

Our vision is to be ***united*** in
seeking God's will and serving all people.



November 2018 ~ *BETHEL RECORD*
Newsletter of: Bethel United Church of Christ
3029 N. Green River Road
Evansville, IN 47715
812-473-0135 www.bethelucc.org

From the Interim Pastor . . . Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner

What the World Needs

Don't ask yourself what the world needs.

Ask yourself what makes you

Come alive.

And then go do that.

Because what the world needs is people who have

Come alive. *Howard Thurman quoted in Violence Unveiled (1996) by Gil Bailie, p. xv*



We “came alive” and are “coming alive” following the retreat “Come Alive: Spiritually Centered Living for Anxious Times,” with the Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser. We were 39 strong, a mix of adults and youth, with guests from St. Peter’s UCC, Dubois; St. Paul’s/Trinity UCC, Lamar; Emmanuel Lutheran; and Bethlehem UCC.

We shared so much good experiential Christianity, that we are sure some of the practices will find their way into our life together. Meanwhile, some of the very good “one-liners” from the retreat:

- “We’re all just walking each other home.” *Ram Das*
- “Singing without accompaniment is a radical act of community.”
- “We are passive recipients of someone else’s choice of translations (of the Bible).”
- “We are people of the Resurrection not people of resuscitation.”
- “History and tradition shape and form the future.” They do not dictate the future. From a different source, the recent Eden Seminary Board meeting: “Every tradition was once an innovation.”

Our thanks to Leah and to the committee that worked so hard, gathering a myriad of supplies and providing the hospitality: Carolyn Stephens, Deb Wilson, Larry Appman, and Tamara Payne. And an enormous thank you to the faithful and generous anonymous donor who made the retreat possible. We simply can’t thank you enough.

Leah left us with 37 questions, all good ones. What if we peppered our life together with them? Let’s try one, “Is it possible to “Come alive” apart from community?”

~ *Seeking and Serving with you, Stephanie*

UPDATES

Search: Our thanks to Leesa Scales who shared an update from the Search Committee at the recent congregational meeting. The profile is almost complete. It will be okayed by the Leadership Council and the Conference. We'll then share it with the congregation and post it for applicants.

The committee meets with the Rev. Dr. Monica Ouellette, the new IN-KY Conference Minister for Search, Call, and Congregational Transitions on Wednesday, November 7. Please hold the committee in your prayers: Nancy Bullinger; Jerry Dills; Carol Garvey; Makenzie Lawson; Dan Patterson; Leesa Scales; Kim Stephens; and Chad Wininger.

Inclusivity: The Leadership Council unanimously endorsed the following statement at its October meeting, "Because we see the face of God in all, we fully welcome and include people of all abilities, ages, cultures, gender identities, races, and sexual orientations into our life and ministry." We have had four round table discussions, two sermons, an all congregation survey, and numerous dialogues about this. We will continue to do so until the Spirit's leading of the congregation is clear. We solicit your input and prayers. Please share any and all thoughts with a member of council. Written statements are most helpful. Council members are: Deb Wilson; Jo Haller; Tamara Payne; Clark Absher; Richard Condi; Linda Hape; Sharon Lawson; Carmen Mazick; Carolyn Stephens; Don Carrell; Larry Coleman; Jerry Dills; Ruth Willis; and Scott Scales.

From the Council President . . . Deb Wilson

Decisions. Can't they be just the most time consuming, and sometimes fearful and frustrating part of life? All of us face many decision opportunities throughout the course of our daily lives, from the simplest to the most troubling. Often we have that deep-down knowing of the answer but we don't go with that knowing. We over-process our what-ifs and maybes until we cloud the issue itself. Many decisions do require processing, educating ourselves, and weighing outcomes.

God has blessed us with the ability to discern what is best when we closely follow Him. Ask yourself:

- 1) Have I read about it?
- 2) Have I prayed about it?
- 3) Have I sought the guidance from a wise person versed in the topic at hand?

When we've done what we need to do to acquire knowledge and insight then discernment is present. Learn to trust and use this discernment to make God-honoring decisions.

We, as a congregation, have a decision to make regarding the Open and Affirming statement, status, and process. Use your tools for discernment in making this decision.

This is my prayer: "that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." (Philippians 1:9-10)

~ *Christ's blessing to you all, Deb Wilson*

From the Program Associate . . . Debra Niswonger

Lots of fun, learning, sharing, and growing experiences are happening with our children and youth. All are invited and invited to bring friends!



Sunday School - Middle and High School

11/4 Second Session Stories: Live One Worth Sharing - Focus on identifying priorities. Talk about what you want to get out of the lesson and how to obtain that. Learn how to focus on God without distraction.

11/11 Third Session Stories: Live One Worth Sharing - Think about the story we are sharing. Discover what it really looks like to live for God every day because that is living a life worth sharing.

11/18 Lesson on Going Deeper in Relationship with God - The more we experience and interact with the Spirit of God, not only is our deepest need met, but we experience "new life" within.

11/25 Inky Johnson Motivational Video and lesson. (Andrew teaching)

Sunday School - Elementary School

- 11/4 Elephant stampede game and lesson
11/11 Bubble up craft and lesson
11/18 Thanksgiving turkey craft and being thankful lesson
11/25 Volley balloons game and lesson

Activities

- 11/1 Trivia night at Bethel – Dinner at 5:30, Trivia at 6:30
11/2 - 4 Fall assembly at Merom – Check in November 2nd, 8-9 p.m. EST
Check out November 4th, 10 a.m. EST
11/7 Youth Group making cookies for Thanksgiving baskets, 7 p.m. at Bethel
11/11 Deadline for Thanksgiving basket donations
Kindergarten through 5th grade trip to CMOE at 12:30
11/18 Putting together Thanksgiving baskets at Bethel during Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Extra: Fall Musical at Signature School with Allison Payne, on Friday and Saturday, November 2 & 3 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, November 4 at 2:30 p.m., to be held at AIS, the Old North High School, 2319 Stringtown Road.

Appalachian Service Project: We've registered for dates: 1st choice 6/9-15; 2nd choice 6/16-22. We've registered for 21 (3 work groups). Scott Scales and Tamara Payne are heading up this ministry. Keep those Scrip orders coming in!

The New Year and Beyond:

- 2019 General Synod in Milwaukee, Wisconsin: June 21-25.
- 2019 ETSA Mission Trip to Back Bay Mission: July 7-13, 2019. ETSA Youth (must be 14 or older) are welcome to join. Contact Kim Armstrong 812-454-5638.
- 2020 National Youth Event at Purdue: July 22-25, 2020. We would like to get all the youth in the ETSA involved and go as an Association. 2020 NYE Youth Leadership - Tracey Stewart has put out a call to all youth (14-19) to help plan the National Youth Event. There will be little to no travel as meetings will be virtual.



Music, Music, Music

Plan now to be part of the 500 voice choir for the 500th Habitat for Humanity House. The choir will sing on December 9 at the 2 p.m. U of E vs Ball State basketball game. Choir members get free admission and a T-shirt. The word is that there will be a special guest of honor, identity yet to be disclosed.

Seasoned singers and lip-syncers are encouraged. Rehearsals are Saturday, November 3, from 2- 3 p.m. and Tuesday, November 27 from 6-7 p.m., both at Shanklin Theater at U of E.

We've heard your cry: Hymn Sing on January 13, the earliest date available.

SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER:

November 4: The third in our stewardship series: What shall we bring? We will bring our hands. This Sunday's emphasis is on our activities as Christians. The sermon "Hand-some" will be based on Psalm 90:13-17 and Matthew 6:1-4. Our special guests are from Stockwell Elementary. We will receive new members. Come!



November 11: The final in our stewardship series: What shall we bring? We will bring hope. The texts are Romans 5:1-5 and 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 with the sermon, "It's tough to be in the middle." This is the last day to bring food for our thanksgiving baskets. It is organ donation Sunday. Come, and stay for the Second Sunday Celebration.

November 18: On this Thanksgiving Sunday we will consider how thanksgiving, like so much of our faith, is an "Action, not a Transaction." The texts are Psalm 95:1-7 and Luke 6:27-36. Come!

November 25 is the last Sunday of the church year and is known as "Christ the King" Sunday. The music will be regal! The sermon, "From Kingdom to Kingdom," will be based on Revelations 1:4b-8 and John 18:33-37. Come!

BETHEL UCC – FALL TRIVIA NIGHT –

Join us for a fun-filled evening, on Thursday, November 1st. Eats & Treats start at 5:30, with Trivia at 6:00.

Dinner includes a variety of soups and condiments, and tasty desserts. Trivia Teams can include up to 6 people.

This event is hosted by Abby Thomas and Cathy Johnson. Contact Cathy with questions at 812-431-0548 or johnsocm4556@gmail.com.



LUNCH BUNCH will meet on Wednesday, November 10 at 12:30 p.m. at China Bistro. Contact Delores Padgett at 270-748-1261 for reservations.

OUR COMMUNITY BREAKFAST will be Saturday, November 24, 8:30 to 9:30. The Bethel Book Club is hosting the breakfast.

MISSIONS TEAM:



Habitat for Humanity: The UCC and DOC (Disciples of Christ) have the privilege of sponsoring the 501st Habitat home in Evansville. It will be located at 317 South Bedford. Dominique S. and her four daughters will be the resident owners. Dominique has already put in 60 equity hours. She is a paraprofessional at Glenwood Leadership Academy, coaches 4th and 5th grade basketball and volleyball, mentors a group of 4-12-grade girls, and works Wednesdays at the YMCA. Whew! She is a busy lady and deserves a decent home with room for her girls.

We have the money, thanks to the church and the Goins family, whose brother was a habitat home owner before his death. Now, we just need the volunteers, 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the following dates: Oct. 20, 27, 30, and 31; Nov. 17, 20, and 21; Dec. 15 and Jan 5. (I can do June 5 if not before, how about you?) The specific tasks for the specific dates are posted on the bulletin board outside fellowship hall and are available on the Habitat website: evansvillehabitat.org.

Your tithes and offerings at work: The Missions Team is grateful for budgeted money which has helped replenish the Helping Hand Fund and to support the Kairos Ministry that is part of the ministry of Joyce Johnson, our weekend custodian. November's focus will be on supplying food for the thanksgiving

baskets. Non-perishables are listed on the turkey in the narthex – please take a feather or two. Financial gifts are needed to provide fresh and perishable components of the baskets.

Bread for the World: Have Faith. End Hunger. During November, we will conduct an offering of Letters, taking time to write brief letters to members of congress, urging them to continue our nation’s investments in programs that provide hope and opportunity for people living with Hunger. For a sample letter and more information, visit bread.org/ol.

Stockwell Fall Family Fun Night: Friday, November 2, 5-9 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to serve refreshments and help with game activities. Please let Linda Hape or Barry Burleigh know if you can help. It is not necessary to stay the entire four hours. Any length of time would be helpful. This event probably needs the most helpers to be successful, so please give it a try. Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION

Activities for Children and Youth start on page 4.

Three classes are available for adults and newcomers are always welcome. Consider joining the Bethel Book Club; the Seekers (contemporary issues); or the Gideon Class (Bible study) at 9:00 a.m.



Want to go deeper? Please join us for Reclaiming Jesus, a seminar with the Rev. Richard Hamm, of Christian Theological Seminary, and formerly president of the Disciples of Christ, on November 17, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Good Samaritan Home. More information is in the enclosed brochure.

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM:

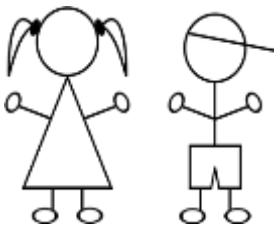
Second Sunday Celebration

Nov. 11 – Stewardship Sunday/Veterans Day

Please join us in Fellowship Hall after the worship service to see who is celebrating special days this month. Last month we were joined by several pet dogs, who were very well behaved! A friendly Heifer showed up, too! Patti Coleman and Carlos Haskins emceed for the first time and did a great job! Thank you, Patti, Carlos, and Mr. Heifer for leading the fun!

Nametags: If you have a nametag, would you please wear it more often? It would help the new members and frequent visitors connect names and faces. If you don't want to clip your nametag to your clothing, there are black ribbon "necklaces" you can attach to your nametag. They are in the baskets attached to the stands. Also, there are disposable sticker nametags at the Hospitality Center that you may use. The stickers can also be used by visitors who want a nametag.

Among the best gifts you can give your survivors are a will and an outline of what you would like to be included in a memorial service. Some among us have said they don't want anything. That is a statement of humility. However, it does not help those who are grieving. A worship service in thanksgiving for life is a gift to all of us. As the year draws to a close, it is a good time to complete such forms. One is included.



EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMITTEE

We continue to meet; encouraged by the possibilities and awed by the responsibility. We hope to have more to report in the next Record. Meanwhile, please hold us – and the children of our community – in your prayers.

BETHEL BUDDIES: If you are aware of someone in your family, neighborhood, or workplace who is coping with an illness or a difficult time in their life, and really needs an extra hug, please take them one of the Bethel Buddies located in the pews.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Altar flowers in memory or honor of a person or event, may be ordered by signing up on the flower chart in the hallway at the side of Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$36, payable to Bethel UCC, and can be dropped off in the church office or placed in the collection plate on Sunday. Please let the office know which Sunday you sign up for. If you do not take the flowers with you after worship, they will be shared with others.



AROUND THE WIDER CHURCH: Days for Girls International empowers women and girls around the globe by providing sustainable feminine hygiene solutions and health education. Bethel UCC has committed to producing 50 kits, and there is a group of ladies working on this project.

- Monetary Donations, checks marked “Days for Girls.”
- Girls’ Size panties 10, 12, 14, and Women’s size 6 & 7. These need to be 100% cotton briefs, dark solids or prints with no animals, super heroes, words, or patriotic symbols. There are two pair per kits, so the need is 100. Currently none have been donated.
- Washcloths, good quality 100% cotton in dark pretty colors. Thirty more are needed.

FALL SUPPERS

Turkey with all the trimmings, Zion UCC, Second and Elm Streets in Elberfeld, Saturday, November 3, serving from 4- 6:30 p.m.; Adults \$10; Children 6-10, \$5; 5 and under, free; carry outs available at adult price only.

Sausage Supper, St. Paul’s UCC, 2227 West Michigan Street, Wednesday, November 15, 5-7 p.m. Adults \$12; Children \$5. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Tickets available at St. Paul’s church office, Monday-Thursday 8:30 to noon and 12:30-3:00 p.m. For information, call 812-425-1522.

ETSA Women will hold its Annual Christmas Party for the Protestant Home on Tuesday, December 11 from 2-4 in the South Dining Room. Each year our women from the Association have baked cookies, both regular and some sugar free for this party. We have about 60 attend and then we take cookies to some residents who could not attend. Could someone from Bethel make at least a dozen cookies and get them to the Protestant Home before or on that date? Please call/text Barb Gaisser, interim president at 812-430-4913 before December 5th to let her know if that we can provide cookies. We also need about six people to help at the party by helping to tray up cookies, fixing the punch, serving residents, etc. This is a rewarding time to be with the residents. Rev. John and Maxine Schroeder are both living there now. John was the pastor at Zion UCC, Downtown Evansville and Maxine was past President of the ETSA Women.

We have someone playing the piano for us, but if you have a talent: a choir, play an instrument, or perform with puppets, let Barb know. This is also a reminder to please send your dues to the ETSA Women’s Association for programs and gatherings. Send dues or offering to: Mrs. Cherry Chase, Treasurer of ETSA Women at 8701 Glenwood Dr., Mt. Vernon, IN 47620.

MANY THANKS to those who helped with the all church work morning, pruning bushes, cleaning the garage and loft, and generally sprucing up our church home: Larry Appman; Barry Burleigh; Donna Condi; Charlie Haller; Linda Hape; Cindy Schuff; Kim Stevens; and Laurel Vaughn.



Donna Condi and Dan Patterson have rehabbed the meditation area behind the church. Donna, and Joe & Jo Ann Harris have cleared and replanted the entry between the parking lot and the sanctuary entrance. Cindy Schnapf has watered the plantings during the Condi and Harris vacations. Thanks, and more thanks!

Jan Nevill with assistance from Delores Padgett has spent many hours, make that days, sorting and pricing the materials from the preschool that will be given to the ASP rummage sale. We are sooooo grateful.

Our thanks to Laurel Vaughn for covering the office the week of October 15 -19.

Bethel Family: I would like to thank everyone who has supported me and my family. Thank you for all the cards, prayers and donations. Our fundraiser event was a success because of you! It really helped to ease my mind putting a dent in my medical bills. I enjoyed seeing all of you there and loved the fellowship. Again, thank you very much and I look forward to seeing you more, as I continue to feel better. ~ Emily Schuff

Stuffers are needed to prepare the Record for monthly distribution. Please join us, usually on the 4th Thursdays, EXCEPT in November, the 5th Thursday, November 29 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. **The deadline for the next Bethel Record is November 14.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS: Since this is a composite of joys and concerns since the last newsletter, many of the health issues have been overcome. So, whether a joy or concern, we pray for:

Beth Gilles	Lisa	Ron Krueger
Evelyn Vanhooser	Maria Rodriguez	Ruth Ice
Harold Golday	Mike Owen	Ruth Saalweachter
Judy Schultheis	Pat Perigo	The Rev. Joe Foster

We give thanks for the lives of: Ed Kelly; and The Rev. Eugene Bickel

MEMORIALS: Contributions were made in memory of **Rev. Dr. Joseph Fraccaro to United Caring Services** from: Sandra Altheide; Nancy & Bob Bock; Patti & Larry Coleman; Pat Freeman; Linda Garrett; Rachelle & Ted Gore; Delores Hedeman; Debby & Randy Highman; Mary Kirsch; Pam & Bernie Kirsch; Nancy & Jerry Noland; Tanya & Al Schmitz; Carolyn Stephens; Ruth Ulrich; and to the **Memorial Fund** from Larry Appman; and to **Faith Action International** from Jennifer Meyer, and Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner.

A contribution was made in honor of **Sandra Altheide and Carolyn Stephens**, to the **Helping Hand Fund**, from a friend.

A contribution was made in honor of **Joan & Bob English** to the **Helping Hand** Fund from Deb & Greg Neidig.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD: FedEx is hiring temporary drivers. Info is posted on the bulletin board in the adult hall.

OUR MINISTRY IS EXTENDED THROUGH:

Children's Church:

4	Leader: Julia Vogel	Helper: Sharon Lawson
11	Leader: Sharon Lawson	Helper: Makenzie Lawson
18	Leader: Joan English	Helper: Jamessa Potts
25	Leader: Jamessa Potts	Helper: Leesa Scales

Greeter/Hospitality:

4	Wanda Karn	18	TBD
11	Louella Komuves	25	Doris Rohlfer

Ushers: (The head usher for November is Steve Schmitt.)

4	Phillip Damm; Bruce Lawson; Makenzie Lawson; Debbie Wilson
11	Richard Condi; Carmen Mazick; Brad Neidig
18	Janel & Wilder Allen; Jo & Charlie Haller
25	Patti & Larry Coleman; Nancy & Jerry Noland

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

1	Jeanette & Lewis Plane	19	Jennifer & Richard Neiswinger
19	Sharon & Bruce Lawson	27	Sharon & Chris Matthews

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

2	Robert Britt	17	Lucas Lippert	24	Don Carrell
	Jennifer Sandusky		Sylvia Stamm		Robin McRae
6	Stephen Haas		Nancy Tabor		Kathy Parker
8	Brandon Owens	19	Neneng Paniamogan	26	India Vannatter
	Bobby Potts	21	Cassidy Shafer	27	Greg Nauert
11	Charlotte Scales	22	Meghan Scales	28	Andy Yarber
15	Richard Condi	23	Bruce Lawson	30	Marci Schmitt
	Jacob Tabor		Arlin McRae		



Daylight Saving Time ends on
November 4.

BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STAFF (812) 473-0135

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Cynthia Grassman, Director of Music	cgrassman@bethelucc.org
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John Stevens, Financial Secretary	jstevens@bethelucc.org
Sue Layman, Accompanist	
Harold Golday, Custodian	Joyce Johnson, Custodian
David Willis, Night Caretaker	
Rev. Donald Bernhardt, Pastor Emeritus	

Nursing/Rehab/Retirement Home/Homebound

Atria Assisted Living 618-9685

5311 Rosebud Ln., Newburgh, IN 47630

Georgia & Arlin McRae (Apt. 313)

(812)568-6119

Core of Nursing Rehabilitation

P O Box 325, 510 W Medcalf St., Dale IN 47523

Jana Bonifer (812)937-7073

Good Samaritan Home 476-4912

601 N Boeke Rd., Evansville IN 47711

Betty Gustafson (South 549-1)

Marion Nauert (541)

Hamilton Point 858-5300

3800 Eli Pl., Newburgh IN 47630

Gerald & Barbara Griepenstroh (209)

Darlene Neidig (107)

Heritage Center 429-0700

1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville IN 47710

Victor Luhring (149)

North Park Nursing Center 425-5243

650 Fairway Dr., Evansville IN 47710

Nancy Westbo

Oasis 303-3310

4301 Washington Ave., Evansville, IN 47714

Pat Perigo (412)

Protestant Home 476-3360

3701 Washington Ave., Evansville IN 47714

Eloise Buente (11-N)

Jeanne Carter (Apt. 29 S)

Warren McCullough (4-ABN)

River Pointe 475-2822

3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville IN 47715

B. J. Caldemeyer (330-B)

Signature Healthcare 473-4761

5233 Rosebud Ln., Newburgh IN 47630

Jackie Schuerger (206)

Walnut Creek 420-1540

525 Bente West Court, Evansville IN 47715

Betty Hawkins (7)

Doris Lamkin

Sylvia Stamm

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