

The Open Door

Bethel Presbyterian Church, PCUSA

Kingston, TN

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September 2022

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pulling wagon during
Offering--Third Sundays

Session Highlights

August 21, 2022

Worship Attendance: July 2022 average in-person Sanctuary attendance was 40 (from Sanctuary tablets) and the July 2022 average Facebook Worship attendance was 130.

Dan Hyder did the Session devotion.

Communication Team – this Team will order some audio/video equipment using funds from the General Memorial

Fund. This fund is money that has been donated by people in memory of loved ones. Purchasing equipment for Bethel is a great use for this wonderful fund. The General Memorial Fund cannot be used to pay staff salaries, utility bills, etc.

Study Team – the new Sunday School term will begin September 11. This Team really needs Sunday School teachers. Also, a monthly volunteer is needed to sit in the Gathering Area to assist The Nursery Worker if needed.

Property Team – there was some discussion on how to prepare the old narthex as a viable emergency route. This is part of the continued discussion about Bethel's Safety Plan. The scouts will paint some of Bethel's outdoor benches.

Service Team – The GriefShare program will be September 11 - December 4, 2022, Sunday afternoons 4 - 5:30.

The Family Promise Rummage Sale is August 26 & 27, 2022 at Kingston Church of Christ Family Life Center.

The local branch of the Defenders Motorcycle Club – Tennessee Valley Defenders – wanted to use the church for their monthly meetings. This is a Law Enforcement Motorcycle

Club. All the work they do is for charity; for example, the BBQ's they do at the Kingston Farmers Market the money goes to Operation Reach. The Session approved this Club to have their monthly meetings at Bethel.

Cyndi Fowler (as a request from Elaine Steele) spoke about TVA retiring the Kingston coal-powered Fossil Plant. During the upcoming months, the community will be given the opportunity to make comments about a future energy source for the Kingston plant. There was a request for the Session to consider having a speaker from Appalachian Voices make a presentation at Bethel for Bethel and the community. Following discussion, the Session decided it would be best to have meetings for the community at another location. The Session does not want it implied that Bethel is taking a particular side on this issue of the future energy source for the Kingston Plant. The Presbytery meeting was Saturday, August 13, 2022 at Madisonville Presbyterian Church. Pastor Nancy, Elder Chuck Bunch, and Liz Singley attended the meeting.

Next Session Meeting is September 18, 2022.

Cathy McDowell
Clerk of Session



Family Promise

Thank you, Brittyn

Several Sundays ago, Rev. Coleman's sermon was about the rich man who built storage houses to accommodate his great wealth rather than share with those in need. Her children's sermon was very effective. As Rev. Coleman enjoyed a piece of candy from her stash, and did not offer to share any with the children, there was much eye rolling and looks of 'dismay'. Of course, Rev. Coleman made her point that Jesus teaches us that we need to share our wealth, not hoard it, and proceeded to share her candy. Point was made. Now what? After church I talked with Linda Brown. I told her about a six-year-old girl whose family is being sheltered by our Family Promise program. Linda said Brittyn had clothes that were ready to be 'rehomed' and I was welcome to take them to this child. Which I did, and they were received with much enthusiasm, especially the cute little dresses.

Next step? Linda told Brittyn where her clothes were sent. Brittyn decided that her closet needed a second look. She thought this six-year-old also needed toys and games and a few more clothes. A big thank you to Brittyn from our Family Promise mom for making her daughter's first day of school such a happy one.

Rummage Sale

Thank you for your donations and volunteer time to the annual Family Promise Rummage Sale.

For the family sheltering at Bethel:

Mom is still working in Knoxville. She is seeking an affordable car to buy since hers died in August. She had 'answer to prayers' about health issues, which are less dire than originally feared.

Fourteen-year-old daughter has started school at Harriman High. Various gifts and donations allowed her to start the year with new shoes, clothes and appropriate school supplies.

September Birthdays

- 3 Liam Choate
Tammy Holloway
- 4 Shara Cross
Lisa Pickel
- 6 Kathy Francis
Bonnie Phillips
- 7 Brad Parish
- 10 Adam Badger
Bobbie Martin
- 12 Amber Jacks
- 14 Laura Dailey
Eli Jacks
- 15 Sue Jones
- 16 Jackie Rylander
- 18 Corey Preston
- 20 Pat Harvey
- 24 Grayson Pierce
- 27 Frank Harris
Dianne Russell
Bill Shenk
- 29 Chris Guy
April Jackson
Jeanette McElhinney

Hannah Sherrod & Alex Lewis are having a baby boy on October 22

Grandmother Melanie Sherrod is getting excited. Hannah is registered at Target and BabyList.com. Diapers would be particularly welcome. Please bring gifts, cards, gift cards to the church office for delivery to the bundle of joy.

<https://registryfinder.com/registry/hannah-sherrod/-/baby/july-2022/tennessee/2627249>



Notes from Rev Nancy

Dear Friends,

A couple of weeks ago I raised this question during my sermon: If not now, then when? I understand that there are many in our congregation who do not feel that it is safe for them to return to the sanctuary for Sunday morning worship. For this reason I am very grateful to Jake and Adam and the others who have helped us figure out how to make worship available online. This will be a blessing into the future, not only for reasons related to Covid but also for members of our community who are finding it increasingly difficult to get to church.

However, Bethel has always understood that Sunday morning is not all there is to being the people of God. Many of you who have been active in ministry throughout the years are continuing for good reasons to remain at home. It may seem counter intuitive, but now would be a good time for you to get involved in helping out the church. There are things that can be done from home that would benefit our congregation greatly. We will be listing some of these opportunities in the bulletin in the weeks ahead, but here are a few to think about:

- If you are holding a hard copy of the newsletter, it had to be folded and taped before being taken to the post office. This is something that has been done by a volun-

teer in the past, and it could be again, freeing up time for Susan to tend to other things.

- We have rotas of volunteers for various roles in the church. We could use someone to help keep up with some of these lists, call substitutes when needed, etc.
- The Nominating Committee will begin working on filling positions within the church in the next few weeks. Many of the committees are now meeting on Zoom, so if you have access to a computer, you might be able to help out on one of these teams.
- I am always happy to have someone to help call members of the church just to check in. If you're the type of person who likes to chat on the phone, this might be right up your alley.

I hope we will be able to continue to add things to this list in the days and weeks ahead. If you are not currently involved in some kind of ministry, there will never be a better day than today to begin!

Peace to you,
Nancy

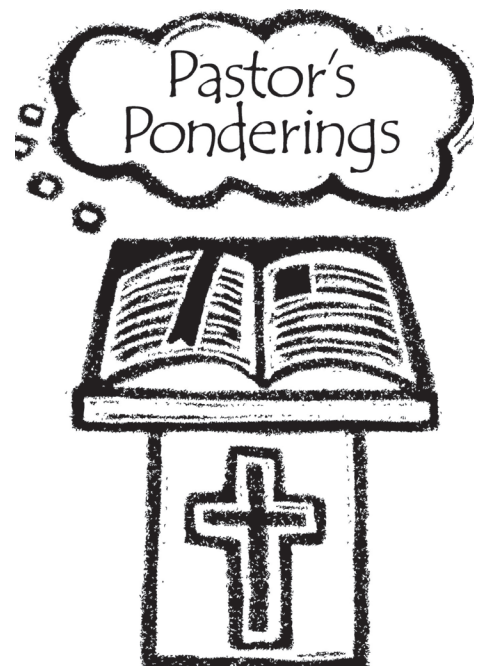
Facebook Donate Link

A permanent "pinned" post has been added to the top of Bethel Presbyterian Church's Facebook page. The post provides a link, <https://www.bethelpcusa.org/giveFB>. Clicking the link will lead to the Giving Center located on Bethel Presbyterian Church's website. From there, users may process financial gifts to the Church via PayPal. Gifts may be designated for use in specific funds within the Church, or they may be designated for use "where it is most needed."

All financial gifts to Bethel Presbyterian Church are deductible for tax purposes, and users may request to receive a receipt to document their gift.

As always, we appreciate your contributions to Bethel's ministry.

--Jake Horton





FARMERS' Market

Every Saturday
8 am to 11 am
All Local! Baked
goods, Fresh Eggs,
Local Meats, Crafts

GriefShare Program to Start Soon

GriefShare is a non-denominational, biblical support group for anyone who is grieving with the death of a family member or loved one. The sessions are open to any adult regardless of whether your experience is recent or not so recent.

The GriefShare program is made up of three elements. At each session, the participants will watch a video seminar that features top experts on grief recovery subjects and case studies of people who have been through the grief experience. After the video, the participants will spend time as a support group discussing the video content. Everyone will have an opportunity to share their story but will never be pressured to share. Each participant will have a workbook to use during the week for further personal study and personal reflection.

Hannah Sherrod & Alex Lewis are having a baby boy on October 22

Grandmother Melanie Sherrod is getting excited. Hannah is registered at Target and BabyList.com. Diapers would be particularly welcome. Please bring gifts, cards, gift cards to the church office for delivery to the bundle of joy.

<https://registryfinder.com/registry/hannah-sherrod/-/baby/july-2022/tennessee/2627249>

Volunteers Needed for Ride Program

Sometimes our members need a ride to church, and it would really help out Pastor Nancy and Susan if the Service Team could provide them a list of volunteer drivers for them to call on as needed. If you are willing to be called for rides to Bethel on occasion, please call/text Esther Parish at (865) 405-5242 or email her at eparish29@gmail.com. Esther will compile the list of names and provide the list of volunteers to the church office.

At each GriefShare meeting you will find encouragement and help in grieving the death of your loved one. No matter the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand how you are feeling. You will learn to recognize the symptoms of being struck in grief and how to cope with the normal emotions that come with grieving a death. You will learn valuable information on facing life situations and you will gain renewed hope for the future.

We are making this new ministry available to others in our community as well. Invite your friends and neighbors to come with you. It is normal to feel nervous about joining any new group but we hope you will make the courageous decision to attend.

The GriefShare program lasts for thirteen weeks. We will meet on Sunday afternoons

from September 11-December 4 from 4:00-5:30. Each participant is required to have the participant workbook which costs \$20. Childcare will not be provided.

To register:
Go to www.griefshare.org

Go to "Find a group" and search by zip code or by city/state

Click on "More Info"

Click "on Register for this group" to set up your account. Your workbook can be purchased here and will be mailed directly to your home.

Parkinson's Support Group

This group will be begin meeting again on Sept. 21 at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. They will meet regularly on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. The meetings include a topical speaker and a covered dish lunch.

*Part I of a new series
"Bethel's Volunteer Fleet"*

Part I of XII

1. Acolytes bring in the Light of Christ to the sanctuary at the beginning of worship and lead the way out with this Light at the end of worship.

2. Being able to carry the Light and light a candle are the only prerequisites for Acolytes. The ceremonial duties can be performed in multiple ways and lessons are FREE.

3. Acolytes at Bethel are children of God ages 7 to 97. Everyone attending worship is invited to take a turn in Bethel's Volunteer Fleet as an Acolyte.

PreTeen Retreat at John Knox Center

Our annual PreTeen Retreat, held September 30-October 1 at John Knox Center, now has registration open. All congregations with 4th and 5th graders are encouraged to attend and ideally with a congregational representative. Theme: Loaves and Fishes. Cost is \$40 for overnight, \$20 for just Saturday. Questions? Contact Registrar Brianna Cook Brianna.E.Cook@gmail.com, or Rev. Mark Lampley at MLampley@SequoyahChurch.org

Fellowship Team Update

If you are interested in hosting a Bethel fellowship supper, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the gathering area. Fellowship suppers will be potluck style. If you have any questions, please email Ellen Dailey at ellendailey15@gmail.com.

The Fellowship Team would like your input. If you have food allergies or preferences, please use the QR code to complete this form. If you do not have a smart phone, you may email Ellen Dailey at ellendailey15@gmail.com.

Promotion Sunday

Promotion Sunday will be September 11, 2022. Please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:30 am for coffee and breakfast finger foods.

Children and youth will meet their teachers for the fall session of Sunday school and the adults will have an opportunity to discuss options for adult Sunday school classes.

Hope to see you there!

Bethel Study Team



Bethel Choir News

Bethel Choir will recommence rehearsals on Wednesday, September 7. We will rehearse in the choir room from 7:00-8:15 each Wednesday evening, and we'll be working on weekly anthems as well as music for Advent and Christmas. All are welcome; no experience necessary. Come and help us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Shower Ministry

The shower ministry has been a low-key ministry of the church for some time.

It started as a service offered in conjunction with the KUMC Clothes Closet (CC) for homeless people who came to the CC for clothing needs.

It expanded when Yvonne Yates started working with the community homeless, mostly in Hariman but in the greater Roane County area as well.

Now the most frequent requesters are the Health Dept. for their homeless clients.

We seem to be the only church that has showers. It is used a few times a month.

We have towels/washcloths and full-size toiletries for use in the shower and I try to have travel kits available for the users to take away with them.

Susan Cutts washes the towels.

September Fellowship Supper

Wednesday, September 21

6:00 pm

Covered Dish

Fair Trade Orders

Amanda will be taking orders for Fair Trade items September 4 through 11. Email her at amandaknies@yahoo.com or see her with her cart in the Gathering Area.