

Church Office Hours- Weekdays: 8:30 am-2:30 pm

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E-mail address: secretary@bethelchurch-indiana.com

Website: 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:

Mark Sargent, President (2022)

Clint Durall (2024)

Randy Hammelman, Vice President (2023) Bonnie Organ (2024)

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

Here it is the 18th day of March. The world is in turmoil with the news of the coronavirus shutting down almost all aspects of our country, including our churches. I believe it is time that the church take a step back and take a deep breath and become the church as we are called to be from scripture. The church is not a building, though the church does meet in various types of buildings, rather the church is those who have given their lives to Christ and follow Him. Now is the time for us to be the church.

How? All we have to do is follow the teachings of Jesus. If we see someone in need, meet that need according to your ability and resources. Helping watch out for school age kids while parents work, making sure that those in need have their basic needs met. Such as making sure they have the necessities of life, food, medicine, cleanings supplies, etc. During this time of national crisis, we need to be the Body of Christ.

Let the words found in 2 Timothy 1:7 be your guide in the days ahead.

In His Service,
Pastor Mike
James 5:1

Youth Pastor

As I sit in my office, my head is spinning. I am having a hard time wrapping my head around everything that is going on in our country and the world right now. I have never experienced anything like the crisis being created by the pandemic outbreak of COVID19. I don't think many of us really understand the severity of this, including some of the experts. I heard someone say that we may be overreacting, but I would rather we overreact than underreact. So, Church, let's rise up in prayer. Let's pray for those who have lost loved ones already. Those who are infected, those who have family members that are infected. But let's also pray for those who are in nursing homes that cannot have visitors. Pray for the first-time mother who is giving birth in the hospital and her family cannot be there to support her. Pray for our high school seniors that have most likely had their last day in high school and didn't know it. Pray for the college grad who isn't going to be able to celebrate all their hard work by walking across the stage at the now canceled graduation ceremonies. Church now is a time to pray.

In His Love,
Pastor Mike

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2020

March & April (Lent and Easter) – Autumn Cone, Liberty
Lemberg, and Ramona Hammelman
May – Stacy Page and Beth Durall
June – VBS
July & August – Mary Ann Miller
September – Preschool
October and November – Theresia Barrett
December – Nancy Tilly

Preschool

March was a very short month for our Pre-K students due to spring break and the sudden closing of all area schools in response to the coronavirus. Thankfully, we were able to celebrate a special day with our dads before the cancellations occurred. Our students and their fathers enjoyed time together at our Donuts with Dads event at the beginning of the month.

Our Bible lesson and memory verse for this month was perfectly timed. We read and discussed the story of Jesus calming the storm and memorized Psalm 56:3, "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You." The students talked about things that might make them afraid and we learned how Jesus is always with us to calm those fears.

We played some fun games to practice the math concept of more or less and we continue working on identifying beginning sounds. We did some experiments with making rainbows and planned to catch a leprechaun. Although we were not able to go on our leprechaun hunt at school, Mrs. Carter was able to catch one at her house.

We are looking forward to returning to school soon and everyone being happy and healthy.

Mrs. Carter

I am having a hard time believing I am writing notes for April already. At the time of this writing school is uncertain due to the virus. It's all in God's hands and I am trying not to worry about it.

March was bringing our dad's for donuts. Thanks to all the dads and guests that came. It was a fun morning and the kids did fantastic. The kids were so excited. I love their enthusiasm when they get to show off their dad or other special dude.

We continued with our letters as we talked about letters s t u and v. For letter s we played in the sand and talked about God's son,

Jesus. We planted seeds on good soil and talked about how we have to scatter God's love to everybody else like we scattered seeds. Several of the kids have flowers growing at home and are super excited as we watch ours grow in class.

Letter t was about telling the truth and using our teeth for good things. We helped celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and "Read Across America" as we did some silly things in class, but learned a lot along the way also. Thanks to Uncle and Aunt B (Kent and Brenda Brocksmith) and Miss Amanda (Sprague) as they helped us celebrate, even though it was not part of their original plan. We counted to 10 as we talked about God's 10 rules (commandments) for each of us.

We read books under our umbrellas as we talked about letter u. The kids loved all the big umbrellas spread out in our classroom. We know that we are all under God's care and his love is bigger than anything we can imagine. We even read a funny story about "Bear in Underwear". It is always easy to make them giggle when we say underwear. Some are even excited as they try and show others what kind or color they have on.

Vases full of love for someone very special were our crafts we made as we cut and pasted, glued and colored. We talked about who special people are in our lives and then picked who we would give our art work too. We celebrated as we always have a Victory with Jesus. We also talked about the many vegetables God gave us and discussed which ones are good and which ones we say gross to or wrinkle up our noses.

I pray that we are back together at preschool in time to talk about Jesus and his love for us and the sacrifice He made as we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter. My devotion this morning was from Proverbs 3: 5-6. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways remember Him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.

Mrs. Durall

Guild

Bethel Guild will meet on April 1 at 1:30 pm for their regular meeting. We will be making lap throws for the Community Home, and hostesses will be Vera Jones and Lill Clinkenbeard.

Come for an afternoon of fellowship, devotions and making the lap throws.

We cancelled the March 28th Lenten breakfast due to the CDC guidelines about dealing with the Corona Virus.

THANK YOU

To our beloved church family,

Thank you seems so inadequate to express our appreciation for all the love, care and concern shown our mother and grandmother, Dorothy Spanger, upon her recent illness and passing. Your prayers, calls, cards and visits while she was a resident of Gentlecare the past year and a half and most recently while in the hospital were a blessing to her, as well as the family.

Thank you to Pastor Mike DeCoursey for conducting the service, to Karen for the beautiful piano music, Pastor Mike Leydet for operating the video and sound system, the Guild for setting up, serving, and furnishing the delicious desserts after the service, and those who came to offer such kind and comforting words at the visitation.

Also, thank you who donated to the church, nursing home, and the American Stroke Association. Bethel was a huge part of her life for many years, and she would have been so pleased to have been remembered by so many.

The Dorothy Spanger family

Memorial Fund

In memory of Janice Richter:

Bill & Darlene Resler
Frank & Lenora McCrary

Tim & Tonya Miller
Mike & Pam Loheider

In memory of Dorothy Spanger:

Bill & Carole Albrecht
Paul & Janna Anderson
Randy & Theresia Barrett
Bethel Choir
Bethel Guild
Randy & Sharon Boberg
Kent & Brenda Brocksmith
Daniel Buescher
Mike & Beverly Burch
John & Margaret Burke
Cheri Carrithers
David & Beth Carter
Donna Clinkenbeard
Gordon & Janet Clinkenbeard
John & Lill Clinkenbeard
David & Carole Culp
Bill Dinkins
Ross & Amber Dinkins
Sharon Dunkerly
Bertie Fields
Gary & Michele Hackney
Edgar Dean Hammelman
Jerry Lee & Kate Hammelman
Josh & Bethany Hammelman
Kevin & Linda Hammelman
Randy & Ramona Hammelman
Byron & Donna Harting
Vickie Held
Bonnie Hendershot
Phil & Linda Himes
Vaughn & Bobbi Hislip
Steve & Roberta Horst
Immokalee Club
Chris & Roger Johanningsmeier
Evaline Johanningsmeier

Dennis & Sharon Kahre
Stacey & Travis Kahre
Tracey Kahre
Audrey Kixmiller
Dan & Linda Kixmiller
Jeff & Debbie Kixmiller
Joe & Virginia Koenig
John & Marilyn Koenig
Wally & Jeannie Linneweber
Mike & Pam Loheider
Brigette Mason
Cecilia Matthews
Bob & Helen Maze
Frank & Lenora McCrary
Bob & Betty Miller
Bruce & Terri Miller
Shirley Miller
Jessie Milligan
Mustard Seed Class
Richard & Betty Newell
Janet Purichia
Wayne & Carol Richter
Joe Robbins
Robin Root
Sargent Family
Steve Spangle
Carolyn & Keith Stevenson
Brad & Pam Summers
Michael & Sue Thomas
Jane & Dale Tiek
Herman & Nancy Tilly
Brad & Angie Toney
Michael & Brandy Toney
Marvalee Tresslar
Lois Wampler

*Mike & Jean Johanningsmeier
Vera Jones
Antje Landanno
Lynne & James Dayhuff
Juanita Nolting*

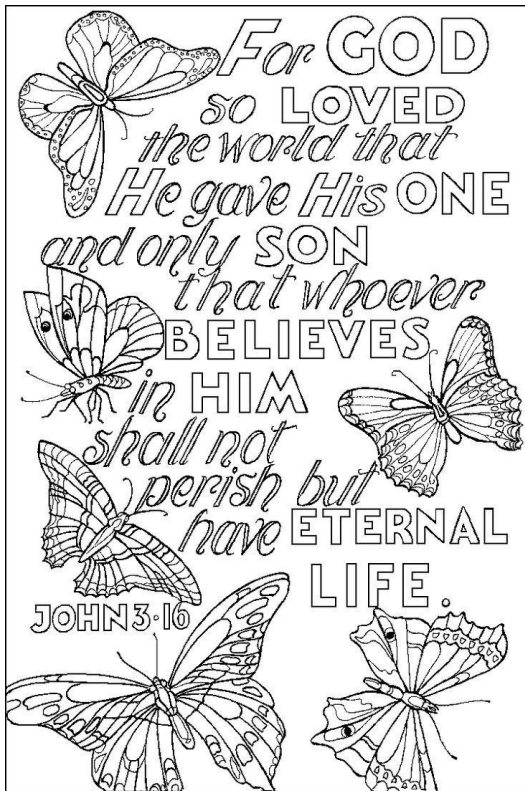
*Tim & Jan Whiteman
Carolyn Williams
Judith DeMoss
Ed & Brenda Cummings
Bill & Darlene Resler*

Bethel Guild:

*Brenda & Dan Roark
Mark & Diane Telligman*

Bethel Cemetery Trust:

Garland & Lisa Richter



Did You Know?

~unknown~

If you put a buzzard in a pen six or eight feet square and entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of his ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of ten or twelve feet. Without space to run, as is his habit, he will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

A bumblebee if dropped into an open tumbler will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

In many ways, there are lots of people like the buzzard, the bat, and the bee. They are struggling about with all their problems and frustrations, not realizing that the answer is right there "above" them.

Bethel Church Council Minutes

March 9, 2020

President Mark Sargent opened the March meeting of the Bethel Council with prayer.

Pastor Mike DeCoursey: He conducted a service at the Freelandville Community Home on the first Sunday of March. He also officiated at the funerals of Gary Hammelman and Dorothy Spanger. He continues to teach confirmation class in preparation for Palm Sunday. Lenten season has begun with the Ash Wednesday service and his prayer will be for good weather to encourage good attendance for the remaining services. He made numerous hospital visits.

Pastor Mike Leydet: He reported of his normal activities of teaching Sunday School, assisting with confirmation, and leading the youth group for the month of February. On February 19th, the high school youth completed their Wednesday night Bible study. Hope Leydet and Emma Miller attended the Girls' Chrysalis on February 15th-17th. He led the Sponsor's Hour at that flight as well and went to Illiana every day of the flight to support them on their Chrysalis. The youth also helped the Nurses on a Mission with the vitamin packing party on February 23rd, an event that they look forward to participating in all year. In addition to his normal role in the Armor Bearers Conference as a member of the planning committee, he was also honored to be one of the speakers for this year's conference. He also presented his Roman Soldier Monologue at the Men's Walk to Emmaus on March 7th. He stated that he appreciates the church's support in allowing him to devote time to these events that take place outside of his normal duties at Bethel.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report for February written by Nancy Tilly was read and approved.

Deacon's Report: Terry Perkins reported the average attendance for February was 134 and the offering was \$16,593.

Treasurer's Report: This report for February and compiled by Jan Spanger, was read and approved. She led discussion on the Sadie Strate Funds in regard to money withheld for the planting of crops since Charlie Buescher is now cash renting it. It was noted that

one-half of these funds realized each year goes to maintenance and repairs and one-half to missions.

Mission Allocations: Money allocated for missions will be distributed to Helping His Hands for \$1000, \$500 from the Emergency Distress funds to help a family of a minister who is a stroke victim, and \$1000 given to the Nurses' Fund.

Elder's Report: Nancy Tilly reported that 28 congregants were served communion at the Ash Wednesday service. Twelve residents of nursing homes, those in assisted living facilities, and those who are shut-in at home were visited and given a Lenten devotional. Devotionals were sent to four Bethel members who live away and one telephone visit was made.

Buildings and Grounds: Terry Perkins contacted ICON, One Day Floors of Evansville in regard to the step covering at the front of the church and Bethel Hall. A 5-year warranty covers this work. Motions were made and this bid was approved by the council. A representative from Wabash Plumbing has viewed the plan for the handicapped accessible bathroom in Bethel Hall and we are now waiting on an estimate from an electrician before the final estimate is given. Terry reported that Duke Junod will be coming within the week to begin work on the repair of plaster and painting the sanctuary. He will be asked to paint the back stairway also. Terry has not heard from Mike Sinclair with an estimate for further electrical work in the sanctuary. Charlie Buescher has signed the contract in agreement for cash renting the Strate 40 acres. Pastor Mike DeCoursey notified the council that a light over the pulpit is not working.

Old Business: Stacey Kahre sent an email to tell of her progress with building the website. She had moved some things around and organized it based on feedback from Pastor Mike Leydet and from the software developers. She will get all the information off the current site and copied onto the new one before it goes live. Phase 1 of purchasing the software of course is completed and Phase 2 of copying the old to the new is currently in progress. Phase 3 of adding new features will be contemplated.

New Business: The Search Committee has organized and met jointly with the council and Jim Barnes, lead minister of the Evangelical Association. Mark Sargent has communicated with the Interim Pastoral Ministries.

Coming Events: Lenten Services on Wednesday, March 18 – Red Letter Group

Lenten Services on March 25, April 1, and Maundy

Thursday Service on April 9

Lenten Breakfast on Saturday, March 28 with Mia Moody bringing a Message of Hope

April 13 – Next Council Meeting

Parish Records

Deaths: Dorothy Spanger, 86, died on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Burial was on Saturday, March 7 in Bethel Cemetery.

Attendance:

Feb. 16 126
Feb. 28 151
Mar. 1 128
Mar. 8 127
Mar. 15 112

Greeters:

April 5 & 12 – Sam & Cally Miller
April 19 & 26 – Bill & Carole Albrecht

Ushers:

Nursery (Sunday School):

Apr. 5 Lana Dike/Cheryl Hagemeyer
12 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Diane Telligman
19 Holly Spanger/Cheryl Hagemeyer
26 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Apr. 5 Brenda Maddox/Rylee Hammelman
12 Beth Durrall/Natalie Phegley
19 Debbie Telligman/Emma Miller
26 Page Family

Children's Church:

Apr. 5 Carole Albrecht/Randy & Ashley Archer
12 Emma Miller/Hope Leydet/Jennifer Nettles/
Pam Loheider
19 Rylee Hammelman/Micah Morgan
26 Melissa Schroeder/Emily Pirtle/Brenda Maddox

April Birthdays:

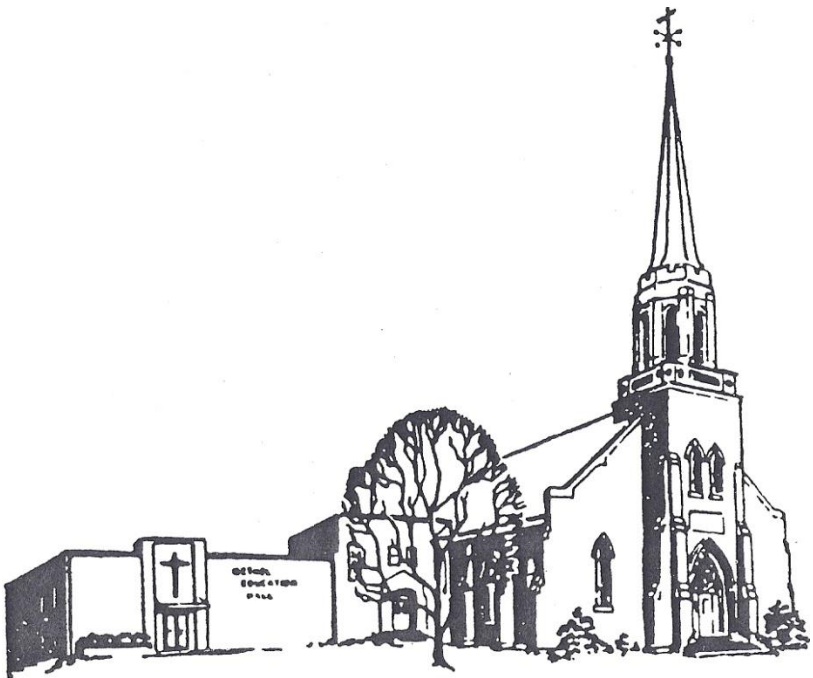
2 Dorothy Sams (93rd)
2 Flo Ann Coker (83rd)
5 Wilbur Boberg (91st)
6 Marilyn Fender (86th)
25 Nancy Kixmiller (85th)
25 Sharon Dunkerly (82nd)

Chimes news will be due on April 20th.

April 2020

Bethel

Chimes



Bethel Church

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Address Service Requested
Dated Material - please deliver by April 1