

Isaiah 40:1-8 NRSVUE

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶ A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers; the flower fades, [[when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers; the flower fades,]] but the word of our God will stand forever.

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

August 17, 2025



*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



August 17, 2025
8:00 & 11 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

Prelude: “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” arr. Wagner

Greeting & Announcements

*Call to Worship:

Leader: Welcome! Open your hearts to God’s love this day!
People: *Praise be to God who has called us here!*
Leader: Let the words wash over you and offer you healing and hope.
People: *Praise be to God who continually blesses us!*
Leader: Place your hope and trust in God!
People: *With joyful hearts, we come to worship and praise God who continually blesses and provides for us. Amen.*

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”.....#110 UMH

Opening Prayer: *Almighty God, from the very beginning you blessed creation. You have loved and shielded your people through all joys and trials of life. We come to you this day, rejoicing in the many blessings you have given to us. We open our hearts again to hear your word for us and to gather strength and joy for service in your world. Be with us and bless us again. 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.*

AUGUST 17–AUGUST 24

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Summer Sunday School - Various Rooms
	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary

Monday *Joyce Mentzer’s Sabbath*

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

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Summer Sunday School - Various Rooms
	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary

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
8/17/2025

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

Rehabilitation: Nancy Hecker, David Hurlock, Bobby Lane, Paul Webb

Hospital: Dottie Mckain

Hospice: Gary Arrell, Rosemary Bouvier, Harlow Carson, Joann Cooke, *Lucy Harris*, Jim Kardas, Brenda Keith, Sharon Messinger, Mrs. Sample

General Concerns: Carolyn Arrell, Felena Bartlett, Marilyn Battiste, Paula Carridan, Tracy Carson, *Scott Dailey*, Bob Dathe, Pat Emmett, Jessica, Lee Maxwell, *Whitney Murray*, Kelly Pinsky, Pam Reed, *Naomi Rickards*, Linda Sydell & Family, Jayne Tamborello, *Joan Webb*

Long Term: Ansalvish Family, *Barry Attix*, Bryan Attix, Rev. Gloria Attix, Fran Baker, Matthew Baker, Ruth Ann Baker, Ginny Barney, Wesley Beam, Nancy Bektolino, Gavin Birl, Daryl Bradley, Inez Brengle, Liz Carrier, John Caycedo, Janette Clavette, Rev. Charles Covington, Jay Dentino, Bob Dickey, Richard Dickey, Christine Drew, Bonnie Ekas, *Erika*, Marilyn Emanuel, Trish Emmett, Tom Engel, Susie Eveland, Olga Fitch, Frank Fitzgerald Sr, Gayle Gibbons, Danny Gillespie, Hazel Gillespie, Junie Grant, Alex Grove, George Hammond, *Kelly Harp*, Lou Henderson, Sharon Henderson, Connor Hiple, Jim Hooban, Kayla Hottinger, Chubby Joseph, Adam Kent, Faye Kintz, Kathy Kroley, Norm Kugel, Janice Kulp, Paulette Lazarro, *Nancy Logan*, Bill Lyons, Rob MacArthur, Madison MacElrevey, Matt Kortlyn, & Bodi, Dr. Jim Marvel, Janet McGinnis, Claranne Meitrott, Stephen Metter, Marsha Miller, Chuck Naspinsky, Curt & Melinda Newsome, Ted Niemczyk, Lori O'Day, Brian O'Dell, 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, Dale Stough, Bonnie Tedesco, Peggy Thomas, Dave Trout, Bob Turcovski, Dawn Vandegrift, Anita Walker, Michael Walker, Wanda, Kathy Watson, Kathy Wetherhold-Parrott, Hilda Williams, Trish Wilson, Woody Wilson, Theresa Wise, Lucretia Y., Glenn Yetter, Marge Zayatz

Up Coming Procedures:

Recovering From Procedures: *Bob Barney*, *Joyce Famelio*, Marissa Legates, *Cecelia Offidani*

Other:

- Safe Travels for the Milton Little League as they head to East Region Invitational.
- Victims of the flooding in Texas
- Democratic Republic of the Congo - under attack by M23 rebels
- Ongoing Wars in the Middle East & Eastern Europe.
- 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 Jane Carey who passed away on August 8th.*
- *Family & Friends of Gary Stabley, who passed away August 13th.*

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

God's Tithes and our Offerings

Offertory: *"Let All Things Now Living"* arr. Raney
presented by Lauren Mentzer

*Doxology:.....#94 UMH

Hymn of Preparation: *"Open Our Eyes"*.....See Page 8

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-8

Message *"The Word Endures"* Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Hymn: *"God Be with You till We Meet Again"*.....#672 UMH

*Benediction

*Postlude: *"This Little Light of Mine"* arr. Raney

**Those who are able, please stand.*

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of our parents, Don & Julie Hanley & George & Millie Warren
by Wayne & Mary Lou Warren.*

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



August 17, 2025
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: *"Unstoppable God"*
"A Thousand Hallelujahs"

Children's Message: *"God's Word Endures Forever"*

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering: *"This Little Light of Mine"* arr. Raney
presented by Lauren Mentzer

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-8

Message *"The Word Endures"*

Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Song: *"Standing On the Promises of God"*

*Benediction

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Text & Email Scams

Hello everyone,
Unfortunately, another wave of both scam texts and emails are being sent out. In the body of the text they are pretending to be me asking for favors and money. Please disregard and delete these texts and emails when you receive them and report them as spam.

Thank you, Pastor Jim

Missions/Elizabeth Circle Sewing Committee Thank You



Missions/Elizabeth Circle sewing committee would like to express our sincere appreciation to all those who helped us reach our goal of making 100 dresses and 100 shorts to be shipped to the Congo Missions children. Without the help from this loving congregation, this would not have been possible. Thank you!!



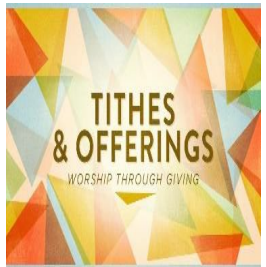
Prayer Team: If you have gifts in prayer, intercessory prayer, and a willingness to pray for our church, community, nation, and world, we would love to have you join us! Pastor Jim, Susie Keefer, & Joyce Snyder are interested in starting a prayer team here at Bethel. If you are interested in joining us please email Pastor Jim at PastorJim@bethellewes.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Love Offering: The August Love Offering will benefit Pathways to Success. Pathways to Success is a Delaware non-profit organization whose mission is to prepare youth, adults and their families for successful lives. They provide tutoring, mentoring, financial literacy education, occupational skills training, workforce preparation and leadership development. 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.



Financial Support: Thank you for your weekly support. We thank everyone who has provided funds to keep Bethel’s ministries going.

There are six ways you can get your gift to Bethel:

1. **Drop off your donation** through the mail slot in the front door of the Parsonage Meeting House at 130 W. 4th St.
2. **Mail donations** to BUMC, 129 W. Fourth St., Lewes, DE.
3. **E-giving:** Go to Bethel’s Website www.bethellewes.org and at the top right of the home page and click on the word, ‘Giving.’
4. **Text Giving** is a newest option for donations, using a cell phone or hand-held device. Call (302) 202-6625, text the word "GIVE"
5. **IRA Distribution.** Those who are over 70½, can donate part of their mandatory distribution to Bethel. Please speak to your financial advisor before doing this.
6. **QR Code:** Scan the QR Code located on bottom right corner.



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
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 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.



Leaders for Today’s Service

Greeters:	8:00	Jean Maxwell
	9:15	Curtis Moomaw
	11:00	
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	Mary Lou Warren
	9:15	Ray Davis
	11:00	Alison Parsell
Audio Visual Techs:		Ethan Curry, Ray Davis, Ed Emmett, Norm Macturk, Mauro Medeiros, Todd Mentzer
Miracle Singers:	9:15	Kim Edmonds, Cathy Ferree, John Harris, Faye Kintz, Patty Marvel, Bill Powell

Weekly Statistics

Attendance: August 10, 2025: 302 (8:00-50; 9:15-155; 11:00-97)

Contributions for August 10, 2025

weekly deposit	\$ 11,775.23
weekly budget	\$ 16,461.43
YTD collection	\$ 493,306.10
YTD budget	\$ 526,765.76



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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Teachers Need

Interested in Teaching Sunday School for the 2025-2026 School Year?

We are looking for Sunday School teachers for several of our classrooms, along with substitute teachers. Teachers work together to create a rotating schedule that works best for the team. You do not need to teach every Sunday of the school year! Many teaching teams only teach once a month. There is an easy to follow curriculum and supplies available at each age level. We are looking for additional 2 & 3 year old teachers, 1st/2nd grade teachers, 4th-6th grade teachers, 7th to 12th grade teachers. Would you consider sharing the love of Jesus with our youngest Bethel members? Safe Sanctuary Training and Background Check required. If you can’t commit to a classroom, we are building our Substitute teaching list for the school year.

Contact Katie Davis kdavis4786@gmail.com or 302-381-0864

Sunday School Registration

Now Open for 2025-2026 School Year!

We are getting excited for another year of learning and growing as young disciples of Jesus! Sunday School is offered during the 9:15 worship service. The children attend the 9:15 service and are dismissed after enjoying worship time through song and a children’s message. We currently provide classes for the following age groups: 2s & 3s, 4s & 5s (Kindergarten), 1st & 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th-6th grade and 7th-12th grade. Please visit the Bethel website to complete an updated registration form that can be found under the information tab. A new form must be completed each school year for all students. All students who register before Sunday September 7th will be entered for a chance to win a Dairy Queen gift card at our Bounce Back to Church event! Contact Katie Davis with questions or for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC MINISTRY

Registration now open for Music Ensembles!

Bethel is truly blessed to have so many wonderful musicians who are willing to share their time and talent to enhance our worship experiences and we thank all who participated in our Summer musical offerings. But now it's time to gear-up for a new season of music ministry at Bethel with the start of our music ensembles. If you'd like to join an ensemble or sign your child up to participate, please see the rehearsal times and start-up dates below. **Please don't forget to register online** at bethellewes.org (Information tab > Forms & Sign-ups). Questions? Contact Joyce Mentzer at jkmentzer@bethellewes.org.

- **King's Kids** (5 yrs—2nd grade) meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 starting Sept. 10
- **"J" Crew** (3rd—6th) meet on Tuesdays at 6:00 starting Sept. 9
- **Youth Music Ministry YM²** (7th-12th) meet on Tuesdays at 7:00 starting Sept. 9
- **Chancel Choir** (older youth & adults) meet on Thursdays at 7:15 starting Sept. 4
- **First Towne Singers** (older youth & adults) meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 starting Sept. 17. *Please contact Joyce Mentzer if you're interested in participating.*
- **Miracle Singers** (older youth & adults) meet on Thursdays at 6:00 *Please contact Joyce Mentzer if you're interested in participating.*

BOUNCE
BACK TO CHURCH!

- ▶ COMBINED WORSHIP - 10:30 am
- ▶ SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF
- ▶ BOUNCE HOUSE
- ▶ FREE FOOD

* An 8:00 traditional service will also be provided that day.

Celebrate a new season of ministry at
Bethel United Methodist Church
SEPT. 7 @ 10:30 AM

NOTE SHEET

Note Sheet

The Word Endures

Isaiah 40:1-8

8/17/25

1. In a world filled with uncertainty, we can hang onto the constancy of our _____.
2. Amid the brokenness of the people of Israel, God is pouring out _____.
3. When things seem impossible, _____ in God.
4. Isaiah 40:8, "'The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand _____.'"
5. We may be facing a season of difficulty, but God promises to be _____.
6. God's word serves as an _____ for our lives.
7. Hebrews reminds us that having an "anchor" for our souls, gives us _____ and _____.

Scripture reading for further reflection: Hebrews 6:13-20.

Note: You may access the Digital Sermon Note Page

by scanning the QR Code





The grass withereth
the flower FADETH:
but **THE WORD** of our God
shall stand for ever.

isaiah 40:8



Open Our Eyes

O - pen our eyes, Lord, _____ we want to see Je - sus, _____

_____ to reach out and touch Him, _____ and say that we love

Him. _____ O - pen our ears, Lord, _____ and help us to

lis - ten. _____ O - pen our eyes, Lord, _____

_____ we want to see Je - sus. _____

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