

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

Bethel Christian Preschool (812) 328-6038

Pastor Mike DeCoursey's office hours-

Weekdays: 9am-2pm

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

Pastor Shayne Spurgeon Cell (812) 430-0994

Council members-

Kevin Hammelman, President John Koenig, Vice President

Mary Ann Miller, Secretary Herman Tilly, Treasurer

Rowe Sargent Gordon Clinkenbeard Scott Page

Ed Hagemeyer John Spanger

FROM THE PASTORS STUDY-

With Thanksgiving behind us and with Christmas before us now may be the time to stop, take a deep breath and reflect on the season. In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Paul instructs us to give thanks in everything as this is the will of God. Have we done this? With all of life's busyness, sometimes we find ourselves overwhelmed by stuff, stuff that robs us of our time, our peace, etc. Now is the time to reflect on the goodness of God as we look forward to celebrating the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ.

As we begin the season of Advent, let us take time to escaped the distractions of the world for awhile and reflect on all the Lord has provided for us through His Son. Let us make this Christmas season more than things, instead let us make Jesus the reason for the season.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas.

In His service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:16

Sunday School

Well doesn't time just fly right by! It's December and what an amazing time of the year.

The birthday of our dear Savior is just right around the corner! We'll put up the trees along with the decorations on Monday December 3rd at 6:30pm, so come on out and lend a hand, or just come out and enjoy the fun of watching some of our men climbing the ladders to put an ornament in just the right spot! (Until the women folk tell us to move it over just a bit :)) We'll have some refreshments in the social room too.

A big THANKYOU to Terri Miller for jumping back in to be our assistant superintendent!! She is truly a wonderful lady.

Looks like we'll have our children's Christmas program on Sunday, December 18th in the evening (exact time will be announced).

The warmth of our Savior's love is free for the taking, open your arms and welcome him in.

With Christian Love,
Randy Hammelman, Superintendent

Preschool

In my previous newsletter, the preschoolers were getting ready for our annual Harvest Party complete with a trip to visit the Freelandville Community Home. As always, we had a wonderful day with lots of fun costumes and songs to sing for the residents. Each year I hear how much this trip is appreciated. The residents so enjoy the presence of these little ones and seeing them share their love of Jesus! Then it was back to Preschool where the parents had planned a fantastic party – we had a great time!! Lots of fun crafts, games and yummy snacks made for a wonderful day!

It was also a big month as we had our first Superheroes of Kindness mission. We decided to try to help Bethel reach their goal of 100 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. The kid's first mission was to look for small acts of kindness they could do at home or school as well as small chores to help out around their home. We had lots of help from parents too as they took the time to write each act down on a paper heart to send back in to preschool where their

child could exchange it for a quarter to help with our mission. I *loved* reading the hearts to the class and then watching them trade their hearts for quarters to drop into our jar of savings for the field trip to the new Dollar General Market that we had planned. They have such kind hearts and they just beamed as they heard their heart being read and they placed their quarters in the jar! Our goal was to raise enough money to fill 4 shoeboxes – a boy and a girl box for the morning and afternoon classes. We had so many hearts brought in and some children even asked for more hearts to fill! The Sunday before our field trip I shared with the congregation what we were planning and offered to fill a shoebox for anyone that would like. I was sincerely gratified at the response that was shown. So on that following Friday, with the quarters they had earned and donations from our Bethel family we were thrilled to put on our capes and load into the church van ready to fill boxes full of Christmas surprises for children just like us who didn't even have some of the most basic items we sometimes find ourselves taking for granted. We had lots of mommies, some daddies, and a couple of grandmas, an aunt and even Miss Jennifer come along for our first field trip. What a day it was! I didn't think I would hear "Are we there yet?!" on a trip to Bicknell, but once one asked, they all wanted to know. They are so funny and we had a great day – I don't even know how to explain the feeling as I watched these children and parents work together to try to get the very most of their money so that they could share with others. Pictures of our trip are displayed in the preschool hallway if you would like to get a glimpse of our day! Also, thank you so much to the parents who helped separate and box the items. I would have been putting shoeboxes together all weekend!! Also, I am thankful for the families who were able to join us for the shoebox dedication and worship service on Sunday. The kids did a great job helping carry all of our shoeboxes in and then singing for the congregation. I really don't know where to start in thanking everyone for your help with our first big mission. We couldn't have done it without you!! Your prayers, words of kindness, and donations meant so much to our Preschool. Our original goal was to make a boy and girl shoebox from each class – we ended up with **25** shoeboxes!! Wow!! ☺ We had donations from church members, parents and grandparents! I definitely count this as a successful mission of kindness for our little superheroes!! Gooooo Kindness!

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! 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 Lenora (McCrary) and the moms and grandmas 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 7. 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 couldn't do it without you!!

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



Fall Blessings were all around this month. We had a great time visiting the nursing home. The kids did a wonderful job and several residents just smiled the whole time we were singing. We spent a lot of time talking about being thankful and how blessed we really. We were thankful for our homes, family, chocolate milk and Jesus. One little boy couldn't come up with one thing he thought was truly a gift from God, until we mentioned cheese pizza then he rattled off that he was thankful for 12 other food items and then his list just kept growing as class went on. If finally decided he was thankful for "a lot or a bunch of stuff".

We had a great lesson on Daniel and how he prayed when he was with the lions. We learned that is was only God who could have saved him from those noisy, hungry animals. We learned we should always pray if we are scared or if we are having fun.

We got to go to cooking school in the kitchen for our **dandy dirt dessert**. We worked on listening, following directions and waiting our turn. When our project was finished, I heard from one little boy that he was excited to go home and finally get to eat dirt (not sure if that was something he had wanted to do at home for a long time and his parents would not give in or what).

Letter G taught us about the giant named Goliath. We learned that we can accomplish anything we want, even if we are small. When we face our giant problems we turn to God and He makes everything better. We had a lesson on Jesus living in our hearts and how it shows when we do good things for others. For letter i, we were thankful for all the colors (not flavors) of ice cream that God has given us. We talked about Indians and their first Thanksgiving.

JESUS--the best gift of all was a great lesson. We covered a J with jewels that were "shiny and could be seen anywhere". We also talked about Jonah for the letter J. We know that Jonah was scared when he was in the belly of a whale, but God was with him and listening to him pray.

We have been working hard on coloring, cutting, gluing, painting and whatever else we find to do. We got out play dough and made great things using our imaginations. I had food on one end of the table and silly snakes on the other. The kids are so fun to watch and listen to.

We are working hard on learning our Christmas songs so we can share the news about the greatest gift of all--JESUS--December 7 at 7pm. Please come and join us!!

We celebrated Thanksgiving Dinner, but not before we did many preparations. We had to wash the carrots, celery, grapes. We made turkey and cheese roll-ups. (You know how it is to spend all day in the kitchen.) Then we sat down to make our butter with a lesson on where it comes from. I asked the kids, "where does milk come from," and at least 3 said a cow and nobody said the grocery store (not what I was expecting, but it tied right into the lesson). Then we took "thick milk" (heavy whipping cream) and shook it in glass jars. Our end product was homemade butter. Some of the kids would have eaten the whole jar if allowed, while others would have not tried it for nothing. Those that used it on our bread thought it was great. We enjoyed a sit down dinner as we were served by the adults. Many thanks to all who volunteered. We are truly blessed and lots to be thankful for. One blessing was the 60° weather that allowed us to play outside for a while.

May Jesus shine this Holiday Season!!!
Mrs. Durall

Mission Committee

Merry Christmas to all from the Mission Committee. Thank you for sharing God's love through your generous support of the Shoe Box Ministry. In case you haven't heard, we filled 108 shoe boxes! Thank you for the filled boxes and money for postage.

Don't forget to place a new toy in the Toys for Tots box in our vestibule.

Let us continue to share God's Good News of Jesus throughout this Christmas season.

Thank You

Our family would like to express its appreciation for the prayers, cards, and thoughts extended to our mother and grandmother during the past year and since her surgery. A special thank you also is give to Bethel Guild for the lap blanket.

The Family of Marge Horst

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2012

December – (Christmas) – Faithful Footprints

Luke's Birth Narrative

How often have you heard the beautiful story that leads up to the birth of Jesus in Luke's Gospel? How well do you remember the details?

1. "In the days of Herod, king of _____."
2. Zechariah belonged to the priestly division of _____.
3. Zechariah's wife was descended from _____.
4. Zechariah's wife's name was _____.
5. Zechariah was chosen to enter the temple by _____.
6. People prayed outside the temple at the hour of _____.
7. An angel told Zechariah his son would be like _____.
8. The angel who appeared to Zechariah was named _____.
9. Zechariah's wife "hid herself" for _____ months.
10. The "sign" given to Zechariah was that he would be unable to _____.

Answers:

(All references are found in Luke 1.)

1. Judea, v. 5
2. Abijah, v. 5
3. Aaron, v. 5
4. Elizabeth, v. 5
5. lot, v. 9
6. incense, v. 10
7. Elijah, v. 13, 17
8. Gabriel, v. 19
9. five, v. 24
10. speak, v. 20

GUILD

Bethel Guild will have its Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 5th at 11:30, with a covered dish luncheon. Table service, tea and coffee will be furnished. Our Christmas program leaders are Dorothy Spanger and Sharon Kahre.

Please have your cookies at Church by 9:30 am on Wednesday morning as we will make up our cheer plates before the luncheon.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas – and remember, Jesus is the reason for the season.

Lill Clinkenbeard

Bethel Church Council Minutes

November 12, 2012

Youth Pastor's Report: Pastor Shayne stated that he would like to recruit four or five van drivers to assist with picking up youth in the community and transporting them to youth meetings on Wednesday evenings, beginning at 5:30 and then also returning them home around 8:00. John Spanger is in the process of contacting potential drivers. Pastor Shayne also reported that the High School Evangelism team is getting organized. Upcoming youth events include a Progressive Dinner in December and attending the Winter Jam in Evansville.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mike shared his monthly report, which included hospital and home visits, holding counseling sessions, leading Bible Study, and teaching Confirmation classes on Sunday mornings with six future confirmands. Pew communion will be celebrated December 2, the first day of Advent, and Pastor Mike will post a sign-up sheet in Bethel Hall for readers who are interested in participating in the Sunday morning services during that season. The Dave Ramsey course will be taught by Matt and Jenny Clinkenbeard in January and will be offered to the North Knox area.

Secretary's Report: It was approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: It was approved as written. These mission allocations were made: Knox County Habitat for Humanity, \$500; North Knox Social Ministries, \$500; Emergency Distress Fund, \$646.40 (Materials for a ramp built by the Mustard Seed SS Class for Jake Kail); and, Nurses' Fund, \$1,000.

Deacon's Report: The average attendance for October Sundays was 133, and the monthly offering was \$14,158.00. October income included: Atlas Gas, \$317.74; Facility Use, \$125; General Misc. Fund, \$25.76 (Rural King gift for submitted purchase receipts.); Interest Income, \$371.53; Preschool, \$3,670.39; Strate 40 Acres, \$33,855.37; Youth, \$50; Memorial Fund, \$110; and Cemetery Fund, \$250.

Elder's Report: Pastoral and elder visits will be scheduled on an as needed basis.

Buildings and Grounds: It was reported that the washer in the custodian's house has been replaced and the ice maker was repaired. There are several bulbs that need to be replaced in the sanctuary, which will be done when the tall ladders are in place for decorating the Christmas trees. Gord Clinkenbeard will check to see if the damaged original church pew in the upstairs hallway can be repaired, and it was shared that the flooring in the upstairs men's

bathroom has been installed with the molding being added around Thanksgiving. The deacons will meet Saturday, November 17, to remove the damaged tree in the church grove.

Old Business: The deacons are continuing to investigate the replacement of the flooring in the kitchen. Custodial responsibilities have been explained to Brooke Boyles, the interim custodian for Ebony Chancellor-Grimm when she is on maternity leave from December 1 and until approximately the middle of January.

New Business: Christmas trees will need to be in place and decorated by December 7 due to the preschool program being held that evening. Kevin Hammelman will check with Sunday School superintendent Randy Hammelman for decorating assignments and times. It was approved that Pastor Shayne's and Bill Brocksmith's names will both be on the signature card for the Youth's checking account. Ed Hagemeyer and Deb Telligman will be asked to chair the nominating committee to secure nominees for new Bethel Council members, and Kevin will select two other committee members. Council members volunteered to find replacement committee members for those whose terms expire in January.

Coming Events:

December 2 – Communion, First Day of Advent

December 7 – Preschool Christmas Program

December 16 – Sunday School Christmas Program

December 25 – Christmas Service (6:30 AM)

A total of \$1936.00 was collected for Helping His Hands to aid in assistance for victims of Hurricane Sandy.



Shut-ins

Freelandville Community Home

P. O. Box 288

Freelandville, IN 47535

Gladys Brocksmith

Marilyn Johanningsmeier

John Richter

Ruth Sager

KCARC

2525 N. Sixth St.

Vincennes, IN 47591

Gary Hammelman

Lodge of the Wabash

723 Ramsey Road

Vincennes, IN 47591

Harold Wagner

Those living on their own or away:

Janice Courter – 2598 Hwy 231, Loogootee, IN 47553

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

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

Helen & 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.



Parish Records:

Paul and Amy Farmer welcomed baby Aubrey Grace on Monday, October 22nd. She weighed 7 lbs, 15 oz. and is 20 inches long. She is also welcomed by big brother, Braxton. Bethel grandparents are Mike and Pam Loheider and great-grandparents are Wayne and Vera Dunkerly.

Attendance:

Oct. 21 130
Oct. 28 128
Nov. 4 170
Nov. 11 186
Nov. 18 165

Greeters:

Dec. 2 – Rowe & Maridell Sargent
Dec. 9 & 16 – John & Marilyn Koenig
Dec. 23 and 30 – Ernie & Monica Russell

Ushers: Frank & Lenora McCrary

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Dec. 2 Theresia Barrett/Bridget Brocksmith
 9 Tiffany Granderson/Brenda Maddox
 16 Stacy Page/Tracy Kahre
 23 Debbie Telligman/Virginia Koenig
 30 Beth Durall/Jesse Organ

Children's Church:

Dec. 2 Bonnie Organ/Hallie Durall/Jesse Organ
 9 Cally Miller/Kelci Anderson
 16 Micah Morgan/Chris Horst
 23 Brenda Maddox/Nancy Tilly
 30

December birthdays:

3 Ruth Brocksmith (89)

Chimes news will be due on December 17th.

December 2012

Bethel
Chimes

Bethel Church
Freelandville, Indiana

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Non-Profit Organization
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Freelandville, Indiana
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Address Service Requested
Dated Material - please deliver by December 1