



# The Visitor

Bethlehem  
United Church of Christ  
September 2017

*invitation to grow in spirit and serve with joy*

## EXIT & ENTER

Rev. John Kennedy

*But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?" God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."*  
—Exodus 3:11-12

Did you grow up hearing the story of Exodus? Many have—Jews, Christians, and anyone who has seen the 1956 movie *The Ten Commandments* by Cecil B. DeMille, starring Charlton Heston. As I remember this story of the mighty acts of God, I often am

drawn to the dramatic scenes: the Burning Bush; the parting of the Red Sea; the Egyptian chariots crushed beneath the falling waves; the pillar of fire guarding the Israelites; the rebellion of the Golden Calf; the gifts of water, manna, and quail.

In this epic story of the "Exodus," it is easy to overlook the many brave acts of faith that are happening in each woman, man, child, and family. It is easy to overlook the human limitations of the cast of characters, who get top billing. The doubts of the "ordinary" people are magnified, and the "strengths" of Moses, Jethro, Miriam, and Joshua are elevated. The reality is almost everyone is anxious, doubting, and fearful; and at the same time gifted with strengths, skills, and faith.

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**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](http://www.bethlehem-ucc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/bethlehemuccA2](https://www.facebook.com/bethlehemuccA2)

# September Spiritual Growth and Development Events

## Fun for Kids and the Young-at-Heart

**Rally Day, 9/10, 10:00 Worship**  
Faith Formation Sunday and  
Blessing of the Backpacks



**9/29, 5:30–8:00 p.m.**

### Fifth Friday Family Fun Night

Join us for games, activities,  
and movies. Specially  
geared to Bethlehem's  
younger members. All  
are welcome and en-  
couraged to attend!

## Evening Events

Meditation Group Simple Potluck Tuesday, 9/19,  
5:30–6:30 p.m. in the lounge. Are you interested  
in meditation? All are invited!

Evening Worship Wednesday, 9/27, 6:00–7:00  
p.m. in the chapel. This will be a simple and or-  
ganic worship. All are welcome.

## Community Outings

*Join BUCC Members as we learn from and with  
members of our broader community!*

Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for  
Moral Revival with Rev. Dr. William Barber and  
Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis. Tuesday, 9/5, in Detroit.  
Event begins at 6:30. To carpool, meet at Bethle-  
hem at 5:00 p.m.

Civil Rights Leader, Congressman John Lewis at  
the Michigan Theater. Thursday, 9/21, 5:00 p.m.  
Youth Group and church-wide outing. Meet at  
Bethlehem at 4:30.

Visit to Islamic Center of  
Greater Toledo with Jamie  
Dylenski's class! Sunday, 9/24,  
12:00 p.m. Leave BUCC at  
noon. Prayer service, lunch,  
and lecture begin at 1:30 in Toledo. Sign-up sheet  
in office hallway.



In addition to these events, the Outreach Minis-  
try Team has monthly opportunities for commu-  
nity engagement through service.

## College Student Welcome Pizza Party!!

Wednesday, 9/13, 6:00–8:00 p.m.,  
5th Ave. yard. Hosted by the Welcome  
Ministry. Please spread the word to  
area college students you know!



## Habitat Brunch and Cake Auction Fundraiser

Sunday, 9/17, following 10 a.m. worship.



### Brunch, Cake Auction, Bake Sale!

Come see pictures from our August trip to Flint! Help raise  
money for organizations doing important work in Flint and for  
Bethlehem's future service/mission trips!  
Willing to bake a cake? We were a  
smaller group this year and are hoping  
some of you will help by baking cakes  
for the auction and other treats for the  
bake sale. There's a sign-up sheet in the  
office hallway.



## During the Day

Prayer Shawl Ministry Mondays, 1:00–3:00 p.m., lounge

Prayer Circle Thursdays, 9/7 & 9/21,  
11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m., lounge

"Wellness Wednesday" 9/13, 11:00 a.m. in the gym. Let's  
explore embodied spirituality. This will include some discus-  
sion and a fun, physical activity for people of all abilities!

## U<sup>TH</sup> Group

### Thursdays

Youth Group Kickoff Celebration Welcome back from  
summer! The Fjords live on! Thurs, 9/7, 6:30–8:30 p.m.  
Youth Group Thurs, 9/14, 6:30–8:30 p.m., activity TBD  
John Lewis at the Michigan Theater Youth Group & BUCC  
Outing, Thursday, 9/21, \*\*Meet at Bethlehem at 4:30\*\*  
(event begins at 5:00). We'll return to Bethlehem by 7 p.m.  
Youth Group Maker Night! 9/28, 6:30–8:30 p.m., Youth Rm

### Other Events

Youth Group Coffee with Jesse and Lily, Tuesday, 9/12,  
4:30–5:30 p.m., Sweetwaters in Kerrytown

Evening Worship Wednesday, 9/27

6:00–7:00 p.m., in the chapel

Fifth Friday Family Fun Night Friday, 9/29,  
5:30–8:00 p.m.



# Upcoming Events & Information (not listed elsewhere) *Other Outreach Events are listed on page 9.*



## IT'S PRETZEL TIME AGAIN

After a nice long summer break, pretzel season will soon be here.

**Call the office to place your order, and PLEASE, come roll with us!**



### HOLY ROLLER PRETZELS

Sept. 9, roll 9 am, sales 10:30–12

Sept. 10, sales after each service



### PARKING LOT PRETZELS

Sept. 29, roll 8 am, sales 11–2

## Peace Neighborhood Center AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Volunteers are needed on the 4th Tuesday of September through May to serve elementary school children nutritional snacks before going into a tutoring program. Commitment is 2:30–4:45 p.m. (1111 N. Maple Rd. Ann Arbor 48103)

**Please sign up by the office. Questions? Contact Sue Muir.**



## Mark Your Calendars for Football Parking!

Calling all Bethlehem members to help with this important fundraiser! Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office to help park cars for Michigan football home games:

**Sept 9** at noon (vs. Cincinnati)

**Sept 16** at noon (vs. Air Force)

**Oct 7** TBA (vs. Michigan State)

**Oct 28** at noon (vs. Rutgers)

**Nov 4** TBA (vs. Minnesota)

**Nov 25** at noon (vs. Ohio State)



## Faith Formation Kickoff/ Rally Day/ Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, September 10, during 10:00 a.m. worship!

Please join us for the first day of Sunday school for the 2017–18 year. Youth will start out in the sanctuary before going to class after the Children's Moment. After Sunday school we will share treats in the Fellowship Hall.

### School Supply Donations

Please bring backpacks and school supplies to fill the altar. We are collecting school supplies to share with youth in transition: some of our refugee friends and youth at Alpha House. Any and all kinds of supplies are useful.

### Sunday School Schedule

#### First Sunday of the Month

Family & Communion Sunday  
with school-age youth in the sanctuary

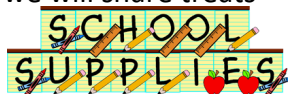
#### Second through Fifth Sundays

Grades K-5, lower-level classrooms

#### Every Sunday

Nursery and preschool

*Third Sundays: Walk & Talk to downtown for middle- and high-school youth. We pick up the tab.*



## Bethlehem Prayer Circle, led by Lily September 7 & 21, 11:30 –12:15

*Join us in the lounge as we pray for our church, our community, and our world.*

## Bethlehem Veterans' Monthly Breakfast

**Oct. 6, at 8:30 a.m.**

**Classic Cup Café, Jackson Rd.**



## FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

### Upcoming Events (stay tuned for details)

<b>Friday, Oct 6:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Oktoberfest, 6–9 p.m.</b> <i>(see page 11 for details)</i>
<b>Wed, Nov 1</b>	<b>All Saints Day: Hops and Hallelujahs at Conor O'Neill's</b>
<b>Sunday, Nov 12</b>	<b>Veterans' Lunch after church</b>
<b>Friday, Dec 1</b>	<b>Living Nativity at Bethlehem</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec 2</b>	<b>Church Christmas Decorating</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec 7</b>	<b>Women's Advent Evening</b>

# Spiritual Growth and Development - August Highlights

## Prayer Circle

Our Bethlehem prayer circle continued in August. Every other week, we pray for the people on our prayer list, for each other, and for our world. We light a candle as we speak aloud the name of each person on the prayer list. **Upcoming Prayer Circles:** Thursdays 9/7 and 9/21 from 11:30–12:15.



## Meditation Group

We concluded the 21-day Meditation Experience with a final potluck and discussion. We're looking forward to continuing a Bethlehem meditation group. In September, we'll gather for a simple potluck on Tuesday, September 19, from 5:30–6:30. All are welcome!



## Spiritual Practices Series

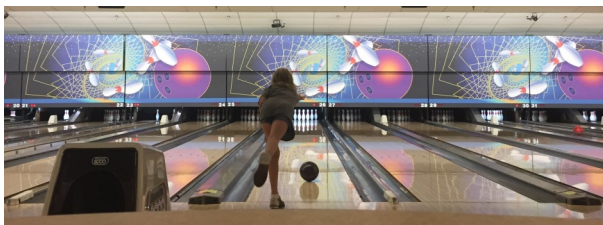
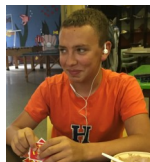
What is spirituality? What role do spiritual practices play in our lives? These are a couple of the questions that guided our 4-part exploration of spiritual practices in August. We experienced a variety of spiritual practices including mindful eating, prayer, embodied practices, lectio divina, and other explorations of Scripture, laughing meditation, Lord's Prayer for today, poetry, songs, and creativity. Thanks to all who participated and shaped the experience through deep sharing of insights and experiences, care for



community, and openness to trying new things! We didn't come away with all the answers...but maybe that's the point! We're looking for ways to continue this exploration. Keep your eyes out for upcoming events.

## Youth Group Hangouts, cards,

bowling, snacks! August was all about taking it easy! We're looking forward to a fun and full fall!



# Spiritual Growth and Development - Highlights & Looking Forward

## Habitat Trip—August 6–8

On Sunday, August 6, Katie Rowan, Vicki Hoxie, Jesse Wilcox, Larissa Jaskiewicz, Jamie Raab, and Lily Tinker Fortel left Bethlehem for Flint. We arrived in time to attend Sunday worship at Woodside UCC in Flint. It was great to connect with the community there. That afternoon and evening, we set up camp at a nearby



campground. On Monday, we worked a full day at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. On Tuesday, we were joined by Pastor John and John Schenk and worked with the Genesee County Habitat for Humanity.

Please come to the **Cake Auction Fundraiser** on Sunday, September 17!

We'll share more pictures and stories from our trip and raise money for the organizations in Flint and future Bethlehem trips!



## Looking Forward — Spiritual Growth and Development events in September

### September 3–9

- \*Tuesday, 9/5 5:00 p.m. Carpool to Detroit for Poor People's Campaign: A Call for Moral Revival with Rev. Dr. William Barber and Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis
- \*Thursday, 9/7 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Bethlehem Prayer Circle, lounge
- \*Thursday, 9/7 6:30–8:30 p.m. Youth Group Kickoff Celebration, Youth Room

### September 10–16

- \*Sunday, 9/10 Faith Formation Sunday Teacher Commissioning and Blessing of the Backpacks
- \*Tuesday, 9/12 4:30–5:30 p.m. Youth Group Coffee with Jesse and Lily at Sweetwaters, Kerrytown
- \*Wednesday, 9/13 11:00 a.m. "Wellness Wednesday" Physical activity for people of all abilities, in the gym
- \*Wednesday, 9/13 6:00–8:00 p.m. College Student Welcome Pizza Party in the 5th Ave. yard
- \*Thursday, 9/14 6:30–8:30 p.m. Youth Group, Youth Room

### September 17–23

- \*Sunday, 9/17 Brunch and Cake Auction Fundraiser and Flint Report-Back following 10:00 a.m. service
- \*Tuesday, 9/19 5:30–6:30 p.m. Bethlehem Meditation Group Simple Potluck, lounge
- \*Thursday, 9/21 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Bethlehem Prayer Circle, lounge
- \*Thursday, 9/21 5:00 p.m. John Lewis at Michigan Theater, Youth Group and church-wide outing, meet at BUCC at 4:30, return to church by 7

### September 24–30

- \*Sunday, 9/24 12:00 p.m. Visit to Islamic Center of Greater Toledo (leave BUCC at noon; event begins at 1:30 in Toledo)
- \*Wednesday, 9/27 6:00–7:00 p.m. Evening Worship, chapel
- \*Thursday, 9/28 6:30–8:30 p.m. Youth Group, Youth Room

**EXIT & ENTER**

Rev. John Kennedy

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Among God's people there is a common vision to leave places that smother and crush life; and a hope to "enter" into a new place (the Promised Land) where life can thrive. Sometimes "exiting" (Exo-dus) a place that is smothering life is only part of the journey. The rest of the journey is "entering" into a new place of a promising future. Every time we enter into a new space, we are exiting another; and every time we exit a space we are entering another space. It is very hard to be fully present in two spaces at one time. Standing with one foot in one space, and the other foot in another area/space, leaves us neither fully here nor there.

When Moses is placed in a basket in the Nile River, he temporarily exits his life with the Hebrew slaves and becomes part of the House of Pharaoh (with all the privileges). Moses kills an Egyptian slave driver and exits Egypt and enters the life of the desert (for 40 years). God calls Moses to exit the life he has built in the desert (with his wife and children). He enters back into the court of Pharaoh and tells Pharaoh, "Let God's people go" [Hebrew lives matter].

Even though the people have a common goal they are complaining and blaming Moses: "this is harder than we thought," "things are not happening fast enough," "maybe we should back off and see if Pharaoh will be nice to us if we stay," "things are only getting worse."

God has heard the people's cries, and he is still answering, saying perhaps, "Stay focused on the big vision, Struggle does not mean you are not moving forward. I sent you Moses (a murderer, a fugitive, a man of Egypt, a man of the Hebrews, a shepherd from the desert). Go forward! The exit is forward and outward, and the entrance is forward into the desert, and further on lies the Promised Land."

This is true today. The way to life often leads us to exit places of perceived safety and enter what seems risky and fraught with challenges. But this has always been true and always will be. Places in life that once seemed as a promised place can become places of bondage, and places that seem like unexplored deserts can reveal the Promised Land.

As I am writing, my old police partner Robby is telling me his mother, who is 93 years old and lives on the Texas coast, is trapped on land that has become an island surrounded by waves of water on all sides. So far, neither the Army, the Coast Guard, nor anyone else has been able to get close enough to help her. Her life depends on someone exiting a place of safety to bring her to a place of safety, food, and water. Ironical that a man who has saved many lives is now helpless and relying on others to enter the water to save her from tragedy. Sometimes the situations we enter into save not only the lives of others but us and our own loved ones, too.

Bethlehem UCC, will we enter a more Promised Land, even though it means exiting some things as we know them? The way of life is forward.

God loves us all with no take-backs!

Pastor John





**FLU  
SHOT**

### **FLU VACCINATION CLINIC - DATE CHANGE**

**Sunday, Oct. 1, 7:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

**ALERT: You need to sign up by SEPTEMBER 24 for the High-Dose Tri-valent vaccine (see below).**



**IMPORTANT  
DATE  
CHANGE**

Evangelical Homes of Michigan will provide two types of vaccine: standard Tri-valent vaccine and high-dose Tri-valent vaccine.

The High-Dose Tri-valent contains 4 times the amount of antigen as the regular vaccine and is only approved for those 65 or older. Whereas it creates a stronger immune response, stronger side effects might occur.

**A sign-up sheet is outside the office for those requesting the high-dose vaccine.**

#### **IMPORTANT POINTS**

- It is **essential** that individuals desiring the High-Dose vaccine sign up by September 24 so that an adequate supply will be available. A sign-up sheet is outside the church office.
- Sign-up is not required for the Standard vaccine.
- Bring your Medicare or Medicare Advantage card.
- If you are not eligible for Medicare, a donation of \$15 is suggested; however, *no one will be turned away for inability to pay.*

## **Friday Parking Lot Pretzels**

***Updates, changes,  
and a request for help!***

First, and most important, we want to thank each and every one of you who have helped in any way to make Friday Parking Lot Pretzels so successful. We began this group in February 2011, and as we look forward to finishing our 7<sup>th</sup> year, we are very proud of what we have been able to accomplish. To date, we have raised \$59,525 in total profits, which have all been earmarked for the General Fund of Bethlehem or to finance special projects, such as the 4th Avenue canopy, new lighting, the digital monitors, and repainting and recarpeting the elevator. In addition, the kitchen is maintained and upgraded as needed with these profits to meet health department requirements. We are indeed blessed to have had such a loyal, dedicated group of helpers who show up each month to share in the fellowship and fun of pretzel rolling. This ministry has flourished and grown, and many new friendships have developed. We make and usually sell out an average of 175 dozen (2,100 each) pretzels each month, and several times a year, we exceed 200 dozen



in one month. So again, we simply say thank you!

Pretzel making is a 3-day process each month during pretzel week, and much work is done prior to the actual rolling on Friday. On Wednesday of pretzel week, supplies are purchased and brought to the church—and there are a lot of supplies needed for that many pretzels!

Dough making takes place on Thursday. This has required 3 people and takes about 4-5 hours. Also on Thursday, things are readied for rolling on Friday. There are a lot of “little” things that need to be done (blue trays need to have cloths put on them, racks and trays need to be put out, salt shakers filled, etc.). Until recently, all of this was done by the same people every month. Then, in late 2016, we asked people to help with the shopping, and Ron Karr and Scott & Kris Lovelace stepped up and have taken that on since November 2016. Patti Maki volunteered to come on Thursdays

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## Parking Lot Pretzels

(Continued from page 7)

to help do all the little things for Friday, which freed up an hour for the people making dough. Jan Burnham has been doing the laundry after the pretzel rolling for many months now, and we generate a lot of laundry, so we really appreciate this! These things alone have been such a huge help, and we are so grateful to these people for stepping up. Now we are asking *you* to seriously consider offering to help with the dough making and/or commit to staying on pretzel Fridays until all the bagging of the pretzels and the clean-up are totally done. There is so much work left to do after the rolling is finished, and much of the clean-up can't be done until the baking is over. Clean-up has usually been done by about 2:30 p.m. For several of us, our pretzel Fridays begin at 7 a.m., and we are there all day until the very end. We can't leave until everything is cleaned up and put away. Frankly, we are tired and need more help! So, after much thought, beginning in September 2017, we will limit our monthly production to 125 dozen. We think this is a realistic amount, but it will have some consequences, both good and bad. Our workload will be lightened, our time commitment will lessen, and we will not feel so "burned out" at the end of the day. However, our profits will definitely be impacted, and we will need to ask some of our customers who typically have had very large orders to limit them to a given number of dozen, which means some people who have ordered in the past might not be able to get their pretzels. In addition, we might have to curtail our practice of giving out pretzels to visitors at church on Sundays because we might not have extra pretzels for this purpose. This has been a difficult decision, but one we think will allow everyone to have more fun again instead of seeing pretzel production as a very long day of "work."

With all of this being said, we still need your help. Would you please consider helping make the dough on one or more Thursdays and/or staying to help clean up on one or more Fridays? You would not have to commit to helping every month, but if several people would help, we could share the duties so you might only have to help every other month or even less. Dough making is easy and repetitive, and it takes very little training. Since we will be making less dough now, the time to do so will decrease substantially. We know those people

who have always stayed to help with clean-up would like a break, too. We totally understand that everyone is busy and your time is valuable, but we also know that the great people of Bethlehem have always risen to the occasion when a need arises. We are seriously counting on you to do this now. We would need 1-2 people a month to help with making dough and 3-4 people to help clean up. We do not want to lose this valuable ministry, and we hope you will consider helping in either of these 2 areas. We have shared so much fun and fellowship with this ministry, and we would hate to lose it. We want all of you to join us and to continue to bring your friends! Please know that 60% of the profits each month will continue to fund special projects for which there has been no money budgeted, and we want to be able to continue funding these projects that will benefit our church and make it more welcoming. The other 40% will continue to go back into the general operating fund of the church. Following are the dates for September through December. Please plan to join us, and, if at all possible, please try to plan ahead so you will be able to be here for these dates, as the more people who can be there, the less time everything will take. Mark your calendars now and *please* let Paul or Barb Marshall know as soon as possible if you can help with either dough making or clean-up and the month(s) you can help. Thanks so much!

### **Pretzel Dates for September through December 2017**

#### **September**

Dough making, Thursday, Sept 28  
Baking, Friday, Sept 29

#### **October**

Dough making, Thursday, Oct 26  
Baking, Friday, Oct 27

#### **November**

Dough making, Thursday, Nov 16  
Baking, Friday, Nov 17

#### **December**

Dough making, Thursday, Dec 14  
Baking, Friday, Dec 15

# OUTREACH MINISTRY UPDATE

Laura Seyfried

Bethlehem UCC has a long history of volunteering and serving our community. The Outreach Ministry Team has many opportunities available for everyone to be involved, and we are looking forward to having you join us!

**Alpha House/Interfaith Hospitality Network Coordinator** to schedule BUCC volunteers (4–6 each time) at Alpha House 4 times per year as well as manage meal preparation for the same dates. The next opportunity is Sunday, October 1, starting at 6 p.m. Volunteers are needed to prepare food (in advance and bring to site by 6 p.m.), serve the meal (6:30–7:30 p.m.) and assist with the kids' activities (7–8 p.m.).

## Food Gatherers Community Kitchen at the Delonis Center

**Coordinator** to schedule BUCC volunteers (4–6 each time) at the Community Kitchen on the first Sunday of each month. Shifts include meal preparation (and clean-up) from noon–2:30 p.m. and meal serving (and clean-up) from 2:30–4:30 p.m. Currently, a volunteer sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

## Washtenaw/Ann Arbor CROP Walk

**BUCC Team Leader** and walking participants to promote and join the annual Church World Service fundraising and hunger relief event. The 2017 Ann Arbor event is hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church and will be held on Sunday, October 15, starting at 1 p.m. A team recruiter rally is set for Wednesday, September 6. Detailed information can be found at: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/annarbormi/>



If you are interested in helping with any of these ongoing outreach activities, please contact Laura Seyfried, Outreach Ministry Team chairperson, at lseyfried@hotmail.com or the church office.

## Bethlehem Church Ongoing Outreach Opportunities

Please consider joining in! Sign-up sheets are in the office hallway.



### FOOD GATHERERS COMMUNITY KITCHEN

October 1 & November 5 (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.)

Sept 26 & Oct 24 (fourth Tuesday of each month, 2:30–4:45 p.m.)

Fresh Produce distribution, Fridays from 9–12.

### FOOD GATHERERS FOOD BARREL

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



### ALPHA HOUSE OUTREACH

October 1, 6:30 (dinner) & 6:45 (after-dinner kids' activities)

Make dinner and help with activities for families who are using Alpha House for temporary shelter, food, and support services.



## MEMORIALS & GIFTS

### GENERAL MEMORIAL FUND

Waldemar & Marianne Pollee Memorial

### PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUND

Gary Hentz Memorial

Lois (Kempfert) Soper Memorial

### RADIO FUND

Godfrey Keppler Memorial

Gifts listed were received through  
August 31, 2017

## PARISH RECORDS

### DEATHS

**Margery Eiseman**

June 1, 2017

**Alethea Helbig**

August 22, 2017

### WEDDINGS

**Alison Rose Judson &**

**Tyler Matthew Fenske**

August 12, 2017

## RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIPS

**August 6** Radio Broadcast in memory of **Frederick and Lela Keppler** from their family.

**August 20** Radio Broadcast sponsored by Mary Jean Raab in memory of her grandmother **Lorena Stein**, a life-long member of Bethlehem.

# HOLY ROLLERS PRETZELS

As fall approaches, the Holy Rollers will celebrate their 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary as they resume making pretzels on Saturday, September 9. We would like to thank you for buying the pretzels that we make the second Saturday of most months. We began this project in September 2006. We are grateful for your support and want to update you on how we have chosen to use the money that has been raised. We reported to you in September 2014 how we have supported Bethlehem in various ways. Since then, we have donated a total of over \$28,000, most recently giving to the Steeple Bell Fund (\$2,000) and the Parsonage Renovation Fund (\$5,000). And did you know that we also make the pretzels used for Communion at Bethlehem?

Each time we make pretzels, we continue to set aside \$25 to pay for the Church World Service (CWS) kit processing and shipping. For each kit that we assemble and send to CWS, we are asked to send \$2/kit for processing. The Holy Rollers have raised a total of \$1,600 since 2010 for this purpose. Any additional money due CWS is covered by the Women of Bethlehem.

We will be rolling again on Saturday, September 9. You are welcome to join us.

*Our sincere thanks for your continued support.*

*The Bethlehem Holy Rollers*

## October Visitor Deadline

**Deadline  
to submit  
articles and  
photos is  
September 25.**

## JULY 2017 FINANCIALS

*(August financials will be available in the October Visitor and in a mid-September Refrigerator Page.)*

<b>Monthly Target</b>	<b>\$ 32,830.00</b>
<b>Monthly Received</b>	<b>\$ 24,293.66</b>
<b>YTD Target</b>	<b>\$203,546.00</b>
<b>YTD Received</b>	<b>\$190,021.88</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>(\$13,524.12)</b>

# Fellowship Ministry Team

Jane Zieseemer

If you're looking for a festive evening in early October, please mark your calendars for Friday, October 6. The BUCC Fellowship Ministry is once again hosting an Oktoberfest "picnic." It will run from 6–9 p.m. with a German Park food theme of brats, hot dogs, German potato salad, spatzen, sauerkraut, chips, **pies** (yes, pies are back), beer and wine (for sale/cash bar), coffee, water, lemonade, and some lively music by the Wannabes.

The success of Oktoberfest last year was the result of all our wonderful volunteers. Sign-up sheets for how you may help are outside the office.

Tickets go on sale September 10 between and after services, at the church office during the week, or by calling the office to reserve at 665-6149. **Ticket sales are limited to 230, and no tickets will be sold at the door.** We know it's going to be another wonderful evening.

## OKTOBERFEST OCTOBER 6



- Tickets:**           **\$12 Adult, \$5 (age 10 and under)**  
                           \*\*Purchase tickets at the Church office (call 734-665-6149 to reserve tickets)  
                           \*\*NO tickets will be sold at the door.
- Food Line:**       6:00–8:00 p.m.
- Live music:**      Stevie D and the Wannabes
- Picnic Dinner:**   German Sausage or Hot Dog, German Potato Salad, Spatzen, Sauerkraut,  
                           Chips, Pies, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade
- Cash Bar:**        Wine, Beer, German Pretzels

***Proceeds to benefit a local nonprofit and our church facilities.***



## Annual Fall Star Bazaar and Luncheon



Debbie Karr

Coming soon: Annual fall Star Bazaar and Luncheon, Friday, November 10!

It's time to clean the closets to donate last year's Christmas decorations or those gifts that you forgot to use. We are also looking for crafters. If you or someone you know would like to rent a table to sell your art, contact Debbie Karr [734-730-4229](tel:734-730-4229). Or you can donate your crafts to be sold at the bazaar. Of course, we will also be looking for German baked goods, cookies, and pies for the bake shop, as well as quilts to display. Watch for sign-up sheets in October.



### ***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 Church—Our Core Values**

- ♦ **Growing** spiritually in our faith journey together
- ♦ **Worshipping** together to seek and share God's love
- ♦ **Connecting** with God and each other in a supportive, nurturing way
- ♦ **Reaching out** to our members, community, country, and the world through support and service

### **Bethlehem's Ministry Team**

Rev. John Kennedy

Pastor

Rev. Orval L.E. Willimann

Pastor Emeritus

Lily Tinker Fortel

Minister of Spiritual Growth  
and Development

Carol Leyshock

Parish Administrator

Betty Clark

Financial Administrator

Donna Whitney

Parish Secretary

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.