

**Loving God  
Following  
Jesus  
Serving All**



Newsletter of Bethel Presbyterian Church

April 2010

# The Bethel Beat

## Reaching Out In Love

As George Good journeys with pancreatic cancer we walk along side the family. As there are some significant financial needs in these days for George and Carolyn, we have established a fund here at Bethel. If you would like to make a donation please mark it 'George Good Support.' The Deacons have already responded with support and have asked that the Red Wagon donations on Easter Sunday be designated to go to the Goods. We thank you all for your care, prayers and support for the family.

## To the Church Triumphant

**Betty Stewart  
March 10,  
2010**



## From the Pastor's Desk

Easter is a day filled with Alleluias and great joy! What a celebration in our lives as followers of Jesus Christ. We hear with fresh wonder the story of the women who came to the grave and discovered it empty and heard the angels proclaim, "He is not here, He is Risen!" We join in their amazement and joy as they ran to tell the disciples of the great good news! What a morning, what a morning!

And what a season – appearances of Jesus to the disciples in the upper room, walking along the road to Emmaus, grilling fish by the seaside, finally, on a mountain top to witness Jesus' ascending to heaven. Yes, Easter is more than a day – it is a season. From the sunrise services on Easter morning all the way through the fifty days until we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday we are in the season of Easter. Each day is a day to celebrate with great joy!

Hmmm, you say, how can we keep up a celebration for fifty days? What about the full reality of our lives? Doesn't work come on Monday morning? Don't we still have to face tragedy and death? What about hungry neighbors and those in need? Where is the joy in all that?

Our lives are filled with challenges, even grief and pain, throughout the Easter season, throughout the year. To these challenges we bring the great hope of the resurrection. The hope that is deep within us and that bubbles out in this special time of Easter speaking to all the difficult moments in our lives. Christ has overcome sin and death and brings us an amazing gift of joy. There is a phrase from a song that says, "The joy of the Lord is our strength." The words are nice but the tune really tells us that the joy we seek and need is from the Lord. Of our own volition we cannot keep a joy filled celebration going for fifty days. Just look at the first disciples. Almost immediately they were sequestered behind closed doors, afraid of what might happen to them. Just as Jesus came to them he comes to us, speaking, "Peace be with you." As we accept this peace that only Christ can give and focus on the hope he brings us each day we can be filled with the joy of Easter, all 50 days of the season, all 365 days of the year.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Bob Goossen

## Celebrations in March

### Happy Birthday!

- 1 Alyssa Taddie
- 4 Don Streams
- 4 Burton Winsheimer
- 7 Sonya Shamberger
- 11 Rebecca George
- 14 Hannah Stone
- 18 Sandy Shamberger
- 19 Arlene Lawson
- 24 Mary Lou Thompson
- 25 Bonnie Overman
- 26 Megan Topeka
- 26 Tom Bruner
- 27 Janelle Kish
- 28 Phyllis Streams
- 29 George Ream
- 29 Emmy McLaughlin
- 30 Ruth Shamberger

### Happy Anniversary!

- 2 Tom & Marge Mikesell
- 24 Harold & Lillian Kinter
- 26 Don & Lesa Kendall

## Fair Trade Coffee

Packages of regular and decaffeinated coffee are available for purchase in the Glory Room.

## The Bethel Beat

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*The Bethel Beat* is published monthly by and for members and friends of Bethel Presbyterian Church. Please submit news, notes and ideas to the editor. Call 724-479-8697 or email [jwalker86@verizon.net](mailto:jwalker86@verizon.net) by the 15th of the month.

## Youth Mission and Camp Auction

Our 14th Annual Youth Mission and Camp Auction was an afternoon filled with happy service, laughter and much success. Together we raised \$2,132.05 to send our young people to summer camp and on the mission trip. Our heartfelt thanks to all who gave so generously.

We are still accepting camper registrations for this summer. Camps are open to those from age 9 through 16 with a wide variety of programs depending on your particular interests. There are opportunities available at Ligonier, Lambec and Westminster Highlands. If you have any questions contact Pastor Bob.

## Bethel Spaghetti Dinner

**Saturday, April 24, 4:00-7:00 p.m.**

The Missionary Society's annual all-you-can eat spaghetti dinner will be held April 24, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Eat in or carry out is available.

Sign-up sheets are posted for help with the dinner and/or to contribute food items. We appreciate all the help we have received in the past from the congregation and friends. We welcome any one who can assist.

Ticket prices are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children ages 5-12 (under 5 eat free). Tickets are available from Missionary Society members or at the door.

## Water, Water Everywhere

On Friday, March 12, Sue Bernd arrived to do a little custodial work and discovered 1-2 inches of rain water covering the entire basement floor. Yikes! In short order Carl George, Dave Schroth, Bob Goossen and Russ Risinger were investigating and digging about in the yard. Tragedy soon turned to triumph as the water went down the drains—all is now well. We express a great thank you for Sue and all who came to help at a moments notice with mops, fans, and muscles. God's people, gathered together, are so good.

## Missionary Society

**Thursday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.**

Devotions and a Video for the Program will be led by Marilyn Bruner. Hostesses for the evening are Virginia Clawson and Eulene Risinger.

## Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering

**Saturday, April 10, 10:00 a.m.**

**Dayton Glade Run Presbyterian Church**

Come join as we celebrate: A Spiritual Journey; Brunch & Fellowship; Communion; Prayer and Bible Study; Crafts; and Mission Opportunities. You will have a chance to meet our PW Synod Moderator, Mary McElroy. See our bulletin board for reservation information.

## Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars now for June 21-25 when Bethel Church will bring out its 2010 Vacation Bible School. Missy Travis will be directing this year. Also mark your calendars for June 27 when we'll celebrate VBS and enjoy our all church picnic in the pavilion!

## Bethel Men's Group

In April we have two opportunities for our men. Saturday the 10th at 8:30 a.m. is the Presbyterian Men's Breakfast. John LaMorte will coordinate a shared ride to this event.

On Saturday the 17th we are encouraging participation in the Spring Training event

## Spring Training with Tunch Ilkin and Craig Wolfley

**Saturday, April 17  
9:00-11:30 a.m.**

The Indiana Experiment is bringing the game day voices of the Pittsburgh Steelers to the IUP Memorial Fieldhouse for a motivational event for all men of Indiana County. These Christian leaders will inspire both Christian men and those seeking a new way in their lives.

Come for continental breakfast, praise and worship and a great gathering of Indiana County's men. Admission is \$10 at the door.

## A Wild Wonderful Mission

Our mission trip is set for June 6-12 this summer and we are making final preparations. Have you been thinking, "I ought to go" but haven't fully said yes?

We'll be joining with friends from Blairsville United Presbyterian Church again and going to south West Virginia. We'll depart Sunday afternoon, work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. We'll have a relaxation day on Wednesday and return Saturday. Most of the costs are covered, depending a bit on how many join the fun! Please let Pastor Bob know by April 15 if you are interested in going along.

## "Do You Love Me? ... Feed My Sheep"

### One Great Hour of Sharing: sharing resources, changing lives

We learn sacrificial, relentless, unconditional love because Jesus entered this world as a human, like us, and showed us how to love and be loved. Jesus taught us to heal the sick, to welcome the child and the foreigner, to forgive others, and to embrace those who are different from us. If we let it, the love that Jesus demonstrates can be revolutionary for our lives, ensuring that we learn not only to receive love, but also giving us a deep desire to transmit that love to all in God's world.

On Easter Sunday we will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. We treasure this opportunity to share gifts that help others live fuller lives. Our gifts go to help those who have suddenly lost everything in a disaster or to communities that have struggled for years against poverty and hunger. May we each give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing!

*(adapted from OGHS resources)*

## BYG Events

**Sunday, April 4,  
6:45 a.m.**

Sunrise

**Sunday, April 11,  
6:30-8:00 p.m.**

Event T.B.A.

**Sunday, April 25,  
3:00 p.m.**

Roadside cleanup

## Confirmation Prayers

The confirmation class is meeting from March 21 through May 9. Please keep the following young people in your prayers as they explore joining Bethel church: Megan Topeka, John Risinger, Glenn Travis, Jill Overman, Stephanie Nehrig, Morgan Cochran.

## Exploring Membership for Adults

An exploring membership class for adults will be held on Sunday evenings at 6:30 on April 11, 18 and May 2. If you are interested in discovering what it means to join our delightful Bethel family please contact Pastor Bob.

## Financial Report

February 28, 2010

Income	\$7,106.84
Expenses	\$7,228.74

**The Children's Sunday School** has designated \$400.00 from their cookbook proceeds towards the Rwandan clean water project. If you would like to join them please send your donation by this month's end.



**Bethel Presbyterian Church**  
 1470 Bethel Church Road  
 Indiana, PA 15701



## April 2010 Calendar for Bethel Church Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p><b>We gather on Sundays for Adult, Youth and Children's Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and Worship at 11:00 a.m.</b></p> </div>				<b>1</b> 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion	<b>2</b> Noon Community Good Friday Worship at Nazarene Church	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 6:45 a.m. - Easter Sunrise 11:00 a.m. - Easter Alleluias & Red Wagon Food Pantry Collection	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 p.m. Missionary Society	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:30 a.m. Presbytery Men's Breakfast 10:00 a.m. - PW Spring Gathering
<b>11</b> 9:45 a.m. - Confirmation 6:30 p.m. - Exploring Membership 6:30 p.m. - BYG	<b>12</b> 7:00 p.m. Session	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 8:30 a.m. Kitchen Cleaning	<b>17</b> 9:00 a.m. Spring Training at IUP
<b>18</b> 9:45 a.m. - Confirmation 11:00 a.m. - Twabumbogo Partnership Sunday 6:30 p.m. - Exploring Membership	<b>19</b> 7:00 p.m. Deacon's	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:45 p.m. Choir	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner
<b>25</b> 9:45 a.m. Confirmation 3:00 p.m. BYG	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:45 p.m. Choir	<b>30</b>	