Bethel United Methodist Church Chewsville

# Bethel Tidings

November 2026

## From the Pastor's Desk

**November 2026 — Remembering, Celebrating, and Looking Ahead**

Dear Bethel Family,

As we enter November, we find ourselves in a season of remembrance, thanksgiving, and anticipation. It is a wonderful time to reflect on where God has brought us and where God may be leading us next.

**All Saints Sunday** gives us an opportunity to remember and celebrate those who have gone before us in faith. We will especially recognize those who have passed away this year, while also remembering the many others whose lives have helped shape Bethel. Their faith, love, and service continue to shape who we are today. We give thanks for their lives and the legacy they leave behind.

What an incredible evening we shared at our annual **Trunk or Treat!** With more than **300 people in attendance**, our church grounds were filled with laughter, children, families, and community spirit. Thank you to everyone who decorated trunks, donated candy, helped organize, or simply offered a welcoming smile. Events like this remind us that ministry extends far beyond Sunday mornings. For some families, this may have been their first experience with Bethel, and I pray they left knowing they are always welcome here.

Looking ahead, Advent begins November 29, and we will introduce our new worship series, **"The Gift."** Building on our *Held in Trust* series, we will move from considering what God has entrusted to us to celebrating the greatest gift God has given us—Jesus Christ. Along with worship, we will offer a companion Bible study using *Under Wraps* by Rob Renfroe and Jessica LaGrone. I hope you will join us as we rediscover the wonder and promise of Christmas.

As I reflect on these moments, I am reminded that the church is always moving—honoring the past, serving the present, and trusting God with the future.

**God is not finished with Bethel, and I am excited about what lies ahead!**

Thank you for being a congregation that continues to share Christ's love with one another and with our neighbors.

Grace and Peace,

**Pastor Jim**
Bethel United Methodist Church

# Continued Events:

## Women at the Well

Women at the Well Bible Study "Sarah- Walking in God's promises" continues at 10am on Wednesdays in the Parlor. Lunch is normally the 3rd Wednesday of the month and will be at on Wednesday Nov 18th. Place to be announced. Please RSVP to the office so reservations can be made.

## Altar flowers:

Bethel continues to be blessed by the talents of the Altar Committee. Please consider signing up on the calendar in the main hallway. 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!

## Micah's Backpack:

We have started the school year. A list of items that are needed remains in the file next to the bulletins. If there are any specific needs it will be listed in the bulletin.

**Readers:** If you would like to volunteer to read the scripture, call Elaine Snyder at 301-991-9759.

## Ushers & Greeters:

Please let the office know if you can take a turn. Or you can sign up on the 2026 calendar in the hall by prayer request basket. Split a month with a friend! Dec. is in need of ushers. Thank you.

**Supporting our Homebound**

**Bethel Caring Connection Homebound birthdays…**

The next is Janet Deibert on November 12th she will be 100!
8507 Mapleville Road
Boonsboro, MD 21713

## Food Pantry/Blessing Box Update:

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

This ministry continues to aide those in need. Cereal, Tomato & Chicken noodle soup, canned – Tuna, Chicken, Vienna Sausages, cereals and canned vegetables and "complete meals" are needed items.
Donations of nonperishable food and hygiene products are always welcome.

Expired food cannot be used if dry goods are outdated by 3 months or canned foods by 6 months.

## Healthcare Ministry

### Tammy's Health Corner

I just wanted to let you know that we are starting to walk on Mondays and Thursdays.
Once it gets cold we will at Robinwood. For now we are still walking at Veteran's Park in Smithsburg.

Also there is a bulliten board by the nursery that has health info on It, will change every month.

There some new things coming soon.

I am here to help!!

### Smithsburg Pharmacy

Your Local Parmacy, Your Local Care,
Health Starts Here:

You can get your free Flu Shots,
Covid Shots, Pneumonia Shots,
and Shingles Shots!!

**MomCo- on the 1st Wednesday monthly at 6pm in the Parlor**, is a place to **fellowship**, **connect**, and **grow alongside other mothers** who understand the joys and challenges of the journey. No matter where you find yourself in motherhood, there is a seat for you and a community ready to walk with you. We invite you to consider joining us. Come as you are—there's a place for you here. Free childcare is available. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the office, Kaelii Boyer or Pastor Jim: 301-733-8387 or 410-688-4089 to RSVP.

## Forever givers: Kim Rishell

Miss Kim is well known for her wonderful abilities in education. Recently she was nominated for "Teacher of the year" at her school. She is just as dedicated to Bethel in a "behind the scenes" as our QuickBooks champion. She saves several hundred dollars a month by taking over the duties that we used to pay an accountant to do.

Family is likely the most important thing in her life. We can see by the loyalty of her children and grandchildren that she is well loved. Husband, Blair, and Kim are very humble and kind. Take time to say hello when you see her. Thanks, Kim.

# Attendance 2026

| Date | In person Church S.S./ Worship | Special Events |
|---|---|---|
| **Sep 27** | 15/61 | |
| **Oct 4** | 17/65/17 | Western MD worship |
| **Oct 11** | 17/66 | |
| **Oct 18** | 17/73 | Harvest Home/60 |
| **Oct 25** | 17/70 | Trunk or Treat 336 |

# Leadership News:

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

**Capital Campaign Poster:** This is now on the hallway bulletin board.

**Trustee:**

Repairing a basement window, and placing a door in the main hallway are being worked on.

**Child/Youth plans**- This will be the main focus of the church in the upcoming months.

**Audio/video system** is looking for volunteers to learn. Call the office.
It can be as simple as sitting to the side and clicking to turn the pages for the songs.

**Community ideas –** The group is considering new ideas to connect with more youth and the community.

**Finance** – Harvest Home soup sale profited $195. The sub sale profited $1,533.

The **next Leadership meeting** will be on Wed. Nov. 18 at 7 pm in the Parlor…Join us as all are welcome!

# Harvest Home 2026

On Sunday October 18th our service was led by the Laity with Pastor Jim offering the message as part of his series “Held In Trust” with the sermon “Living With Open Hands”

So many participated with gifts of food items and funds to fill our pantry.

# Trunk or Treat 2026

Our 6th Annual Trunk or Treat was another huge success, welcoming 337 attendees. Carol thanks everyone who volunteered or donated supplies, including the 12 local sponsors who contributed food and prizes. Twelve decorated trunks handed out candy, and every participating car received a prize. Our own Abbie Barnhart and Michael won first place. This year, the children paraded around the cars before taking part in a costume contest with four age groups. Everyone went home with a prize. Guests also enjoyed free hot dogs, water, chips, Antietam ice cream, children's books, coats, crafts, and games. It was a fun, safe celebration that brought our community together at our wonderful church.

## November Birthdays:

3 – Ally Boyer
6 – Becky Brown
7 – Cole Shifflett
9 – Shirley Shanholtz
9 – Michael McAllister
12 – *Janet Deibert
14 – Lacey Simmons
14 – Drew Ross
16 – Elaine Snyder
17 – Kim Rishell
18 – Ron Metzger
18 – Tim Rossiter
18 – Abigail Snyder
19 – Jeffrey Barnhart
23 – Ted Axline
27 – James Johnson

## November Anniversaries

Nov 5 – Jeffrey & Linda Barnhart

Nov 10 – Dale & Julie Beard

Nov 15 – Michael & Sue McAllister

| Nov 2026 Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All Saints Day<br>Communion<br>1<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship<br>2:00 pm Western MD Center | FLC Blocked for Election<br>2<br>6PM Walk & Stride | FLC Blocked for Election<br>3 | FLC Blocked for Election<br>4<br>10 am Women @ Well/Parlor<br>6PM MomCo/Parlor | 5<br>6PM - Walk & Stride | 6<br>12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band<br>6pm Fri Night Jam/Pavilion<br>7pm SDA Practice | 7<br>Soup Sale<br>9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church/FLC |
| B/P Screening<br>8<br>Food tabs for Thanks box<br>Soup Sale<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 9<br>6PM – Walk & Stride | 10 | 11<br>10 am Women @ Well/Parlor | 12<br>6PM – Walk & Stride | 13<br>12:30-3:30 New Horizon's Band<br>6pm Fri Night Jam/Pavilion<br>7pm SDA Practice | 14<br>9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church/FLC |
| 15<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship<br>2:00 SYA Cheer event/FLC | 16<br>Newsletter Deadline<br>Sam's Club reminder<br>6PM – Walk & Stride | 17<br>6:30 Lion's Friendsgiving/FLC | 18<br>11 am Women @ Well Lunch<br>7pm Leadership Council/Parlor | 19<br>Thanks food items due<br>6PM – Walk & Stride | 20<br>10 am prep thanks boxes<br>12:30 New Horizons Band/FLC<br>6pm Fri Night Jam/Pavilion<br>7pm SDA Practice/Sanctuary | 21<br>9am-5pm Haitian SDA Church |
| 22<br>Blanket Sunday<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual Service Worship | 23<br>10am Give thanks boxes<br>6PM – Walk & Stride | 24<br>9 am Decorate for x-mas | 25<br>10 am Women @ Well/Parlor | 26<br>Thanksgiving-day off<br>6PM – Walk & Stride | 27<br>12:30 New Horizons Band/FLC<br>6pm – Fri. Jam/ Pavilion<br>7pm SDA Practice | 28<br>9am-4pm Haitian SDA Church |
| 29<br>1st Sunday of Advent<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>10:00 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual | 30<br>6pm Walk & Stride | | | | | |

# 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
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**Pastor:** Jim Johnson
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**Newsletter Editor:**
Deb Wagner
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**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*

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

**Pastor Jim Johnson**
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301-733-8387

Donate with Venmo.