

Church Office Hours-

Weekdays: 8:30 am-2:30 pm

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Bethel Christian Preschool (812) 328-6038

Pastor Mike DeCoursey's office hours--Weekdays: 9am-2pm

Phone number: (812) 887-3810

Pastor Mike Leydet's office hours--Weekdays: 9 am-2-pm

Phone number: (812) 840-0157

Council members:

Bill Resler, President

John Spanger, Vice President

Pam Loheider, Secretary

Dan Kixmiller, Treasurer

Kevin Hammelman

Joe Koenig

Sam Miller

Garland Richter

Rowe Sargent

FROM THE PASTORS STUDY

The writer of the 139th Psalm asks God to search his heart in verse 23. He goes on to say in verse 24 for God to see if there are any offensive ways in him and then lead him back to proper understanding. That is about as honest as one can get with God. Are we this honest with Him?

I recently had a conversation with someone who was just about ready to give it all up, go the way of the world, live like the world, etc. This person said the only thing stopping him from doing so was the face that stared back at him in the morning as he shaved. Wise words indeed. The psalmist is in essence is asking God for direction, for guidance and ultimately for a cleansing. When was the last time we did as the psalmist has done? What stopped us?

The New Year perhaps filled with resolutions. One thing is for sure, if we ask God to search our lives He will. It is left up to us then to walk in His way. Something to live by in 2016.

In His Service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:16

YOUTH PASTOR

What a whirlwind this year has been for me so far. I have spent 8 days in the Dominican Republic and worked harder than I have had to in a long time. 4 days after returning we took the youth to Pigeon Forge for a 3-day conference. To say I have been a bit tired is an understatement, but my heart is full. The Strength to Stand youth conference gets better every year. We took 13 youth and 4 chaperons, which meant we needed 2 vehicles. We worshipped with over 9,000 other youth and youth workers. We had great speakers and an awesome concert by Toby Mac. But the most amazing part of the weekend was that over 900 youth made a decision to follow Christ including some of our own youth. To see our youth and others surrender their lives to Christ is an amazing experience. One thing I love about this conference is they do not gloss over what it means to be a Christian. They talk about the hard things and let the youth know that life is hard even as a Christian. So, thank you, if you were able to sponsor a youth for the trip or if you gave at our fundraiser dinner in November. Thank you if you lifted us up in prayer during our weekend. I firmly believe that if our country is to see a spiritual awakening, it will come through youth. I have told them that if they want to see God make a difference in our world that we have to be the difference. Please keep our youth lifted up in prayer as they live for Christ every day in a world that constantly rejects Him.

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2016

January/February – Assigned

March/April/May – Christian Generations

June – Bible School

July/August – Faithful Families

September – Preschool

October/November – Assigned

December – Mustard Seed

Preschool

What fun it has been being back from Christmas break!! We started back and got right to work talking about the letter Nn. We colored noodles to make noodle necklaces, and made neck ties too! I think everyone was pretty excited to be back!

The second week back we had some snow...so what better time to talk about the letter Ss! I told the preschoolers to be my little snakes for the week and to go around making the sssss sound, this was a fun way to teach and remind them of the sound S makes. It was too cold to go outside, so we had fun bringing some snow inside for a little science experiment! We painted the snow with our water colors and guess what, it melted! We read a fun story about 5 little snowmen who didn't listen to their mom and ate things that they shouldn't have. When they ate anything besides food that was white they turned the color of the food. It was a fun story the preschoolers made their own snowmen to go along with the story and were able to re-tell the story by the end of the week! We had another fun story during Ss week titled "Snowmen at Night." It was about a little boy who built snowmen only to come back the next day and find them all droopy and messed up. So he assumed that they must go away at night and get into things. The preschoolers then had to use their imaginations to create their own snowman at night and imagine what their snowman might do at night! Some of them got pretty creative, these are on display in the preschool hall way! I hope you get a chance to check them out. We also had a chance to make some yummy hot chocolate in class, some of us even got to take it home. It was the perfect treat on a cold day! We had snow much fun talking about the letter S!

This week is off to a great start we are talking about the letter Ii. We couldn't talk about the letter Ii without some ice cream! We got to taste chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry and decide which was our favorite. We graphed it as a class and chocolate was by far the favorite! We will continue to talk about the letter I and talk about how incredible God is! And how incredibly unique and special he made each one of us.

Looking ahead, we are getting excited and prepared for our Valentine's Day party which will be Friday Feb. 12th during class time. Also next month we will have Donuts with Dad's on Feb. 27th at 9am.

Love,
Mrs. Granderson



I hope everyone was able to keep warm throughout the first month of the New Year! I am actually writing this on our very first snow day this year! The snow sure is beautiful!! January was another very busy month at preschool as we got back into our preschool routine after Christmas break. We had fun reviewing past letters, shapes, numbers and then adding more new ones.

We also read more books and played more games. We had fun doing all kinds of "snow" activities including making name snowmen and painting real snow! One of my favorite winter books is a story about a little boy who made a snowman only to come back the next day to find him all droopy and out of sorts. The little boy came to the conclusion that his snowman must have snuck away during the night and then imagined all the things he might have done. To go along with the book, the kids each made their own construction paper snowman and had a great time thinking of things their snowman might do at night. I was very pleased that so many of the children were able to work fairly independently as they cut out their snowman circles, hats and scarves and glued them onto their paper. Their snowmen are displayed in the preschool hallway – I hope you get a chance to check them out!

We began our Star Student activity this past month. The Star Student brings in a poster that is all about them full of pictures and drawings and anything else they want to include. They also bring in three favorite items, their favorite book, and a special letter from their parents that are shared throughout the week. I love getting to know each preschooler a little better as they bring in their favorite things to share.

The children are also getting so good at our prayer times. I have so many volunteers each day who want to say our good-bye prayer. We pray for our families, pets and all of our preschool friends. I love seeing how the children's prayers grow as they get more confident to go to Jesus with all that is on their little hearts. With Valentine's Day just around the corner we are looking forward to making valentines and our Valentine party. We will be talking about the love we have for others and the love that Jesus has for us – an amazing love...a love that never ends!!

May you be blessed with Jesus' amazing love not only this Valentine's Day but each and every day of your life!

Love,
Mrs. Lemberg



We are off to a great new year and still having fun. We started off with temps in the 50's, then had a stay home in your pj's due to snow day. We all came back ready to learn with big smiles on our faces. We started back with the letter M. We learned about Moses and how he floated down the river in a basket. We are thankful God was protecting him. We talked about math, money, and monkeys. "Five Little Monkey" stories are some of our favorite and we got to do a cute craft to help us learn letter M. We also made

marshmallow art. The kids have a hard time making crafts with foods they would love to be eating instead.

Letter N was all about our special name God gave us and all the numbers we could find. We even found them in the Bible, and one little boy was quick to say "there sure are a lot of numbers. How did God think to count all the way to forty five eighty two!!"

We made a cute snow man with paint that we mixed up using glue and shaving cream. One little girl was sure dad smelled just like our paint after he shaved. We learned God took the time to make each snowflake unique just like he made us of us unique and special..no two are exactly alike.

We look forward to our Valentine's party and learning all about God's unconditional love for each of us that we should be sharing everyday not just one day a year.

Blessings,
Beth Durall

It's time to update the Chimes mailing list.

If you know of someone who should be receiving the Chimes, but isn't, please call the office at 812-328-2358 and let them know.

Also, if you know of someone who needs to receive the Chimes in large print format, let the office know.

Memorial Fund

In memory of Dallas Miller:

Paul/Janna Anderson

Randy/Theresia Barrett

Jerry/Louise Branch

Carla Brocksmith

Doris Brocksmith

Mike/Susan Brocksmith

Allen Buckthal

Ceres Solutions, Oaktown

Levi Chambers Clan

Gordon/Janet Clinkenbeard

John/Lill Clinkenbeard

Dillon Trucking

Paul/Nancee Dunkerly

Rick/Cheryl Earley

First Baptist Church/Johanna Circle

First Baptist Church/Let's Grow Class

Gene/Angie Flaningham

Gertrude Hagemeyer

Ed/Linda Hammelman

Jerry Lee/Kate Hammelman

Josh/Bethany Hammelman

Kevin/Linda Hammelman

Randy Hammelman Family

Byron/Donna Harting

Steve/Roberta Horst

Evaline Johanningsmeier

Dennis/Sharon Kahre

Tracey Kahre

Tom/Joyce Kixmiller

John/Marilyn Koenig

Earl Linneweber

Mike/Pam Loheider

Reed/Missy Maddox

Josh/Abby Mason

Joe/Trudy McCormick

Frank/Lenora McCrary

Andy Miller Family

Bob/Betty Miller

Bruce/Terri Miller

Jeff/Luellen Miller

Mary Ann Miller

Tim/Tonya Miller

Don/Amy Osborne Family

Bruce/Elaine Pepmeier

Tina Petts

Bill/Darlene Resler

Edith & Edna Rinsch

Joe/Jane Robbins

Lucille Robbins

Jerry/Diane Rode

Rowe/Maridell Sargent

Bill E. Schroeder

Ruth Ann & Carl Scott

Doyle Shake Family

Jim/Janet Steimel

Brad/Pam Summers

Steve/Debbie Telligman

Herman/Nancy Tilly

Don/Joyce Villwock

Lois Wampler

Jim/Ruth Wesner

Kent/Jill Williams

Nancy L. Wilson

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and phone calls during this difficult time. A special thanks to the Guild for the dinner they prepared for us.

Dallas was a great man, and he will be greatly missed, but your kindness has helped heal the pain.

The Dallas Miller family

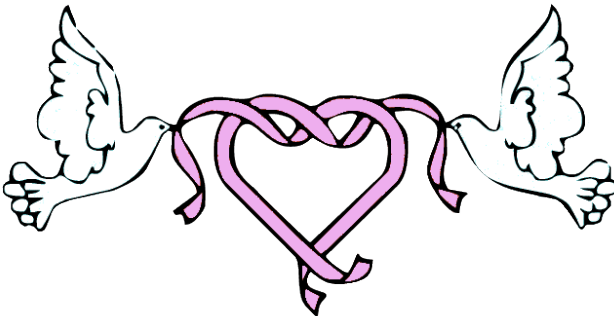
GUILD

Our February meeting will on the 3rd, at 1:30 pm, for our memorial service for deceased ladies in 2015. Doris Richter will be in charge of the service.

Sharon Kahre and Terri Miller will be the hostesses. Please bring toothpaste and tooth brushes for NKSM.

The Lenten Breakfast will be on Saturday, March 12. Please plan to attend. Watch for more details in the bulletin.

Lill Clinkenbeard



Unexpected Alligators



"When tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles" — Matthew 13:21.

Long-time actress and comedienne Gracie Allen once received a small, live alligator as a gag. Not knowing what to do with it, Gracie placed it in the bathtub and then left for an appointment. When she returned home, she found this note from her maid: "Dear Miss Allen: Sorry, but I have quit. I don't work in houses where there is an alligator. I'd a told you this when I took on, but I never thought it would come up."

Some people who say they'll serve Christ are quick to leave when trouble comes. In Jesus' parable of the soils, He pictured the various responses that people have to the gospel. For example, a person may seem to accept God's truth, but he stumbles in his faith when difficulties arise (Matt. 13:20-21). Such troubles test the quality of one's faith and expose the weakness of one's commitment to Christ.

But someone may say, "Shouldn't our Lord tell us up front what is involved in following Him?" He does. He appeals to us with one invitation: "Trust Me." If we let trouble or disillusionment shake our faith, we are breaking the spirit of the trust that brought us to Christ in the first place.

Father, when life brings us the unexpected and we feel like quitting, help us to be faithful, and be fruitful for You.

There's so much now I cannot see,
My eyesight's far too dim;
But come what may, I'll simply trust
And leave it all to Him. —Overton

If Only

I guess I just couldn't tell.
If anyone had asked me
I would have said, "They're doing well!"
When did the flame start to flicker
And the enthusiasm fade away?
I guess I just didn't see it.
I didn't know what to say.
At first it was just occasionally,
They didn't miss all the time.
A child was sick, or he had to work,
I still thought everything was fine.
After a while it got more frequent,
Their seat was empty more than not.
I should have said something then,
But that would have put me on the spot.
If only I had noticed.
If only I had tried.
I didn't do a thing to help them.
That's the truth, it cannot be denied.
Now their seat is always empty.
They have left the Lord, I don't know why.
And when I think about "If only..."
All I can do is cry.



Greg Litmer

Bethel Church Council Minutes

January 12, 2016

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mike's report included conducting a funeral, hospital visits, and teaching Confirmation classes. The Confirmation classes continue to go well. Pastor Mike has purchased six tables for the social room, and chairs will be purchased at a later date.

Secretary's Report: It was approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: It was approved as written.

Buildings and Grounds: Joe Koenig reported that he fixed the handrails.

Deacon's Report: The average attendance for December was 169. The offering for the month of December totaled \$23,505.

Elder's Report: John Spanger reported that 133 were served Communion on Epiphany Sunday. Please notify Pastor Mike or a council member if you are interested in a home visit.

Old Business: The budget for 2016 was discussed and approved. The committees for 2016 were formed.

New Business: The Mustard Seed class will provide the meal for the annual meeting. The motion was made and approved to donate \$500 to the Evangelism Association for our annual contribution. The motion was made and approved to donate \$500 to the Youth ABLAZE Conference to be held on March 25th and 26th at North Knox Junior and Senior High School. The motion was made and approved to donate \$1000 to the Heart to Heart Banquet to be held on February 25th.

Upcoming Events:

January 31 – Annual Meeting

Parish Records:

Deaths: Dallas Miller, 87, died on Tuesday, December 22, 2015.

Burial was at Bethel Cemetery on December 28, 2015.

Births: Grady Carl Toney was born on January 4, 2016 to Brandy and Michal Toney. He is also welcomed by brother, Miles.

Attendance:

Dec. 27 140
Jan. 3 156
Jan. 10 77
Jan. 17 165

Greeters:

Feb. 7 – Ed & Cheryl Hagemeyer
Feb. 14 & 21 – Ernie & Monica Russell
Feb. 28 & Mar. 6 – Michael & Brandy Toney

Ushers: Kevin and Linda Hammelman

Nursery (Sunday School):

Feb. 7 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike
 14 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike
 21 Krista Telligman/Carole Albrecht
 28 Diane Telligman/Mary Ann Miller

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Feb. 7 Beth Durall/Jenni Clinkenbeard
 14 Theresia Barrett/Emilee Organ
 21 Brenda Maddox/Tori French
 28 Debbie Telligman/Jesse Organ

Children's Church:

Feb. 7 Ryan Johanningsmeier/Jesse Organ/Hallie Durall
 14 Cally Miller/Liberty Lemberg
 21 Micah Morgan/Cheryl Hagemeyer/Krista Telligman
 28 Brenda Maddox/Tiffany Granderson

February birthdays:

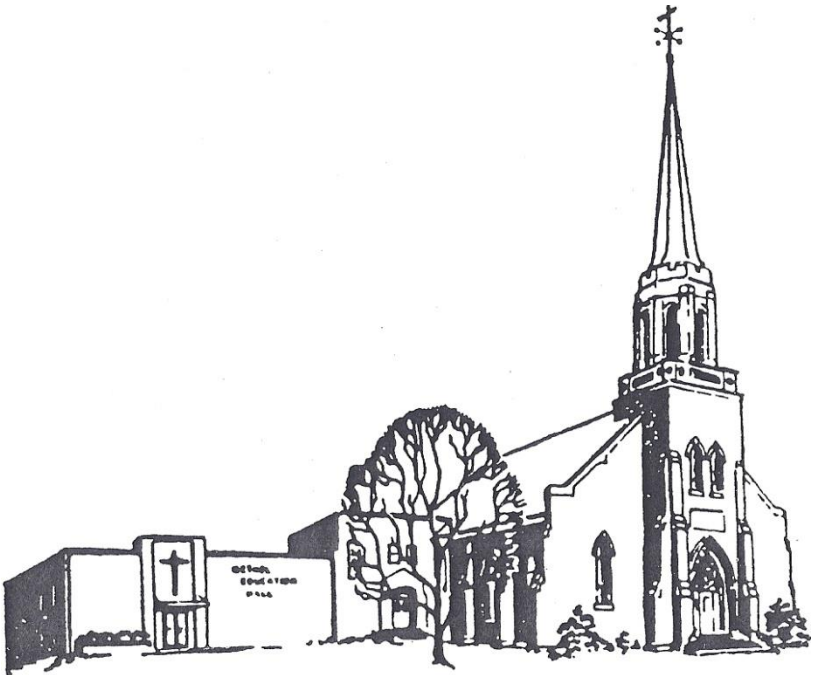
Feb. 12 Robert Miller (81)
 20 Doris Richter (81)
 21 Lillian Clinkenbeard (84)
 28 Wilma Chester (96)

Chimes news will be due on February 15th.

February 2016

Bethel

Chimes



Bethel Church

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Dated Material - please deliver by February 1