

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

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**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 22<sup>nd</sup> of April and our country is still under lockdown due to the pandemic. So my question for you today reading this article is, how are you doing? Maybe not so much in maintaining social distancing or missing nonessential businesses, but how is your physical, mental and most importantly your spiritual state? And as has been stated numerous times via Facebook posts, One Call messages, etc., the church is still here for you. Office hours are still being maintained and as always we are a phone call away.

But let's take a moment to talk about spiritual well-being. How are you doing? I pray all is well and you have used this time of isolation as a time of reflection, study and prayer. I would like to encourage you during this time to read Psalm 91. The sixteen verses of the Psalm holds promises for our protection during these stressful and trying times. This Psalm has been called the security of the one who trusts in the Lord. Let these words guide you in the days ahead.

Speaking of the days ahead it is my prayer that soon and very soon the restrictions that we are now under will be lifted. I pray the month of May we will be allowed to gather again as a church body in worship and on May 31<sup>st</sup> which is Pentecost Sunday, we will receive into membership four young men who will have completed confirmation. What a glorious day that will be. Until then, continue in prayer for those in need, especially for those who have never made a commitment to Jesus.

In His Service,  
Pastor Mike  
James 5:1

## **Youth Pastor**

As I look around my office today. It looks a bit different than normal. I have a tripod and a video camera. I have started to pack some of my things in preparation of leaving in a couple of months. My calendar has webinars scheduled on it instead of youth activities. But one thing that God has been impressing on me throughout this pandemic is that He is in control and I need to surrender. I will not speak for everyone, but for me, God has really opened my eyes to the pride in my own life. He has shown me how that is manifested in my want to control things. Let's be honest church, we are in control of very little. He holds it all in His righteous hands and knowing that should make surrender pretty easy. But it is sure seems difficult. I am reminded of a Todd Agnew song titled "If You Wanted Me" the closing lines are:

If You wanted me to surrender  
Why'd You make these hands able to hold on so tight?  
So tight?

And if You wanted me to be like You  
Why'd You make me like me?

My daily goal is to be more like Jesus. Some days are better than others, but that is the goal of the Christian life. So even in the midst of chaos, we should be resting in the promise of a peace that passes all understanding. Our souls should be at rest because we know who is in control. We need to be letting go of me and striving towards Him. That is when peace really takes over.

In His Love,  
Pastor Mike

## **Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2020**

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 13th was a very sad day. Our students left class for the final time without a big celebration or a last hug. It has been a roller coaster of emotions over the past few weeks as Covid-19 took away our plans one by one. However, we are doing a few creative things to hopefully bring a smile and some extra learning to our students during this difficult time. Every Pre-K student received a special gift on their doorstep after the announcement that school would be closed for the rest of the year. Each child opened the special delivery box to discover our cuddly class mascot, Backpack Bear, was inside. The many photos and videos of the students joyfully realizing they could keep Backpack Bear at their house brought tears to my eyes.

Our class Facebook page has been a great tool for staying connected with the students and parents. We were not able to observe our class caterpillars turn into butterflies this year, but many parents took advantage of the product link and ordered a kit for their child. It has been fun watching each child's butterflies emerge via Facebook videos and photos. Our Facebook page was also used to share videos of books read by Mrs. Carter, fun interactive activities like show and tell or art projects, and virtual preschool links for songs, stories, and educational games. Special packets were also mailed to all of the Pre-K students to provide learning activities at home.

I am assembling graduation gift bags for those Pre-K students who will be leaving Bethel this year. We are brokenhearted that we can't celebrate with caps, gowns, and a graduation program, but the bags will include many of our traditional graduation gifts. These gifts will be delivered in early May.

Thank you all for being so supportive during this unusual time and for your continued prayers for our preschool staff and families. May God bless each of you with peace and good health.

Love,  
Mrs. Carter

I never dreamed March 12th would be our last day of this school year. I pray for all schoolchildren as their world has been flipped upside down just like everybody else's through this covid-19. I have been able to drive by and see some playing in the dirt, riding their bikes, or jumping on their trampoline. I am thankful for all the pictures that I've received in the mail and the virtual hugs thru way of our phone and other media devices.

This year's seniors was my first year preschool class at Bethel way back when. They all hold a special place in my heart and I know the future awaits them and they will conquer the world and do great things when this is over.

Thanks to our Bethel Church family for your love and support to all the littles at preschool. Praying everybody stays healthy and we can return to a regular routine very soon.

Mrs. Durall

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to all those who helped make the noodles. We made 72 bags and sold them all the next day. We will be using part of these funds to help with the family food boxes that are being assembled for kids during the extended time off from school because of the virus.

Thanks again.

The Outreach Committee

## **Memorial Fund**

In memory of Janice Richter: (Cemetery Trust Fund)

*Patty Bobe*

In memory of Dorothy Spanger:

*Beth Luking Bailey*

*Christian Partners S. S. Class*

*Thomas Lane*

*Mary Ann Miller*

*Tim & Tonya Miller*

*Doris Richter*

*Vic & Helen Rinehart*

*Herb & Benaleen Schafale*

*Don & Elizabeth Volle*

(Cemetery Trust Fund)

*Patty Bobe*

In memory of Lois Wampler:

*Randy & Theresia Barrett*

*Bethel Guild*

*Vaughn & Bobbie Hislip*

*Frank & Lenora McCrary*

## Mothers

1. Who was the “mother of all living”?
2. What mother “lent her child to the Lord”?
3. What mother urged her daughter to ask for a man’s head?
4. What mother asked Jesus if her two sons could sit on His right and left hand in His kingdom?
5. What mother helped her son deceive his father?
6. What mother served as a paid nurse for her baby son?
7. What 90-year-old woman became a mother?
8. What mother arranged for her son to marry an Egyptian girl?

1. Eve (Gen. 3:20)
2. Hannah (1 Sam. 1:22, 28)
3. Herodias (Matt. 14:6-8)
4. Zebedee’s wife (Matt. 20:20, 21)
5. Rebekah (Gen. 27:6-19)
6. Jochebed (Exod. 2:1-9; 6:20)
7. Sarah (Gen. 17:15:17)
8. Hagar (Gen. 21:17, 21)

## Shut-Ins

### **Colonial Assisted Living**

1622 S. Hart St.  
Vincennes, IN 47591  
*Patty Buescher*

### **Gentle Care**

1202 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St.  
Vincennes, IN 47591  
*George Varns*

John Buescher  
16526 E. Wagner Rd.  
Sandborn, IN 47578

Donna Clinkenbeard  
2356 Chickasaw Terrace  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Don Johanningsmeier  
P. O. Box 83  
Sandborn, IN 47578

Shirley Miller  
14419 E. St. Rd. 58  
Edwardsport, IN 47528

Ruth Richter  
4053 Paris Park  
Georgetown, KY 40324

### **Freelandville Community Home**

P. O. Box 288  
Freelandville, IN 47535  
*Audrey Kixmiller*  
*Joyce Kixmiller*  
*Edith Rinsch*  
*Lucille Robbins*

### **Fox Ridge Manor**

150 Fox Ridge Drive, Apt. 120  
Vincennes, IN 47591  
*Eldina Benedict*

Flo & Pete Coker  
9949 N. Pine Bluff Drive  
Bicknell, IN 47512

Edgar Hammelman  
10035 N. Freelandville Rd.  
Edwardsport, IN 47528

Earl Linneweber  
1174 W. County Rd. 975 S.  
Carlisle, IN 47838

Irma O’Niones  
515 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
Haubstadt, IN 47539

## **Confirmation Reunion**

This is a time we reflect back to our confirmation, and what being a member of Bethel is all about. Although we were not able to meet this year for a reunion, due to the COVID-10 pandemic restrictions, we thought it was important to recognize the 75, 50 and 25 year classes.

### **1945 Confirmation Class** **Minister – Rev. A. H. Wegener** **Song – “Oh Jesus I Have Promised”**

Norma Jean Anderson	Frances Ritterskamp Kixmiller*
Lois Dunkerly Bosecker*	Susan Strate Cook*
Ruth Ann Kirchoff*	Marilyn Telligman Luehrman*
Lillian Kixmiller Clinkenbeard	Gertrude Volle
Marilyn Linneweber Johanningsmeier*	Carl Kloke*
Joan Niewald Held*	Leroy A. Pieper
Juanita Richter Nolting	Wayne Tilly
Lois Rinsch Repass	

### **1970 Confirmation Class** **Minister – Pastor George Varns** **Song: “I Surrender All”**

Marjorie Bingham	David Miller
Ronald Boberg*	Donna Pahmeier Harting
Mark Borgmeier	Robert Pitcher
Jane Brocksmith Tiek	Mark Pitcher
Douglas Johanningsmeier*	Gary Robbins
Tonya Johanningsmeier Scott	Cynthia Sams
Kim Kixmiller*	Susan Williams Singleton



**1995 Confirmation Class**  
**Minister – Pastor Herbert Schafale**  
**Song: “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”**

Carly Borgmeier Yangmeier  
Becca Hagemeyer Ward  
James Lane  
Amy Loheider Farmer  
Michelle Moss

Brandee Perkins Davis  
Abby Spanger Hartwick  
Kyle Telligman  
Clayton Williams

**Notes from the Bethel Council**

*“May the Lord keep watch between you and me when we are absent from each other.”* Genesis 31:49 This scripture is sometimes called the Mizpah benediction. It was a covenant between Jacob and Laban, as they made God their witness when they left each other.

We left each other on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, so it will soon be six weeks since we have worshipped together. We thank Pastor Mike DeCoursey, Pastor Mike Leydet, Karen and Renee for their work in keeping us connected through posts and videos, in distributing communion for Easter, Bible quizzes, and beautiful music. We realize many do not have access to Facebook, but for those who do, it has been wonderful communication.

Even though Bethel’s Council has not met together, we have conferenced, texted, emailed, and spoken by phone in order to continue doing the work of the church. This entry in the Chimes is our way of communicating this work.

Pastor Mike DeCoursey has been “sheltering at home”, but he and Karen have been bringing us weekly sermons and praise songs. Pastor Mike Leydet reports that the youth

attended the movie "I Still Believe" on March 15. This movie was based on Jeremy Camp's early life and struggle with his wife's cancer diagnosis and eventual death. They had supper together after the movie. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this was the only youth activity, but they have been "meeting" on Sunday evenings for Bible study using the Zoom app. The majority of Pastor Mike Leydet's time has been revolved around getting our service on-line, by researching different methods and equipment. He has maintained contact with the congregation through Facebook posts and live videos, such as his depiction of the Roman soldier on Good Friday.

As deacon, Mark Sargent reported an average attendance for March as 122 and an offering of \$20,079.

Our Mission Allocation for this month was \$1000 to the Preschool to supplement the salaries for our preschool teachers.

Easter cards were sent to those who are shut-in, ill, and live away from Bethel at this time. An Easter Blessings flyer and confirmation verses were sent to Bethel families during Holy Week.

Stacey Kahre reports that the new website is nearly ready to go "live". It may have a few glitches but ones that can easily be changed. There are many possible features that may be added later. She has offered to continue as a coordinator and has commented that Faith Connector, the software developers, have been very responsive and helpful with questions and she would recommend them to other churches.

The painting of the sanctuary by Junod Painting has been completed for some time and during the pandemic, they were able to take advantage of our empty church. Also, the walls of the back stairway have been painted and a railing

for safety has been installed. The council is still waiting for a quote for the building of the handicapped accessible bathroom. The refinishing of the steps in front of the church and Bethel Hall is now scheduled for May 1.

All members of the council participated in a conference call with Todd Musser, who is the Director of Pastor Procurement and Placement with Interim Pastor Ministries. The service was recommended by the Evangelical Association. During this call, we learned that IPM has placed ministers in 86 churches in the US and one in Canada. They recognize that the period between pastors is vital to church morale and that a church needs to experience a smooth pastoral transition. As a prospective interim minister, being accepted into this service is a rigid process involving videos of a scriptural message, references, a live sermon, interviews, and then training by a doctor of divinity. Further requirements of these interim ministers are that he/she must be at least 50 years old and have served at least 15 years as a pastor. To determine who would be a "good fit" for Bethel, the council members each submitted a Church Info Form together with a Pastor Calculation work sheet. A compilation of these have been sent to IPM. There is no commitment that IPM will have somebody for us. But, if a minister's resume is presented to Bethel, that resume would not be extended to another church for 4 weeks to give our church time to deliberate. During that time, depending on the length of the virus, we might hear a sermon during a Candidate Weekend, so that this minister could meet the people of Bethel. We ask that all be in prayer for this search for an interim pastor

## **Parish Records**

**Deaths:** Mary Ann Frye, 83, died on Monday, March 23, 2020. Burial was in Bethel Cemetery on Monday, March 30, 2020.

Lois Wampler, 92, died on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Burial was in Bethel Cemetery on Saturday, April 4, 2020.

**Births:** Matt and Tiffany Granderson welcomed baby Isabelle Katherine on April 15, 2020. She is also welcomed by brothers Matthew and William.

**Attendance:**

Mar. 22  
Mar. 29  
Apr. 5  
Apr. 12  
Apr. 19

**Greeters:**

May 3 & 10 – Frank & Lenora McCrary  
May 17 & 24 – Gordon & Janet Clinkenbeard  
May 31 – Steve & Debbie Telligman

**Ushers:** Bill & Brandee Davis

**Nursery (Sunday School):**

May 3 Lana Dike/Cheryl Hagemeyer  
10 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Diane Telligman  
17 Holly Spanger/Cheryl Hagemeyer  
24 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike  
31 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Holly Spanger

**Nursery Notes (Worship):**

May. 3 Brenda Maddox/Rylee Hammelman  
10 Beth Durall/Natalie Phegley  
17 Debbie Telligman/Emma Miller  
24 Page Family  
31 Tracey Kahre/Hailley Moreland

**Children's Church:**

May 3 Carole Albrecht/Randy & Ryan Johanningsmeier  
10 Emma Miller/Hope Leydet/Jennifer Nettles/  
Tracey Kahre  
17 Rylee Hammelman/Janet Clinkenbeard  
24 Melissa Schroeder/Emily Pirtle/Dale Tiek  
31 No Children's Church

**May Birthdays:**

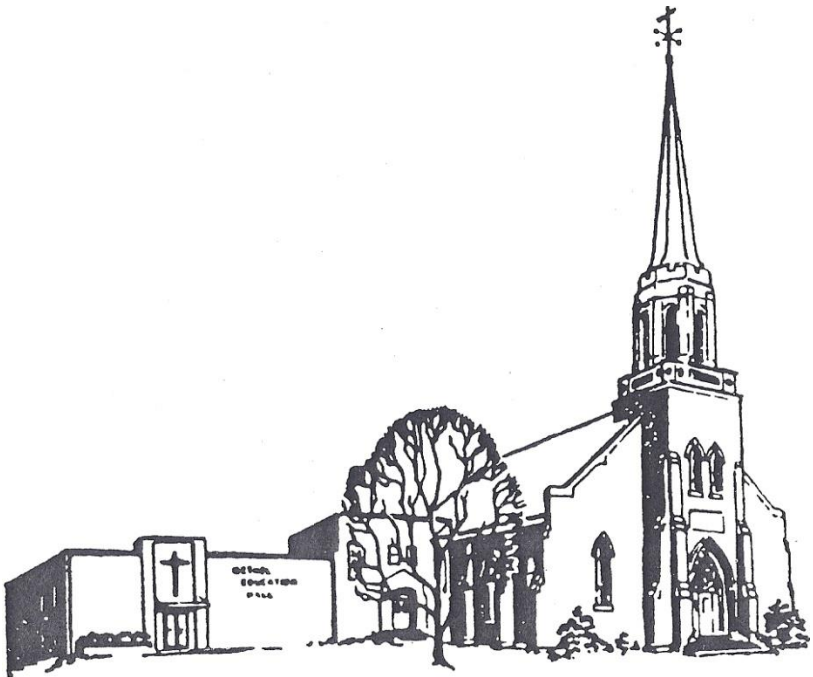
3 Earl Linneweber (92<sup>nd</sup>)  
26 Ruth Richter (97<sup>th</sup>)  
26 Cleo Kirchoff (83<sup>rd</sup>)

***Chimes news will be due on May 18<sup>th</sup>.***

*May 2020*

*Bethel*

*Chimes*



*Bethel Church*

Bethel Church  
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