

Bethels Kirche

A Monthly Newsletter of
Bethel United Church of Christ

September 2014



PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear Friends,

Show of hands. What would you rather listen to, a good lecture or a good story? I thought so. As much as a lecture can convey much needed information, what usually sticks with us is story.

So God, in God's wisdom, chose to make himself known to us through story. God inspired human hearts and minds to write this story, not just the good and grand parts, but the sad and remorseful parts as well. We call it the Holy Bible. From the creation accounts of Genesis to the provocative prophecies of Revelation, we hear story upon sacred story telling the awesome wonder of God in relationship with folks just like you and me. How we come to know and trust these stories is the basis of our faith.

Which raises an important point. Christian faith and witness is not a spiritual journey of self-enlightenment. Christian faith and witness is a spiritual journey grounded in the teachings, in the stories, of Holy Scripture. We find *evidence* of God in the nature that surrounds us; the people we know, the places we frequent – true enough. But we don't come to *know* God that way. God is not a flower in bloom or an ocean wave crashing the surf; God is not a parent, teacher, or pastor; God is not mystical experience or unexplained coincidence. God is more, so much more, than any of this. Hence the essential grace and beauty of Holy Scripture.

To help us better comprehend this grace and beauty, we're going to begin this fall using a series of selected scriptural readings called the Narrative Lectionary. In recent years we've followed prescribed readings from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). For all its advantages, the RCL approaches the Bible in a fractured way, pulling bits and pieces from the whole of scripture, then relying on the listener to reassemble the parts. By contrast, the Narrative Lectionary approaches the Bible sequentially, from beginning to end. In September, we'll start reading from the book of Genesis and continue working our way through passages in the Old Testament. At Christmas time, we'll transition into the gospel of Matthew and continue throughout the winter to study Matthew in its entirety. Then in the spring, we'll move on to the teachings of the early church, the book of Acts and the writings of the Apostle Paul.

My hope in following the Narrative Lectionary is that we'll all gain a better understanding of Holy Scripture and the God revealed in its pages. To help worship relate to teaching and our teaching relate to worship, Sunday School will use a curriculum (Living the Word) that also follows the Narrative Lectionary from week to week. Living the Word will employ a dedicated classroom for all age groups, replacing the rotational style teaching previously used for grades K through 4. This curriculum also offers lessons for our preschoolers, who'll meet now during Sunday School rather than during worship.

Come and experience a new flavor of preaching and teaching at Bethel Church this fall. See you in September!

Faithfully,



Pastor Bucholtz

A BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



We invite you to bring your animal(s) for a blessing on October 12, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. on the Bethel lawn. Please invite any four-footed friends that you might know; you can invite their two-footed comrades as well. Feel free to bring a photo if your animal can't attend. For everyone's safety, all cats, dogs, horses, cows, reptiles, and birds must be restrained by a halter, leash, carrier, or stock trailer. Also, please be aware that no animals will be allowed inside the church or social hall.

CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES up through the age of 25 is sent on a quarterly basis.

Our most recent graduates have received their first issue, Volume 23, Issue 2, June, 2014. Each issue contains a letter from Pastor Dave, some wise quotes and helpful tips about a variety of things. Rick Jones is the Editor and has been since its inception 23 years ago. Elaine Creech maintains and updates the address list and prepares the envelopes for mailing. **Thanks, Rick and Elaine,** for your behind the scenes efforts on behalf of our young adults.

CONFIRMATION CLASS PICTURES NEEDED

A class picture is needed for the Reineck Fellowship Hall. We need the class of 2010 that included Cameron Hibbard, Branden Hieber, Matt Munson, Emily Proctor, Nick Hagood and Ivy Herron. 2012 included Haley Turk and Taelor Young.

If you have a class picture the church would be happy to reimburse you for the cost of printing.

BETHEL QUILTERS

WE HAVE ELVES IN THE CHURCH - A great big thank you to all the elves that leave goodie bags and boxes at our door. The children at Mott will be thrilled with the quilts that we make from the material. So far this year we have made 142 quilts for the VA, Mott, U of M Cancer Center and for people that need a hug.

Without everyone's help we wouldn't be able to do what we do. It's not just giving us material but donations of money and also supporting our quilt raffles. Thank you so much!

HEARTS AND HANDS

The next Hearts and Hands meeting is **September 11** at 7:00 p.m.



NEW MEMBER CLASS IS FORMING

New member classes will be held on three consecutive weeks beginning the week of October 5th. Participants will be received into membership on Sunday, October 26th, as part of our Reformation Sunday celebration. If you're a visitor at Bethel Church and would like to consider membership, or if you or someone you know would be interested in learning more about our Reformed faith, the UCC, or Bethel Church, please take advantage of this opportunity. Attending class does not obligate you in any way. Please submit names of potential candidates to Pastor Bucholtz.

VESPERS

Our next Vesper meal for the homeless population of Washtenaw County is Tuesday, September 23, 5:00 p.m., at First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor. Sign-up sheets will be out in early September. If you can donate or help, please contact Susan Luckhardt at sluckhardt@att.net or 734-323-0001.

LITTLE DRESSES FROM BETHEL UPDATE

Thanks to all who either completed dress kits or contributed dresses on their own this summer! Thanks to your efforts, we were able to take 51 dresses to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation as part of our mission trip through Re-member.

This is a picture of a shy little Lakota girl named Tonya who received a dress. She agreed to have her photo taken as long as she could look at the art project she was working on instead of the camera. Her grandmother brought her to Re-member headquarters on artisan night and was selling jewelry to help with expenses for her three grandchildren. She is a diabetic confined to a wheelchair and is caring for her grandchildren because their mother has passed away. Tonya and her grandmother asked that we thank Bethel Church for caring and bringing the dresses.



BETHEL MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM FUNDRAISER

THANKS to our 35 members who are actively supporting the MEIJER program! Our total 2014 earning as of 7/14/2014 is \$309.81. If you shop at Meijer.....any store, any state, anywhere.....you should consider signing up. There are forms at the back of the church that explain how, by using an 800 number (1-800-962-7011). There is a special code for Bethel which is noted on these forms. If you don't have the form but would like to sign up, please call Bonnie Mitchell (734-665-3068) who can give you the 800-telephone number as well as Bethel's special code. We have been advised NOT to post this code online or in newsletters. THANKS for your continuing support of Bethel Missions!

ALPHA HOUSE

Bethel supports the Alpha House family shelter in Ann Arbor. Several Saturday evenings during the year we are privileged to cook and serve dinner and enjoy activity time with the resident children. The remaining dates for 2014 are: **September 20, November 22 and December 20.** If you'd like to be part of this wonderful local mission, please contact Tammy Wakevainen (tammywake@gmail.com).

BEN'S BARN DANCE & BBQ – A BENEFIT TO SUPPORT RE-MEMBER

This year's Barn Dance was another successful fundraiser for Re-Member. The approximate proceeds from the dance, silent auction, quilt sales and donations were \$6,970.00. Thank you to all who attended and enjoyed the evening.

RE-MEMBERING

This is the first installment in a monthly series written by members of our mission team about their personal experiences on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation (July 2014)

Jen Bucholtz writes:

“Having grown up in an area of Oklahoma steeped in Indian culture, I felt prepared for the paradox of poverty, hopelessness, pride, spirituality, and beauty that defines life on the Rez. What I was not prepared to experience was the anger and anguish that emanates from speakers whose culture and personhood has been attacked relentlessly by ignorance, legislation, and even military action. As a Christian, a follower of a Christ who stood for the invisible people of His time, I was deeply moved not just by the injustices of the past, but also the ongoing violation of the land and rights of these indigenous people. I was repeatedly struck by the inescapable fact that there is no fix for the plight of the Lakota Nation. We can’t correct the countless wrongs any more than we can unspill the oil of the Valdez or unsink the Titanic. And yet the trip was uplifting; I credit my prayer partner for this. The daily prayer packages I received helped me to see past the ugly truth of my role as a privileged white person in nearly obliterating a way of life, and instead see the similarities between ‘them’ and ‘us’. Having a person at home lifting my name in prayer and gently pointing to the kind of love that cannot be destroyed was essential to my positive experience at Pine Ridge. The daily prayers reminded me that we aren’t traveling to South Dakota in isolation but rather in communion with each other. Each evening, our group of thirteen met to open a letter, a small gift, or some other token of prayer from our prayer partners. Sometimes we shared a thought that was especially meaningful. Often, we just savored privately the gift of prayer that we had received. In a community where suicide, poverty, hate, and disease are a reality of daily life, prayer is more valuable than any monetary offering we could possibly make and has more power to change hearts and perhaps even circumstances. To my prayer partner and to all those who have been or will be prayer partners in the future, I say *Pilamaya ye* (Lakotan for ‘thank you’).”



The Bethel mission team during prayer partner time

MATERIAL AIDS

Remember to continue to save the following items all year round: Campbell soup labels, Box Top labels, pop can tabs, no longer used eyeglasses, lenses, hearing aids, cell phones, and cancelled postage stamps (leave at least a ¼ inch around the stamp).

Also bring your paper and plastic grocery bags to church and leave them at the back of the church or near the coat rack by the Fellowship Hall. These are used every month for the Manchester Family Service food distribution day.

P.S. Keep a lookout for school and health kit supply items on sale this summer. And bring them to church. We collect these items year round.

POP CAN TAB CONTEST

Ronald McDonald House Pop Tab Contest begins September 1 until the date of the University of Michigan vs. Ohio State University football game. The past three years the Ronald McDonald House in Columbus more than doubled our collection, so start collecting now! These tabs can come from pop cans, soup cans and even tennis ball cans. We will donate our tabs to the Ann Arbor Ronald McDonald House. The House that collects the most tabs will receive \$1,000 from the Coca-Cola Company.



BETHEL SCRIP GIFT CARD MISSION FUNDRAISER

We still have over 40 SCRIP gift cards on hand for BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHES & SUPPLIES.....BIRTHDAY....WEDDING.....ANNIVERSARY.....SPECIAL THANK YOUS: ON HAND and ON SALE after the Sunday services in the Annex:

\$25	Bath & BodyWorks	\$25	Cabelas
\$10	Dominos	\$25	Gap/Banana Republic/Old Navy
\$15	iTunes	\$25	JoAnn Fabrics
\$25	K-Mart	\$20	Lowe's
\$25	Speedway	\$10	SUBWAY
\$25	Target	\$10	Panera Bread
\$25	Sears	\$10	Wendy's

We have earned \$299 for 2014 orders through 8/15/2014. THANKS to Mary Sue Moore and Judy Laberde who are RELOADING SCRIP Gift Cards as well as ordering SCRIPNOW cards. Ask them how easy this is to do from your home computer. These orders allow reuse of an existing card and printing cards on one's home computer. Both of these options then forgo the shipping charge of \$7.75 which then increases the amount of money earned.

Any questions, don't hesitate to ask Bonnie Mitchell (734-665-3068) or Cathy Moore 649-7431).....AND please visit the Great Lakes Scrip website: shopwithscrip.com.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING

The Board of Christian Education will meet on **September 4 at 6:30 p.m.** The members include Susie Amrhein, Jeff Elliott, Rachel Heuser, Darryl Kuebler, Patty Lambarth, Linda Perkins, and Jennifer Tasker.

SMALL GROUP

If you are interested in leading or attending a Small Group Bible Study please contact Judy Jahnke at fjahnke123@aol.com and 734-213-8459 or Pastor Dave at bucholtz@umich.edu and 734-323-4129.

FINANCIAL CLASSES

Financial Peace University Sundays, 9/7/14-11/2/14 6:00-7:30 p.m. We all need a plan for our money. Financial Peace University (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more! FPU classes meet for around an hour and a half each week for nine weeks.

Generation Change Sundays, 9/7/14-11/2/14 6:00-7:30 p.m. A class for teens. Generation Change is an all-new suite of Bible studies designed to lead teens to a better understanding of God, themselves and their money—and how it all works together. In the three different teaching series, students are equipped with biblical principles to BE who God created them to be, DO more with their money, and GO out into the world ready to write their story. Lesson videos with Dave Ramsey and his daughter, Rachel Cruze, along with engaging hands-on activities, will bring new biblical and financial truths to this generation, making them a generation of change.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2014 - 2015

Sunday School is right around the corner and we couldn't be more excited! We look forward to another year instructing Bethel's most valuable asset – our kids – about the love and grace of a most amazing God!

There have been some wonderful changes to our approach to teaching this year that will benefit our kids. For example, we will be teaching kindergarten through 4th grade in a dedicated classroom setting, allowing the younger children to have their very own teacher rather than a variety of rotation leaders. Additionally, to avoid conflicting with worship, preschool will now be taught after church (during the Sunday School hour).

Pastor Bucholtz will introduce and explain this new information at our Sunday School Kick-Off on September 7, 2014 in the Reineck Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Following his presentation, parents will have an opportunity to meet briefly with their child(ren)'s Sunday School teacher(s) and our students will be invited downstairs to learn about church safety protocols including what to do in the event of a fire, tornado, etc.

We will allot some time during our Kickoff meeting on the 7th for paperwork to be completed. Emergency contact forms must be on file prior to our first Sunday School session on September 14, 2014. This information is crucial in order to keep our kids safe in the event of an emergency and to allow us to effectively communicate with you throughout the year.

In compliance with our Safe Church policy and to help make our church an allergen-free environment, we will NOT be serving a snack during Sunday School. Please make sure that your child(ren) have a good, hearty breakfast before coming to church.

In Christ,

Pastor Bucholtz, the Board of Christian Education, and an eager staff of volunteer teachers and senior youth assistants

EVANGELISM

The **Ushers, Greeters, Lay Readers, Acolytes and Child Care** lists for September are included in this newsletter. Please mark your calendars when dates apply to you. Your help with these services is appreciated and a vital part of keeping the life of Bethel Church running smoothly.

We count on you to fulfill this obligation. If you are unable to perform the service at your scheduled time, please arrange for a substitute, and inform the church office at 429-8530 or Joe Moore (Ushers and Greeters) at 428-8687, Renee St. Charles (Lay Readers) at 429-8530, Kristi Campbell (Child Care) at 330-0029 and Bonnie Mitchell (Acolytes) at 665-3068 before the Wednesday of your scheduled Sunday. They can help you find substitutes if you are unable.

CHURCH GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION

The Viburnum on either side of the annex door will be replaced because they have grown too large and it is difficult to trim them. They were originally planted in 1977 so we have certainly gotten our money's worth from them. A committee is working on digging them out and finding replacements.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Members of our committee of four (Susan Layher, Millie Guenther, Carol Colby and Mary Sue Moore) invite you to join them if you would like to help maintain the record of Bethel's rich history and heritage. They will be assisting the 175th Anniversary Committee as it prepares for the celebration next year. Please contact either Susan at 428-9128 or Mary Sue at 428-8687 if you would like to serve on this committee. A meeting in September has been planned for 9:00 a.m. on the 10th.

ELVIRA M. VOGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Higher Education Scholarships: This scholarship fund, initially founded by Elvira and her family, was established to sustain Elvira's desire to support laypeople in their training for ministry and to further their faith journeys through a participatory level of church ministry and greater outreach into the worldwide community. The committee has now extended its reach to consider support for church members seeking post-high school assistance, such as colleges, universities, and trade schools on an annual basis. May 15, 2015 is the deadline for next year.

Other Scholarship Fund Activities: Other types of educational grants and scholarships will continue to be considered should funds be available. In the past, these have included assistance for church camp fees, high school trips abroad for cultural awareness, youth leadership conferences, classroom supplies, Bethel mission trip expenses, workshops relating to a person's area of expertise, retreats, etc. These applications can be submitted at any time of year. Any person who wishes to request assistance should do so in writing to a member of the committee, the members of which are: Darlene Kuebler, Joann Finkbeiner, Sula Horodeczny, Judy Mann, Cathy Moore, Mary Sue Moore, and Lou & Elvira Vogel's daughters, Virginia, Valorie, and Sue Ellyn.

As most of you know, the Elvira Vogel Scholarship Fund is supported by our Sauerkraut Supper held in the fall.

This year's Sauerkraut Super will be held on **Friday, October 17. Save the date!**

GIFTS/MEMORIALS ACKNOWLEDGED thru 8/25/14

\$985.00

In Memory of Irene Smith

In Memory of Loren Traub (and in honor of his August birthday)

In Memory of Loraine Juckno



CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

The Bethel Chamber Orchestra is looking for musicians to join us this fall. We play classical favorites as well as gospel/praise music every 4-5 weeks during the fall and spring. Whether you are just dusting off your tuba after years of storage or are an aspiring young musician with 2 or more years of playing under your belt, we would love to have you in our group! Most pieces we play are custom-arranged for our group so we can cater to your current comfort level. Please contact Jen Bucholtz at 734-915-1849 or at jen_bucholtz@yahoo.com for more information.

♪ TAKE NOTE ♪

Thanks to all our musicians who participated in **SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC** this year. They were:

Daughter's Chorus
Bethel Chamber Orchestra
VBS Kids
Kolleen Kuebler and Katie Kuebler (vocal solos)
Sarah (Luckhardt) Burrell (vocal solo)
Alison Robison (vocal solo)
Webb Seegert (vocal solo)
Jennifer Bucholtz, Horn & Cathy Moore, Clarinet (Instrumental Duet)
Alison Robison and Don Hieber (vocal duet)
Dan Roehm (vocal solo)
Alison Robison and David Bucholtz (vocal duet)
Cameron Hibbard and Hailey Tursak (violin duet)

Someone remarked that we have a lot of musical talented members at Bethel Church. Aren't we lucky that they share their gifts with us?

And, speaking of our music program - with September comes the start-up of choirs rehearsing. **See below:**

- SENIOR CHOIR: 7:30 p.m. Mondays beginning September 8
- HANDBELL CHOIR: 6:30 p.m. Mondays beginning September 8
- CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Mondays from 6:30-7:15 p.m. beginning Sept. 15 - **for children in grades 1 through 4**
- YOUTH CHOIR PLUS: Sunday, Sept. 21 at 11:45 a.m. A light lunch (potluck style) will be served - **for youth in grades 5 & up, family members & any interested adults**

SPECIAL MUSIC for September is:

- ♪ 7th - ENSEMBLE, *I to the Hills* by Robert Leslie
- ♪ 14th - TRIO, Linda Perkins, Kolleen Kuebler & Jackie Martin, *It Is Well with My Soul* by Philip Bliss, arranged by John Ness Beck
- ♪ 21st - SENIOR CHOIR *As the Deer* by Martin Nystrom/setting John F. Wilson
- ♪ 28th - YOUTH CHOIR PLUS *Hidden as a Baby* by J. Paul Williams & Joseph M. Martin

REVISED OFFICE HOURS

Office hours for Pastor Bucholtz:

Tuesday 1:00p-4:00p

Friday 9:00a-12:00p

Other times by appointment: (734) 323-4129

Office hours for Renee:

Tuesday-Friday 1:30p-4:30p

Please call ahead (734-429-8530) before coming to the church to make sure Renee is in the office and expecting you. Office hours are subject to change. If you need pastoral assistance during non-office hours, please call Pastor Bucholtz. (734-323-4129)

RECYCLING AT BETHEL UCC

Our Sunday worship bulletins are **recycled**. If you don't wish to take yours home, please leave it on the back pew. If you leave through the annex, please leave your bulletin on the back pew there. THANKS!

We use Modern Waste Systems, Inc. for our trash pickup at Bethel. They offer recycling services too. We just need to use CLEAR plastic bags, can mix all acceptable items (list posted in the kitchen) in the bag and put

out with our trash for pickup.

There is a supply of clear bags in the church office. Please don't use the bags for other things as they are a little hard to find and it is such a convenience to be able to put recycled item out at church rather than having to load them and carry them elsewhere. Any recyclables from the church office, Sunday School and the kitchen can be included. Thank you for recycling!

WOMEN OF BETHEL

Women of Bethel met on Monday, August 11th for their annual meeting and luncheon. Below are the activities for the next year and the list of the kitchen stewards.

Be thinking ahead to October 1st as we will furnish casseroles at the Mill Pond Manor in Saline for their evening meal.

ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN OF BETHEL FOR THE COMING YEAR

August 11, 2014 (Monday)	Women of Bethel Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be furnished by Women of Bethel.
August 17, 2014 (Sunday)	Coffee Hour – Women of Bethel. (Coordinator: Jean Holder)
September 17, 2014 (Wednesday)	6:45 p.m. Church Cabinet Meeting. (Representing Women of Bethel – Susan Mann)
October 1, 2014 (Wednesday)	Furnish evening meal at Mill Pond Manor, Saline. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. (Coordinators: Susan Mann & Kay Martin)
October 17, 2014 (Friday)	Sauerkraut Supper. (Coordinator Joann Finkbeiner)
October 29, 2014 (Wednesday)	Cleaning Church Kitchens (8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon) -- Lunch after at Bridgewater Bank. (Coordinators: Darlene Kuebler & Joann Finkbeiner)
December 2, 2014 (Tuesday)	Advent by Candlelight in Fellowship Hall, Bethel UCC, 6:30 p.m. (Coordinators: Bonnie Mitchell, Patsy Aiken, Phyllis Meranuck-Golka, Shirley Haeussler, Nancy Loudin, Alison Robison, & Diane Wahl)
December 10, 2014 (Wednesday)	Bethel Church Christmas Potluck at Noon. Please bring a dish to pass & 3 dozen cookies to help fill tins for shut-ins. (Coordinators: Elaine Creech, Kay Martin, & Jean Holder)
December 2014	Provide flowers for Church altar.
February 15 & 22, 2015 (Sunday)	Ingathering of Material Aids. (Coordinators: Catherine Moore & Mary Beth Baker)
March 1, 2015 (Sunday)	Material Aids Dedication. (Catherine Moore, Mary Beth Baker, & Mary Sue Moore)
Mar. or Apr. ____, 2015 (Wednesday)	Host Wednesday Evening Lenten Potluck by providing main dish, set-up, etc. (Coordinators: Susan Mann and Carole Baker)
April 1, 2015 (Wednesday)	Attend Lenten Breakfast at Emanuel United Church of Christ, 324 West Main Street, Manchester. Usually held at 9:30 a.m.
April 5, 2015 (Sunday)	Help with Easter Breakfast. (Coordinators: Judy Laberdee, Jean Martin, Catherine Moore, and Julie Roberts)

- May 6, 2015
(Wednesday) Attend Salad Smorgasbord Luncheon, Manchester United Methodist Church,
501 Ann Arbor St., Manchester.
- Month of June Start taking pretzel orders. (Coordinator: Joann Finkbeiner)
Cookbooks for Church graduates at the Graduation breakfast.
(Coordinator: Joann Finkbeiner)
- June 10, 2015
(Wednesday) Bingo & Pie Day at Saline Evangelical Home.
(Coordinator: Phyllis Meranuck-Golka)
- July 9, 2015
(Thursday) Bethel Church Ice Cream Social

WOMEN OF BETHEL

Vespers Meal for the Homeless Population of Washtenaw
1st Baptist Church, Ann Arbor
4th Tuesday of each Month – Food Purchase/Preparation

August 26	Joann Finkbeiner 429-5793	Susan Mann (734) 323-9284
September 23	Bonnie Mitchell (734) 665-3068	Carole Baker (734) 429-9256
October 28	Mary Sue Moore (734) 428-8687	Darlene Kuebler (734) 429-4239
November 25	Kay Martin (734) 428-7381	Susan Mann (734) 323-9284
December 23		
January 27	Jean Holder (517) 673-6738	Betty Cipri (734) 929-2842
February 24		
March 24	Diane Seeger (734) 429-5905	Eleanor Beitelshes (734) 429-5188
April 28	Carole Baker (734) 429-9256	Bonnie Hieber (734) 665-9028
May 26		
June 23		
July 28	Women of Bethel – Doing whole meal – planning & serving & buying food.	

Please coordinate each month with Susan Luckhardt (Vesper Chairperson) for menu and meal plan

If you cannot fulfill your obligation, please find a substitute to take your place

Meals need to be ready to transport by 4:00 P.M. (Cooking usually lasts from noon till 2:00 P.M.)

KITCHEN STEWARDS 2014-2015

Women of Bethel members who have volunteered to monitor on a monthly basis kitchen functions, such as: cleanliness, organization, and disposal of expired food products.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
September 2014	Joann Finkbeiner	(734) 429-5793
October 2014	Phyllis Meranuck	(734) 428-7690
November 2014	Jean Holder	(517) 423-6115
December 2014	Nancy Loudin	(734) 428-0162
January 2015	Susan Mann	(734) 323-9284
February 2015	Bonnie Mitchell	(734) 665-3068
March 2015	Kay Martin	(734) 428-7381
April 2015	Shirley Hauessler	(734) 429-7162
May 2015	Diane Seeger	(734) 429-5905
June 2015	Elaine Creech	(734) 428-8440
July 2015	Darlene Kuebler	(734) 429-4239
August 2015	Diane Wahl	(734) 428-9316

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS

Sept. 7	Flood and Promise	Genesis 6:16-22; 9:8-15
Sept. 14	Call of Abraham	Genesis 12:1-9
Sept. 21	Joseph in Prison	Genesis 39:1-23
Sept. 28	Rescue at the Sea	Exodus 14:10-14, 21-29

ALTAR FLOWERS

Thank you to those who provided the beautiful altar flowers for July.

July 6	Karl Gebhardt in memory of Sharon
July 13	Ray and Ava Goff
July 20	Duane and Darlene Kuebler in memory of Willard and Ruth Kuebler
July 27	Jean Martin in memory of Holly Martin and Paul Herter



Available dates to provide altar flowers: **September 7 & 28**

JULY ATTENDANCE

July 6	Holy Communion	116
July 13	Emanuel visits	176
July 20	Pastor Judy Jahnke	96
July 27		110

ATTENDANCE



IN THE COMMUNITY

5:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner at St. Andrew's UCC, Dexter

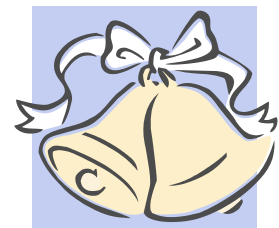
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st	Karen Weidmayer	13th	Christopher Carson	23rd	Megan Feldkamp
2nd	Terron Beitelshees		Russell Hieber		Connor Hibbard
	Nora Busch		Beverly Nelson		Paula McCoy
	Cole Busch	14th	John Bihlmeyer		Melissa Luckhardt-Gawura
	Vic Mann		Jacob Gebhardt		Katie Meranuck
4th	Karla Shankland		Shanna Meranuck	24th	Ashley Farr
	Emma Guenther		Gayle Roehm	25th	Ashlie Haeussler
5th	Carol Colby	16th	Caden Mann		Wilbur Henes
	Brian Feldkamp	17th	Danielle Bunney		Gerald Merz
	Penny Guenther	18th	Michelle Bratt	28th	Kylie Kuebler
6th	Sydney Jedele		Michael Vitale	29th	Asher Beach
	Tammy Wakevainen	19th	Nathan Dubnicki	30th	Hayley Turk
7th	Liam Haeussler		Leanne Vitale		Kimberly Mulkey
8th	Andrew Corwin		Gary Weidmayer		
9th	Mary Girbach	20th	Jodi Lutz		
10th	Krista Elsasser	21st	Greg Glasser		
	Barrett Novess				
11th	Amber Buter				
	Nickolas Hagood				
12th	Ashlee Lanz				



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 4	Michelle & Chris O'Rourke	Sept. 16	Herbert & Gayle Roehm
Sept. 6	Jonathan & Jennifer Miller	Sept. 19	Steven & Diane Kuebler
Sept. 7	Bonnie & Gary Mitchell	Sept. 20	Timothy & Danica Seeger
Sept. 8	Tim & Lou Ann Preston	Sept. 21	Debbie & Keith Hibbard
	John & Lois Vitale	Sept. 23	Rhonda & Alan Holbrook
Sept. 9	David & Jennifer Bucholtz	Sept. 25	Ron & Joann Finkbeiner



Please contact the church office if your birthday or anniversary is in September and your name(s) were not listed. Thank you.

Newsletter articles are due on the 15th of each month.

Bulletin information is due on Wednesday of each week.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bethel United Church of Christ Report from the Treasurer - General Fund

	July			
	Month Ended		Year to Date	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Receipts:				
Offering	\$ 10,763.00	\$ 11,821.50	\$ 76,970.00	\$ 89,489.00
Loose Offering	\$ 879.55	\$ 428.50	\$ 4,254.32	\$ 3,314.95
Initial offering	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 158.00	\$ 246.00
Hall & chair rental	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 410.00	\$ 700.00
Christmas	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ -
Maundy Thursday & Easter	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,649.00	\$ 2,756.00
Lenten & Family Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 256.00	\$ 224.00
Memorials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 100.00
Sunday School	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 810.00	\$ 830.00
Sunday School programs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71.00	\$ 214.00
Archives Fund Raiser	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Benevolences (OCWM)	\$ 852.00	\$ 551.00	\$ 3,695.00	\$ 3,658.00
Strengthen the Church	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 271.00	\$ 70.00
Local benevolences	\$ 268.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 1,854.00	\$ 1,470.00
Blanket Sunday	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 522.00	\$ 521.00
Neighbors in Need	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 537.00	\$ 1,246.00
Camp Talahi	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65.00
Mission Trip	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 370.00	\$ 285.00
Transfer from Endowment Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 11,744.00
Transfer from Discretionary Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Total Receipts	\$ 12,987.55	\$ 13,211.00	\$ 95,427.32	\$ 116,952.95
Disbursements:				
Personnel (salaries & related expenses)	\$ 8,436.37	\$ 8,067.87	\$ 61,022.18	\$ 66,961.23
Building costs (custodian, utilities & propane)	\$ 5,007.22	\$ 3,030.99	\$ 33,064.24	\$ 30,630.03
Operations (phone, office & worship supplies)	\$ 742.34	\$ 532.82	\$ 3,849.65	\$ 6,447.79
Kitchen & Local Outreach	\$ -	\$ 48.98	\$ 87.94	\$ 594.25
Education & Conferences	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178.65	\$ 184.72
Archives	\$ 154.92	\$ -	\$ 216.80	\$ -
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Local Benevolence - Vespers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57.77
Local Benevolence	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Church World Service Blanket	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 522.00	\$ 521.00
Mission Re-Member Trip donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255.00
Camp Talahi clean-uo donation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Foundation Fighting Blindness	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Amanda Laberdee Mission Trip	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
David Strobbe Washington Trip	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Transfer to Building Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,550.00
Camp Talahi Camp Fee Bethel Kids	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,372.50
Discretionary Fund - payment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Total Disbursements	\$ 14,340.85	\$ 11,680.66	\$ 100,441.46	\$ 118,324.29
Excess (Deficit)				
Receipts over Disbursements	\$ (1,353.30)	\$ 1,530.34	\$ (5,014.14)	\$ (1,371.34)
Beginning Cash	\$ 3,257.39	\$ 1,903.74	\$ 6,918.23	\$ 4,805.42
Ending Cash July, 31	\$ 1,904.09	\$ 3,434.08	\$ 1,904.09	\$ 3,434.08

The effects of the Summer donations decreasing by \$600.00, and maintenance costs increasing by \$700.00 resulted in a cash decrease of \$1353.30 for July. The year to date amounts are higher for 2013 because of the transfers from the Planned Giving-Endowment fund for items which have not yet been transferred in 2014. Our expenditures are on target with our Budget. Thank you for your support. Lyle R. Wahl, Treasurer

BETHEL CHURCH BOARD MINUTES

Bethel Church Board, July 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

President: Patti Henes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Prayer led by: Pastor Bucholtz with the writings from Nancy Pearcey "If the ordinary affairs of life can be understood and managed by reason alone, then the realm of grace becomes increasingly irrelevant."* As suggested "do all to the glory of God".

Members Present: M. Meranuck, P. Henes, J. Roberts, A. Robison, L. Wahl & K. Weidmayer

Excused: W. Riley

Guests: none

Secretary's Minutes:

After review and discussion of the June minutes, corrections were made which include:

- Delete the wording insert Treasurer report.
- Old Business: Some areas of the church roof need repair; proposals will be presented at the next meeting.

Motion made to accept the minutes with corrections by: Lyle Wahl

Seconded by: A. Robison

Approved: All

Treasurers / Financial report:

Lyle Wahl gave an overview of the financials of the church. Reports of General Fund, Month End, Bills, Receipts, Disbursements, Building/Mission/Memorial/Discretionary/Sabbatical/ Planned Giving/Endowment Funds were all viewed and explained.

On a year to date basis we are comparable with 2013 for both receipts and disbursements. Our commitments are still needed to keep the expenses paid through the summer months.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report and pay all monthly bills: J. Roberts

Seconded by: A. Robison

Approved: All

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
General Fund	\$ 2,947.23	\$ 15,216.02	\$ 14,905.86	\$ 3,257.39
Building Fund	\$ 47,946.54	\$ 3,695.00	\$ 25,000.23	\$ 26,641.31
Mission Fund	\$ 6,176.93	\$ 625.00	\$ 3,060.75	\$ 3,741.18
Memorial Fund	\$ 73,283.05	\$ 884.81		
Change in Market Value		\$ 305.34		\$ 74,473.20
Discretionary Fund	\$ 13,090.76	\$ 17.30		
Change in Market Value		\$ 118.11		\$ 13,226.17
Sabbatical Fund	\$ 1,816.43	\$ 70.07		
Change in Market Value		\$ (45.72)		\$ 1,840.78
Planned Giving /Endowment	\$463,805.18	\$ 708.38	\$ 731.10	
Change in Market Value		\$ 5,215.24		\$468,991.70

Pastor Bucholtz's Report/ Activities:

- EHM Saline and Brecon village visits: 8
- Pastoral care visits (Home / Office / Hospital): 13
- Discussion of Worship, Committee Work, Mission, Christian Education, Denominational Work & Ecumenical Work.
- The final quote for new sound system should arrive within the next week.

Committee Reports:

Cabinet meeting: (Patti) next scheduled meeting Wednesday, September 17, 2014 @ 6:45 p.m.

Cemetery: (Alison) There will be a company checking the cemetery stones for repair within the next few weeks. A bid will be presented to the board before the repair work is started

Endowment: (Lyle) Noted: Total cost for 7.75 acres of Land, north of parking lot, was \$46,500.00. We are purchasing this property on a Land contract in two payments. The first payment of \$23,250.00, plus property tax proration of \$61.23, was made on June 3, 2014. The balance of \$23,500.00 is due on January 5, 2015. There will be a meeting in the next few months.

Evangelism: (Julie) New member classes will start in October.

Stewardship: (Church Board)

- Offering envelopes have been ordered by J. Roberts for the coming year.

Board of Christian Education: Meeting held July 7, 2014. Discussion on:

- Vacation Bible School
- Adult Education
- Sunday school startup
- Fire drills and Safe church
- Combined Area Senior Youth activities
- Camp Talahi.

Mission: (Lyle) Discussion on:

- Finalized arrangements for the mission trip
- Vespers having a rotation for workers
- Speaker for Mission Sunday
- Quilters joining the mission team.

Memorial: (Karen) Reviewed again the past meeting actions.

Communion: (Mike/Will) Everything is going good.

Archives: (Karen) Plans for a meeting are underway.

Hearts and Hands: (Mike) Met on June 14, 2014.

- The committee will be sending out church acknowledgement cards to visitors that have attended the worship service and signed the pew pads.

Elders: (Alison) They are continuing working on the new committees and helping in the worship service.

Old Business

- **Roof:** Bids are not complete as of the meeting.
- **Evaluations/Job Descriptions:** Work in progress.
- **Wedding Policy Review Committee:** A. Robison reported the committee is moving forward and hopes to have a draft completed by the end of September. Discussion to add funeral rules also included.
- **Outdoor Signage on Schneider Road:** Board had no further discussion at this time.
- **Delinquent Members:** Board decided to have J. Roberts group names together for each board member to contact. The goal is to have the list completed by September meeting.
- **175th Anniversary in 2015:** First meeting will be July 15, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. at the church. A few suggestions were given for activities throughout the year's celebration.

Maintenance / Building:

- **Maintenance list--**Drinking fountain needs to be repaired-K. Weidmayer
- **The Health Department Water Testing--** is on track.
- **Outside parking lot lights** --one light still not working, J.Roberts will make another call & get a bid for the lights in the basement work.
- **Safe church item:** Fire and Safety drill scheduled in the fall of 2014.
- **Resurface the Parking lot:** Board commented on the excellent job that Belden USA did on the parking lot. Board agreed that we should have 4 more spaces for handicap parking.

New Business:

- **The Ice Cream Social:** July 10, 2014. M. Meranuck has taken care of setting up spraying arrangements and parking the night of the social. Board discussed having an Event Committee Chair from the board for these activities.
- **Insurance:** Farm Bureau Insurance bid not received as of the meeting.
- **Advertisement:** a draft was presented by Pastor Bucholtz for the local church directory of the Washtenaw Now, board agreed to proceed with it.

Other Business:

- **Summer Worship Service** with Emanuel Church: July 13 at Bethel Church with Emanuel Church attending--Coffee hour to follow.
August 3 at Emanuel Church with Bethel Church attending. A communion service will be held at Emanuel. No service at Bethel church August 3, 2014.
- **No Correspondence** received
- **No Comments and Concerns** were received.

Adjourn Meeting: 9:20 p.m.

Motion to adjourn meeting: M. Meranuck

Seconded by: K. Weidmayer

Approved: All

Adjourned at 9:20 p.m. by joining together in the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 12, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: K. Weidmayer

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

GREETERS

- 7 Will and Amy Riley, Lauren & Liam
- 14 Harvey and Marcella Luckhardt
- 21 Brandon and Melissa Henes, Mackenzie & Samantha
- 28 Jean Martin and Carol Colby



USHERS

- 7 Dave Herter, Mike Haeussler, David Strobbe, Lynn Strobbe, and Stephen Strobbe
- 14 Larry Egeler, Fred Jahnke, Judy Jahnke, Phil Miller, and Vicki Miller
- 21 Duane Kuebler, Julie Kreitzer, Tom Kreitzer, Darryl Kuebler, and Mike Meranuck
- 28 Scott Diuble, Ron Diuble, Rudy Layher, Bruce Lobbestael, and Ethan Lobbestael



ACOLYTES

- 7 Katie Wakevainen
- 14 Josh Bunn
- 21 Katie Kuebler
- 28 Eli Lobbestael



LAY READERS

- 7 Nate Munson
- 14 Lisa Novess
- 21 Jean Holder
- 28 Rick Jones



CHILD CARE

- 7 Kristi Campbell and Courtney Campbell
- 14 Sue Mann and Ryan Mann
- 21 Jill Corwin and Garrett Corwin
- 28 Michelle Roberts and Eli Lobbestael



Creating Caring and Connected Kids

Manchester's 2014 Community Parenting Fair

Saturday, September 6, 2014 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

(Registration with continental breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m.)

Manchester United Methodist Church

501 Ann Arbor St., Manchester, MI 48158



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Being the Best We Can and Raising the Adults We Envision”**



Breakout Sessions

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- ◇ Exploring Temperament
- ◇ Parenting a Child or Teen with Mental Illness
- ◇ The Perils of Adolescence
- ◇ All on the Same Team: Advocating for Your Child at School
- ◇ Hobscotch. Kool-Aid and TV Dinners—Let's Chew the Fat.



Register online at:

<https://parentingfair.wufoo.com/forms/parenting-fair/>

E-mail: manchesterumchurch@live.com

Facebook: Manchester United Methodist Church

Phone: (734) 428-8495