calls, visits, and prayers you offered for us during our convalescence. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated. We also thank the Christmas Carolers - that was truly wonderful!

Robinette & Chuck Garner

2018 Year End Update

Debt Reduction Summary								
12/31/18								
			12/31/18					
Gifts, Pledges								
& Building Use	Income	131,500.17						
Monthly Payments					Balance			
PILP		5,700.87			534,650.66			
PET Loan		450.00			54,898.38			
Other Bldg Ln*		833.30			833.33			
		6,984.17			590,382.37			
*this obligation will be satisfied in January 2019. The payment of 833.30 will be added to our monthly PILP payment to further reduce that obligation.								
Mortgage Reserve Balance		\$15,224.65	(approx. 2 mos. payments)					
Our General Fund Giving & Summary of Expenses								
(12/31/18)								
		YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted		% of YTD Budget			
Operating Income		\$257,963.67	\$240,814.00		107.12%			
Operating Expenses		\$232,713.60	\$240,814.00		96.64%			
		\$25,250.07						

February 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Faith Team 12:15 pm	4	5	6 Supper & Study 5:45	7 Book Club 10	8	9 Love Kitchen
10 Presbytery Youth Event 3:30	11	12	13 Supper & Study 5:45	14 Valentine's Day Women's Bible Study 10:30	15	16
17 H.O.M.E. Collection Session 12:15	18 President's Day	19	20 Supper & Study 5:45	21	22	23
24 Annual Congregational Meeting	25	26	27 Supper & Study 5:45	28 Women's Bible Study 10:30		

EACH WEEK:

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

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

Choir Practice: Wednesdays 7 pm

Yoga: Thursdays 5:30 pm