



A Beacon of Hope

The Monthly Newsletter of Bethel United Church of Christ
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April 2022

From the Pastor

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NRSV)

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought, it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

It feels like we have been trees planted by the water as we have trusted in the Lord for the past two years. In the past few weeks, we have seen our world getting back to a familiar feel with our Thursday morning Lenten Coffee, worship with more folks in the sanctuary, choir and singing, and children's stories. Our trust – Faith – in God has brought us through a very long time of examination in all aspects of our lives. The feeling of “normal” is often just being comfortable, but God tends to take us away from that comfortable feeling challenging us to look at our world in a different way.

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When we plant ourselves in God those challenges come much like the winds of storms and the currents of a rushing stream. When we find ourselves in those challenges like we have these past two years, we have choices we need to make. Choosing God as our foundation gives us the ability to see the world in a very different way, at least it should. God sent Jesus into the world to bring peace to a world that knows way too much war.

As we get ready to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, and we feel the oppression of the pandemic lifting it is a time to celebrate. As the church moves into the future my prayer is that we can balance the past with the future. The need to change has been coming to the church for years and the church has pushed it away as hard as it could. We need to listen to the people we are working with to attract and introduce them to the meaningful aspects of our faith, while listening to what they need to keep them planted by the water.

Sunday, March 20, 2022, felt like a turning point in the life of Bethel; there were children, greeters, choir, friends, and family we have not seen for a long time. Let's build on the experience of this day and move forward, keeping ourselves planted by the stream. With our trust in God, we have withstood the storms of the past two years and we can face the new normal that we will see unfold before us in the weeks and months to come. A thank you to those who made March 20 possible, Linda, Marvin & Mary Jo, Luanne, Peggy, Patty, Shannon, Allen D., Cindy, Helen, the choir, and Phil. These are the people that do the work needed every Sunday. Take some time to thank them and ask them how you can help in the future.

Peace & Love

Rev. Allen R. Kahler





Choir Notes

Palm Sunday and Easter are inching ever closer as the choir and CAMPP kids are working hard to be prepared for this special time of year. Both the adults and children will be celebrating Jesus' ride into Jerusalem with each choir doing their own version of HOSANNA!!! The CAMPP kids will be singing the fun "**Sing It! Hosanna!**", while the adults will be sharing a beautiful new song "**Hosanna Gathering**". Both musical pieces will provide very descriptive and visual meaning to the scripture in **Luke 19:28-40** about Jesus coming into Jerusalem as King.

On *Easter Sunday, the Day of the Lord's Resurrection*, the adult choir will be offering TWO very powerful, meaningful and favorite anthems that will capture the feeling, the excitement and the celebration of this **VERY SPECIAL DAY**.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the choir members for the ministry they provide during our services as well as during our practices. Not only do they share God's Word and message with the congregation and our online friends through song, but also with each other on Wednesday nights as we use words, music and fellowship to lift up and encourage each other. Such a blessing Bethel has in this ministry. A very special group of disciples.

Psalm 9:2 *I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.*



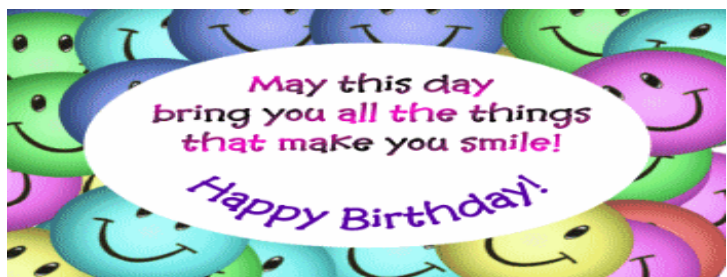
Monthly approved budget

\$17,271.95 19,334.81

Income:	(Offering)	\$ 10,713.00	annual income:	\$ 24,309.00
	(G.E.M.)	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>		<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>
total:		\$ 15,713.00	total:	\$ 34,309.00

Expense:	(overhead)	\$ 17,543.87	annual expense:	\$34,032.99
	(benev.)	\$ _____ -		<u>\$ _____ -</u>
total:		\$ 17,543.87	total:	\$34,032.99

Please note that February income was \$4,000 less than needed for our budget.



James Ramsey 4/01

Dale Stryffeler 4/8

Mathew Deckerd 4/8

Julia Beck 4/13

Julie Sell 4/19

Thomas Foos 4/22

Vincent Brunner 4/23

Geraldine Weir 4/29

George & Deborah Cappa

04/03/1976

Paul & Bonnie Finch

4/29/1967

CAMPP News

March 9th was **CAMPP Night** where we talked about Lent and how we can be thoughtful and prayerful! Each child received a Lent in a Bag with Five Symbols (Sand, Rock, Shell, Human Figure, & Candle) for reflection as we make our way through the season of Lent. Twenty-Four kids and Twelve adults were in attendance for this hour of reflection. The children learned the words and signs to a new song *JESUS IS MY FRIEND* in preparation for Service on **Sunday March 13th**. We also made special candle holders that are beautifully displayed in the sanctuary thru this Season. We had 12 children at Service to sing *JESUS IS MY FRIEND* to the congregation!

CAMPP kids helping around the world..... A \$50.00 donation to the Clinic in the Ukraine will be made on behalf of the CAMPP Kids Giving Jar.

Our next **CAMPP Night** will be **April 6th** at 6:00 and sing at Service the following Sunday **April 10th** Palm Sunday. We will be celebrating Easter and praising the LORD as He has RISEN. We are also planning an **Easter Egg Hunt** after Palm Sunday Service. HOPE TO SEE YOU AT **CAMPP & Palm Sunday Service!!!**

Coming Up..... Asking for Candy for Egg Donations for Palm Sunday.

April – CAMPP Wed 4/6 ; Children Sing @ Service 4/10 (Palm Sunday) **Easter Egg Hunt**



May – CAMPP Wed 5/4 ; Children Sing @ Service 5/8



COUNCIL CORNER FOR MARCH 2022

Apostle Glenn reports that he continues to work on filling ministry openings. Also, he talked about having a children's message during church even if there are no kids in church that day because there may be children watching our Facebook broadcast on air.

Deacon Jim & Treasurer Anne gave information regarding our special to the Hofer Clinic in the Ukraine on how/where to send our support monies so that it will get to the clinic. A letter was drafted and sent to the congregation to get their support and money collected will be sent on Monday March 28th.

Elder reports that for the month of February the Food Pantry served 36 families for a total of 86 people. Also reported that Property & Grounds will be purchasing a new 22 ft. ladder for the church and also a new timer for the light in the west foyer area.

Church business: Brian McKarns gave the council an update on the remodeling of the chancel area of the Sanctuary followed by questions and discussion.

**Respectfully submitted,
Lee Kornick, Council President**

What's Happening at Bethel

April 5th	Council Meeting	April 15th	Community Good Friday at Beloit Friends Church
April 6th	CAMPP 6:00 PM		
	Choir 7:00 PM	April 16th	Holy Saturday
April 7th	Devotional Meeting @ the Church 10:30 A.M.	April 17th	Easter "He Has Risen!!!"
April 10 th	Palm Sunday	April 20th	Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.
	CAMPP KIDS SINGING, Easter Egg Hunt	April 24th	Vespers @ Copeland oaks
April 13th	Pantry 4-5:30 P.M.	April 26th	Staff Meeting 10:00 A.M.
	Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.	April 27th	Pantry 4-5:30 P.M.
April 14th	Maundy Thursday 7:00 P.M.		
	Communion		Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.



2022 Order your Easter Flowers this year.

Our selection this year is a little different . All the Tulip baskets are assort colors and ONLY White lilies. No Bulb gardens or Hyacinths this year. The cost of the baskets are \$15.00. Orders need to be in by APRIL 4TH. Proceeds go to the Ukraine offering.

Basket of Assorted tulip _____

Total _____

Basket of white lilies _____

**Bethel United Church of Christ
25701 Buck Road
Beloit OH 44609**

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