



Bethel Presbyterian Church

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THE OPEN DOOR

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January 2020

Dear Friends,

After seven long years and lots of hard work and dedication, Bethel finally hosted families in the Family Promise program. In Bethel fashion, we volunteered to have them for two weeks. Thanks to lots of people who brought food, offered friendship, stayed overnight and provided breakfast and lunch foods, the two families were cared for and loved. For the second week of hosting we were joined by volunteers from the other host churches as well. That kind of ecumenical support and spirit is a witness to the commitment we have to making this program successful for the sake of homeless families in our community.

Many of us who volunteered in some capacity or another have great stories to tell of interactions with the children or their mothers. We also have stories to tell of conversations with other volunteers, fellow Bethel members, who we may not always have the time to simply be and share with one another. The gift for me during the two weeks was that we not only fulfilled the Great Commandment, but in the process, we strengthened the bonds between us as a Bethel community.

There are many of you who have expressed an interest to volunteer the next time we host. Watch announcements for a volunteer training in January. Continue to share your stories with others in the larger community. We would love to make room for more host churches, support churches and volunteers in general.

Thank all of you for allowing the Light of the World to shine through you in your acts of kindness, love and generosity.

Grace and peace,

Wendy

Adult Sunday School

Beginning on Sunday January 5: The adult Sunday School class that meets in the Barber Library will engage in reading and discussion of *FAITH: A JOURNEY FOR ALL* by Jimmy Carter. Here is Mr. Carter's own description of this book:

"The issue of faith arises in almost every area of human existence, so it is important to understand its multiple meanings. In this book, my primary goal is to explore the broader meaning of faith, its far-reaching effect on our lives, and its relationship to past, present, and future events in America and around the world. The religious aspects of faith are also covered, since this is how the word is most often used, and I have included a description of the ways my faith has guided and sustained me, as well as how it has challenged and driven me to seek a closer and better relationship with people and with God."

Affordable used copies can be purchased on Amazon.com and ABE Books.com.

Class Runs from 10:30 - 11:30 each Sunday. Class regulars welcome newcomers to join in our lively, always unpredictable discussions!

If you would like to know more or have questions, contact Mark Banker: 376-2118 / mtbanker1951@gmail.com

Service Outing Opportunity

REMINDER! Meeting to discuss a possible mission/service trip to Southwest in July 2020.

- After Worship in Barber Library - Sunday January 2020.
- We will discuss nature of work/service that we will provide for several small Hispanic Presbyterian churches in Northern New Mexico and possible brief visit to Navajo Reservation and worship at Ganado (AZ) Presbyterian Church.
- Details re. dates, itinerary, etc.
- Potential expenses, etc.
- WHO should attend? Anyone interested in a venture of this nature. We will need, in particular:
 - o individuals with basic home repairs and landscaping skill
 - o energetic youths who can help with above and enjoy visiting an outwardly very different place and people
 - o adults to help supervise above work detail and group activities
- If you are interested but cannot to attend this meeting OR, if you have any questions, concerns in advance, contact Mark Banker: 376-2118 / mtbanker1951@gmail.com

H.O.M.E. Food Collection

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

For the month of January, our focus food will be **Peanut Butter and Jelly**. 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, January 19th**.



Diapers and Pull-Ups are always in need.

Women's Conference

The 2020 Women's Connection will be held at the Montreat Conference Center on August 14-16. Registration for the event opens on February 3. If you want to go, please let Susan Garner, Dianne Griffith or Sherry Paris know so we can make our housing plans. All women are welcome!

memorials & gifts

In memory Gil Barber from
Jim and Kathy McDowell
Julie Barber

In memory of Rev. Dick Hettrick from
Mark and Kathy Banker
Marianne Shadden
Jim and Mary B. Hines

In memory of Rev. Marc Sherrod from
Mark and Kathy Banker
Marianne Shadden
Jim and Mary B. Hines

In memory of Joan Thompson from
Marianne Shadden

In memory of George and Aline Terry from
JoAnn Moore

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

In memory of Justin Murr from
Liz Singley
Jim and Mary B. Hines

In memory of Nelda Toon from
Jim and Mary B. Hines

Save the Date

Please save the date: **February 22nd** for the wedding shower in honor of Abigail Loraine Brackett, bride-elect of John Dailey. The couple is registered at Amazon, Bed Bath and Beyond and Walmart.

January BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Thomas McGill
- 8 Paul Stadnik
- 9 Matt Hines
- Marlene Woodard
- 11 Jake Horton
- 15 Jennie Morris
- 16 Tollie Banker
- Isaac Shelby
- 19 Ryan Preston
- 21 Henry Coen
- River Phillips
- 22 Laura Walker
- 24 Anita Richmond
- 25 Joan Davis
- Katie Dungan
- Pat Hale
- 26 Jolie King
- 28 Ken Dungan
- 29 Jacob Simpson
- Kirk Steele

Fair Trade

Fair Trade orders will be taken through **January 12th**. Orders can be placed at the cart in the Gathering Area on Sunday the 12th, or by email: bethelpcusa@gmail.com.

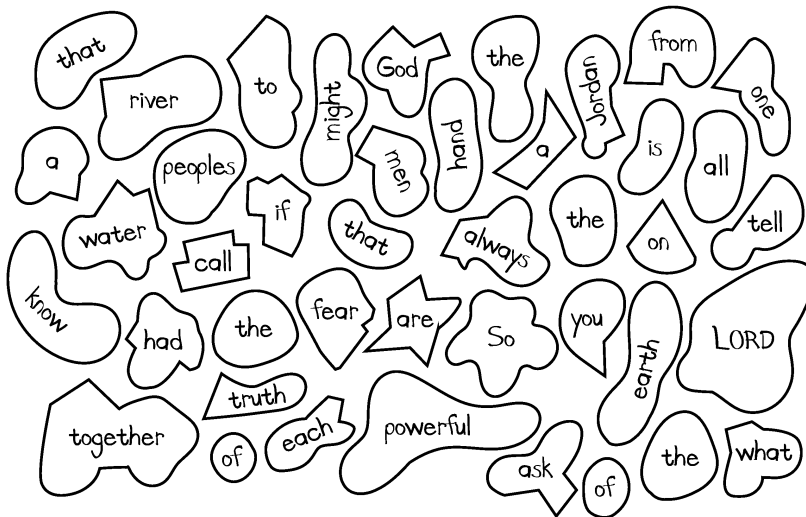




Reminder rocks

When Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they set up stones for a special reason.

Directions: Shade all the rocks that aren't completely rounded. Unscramble the remaining rocks to reveal a message from Joshua 4:24, NIV.



So _____ the _____ the
 _____ the
 the _____ .

JOSHUA 4:24, NIV

"STEP" INTO THE NEW YEAR

Make this craft to remember God's many blessings.



What you need:

- Small stones
- Permanent markers
- Foil pan and cooking spray
- Drop cloth
- Gloves
- Quick-set concrete (and adult help)
- Bucket and paint stirrer

What you do:

1. After reflecting on the past year, use markers to decorate stones with memorable words, dates and drawings.
2. Spray pan with cooking spray. Set pan outside on a drop cloth.
3. Wearing gloves, mix concrete in a bucket, according to instructions.
4. Pour concrete into pan. Smooth top with paint stirrer.
5. Press in stones, handprints and other decorations.
6. Let dry completely. Remove from pan.
7. Place the stepping-stone outside as a reminder of God's continued goodness.

Answer: So that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful. Joshua 4:24, NIV

January 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 New Years Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Women's Bible Study 10:30	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Fellowship Supper 6:30	16	17	18 Session Retreat
19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20	21	22 Women's Bible Study 10:30	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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