

Matthew 5:13-20 NRSVUE

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

February 8, 2026



*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 8, 2026
8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

Prelude: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” arr. Limbaugh

Greeting & Announcements

*Call to Worship:

Leader: We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

People: **We are the salt of the earth.**

Leader: We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

People: **We are the light of the world.**

Leader: We are called to follow the commandments and the law.

People: **The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.**

Leader: Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

People: **Come, let us love one another with the love of God. Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.**

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Hymn: “When Morning Gilds the Skies”.....#185 UMH

Opening Prayer: *God of mystery and of judgment, who has made us to be salt and light in a tasteless, shadowed world, guide us in this time of worship. Grant us understanding and spiritual discernment so that others may see your good works through us, give you the glory, and be moved to serve you. 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 8—FEBRUARY 15

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
8:00 a.m. Bethel Men’s Group - PMH
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

Monday 1:00 p.m. **Joyce Mentzer’s Sabbath**
Cookbook Committee Meeting - Meeting Room

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. Sue Sprague Bible Study - PMH
6:00 p.m. “J” Crew - Music Room
6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting - PMH
7:00 p.m. YM² - Music Room

Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Women’s Ministry Meeting - PMH
6:00 p.m. King’s Kids - Music Room
7:00 p.m. First Towne Ringers - Music Room

Thursday 10:00 a.m. The Gospel of Matthew Bible Study - PMH
6:00 p.m. Miracle Singers - BFH
6:00 p.m. Wyldlife - PMH
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - Music Room

Friday **Pastor Jim’s Sabbath**
Ray Davis’s Sabbath

Saturday 2:00 p.m. Coastal Concerts - BFH



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
5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class - 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



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

Rehabilitation: David Hurlock, Bobby Lane, Paul Webb

Hospital: Dwayne Henry, Dottie Mckain

Hospice: Gary Arrell, Norah Atkins, Rosemary Bouvier, Jim Kardas, Brenda Keith, Sharon Messinger, Peter (Brother of Pauline Powell), Mrs. Sample, Jim Smith, Jim Willhite

General Concerns: Meg Anderson, Andy Baker, Marilyn Battiste, Bryce, Donna Carr, Paula Carridan, Tracy Carson, John & Linda Catanzaro, Danielle Cook, Joelle Criswell, Kathy Crowley, Cathy Crown, Scott Dailey, Jessi Ferree, Bridget Fowler, Bill Gibbons, Giovanna (Sister of Mauro De Medeiros), Howard Family, Ida (Sister in-Law of Tina Eaton), **Jessica**, Kelly Jones, Kelsea, Kelly Lahorcek, Paulette Lazzarro, Al Lopez, Paige Lucas, Lucca, Pat McMillen, Ann Miller, Whitney Murray, June Myers, Jennifer Nobles, Xavier Nobles, Kelly Pinsky, Beth Rampson, Naomi Rickards, Cindi Flahive-Sobel, **Danny & Debbie Summers**, Linda Sydell & Family

Long Term: Ansalvish Family, Bryan Attix, Rev. Gloria Attix, Fran Baker, Matthew Baker, Ruth Ann Baker, **Ginny Barney**, Wesley Beam, Dave Beddle, Nancy Bektolino, Betty, Gavin Birl, Daryl Bradley, Inez Brengle, Dale Buckwalter, Liz Carrier, John Caycedo, Janette Clavette, Clawson Family, Victor Colon, Rev. Charles Covington, Bill Dell, Jay Dentino, Bob Dickey, Richard Dickey, Bonnie Ekas, Jim Emanuel, Marilyn Emanuel, Pat Emmett, Trish Emmett, Tom Engel, Susie Eveland, Olga Fitch, **Frank Fitzgerald Sr.**, Gayle Gibbons, Danny Gillespie, Hazel Gillespie, Junie Grant, Jude Gray, Alex Grove, George Hammond, Kelly Harp, Heather & Indy, Nancy Hecker, **Lou Henderson**, Sharon Henderson, Jack Henriksen, Jim Hooban, Kayla Hottinger, David Jones, Erika Jones, Chubby Joseph, Deb Kellenbenz, Adam Kent, Faye Kintz, Kathy Krolew, Norm Kugel, Janice Kulp, Paulette Lazarow, Nancy Logan, Bill Lyons, Rob MacArthur, Madison MacElrevey, Matt, Kortlyn, & Bodi, Dr. Jim Marvel, Patty Marvel, Janet McGinnis, Medhi, Claranne Meitrott, Stephen Metler, Marsha Miller, Stephanie Miller, Rev. Charles Moyer, Chuck Naspinsky, Curt & Melinda Newsome, Ted Niemczyk, Lori O'Day, Brian O'Dell, Mike O'Neill, Thom Pemberton, George Pepper, Earl Peters, Jodi Potter, Steve Rellihan, Beth Rinker, Carla Robinson, Tom Schaich, Mary Louise Scott, John Schulze, Joe Seay, Bill Seitz, Betty Sheats, Logan Smith, Tricia (Spangler) Gracey, Chet Sprague, Judy Stevenson, Bonnie Stevlingson, Margaret Stockslager, Dale Stough, James Taylor, Bonnie Tedesco, Peggy Thomas, Dave Trout, Bob Turcovski, Dawn Vandegrift, Michael Walker, Wanda, Kathy Watson, Kathy Wetherhold-Parrott, Hilda Williams, Trish Wilson, Woody Wilson, Theresa Wise, Jim & Jolie Woodward, Lucretia Y., Glenn Yetter, Marge Zayatz

Up Coming Procedures: *Ginny Mitchell, Marjorie Mounts*

Recovering From Procedures: June Rose Fatcher, Margaret Hitchens

Other:

- The people of Iran and Venezuela.
- The ongoing Situation in Minneapolis.
- All those caring for family and friends, especially spouses and those that have lost a child.
- Delaware Firefighters, EMS, and State Troopers.
- For racial justice in the United States.

Sympathy to:

- **Family & Friends of Nancy Kushela, mother of Karen Mcilvane who passed away.**
- Family & Friends of Sam Comly, Uncle of Ray Davis, Who passed away suddenly.

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

God's Tithes and our Offerings

Offertory (8): “*Breathe On Me, Breath of God*” arr. Folkertz

(11): “*Come Flood This Heart of Mine*” by Frombach/Lantz

*Doxology:.....#94 UMH

Hymn of Preparation: *“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”*.....#173 UMH

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20

Message “Spice Up Your Life” Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Hymn: “*Freely, Freely*”#389 UMH

*Benediction & Final Blessing

Leader: As we depart, may the Peace of Christ be with you.

People: *May the Peace of Christ be with you.*

(All are invited to pass the Peace of Christ to all as you exit during the Postlude)

*Postlude: “*Fanfare Postlude in D*” by Wagner

**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 8, 2026
9:15 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering: *(Please watch the screen for upcoming events)*

Greeting and Opening Prayer

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Songs of Praise & Worship: *"Your Love Awakens Me"*
"Your Words"

Musical Offering by the King's Kids: *"God With Us"*

Children's Message: *"Salt and Light Makes Things Better!"*

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering: *"Here's My Heart, Lord"*

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20
Message: *"Spice Up Your Life"* Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Song: *"We Are"*

*Benediction & Final Blessing

Leader: As we depart, may the Peace of Christ be with you.

People: *May the Peace of Christ be with you.*

(All are invited to pass the Peace of Christ to all as you exit during the Postlude)

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BOTH CODE PURPLE @THE CAPE SHELTERS

Shelter Season is Mon Dec 1, 2025 – Sat Mar 15, 2026



This vital resource is dependent on volunteers as Code Purple @ the Cape is a 100% volunteer run.

Both of their emergency winter shelters, at St Jude the Apostle and the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, are open every night from December 1st until March 15th.

Volunteer spots include overnight Hosts, intake Assistants & bus Drivers.

They serve single adult men and women. Provided services include a hot meal, a warm, safe and secure bed, weather appropriate clothing, and hygiene. Each guest is uniquely homeless...each vulnerable...each one matters!

To view the descriptions and dates open for each job on their *SignUp.com* page just copy and paste this address into your browser:

<https://signup.com/go/xeVKqQw>

If you have questions about volunteering email Mike Agnew at codepurple@stjudelewes.org

Thank you



Love Inc-Code Purple Shelters:

Our friends at Love INC could also use some helping hands at the **Georgetown** and **Milford** Code Purple shelters. They're looking for overnight volunteers!

If you're able to serve, you can sign up at:

<https://40484.people.myamplify.io/external/form/807a9e0b-3191-48c1-bc4c-f6864db51097> Thank You!!



LOVE BABIES? THEN...

SHOWER THE BABIES WITH LOVE--AGAIN!

FEBRUARY 8-FEBRUARY 22

Once again Bethel's Women's Ministry will be collecting baby products for needy families in the Cape Henlopen area. All items will be distributed by the Baby Pantry located in the Community Resource Center.

Items most needed area:

- **Diapers, Sizes 5, 6, and 7**
- **Children's clothing, Sizes 18 months – 2T**
- **Baby wipes, baby wash, baby cereal (boxes – no jars)**

If you prefer, monetary donations may be made by check payable to Bethel UMC (designated Women's Ministry), or by online giving (from the drop-down menu select Women's Ministry).

For more information, contact Barb Shelton (302-430-1894 or barbshelton47@comcast.net).

Thank you from Women's Ministry!

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
Bill Gaskill, Custodian	chillydgz@aol.com
Kathy Pepper, Bethel Christian School	bethelpepper@yahoo.com

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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.



Leaders for Today’s Service

Greeters:	8:00	Jean Maxwell
	9:15	Kevin White
	11:00	
Ushers:	8:00	Ernie Stanley, Head Usher
		Sandy Hunsicker, & Ron Smith Assistants
	9:15	Libby Gibson, Head Usher
	11:00	Joann Brittingham, Head Usher
		Miguel Gomez & Ralph Scott; Assistants
Liturgists:	8:00	Bill Weaver
	9:15	Ray Davis
	11:00	Marjorie Mounts
Audio Visual Techs:		Ray Davis, Ed Emmett, Norm Macturk, Mauro Medeiros, Todd Mentzer, John Roman Nehrbas
Miracle Singers:	9:15	Kim Edmonds, Cathy Ferree, John Harris, Faye Kintz, Patty Marvel, Bill Powell

Weekly Statistics

Attendance: January 31, 2026: 228

Contributions for January 25 & 31, 2026

weekly deposit	\$ 26,415.32
weekly budget	\$ 16,915.18
YTD collection	\$ 79,421.81
YTD budget	\$ 84,575.90



To enroll, click on the “Giving” tab on the Church’s website.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



FOOD
MINISTRY

Bethel’s Food Ministries

Cold Weather Sheltering programs will begin 12/1/25

Contact for both programs is Cathie Wagner at
ccwgr@aol.com

Anyone interested in providing food can access the sign-up sheets for the two 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 the two 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.

The CRC sign up has a separate link for each month.



Love Offering: The February Love Offering will benefit Camp Pecometh. Camp Pecometh mission is to provide sanctuary for Christian hospitality and programming that promote God-inspired, life-changing experiences through camp and retreat ministries. Love Offerings may be given throughout the month in the “designated” plates found at the back of Fellowship Hall & 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 love offering.

Lenten Cantata Rehearsals Start Soon! Our Lenten Cantata, “Who Is This King?” by Larson/Martin, will be presented on Good Friday, April 3 at 7:00 pm. Rehearsals will be starting soon! If you are interested in joining with the Chancel Choir to sing this musical re-telling of the ministry and final days of Jesus’ life, please contact Joyce Mentzer for more information.

Save the New Date!

Missions First Annual

Opportunity to Serve Fair & Chili Tasting



Sunday, March 15, 2026

4 to 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall



Our commitment to the Methodist faith calls for our “prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.” To help us meet that commitment several non-profit organizations are coming to the Fair so they can explain their mission and the work that must be completed to achieve that mission. It is an opportunity to understand the purpose of the organization and to volunteer for a single day or on an ongoing basis.

In addition, existing Bethel groups will be present to share their opportunities to volunteer. The Fair gives everyone an opportunity to volunteer for an existing church activity or project well as reach beyond the walls of the church.

To entice you to come, attendees will have an opportunity to taste different chili recipes. Chili makers are asked to contribute a crockpot of their favorite chili. So that the Missions Team can prepare, please email George Phillips (retiredman2017@gmail.com) to let him know you want to share your great chili with others. Please include your recipe in the email so the Team can make copies to share with everyone attending the Fair.

The Missions Team looks forward to seeing you at the Fair. Thank You!

NOTE SHEET

Note Sheet

“Spice Up Your Life”

Matthew 5:13-20

2/8/26

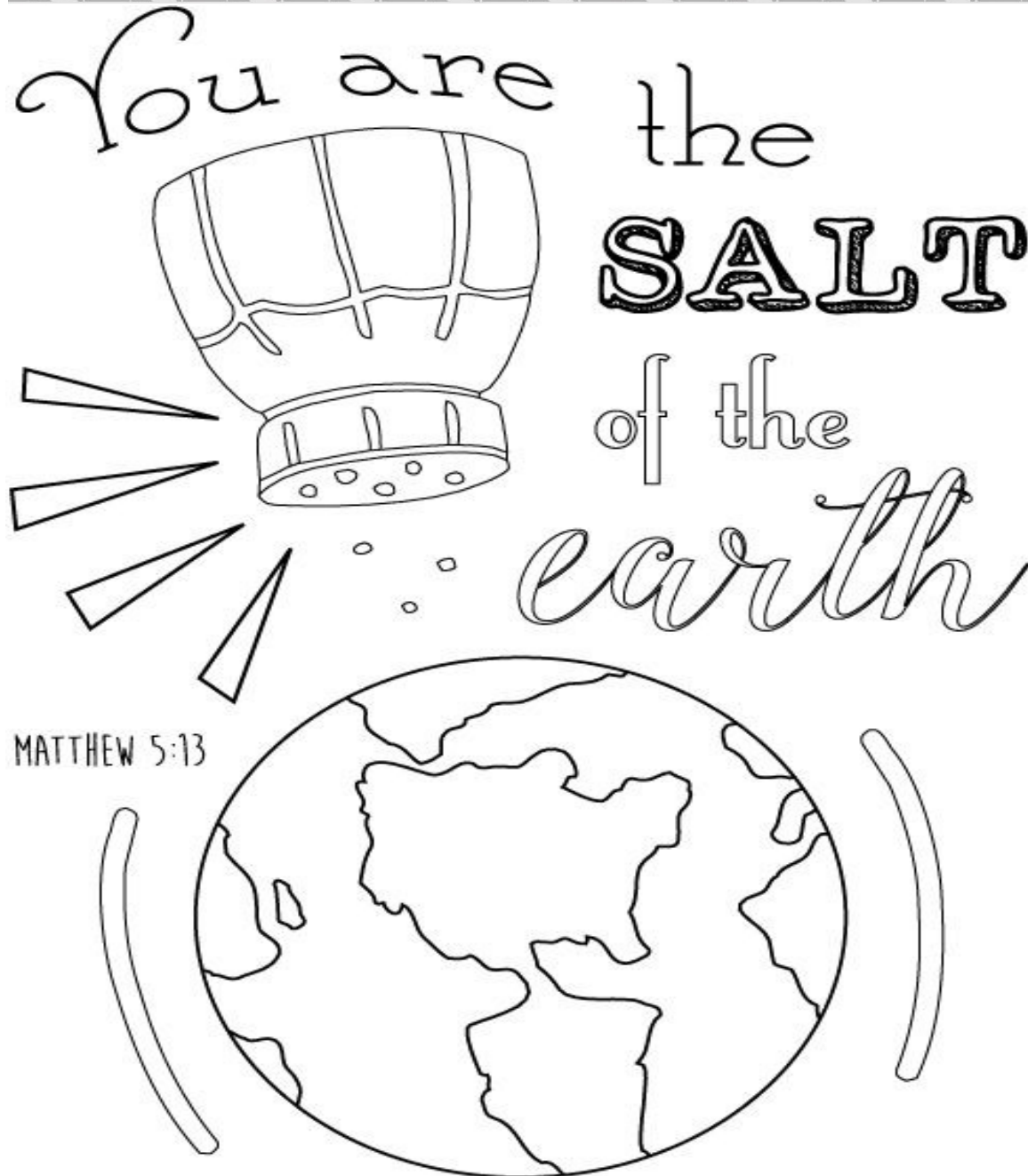
1. Two of Jesus' favorite methods of teaching were _____ and _____.
2. On the one hand, we don't want to be “_____” Christians.
3. We also don't want to be “_____”.
4. As I've said before, but it bears repeating, “Jesus calls us to _____”.
5. Jesus also teaches us that God's law was made for our _____, not to become a burden.
6. Jesus has already given us the blueprint; it's up to us to do our best to _____ it out.

Scripture reading for further reflection: Revelation 3:14-22, Matthew 23:1-12, Luke 14:1-6.

Note: You may access the Digital Sermon Note Page by scanning the QR Code



CHILDREN'S PAGE



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our Bethel Cookbook is returning after 15 years!

The Bethel Cookbook is returning after 15 years! Recipe submissions will be accepted now until Feb. 15th. Forms are available in the lobby and attached to the e-blast. A collection basket is in the lobby for your completed forms. Send us your favorites to share with your church and friends. We have amazing cooks and bakers at Bethel! Sponsored by the Elizabeth Circle.



Ash Wednesday Service: Please join us on February 18th at 7pm for an Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary. It will be a time of reflection, prayer, communion, and an imposition of the ashes to prepare ourselves to observe a Holy lent. The service will also be live-streamed.

FEAR<LESS

GOD'S STRENGTH IN OUR WEAKNESS - GOD'S CALM IN OUR STORMS

bethel u.m.c. youth sunday 2026

Youth Sunday Combined Service - March 1

Save the date for the COMBINED service

on Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bethel's youth will be presenting their annual youth-led service which will feature music, drama, a message, and more that will be sure to inspire. The theme of the day is "FEAR<LESS" and the service will focus on "God's strength in our weakness, God's calm in our storms". Please plan to attend! A traditional 8:00 service will also be available that morning.



Elizabeth Circle's Spring Blood Drive for the Blood Bank of Delmarva will be held Tuesday, March 10 from 10am to 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. The donation site is open for you to sign up. Anyone in generally good health and over 17 years of age may register. There is a high demand for lifesaving blood

donations. Use this link for easy signup:

https://donate.bbd.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11428

Any questions, please contact Marilyn Mead at marilynwm26@gmail.com