

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

Website: www.bethelchurch-indiana.com

Bethel Christian Preschool (812) 328-6038

Council members:

Mark Sargent, President (2022)

Clint Durall (2024)

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

Nancy Tilly, Secretary (2021)

Terry Perkins (2021)

Garland Richter (2022)

Brandon Spanger (2023)

Jan Spanger, Treasurer (2021)

(Indicates the time that the term is over)

Pastor

What a year! Can you believe December has finally rolled around and Christmas is nearly here?

This has certainly been an unusual and challenging year. Last Christmas, none of us would have ever believed all of the things that would come our way in 2020. Certainly, many families have experienced losses and setbacks that have been hard and painful. No one ever knows except the ones going through difficult times what it truly feels like and how it affects their life and those around them.

That is why we can be grateful for the ever-presence of the Lord. Yes, we celebrate a selected date on the calendar for the birth of Christ, but the reality, is He has always been. Even though He has always been, He chose to be with us – Immanuel – God with us. God saw the need of His creation and loved us so much that He chose to send His Son, Jesus to live with us. Jesus, fully divine, came to live among us as a human being – one of us! Isn't that amazing?

Debbie and I would like to take this moment to thank each of you for allowing us to be a part of your world this year. Last year at

this time, none of knew each other, but through God's divine plan, He allowed us to come together. It has been a joy serving among you and we look forward to the great things God has in store for this New Year. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and blessed New Year!

Pastor Mark and Debbie Fleschner

Basement Bulletin Board schedule for 2020

December – Nancy Tilly

Memorial Fund

In memory of Don Johanningsmeier:

Anonymous

Dan Buescher

Gordon & Janet Clinkenbeard

Kevin & Linda Hammelman

Ralph Harris Family

Roger & Chris Johanningsmeier

John & Marilyn Koenig

Mike & Pam Loheider

Frank & Lenora McCrary

Bruce & Terri Miller

Sargent Family

Curtis & Karen Scott

James & Jean Shively

Dorothy Soliday

Dale & Jane Tiek

Herman & Nancy Tilly

Preschool

November was full of thankfulness. We began with the story of the ten lepers and talked about how important it is to remember to thank God for all He does for us. We also memorized 1 Chronicles 16:34, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever."

In our dramatic play area we took a voyage on the Mayflower and learned all about the Pilgrims. Once we landed in Plymouth we met the Wampanoag people and learned about them. We also enjoyed a fun Thanksgiving feast.

We continued to practice our letters and sounds. We also worked on those tricky teen numbers. I am so proud of our progress!

Mrs. Carter

Oh what fun the class has had. When the teacher is out for a few days, there is extra play time, a few extra snacks and even hedge hogs. The kids have had a blast I have been told by a few. Thanks Miss Jennifer for a great few days!! They talked this month about how our light should always shine for Jesus and we need to Share His Incredible News Everywhere. We did not get to visit the Nursing Home residents, but shared God's love by making them cards and Mrs. Carter made a video which she recorded of us singing. Thanks, Mrs. Carter!!

"Where Do You Live?" was one of our books that talked about different animals that live in the jungle, ponds or other habitats.

They discovered that we all have a house and are happy for a home of love. We celebrate because Jesus lives in our hearts.

Using our hands and hearts to help others is a great way to SHINE for Him!! We can all hop and holler for letter H!! Letter I introduced us to Ice cream, ice paintings on igloos and iguanas.

We are preparing for Thanksgiving and I asked the famous question "What are you thankful for?" Many responded their siblings, mom and dad. Others stated God, chocolate cookies, and

strawberries. I love to hear their responses, spoken from the heart!!

Our Congratulations to Cora and her family on the birth of Briggs. We know she will be a great Big Sis!! We pray for everyone to stay safe and healthy!! I wish everyone A Very Merry Christmas!! And Happy Healthy New Year!!

Mrs. Beth Durall

Guild

We will meet for our December meeting on December 2, with a covered dish luncheon at 11:30, program will follow. Please bring cookies by 9:30 Wednesday so that the ladies can make up the cheer plates for shut-ins that will be delivered that day.

Hope to see you December 2 at 11:30.

Lill Clinkenbeard

Bethel Church Council Minutes

November 9, 2020

Pastor's Report: Dr. Mark shared that his primary focus for this month has been in sermon work, worship planning, preparation for NCS training, and preparing lessons for the four confirmands enrolled in confirmation class. He shared that he met with the pastoral search committee, and a church profile has been developed. He currently is planning for Advent and in preparation for messages on preaching and teaching on spiritual gifts.

Secretary's Report: This report prepared by Nancy Tilly for the meeting of October 12th was read and approved.

Deacon's Report: Mark Sargent, for Clint Durall, reported an average attendance for October as 132, and an offering total of

\$16,539. Other money reported was from facility use, missions, the Brocksmith mission, memorial fund, and the cemetery fund.

Treasurer's Report: The council viewed the expenses by vendor detail, the balance sheet, and the profit and loss budget prepared by Jan Spanger. It was noted that trash pickup has been transferred to Mullins' Service at a cost of \$100 per month. As the Brocksmith Mission has been garnering \$62-\$82 each month, it was suggested by Dana Worland of Edward Jones, that this be placed in an advisory account. This suggestion was approved, as well as the treasurer's report.

Mission Allocation: \$1000 which had been budgeted from the Mission account will be given to Bethel Guild for this month.

Elder's Report: Again, because of the COVID virus, visits to those who are ill and shut in could not be made. However, Thanksgiving cards have been sent to them. Our thanks to Pam Loheider. Bethel Guild served lunch to 26 persons after the funeral of Don Johanningsmeier.

Buildings and Grounds: Terry Perkins reported that the refrigerator and freezer have been checked periodically and they appear to be running efficiently. Terry and Garland found that the pilot light on the fireplace at the shelter house is working. Since the roof on the shelter house has faded, Graber Post and Building will replace the roofing, but volunteers from Bethel Church will either supply the labor or Bethel will absorb the cost of the reroofing.

Old Business: Cort Bilskie has been contacted to remove **two trees** in Bethel Cemetery. It was approved to accept the bid and this will be completed next week. Mike Johanningsmeier has volunteered to use his grappler to lift the logs and remove them from this spot.

Jackie Cunningham will be asked to present a **Mission Moment** on November 29 regarding the Isaiah 1:17 mission of providing a 24-hour home for children who have been removed from their homes.

After her presentation, it will be decided how to proceed with giving to this need.

It was approved to contact Pieper's Carpet to complete the **carpet and flooring** on the back stairs and entry to the social room. This cost will be taken from the Memorial Fund.

The **men's bathroom** and the **handicapped accessible bathroom** should be completed by November 10th. It was noted that the tension seemed too tight on the door to the handicapped bathroom. It was reduced to the limit and the cylinder will be removed. The deacons will inspect it when it is completed.

New Business: Plans for **decorating for Christmas** were made. Volunteers will choose the trees on Saturday, December 5th at 9 a.m. and decorating will be on Monday, December 7th at 6 p.m. The vestibule and Bethel Hall will be decorated also at this time. **Communion** during Advent will be on December 20th.

Pastor Mark gave an update on the **pastoral search**. The church profile is ready to be sent out to the Evangelical Association, Oakland City College, and Indiana Wesleyan University. Word of mouth is also a valuable asset.

Pastor Mark gave a **NCS Assessment Follow Up** stating that Bethel was higher in most categories than the mean score of 50. Signage for rooms and bathrooms was lower than most in the physical realm of things to be improved. A focus on inspired worship is a factor for improvement. We have a high score in evangelism, but we have maintained there, rather than grown. Looking at our current reality, we are concerned with where we are and where we want to be as a church. Do we want to survive or thrive? Pastor Mark asked the council if these names (Shammua, Shaphat, Igal, Palti, Gaddiel, Gaddi, Ammiel, Sethur, Nahbi, and Geuel) were familiar. Were Caleb and Joshua more familiar? The first ten names were the men who Moses sent to explore the Promised Land and returned afraid to venture forth. Joshua and Caleb said, "We should go up and take possession of this land, for we can certainly do it." Should we be more like Joshua and Caleb? The **Transition Team** which will help in implementing any changes to be made was approved by the council. The members of this team are Randy Hammelman, Pam Loheider, Emma Miller,

Allison Rohlk, Mark Sargent, Brandon Spanger, Amanda Sprague,
Dale Tiek, and Herman Tilly

This team will be commissioned in a worship service.

The meeting was closed with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Coming Events: November 29 – 1st Sunday of Advent

December 5 – Choose Christmas Trees

December 7 – Decorate Sanctuary for Christmas

December 11 – Preschool Christmas Program

December 13 – Christmas Cantata

December 14 – Council Meeting

December 20 – Sunday School Christmas

Program

Parish Records

Don Johanningsmeier, 90, died on October 24, 2020. Burial was on October 30th at the Sandborn Town Cemetery.

Edith Sue Rinsch, 79, died on November 13, 2020. Burial was on November 18, 2020 at Bethel Cemetery.

Joyce Kixmiller, 76, died on November 14, 2020. Burial was on November 17, 2020 at Bethel Cemetery.

Attendance:

Oct. 25 138
Nov. 1 147
Nov. 8 96
Nov. 15 94

Greeters:

Dec. 6 – Janet Tilly & Maridell Sargent
Dec. 13 & 20 – Christopher & Jennifer Nettles
Dec. 27 & Jan. 3–Jerry Lee & Kate Hammelman

Ushers:

Nursery (Sunday School):

Dec. 6 Lana Dike/Cheryl Hagemeyer
8 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Diane Telligman
20 Holly Spanger/Cheryl Hagemeyer
27 Cheryl Hagemeyer/Lana Dike

Nursery Notes (Worship):

Dec. 6 Beth Durrall/Brittany Page
13 Autumn Burris/Shaylie Phegley
20 Autumn Cone/Klaire Bowers
27 Tracey Kahre/Hailley Moreland

Dec. 6 Carole Albrecht/Marvin Richter
13 Autumn Cone/ Tracey Kahre
20 Rylee Hammelman/Janet Clinkenbeard
27 Emily Pirtle/Dale Tiek

December Birthdays

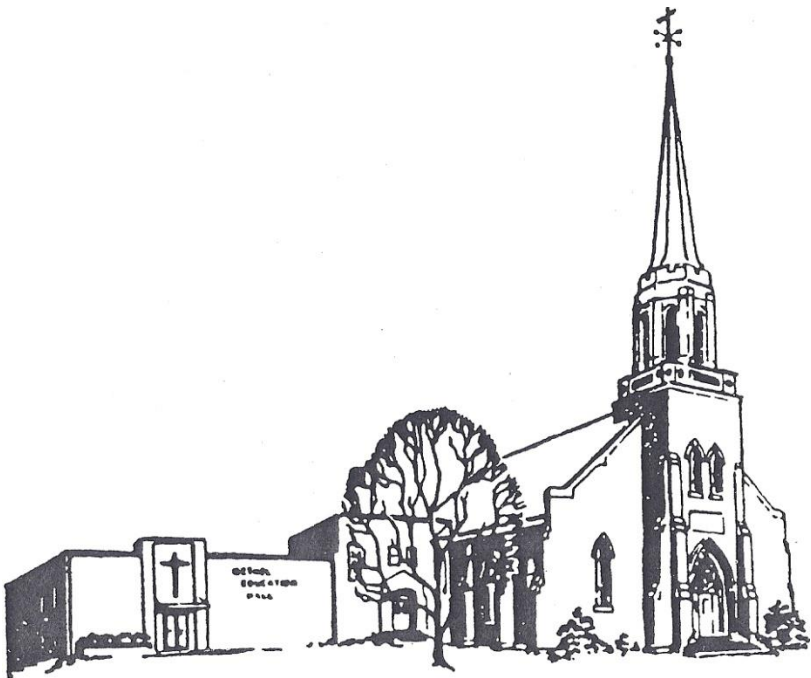
7 Thomas Woods (81)
30 Jack Brouhard (87)

Chimes news will be due on December 21st.

December 2020

Bethel

Chimes



Bethel Church

Bethel Church
Freelandville, Indiana
Bethel Church
13673 E State Rd 58
Edwardsport IN 47528

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Freelandville, Indiana
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Phone: 812-328-2358
E-mail: secretary@bethelchurch-indiana.com
Website: www.bethelchurch-indiana.com
Bethel Preschool-812-328-6038

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Dated Material - please deliver by December 3