

The Visitor

Bethlehem United Church of Christ
April 2017

an invitation to grow in spirit and serve with joy



“Were You There, When...?”

Rev. John L. Kennedy

Holy Week begins in a few short days. I hope you will come to Bethlehem and bring a friend to hear the story of Jesus and his love for each of you. The events of Holy Week are at the very core and bedrock of our Christian faith. If there were one key time to come and hear a story that reminds, teaches, and guides our children and us, it is this week of events. So, yes, we will be there at Bethlehem to remember and celebrate that God loves us with no take-backs.

On Palm Sunday, we will celebrate the story of Jesus' triumphant march into Jerusalem. Following this service, we will celebrate with a Palm Sunday brunch and activities in the Willimann Fellowship Hall.



⁶The two disciples did as Jesus commanded. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were

shouting, “Praise God for the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise God in highest heaven!”
¹⁰The entire city of Jerusalem was in an uproar as he entered. “Who is this?” they asked. (Matthew 21:6-10)

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather in the gallery for a remembrance of the Last Supper. It will not be a “traditional” service, but a time where we gather in candlelight around the tables in a common meal of bread and wine (juice). The setting is intimate and compelling and is appropriate for all ages, and we will have cello music from a very gifted musician.

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LENT AND EASTER SEASON

April 9 - PALM SUNDAY

Events following the 10 am service:

- *Potluck Brunch to begin Holy Week
- *Sunday School cookie fundraiser & Egg decorating

April 13 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

"Remembrance of the Last Supper" - 7 p.m., Gallery

April 14 - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

12 p.m. Chapel

7 p.m. Sanctuary

April 16 - EASTER SUNDAY

6:42 a.m. Sunrise service, Bethlehem Cemetery

10:00 a.m. Easter Worship, Sanctuary

OTHER HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES

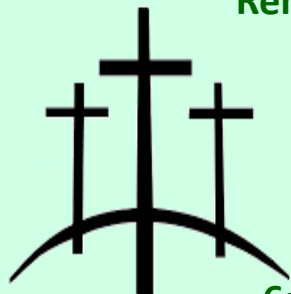
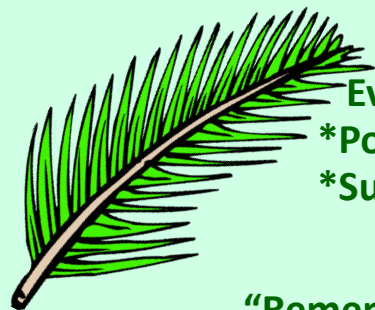
- ** Meditation and Prayer Labyrinth, in the gym
AND

- ** *DeGrazia's Way of the Cross display,
an art display with audio, in the lounge*

The Labyrinth and the Way of the Cross will be open

Maundy Thursday + Good Friday, 9 AM - 3 PM and 6 PM - 9 PM

AND Easter Sunday before and after worship



For more information
on the Meditation Labyrinth
and the DeGrazia's Way of the Cross,
see page 8.



Lenten Organ Meditation
Thursday, April 6, 1 p.m.
In the Sanctuary
Stop by to pray, meditate, enjoy.



May Visitor

Deadline
to submit
articles and
photos is
April 25.

BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

423 S. Fourth Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
Phone 734-665-6149
Fax 734-665-3399

www.bethlehem-ucc.org



www.facebook.com/bethlehemuccA2

Upcoming Events & Information

Community Outreach Opportunities are on page 9.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

**Monday, April 17,
in observance of Easter.**

AUXILIARY/MOTHERS STUDY

Wednesday, April 19, 1 p.m., gallery

Annual Bethlehem Bags Project

(see page 11 for details)



FOOD GATHERERS NOTE AND THANK YOU

April 9, Palm Sunday, is our final Fresh Produce Collection until fall, and it will help bring a full and healthy Easter meal to many. Please bring your produce to either service. Thank you!



A THANK YOU FROM FOOD GATHERERS:

At Food Gatherers we believe that food is a basic human right, and in a land of plenty no one should go hungry. It's because of community supporters like you that we are able to carry out our mission, to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes in our community. **Thank you for your generous donation of 195 pounds of fresh produce in March.**



APRIL PRETZEL SALES



Holy Rollers

April 8, 10:30 – 12 + April 9, after each service

Parking Lot Pretzels

April 28, 11:00 – 2:00

CALL THE OFFICE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!

WALK & TALK, April 30, 10 a.m.

Middle- and high-school youth and teachers are invited to walk downtown together to a local restaurant after the Children's Moment for a snack or drink. We will pick up the tab.



MARY MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

**Tuesday, April 11
10 a.m. in the library.**

We meet monthly on the second Tuesday.

FRESH PRODUCE COLLECTION FOR FOOD GATHERERS (FINAL ONE UNTIL FALL)



SUNDAY, April 9, Palm Sunday

Together, we can help others have a full and blessed Easter meal. Bring your produce to either service.

Bethlehem Veterans' Monthly Breakfast April 7, at 8:30 a.m.

Classic Cup Café on Jackson Rd.

If you are a military veteran, please join us for breakfast on the first Friday of every month at the Classic Cup Café.



Interested in local history? See what is happening April 5th

On Wednesday, April 5 from 12-1, Barbara Foster will speak at the Kempf House historical museum located at 312 S. Division in Ann Arbor. The subject is Pastor Frederick Schmid, who was sent in 1833 as a missionary from Basel, Switzerland, to the German settlers in southeast, Michigan. **Walking or traveling by horseback, he founded about 20 churches including Zion and Bethlehem in Ann Arbor.**

Some music familiar to German pioneers in the mid 1800's will also be performed. Kempf House, built in 1853, was home to a German-American musical family. There is a Steinway Concert grand piano from 1877 and an Allmendinger pump organ.

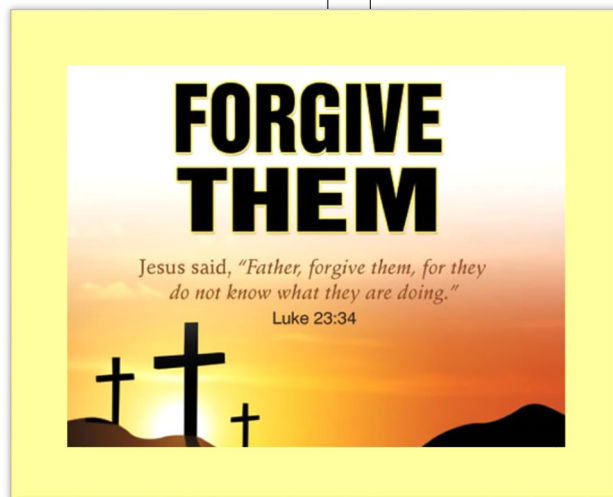


"Where You There, When...?"

Rev. John L. Kennedy

²⁶As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take this and eat it, for this is my body." ²⁷And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them and said, "Each of you drink from it, ²⁸for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many. ²⁹Mark my words—I will not drink wine again until the day I drink it new with you in my Father's Kingdom." ³⁰Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives. (Matthew 26:26-30)

On Good Friday at 12 noon in the chapel and at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary, we will hear the story of Jesus' crucifixion and death. It will be a moving Tenebrae service (of shadows and light) with the handbell and chancel choirs helping us "feel" the story of such incredible sacrifice and love.



19 Then Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. ²The soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they put a purple robe on him. ³"Hail! King of the Jews!" they mocked, as they slapped him across the face. ⁴Pilate went outside again and said to the people, "I am going to bring him out to you now, but understand clearly that I find him not guilty." ⁵Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said, "Look, here is the man!" ⁶When they saw him, the leading priests and Temple guards began shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they divided his clothes among the four of them. They also took his robe, but it was seamless, woven in one piece from top to

bottom. ²⁴So they said, "Rather than tearing it apart, let's throw dice for it." This fulfilled the Scripture that says, "They divided my garments among themselves and threw dice for my clothing." So that is what they did. ²⁵Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." ²⁷And he said to this disciple, "Here is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home. ²⁸Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and

to fulfill Scripture he said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. ³⁰When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and released his spirit. ³¹It was the day of preparation, and the Jewish leaders didn't want the bodies hanging there the next day, which was the

Sabbath (and a very special Sabbath, because it was the Passover). So they asked Pilate to hasten their deaths by ordering that their legs be broken. Then their bodies could be taken down. ³¹So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men crucified with Jesus. ³³But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn't break his legs. ³⁴One of the soldiers, however, pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water flowed out. ³⁵(This report is from an eyewitness giving an accurate account. He speaks the truth so that you also may continue to believe.) ³⁶These things happened in fulfillment of the Scriptures that say, "Not one of his bones will be broken,"

(continued on page 5)

"Where You There, When...?"

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³⁷and "They will look on the one they pierced."

³⁸Afterward Joseph of Arimathea, who had been a secret disciple of Jesus (because he feared the Jewish leaders), asked Pilate for permission to take down Jesus' body. When Pilate gave permission, Joseph came and took the body away.

³⁹With him came Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus at night. He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes. ⁴⁰Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus' body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth. ⁴¹The place of crucifixion was near a garden, where there was a new tomb, never used before. ⁴²And so, because it was the day of preparation for the Jewish Passover and since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there. (John 19)

On Easter morning, we will return to the tomb and find that it is empty by celebrating the Resurrection of Christ Jesus with a Sunrise

Service at Bethlehem Cemetery (6:42 a.m.). At 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, we will celebrate with pageantry that "Christ the Lord Has Risen Today," with an orchestra, choir, hymns, and Communion.

¹Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary

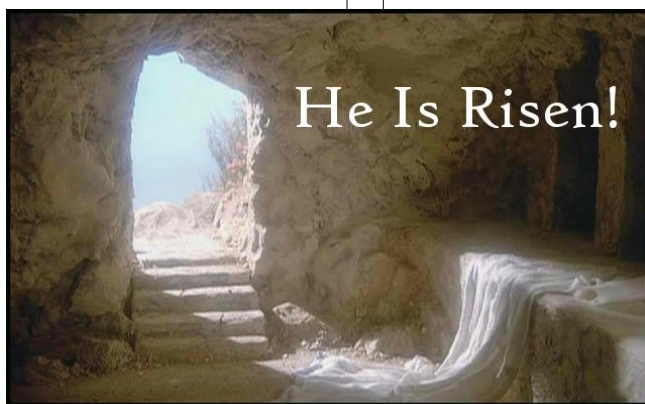
went out to visit the tomb. ²Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. ³His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. ⁴The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. ⁵Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.

⁷And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead

of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you." ⁸The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message. ⁹And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his

feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there." (Matthew 28:1-10)

God loves you with no take-backs,
Pastor John



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARD UPDATE

April is the time to renew your Kroger Community Rewards for Bethlehem. Food = Money!!! All shoppers must re-enroll during the month of April in the Kroger Community Rewards Program to designate BUCC as their organization to receive funds. **Go to Kroger.com click on Community then Kroger Community Rewards, then sign in and update.** Questions? Contact Linda Young 734-223-5105

Our November—January rewards check was \$150. Thank you to all who have signed up to help bring money to Bethlehem just by grocery shopping! Year after year, local schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations will earn millions of dollars through Kroger Community Rewards. Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy. All you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! Get started today at **Kroger.com**



LENTEN MISSION PROJECT

Thank you to all who have been helping with our Lenten project for Washtenaw Refugee Welcome (see related article on page 7). We are halfway through Lent and halfway through our goals. We will be collecting through Easter.



1. **We have an ongoing collection of money.** Your donations can continue to be placed in the alms jar. It was decorated by youth in our Sunday school.
2. **Bring gently used and new T-shirts with local Michigan logos.** The collection basket is in the library.
3. **Help with a donation of an used bicycle.** Local bike shops will help tune them up and are donating helmets. The bikes can be for kids or adults.



All across the country groups are collecting bikes for refugees. The group pictured above is from Louisville KY. Do your part today. Bring us that bike in your garage that needs a new home! No truck to deliver it? Call the office and we will arrange someone to pick it up.

Thank you to all who helped with Stone Soup Sunday. We had youth participation in collecting the food for the soup, advertising the project and making and serving the soup. There were many compliments about the soup.

Please join us on Palm Sunday April 9 for the 10:00 service and brunch afterward.

*We need **everyone** (preschool to high school) to help with our cookie-frosting extravaganza.*

We will meet in the sanctuary for the procession of palms. After the children's moment, we will head down to the fellowship hall to frost and box Easter cookies, and then we will sell them during the Palm Sunday brunch.



MARCH 2017 FINANCIALS

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Monthly Target | \$26,264.00 | YTD Target | \$85,358.00 |
| Received | \$38,743.00 | YTD Received | \$91,005.44 |
| | | Difference | \$ 5,647.44 |

Washtenaw Refugee Welcome

Washtenaw Refugee Welcome (WRW) is a local organization that helps support refugees and their families in our county. The highly vetted refugee families, once settled, get 90 days of assistance before they must be completely self-sufficient. WRW helps them find housing and gives them donated furniture, clothes, etc. Some of our toys and things from the Mitten Tree went to them, and they were really grateful. The families are from all around the world. We have a few things we're doing to support WRW.

1. **We are collecting monetary support for the organization.** WRW uses the money in an emergency fund for the refugee families to help with unexpected costs and emergencies. Youth and adults are contributing to our alms collection jar during Lent. We are also hosting some fundraising activities: the **Palm Sunday brunch**, **Easter cookie sales** (youth to frost and sell on Palm Sunday), and **Stone Soup Sunday**, held on March 26.
2. **We are collecting shirts and T-shirts.** The director of WRW suggested that the refugees want a sense of belonging to their new home and an ability to say where home now is. We are collecting *gently* used and new shirts that have **local logos** on them, like *Ann Arbor*, *Michigan*, *Washtenaw*, *Great Lakes State*, etc. That way, the refugees can show their local pride. It is okay to have some University of Michigan shirts, but sports logos, like the block M, for example, might not quite get the point across. Nevertheless, all donations and sizes are welcome. There's a collection box in the library.

3. **We are collecting bicycles.** WRW notes that transportation is a challenge for new refugees. Affordable housing is often far from the city center and not even on the bus lines. WRW is asking for donations of used bikes. They will get them refurbished and donate them to families that need them. Bikes for children are also welcome.

Helping refugees is part of the work that God wants us to do.

During Lent, let's all work together to welcome the stranger.

Washtenaw Refugee Welcome gives us a way to do this.

Washtenaw Refugee Welcome is an ecumenical volunteer group of citizens, community, and faith organizations dedicated to helping refugees resettle in Washtenaw County.

For more information:

www.WashtenawRefugeeWelcome.org



"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

The parable about the sheep and the goats includes this passage: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:31-46



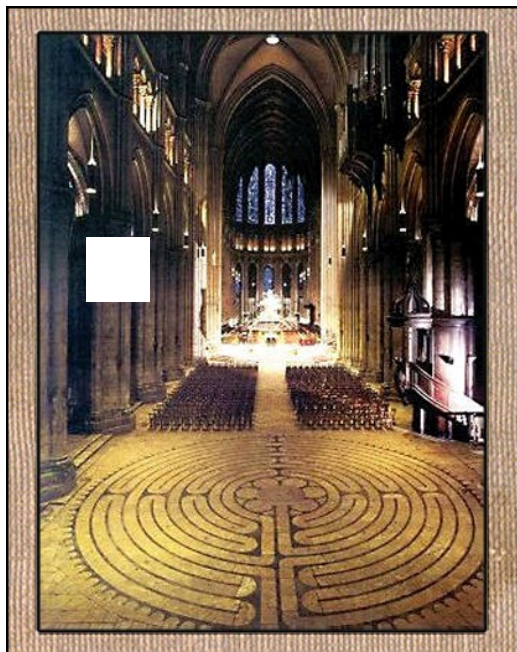
GARDENERS: Bethlehem Church is looking for Church Gardeners. Needed are people who can help plant our Mother's Day flower donations and our Faith and Food Garden, and keep the gardens watered, weeded, and harvested throughout the summer. Please contact the office. Thank you!!

HANDY-PERSON: The church is in need of a handy-person on an occasional contract basis to do repairs around the church and grounds. If you have a recommendation or a referral, please contact the office.

Holy Week Opportunities

Harriette Ehnis

Again this year, our labyrinth will be set up in the gym.
"Come and Find the Quiet Center" in the crowded life we lead.
"Make your ways known to me, Lord; teach me your paths"—Psalm 25:4.



Bethlehem's Labyrinth is modeled after the pavement Labyrinth at the Chartres Cathedral in France.

The labyrinth is a universal prayer path; it has only one route, and you can't get lost or travel it the wrong way. In ancient times, when pilgrims could not travel long distances to pray, they walked the labyrinth. We can't physically go to Gethsemane or Calvary, but we can witness and pray as we walk the labyrinth.

Bethlehem's Labyrinth will be open from

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

and from

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 13

and Good Friday, April 14.

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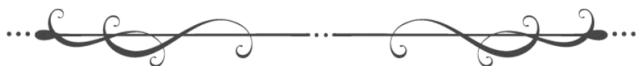
It will again be open on

Easter morning

9 a.m. till noon.



Prayers and reading materials will be available for your convenience.



The Ted DeGrazia exhibit, "The Way of the Cross,"

will again be available for your viewing
in the Schmale Lounge.

All fifteen stations will be displayed for your
thoughtful meditation and consideration.

DeGrazia, a well-known Tucson artist,
was commissioned to do these paintings,
and Bethlehem Church is very fortunate to have these prints.

An audio tape will be playing so that one can view the exhibit
from the artist's eyes. The DeGrazia exhibit will be open
at the times described above for the labyrinth.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions
regarding either the labyrinth or the DeGrazia exhibit.



Bethlehem Church Ongoing Outreach Opportunities
Please consider joining in! Sign-up sheets are in the office hallway.

FOOD GATHERERS COMMUNITY KITCHEN

April 2 and May 7 (first Sunday of each month)

Please sign up in the office hallway. Cook 12–2:30, Clean 2:30–5



PEACE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER (111 N. Maple Rd.)

April 25 (fourth Tuesday of each month, 2:30–4:45 p.m.)

(see info below)

FOOD GATHERERS FOOD BARREL

Place nonperishable food items in the food barrel in the library.



FRESH PRODUCE COLLECTION FOR FOOD GATHERERS

April 9, Palm Sunday

(final collection until fall)

**** Please give generously to provide Easter Dinner for others ****

Outreach 2016-17 Opportunities
Peace Neighborhood Center
1111 North Maple Road, Ann Arbor



Message from Sue Muir

★ **After School Feeding Program:** I have posted the dates we need volunteers for the winter/spring semester (4th Tuesdays, January–May) on the bulletin board outside the church office. The commitment is from 2:30–4:45. Please consider volunteering!

★ **Every Friday,** January through mid-June, Food Gatherers provides fresh produce for families in-need that we help distribute at Peace Neighborhood Center. 9:00–11:00 No sign-up is necessary

visit Peace's website for more information about their programs and assistance to our community.
www.peaceneighborhoodcenter.org



MEMORIALS & GIFTS

BELL FUND

Larry Marshall Memorial

CHURCH SCHOOL FUND

Larry Marshall Memorial

GENERAL MEMORIAL FUND

Larry Marshall Memorial

Michelle Loukotka Honorarium

Sue Muir Honorarium

Virginia Seitz Memorial

HEATING AND A/C IMPROVEMENT FUND

Larry Marshall Memorial

MUSIC/CHOIR FUND

Virginia Seitz Memorial

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUND

Larry Marshall Memorial

Virginia Seitz Memorial

RADIO FUND

Larry Marshall Memorial

Virginia Seitz Memorial

TREE OF LIFE

Larry Marshall Memorial

John & Erma Marshall Memorial

In Honor of Parking Lot Pretzel Volunteers

Gifts listed were received through
March 31, 2017

RADIO MINISTRY SPONSORSHIPS

March 12 Sponsored by Dindy and Mike Haab in honor of **Aunt Marion Seyfried's 100th birthday** on March 17, 2017.

March 19 Sponsored by Sue Canfield in loving memory of her niece **Laura Ann Jaworowski** and her friend **Wilma Wahl** (both born on March 17), and her brother-in-law **Ron Jaworowski**.

March 26 Sponsored by Diane, Sandy, and Roxanne Wahl in memory of **Wilma Wahl**, born March 17, 1917, who would have been 100 this year.



PARISH RECORDS

DEATHS

Carolyn Ferri - March 6, 2017

Pamela Sue Downie - March 14, 2017

WITH GRATITUDE

*"The family of **Virginia C. Seitz** is most grateful for the prayers and concerns expressed to us during a very difficult time. Whether it was a visit, a phone call, a prayer, or a note, we knew that Pastor John and our Bethlehem family were truly supporting us.*

Virginia was a positive, faithful witness to her faith. Even in the fall-winter of her earthly life, she served as an Inspiration to others. May all of us move forward having witnessed a faithful servant."

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S COORDINATING BOARD



We are happy to announce that the Women's Coordinating Board has purchased 16 off-white linen tablecloths for the round tables in

the Willimann Fellowship Hall. These tablecloths were purchased with memorial money given to the board in memory of Geraldine Seyfried.

We thank Geraldine's family, Marty and Laura Seyfried, for their support of this project. We are grateful for the donations that have made this purchase possible. The tablecloths, we think, will "dress up" our dining room.

Youth News

Our Youth Group continues to meet on Thursdays, and are currently making plans for their Annual retreat to Tower Hill Camp April 21-23. The deadline to register for the retreat is April 5. Go to www.bethlehem-ucc.org and click on "YOUTH" to get to the registration forms.

Also, a big thank-you to the parents who have signed up to help with dinners this year! If you can help fill out the rest of the year, please take a look at the sign-up on our website under "YOUTH"

For questions, please contact Sarah Herwick.

We are also excited to have our very own Sarah Kennedy and John-Matthew Kennedy performing in the upcoming Pioneer High School Theatre presentation of *The Wizard of Oz*. Sarah has the lead role of Dorothy, and John-Matthew is a munchkin. Please come out and cheer them on. Below are the show dates.



THE WIZARD OF OZ

By L. Frank Baum,

Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg

Ticket sales start Wednesday, April 12, at Showtix4u.com.

April 22 @ 7:30

April 23 @ 2:00

April 28 @ 7:30

April 29 @ 7:30

April 30 @ 2:00

You Are Invited To Help Prepare Bethlehem Bags for Mott Hospital April 19 at 1:00 pm

For a number of years Bethlehem's Sunshine Circle prepared bags for the parents of Mott Hospital patients. When the circle ended Auxiliary/Mothers' Study continued the process. The idea for the bags came from a Bethlehem member whose child was hospitalized and she spent a lot of time just sitting while her child was sleeping or out for treatments. She said it would be nice to have something to fill those empty times. This was the dawn of Bethlehem Bags for Mott Hospital.

On "bag day" everyone brings a variety of items and everything is laid out on tables. Then each person takes a bag and fills it with whatever they want to include and tag the bag when completed. The fun part of this project is that no two bags are exactly alike.

Auxiliary/Mothers' Study invites anyone interested to help. Many hands make fast work and the more help we have, the more bags we can fill. This is a fun project to do and greatly appreciated by Mott Hospital and the parents.

*** SUGGESTED BAG ITEMS***

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tooth paste/tooth brush | Notebooks/note cards |
| Breath mints | Hard candy/gum |
| Pens | Magazines |
| Nail clippers/nail file | Dental floss |
| Playing cards | Hand lotion |
| Deodorant | ChapStick/lip balm |
| No hand sanitizer, please | Nail polish |
| Crossword/game books | Snacks (individually wrapped) |

Items can be purchased at dollar or grocery stores.



**C.S. MOTT
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
HEALTH SYSTEM

Covenant of Welcome

We, at Bethlehem United Church of Christ, declare ourselves an
Open and Affirming congregation where we celebrate Christ's extravagant love.
We covenant with God and one another to welcome the diverse tapestry of all people,
no matter their age, race, nationality, ethnicity,
economic circumstance, marital or family status, physical or mental ability,
sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
We invite everyone—believers and questioners, seekers and skeptics—
to share their gifts in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship,
sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of our congregation.



Bethlehem's Ministry Team

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Rev. John Kennedy | Pastor |
| Rev. Orval L.E. Willimann | Pastor Emeritus |
| Carol Leyshock | Parish Administrator |
| Betty Clark | Financial Administrator |
| Donna Whitney | Office Support Specialist |
| Arianne Abela | Director of Music |
| Arianne Abela | Director of Music |
| Gail Jennings | Organist |
| Jim Rowan | Director of Handbells |

The *Visitor*
is printed 12 times a year.

Our Mission

To worship God,
To learn and live the
Word of God,
To engage in Christian
fellowship and service,
To invite others to join us
on our faith journey in the
ministry of Jesus Christ.