

Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville

Bethel Tidings

May 2025

Coming Together as One: A Celebration of Community Spirit

There's a beautiful thing happening in our little corner of the world—and it's worth celebrating.

Over the past several weeks, we've witnessed a remarkable coming together of hearts and hands. The members of Bethel United Methodist Church have worked side by side with:












- New Beginnings Church
- The Lions Club
- The Girl Scouts
- New Horizon's Band
- The Seventh-day Adventist Church

Together, we've filled Easter boxes, offered help where it was needed, opened our buildings for shared use, and supported one another with generosity and grace. This is not just cooperation—it's community in the truest, most faithful sense. It's the kind of unity that the Apostle Paul speaks of when he writes:

"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

— Romans 12:4–5

Each group brought something unique to the table:

-   The Girl Scouts brought enthusiasm and creativity.
-   The Lions Club offered a spirit of service.
-   The New Horizon's Band added joy and music.
-   The SDA Church offered support.
-   New Beginnings Church came with open hearts and a shared love of service.
-  The faithful of Bethel UMC showed what it means to live out the gospel in practical, powerful ways.

We've seen firsthand the truth of Psalm 133:1:

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

This is what the Kingdom of God looks like when we work together: joyful, generous, and grace-filled. Let us continue to nurture this spirit of togetherness. May we always be a church that opens its doors, shares its tables, and links arms with our neighbors—for the good of our community and the glory of God.

With gratitude and hope,
Pastor Jim Johnson

Recent Activities:

Riley's Recital

Wed April 16th

Riley

House

Senior

Recital

Wednesday



April 16,

2025 – 7pm

*Solo piano by Riley and a duet with Dr. Joseph Nungen on organ.
Works composed by Brahms, Debussy, Mozart, and Rachmaninoff.*

A Reception followed.

It was an evening of exceptional music and wonderful fellowship. There were 58 persons who attended. A Goodwill offering was taken and given to Riley. You may see him around Smithsburg this summer as he plans to work in the area before determining his next step. He is considering additional studies to earn another degree, possibly Law, to prepare him for a position in the music industry.

Good Luck Riley!



Egg Hunt

Sat April 19th

What a beautiful event. There were 215 souls here. It was so awesome to see the FLC in such a buzz. We had roughly 2,000 eggs and watching the children scramble to pick them up was a highlight. As well, seeing them gathered by Teresa when she used the resurrection eggs to tell the Easter story, they all seemed to be glued to her!

Many thanks to Carol Ewan for leading us this year and all the helpers who decorated filled eggs, cooked and baked home-made treats for the bake sale. We were truly blessed that day!



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Holy Week



Palm Sunday was April 13th

New members were received.
Welcome to Abby Snyder, Madison Snyder,
Hannah Smith and Bella Wagner.



Maundy Thursday was April 17th

Worship was a lovely service with remembrance of the special events surrounding the Last Supper. Pastor Jim offered us communion and a special fellowship of washing each other's hands and each receiving a muslin cloth to dry and then take home as a treasured memory. It was very special.

After the service all 21 persons pitched in to help the Altar Committee "darken the room" for the next day of worship.



Good Friday was April 18th



Worship at 7:00 pm welcomed 19 persons into a sanctuary bare of any decoration. The "darkened room" was to symbolize the darkness of the Savior's death.

Easter Sunday April 20th

Sun - rise service @ 6:45 am
20 attended

Breakfast at 7:30
23 attended

Sunday School @ 9:00



24 attended

Worship at 10:00 am

72 attended



Continued Events:

Women at the Well

The Women at the Well will continue "The Chosen" in Sept. Currently we will study Max Lucado "How Happiness Happens" finding lasting joy in a world of comparison, disappointment, and unmet expectations. On Wednesdays at 10:00 on May 7,14,& 28. Lunch is Wednesday, May 21, 11:00 at the Olive Garden. All are welcome to join us. This study is open to all (men and women). Please contact Beverly Miller (shanda@myactv.net) or Valerie Kaufmann (kaufmval@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us.



Altar flowers:

Bethel continues to be blessed by the talents of the Altar Committee. Please consider signing up on the calendar by the offering plate. The cost is \$45.00 for both flower arrangements (not the vase) that you may take with you after the service. Be sure to let the office know a week in advance what you would like written in the bulletin. Thank you!

We are growing!

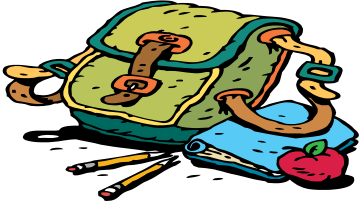
Welcome to the two new families we have seen recently. We hope you will let us know of any special

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needs you may have.

Micah's Backpack

Healthy Meals for Healthy Families



We continue weekly. If you see canned pasta, soups, tuna, etc. on sale, we are packing for 24 students . Full lists of acceptable donations is in the file holder next to the bulletins. Money is also welcomed. Just write "Micah's" on the memo line. Thanks for your continued support to this program! Linda Barnhart

Readers:

If you would like to volunteer to read the scripture, contact Elaine Snyder at 301-991-9759.

Ushers:

Please let the office know if you can take a turn. Currently we have available openings in July, August, October, November and December. Thank you.



Supporting our Homebound Bethel Caring Connection

This group is looking for a new leader.
Speak up!
Please contact the office if you could help with this.

For those keeping a homebound list: Please remove Sylvia Rider and Millie Miller who passed away; Phil Baker and T.J. Lange are now home- please change the addresses.

Homebound birthdays...

The next homebound birthdays will be in July.

Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25



Attendance April 2025

Date	In person Church S.S./ Worship	Special Events
Mar 23	22/66	
Mar 30	12/59	
April 6	16/70/21	WMC
April 13	24/70	Palm Sunday
April 20	21 /19 20 / 23 / 24 / 72	Maundy Thur/ Good Fri Easter

Leadership News:

To be the people of God on the move for Jesus to transform the world by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Leadership Board Updates:

Greeters and Ushers – have had a good response. See above for remaining Usher openings.

Spiritual Formation- The group is encouraged to reach out and make individual contact with others in kindness as Jesus did.

Trustee: Tim Smith has volunteered to paint the outdoor trim of the church this summer. The Lions and Bethel reached out to Lowes who donated a hot water heater for the basement.

We are evaluating electric providers and comparing heating vendor prices.

Summer plans- The office is looking for volunteers who would like to be a part of VBS this year. Make yourself known! We are planning a picnic and bonfire on Sat. May 24th.

The **next meeting** will be on Wed., May 21st, at 7 pm in the Office...Join us!

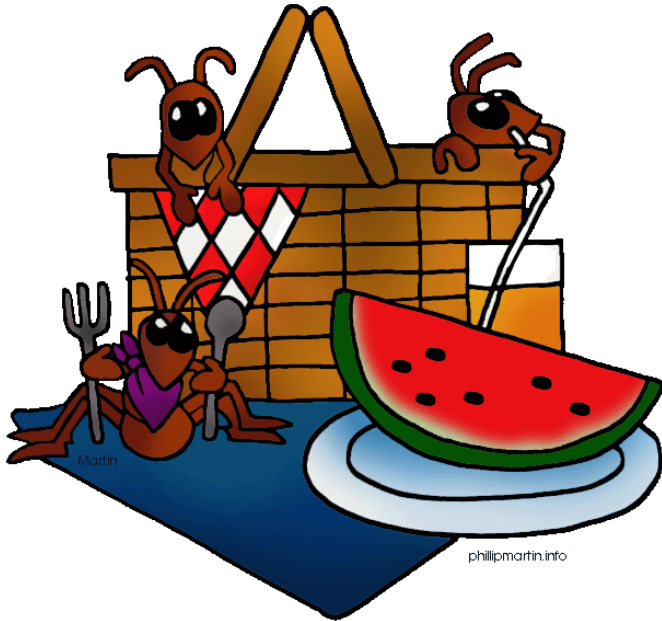


Upcoming Events:

May 24 Community Picnic and Bonfire

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At 5pm on this Saturday we will be hosting a picnic in the Pavilion. With details still to be determined, we hope you will plan to attend and bring your favorite dishes and lawn chairs for around the fire pit.



VBS

June 23-27.

The theme this year is “Knights of North Castle”. Deb Wagner and Tonya Freeman will co-chair the event. Contacts have started for filling the classrooms with teachers. Meetings will begin on Wednesday, April 30th and continue weekly to prepare.

You will be able to help by praying for a success, or with donating food, or helping to serve by being a teacher or helper. Small things like helping in restrooms, providing security, helping in the kitchen or taking pictures makes everything flow smoother!

May Birthdays:

- 7 – Tyler Barnhart
- 8 - Barry Sprecher
- 9 – Sue McAllister



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- 11 – Frank Morrisey
- 11 – Jaime Anderson
- 11 – Anna Johnson McClure
- 17 – Mary Gross
- 19 - Alexis Jenkins
- 20 – David Wagner
- 20 – Jordyn Phillips
- 24 – Jeanne Dinterman

May Anniversaries:



May 8 – William & Phyllis Harbaugh

May 13 – Jason & Christie Phillips

May 17 – Mr. & Mrs. Jaime Anderson

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May 2025 Sunday	Monday			Thursday 1 5:30 Boomers	Friday 2 12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band	Saturday 3 9am-6pm Haitian SDA Church
4 Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship 2:00 pm Western MD Hospital	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 6:00 p.m. Lions Club/FLC	7 10am W@W/ 1 st floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band 5:30 Boomer VB/FLC 6:30 Girl Scout Leaders/upstairs 7:00 VBS meet/Parlor	8 5:30 Boomers VB/FLC	9 12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band	10 9am-6pm Haitian SDA Church
11 Mother's Day 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	12	13 BWC Conference X 3 days	14 10:00 W@W 12:30-3:30 Band 5:30 Boomer VB/FLC 7:00 pm VBS Meet/Parlor	15 5:30 Boomer VB/FLC	16 12:30-3:30 Band	17 9am-6pm Haitian SDA Church
18 UM Student Day 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship	19 Newsletter Deadline	20 6:00 p.m. Lions Club/FLC	21 11am W@W/ lunch 12:30-3:30 Band 5:30 Boomer VB 6:00 GS/Parlor & Upstairs 7:00 Leadership Council/Office	22 5:30 Boomers VB/FLC	23 12:30-3:30 Band	24 9am-6pm Haitian SDA Church
25 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service	26 Memorial Day Office closed 6:00 pm Boomers VB Clinic/FLC	27 5:30 Boomers VB/FLC	28 10am W@W/ 1 st floor classroom 12:30-3:30 Band 5:30 Boomer VB 7:00 VBS/Parlor	29 5:30 Boomers VB/FLC	30 12:30-3:00 Band	31 9am-6pm Haitian SDA Church

Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville

Our Mission: To be the people of God on the move for Jesus and to transform the world by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our Vision: To be the Church of Jesus Christ to all God's children through discipleship grounded in God's Holy Word. We pledge to God and each other to accomplish our mission: Through prayer, worship and education, we will be seekers of God's will. Through witness, we will kindle the fire of spiritual and physical growth. Through Christian community we will love, nurture and support each other and those in need throughout the world.

Church Office:

Phone: 301-733-8387
Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Pastor: Jim Johnson
Email: pastor@bethelumchurch.org

Administrative Assistant:

Deb Wagner
301-733-8387
Office hours: 9 am – 1 pm Mon.-Fri.
Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Newsletter Editor:

Deb Wagner
Phone: 301-733-8387
Email: secretary@bethelumchurch.org

Bethel Connect:

Be connected; join our Google Group, search for Connect @ Bethel.

Sunday Service Times:

Traditional mixed with Contemporary
Worship @ 10:00 am
Sunday School 9:00 am
Online Sun 10:00 am @ www.bethelumchurch.org

Family Care Ministry:

Please let us know if you or a family member wish a pastoral visit during a time of grief or hospitalization, including the birth of a child. We will pray & minister to you.

Telephone Prayer Chain:

Beverly Miller
Phone: 301-739-6270
Email: shanda@myactv.net



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Pastor Jim Johnson
Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville
21006 Twin Springs Drive
Smithsburg, MD 21783
301-733-8387



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