



# A Beacon of Hope

The Monthly Newsletter of Bethel United Church of Christ  
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Website: [bethelbeloit.org](http://bethelbeloit.org)

May 2022

## From the Pastor

**Ezra 3:1-9** When the seventh month came, and the Israelites were in the towns, the people gathered together in Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Then Jeshua son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his kin set out to build the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as prescribed in the law of Moses the man of God. <sup>3</sup> They set up the altar on its foundation, because they were in dread of the neighboring peoples, and they offered burnt offerings upon it to the LORD, morning and evening. <sup>4</sup> And they kept the festival of booths, as prescribed, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number according to the ordinance, as required for each day, <sup>5</sup> and after that the regular burnt offerings, the offerings at the new moon and at all the sacred festivals of the LORD, and the offerings of everyone who made a freewill offering to the LORD. <sup>6</sup> From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid.

The Israelites had been in exile and were returning to their land and to their worship; we have been exiled for two years and we have talked about getting back to worship since September of last year. The last month have felt like what worship will look and feel like in our future. It has been great to see Bethel's worship getting back to full participation with the CAMPP Kids and the Bethel Choir singing and taking part in the service. I do thank Glenn for his work to get others involved in the many details, (greeters, flower calendar, acolytes and more) that make worship what we all know and love.

In September we tried to welcome everyone back into worship, but God had some different ideas. We also tried at Christmas to but that did not happen in the way we anticipated. With some planning and with the help of Luanne and Peggy for the music, Deb making sure we had palm branches and tulips and lilies, Chris, Shannon, and Patty helped get our sound and video working and God blessed it all Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter felt like we had returned from our own form of exile.

My prayer is that we will continue to explore what God has in store for us when the plans we make are not what God wants us to do. The Israelites in our text above came back and built an altar to make sacrifices to God before they rebuilt the temple, in the verses that follow they build the temple and continue to offer sacrifices to God. Returning and building take work on the part of the whole congregation. Thank you to all of you who help along the way.

Peace & Love

Rev. Allen R. Kahler

# Summer Music!!

Can you believe we will be starting our **Special Music** for the summer in just a few weeks!!!!!!

**WOOHOO!!!!!!**

**May 29<sup>th</sup>** will mark the beginning of this **fun time!!!**

I am scheduling NOW so let me know **ASAP** if interested in sharing your talents. Let's reserve the date that works best for you before the schedule fills up.

We are hoping to also have a few **"additional special guests"** throughout the summer so watch for updates as those details are worked out.

An **EXCITING TIME** so don't miss this **MUSIC Filled Summer!!**

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# Bethel Summer Music!



Contact: Luanne

# ♪ Choir Notes ♪

**He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!!** The Lenten season and Easter Day have come and gone for another year, but that JOY and celebration of *Easter Morning Worship* will continue in the church for several weeks to come. What a special time it was for all who celebrated Easter Service with us...whether in person or online. We were very sad, however, that the sounding of the chimes and the choir's first song for the service, "**Then Came the Morning**", were not audible online. It was meant to set the tone for the whole service and apologies to those listening online that missed the dynamic beginning.

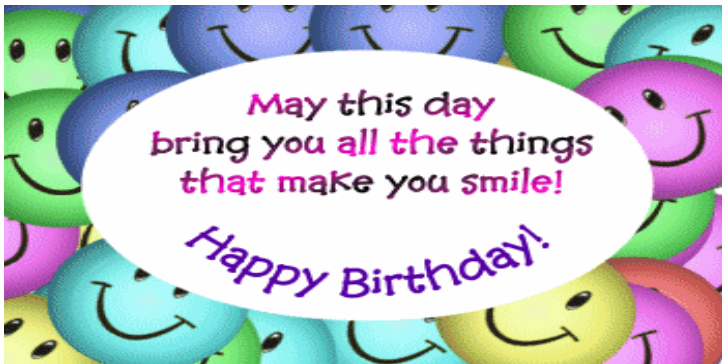
A special **Thank You** to each choir member!! They all worked hard to prepare for the Lenten season and for Easter Day. **Thanks You** also to Peggy and Marie for their joint efforts on both the organ and piano. Together they **all** made our Easter Worship so powerful in a very *MUSICAL* way!!

Although the choir is starting to "wind things down" for our winter and spring choir season, we still have a few more weeks left of sharing music with all of you. Our aim, as in past years, is to be finished with our Wednesday evening practices by the first of May. We will continue singing for services through May 22<sup>th</sup>. The choir deserves and looks forward to the summer break. It is very much needed with the "commitment" that each one graciously makes to be here the rest of the year. They are a talented and special group of people and I am so grateful to be a part of them!

During the month of May I would love to ask each of you to personally THANK a couple of choir members each week for what they bring to our worship services throughout the year. **Let's let them know just how much they are appreciated!!**



Dear lord hear our prayers for health and happiness for all of your Children big and small. We pray for Lee's friend Bill Layton and his family.



Vicki Foos

5/2

Pamela Harlan

5/5

Darlene Bradley

5/12

Bonnie Finch

5/13

Deanna Kornick

5/13

Anne McKarns

5/15

Billie Jo Mercer

5/18

Connie Larsen

5/30

Richard & Shirley Rice

5/3/2003

William & Wanda Humphrey

5/13/1978

Jeremiah & Chelsea Yeagley

5/14/2016

Phil & Pamela Harlan

5/18/1985

Wayne & Sandy Fieldhouse

5/22/1971

Edward & Marie Miller

5/23/1976

Allen & Shannon Kahler

5/24/2008

James & Patricia Crooks

5/30/1985



## CAMPP News



April 6<sup>th</sup> was **CAMPP Night** where we read the Easter Story about Jesus' journey and how he died on the Cross for US! Nineteen kids and Twelve adults were in attendance for this glorious hour of praise. The children learned the words to a new song **SING IT! HOSANNA!** in preparation for Service on **Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>**. We also made yarn crosses to remind us of the sacrifices Jesus made for us! We had 18 Children at Service to **SING IT! HOSANNA!** to the congregation. An **Easter Egg Hunt** with over 500 candy filled eggs brought excitement to the children after service. Thank you to everyone for all the donations to make this event a success for the Children!

Our last **CAMPP Night** before Summer will be **May 11<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 and sing at Service the following **Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>**. We will be learning how we can grow in GOD just like the spring plants do! **HOPE TO SEE YOU AT CAMPP!!!**

## CAMPP Announcements

**May** – CAMPP Wed 5/11/22 ; Children Sing @ Service Sunday 5/15 10am

Lauren Phillis / **CAMPP** Director



# Financial Update

As of March 31, 2022

Bethel UCC Monthly Approved Budget is \$19,334.81

March 2022

First Quarter Year To Date

## Income:

Offering:	\$15,974.76	\$40,283.76
GEM Account:	<u>\$8,624.00</u>	<u>\$18,624.00</u>
Total:	<b>\$24,598.76</b>	<b>\$58,907.76</b>

## Expenses:

Overhead:	\$18,736.50	\$52,769.49
Benevolences:	<u>\$10,073.00</u>	<u>\$10,073.00</u>
Total:	<b>\$28,809.50</b>	<b>\$62,842.49</b>

**Short: March (\$4,210.74) Short: YTD (\$3,934.73)**

As you can see, our expenses are \$4,210.74 more than our income for March and \$3,934.73 more than our income Year to date. Please prayerfully consider increasing your giving to help meet our budget.

With your help we support so many good causes – THANK YOU



## COUNCIL CORNER FOR APRIL 2022

**Apostle:** Glenn reports that all is going well with folks stepping up and taking on responsibilities in the church. He also reports that he will be contacting Lauren from CAMPP to discuss how he can work with them further too.

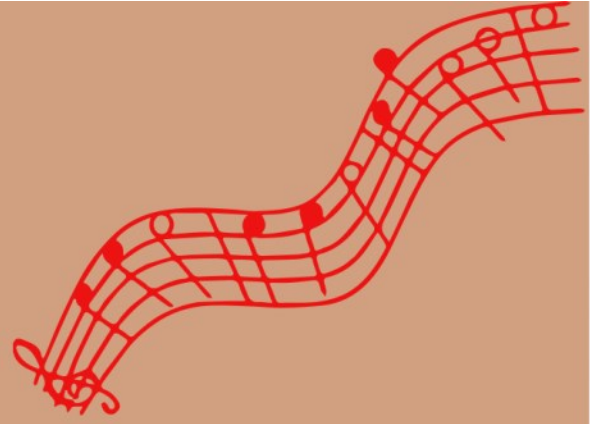
**Deacon:** The financial report was presented to the council and then unanimously approved. Jim reported that he is working on familiarizing himself with the responsibilities of the Deacon and creating plans to address concerns he finds.

**Elder: Allen D.** reports that for the month of February the Food Pantry served 36 families for a total of 86 people. He also reported that he would like to start making visits with Pastor Allen.

**Church business:** Discussion was had and changes were made to the church's "Wedding Reservation Form" to update the prices and guidelines for use of the church for a wedding function.

Respectfully submitted,

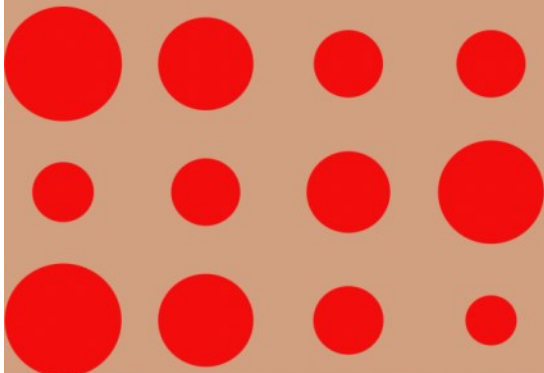
Lee Kornick, Council President



# **Pick a Favorite!**

**Write the name of a song or  
hymn you'd like to sing or  
hear during worship service  
and we'll do our best to  
accommodate.**

**Place it in the box outside  
the office.**



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**Beloit OH 44609**

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