

Church Office Hours-

Weekdays: 8:30 am-2:30 pm

Office phone (812) 328-2358 Fax # (812) 328-2357

Secretary: Lesa Houghland

E-mail address: bethel@wirelessilliana.com

Web-site: www.bethelchurch-indiana.com

Pastor Mike's office hours-

Weekdays: 9am-2pm

Phone numbers: Cell (812) 887-3810 **Home** (812) 354-8403

Pastor Shayne Cell (812) 430-0994

Council members-

Ed Hagemeyer, President

Scott Page John Koenig

Kevin Hammelman, Vice-president

Gordon Clinkenbeard

Herman Tilly, Treasurer

Monica Russell

John Trotter, Secretary

Mary Ann Miller

FROM THE PASTORS STUDY-

Once again the Christmas season is here. We have gone through Thanksgiving and now look forward to Christmas and what it means for believers in Jesus Christ. I still am in awe of a God who loved enough to allow His Son to be my substitute on Calvary's cross. So I take this season to reflect on God's loving kindness and mercy. To me, Christmas is more than decorated trees, gifts and food. To me this is a season of reflection, a reflection who I am and who God is. With the passing years, I am finally finding myself setting the priorities straight, first God and His Son Jesus and then me. When I use this formula the season is more meaningful, fuller and richer.

I especially look forward to this Christmas as we will celebrate it on Sunday. The true meaning of the season becomes clearer for whatever reason. I especially want to invite you to share in this Christmas as the only service that day will be our traditional candlelight service on Christmas morning at 6:30 am. Come expecting a blessing this year! As it will be our only service that day, we will set aside a time to give back to the Lord an offering from the bounty He has bestowed on us.

Come join us Christmas morning as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

In His service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:16

Youth Corner

A young man who had been raised as an atheist was training to be an Olympic diver. The only religious influence in his life came from his outspoken Christian friend. The young diver never really paid much attention to his friend's sermons, but he heard them often.

One night the diver went to the indoor pool at the college he attended. The lights were all off, but as the pool had big skylights and the moon was bright, there was plenty of light to practice by. The young man climbed up to the highest diving board and as he turned his back to the pool on the edge of the board and extended his arms out, she saw his shadow on the wall. The shadow of his body in the shape of a cross. Instead of diving, he knelt down and asked God to come into his life. As the young man stood, a maintenance man walked in and turned the lights on. The pool had been drained for repairs.

Your Youth Pastor,
Shayne Spurgeon

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2011

December

Choir

Guild

Christmas Greetings to all! Bethel Guild will meet Wednesday, December 7 at noon in the Social Room for a carry-in luncheon. Bring a covered dish; bread and drinks will be furnished. We'll have a program after lunch with a business meeting.

Bring your cookies by 9:30, so the committee can fix cheer plates. Stay the morning to quilt, make lap robes, piece a quilt or just visit.

Lill Clinkenbeard



Preschool News

I am amazed that the final month of 2011 is nearly here! The past month has been another busy one but the Bethel preschoolers wouldn't have it any other way - the busier, the better. ☺ We had so much fun dressing up for our visit to the Freelandville Community Home and for the Harvest Parties that had been planned by the children's parents. The kids all looked so cute in their costumes as we celebrated the day. They did a wonderful job singing and were so well-behaved. I had many nice compliments on them and it was such a joy to see the residents simply light up as the children paraded in to sing. Then back to preschool we went to enjoy our Harvest Parties filled with fun crafts, games, and yummy snacks!! The parents were all so creative and the kids love it when they see their parents or their friends' parents having so much fun.

The children were also invited to sing during Youth Sunday and to the first ever Chili Cook-Off! It was wonderful to have so many families share in our service that morning as the youth shared their love for Christ with us! Of course, much fun was also had that evening during the Chili Cook-Off that included a costume contest, a straw bale maze, lots of games and lots and lots of yummy chili! Thank you to Pastor Shayne and Bethel Youth for inviting us and making it such an exciting evening for everyone. ☺

We had a beautiful day for our nature walk this year to go along with the wonderful book, "Leaf Man" by Lois Ehlert that we read during L Week. The kids loved the illustrations in the book as we journeyed with the Leaf Man and then had a great time collecting leaves and other items from nature to make our own "Leaf Man" or other favorite creature from the story. I hope you have had a chance to see the Leaf Men displayed in the preschool hallway. The children worked very hard on them. At first glance, you might simply see leaves glued to paper but take a closer look and you will discover a leaf man, a turtle, a chicken, a cow or even a butterfly! Miss Jennifer and I are always amazed at the creativity shown. ☺

On our last day before Thanksgiving break we shared a Thanksgiving meal. We had been talking a lot about the first

Thanksgiving. The children were especially amazed to learn that the Pilgrim's homes consisted of only one room that served as the kitchen, bedroom, dining room and family room. How hard that is to imagine! We also talked about how there was no electricity and wondered how they would light up their homes without electricity to which one little boy exclaimed, "Flashlights!" ☺ I love how the children are always thinking! To prepare our meal, the children all worked together by each bringing in an ingredient that was needed and then got busy snapping green beans, slicing carrots, mashing potatoes and mixing corn bread and mini pumpkin pies! I am so thankful for our wonderful volunteers, Miss Liz (Telligman) and Miss Sharon (Kahre), as well as the moms and dads who were able to stay and assist our little workers. Once the meal was ready, we rolled up the rug in the class and pulled our classroom tables into one long dining table, turned off the lights and sat down to a candlelit meal. What a sweet sight it was to see the children with their heads bowed in prayer as we gave thanks for the food that had been prepared as well as the many blessings God has given to each of us. It was a wonderful day and I feel so blessed to have been a part of it.

We are looking forward to the Little Elves workshop that is put on by the wonderful Generations ladies. The children love getting the chance to "shop" for their very own special gift for mom and dad. Also, we have been busy working to get ready for the Christmas Program to be held on the evening of December 9. We are learning new songs and getting excited about this special evening! A big thank you to Shelly Trotter for helping create the CDs to be used for our program this year as well as the Preschool volunteers and board members who help so much with the program. We are looking forward to a lovely evening as we "Count Down to Christmas!" ☺

Blessings to you, our Bethel Church family, as we head into this month of joy and sharing to celebrate the love God shared with us through the birth of His son, Jesus Christ.

In His Love,
Mrs. Hammelman



Preschoolers are so fun and I am blessed to have a great group of kids and parents!! We finished the month of October singing at the Freelandville Community Home. The residents truly enjoyed our visit. A special thanks to them for having us. I heard many compliments on the children's singing and behavior.

We had a fun week with the letter F. We made a Fabulous Fish to help us remember to always be fisher's of men for Jesus. We talked about Jesus is our Forever Friend. We got to finger paint which the preschoolers just love to do. We made cute frogs while the kids thought that Miss Jennifer was magic as she turned yellow paper and blue bingo dabbers into something green that tells us to Fully Rely On God.

We learned about the giant named Goliath and how brave David was when he stood tall to him. We taped a plate as high to the ceiling as we could and throw a bean bag up to see if we could fight a giant. The kids told us that God really doesn't want us to fight--good thinking!! They also said it was fun to try and hit Goliath. Now they came in everyday wanting to know where the giant on the wall is. They don't forget much.

One of our stories this month was "Where Do You Live." We learned that God made fish for the pond, horses for the fields, and people for the earth. We talked about how Jesus lives in our hearts. We laced heart shaped cards and put Jesus inside. The next class day, one little boy questioned how Jesus could live in our hearts and be in our cards too. Jesus is everywhere is what I tried to explain. Hmmm--he was going to have to think about that more.

The preschoolers try to teach Miss Jennifer and me about all the cool things. Justin Bieber (okay, I did have to question the spelling of his last name), trains and monkeys are usually at the top of their lists. When they play, we hear how someone needs to make a purchase at the cash register, and Wal-mart has everything you need. There is a right time for everything. A time to laugh....(Ecc.3:1,4) This is every day at preschool.

This month we had fun putting turkeys together with cookies using peanut butter as our icing. One little girl was really full at snack time because she ate too much "icing". We read many stories about being thankful and celebrating Thanksgiving. I learned that the kids are thankful for many things, like chocolate pop tarts, the tub, Jesus, fish sticks, and even the choo choo train that Santa is going to bring. (They really drop hints well). One preschooler doesn't like food that is cooked for turkey day and he proved that by not eating one bite at our dinner until it was dessert time. Then he only ate half of his pilgrim hat. We made Indian head bands and Turkey placemats for our Thanksgiving dinner. We got to make butter from cream. Some of the preschoolers thought it was really neat, while one said "this is so boring" after we had just started shaking. One little boy was not hungry and not going to eat, yet ended up eating four pieces of bread with butter or apple butter on it, and that was just his dessert. I just love these kids!!!!

We have already started working on our Christmas songs for our program. We have already taken an adventure upstairs to see the big church. One little girl just wanted to know if there would be a microphone for her to sing with. Please join us on December 9 at 7 pm as we tell our story about Jesus and His Birthday.

Excited about Christmas and sharing the good news with the preschoolers,
Mrs. Beth Durall

MISSIONS

First of all, we want to thank all of you who helped in any way with the Lighthouse Mission dinner on November 20th!! The meal was delicious, the setting was very attractive, and the workers were very helpful and caring! The whole evening was a blessing to and for all!!

The potholders and garden seeds for George & Julie Holmes will be collected on December 3rd. Each of the potholders will end up with the 5 beads (a simple explanation of the story of salvation) in a village woman's kitchen in Albania!! Albania is a mountainous country and the

villages are rather remote. It is a real effort to reach these ladies, but they are so appreciative of any gift and/or token of friendship. Thank you so-o much for caring!!

We also thank you for your donations for the Freelandville Community Home! We are truly blessed to have such a facility in Freelandville and are thankful that Bethel's people and others in the area saw the need and established a home to care for those who reach a time in their life that such a place is necessary. Your donations are truly appreciated!

The shoes will soon be on their way to Fenton, MO (near St. Louis). The Word of Life Church and the Bicknell Baptist Church also donated, so we have about 700 pairs of shoes for Joe, the Shoeman!! We are grateful to all for your donations! (Big shoes, little shoes, boots, heels, clogs, flip-flops, and tennis shoes will all walk the ground in foreign lands.) Thanks to all of you for sharing!!!

AND last but not least, we thank you for all the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes!! You have no idea what a shoe box can mean to a child who has never owned anything of his/her own. Suddenly they may have a toothbrush, a toy, a pair of socks, a ball, or a pretty hair barrette, a pad of paper, a pencil, AND colored pencils! What a very special event in their lives. We also thank those who donated money to send these boxes!

Blessing to all who have worked, cared, shared, prayed, donated, supported, and participated in any way in Bethel's mission projects!

Maridell Sargent



Shut-ins

Freelandville Community Home

P. O. Box 288

Freelandville, IN 47535

Gladys Brocksmith

Patty Buescher

Ralph Buescher

Helen Hankins

Anna Mae Koenig

John Richter

Ruth Sager

Marilyn Johanningsmeier

Lodge of the Wabash

723 Ramsey Road

Vincennes, IN 47591

Harold Wagner

Crestview Nursing Home

3801 Old Bruceville Rd.

Vincennes, IN 47591

Helen Smith

KCARC

2525 N. Sixth St.

Vincennes, IN 47591

Gary Hammelman

Those living on their own or away:

Janice Courter – 2598 Hwy. 231, Logootee, IN 47553

Mary Ann Frye – 1402 Liberty Park Blvd., Sedalia, MO 65301

Ray Hall – P. O. Box 242, Freelandville, IN 47535

Helen Hankins – P. O. Box 205, Freelandville, IN 47535

Marjorie Horst – P. O. Box 214, Edwardsport, IN 47528

Anna Mae Koenig – 2712 N. Winkler Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

Marjorie Putnam – 300 W. Airport Blvd., #331, Sanford, FL 32773

Hyla Richter – 6771 E. Freelandville Road, Oaktown, IN 47561

Ruth and John Richter – 1715 W. St. Rd. 58, Carlisle, IN 47538

Helen and Wendell Stoelting – 12679 E. Stoelting Rd., Edwardsport,
IN 47528

If any names are missing from this list, please call the church office at (812) 328-2358 so that we may add them to the list.

New SS Class started at Bethel

Fifty years ago, in **1961**, a new class was to be started. It was to be something different-never tried before. A mixed class with both men and women. We had a contest choose the name. Marilyn Johanningsmeier's "Christian Partners" was chosen, meaning a partnership with our Heavenly Father and Lord Jesus. We met in the balcony because no rooms were available. Ed Kuhn, who was teaching the Good Neighbors Class twice a month with Conrad

Begeman, offered to teach on Sunday a month, as did Rev. Varns and Harry Smith. A class member also taught once a month. Thru the years, we have had many, many excellent teachers, and very good guest teachers.

We've had many projects, starting with Friendship Acres. Rev. Varns had worked with the project in Ohio before he came to Bethel, so we rented several parcels of ground from Peabody Coal Co., 40 acres in all. Every year, we gave \$1,000 to CROP, one tenth of our profit. On the planting day, the farmers brought their equipment and the other men took care of filling the planters with corn or beans. The ladies would bring out a delicious lunch at noon, everything would stop, and we would all enjoy eating together. Early afternoon, Ron Hammelman, on his tractor, said he was going to give Max Koenig a shot of anhydrous, which he did. When Max ran into it on his tractor, he started coughing, sneezing and eyes watering, and Ronnie just laughed and laughed. If there ever was a fun person, Ronnie was one.

Another project was selling Christmas trees. We would take two large trucks over to Crane Depot to a tree farm and buy them wholesale. Max Koenig was in charge of the trees being sold and we all helped sell them in Freelandville – a good project for many year.

We also served a Penny Dinner for many years – the women prepared and served the delicious meal, the men were bus boys and washed the dishes. A good project to all help and enjoy each other. We made apple butter in the church grove, a two to three day project. Lots of preparing first, and then the men tended the fires and stirred and stirred the apple butter till Lill (Clinkenbeard) and Sara (Kixmiller) said it was done – even stirring it from the fire to the shelter house, right Lill? It smelled soo good! Then, the women filled all the pint and quart jars. A big job, but well received by the congregation and others.

One other project, we adopted a cottage at Merom. We cleaned, washed windows, put up new curtains, painted walls and beds, even a new roof. Some of our Bethel children would be at summer camp and get to enjoy it. With lots of help amazing things can happen.

All the monies we have made thru the years have been given to charities and good causes, what a joy to be able to give and help, as we all know!

It would be amiss if we didn't mention the good times we've had as a class. Many parties, plays, dinners and etc. One in particular needs to be told – we had a Halloween hay ride-wiener roast at John & Lill Clinkenbeards's one fall. While everyone was gone on the hay-ride, someone brought an old wooden coffin and put it by the fire, while we all roasting wieners and eating, the lid raised up, and something was moaning in the coffin. The screams and yells could be heard in Freelandville – miles away. Then someone sat up in the coffin and gave a loud yell, someone shined a flashlight on the coffin, and guess who? Judge Ernie Tilly!! One we will never forget.

We pray our Class has been a blessing to Our Heavenly Father, to our Lord Jesus, and Bethel Church. All we have done has been to the Glory of God.

Of, course, like all classes, we have lost some of our members to death, but they will always remain in our hearts.

We always welcome new members and any who would like to set in on the lessons.

Vera Jones
Christian Partners Class

NURSERY NOTES

A big thanks to all who volunteer to help in the nursery during worship!!

If you would like to help out, please let me know. If you teach Children's Church, sing in the choir, or take up offering, I will work around all that. If you need community service projects, this is a great, easy way to earn your hours. You can sign up by calling me at 249-9547 or sending an email to bcdur@joink.com.

Due to the increase in the number of little ones (HOW EXCITING) wanting to be in the nursery, I am going back to putting two people on the schedule for every Sunday. If you cannot work your time, please try and trade with someone else or let me know.

Beth Durall



Bethel Church Council Minutes November 14, 2011

Pastor's Report – Pastor Mike's written report was approved as written. In addition to preparing for church services, he has taught a Sunday school class and the confirmation class, conducted the worship service at the Freelandville Community Home, provided counseling services, and made visits. He is continuing to lead the Bible study on Sunday evenings and is finalizing plans for the Crown Financial Peace University series to be presented on Sunday evenings early in 2012.

Youth Pastor's Report – Pastor Shayne shared a list of activities in which the youth are involved. He expressed thanks for the support shown for the Youth Fall Festival and told of future planned events: Hog roast fundraiser later in November; middle school lock-in, December 3; and a donation dinner in December with proceeds going to an inner-city youth center in Indianapolis. He continues to lead the youth groups, has started a youth leadership group named Daniel's Lions involving area youth, and has prepared Sunday school and group lessons and two sermons. In January grades 4-5 will be meeting after school on Tuesdays, and meetings for grades K-3 are meeting on alternate Sunday evenings.

Secretary's Report – The secretary's report was approved with one correction: The amount received for the cemetery fund should have been \$563.53, and the amount received for the cemetery trust fund should have been \$40.00.

Treasurer's Report – The report was approved as written. The council approved the following dispersals from the Ministry Budget: North Knox Social Ministries - \$500 and North Knox Nurses' Fund - \$500. The mission committee will be asked to present a "Mission Moment" concerning the project at the Freelandville Community Home to raise funds needed to make mandated repairs to its electric and sprinkler systems. Envelopes will be included in the bulletin for donations. It was noted that Charlie and John Buescher and John Spanger had complete the harvest of the Strate ground, and their donated time and machinery for this project is much appreciated. Charlie and John Buescher have consented to continue providing this service next year.

Deacon's Report – The written report was approved as written. The average attendance for October was 175, and the income for October was: offering, \$17,634.46; facility use, \$25; investment interest, \$312.80; preschool, \$4,023.18; Strate acres, \$20,358.56; Brocksmith mission, \$223.20; youth, \$175; youth pastor, \$150; Atlas Energy, \$431.13; memorial fund, \$100; and cemetery fund, \$975.

Elder's Report – It was reported that most of the Sunday school class relocations are complete. The carpets on the upper level will be cleaned once all excess materials have been removed and painting is complete.

Building and Grounds – The heating and air-conditioning installation has been completed according to the specifications agreed upon. Kevin Hammelman will meet with Skill Electric for a final walk through of electric work done. The carpet installation is mostly complete with work in Bethel Hall and tile work in the upstairs men's bathroom to be finished after Thanksgiving. The carpet on the exterior steps near Bethel Hall will be replaced in the spring. With the installation of the air conditioning system, there are several window units no longer needed. After checking to make sure they are in working condition, they will be available to church

members for a donation, and the remaining units will be offered to North Knox Social Ministries. The church roof installation is completed, and Wolfe Construction is ready to proceed with work to correct leaks around the tower. However, they are waiting for Duke Energy to reroute the electricity in that area so that the proper equipment can be put in place. Kevin reported that a final settlement from the insurance company has not been reached concerning the damage the church received from the spring storm, and he has also been in contact with the shingle company. It was suggested that the furnace in the youth room be boxed in so it will be secure.

Old Business – There was no update on the progress in acquiring the big screens and computer for the sanctuary.

New Business – Since the 6:30 service will be the only service at Bethel on Christmas, it was decided that an offering will be taken, and childcare will be available. Shelly Trotter requested that a TV and DVD player be purchased for the junior class classroom. Since Gord Clinkenbeard has a TV that he will donate if it meets their needs, he will contact Shelly concerning this matter. If a purchase needs to be made, her request will be forwarded to the Sunday school department. It was noted that an electrical outlet is needed in the primary room. Kevin will make arrangements for its installation.

Coming Events

- November 27 – First Sunday of Advent with communion
- December 5 – Christmas trees put in place
- December 6 – Christmas trees decorated
- December 9 – Preschool Christmas program



*A Christmas candle is a lovely thing;
It makes no noise at all,
But softly gives itself away.
~Eva Logue*

Because of Christmas Day...

By Ravi Sathasivam

When the December comes
When the white snow cover our lands
My heart is filled with joy
because this is the month for Christmas
When the carols are being sung
When the Christmas trees are brighten the house
When the stockings are overflowing under the tree
When everyone's face is glowing to open the gifts
My heart is filled with joy
When the cities are decorated with lights
When the snow flakes are softly falling on my head
When my family dance and walk around streets
When our friends visit our home for dinner
My heart is filled with joy
This blessed Christmas joy within our hearts
and celebrate throughout the world
to observe the birth of Christ

The Angels Sang!

Peace on earth, good will towards men.

*"The Word became flesh
and dwelt among us." Jn. 1:14*

The Word, Jesus the Christ, put away
the joys of heaven,
the pleasures of heaven, and
the glories of heaven.

He came to the earth
so that all who believed in Him
could be children of God,
could have an Advocate with the Father,
could have a Savior and a Friend,
could have life more abundant, and
could have eternal life.

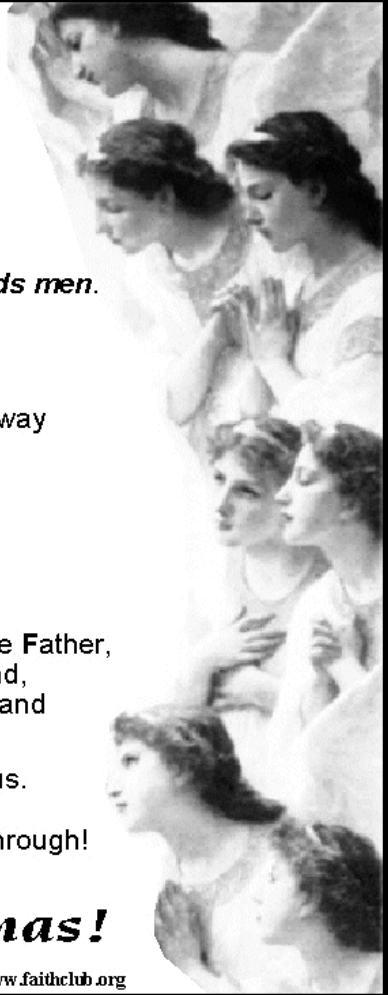
For the Son of God dwelt among us.
He came for you!
He knows what you are going through!
He cares for you!

Merry Christmas!

Poem by Ken Pilcher, Jr. © All Rights Reserved/www.faithclub.org

*Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.
The good you do for others is good you do yourself...
~Norman Wesley Brooks, "Let Every Day Be Christmas," 1976*

I sometimes think we expect too much of Christmas Day. We try to crowd into it the long arrears of kindness and humanity of the whole year. As for me, I like to take my Christmas a little at a time, all through the year. And thus I drift along into the holidays - let them overtake me unexpectedly - waking up some fine morning and suddenly saying to myself: "Why, this is Christmas Day!" ~David Grayson



Parish Records:

Attendance:

Oct. 23 146
Oct. 30 217
Nov. 6 185
Nov. 13 179
Nov. 20 156

Greeters:

Dec. 4 – Tim & Tonya Miller
Dec.11 & 18 – Herman & Nancy Tilly
Dec. 25 & Jan. 1 – Bruce & Terri Miller

Ushers: Kevin & Linda Hammelman

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Dec. 4 Brenda Maddox/Ashley Durall
 11 Theresia Barrett/Jesse Organ
 18 Virginia Koenig/Ramona Hammelman
 25 Happy Birthday Jesus! See you all at 6:30 am service

Children's Church:

Dec. 4 Bonnie Organ/Chris Horst
 11 Lenora McCrary/Tracey Karhe/Kelci Anderson
 18 Jo Anne Brocksmith/Chris Horst
 25

December birthdays:

Dec. 3 Ruth Brocksmith (Happy 88th)
 20 Jean Perry (Happy 86th)

Chimes news will be due on December 19th.

Need a great last minute Christmas gift idea?
Preschool still has a few cook books left, and they could even be wrapped with enough notice. Just \$10.00 each!

*There has been only one Christmas - the rest are anniversaries.
~W.J. Cameron*

*May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through!
~Author Unknown*

December 2011

Bethel
Chimes

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Freelandville, Indiana

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Edwardsport IN 47528

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Address Service Requested

Dated Material - please deliver by Dec. 3