

*Loving God  
Following  
Jesus  
Serving All*



# The Bethel Beat

## By-laws Review

**Sunday, May 5  
Noon**

A congregational meeting will be held following church to review the new by-laws. Our current by-laws had not been reviewed for a number of years and were found to be inadequate and in need of revision. The new by-laws will help with the process of becoming incorporated.

## Welcoming Confirmation Class

**Sunday, May 19  
11:00 a.m.**

Please join us on Pentecost Sunday as we welcome our confirmation students into the full fellowship of faith at Bethel. This year we celebrate with Tim Schroth and MaKayla Funk. There will be a reception immediately following worship. Cookies and punch will be provided by the Deacons.

## A Note from Terry...

What is God's purpose for your life? That was the question I posed to our confirmation class at our first meeting and it is the first question of the Catechism. In that lesson I used a man named Eric Liddell as an example of someone who knew what his purpose was in life. It was the 1924 Olympics in Paris, France and Eric Liddell (a young Scotsman) was running on behalf of the British Empire. While a student at Oxford, Liddell became well known as the fastest runner in Scotland. His specialty was the 100 yard and 220 yard races. While he was at Edinburgh he was so fast that he was often called the "Flying Scotsman". But in his successes he never lost sight of his faith and it was that very faith that kept him from running in a heat held on Sunday of the Olympics. That decision forced him to withdraw from the 100-meter race, his best event.

His decision not to run was made well before the Games and so Liddell spent the intervening months training for the 400-meter race, though his best times weren't all that good. On race day, as Liddell came to the starting block, an American Olympic Team masseur slipped a piece of paper into his hand with a quotation from 1 Samuel 2:30, "Those who honor me I will honor". He put it in his pocket and got in position. Eric had the outside lane and couldn't see the other runners as he ran. Not knowing where they were and inspired by the scripture verse he ran the race as a sprint and though pursued heavily in the home-stretch, he not only won the race, he set a new record and took home the gold.

Eric Liddell knew that his strength and his purpose came from God. At one point in his career he said, "I believe God made me for a purpose, but God made me fast and when I run I feel his pleasure." I asked the confirmands to fill in the blanks to that quote. I challenge you to do the same. What is your purpose? It is not an easy question to answer, but we all have a God given purpose and reason for being here. Knowing our purpose gives us each a glimpse of our mission on this earth.

Frederick Buechner said, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." In other words, what is it that the world needs most, that gives you joy to be able to give?

Eric Liddell ran for the Glory of God and used his position as a runner to share the good news of the Gospel to hundreds...maybe thousands. Later he returned to China (His parents were missionaries there) and became a missionary himself. That's where he lived out his life, serving God... fulfilling his purpose.

So, what's your purpose? Go ahead and fill in the blanks. Then go out and feel God's pleasure!

"I believe God made me for a purpose, but God made me \_\_\_\_\_ and when I \_\_\_\_\_ I feel his pleasure.

In His Service,  
Pastor Terry

## Celebrations in May

### Happy Birthdays!

- 1 Zackory Good
- 3 Carol Allison
- 4 Louise Barish
- 7 Marge Mikesell
- 8 Kimber Randolph
- 14 Debbie McCracken
- 15 Gerald Shankle
- 17 Leisa Bruner
- 18 Wendy Sturiale
- 30 Donna Nehrig

### Happy Anniversary!

- 1 Tim & Carol Allison
- 7 Bill & Jane McGee
- 10 Wes & Margaret Bruner
- 13 Dick & Mary Lou Thompson
- 15 Adam & Michelle Good
- 22 Jason & Chris Stone
- 24 Ted & Dora Predko
- 25 Mike & Angel McCracken
- 26 Chuck & Wendy Sturiale

## Don't Forget!

Church groups are reminded to check their mailboxes in the office.

## The Bethel Beat

Editor: Jill Wolford

Designer: Chelsea Steigert

*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. Email [info@bethelpc.net](mailto:info@bethelpc.net) or call 724-479-2465 by the 15th of the month.

## A Penny For Your Age

**Sunday, May 12**

For many years, the Missionary Society members have been donating a penny for their age on their birthdays. This year, this offering will be collected on Mother's Day and the congregations is invited to participate.

If you wish to contribute, a container will be placed in the hallway on Mother's Day in which you can place your donation. Each year, the money that is collected nationally is given to a grant recipient.

This year's award will go to Westminster Neighborhood Ministries in Indianapolis which is dedicated to reaching out to low income families in the area. Please consider supporting this life-changing project.

## Financial Report

### Monthly Receipts Financial Study

Reg. Giving	2012	2013
January	\$7,549.11	\$8,057.73
February	\$6,631.60	\$9,080.49
March	\$7,659.20	\$9,295.83
April	\$8,268.26	
May	\$7,492.69	
June	\$8,033.63	
July	\$7,365.75	
August	\$7,822.43	
September	\$8,269.27	
October	\$7,499.43	
November	\$6,197.75	
December	\$9,145.60	

**Total** \$91,934.72 \$26,434.05

**Mon. Avg.** \$7,661.22 \$8,811.35

March Regular Offerings	\$9,295.83
March Regular Expenses	\$6,126.47
Variance	\$3,169.36

2013 Offerings to date	\$26,434.05
2013 Regular Expenses	\$20,939.98
Variance	\$5,494.07

2012 Offerings	\$21,839.91
Variance	\$4,594.14

## Cemetery Cleanup

**Thursday, May 2  
6:00 p.m.**

The cemetery committee is looking for volunteers to help give the cemetery a spring cleaning. We will be mowing grass, picking up limbs and weed whacking as well as cleaning up some of the older tombstones. Feel free to bring along your favorite tool and a pair of gloves. We will gladly accept volunteers of all ages. For more information or if you would like to volunteer please see Rich Gibson.

## Men's Group

**Sunday, May 5  
6:00 p.m.**

The men's group will meet in the pavilion for a picnic. All the men of the church are encouraged and welcomed to join us.

## Missionary Society

**Thursday, May 9  
7:00 p.m.**

The Bethel Missionary Society will meet at the church. Ginny Nehrig and Dorothy Sesock are the hostesses for the evening. Lesson Five, "The Ties that Bind", will be led by Eulene Risinger.

## Bethel Youth Group

**Sunday, May 5**  
**Following Church**

Cinco de Mayo party at the Travis home

**Saturday, May 18**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Campfire at the church pavilion

**Sunday, June 2**  
**TBA**

Activity to be determined

**Friday, June 7**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Altoona Curve baseball game

**Sunday, June 16**

VBS setup

**June 17-21**

**5:30 p.m.**

Assist with VBS

**June 26-29**

Creation

**Sunday, July 7**

**TBA**

Activity to be determined

**Saturday, July 13**

Bethel Antique Show

**August 8-10**

Kibbie Island canoe and camping trip hosted by Sue Bernd and Carl George.

## Antique Show

**July 12 & 13**

Plans are underway for the Missionary Society's antique show. The theme for this year is "Wedding Memories." If you have a wedding dress you would be willing to donate, please see a Missionary Society member.

## Recognition Dinner

**Friday, May 10**

**6:30 p.m.**

After 22 years of service, Wayne Yost is retiring from our presbytery. To honor his service, a dinner will be held at Calvary Presbyterian Church.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Holly at the presbytery office at 724-783-7196. A donation of \$5 to help cover the cost of the meal is requested.

## Church and Cemetery Mowing

Volunteers are needed to help maintain the church grounds during the summer. If you are interested in mowing the cemetery, please see Rich Gibson. Those interested in helping mow around the church should contact Dave Schroth. You can also sign-up in the vestibule.

Volunteers can use the riding mower and gas at the church or you can bring your own.



## Vacation Bible School

**June 17-21**

**5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Come join us for "Bethel's Backyard Bible Camp" where kids will learn about serving God and others under the stars! Each evening will begin with a camp-side dinner, after which kids will enjoy outdoor camp adventures!

Adventures will include backyard games, crafts, music and stories that teach us about serving others. Join us as kids discover and experience the kind of service-filled lives God wants us to live!

Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. with VBS activities to follow. For more information or to register, contact Michelle Good at 724-479-8817 or Chris Stone at 724-479-8753.

Please see the bulletin boards for donations and registration forms.

## Softball Schedule

Games will be played at the Summit Church (formerly Assembly of God) and the Kiwanis Field at the White Township Recreation Complex at East Pike. If you are interested in playing, please contact John Steigert at 724-422-1085.

**Tuesday, April 30**

7:00 p.m. – Kiwanis

**Thursday, May 2**

7:00 p.m. – Summit

**Monday, May 6**

7:00 p.m. – Summit

**Friday, May 10**

5:45 p.m. – Summit

**Monday, May 13**

7:00 p.m. – Summit

**Monday, May 20**

5:45 p.m. – Summit

**Thursday, May 23**

5:45 p.m. – Summit

**Tuesday, May 28**

7:00 p.m. – Kiwanis

**Friday, May 31**

7:00 p.m. – Summit

## Prayer Chain

Do you have a prayer request? Most of the emergencies in life for which we'd like prayers don't happen just before Sunday worship. If you or someone you love needs our prayers contact Louise Bowman at 724-726-9091. If you sense God calling you to join our prayer chain please make the same contact.



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



## May 2013 Calendar for Bethel Church Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <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. Trustees	<b>2</b> 6:00 p.m. Cemetery Clean-up	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class
<b>5</b> 11:00 a.m. – Red Wagon Food Pantry Collection Noon – Cong. Meeting, Youth Group 6:00 p.m. – Men's Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:00 p.m. Missionary Society	<b>10</b> 6:30 p.m. Recognition Dinner for Wayne Yost	<b>11</b> 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class
<b>12</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> 11:00 a.m. Children's Choir	<b>13</b> 7:00 p.m. Session	<b>14</b> 7:00 p.m. Presbytery Meeting at Harmony Church	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
<b>19</b> <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> 11:00 a.m. Communion, Receiving Confirmation Class	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 11:00 a.m. – Twabumbogo Partnership Sunday	<b>27</b> <i>Memorial Day</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	