

Matthew 21:18-22 NRSV

¹⁸ In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. ¹⁹ And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, ‘May no fruit ever come from you again!’ And the fig tree withered at once. ²⁰ When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, ‘How did the fig tree wither at once?’ ²¹ Jesus answered them, ‘Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, “Be lifted up and thrown into the sea”, it will be done. ²² Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.’

*This is the Word of God, for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!*

February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent



Mission Statement

Knowing Christ, Growing in Faith, and Showing God's Love

Vision Statement

Bethel United Methodist Church continues its unchanging heritage of faith, striving to be a sacred place to know Christ fully, grow spiritually, and show God's love through compassion, service, and generosity.

Worship

Celebration of

February 25, 2024
8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude: "Open Our Eyes" arr. Bettcher

Greeting & Announcements

*Call to worship:

Leader: Come, let us worship God who provides for us.
People: Even when we complain, God hears our cries.
 Leader: Lift your voices in praise, for God has come to comfort you.
People: Thanks be to God who forgives and heals our wounded souls.
 Leader: Come, celebrate God's steadfast love.
People: Open our hearts, O Lord, and let us truly listen to your words.

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Hymn: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty".....#139 UMH

Opening Prayer: *Precious Lord, we come this day to worship with so many things on our hearts and minds. We are drawn away by problems and cares. We know that you are a loving and providing God. Heal our spirits. Open our hearts. Help us be your disciples. This we pray in Jesus name, who taught us to pray...*

The Lord's Prayer: *Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

FEBRUARY 25—MARCH 3

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School - Various Rooms
	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
	1:00 p.m.	Grief Share - PMH
	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class - PMH
	6:30 p.m.	Fuel - PMH
Monday		Joyce Mentzer's Sabbath
	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Bible Study - PMH
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Lenten Bible Study - PMH
	6:00 p.m.	"J" Crew - Music Room
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study-Todd Shultz - Meeting Room
	7:15 p.m.	YM2 - Music Room
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Kings Kids - Music Room
	7:15 p.m.	First Towne Ringers - Music Room
Thursday	1:00 p.m.	Kay Poole Bible Study - PMH
	6:00 p.m.	Wyld Life/Young Life Meeting - PMH
	6:00 p.m.	Miracle Singers - BFH
	7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir - Music Room
Friday		Pastor Jim's Sabbath
		Ray Davis's Sabbath
Saturday		Coastal Concerts
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - BFH
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School - Various Rooms
	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
	1:00 p.m.	Grief Share - PMH
	6:30 p.m.	Fuel - PMH



Church Livestream Available Online Sundays 9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Or anytime after the services on YouTube

BFH - Bethel Fellowship Hall PMH - Parsonage Meeting House



BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRAYER LIST
2/25/2024

Key: *Bold, Italicized & Underlined* type indicates a request new this week

Rehabilitation: Bob Ackerman, Frances Baker, Bonnie Parker, Carla Robinson

Hospital:

Hospice: *Robert Davis*, Sharon Messinger, *Diana Riley*, Mrs. Sample

General Concerns: Susan Allen, Barbara Arzinger, Diaz Bonville, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Inez Brengle, Sharon Dawson, Dave Elliott, Mark Henze, Caddie & Chubby Joseph, Bill Meyer, Shana Molnar, Penny Shockley, Bonnie Stevlingson, Jayne Tamburello

Long Term: Bryan Attix, Rev. Gloria Attix, Fran Baker, Ruth Ann Baker, Ginny Barney, Wesley Beam, Gavin Birl, Kim Book, Thelma Brown, Sam Chason, John Caycedo, Rev. Charles Covington, Robert Davis, Jay Dentino, Christine Drew, Marilyn Emmanuel, Trish Emmett, Susie Eveland, Connie Fisher, Frank Fitzgerald Sr, Gayle Gibbons, Hazel Gillespie, Junie Grant, Deborah Griggs, Alex Grove, Nancy Hecker, Sharon Henderson, Jim Hooban, Kayla Hottinger, Aubrey Hudson, Donna Smith Hurst, Chubby Joseph, Adam Kent, Faye Kintz, Steve Kremer, Kathy Kroley, Norm Kugel, Sue Kugel, Janice Kulp, Paulette Lazarro, Legates Family, Bill Lyons, Madison MacElrevey, Dr. Jim Marvel, Janet McGinnis, Claranne Meitrott, Kathy Miller, Marsha Miller, Bob Monti, Joan Moore, Ted Niemczyk, Lori O'Day, George Pepper, Jodi Potter, Beth Rinker, Celeste Ryan, Ed Sales, Tom Schaich, Joe Seay, Bill Seitz, Dale Stough, Bonnie Tedesco, Peggy Thomas, Dave Trout, Dawn Vandegrift, Anita Walker, Michael Walker, Elwood Webb, Hilda Williams, Theresa Wise, Glenn Yetter, Marge Zayatz

Up Coming Procedures: *Mary Conn*

Recovering From Procedures: Stuart Bruce, Marilyn Emanuel, *Pat Emmett*

Other:

- *Loudon County, VA fire department line of duty death in a house explosion. 9 other firefighters were injured.*
- All those caring for family and friends, especially spouses.
- Innocent Israeli and Palestinian victims suffering in the war with Hamas.
- Delaware Firefighters, EMS, and State Troopers.
- People of the Ukraine, Turkey, and Syria.
- People who are unemployed and under employed, and homeless families.
- For racial justice in the United States.

Sympathy to:

- Family & Friends of Todd Miller, nephew of Roy and Diane Miller, who passed away.
- Family & Friends of Joe Lobiondo, husband of Jan who passed away this week. Sending love & sympathy to go out to the family. Cards may be sent to Jan at 10 Brunswick Lane, Lewes, DE 19958.

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

God's Tithes and our Offerings

Offertory: 8:00 - "*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*" arr. Lau

11:00 - "*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*" arr. Rouse

*Doxology:.....#94 UMH

Hymn of Preparation: "*Spirit Song*".....#347 UMH

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:18-22

Mess "Why?:The Cursing of the Fig Tree" *Pastor Jim Penuel*

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Hymn: "*Beams of Heaven as I Go*".....#524 UMH

*Benediction

*Postlude (11): "*Rigaudon*" by Campra

**Those who are able, please stand.*

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
Hearing assistance devices are located at the sound booth.*

Bethel CCLI License #1774982, Streaming License #20110751

Bethel One License (with Podcasting) #A-73619

Come Alive Time WORSHIP

February 25, 2024
9:15 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude: "Percussive Praise" by McChesney
Presented by the First Towne Ringers

Gathering: (Please watch the screen for upcoming events)

Greeting and Opening Prayer

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Songs of Praise & Worship: "The Lion and the Lamb"
"Glory and Majesty"

Children's Message "God our Provider"

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Blessing of the Offering

Offering: "Eternal Praise" by Behnke
Presented by the First Towne Ringers

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:18-22

Message "Why?: The Cursing of the Fig Tree" Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Song: "Lead Me to the Cross"

*Benediction

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



A Journey from Mourning to Joy

13 Weeks

Bible Based Support Group

Sundays • February 25, 2024—June 9, 2024

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Bethel Parsonage Meeting House

Leaders: Lillian Ayers/Linda Corcoran/Bobbie Flynn

302-245-4863*302-245-3266*610-405-1211

If you, or someone you know is grieving,
Please refer them to Grief Share Website

Note: There will be no meetings on : 3/24, 3/31, 5/12, & 5/26/2024

Confidential sign up available online

GoTo: <http://griefshare.org>

Bethel UMC • 129 W. Fourth Street, Lewes • 302-645-9426

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Love Offering: The March Love Offering will benefit Lifetime Wells. The mission is to improve the quality of life for communities in Ghana and Tanzania by providing access to safe drinking water and a new ministry of eyecare in Africa. Love Offerings may be given throughout the month in the “designated” plates found at the back of Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary or online by clicking “Choose a Fund” and then by clicking “Communion/Love Offering” in the drop down menu. If donating by check please remember to make payable to Bethel UMC and note in memo love offering.



Easter Lilies and Cape Henlopen Food Basket: Orders are now being accepted for Easter Lilies, Tulips or Daffodils and/or donations for the Cape Henlopen Food basket. Order forms can be found on the Bethel Website or Bulletin Insert. Payment can be made from the Bethel Website by clicking on the “Give” tab at the top of the page; clicking on the “On Line Giving Portal” button; under Fund Dropdown “Choose a Fund”; click on Easter Flowers and or Cape Henlopen Food Basket button. You can also pay by check. Make your check payable to Bethel United Methodist Church and on the memo line write Easter Flowers or Cape Henlopen Food Basket. Thank you for giving to this very worthy ministry.

Mary Martha Circle Meeting: The Mary Martha Circle will be meeting Wednesday, March 6th, at Noon in the Parsonage Meeting House. All ladies of Bethel are invited to join us and enjoy Christian fellowship. For more info, contact Carole Cotman at clcotman@comcast.net

BETHEL INFORMATION

To our guests...

Welcome to Bethel! Thank you for worshipping with us. We invite you to experience the love and grace of God in Jesus Christ today. During the announcements we would like to give you a welcome packet—just raise your hand and an Usher will bring you one. We value your feedback. Please fill out the Information Card in the mug and place it in the offering plate. For more information about Bethel, visit our website at www.bethellewes.org or call the Church Office. Thank you.

Worship Opportunities

Traditional Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary, 8:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship in Fellowship Hall, 9:15 a.m.
Traditional Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.
Church Livestream Watch Online Sundays @ 9:15 or 11:00
Or anytime after the services on YouTube

Bethel Ministry Staff Contact Information

Jim Penuel, Senior Pastor	pastorjim@bethellewes.org
Earle Baker, Pastor of Visitation	enbaker54@gmail.com
Joyce Mentzer, Director of Music	jkmmentzer@bethellewes.org
Ray Davis, Youth & Family Director	ray@bethellewes.org
Sandy Stough, Office Manager	office@bethellewes.org
Cindi Clavette, Treasurer	cindi@bethellewes.org
Laura Petranto, Financial Secretary	laura3152@live.com
Katie Davis, S.S. Superintendent	Kdavis4786@gmail.com
Todd Mentzer, AV Coordinator	tamjam3@gmail.com
Susan Kremer, PR Coordinator	suzykq@mchsi.com
George Pepper, Maintenance	gpepper@bethellewes.org
Kathy & George Pepper, Caretakers	bethelpepper@yahoo.com
Kathy Pepper, Bethel Christian School	bethelpepper@yahoo.com

Bethel United Methodist Church
129 West Fourth St., Lewes, DE 19958
Phone: (302) 645-9426 Fax: (302) 645-0976
Email: office@bethellewes.org Website: www.bethellewes.org
Bethel Christian School Phone: (302) 645-5132
Church Office Hours M-F 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leaders for Today's Service

Greeters:	8:00	Bill & Nancy Collick
	9:15	Curtis Moomaw
	11:00	Larry & Carlene Spangler
Ushers:	8:00	Ernie Stanley, Head Usher; Ron Smith Assistant
	9:15	Libby Gibson, Head Usher
	11:00	Joann Brittingham, Head Usher Miguel Gomez & Ralph Scott; Assistants
Liturgists:	8:00	Clay Monroe
	9:15	Ray Davis
	11:00	Alison Parsell
Audio Visual Techs:	8:00	Joan Williamson
	9:15	Todd Mentzer, Ethan Curry, Ed Emmett
	11:00	Todd Mentzer, Ray Davis
Miracle Singers:	9:15	Lisa Baker, Kim Book, Kim Edmonds, Cathy Ferree, Elizabeth Grove-Fields, John Harris, Faye Kintz, Patty Marvel, Bill Powell
Instrumentalists		Drums - John Andalora Guitar - Paul Faircloth Keyboard - Joyce Mentzer

Weekly Statistics

Attendance: February 18, 2024: 312 (8:00-51; 9:15-161; 11:00-100)

Contributions for February 18, 2024	weekly deposit	\$ 13,918.57
	weekly budget	\$ 15,487.83
	YTD collection	\$ 150,830.76
	YTD budget	\$ 123,902.64



To enroll, click on the "Giving" tab on the Church's website.



Youth Sunday Combined Service
March 3 at 10:30

Save the Date for Youth Sunday 2024!

Be sure to mark your calendars for a COMBINED Youth Sunday Service on March 3rd at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bethel's Youth will be leading worship based on the theme, "Stories: How His Story Changes Our Stories," and will present music, drama, a message, and more that highlight how the stories that Jesus told and the story that He lived can change our stories and draw us closer to Him. An 8:00 traditional service will also be held that morning in the Sanctuary. Reminder there will be no Sunday School.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser:



Lewes Presbyterian Church is Hosting A Dinner To Raise Funds To Support Family Promise Of Southern Delaware & Shepherd's Office To Assist The Homeless.
Saturday, March 9, 2024 from 4p.m.-7p.m.
Cost: Donation
Location: Lewes Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall
133 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE

Elizabeth Circle Meeting: The Elizabeth Circle will meet at 1 PM on Tuesday, March 5th in Fellowship Hall. We will conduct our business meeting, then relax and share snacks, enjoying Christian companionship. Any women of Bethel are welcome to join or visit. For more information, contact Donna Fleischauer (djmarin@yahoo.com) or any Circle member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Bethel Food Ministries 2024

Two local shelter programs for the homeless are in need of hot meals. Anyone interested in providing food can access the sign-up sheets for both programs by following these steps:

Go to: www.bethellewes.org

Click on Information at the top of Bethel's home page.

Select "Bethel Food Ministries" from the drop down menu. This will bring you to a page that contains the direct links to each of the three programs and important information for each program, (so read through carefully).

Click on the link for the program you want and you will be linked to the sign-up sheet for that program.

Contact for both the Code Purple Shelter at St. Jude's and the CRC midday meal is Cathie Wagner at ccwgr@aol.com



Gift Cards for A Sheltering Heart at Red Mill Inn:

Each room has a crockpot. Clients give Toni their shopping lists and she purchases the ingredients. They each make their own dinner. Providing Giant or Acme gift cards for \$25 is a great help.

No sign up is needed. Just mail the cards to the address below.

Do not bring the cards to the Red Mill Inn as there isn't anyone there assigned to receive them. Mail Gift cards to: Toni Short

Lighthouse for Broken Wings

179 Rehoboth Avenue, Unit #123, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Include a note that they are for: A SHELTERING HEART CROCK POT MEALS

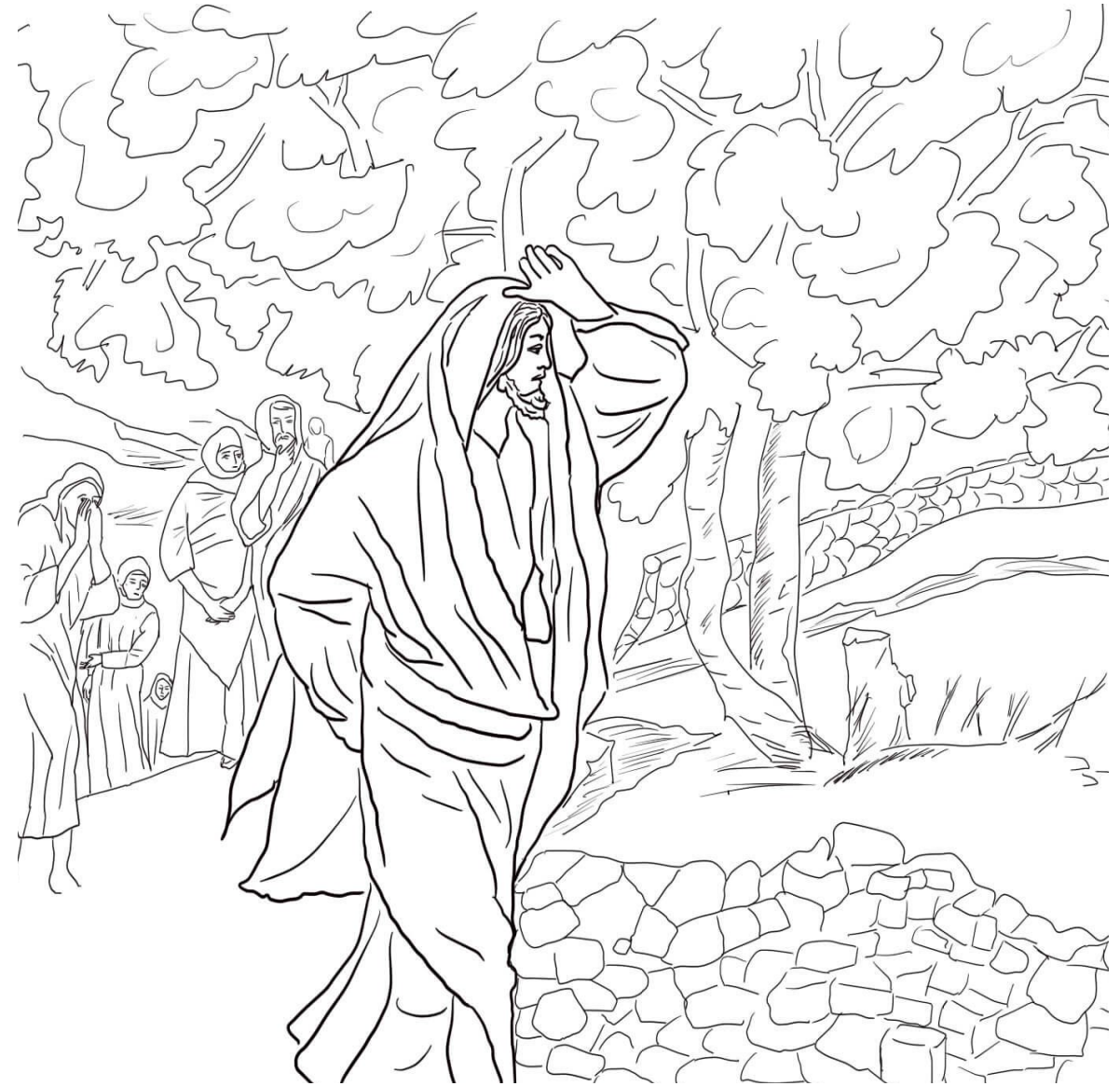


Volunteers Needed for Altar Committee: Diana and I are looking for people who might be interested in serving on the Altar Committee. It involves volunteers changing the colors when necessary, flowers, setting up for communion and special services. It is a very rewarding service to the church and to Pastor Jim. I would be very happy to talk to anyone

interested by phone or email to explain more about this service. If we can get enough people to join us, each person would only serve two months out of the year. Our goal is to have 6 people on the committee. Please contact me

at CharBastian@aol.com or 302-236-5684 or even a text.

CHILDREN'S PAGE



Jesus Cruises the Fig Tree

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week Happenings: March 25th-31st



Palm Sunday: March 25th, join us for worship.

Thursday: 10am -12pm: Our sanctuary will be open for prayer, anointing, and silent communion. People are welcome to come and go during this time of worship and reflection in our sanctuary.



Good Friday Crosswalk: Please join us on March 29th at 10am for the Good Friday Crosswalk. We will meet outside of Bethel and walk with the cross around the Lewes community. Scripture lessons will be read and hymns will be sung as we remember Christ's sacrifice for us all. After the crosswalk, the sanctuary will be open for anointing and prayer until 1:00pm.



Good Friday Service and Cantata: You are invited to attend a Holy Week service on Friday, March 29th at 7:00 p.m. in Bethel's fellowship hall. The service will feature the Joseph Martin choral work, "Song of the Shadows," presented by the Chancel Choir. Come and remember the beauty and sorrow of Christ's sacrifice for us as we partake of communion and worship together.



Easter Sunrise Service: On March 31st, join us as we worship the Risen Savior at 6:30am on Lewes Beach. Please join us for a very special sunrise worship service with hymns, preaching, and prayer. Bring your own chair!

Easter Worship Services: Come join us for 1 of our 3 worship services at Bethel UMC . 8:00a.m. Traditional Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary, 9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship in Fellowship Hall, or 11:00 a.m. Traditional Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary. Church Livestream Watch Online Sundays @ 9:15 or 11:00 Or anytime after the services on YouTube



EASTER FLOWERS AND/OR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS – 2024

Please be sure to include your name so we can include your dedication information in our Easter Bulletin.
Thank you

Your Name: _____

Your phone number: _____



Below is a list of the flowers which will be available for our altar area on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.

		<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Total</u>
6" Easter Lily	\$11.00	_____		_____
6" Tulips	\$10.00	_____		_____
6" Daffodils	\$10.00	_____		_____

Note: Lilies have 3 blooms; Tulips 6 bulbs; and Daffodils 3 bulbs.

Easter Flowers "In Memory Of..."

Easter Flowers "In Honor Of..."

We are also giving you the opportunity, once again, to donate to an organization which greatly needs our help. This year we are again supporting the Cape Henlopen Food Basket. Food Basket donation "In Memory Of...":

Food Basket donation "In Honor Of...":

**Please return this form to the Church Office with your check,
payable to Bethel UMC, by Monday, March 18th.
We cannot accept any order for Flowers after Monday, March 18th.**

Office Use Only: CASH _____ AMOUNT \$ _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT \$ _____