



A Beacon of Hope

The Monthly Newsletter of Bethel United Church of Christ
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August 2022

From the Pastor

Since the summer of 1970 I have spent a week at camp, I have camped, biked, climbed mountains, rafted down streams and sung hundreds of songs. In all of that fun I have grown closer and closer to God. Yes, the activities and adventures were fun and even challenging at times, and in the midst of all of that God was always there moving and shaping our lives.

My annual week at camp is always a great time for me to minister to youth for a week and share the message of God's love for us all. This year we looked at the parables of Jesus. We studied the parable of the Sower, the Friend in need, the Workers in the vineyard, the lost Sheep and Coin, and we finished with the Mustard seed. We planted seeds on the first day of camp and when they went home, they had a plant starting to push through the soil, much like the ideas we planted throughout the week that are now growing in their minds. As the campers arrived at camp this year they had to take a rapid Covid test to make sure they were healthy. All of my campers tested negative and we were off to a great start. Mark 4:1-20 tells the story about different kinds of soil and how when seeds fall on different soil and how they will grow or not grow. This was a great way to introduce the parables of Jesus and kick off a week of spiritual growth and adventure.

Similar to church camp, our church is a place where our faith is shaped and where we grow in our understanding and devotion to God. Just like the parable of the sower, when we step outside of the church there are many different paths to take and we have all seen the paths that can lead to good things and not so good things. Planting seeds in good soil is the first step to a fruitful harvest and planting ourselves in the word of God will lead to a fruitful life.

Remember, even in the littlest things God is always there moving and shaping our lives.

Peace and Love

Allen R. Kahler, Pastor

Special Summer Music

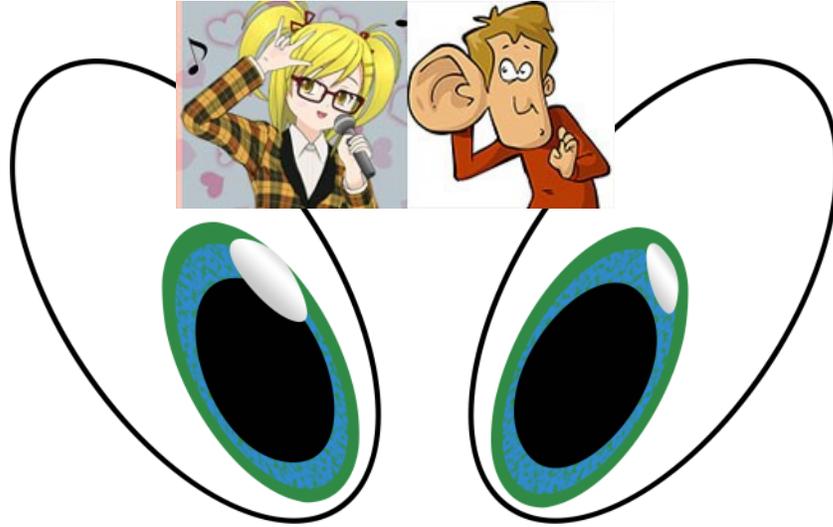
- July 31 - Bethel Trio
- Aug. 7 - Rachelle Joy-Tupaj
- Aug. 14 - ** No special music - Service at ballpark & picnic*
- Aug. 21 - Audrey Nolte
- Aug. 28 - Marie Miller
- Sept. 4 - Kayla Gilmore

Ok folks!!!! Here we are in August already!! How did THAT happen???? We have enjoyed some WONDERFUL music this summer and still have several Special Guests to look forward too. Here is the line-up for the rest of the summer. ENJOY!!!



Coming Soon

Keep your eyes and ears open for new days and times for C.A.M.P.P. kids events and singing at Sunday services. Also look for Bells and choir startup in September.



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A promotional graphic for the Heartland Conference Annual Gathering. The left side has a yellow background with a logo of four overlapping circles in blue, red, green, and purple. Below the logo, the text reads: "HEARTLAND CONFERENCE ANNUAL GATHERING", "Thursday, September 22 & Friday, September 23", "An in-person event with an online option", and "Westerville Community United Church of Christ in Westerville, OH". The right side shows a corkboard with a white sticky note pinned by a purple pushpin. The note has the words "SAVE THE DATE" written in large, black, hand-drawn capital letters.

Coming soon continued



Helen (our janitor) would like to have someone who could fill in for her if needed. Please call the Church office (330-525-7330 if you can help.



If you are interested in being the Greeter On Sunday Morning's please see Debbie Scott or Glenn Swope or Write your name on the Greeter Sheet outside the church office on the bulletin board.

Bell Choir Excitement!!!

Hey everyone!! Recently our wonderful Church Council Deacon, Jim Buttermore, challenged us all to answer three questions:

- 1.) Why do I attend Bethel?
- 2.) What would I like from Bethel that I don't get now?
- 3.) What can I do for Bethel that I don't do now?

These are important questions that we should all seriously and prayerfully consider and make a solid effort to answer. Each one of us needs to have a hand in making our church and worship experience as meaningful as possible. What we get out of it depends greatly on what we are willing to put into it.

Now.....all seriousness aside for a moment..... I am here to tell you we have the perfect solution for helping you to answer **question #3..... What can I do for Bethel that I don't do now?!!!** We are in need of a couple of **"FUN"** people who LOVE to have a good time. Who would like the opportunity to be a part of a great group of folks with no singing or previous musical experience necessary. You don't have to know how to read music. You just need to "enjoy" music and having fun.

So.....please don't ALL OF YOU come running to me at the same time!!!!!! Please approach in an orderly manner and tell me how much you would LOVE to give our bell choir a try!!!!!! I know this is the opportunity you have ALL been waiting for and I am so excited to welcome you into the fun and exciting world of HAND BELLS!!

And back to the serious side....don't forget to think about the THREE questions!!!



Hurry!! Get your FREE LESSONS while supply lasts!!!

What's Happening at Bethel

The next CFF meal will be Monday August 8/8/2022.

The Thursday morning devotional (Our Daily Bread) at 10:30 continues this month.

Pantry will be August 10th and 24th from 4-5:30.

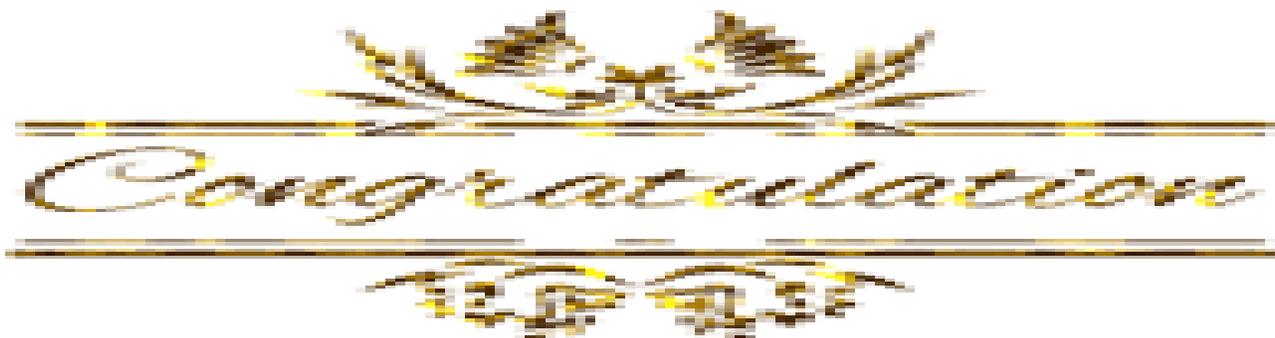
Service & Picnic in the Knox Ruritan Park is scheduled for August 14th.

Coming soon there will be Bell Practice and Choir Practice. Luanne needs a couple more people for Bells. Talk to Luanne if you are interested.

There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board outside of the church office for anyone who wants to signup to be a Greeter.

The cost of ordering flowers for the altar is \$20.00.

Announcement: In order to keep our Congregation's information up to date please write a note to Deb if any of your information changes. Information that may change is Address, Phone Number, additions or subtracted members in the family, addition such as birth, anniversaries. Etcetera. Please sign the note so I know who to ask if there are any questions.



In recognition of our own Glenn Swope for 60 years of ordination. Recognition also goes to our Jerry Kruse for 50 year of ordination. Thank you !!!

COUNCIL CORNER FOR JULY 2022

Apostle: Glenn on vacation, no report.

Deacon: The financial report was presented to the council and approved by unanimous vote. Jim reports that he & Church and Ministry; Jackie Mercer from the team attended the July staff meeting . They will continue to attend these meetings. He also reported that the finance team will begin work on the 2023 church budget in August. Jim is looking for at least 1 or 2 new team members to assist with this project.

Elder: Allen D. reports that for the month of June the Food Pantry served 56 families for a total of 143 people. Allen D. met with the Knox Twp. trustees and we are on the list to get the road drainage fixed hopefully before winter arrives.

Church business: We are working in the church office to better organize the record keeping of the council and congregation meeting minutes. Records will be kept in a binder and file folder for easy access and referencing.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Kornick, Council President

"Age is merely the
number of years the
world has been
enjoying you."

Unknown

Dave Scott 8/1

Darlene Lane 8/2

Rich Rice 8/3

Marvin Dye 8/6

Ty Johnson 8/9

Ryan Foos 8/9

Emily Mercer 8/12

Janice McLaughlin 8/18

Evelyn Yaggi 8/20

Devin Finch 8/24

Dennis Lane 8/24

Sherry Brunner 8/24

Andrew Finch 8/27

Natalie Yaggi 8/30



Brad & Mary Korosy
8/01/2014

Bethel United Church of Christ
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