

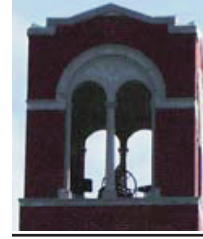
Bethel United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 37
Chewsville, MD 21721
Rev. Bill Warehime
301.733.8387



Star of Wonder
December 4 @ 5:00 p.m.

Down From His Glory
December 11 @ 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Joy
December 18 @ 6:00 p.m.



Bethel Tidings

Newsletter of
Bethel United Methodist Church
www.bethelchewsville.org

Volume 48

December 2011

No. 12

From the Desk of Pastor Bill *The Christmas Spirit*

The Christmas Spirit is NOT about the “Man with the Bag.”

The Christmas Spirit is not about “being naughty or nice.”

It’s not about Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Target, Wal-Mart or the next big sale.

The Christmas Spirit is about the Man with a heart. It is about all who have sinned and fallen.

It is about the most precious gifts of a lifetime;

Joy
Hope
Peace
Love
Eternal Life

The cost is only a changed and willing heart to follow the Man of Galilee, the Babe of Bethlemen.

Catch the Christmas Spirit!
Live the Christmas Spirit!
Share the Christmas Spirit!



Bethel United Methodist Church

(Physical & delivery address)
21006 Twin Springs Dr.
Smithsburg, MD
21783

(Mailing address)
P.O. Box 37
Chewsville, MD
21721

Sunday Service Times

8:45 a.m.-Traditional Worship Service
11:00 a.m.-Contemporary Worship Service
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School

Rev. Bill Warehime, Pastor
billwarehime@myactv.net

Church office

Phone 301-733-8387
Email: bethel.church@myactv.net
www.bethelchewsville.org

For Prayer Chain:

Contact Beverly Miller 301-739-6270
Email: shanda@myactv.net
bethel.church@myactv.net
billwarehime@myactv.net

Please contact the church office:
If your address or phone number has changed.
If there has been a birth or death in your family.
If you are ill or hospitalized.

Altar Flowers

December 4: Kevin Barkman
December 11: Mike/Sue McAllister
December 18: Phil Baker
December 25: Barry/Penny Sprecher



Our Stewardship last month...

| | 8:45 a.m. Worship | 11:00 a.m. Worship | Sunday School | Offering |
|--------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------|
| Oct 30 | 56 | 61 | - | 4,124.16 |
| Nov 6 | 125 | 81 | 97 | 5,048.35 |
| Nov 13 | 136 | 79 | 103 | 5,667.50 |
| Nov 20 | 119 | 75 | 102 | 4,699.60 |
| Nov 27 | 119 | 76 | 105 | 4,488.88 |



Serving in this month

Ushers: Gene Gross Harvey Leisinger
Tim Smith Barry Sprecher

Greeters:

Traditional Service Gene/Mary Gross
Steve/Lori Shifflett





Called Home to Heaven

Lori and Danielle and son, Daniel.

We rejoice with the families that they are in the presence of God!

News of the Flock

Please join us in expressing Christian sympathy to the families of longtime church members, **Jane Dehart** and **Daniel Diggins**.

Jane died on October 26. She is survived by her daughter, Rebekah Brown.

Dan died on November 19 surrounded by his family.

He is survived by his wife, Betty and daughters, Susan,

Christmas Symbols

Candles

Martin Luther, credited for decorating the first Christmas tree added lighted candles to represent the Star of Bethlehem.

Christmas Cards

The first Christmas card was printed in 1843 for Sir Henry Cole of England. He was too busy to send letters to his business associates. A thousand cards were printed and sold for one shilling.



December Anniversaries

- 1 – Harold & June Watler
- 12 – Ken & Ruth Wiles
- 23 – Rick & Debbie Hose
- 30 – Barry & Penny Sprecher

December Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 – Jon Snyder | 15 – Erika Johnson |
| 3 – Penny Sprecher | 17 – Jensen Bachtell |
| 4 – Devin Keefer | 18 – Dillon Smith |
| 5 – Daniel Rishell | 19 – Ronnie Harshman |
| 7 – Paul Boyer | 20 – Madison Bachtell |
| Luke Leisinger | Olivia Keckler |
| 8 – Margie Smith | 27 – Sadie Leisinger |
| 10 – Larry Lipsitz | 28 – Tom Edwards |
| 11 – Glenn Springer | 29 – Roxanne Terry |
| Pam Deal | 30 – Joyce Belella |
| 13 – Karen Keefer | 31 – Ruth Clevenger |
| 14 – Debbie Wagner | |

Book Corner

by Jeanne Carper

Yes, I can hear you say, how does she think we have time to read with all the holiday preparations, yet maybe just a chapter late in the evening with some music playing softly might lift your spirits and warm your heart...

F E *The Christmas List, The Locket, and Finding Noel*, by Richard Paul Evans

F K *Esther's Gift, a Mitford Christmas Story, and Shepherd's Abiding* by Jan Karon

F L *Miracle on 49th Street* by Mike Lupica

F L *The Christmas Candle and An Angel's Story*, by Max Lucado

F M *Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy*, by Debbie Macomber

F R *The Shoe Box: A Christmas Story*, by Francine Rivers

F W *Touched by an Angel, a Christmas Miracle*, by Martha Williamson

F W *Christmas Jars*, by Jason Wright

J C *The Christmas Story, a Felt Play Story* (good for small grandchildren!)

J L *Angels, Angels Everywhere*, by Larry Libby

J P *A Special Place for Santa*, by Jeanne Pieper

CD collections

CD *Holiday Homecoming and Christmas in My Home Town*, Marlene Young

CD *Christmas with the Hagerstown Choral Arts*

CD *Celtic Harp for Christmas*, Lori Pappajohn

CD *Winter's Journey*, Brad White & Pierre Grill

Operation Christmas Child Goal Exceeded

Praise God and thanks Bethel Church family!

By God's grace and the generous hearts and working hands of so many at Bethel, we were able to send off 353 shoe box gifts this year.

This is the 4th year our church has joined with the 60,000 churches across the nation and beyond in this powerful mission project to reach around the world to children in need.

In 2008, we sent 203 boxes; 2009 there were 274 boxes; last year we sent 356 boxes and again exceeded our goal this year with 353 boxes.

The Bethel Believers Sunday School class is grateful to all who helped in every aspect to help reach and exceed our goal again this year.

Four years and over a thousand boxes later from Bethel we continue to give thanks for the privilege of sharing the love of God and the greatest gift of all – Jesus – through the power of a simple gift.



DECEMBER

Sunday

Monday

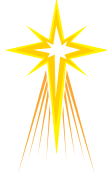

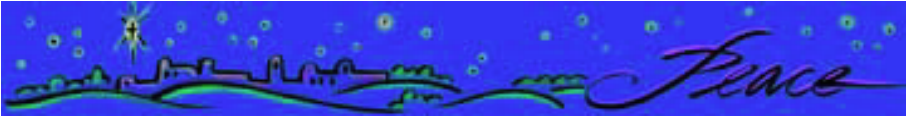







Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
|   Communion |  | | |  7:00 Adult Choir |  PHLIC 11-2 | |
| 4 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary 5:00 Children's Program Communion |  Trustees Meeting 7:00p.m. | 6 Lions Club 6:15 p.m. | 7 10:00 Women @ Well 7:00 Bangs 7:00 Discipleship | 8 7:00 Adult Choir | 9 | 10 |
| 11 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary 7:00 Cantata | 12 | 13 | 14 10:00 Women @ Well 7:00 Discipleship | 15 7:00 Adult Choir | 16 PHLIC 11-2 |  DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles |
| 18 8:45 Traditional 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Contemporary 6:00 Christmas Joy | 19 | 20 |  11:00 Fellowship Brunch 7:00 Discipleship | 22 7:00 Adult Choir | 23  | 24 7:00 Christmas Eve 1:00 Barn Service |
|   10:00 Christmas Service | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | 31 |

Sitting on His Lap in the Mall

Tim Weseman

In those days, the calendar issued a decree that all the world should be taxed. And so all went to the mall for a taxing day of Christmas shopping.

And so we went up to the mall because we belonged to the credit line of MasterCard, being great with children.

So it was that while there, the hours were accomplished that presents should be purchased.

And there were in the middle of the mall parents abiding in a line, keeping watch over their children with might. And lo, the attraction caught their eyes and the excitement of sitting on his lap shone all over their faces; and parents were sore afraid that the line would be too long.

And suddenly there was a multitude of angelic faces, crying and shouting with glee, "Pleeeeeease!"

And it came to pass, that we went to stand in line to see this one who bids us come.

While waiting in line, the children asked, "How much longer?" "Are we almost to the front?" "Are you going to sit on his lap?"

The children continued to ask questions and planned what they would say when they got to the front on the line.

Shivers going up and down my spine as visions of Christmas bills danced in my head. Being impatient at the children, anger brewing as others shopped while stuck in line. Thinking about the busy schedule and little time to accomplish it all. Stewing...

brewing... pouting THEN a voice called, NEXT!

Quickly tucking in shirts and brushing hair, wiping chocolate from faces waiting to go in through the door. It seems as if an angel said, "Go on in, he will see you now."

Mumbling and grumbling about the time wasted just to get a chance to sit on his lap. The children rushed to jump on his lap. They threw their arms around him.

I looked at him in amazement... I mean Him.

Expecting a jolly ol' man in a red suit and white beard. I dropped the packages and fell to the floor... He said, "Don't be afraid, Come there is room for you!"

As an adult there couldn't possibly be room. Hesitantly taking a place on His lap next to the children, they began to tell Him their wishes:

"Jesus, this year I want to tell you about my friend Billy at school. His mom won't let him come to Sunday School. Will You help her understand what it means to talk to You, to worship You, live for You and to sit on Your lap?"

More requests were being made by the children for those overseas or that needed to be healed.

Then Jesus looked at me, I asked for forgiveness for impatience. Calming my fears, easing my worry, adjusting my vision.

Jesus was in the mall today!

Jesus is here!

Emmanuel, God with us!



Women at the Well Wishes

Their wish is to bring joy to the residents of Western Maryland. You can help fulfill their wishes by bringing gifts! They will be delivered *Wednesday, December 7...*

Gift suggestions:

Powder/Lotion/Cologne/Aftershave
Men/Women socks
Slipper Socks with treads on bottom
Family DVD Movies (PG)
CDs
Word Search Books-Large Print
Combs/Brushes and Hair Picks



Receiving God's Love, Bible study

Wednesdays @ 10:00 a.m.

Everyone is invited to Fellowship Brunch

Wednesday, December 21 @ Fireside

Enjoy special Christmas treats between the services on *Sunday, December 18.*

Have a blessed Christmas!

Star of Wonder

Sunday, December 4

5:00 p.m. Covered Dish Dinner

6:00 p.m. Children's Program followed by dessert

There's only been one star in all of history where one could actually see and be witness to the "Star of Wonder," the star that helped mark the miraculous birth of our Savior. Join the kids as they present, *Star of Wonder*, a heavenly Christmas musical.

Down From His Glory

Sunday, December 11

7:00 p.m.

A special part of the Advent season as we prepare our hearts for Christmas is the presentation of a Christmas cantata by our Adult Choir. This year the choir's Christmas offering will be "Down from His Glory." It is the love story of Christmas presented in song, with a full-voice choir and rich instrumentation, the adult choir will present this exiting work and will be joined by the children's choir in a blend of new songs with old favorites of the Christmas celebration of Jesus' birth. We praise God for the gift of music and look forward to this celebration of the Christmas love story in song.

Christmas Joy

Sunday, December 18

6:00 p.m.

We have all been given special gifts, take this opportunity to share your gift with Bethel friends and family joyous night!

Come and share a special poem, reading or song. Enjoy the evening with special treats. It's a great opportunity to invite friends to a special evening during Christmas season!



October Treasurer's Report

Income

Noah's Ark Learning Center

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Child Care Fees | 983.90 |
| Employee Compensation | -716.63 |
| Supplies & Materials | -114.16 |
| Total | 153.11 |

Church

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Building Fund Contributions | 1,100.00 |
| Memorials | 16.00 |
| Interest Income | 1.34 |
| Offerings | 24,009.93 |
| Fundraisers | 1,261.00 |
| Mission Gifts received | 350.00 |
| Restricted Contributions | 155.00 |
| Restricted Contr. disbursed | -1,706.00 |
| Use of Church Fees | 170.00 |
| Total income | 25,510.38 |

Expenses

Capital Outlay

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Interest Expense-Mortgage | 751.16 |
|---------------------------|--------|

Christian Education

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Church Literature & Material | 38.28 |
| Church Music | 189.69 |
| Sunday School Material | 465.98 |

Detailed treasurer report may be obtained from the church office.

Operating Expenses

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Advertising | 62.10 |
| Electric | 1,572.85 |
| Custodians | 1,169.84 |
| Secretary | 997.00 |
| Flowers/Memorials | 23.50 |
| Miscellaneous | -.40 |
| Office Supplies | 117.27 |
| Telephone | 171.34 |

Other Giving

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Local Food Assistance | 500.00 |
|-----------------------|--------|

The Ministry

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| MPP, CPP Medical | 1,716.59 |
| Pastor's Salary | 3,962.58 |
| Utilities & Maintenance | 343.99 |

World Service

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Conference | 2,268.58 |
| Total expenses | 14,350.35 |

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Mortgage Payable | 179,150.14 |
|------------------|------------|

