

Church Office Hours-

Weekdays: 8:30 am-2:30 pm

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

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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

Council members-

John Koenig, President

Gordon Clinkenbeard, Vice President

Mary Ann Miller, Secretary

Dan Kixmiller, Treasurer

Scott Page

Bill Resler

Garland Richter

Rowe Sargent

John Spanger

FROM THE PASTORS STUDY

What are you thankful for? With the Thanksgiving holiday fast approaching, we need to take time and reflect on what we have to be thankful for. The world bombards us with advertisements concerning the season, almost to the point that if we are not careful, we lose the true meaning of the holiday. Thanksgiving must be more than food, football, and now Thanksgiving shopping in what is now being called "Black Thursday".

Take time this year to explore the scriptures regarding what should be true Thanksgiving to the believer. We have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus and we need to be thankful every day for that fact. More reflection on the goodness of God and less food and entertainment is the proper way to have a successful holiday this Thanksgiving.

In His Service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:16
Colossians 3:23, 24

MISSIONS

At the time of this writing everyone is busy shopping to fill shoeboxes for our Operation Christmas Child project. Thanks to those of you who took the time to fill the boxes and those who contributed money to the Mission Committee to shop. We collected over \$400. Remember to pray for the children who will be receiving these boxes that they will receive the greatest gift of all – salvation through Jesus Christ. Also pray for volunteers at the distribution centers, and safety for those delivering boxes in parts of the world where there is hostility to Christians.

We hope you have enjoyed the” shoebox” stories that have been in the bulletins. The book that these stories came out of and the history behind Operation Christmas Child will be placed in the library so you may check it out and read it.

Gal 6:9 *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up*

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2013

December – (Christmas) – Mission Committee



THANK YOU'S

We would like to thank all of you for your prayers, calls, and encouraging notes and cards through the years. These things meant so much to her. Even though she couldn't get out much, she always wanted to know what was going on in your lives. To her, you were more than her lifelong friends and former bank customers; you were her dear church family. On her last birthday, just a few days before her death, she opened your cards, enjoying each one of them. Your caring gestures helped make her life easier.

Although she had lots of physical problems to complain about, she rarely mentioned them. These verses from Psalm 13:5-6 sums up the way she viewed her life: "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me."

Your presences at the visitation and funeral helped ease the pain of our loss. We would also like to thank all of those who prepared and served the meal after her funeral, those who sent sympathy cards, and those who made donations in her name. We appreciate your making this difficult time a bit easier.

Sincerely,

The family of Helen Stoelting

(Wendell Stoelting; Beverly and Mike Burch and daughters, Heidi, Haley, and Mikayla; and Wendy and Dan Gettelfinger, April and Andy)

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2013

December – (Christmas) – Mission Committee

GUILD

Bethel Women's Guild will meet Wednesday, December 4 at noon for their Christmas meeting. We'll have a covered dish lunch with table service provided. Bring cookies for the Christmas Cheer plates by 9:30. Also, bring canned goods for North Knox Social Ministries. The afternoon program leaders are Doris Brocksmith and Nancy Tilly.

Lill Clinkenbeard

Sunday School News

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
Colossians 3:17

The crisp days of fall are upon us, the daylight hours are getting shorter. Let us take the extra time we have indoors to reflect on the goodness of our Lord and Savior and give thanks for all that he has given to us. He truly blesses us each and every day! November has really flown by and December is upon us. We have a busy month of activities coming up in preparations for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

We'll start by selecting our Christmas trees on the 30th of November with decoration of the trees and sanctuary sometime to follow. The time for decorations will be announced soon.

Our Sunday School Christmas program will be on Dec. 15th at 7pm in the church sanctuary. There will be a dinner beforehand starting at 5:30, sponsored by the youth. Don't forget to circle this date on your calendar! Practice times as of now will be Sunday evening 5:30-6:30 on the 8th of December, this will take the place of regular scheduled youth, and then again on Saturday Dec. 14th from 10am-11am.

If you cannot make both, no worries we'll have a spot for you, just come! Any questions with the program, contact someone in the Faithful Families class.

Also, the Faithful Families class invites you to come out Dec. 22nd anytime between 6-8pm and visit a LIVE Nativity scene put on by our class. More details to follow.

Wow, that's a bunch right? Let's celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and show God our loving Christian hearts by coming out in support of our church activities.

With Love,
Randy Hammelman
SS Supt.

PRESCHOOL

I am amazed that the final month of 2013 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. 😊

The children had fun dressing up for our visit to the Freelandville Community Home and Harvest Parties that had been planned by their parents. The kids all looked so cute in their costumes – how fun to have a day like that. They did a wonderful job singing and were so well-behaved. I had many nice compliments on them! They also had a great time at the parties with all the 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.

We read the wonderful book, "Leaf Man" by Lois Ehlert. The kids loved the illustrations in the book as we journeyed with the Leaf Man. We decided to take our own nature walk and collect leaves and other items from nature to make our own leaf rubbings (which the kids thought was magic 😊) and leaf art. I hope you have had a chance to see the leaf art hanging in the preschool hallway.

I am looking forward to our Thanksgiving meal we will be having in each class. We have 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! For our meal, the children will be helping prepare the food and tables in order to get ready for this day of thanks. They are very excited about this! We will all have to work together just like the Pilgrims and Indians did.

We are looking forward to the upcoming Little Elves workshop. Also, we have been busy working to get ready for the Christmas Program to be held on the evening of December 6. We are learning new songs and getting excited about this special evening! The kids love the songs and quite often start humming or singing them while working at the tables or during snacks. I have to say that once one of them gets going it's not long before many more join in. Oh, what a time we have! 😊

Love,
Mrs. Lemberg



It is hard to believe that I am writing the December Chimes notes already!! We have had many good discussions on Thanksgiving and why we should always be so thankful. I heard many great responses when I ask the kids the things they were most thankful for. Food and family were the top of many lists. Pets and God were also mentioned a lot. One little boy had nothing to say for a long time. I kept asking questions like what was his favorite pet, who was in his family, or what toy did he love to play with. He couldn't answer until I asked him his favorite thing to eat, then he gave me a list of about 12 things that he thought I was going to go fix for him:-)

Letter G was a fun week. We had a lesson on a giant named Goliath (wish you could hear how we all say his name) and how God was with David when he fought the battle. We know God doesn't want us to fight and hopefully we will never encounter something 9 feet tall, but whatever comes our way, God is with us and will guide us through. We played games in the social room and then the next day, one little girl ask if we could go back to the fun room.

Our hands and heart belong to God was our lesson on letter H. We also celebrated our Harvest Party and had lots of fun activities. We also visited the residents at the Freelandville Community Home. We loved singing and parading around for them in our costumes. A big thanks to the staff for having us come!

Letter I was a lot of screaming for ice cream--you know how it goes. I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. We made a great ice cream craft where we got to paint and then had to color. Most of the kids want to paint everyday at preschool and for most of them coloring is their least favorite activity. Some days I hear a lot of "I can't do that," or "I don't want to do that". However, we made it through and our projects looked good enough to eat. We had a lesson on the Indians and there first Thanksgiving and we made our headbands for our big feast coming up. The headbands were very shiny as we used lots and lots of glitter glue--some took days to dry.

We love to go to the kitchen for cooking school. Cooking for us is usually no heat involved from the stove or oven. We got to go use

icing for our glue to hold our edible turkeys together. We had snacks before we went to cooking school and were instructed not to eat too much icing before our craft was finished. One preschooler insisted that he was not eating the icing as he licked the knife clean as if it had gone through the washing machine and then tried licking the table too.

"Jonah and the Big Whale" is always a great day with letter J. We try to think and imagine what it would be like to live in the belly of the whale. The kids replied dark, boring, cold, and smelly. Then 15-20 minutes later during song time, one little boy shouts "but what would I eat." After further discussion, I realized he was still thinking about the belly of the whale. We also learned that JESUS is the best J word will we ever know. The kids loved covering the letter J with lots of jewels. Jumping games made me tired that week, but the kids thought it was super.

In our talks about Thanksgiving lessons, I have also had to introduce our Christmas program songs since the program is one week after Thanksgiving. One day as we were supposed to be singing, one little boy wanted to know what the Indians did when they went to the first Christmas. I guess that was a good question since we had talked about both of the special days. I tried to separate the two days, but very hard to do when you have to get so much information to them in a short amount of time. I am thankful to know they do really listen to what I say if it is all the details are put together in one sentence. Our Christmas program will be December 6 at 7 p.m. Please join us as we share the story of the special baby--Jesus.

We were shocked and exited when we went to play and discovered our area had "grown bigger". We love our new area to play chase and crocodile. Thank you so much! We will definitely get lots of good use of the play ground area.

We are full of energy and try to keep very busy at preschool. We are working daily on recognizing our name, our shapes, colors, listening skills, and all those other fun activities 3-4 year olds are supposed to be doing. I have heard many great prayers lately, and

several of the kids are volunteering now. I look forward to the many Christmas stories, crafts, and activities we will squeeze in during December. Have a blessed Christmas!!

Mrs. Durall

Bethel Church Council Minutes November 11, 2013

Pastor Mike's Report: Pastor Mike's report included hospital, home, and nursing home visits, leading a Sunday service at the Freelandville Community Home, planning and attending the "Fifth Quarter" area youth event following the final home football game, planning and attending youth meetings, and conducting counseling sessions. He shared that the youth are planning a free all church "Thank You" dinner for Sunday, December 15, at 5:30.

Secretary's Report: It was approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: It was approved as written. The following mission allocations were made: NK Social Ministries, \$500 and Nurses' Fund, \$1,000.

Deacons' Report: The average attendance for October was 132, and the offering was \$16,115.78. October income included: Atlas Gas, \$456.59; Facility Use, \$25.00; Preschool, \$3,934.84; Cemetery Fund, \$35.00; Cemetery Trust Fund, \$693.09, and Memorial Fund, \$160.00.

Buildings and Grounds: It was reported that the drinking fountain in the preschool area has been replaced. Grid strips have been placed on the Bethel Hall exterior steps to prevent slipping when they are wet and will be added to the front steps if these adhere and prove to be helpful. The malfunctioning dusk to dawn light in the back of the church will be investigated.

Elders' Report: Due to the dire food need of the NK Social Ministries, it was decided to hold an extra food drive Sundays, November 18 and 25. Visits by Pastor Mike and elders will be scheduled on an as needed basis until after the holidays. To facilitate the use of the "Hands and Feet of Jesus" program, a sign-up sheet for those willing to assist with this mission project will be placed on the Bethel Hall bulletin board.

Old Business: The Youth Pastor Search Committee is in the process of reviewing applications and resumes of applicants as they are received. Pastor Mike is seeing if the leaking silver communion chalice can be repaired and will purchase a replacement if necessary. Bids for replacing the rest of the windows in the church have been requested and will be reviewed once they have been received. Those looking for and cutting Christmas trees will meet at the church on Saturday, November 30, at 8:00 AM so they can be decorated the following week. Scott Page shared that the Faithful Families SS Class will have a live nativity scene the weekend prior to Christmas.

New Business: Church members to assist Kevin Hammelman and Ed Hagemeyer on the nominating committee for replacement council members were appointed. A work day in the church is planned for Saturday, November 23, at 1:00 to clean out storage areas and remove unused items. Needed repairs on the Strate 40 acres were discussed. It was shared that the new fence surrounding the preschool play area has been installed.

Coming Events:

December 1 – Advent pew communion
December 6 – Preschool Christmas program
December 15 – Youth "Thank You" dinner for the congregation, 5:30 pm

Memorial Fund:

*In memory of Joan Richter: (Sunday School Dept.)
Mrs. Juanita Nolting*

*In memory of Roy Volle:
Dallas and Shirley Miller*

*In memory of Frederick M. McCord (who passed away 11/22/1973):
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hemme*

Cities

It's been said that the Bible story "begins in a garden and ends in a city." A number of cities mentioned in Scripture have symbolic names. Can you give the proper name? Hint: one appears more than once.

1. The City of David _____
2. The Cities of the Plain _____
3. The City of Truth _____
4. The Holy City _____
5. Cities of Refuge (6, name 2) _____
6. The Great City _____
7. The City of Palm Trees _____
8. The City of Waters _____

Answers:

1. Jerusalem (Zion) 2 Samuel 5:5, 7, 9
2. Sodom and Gomorrah, Genesis 13:10, 12
3. Jerusalem, Zechariah 8:3
4. New Jerusalem, Revelation 21:2
5. Bezer, Ramoth, Golan, Kadesh, Shechem, Kiritharba (Hebron), Numbers 35:6, Joshua 20:7-8
6. Babylon, Revelation 16:19
7. Jericho, 2 Chronicles 28:15
8. Rabbah, 2 Samuel 12:27

Parish Records:

Attendance:

Oct. 13	153
Oct. 20	134
Oct. 27	130
Nov. 3	164
Nov. 10	154
Nov. 17	150

Greeters:

Dec. 1	– Collin and Amy Tiek
Dec. 8 & 15	– Rowe & Maridell Sargent
Dec. 22 & 29	– John & Marilyn Koenig

Ushers: Randy & Theresia Barrett

Nursery (Sunday School):

Dec. 1	Lana Dike/Mary Ann Miller
8	Cheryl Hagemeyer/ Kate Hammelman
15	Krista Telligman/Nancy Rinsch
22	Diane Telligman/Carole Albrecht
29	Tambria Leonard/Lisa Richter

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Dec. 1	Brianna Ainsworth/Debbie Telligman
8	Ramona and Rylee Hammelman
15	Tracey and Hailley Kahre
22	Hallie and Ashley Durall
29	Cally Miller/Brenda Maddox

Children's Church:

Dec. 1	Bonnie Organ/Jesse Organ/Hallie Durall
8	Cally Miller/Liberty Lemberg
15	Micah Morgan/Cheryl Hagemeyer/Krista Telligman
22	Brenda Maddox/Jenni Clinkenbeard
29	No Children's Church

December birthdays:

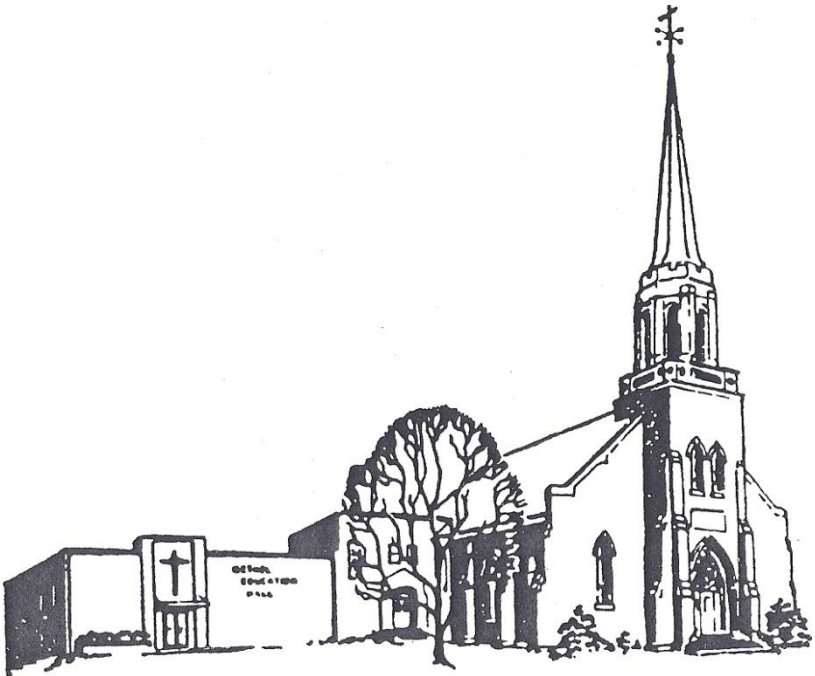
Dec. 3	Ruth Brocksmith (90 th)
30	Jack Brouhard (80 th)

Chimes news will be due on December 16th.

December 2013

Bethel

Chimes



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Address Service Requested
Dated Material - please deliver by December 1