

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: secretary@bethelchurch-indiana.com

Web-site: www.bethelchurch-indiana.com

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:

Justin French, President (2020)

Sam Miller (2019)

Stacey Kahre, Vice President (2020)

Terry Perkins (2021)

Pam Loheider, Secretary (2019)

Nancy Tilly (2021)

Jan Spanger, Treasurer (2021)

Mark Sargent (2022)

Ryan Johanningsmeier (2022)

(Indicates the time that the term is over)

FROM THE PASTORS STUDY

Though the calendar indicates that it is still fall, it sure feels like winter on this cold and cloudy November morning. For those of us in Southern Indiana that means two things, winter and Christmas are right around the corner. While we endure the winter season, we need to celebrate the Christmas season. With that being said, are you preparing to celebrate Christmas, you know the birth of our Savior and the wonderful story of God's love according to Holy Scripture?

Take time to read in the gospels the story of Jesus' birth and grab hold of God's love for mankind. Make this season something more than what the world has to offer, make this season about God's love for us and then go out and spread that love to those around you. Wishing you a Merry Christmas

His Service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:1

Youth Pastor

I love Christmas music, but my favorite is an album titled “Do You Hear What I Hear” by Todd Agnew. The album is composed like a cantata, with the songs being told from the perspective of someone involved with the Biblical Christmas story. My favorite song is Joseph’s song entitled “This Is All I Have to Give”. The chorus of the song is as follows

This is all I have to give,

You can share my home and bear my name, but this is not how you should live,

The Son of God has become the Son of man - this is all I have to give.

I don’t know about you, but I can relate to those feelings. I often wonder why God has chosen me for certain things. It seems to me that there are people more capable, equipped, or talented than I am, so why me, God? And I’m sure Joseph asked the same questions. I can’t imagine the pressure of being the adopted father of the Messiah. But then I think of what God told Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 “And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” And He is telling us the same thing today. Maybe God didn’t choose Joseph or us because of our strengths, but maybe because of our weaknesses? Maybe God wants to use us to accomplish something we are not capable of, so that He will receive all the glory. So next time you feel overwhelmed, remember there was a poor carpenter who didn’t feel like the right person to raise the Messiah, but God chose him anyway. And maybe, just maybe, God chose him because of his weaknesses and not his strengths.

In HIS Love

Pastor Mike

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2018

December – Mustard Seed

Guild

Bethel Guild met on November 7 for their regular meeting. We made lap throws for the Freelandville Community Home for their residents. Our December 5th Christmas meeting will be a covered dish luncheon at 11:30. Please bring cookies for our cheer plates to the Church by 9:30 am so that ladies can prepare the cheer plates. Bring canned soup for Generations. The program will be by the Quilting ladies.

There will be no meeting in January. The February 6 will be at 1:30 pm, and will be our memorial service for the ladies who died in 2018. Doris Brocksmith is the Chairman, and the hostesses will be Terri Mille and Sharon Kahre. All ladies are always welcomed. Bring paper towels for Generations.

We have several new books for our library, given to us by Billie Sager. We thank her for them. This winter, get a book or two to head. We have all occasion cards for sale in the Guild room. They are \$5.00 for a box of twelve.

Preschool

November was a month to focus on being thankful. Our Pre-K class traveled back in time to become Pilgrims and learned about the dangerous voyage on the Mayflower and the challenging first year in the new land. We also discovered that through it all the Pilgrims were thankful for God's provision. We completed our study of the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving with our own classroom feast before enjoying time with family during the Thanksgiving Break.

Our Bible stories this month were also focused on being thankful and being a good friend. We talked about the ten lepers and the one who remembered to say thank you for his healing. We also read about the faithful friends who carried their lame friend and made a hole in a roof to

make sure he could see Jesus. Our memory verses for November were Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times" and Psalm 118:1 "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever."

I am so pleased with the progress our students are making in letter recognition and sounds. By the end of November we have learned eight sight words and are practicing reading short sentences together. We are now counting to 50 and are becoming pros at pattern recognition. The children are having fun practicing the songs for our Christmas program that will be held on December 14th at 7:00 pm. December will be an exciting and busy month with all of our special holiday activities.

I would like to express my thankfulness to everyone for your support and prayers for our preschool children. I am very thankful to be a part of Bethel Christian Preschool.

Mrs. Carter

Wow--just like that we are getting ready for the holiday season. This year is going way too fast. If I could slow down time, I would for a bit.

Letter F was fun as we welcome Freelandville Fire Fighter Jon Streeter to talk to us about fire prevention and safety. A big thanks to him for his time and sharing with us. The kids loved everything he showed us on the truck and I know many went home telling things they had learned. We also learned that God wants us to be fishers of men for him as we read the story right from John in the Bible.

God is Great. God is Good. The perfect way to learn about letter G. We talked about how we need to be giving and ways we do that. The kids love giving food to their pets and others hugs. Our visit to the Nursing Home was a great way to let our light shine for Jesus. and I was super proud of all. It is good to see the smiles on the residents' face and good for us to interact with them.

I have Jesus in my heart and I am thankful for my house were a couple of our lessons for letter H. We also talked about how our hands belong to God and everything we do with them should be pleasing to Him.

Letter I came and went too fast as we had our first snow/ice day. We did get to talk about ice cream and got to make our sundaes with just a "little" bit of sugar added. There were yummy even for a cold day outside.

We had a great Thanksgiving Feast as the kids were asked to go shopping and help mom or dad or grandma pick out the items and then bring in the goodies so we could stir it, mix it, bake it or whatever it needed to prepare our special meal. We got it enjoy and not be rushed as we sat together and gave thanks. We have read many Thanksgiving books

this month, some were funny and others reminded us of that first Thanksgiving.

We have worked on patterns, colors, shaped and talked about our many blessing and how thankful we are for Jesus, our family, preschool and many other things. We have been working hard on our Christmas songs and are getting ready for our program Friday, December 14. Come join us as we share our love for baby Jesus.

Counting down to a special birthday and loving the kids as we share the good news.

Mrs. Durall

Mission Committee

Thank you so much for your generous giving to Operation Christmas Child! We packed 169 boxes and they will be sent around the world to needy children. Not only will they receive the gifts we sent -they will also hear the Gospel Message. What an honor it is to partner with God in His kingdom work!

In January you will have another opportunity to give. We will once again be collecting money to buy vitamins for Nurses on a Mission. In March a team of 28 will travel to the Dominican Republic to hold medical clinics in impoverished communities. The gift of vitamins means so much to these people.

God doesn't need our money to accomplish His will, but He gives us opportunity to partner with Him. He knows what a blessing it is to give. Since everything we have belongs to Him, we, as believers, are called to be cheerful givers!

Please continue to pray for your preschool prayer partners. They will each receive a Christmas gift from their prayer partner. Don't forget to send them the Christmas card you received in your packet. These precious little ones are truly a mission for our church. Please remember our preschool teachers, helper and volunteers in your prayers too.

Carpenters on a Mission 2018

God called a team of 12 to the DR; but He used many of you to support this mission. The trip was amazing and the team saw God at work as we worked mano a mano (hand in hand) with the people of the DR.

We built 10 church pews, a communion table and poured 2 concrete floors using the good old bucket line! We did accomplish a lot; but more

importantly we worked with our brothers and sisters and showed them that there were people in the United States that cared about them. The children loved to help and we loved working with them. We fell in love with the people, their culture and the country. Even though there was a language barrier we learned that smiles and hugs translate in any language.

Every evening after a delicious meal we shared a very special devotional time together. This time of sharing brought us close as a team. We learned more about each other, about ourselves and about our great God. We realized that wealth can be defined in different ways and that many who are considered “poor” by worldly standards are truly “rich” in God’s economy.

We not only worked hand in hand with the people of the DR, we worshipped with them. We came to realize that they are not at all concerned about the length of their worship service (2-3 hours is the norm)- they love to praise and pray and give their offerings! A group of young girls praised the Lord through dance. It was a true blessing for the team to share this experience.

Some of us hiked to the top of a mountain. We went to a beautiful waterfall. We witnessed the beauty of children being loved and cared for at House of Light, a Christian orphanage for children with physical disabilities.

We really enjoyed each other and shared a lot of laughter! We all have stories that we will never forget. We now share a bond that will never be broken.

Thank you for all of your support. Your generosity made it possible for us to share the hope and the love of Jesus with our Dominican friends.

Team: Randy Archer, Roger Johanningsmeier, Ryan Johanningsmeier, Mike Leydet, Alan Mackey, Beth Mackey, Brenda Maddox, Tiffany Rehwald (Nurses on a Mission), Bill Resler, Collin Tiek, Dale Tiek, and Bridget Yockey (Nurses on a Mission)

Bethel Church Council Minutes

November 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Justin French and opened with prayer by Stacey Kahre.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Mike shared his monthly report which included conducting a worship service at the Freelandville Community Home, officiating a wedding ceremony, and teaching confirmation classes.

Youth Pastor's Report: Pastor Mike Leydet was not in attendance. He was on the mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Secretary's Report: Approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as written.

Elder's Report: Pam Loheider reported the "Getting to Know You" gathering held on October 27th was well attended and those attending had an enjoyable time. Visitation was discussed. The next communion is the first Sunday of Advent, December 2nd.

Deacon's Report: Sam Miller reported the average attendance for October was 157, and the offering total was \$17,513.

Building and Grounds: Sam Miller reported that Sure Clean completed roofing the parsonage, and they did look at the flat roof on Bethel Hall. The light in the balcony needs the socket replaced.

Old Business:

- Replacement of beam in stairwell and back staircase are ongoing.
- Terry Perkins worked on the preschool door.
- Shekell Plumbing and Heating checked on the condensation lines from the AC behind the stage and different options will be explored.
- Pastor Mike checked with Jim Strange on the working hours on the mower, and there are 600-700 hours.

New Business:

- Nancy Tilly shared information on the progress of the new church logo.
- Christmas trees will be cut on Saturday, December 8th and decorating will be on Tuesday, December 11th.

Upcoming Events: December 2 – First Sunday of Advent with communion

December 10 – Council meeting

December 14 – Preschool Christmas Program

December 16 – Sunday School Christmas Program

Parish Records:

Attendance:

Oct. 21 176
Oct. 28 160
Nov. 4 168
Nov. 11 161
Nov. 18 180

Greeters:

Dec. 2 & 9 – Janet Tilly/Maridell Sargent
Dec. 16 & 23 – Christopher & Jennifer Nettles
Dec. 30 & Jan. 6 – Stacey & Travis Kahre

Ushers: Randy & Ramona Hammelman

Nursery (Sunday School):

Dec. 2 Lana Dike/Holly Spanger
 9 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike
 16 Lana Dike/Cheryl Hagemeyer
 23 Diane Telligman/Carole Albrecht
 30 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Holly Spanger

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Dec. 2 Jenny Clinkenbeard/Emma Miller
 9 Brenda Maddox/ Shaylie Phegley
 16 Page Family
 23 Organ Family
 30 Debbie Telligman/Natalie Phegley

Children's Church:

Dec. 2 Kate & Linda Hammelman/Randy & Ashley Archer
 9 Emma Miller/Hope Leydet/Jennifer Nettles/Pam
 Loheider
 16 Rylee Hammelman/Micah Morgan
 23 Melissa Schroeder/Emily Pirtle/Brenda Maddox

December Birthdays:

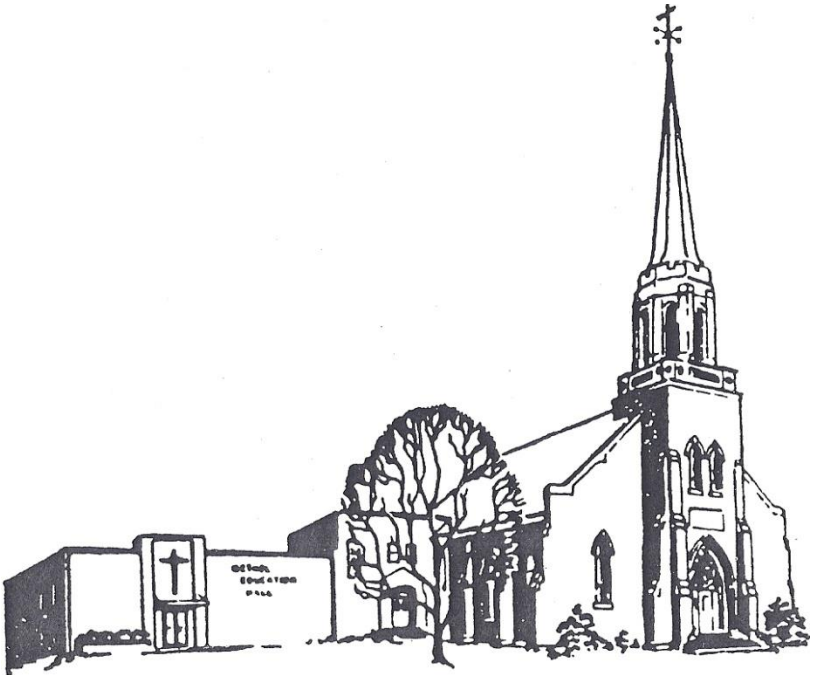
30 Jack Brouhard (85th)

Chimes news will be due on December 17th.

December 2018

Bethel

Chimes



Bethel Church

Bethel Church
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