

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

Council members-

Gordon Clinkenbeard, President

Bill Resler, Vice President

Mary Ann Miller, Secretary

Dan Kixmiller, Treasurer

Joe Koenig

Garland Richter

Rowe Sargent

John Spanger

FROM THE PASTORS STUDY

What we do with the message of Jesus Christ is a question that believers must answer every day. There cannot be a onetime answer, but rather we must allow ourselves to be confronted with this question daily. We read from James 4:14, **“Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”** James is telling the reader that life as we know on earth is just for a little while, while our life in Christ stands for all eternity and it is the duty of the believer to wring the most out of that life that is possible. In other words, the gospel is too important to be put off until a better time, but must be attended to today. What is God calling you to do for His Kingdom and what are you doing to answer that call? God is calling for His people to step out in faith and serve Him as never before. Are you willing to answer the call?

In His Service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:16

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2014

March/April/May (Spring) – Faithful Footprints

June – Bible School

July/August – Mustard Seed

September – Preschool

October/November – Mission Committee

December – (Christmas) – Christian Partners

GUILD

We had a great group of ladies at our April meeting. Nancy Tilly gave an inspirational talk on Noah's wife. What a courageous lady! Delicious refreshments were served by Sharon Kahre and Terri Miller.

Our Annual Lenten Breakfast was enjoyed by over 100 ladies plus 2 men. Thanks to all who helped and came. We learned a lot about the 3 Nails Project in Knox County from our speaker, Tammy Morrison. What a blessed joy the morning was.

Our May meeting will be May 7 with a salad luncheon at 11:30. Please bring a salad, table service and drinks will be provided. The program will be the afternoon preschoolers. We should also bring bar soap for NKSM. See you in May!

A reminder: We have several good books to read in our Guild Room and Bethel Library for everyone. Also, quilters are always welcome on Tuesday afternoons. If you want to learn to quilt, now's the time.

Lill Clinkenbeard

Missions

Bethel Mission Committee (*Check out these good mission books*)
The Bethel Mustard Seed class has recently completed a study of Kyle Idleman's book, "*Not a fan.*" The thesis of this book is that there is two essential parts to becoming a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. First one must become a believer as charged by the familiar words and promises of John 3:16. Unfortunately this is as far as many Christians go. Kyle also argues that as followers we must take the second step as charged by Luke 9:23, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Kyle says that, "when Jesus says 'come after' he's describing a passionate pursuit of some you love." I have long been fond of the phrase, "find God at work and join him there." It seems only recently have I begun to grasp the magnitude and the joy of this commitment.

With this new insight in mind, I would like to share two books that I have read over the next two issues of *Bethel Chimes* that have encouraged my heart to be bold in my efforts to say yes to Jesus. Jesus does not promise that this journey will be easy, but He does assure us that through the Holy Spirit we will be provided with everything we need.

This month it is my privilege to tell you a little bit about the book, "*I Heard Their Cry*" by Ray and Virginia Canfield. The Friend's Church of California called Ray and Virginia to the mission field in 1967. Both Ray and Virginia were responding to God's call made to them while attending church camp during their high school years. This call lead them to settle among the Chorti, a small Mayan tribe, living in isolation on the step, eroded mountainsides of eastern Guatemala. Ray went as an agricultural specialist and Virginia as a nurse. Ray and Virginia had two small children before arriving in country and had another son after arriving in country. As they adapted to their new home, Ray and Virginia were blessed to be tutored by and learn from an elderly missionary couple, Homer and Evelyn Sharpless. After assessing the near starvation faced by the Chorti from the overcrowding of this unproductive land Ray and Virginia describe in fascinating detail how the Holy Spirit lead them with the guidance of Homer and Evelyn to move 45 Chorti families and establish as new and sustainable village on the Guatemalan

coastal plain more than 100 miles away from the old tribe. This village was found on Christian principles developed from studying the scriptures and through constant prayer. Virginia shares the process of learning jungle medicine and evolving into a nurse practitioner and the first line provider in this primitive jungle setting. Ray shares the trials and tribulations of finding new crops, new production methods and new animals that would thrive in the jungle. Underlying this whole account is the theme that while saying yes to Jesus does require more than one ever imagines, the peace and joy from accepting His call truly is beyond measure.

I must share that Terri and I are privileged to have special insight to this story, as Virginia Canfield is Terri's sister. We were able to visit with them at this new village called, El Florito, in December of 1984. We were with them as they emailed the final copy of this book in February of this year. So, while Terri and I may be biased about "*I Heard Their Cry*," we have shared early copies with Maridell Sargent and Dale Tiek who has found this to be a fascinating read. Terri has paperback copies available for \$22.95 or you can get E-books from WestBow Press a Division of Thomas Nelson and Zondervan or Amazon for approximately \$9.00. There will also be copies for sale in the church office. This is a great read that will challenge your notion of what it takes to answer God's call. Next month I will have for you another great read of a similar nature entitled, "*Kisses from Katie*." Both of the books in this article have brought me to tears as I began to understand the consuming nature of God's call. However, this call does not have to be in Guatemala or Uganda. It can be anywhere. It has to do more with the heart than the location. It has to do more with submission than planning. Terri and I recently visited Sunshine Acres Children's Home whose co-founder Vera Dingman's often repeated prayer said it best:

*"Dear Lord, I do not ask that thou should give
me some high work of thine; some noble calling
or some wondrous task.*

*Give me a little hand to hold in mine,
Give me a little child to point the way,
over the strange sweet path that leads to thee.*

*Give me a little voice to teach to pray:
Give me two shining eyes Thy face to see.*

*The only crown I ask, dear Lord to wear is this:
That I may teach a little child.
I do not ask that I shall stand among the wise or great;
I only ask that softly, hand-in-hand, a child and I might enter the
gate.”*

*God Bless
Bruce Miller*

Mission Committee Notes

The Mission Committee met on Sunday, April 4th. We talked about ways that we as a church can reach out to people in our church, in our community and in the world. We know that Jesus has called us to go and to do in His name.

Some of the ideas we are looking into are: setting up a resource directory for people with needs in our community; participating in a “Back-pack project” in a local school; providing date/movie nights for young couples; offering an evening of relaxation for young mothers; building new sidewalks for the House of Light Orphanage in the Dominican Republic.... There are so many needs all around us. Obviously, we cannot meet every need so we are praying about what God is calling us to do. Please pray that He will speak and give us a clear vision. There will be plenty of opportunities for you to become involved!

We will be adding a prayer request area in our chapel to provide a place where people can make their requests known and others can see the request and pray. We will let you know when this is available.

Teresa of Avila once said “Christ has no body on earth but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ’s compassion for the world is to look out; yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and yours are the hand with which He is to bless us now.” We are praying that Bethel will truly be the hands and feet of Jesus wherever He leads us. It is exciting to think of serving our great God!

Members of the committee are: Gord & Janet Clinkenbeard, Matt & Tiffany Granderson, Bruce & Terri Miller, Rowe & Maridell Sargent, Mark & Diane Telligman and Dale & Jane Tiek.

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Bob Wampler:

Carl and Donna Apple

Loretta England

Randy Hammelman family

Carolyn Jones

Don and Judy Kerzan

Rowe and Maridell Sargent

S. E. Schleiecher

Tim and Kim Wampler

PRESCHOOL

It is hard to believe that I am already writing the May newsletter! This has been an amazing first year for me as a teacher at Bethel Preschool and look forward to our final month that is sure to be filled with many more wonderful moments.

We spent lots of time this month reading stories, talking, and learning about Easter. We read several stories about Easter and talked about when Jesus came to Jerusalem. We talked about the significance of Palm Sunday and how the people were so happy to see Jesus that they waved palm branches and laid their cloaks down for his donkey to walk upon as they passed by. The children made 'stained glass' crosses to hang on the big window door leading to Bethel's education hall and also palm branches for the preschool hallway. We are so thankful for Jesus' resurrection and that He is alive in each one of us!!

Thank you to our Prayer Partners for the special Easter gift for each of the children. They were so excited to receive them! We had wonderful Easter parties planned by the parents for both classes complete with Easter stories, crafts, games and egg hunts!

During C week we read The Very Hungry Caterpillar. It is a very fun book and the kids loved it! We talked about sequence of events – what happened first in the story? Then what happened? We practiced writing the letter C and made several caterpillar crafts and a very colorful painted butterfly. For show and tell during C week we were lucky enough to have a baby calf brought in during both classes! Thank you to

Milee and Marlee Williams and their family and to Kolten Boyles and his family. The kids loved getting to help bottle feed and pet them!!

We learned about the letter W. The children loved the stories we read about Jonah and the whale. We read several different books and we seemed to learn something new to the story in each one! We made a fun craft with Jonah in the belly of the whale. They turned out so cute – it is so much fun seeing them become such independent workers!

Earth Day is coming up and we are looking forward to having Michelle Smith from the Knox County Solid Waste Department come in and talk to us about the importance of taking care of the Earth. It is always a fun day. ☺

We have been getting ready for Mother's Day Tea and Graduation as both days are fast approaching. The children are working on songs and learning their memory verses. I am excited for them and humbled to be able to play a small part in the life of each one of them. I know God has great and wonderful things planned for each one of them! It is hard to believe that in a few short months the children will be off to their first day of kindergarten! We have had so much fun getting ready for kindergarten but, more importantly, learning more about Jesus and the wonderful love He has for us!

Love,
Mrs. Lemberg

It is hard to believe we are getting ready to finish up our last month of preschool for this year. It has really gone by fast, but we have had a lot of fun.

We came back after spring break and have been blessed with lots of days to go outside and enjoy a walk or play games in the parking lot. (Too many wet days to actually go play in the play area or on the boat--but hopefully that is changing). We read a story "If Jesus Came to Visit Me". I ask the kids that question and heard many great answers. One preschooler would just hug Him, while another would fix Jesus macaroni and cheese or spaghetti. We talked about how we should always be ready for Jesus.

We made a Vase of Love for a special person that we want to show we care. The kids all did very well cutting and assembling the craft. Many came back and told me they gave it to whoever they

picked and got a hug for doing so. We also talked about all the many vegetables God gave us to plant and enjoy eating. Many of us are not fond of green things, or yellow. Not sure some of us like vegetables at all, but we had fun talking about how to grow them and maybe trying new things at home.

Letter W was all about Walking with Jesus and how we want him by our side at all times. We paint our foot print next to a bigger foot that we thought might look like Jesus. The kids thought it was funny that there was such a difference in size. "Jesus had huge feet because he walked all the time" according to one little girl.

We read a story called "Warthogs in the Kitchen: A Sloppy Counting Book". The warthogs really had a mess in the kitchen and even added pickles to their cupcakes. We went to the kitchen but our number one rule was no mess!!!! We got to bake cupcakes in cones and then put icing on them. We licked our knives clean and wanted more. One little boy told me the flour part of the cupcake (the actual cupcake mix) was not good for you--only the icing was good for you to eat.

Letter X was all about Jesus X-raying our hearts and what he would see. We want to Him to see us always showing love to others. If he x-rayed our hands, we want Him to see us helping others. We talked about how Jesus does not need to take x-rays of us, because He already knows everything about us.

Letter Y was all about yellow things and yarn. I gave them all a piece of paper and yarn to make whatever they wanted. We had some really cute cats, rabbits and even a house. We know we always want to say YES to Jesus!!

We had lots of good Easter discussions. We learned about how Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey and the crowd shouted. We cut our own palm branches and yelled as if Jesus was walking by. We then talked about the cross and how Jesus died and suffered for each of us. We celebrated because Jesus was only dead 3 days, the tomb was empty and He is Alive in each of our hearts--forever!!! Thanks to all of you who are prayer partners for each preschoolers. They enjoyed getting their Easter bag and are praying for you also.

We had great Easter parties and got to hunt eggs outside--Thank You Lord!!! The kids were sad when I told them this was the last holiday party for the year. Then I told them we had several birthdays and other special occasions to celebrate in the next 4

weeks before school was out for the summer. Most of them were excited and cheered, however, one little girl sighed and questioned, "But I am I going to do all summer long at home"? Never a dull moment and they make me giggle and laugh daily.

We will try and squeeze as many fun things in as we can in our short 8 days together.

Mrs. Durall

Thank You

Bethel Christian Preschool Board, staff and kids would like to give a special thank you to the Esther Rebekah Lodge for their generous donation. We are grateful for Chris Horst, June Mengedoht, and Patricia Summers for visiting at our board meeting and thinking of us with their donation. We look forward to having new play equipment soon in the back play area. We are truly blessed.

Bethel Church Council Minutes April 14, 2014

Prior to the monthly meeting the council met with a Youth Pastor candidate, Mike Leydet. After the meeting and following a discussion period, it was moved by Bill Resler, seconded by Garland Richter, and passed unanimously to recommend to the congregation that he be hired as a fulltime youth pastor. He will be asked to preach a trial sermon on Sunday, May 4, after which a congregational meeting will be held to consider his employment at Bethel Church.

Pastor Mike's Report: Pastor Mike's report included hospital and home visits, assisting with youth activities, meeting with an engaged couple who wants to be married at Bethel, conducting a Sunday service at the Freelandville Community Home, teaching Confirmation classes, and preparing for Palm Sunday and Easter week services. He shared that the carry-in dinner/Easter egg hunt event was a great success, and he plans to schedule it again next year. He also shared that he had lunch with Pastor Jim Barnes, who is the national minister

of the Evangelical Association. Their annual national conference will be held in North Carolina, September 18-20, and all church members are invited to this time of worship and sharing.

Secretary's Report: It was approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: It was approved as written. The following mission allocations were approved: Yahweh Center (Carla Johanningsmeier Roberts' Youth Facility), \$500; proposed weekend food backpack project for at risk students in a NK Primary grade level beginning with the 2014-15 school year (Non-perishable food orders need to be placed now to receive a substantial discount.), \$1,000; and, 2014 Knox County Leadership Class's project to provide free transportation for underserved residents of Knox County for necessary medical appointments, \$1,000. (It was moved by Garland Richter, seconded by Bill Resler, and passed unanimously to initiate the NK Primary Backpack Project, and it was moved by Bill Resler, seconded by Garland Richter, and passed unanimously to donate to the 2014 Knox County Leadership Class's project to assist with transportation to medical appointments for underserved Knox County residents.)

Deacons' Report: The average attendance for March was 129, and the offering was \$19,097.00, noting that church was cancelled one Sunday due to inclement weather. Income included: Atlas Gas, \$561.96; Facility Use, \$25.00; Interest Income (Huffman Account), \$22.94; Preschool, \$3,634.84; Brocksmith Mission Fund, \$215.76; Lenten Offering, \$1,042.00; Mission Fund, \$500.00, and, Cemetery Fund, \$1,200.00.

Buildings and Grounds: It was noted that there had been water in the basement, but there was no evidence of a problem now. Joe Koenig was thanked for the various repair jobs he had completed around the church and church grounds. Replacing the windows in the church office and the custodian's home was discussed as a future project.

Elders' Report: Mary Ann Miller reported that a schedule for planned visitations with Pastor Mike and an elder is in place. Communion plans for Holy Week were discussed.

Old Business: Gord reported that the replacement window project in the church has been completed. Rowe will install grip strips on some church steps as a trial to see if they will adhere. Bill Resler reported that he is still waiting on a bid for the shelter house renovation project. A permit for installing the necessary septic system for this project has been located; Rowe Sargent will check to see if it can still be used.

New Business: Kevin Hammelman has volunteered to fill the vacant elder position; this will be voted on at the called congregational meeting following worship on May 4. Pastor Mike shared that Jenny Clinkenbeard and Lisa Richter have volunteered to serve as co-directors for Vacation Bible School, which will be held in the evening this year so that more adults can participate. The date is yet to be determined. Pastor Mike also shared that Bethel Preschool is receiving a gift of \$1,000.00 from the Edwardsport IOOF women's group since they are disbanding and is to be used to purchase additional playground equipment, and Gord announced that Trudy McCormick, the teaching assistant, will be retiring at the end of this school year to assist her husband with their hog operation. The Preschool is in need of a new printer, which will be donated and is to be purchased prior to the next school year.

Coming Events:

April 17 – Maundy Thursday

May 9 – Preschool Mother's Day Tea

May 16 – Preschool Graduation

April 20 – Easter

Parish Records:

BIRTHS: Josh and Bethany Hammelman welcomed baby Moxon Lee on March 23rd. He weighed 8 lb., 10 oz. and was 21 ½ inches long. His big brother is Jeremiah. Bethel grandparents are Kevin and Linda Hammelman, and great-grandparents are Charles and Evaline Johanningsmeier.

Todd and Nicole Ricketts welcomed baby Piper Elyse on April 4th. She weighed 7 lb., 2 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. Her big brothers are Colton and Jace. Bethel grandparents are Scott and Lana Dike, and great-grandmother is Linda Hammelman.

Attendance:

Mar. 23 137
Mar. 30 127
April 6 161
April 13 224
April 20 244

Greeters:

May 4 – Gordon & Janet Clinkenbeard
May 11 & 18 – Steve & Debbie Telligman
May 25 – Mike & Pam Loheider

Ushers: Mike and Sherry Sheren

Nursery (Sunday School):

May 4 Lana Dike/ Cheryl Hagemeyer
11 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Kate Hammelman
18 Krista Telligman/Nancy Rinsch
25 Diane Telligman/Holly Spanger

Nursery Notes (Worship):

May 4 Jenny Clinkenbeard/Reeva Hammelman
11 Debbie Telligman/Tracey Kahre
18 Ramona and Rylee Hammelman
25 Cally Miller/Hailley Kahre

Children's Church:

May 4 Ryan Johanningsmeier/Jesse Organ/Hallie Durall
11 Tracey Kahre/Liberty Lemberg
18 Bonnie Organ/Cheryl Hagemeyer/Krista Telligman
25 Dale Tiek/Jenny Clinkenbeard

May birthdays:

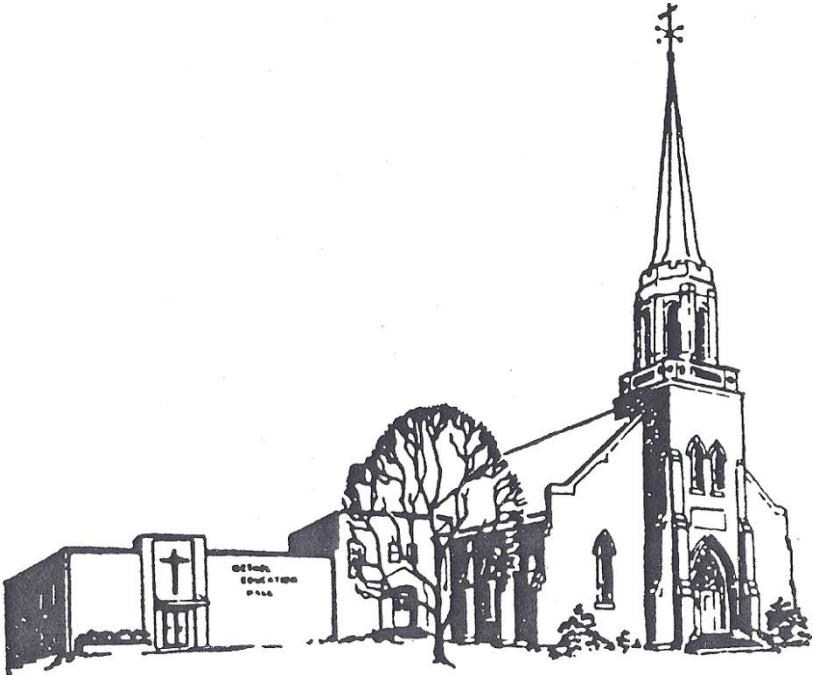
3 Earl Linneweber (86th)
8 Helen Harbin (88th)
15 Mary Deerhake (82nd)
22 Dick Finke (92nd)
24 Bob Jones (89th)
26 Ruth Richter (91st)

Chimes news will be due on May 19

May 2014

Bethel

Chimes



Bethel Church
Freelandville, Indiana

Bethel Church
13673 E State Rd 58
Edwardsport IN 47528

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Freelandville, Indiana
Permit No. 4

Phone: 812-328-2358

E-mail: bethel@wirelessilliana.com

Web-site: www.bethelchurch-indiana.com

Bethel Preschool-812-328-6038

Address Service Requested
Dated Material - please deliver by May 1