

**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)

Randy Hammelman (2023)

Stacey Kahre, Vice President (2020)

Terry Perkins (2021)

Nancy Tilly, Secretary (2021)

Mark Sargent (2022)

Jan Spanger, Treasurer (2021)

Brandon Spanger (2023)

Ryan Johanningsmeier (2022)

(Indicates the time that the term is over)

**FROM THE PASTORS STUDY**

The gospel of Luke records a story of the need of building on a firm foundation. We read from Luke 6:46-49 of the story of the difference of building on a firm foundation and the danger of having no foundation. Jesus begins this story by questing those who call Him Lord, but ignore His instructions.

What are our foundations based on? Have we dug deep into God's Word to establish our foundation, or do we do as the world does and have no foundation? Even without all the trouble the world is in today, we know that trouble will still come in one form or another and we need to have our spiritual foundation established deep, not on the surface.

Jesus is telling us in this story to establish our foundation in His Word and not in the ways of the world. The warning is there, it is up to us to respond. When we cry out Lord, Lord have we really made Jesus the Lord of our life? Let us not hesitate before the storms of life break upon us. Let our digging be deep and continuous.

In His Service,  
Pastor Mike  
James 5:1

## Youth Pastor

As I have said before, I love Christmas music, but my favorite Christmas song is “The Little Drummer Boy”. I know that might seem like an odd choice but let me explain. First off, I understand that there was not a little drummer boy at the stable that night that made the baby Jesus smile. But the message it conveys it for us all. How many times have we felt the same way the little drummer boy felt. “I have no gift to bring, that’s fit to give our king”. I have felt that way myself. I see what others can do and the talents they have and think I can’t compare to that. But the little drummer boy just played his drum the best he could. And we are called to do the same. God has given us all gifts and abilities, but it is up to us if we are going to use them to honor our King. For me, I want to “play my best for Him” and I hope you do as well.  
Merry Christmas.

In His Love

Pastor Mike

## Memorial Fund

*In memory of Max Kixmiller:*  
Carolyn Williams

**Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2019**

December - Assigned

## Guild

Bethel Guild didn't meet in November. We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving.

We will have our Christmas luncheon on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am with a covered dish lunch followed by a Bible Study program and a business meeting.

Please bring cookies for our Christmas cheer by 9:30 am on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Lill Clinkenbeard

## Preschool

In November we focused on friendship and thankfulness. We began our month with the story of the ten lepers which led to discussions about how we need to always remember to thank God for His many blessings. We also practiced our memory verse, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

The children set sail on our Mayflower ship in the dramatic play area. We struggled through sickness and storms to finally reach America. Once we arrived, we worked together to build our village. We met members of the Wampanoag tribe who taught us how to grow new crops and the best way to hunt in our new land. We ended our dramatic play with a big Thanksgiving feast.

Although Thanksgiving was our main focus, we have been practicing daily for our Christmas program. The children are doing so well and I am excited for this special evening. I hope many of you will be able to attend.

Academically, our Pre-K class is making tremendous progress. I am so proud of our students and so happy that they love to learn. This Thanksgiving I am especially thankful for being a part of Bethel Christian Preschool.

God's Blessings,  
Mrs. Carter

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall temps..or winter weather. When we are supposed to be outside enjoying the all colors and leaves falling, we were closed for snow and cold. The kids were so excited to tell me what they did on our snow day. I just kept thinking "we have so much to do with Thanksgiving and Christmas so close." Then, I thought God has a purpose and a plan for everything. I actually did get a lot completed on my "free day." Any time we have an extended break, I worry that we will start over sometimes with our missing mom and crying. This year after fall break, we all came back with smiles, and many preschoolers shared how they missed preschool 😊

We had a great visit at the nursing home and enjoyed parading around for some of the residents. It is always good to see the smiles on the resident's faces and the preschoolers as well. Letter G taught us to be brave in all situations just like David when he fought Goliath. We had fun trying to throw a stone (okay, really a bean bag) at the tall giant against the wall. We know God is Great! God is Good!

Using our hands and hearts to serve Jesus was how we introduced letter H, or I think so anyways. I was out for the week with my sister. Jennifer and crew did a great job covering for me. (Thanks to all who helped that week!!) The kids also made a house and thanked God for that Happy Home.

Letter I was Yummy as we screamed for Ice Cream and made yummy, sugary sundaes. We also using icing to "glue" an edible turkey together. One little boy had his icing gone before I could even tell them what to do with it. When I said "where is your icing?" He giggled, and said "mom never lets me eat this at home. I have heard many great prayers for our friends when they are sick or absent. We pray for our pets and anything else that we can think of. I love it when they ask me if they can pray!!

We are looking forward to our Thanksgiving feast and of course Christmas and all the events leading up to that miracle. Our program is December 13 at 7:00 pm. We hope to share with you "What Angels Say."

Spread Christmas Joy!!  
Mrs. Beth Durall

# **Bethel Church Council Minutes**

**November 11, 2019**

The council meeting was opened by President Justin French and with a prayer by Nancy Tilly.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mike DeCoursey's report for the month of October was of conducting the monthly service at Freelandville Community Home, teaching a confirmation class, and officiating at two funeral services for Fredrick and Son. He made numerous hospital visits to Vincennes and Indianapolis, took a week's vacation, and conducted the Totenfest service. Other responsibilities concerned locating graves, calling for repairs, etc.

**Youth Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mike Leydet planned the Trunk or Treat evening at the Freelandville Community Center. It was coordinated with the Freelandville Trick or Treat night and both were moved to Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, because of inclement weather on Halloween night. He and Renee took the youth to Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion for a football game and a campus tour. Pastor Mike and Renee served as small group leaders at the ABLAZE Conference on November 9-10. He attended the ENERGIZING YOUR COMMUNITY Conference presented by the Centers for Congregations in Evansville. He announced the postponement of the Youth Chicken and Noodle Dinner until January.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report given by Nancy Tilly was approved as written.

**Deacon's Report:** Brandon Spanger reported an average attendance of 136.5 and an offering total of \$17,604 for the month of October.

**Treasurer's Report:** This report for October was given by Jan Spanger. She suggested the remaining \$2500 of \$5000 to be funded to the Youth be given at this time. Most budgeted mission allocations have been funded as the year closes. Discussion as to

how the budgeted item for mission trips could be spent. This report was approved as submitted.

**Elder's Report:** Two visits to shut-ins were made, with one visitation set for this week.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Mike Sinclair will be contacted for the repair of the dusk to dawn light. The light in the back stairway from the sanctuary will be replaced by Terry Perkins. It was noted that there needs to be a railing affixed to the back stairway for safety. Duke Junod has asked about a decision on the painting of the sanctuary. As another bid is being considered, it was decided that this project will be decided upon after the first of 2020. As the dehumidifier in the basement is needing to be emptied each evening, Brandon will check in to remedies for this. Plans for updating the social room continue as the Faithful Families Class will be painting before the carpet is chosen. Our thanks to Vaughn Hislip who will attempt a repair on the pop machine.

**Old Business:** The logo has been approved and further plans for this and the website continue. It is a hope that this will be concluded before the end of the year. Ryan Johanningsmeier ordered a replacement eagle for the flagpole in the sanctuary. The search continues for someone interested in any repair needed for the stained-glass windows. The plans for reconfiguration for a handicapped accessible bathroom continue as this project is on the list at Holmes Plumbing.

**New Business:** Plans for the Christmas season were made. The Preschool Christmas program will be on December 13<sup>th</sup>, so the Christmas tree hunt will be on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. The trees will be decorated on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. December 15<sup>th</sup> will be the Sunday School Christmas Program. A budget meeting will be held early in January before the reports are due for the congregational meeting. Council members were asked to look over committees and be prepared to make suggestions for those for the new year. A nominating committee of Pam Loheider, Sam Miller, Emily Pirtle, and John Spanger will be

asked to search for a deacon and elder for the next term. A new committee for Outreach will be formed for the coming year. The meeting was closed with council members praying The Lord's Prayer.

**Coming Events:** December 1 – Communion

December 4 – Guild Meeting – Christmas cookie plates for shut-ins

December 7 – Christmas Tree Hunt

December 9 – Decorating of Trees, Sanctuary, and Bethel

Hall

December 13 - Preschool Christmas Program

December 15 – Sunday School Christmas Program

December 9 – Next Council Meeting



## **Parish Records**

### **Attendance:**

Oct. 27 132  
Nov. 3 190  
Nov. 10 146  
Nov. 17 147

### **Greeters:**

Dec. 1 & 8 – Christopher & Jennifer Nettles  
Dec. 15 & 22 – Jerry Lee & Kate Hammelman  
Dec. 29 & Jan. 5 – John & Marilyn Koenig

**Ushers: Frank & Lenora McCrary**

### **Nursery (Sunday School):**

Dec. 1 Lana Dike/Cheryl Hagemeyer  
8 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Diane Telligman  
15 Holly Spanger/Cheryl Hagemeyer  
22 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Carole Albrecht  
29 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike

### **Nursery Notes (Worship):**

Dec. 1 R. Hammelman Family  
8 Page Family  
15 Debbie Telligman/Natalie Phegley  
22 Beth Durrall/Hope Leydet  
29 Brenda Maddox/Emma Miller

### **Children's Church:**

Dec. 1 Kate & Linda Hammelman/Randy & Ashley Archer  
8 Emma Miller/Hope Leydet/Jennifer Nettles  
/Pam Loheider  
15 Rylee Hammelman/Michah Morgan  
22 Melissa Schroeder/Emily Pirtle/Brenda Maddox  
29 No Children's Church

### **December Birthdays:**

7 Thomas Woods (80<sup>th</sup>)  
30 Jack Brouhard (86<sup>th</sup>)

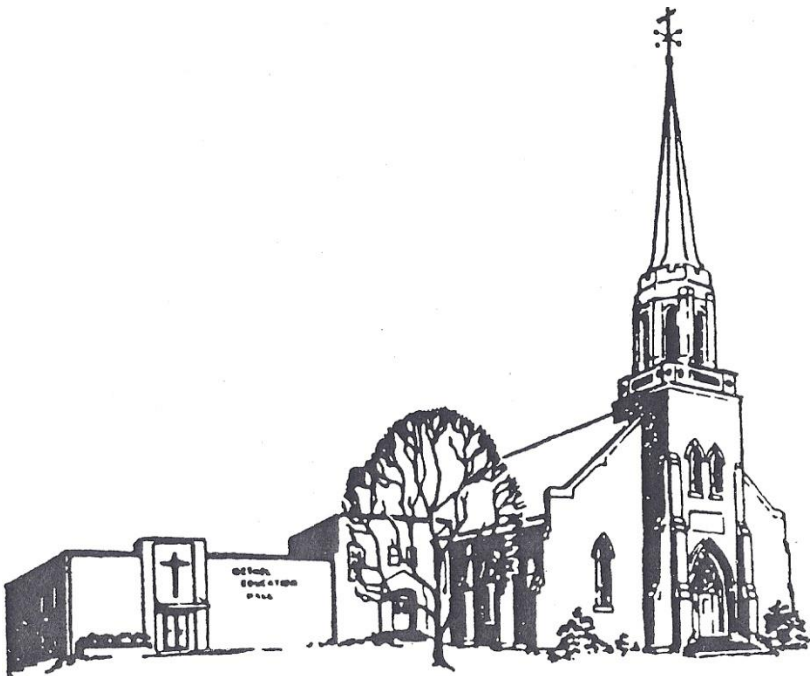
*Chimes news will be due on December 16th.*



December 2019

Bethel

Chimes



# Bethel Church

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**Address Service Requested**  
**Dated Material - please deliver by December 2**