

Acts 9:1-19 NRSVUE

¹ Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

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

August 2, 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



August 2, 2026
8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

Prelude: “*The Lord’s My Shepherd*” arr. Young
Greeting & Announcements

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Hymn: “*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*” (stanzas 1-5).....#57

Opening Prayer: *Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Invitation: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession: *Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Words of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
People: *In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!*
All: Glory to God. Amen.

AUGUST 2—AUGUST 9

Sunday	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - BFH Summer Sunday School - Various Rooms Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary
Monday		Joyce Mentzer’s Sabbath
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	SPPRC Meeting - PMH
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Miracle Singers - BFH
Friday		Pastor Jim’s Sabbath Ray Davis’s Sabbath
Sunday	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - BFH Summer Sunday School - Various Rooms Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary

BFH - Bethel Fellowship Hall
PMH - Parsonage Meeting House



PRAYER LIST 8/2/2026

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

Rehabilitation: David Hurlock, Paul Webb

Hospital: Rosalba Bellen (Friend of Kathy Engel), Rev. Sterling Green, John Horne, Trent Prechatka, Jodie Reynolds

Hospice: Norah Atkins, Rosemary Bouvier, Donald Dickey, Mrs. Sample, Barbara Starkweather, Jim Willhite

General Concerns: Andy Baker, Mike Bakker, **Bill**, Sharon Cherry, Chris Clark, Brett Conaway, Scott Dailey, Daniel, Ruth Dougherty, Bridget Fowler, Chandler Fox, Joan Fox, Fred Gentry, Bill Gibbons, Giovanna, Gus Jack Harrison, Connie Hearn, Jim Holt, Bob Hunsberger, Ida, Laura (Daughter of Marilyn Emanuel), Harry Marker & Family, Mason, Ginny Mitchell, June Myers, Tammy Myers & Family, Bob Nicholson, Brody O'Neill, **Pauline Powell**, Margaret Quillen, Bruce Sheppard, Steven, Danny Summers, Debbie Summers, Helen Walter

Long Term: Ansalvish Family, Bryan Attix, Rev. Gloria Attix, Fran Baker, Ruth Ann Baker, Ginny Barney, Wesley Beam, Mike Beaucheman, Dave Beddle, Nancy Bektolino, Daryl Bradley, Elaine Bramante, Inez Brengle, Dale Buckwalter, Dan Carrier, Liz Carrier, Janette Clavette, Victor Colon, Rev. Charles Covington, Jay Dentino, Bob Dickey, Jim & Marilyn Emanuel, Pat Emmett, Tom Engel, Olga Fitch, Frank Fitzgerald Sr, Michael Gallagher, Peggy Gastner, Gayle Gibbons, Danny Gillespie, Hazel Gillespie, Jude Gray, Jeanne Hafer, George Hammond, Kelly Harp, Heather & Indy, Nancy Hecker, Jack Henriksen, Jim Hooban, David Jones, Erika Jones, Chubby Joseph, Deb Kellenbenz, Adam Kent, Faye Kintz, Norm Kugel, Janice Kulp, Donna LaValle, Paulette Lazarro, Nancy Logan, Bill Lyons, Rob MacArthur, Dr. Jim Marvel, Patty Marvel, Medhi, Claranne Meitrott, Stephen Metler, Stephanie Miller, Rev. Charles Moyer, Nancy (Friend of Janine Phillips) Chuck Naspinsky, Ted Niemczyk, Ray Norris, Lori O'Day, Brian O'Dell, Mike & Sallee O'Neill, Peter (Brother of Pauline Powell), Earl Peters, Dick Plambeck, **Suzie Pryor** (Niece of Elizabeth Fields), Ray Quillen, Beth Rampson, Beth Rinker, Carla Robinson, Martha Rougeux, Tom Schaich, Mary Louise Scott, John Schulze, Bill Seitz, Denny Shultz, Logan Smith, Tricia (Spangler) Gracey, Chet Sprague, Judy Stevenson, Bonnie Stevlingson, Margaret Stockslager, Dale Stough, Peggy Thomas, Dave Trout, Dawn Vandegrift, Kathy Watson, Kathy Wetherhold-Parrott, Hilda Williams, Trish Wilson, Woody Wilson, Theresa Wise, Lucretia Y., Marge Zayatz

Up Coming Procedures:

Recovering From Procedures: Carol (Sister of Marilyn Emanuel), Ellie Colon, Tim Fleming, Pat Kearns, Dick Leisse, Marjorie Mounts, Carla Robinson, Dale Stough

Other:

- Mother African Union Church North, Wilmington, DE sanctuary destroyed by fire
- The people of Iran and Venezuela.
- All those caring for family and friends, especially spouses and those that have lost a child.
- Delaware Firefighters, EMS, and State & Local Troopers.
- For racial justice in the United States.

Sympathy to:

- Family & Friends of Brenda Keith, who passed away on July 19th.
- Family & Friends of Les Stephenson, who passed away on July 18th.
- Family & Friends James Taylor, who passed away on July 9th.

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

God's Tithes and our Offerings

Offertory (8): *"Fugue in C"* by Bach

(11): *"Day by Day"* presented by Kayla and Owen Sponaugle

*Doxology:.....#94

11) Sacrament of Baptism: Jasper James Parsons

(11) Baptism Response: *"I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"*Back cover of hymnal

Scripture Lesson: Acts 9:1-19

Message: *"Paul, From Enemy to Ambassador"* Pastor Jim Penuel

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT

Service of Word and Table 1.....Page 9

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Hymns for Communion: *"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"*.....#629
"Bread of the World".....#624

Prayer After Communion: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Hymn: *"O Happy Day, That Fixed My Choice"*.....#391

*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 on AUSTRIAN HYMN"* arr. Young

**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.

Come Alive Time WORSHIP

August 2 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: *"Forever"*
"He's Got the Whole World In His Hands"

Children's Message: *"God Changes Us"*

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Offering: *"Day by Day"*
presented by Kayla and Owen Sponaule

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lesson: Acts 9:1-19

Message: *"Paul, From enemy to Ambassador"* Pastor Jim Penuel

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT

Holy Communion

Song for Communion *"Communion Medley"*

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Song: *"Made New"*

*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.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers Needed For Bounce Back to Church:



The "Bounce Back to Church" event on September 6th will be happening soon and we need some volunteers to help. We will need 4 people to help scooping ice cream and help with the fixings, 4 people to help serving the pizza, 4 people to supervisor the bounce houses, and will need help with registration for Sunday school. If you are available to help please contact Pastor Jim at pastorjim@bethellewes.org Thank you for helping to make this event a success



Email Scams: Unfortunately, another wave of scam emails are being sent out. We want you to be aware that it is going around. You can always check by clicking on the FROM: and the full address of the email will be revealed. Please disregard and delete the emails when you receive them and report them as spam.

Thank you, Pastor Jim



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Bethel Golf Outings are Back

This golf season we still have 3 dates booked for Bethel Golf Outings at The Rookery in Milton. These outings are open to men, women and children alike. These outings are just fun ways for golfers in the church to connect and play together on Saturday afternoons. Our tee times start at 3:00 and we can accommodate up to 20 golfers for each date. You can play 9 holes or 18 and you can walk or ride carts and each outing will be at the twilight rate to be more affordable for everyone. All you need to do is email or text Ray and he will coordinate the details with everyone the week of. ***The next date we have on the books is August 22nd*** so let Ray know if you will be joining. The other dates are September 19th and October 17th. Please reach out to Ray with any questions. ray@bethellewes.org

BOUNCE BACK TO CHURCH!

Celebrate a new season of ministry at
Bethel United Methodist Church
SEPT. 13 @ 10:30 AM

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

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

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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Laura Petranto, Financial Secretary	laura3152@live.com
Katie Davis, S.S. Superintendent	Kdavis4786@gmail.com
Todd Mentzer, AV Coordinator	tamjam3@gmail.com
Todd Mentzer, Maintenance	tamjam3@gmail.com
Susan Kremer, PR Coordinator	suzykqhope@gmail.com
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Kathy Pepper, Bethel Christian School	bethelpepper@yahoo.com

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 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	Mary Lou Warren
	9:15	Curtis Moomaw
	11:00	Ushers
Ushers:	8:00	Ernie Stanley, Head Usher Sandy Hunsicker, & Ron Smith Assistants
	9:15	Libby Gibson, Head Usher
	11:00	Joann Brittingham, Head Usher Jim Brown, Miguel Gomez, & Ralph Scott; Assistants
Liturgists:	8:00	Herky Billings
	9:15	Ray Davis
	11:00	Cathie Wagner
Audio Visual Techs:		Ray Davis, Ed Emmett, Drew Fyock, Norm Macturk, Mauro Medeiros, Lauren Mentzer, Todd Mentzer, John Roman Nehrbas
Miracle Singers:	9:15	Kim Edmonds, Joyce Famelio, Cathy Ferree, John Harris, Patty Marvel, Bill Powell

Weekly Statistics

Attendance: July 26, 2026: 274 (8:00-63; 9:15-125; 11:00-86)

Contributions for July 26, 2026

weekly deposit	\$ 16,193.07
weekly budget	\$ 16,915.18
YTD collection	\$ 564,986.50
YTD budget	\$ 507,455.40



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Love Offering: The August Love Offering will benefit Family Promise of Southern Delaware. FPSDE's mission is to help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. Family Promise of Southern Delaware serves families of all compositions. 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.



Church Office Summer Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9am to 11am with the balance of my hours working remotely. If you need assistance outside of the hours listed above please call the church office and I will call you back as soon as possible to assist you.

Sunday School Update

Please join us this summer for Summer Sunday School. Ending on August 30th. We are looking for volunteers for 2 different classrooms; 2 years old to 1st Grade & 2nd to 5th Grade Curriculum and supplies are available. Please scan below to follow the link for a sign up or contact Katie Davis at kdavis4786@gmail.com. Thank you for a wonderful Sunday School year!

Scan

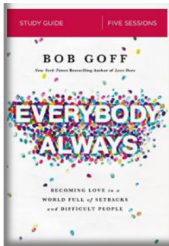


Bethel UMC Men’s Ministry Opportunities!

Are you looking for a way to deepen your faith and connect with other men from Bethel UMC? Two opportunities are offered each month to gather and grow:

Second Sunday of each month, 8:00-8:45 am in the Parsonage Meeting House

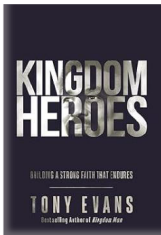
- Upcoming dates August 9 and September 13



Everybody Always by Bob Goff
In Everybody, Always, Bob Goff's joyful New York Times bestselling follow-up to Love Does, you'll discover the secret to living without fear, constraint, or worry. Bob teaches you that the path toward the outsized, unfettered, liberated existence we all long for is found in one simple truth: love people, even the difficult ones, without distinction and without limits. Light reading – great discussion!

Fourth Wednesday evening of each month, 7:00-8:30 pm at Barry Eaton's home

- Upcoming dates August 26 and September 23



Kingdom Heroes by Tony Evans
A six-session video study exploring the "Hall of Faith" in Hebrews 11. Filmed at the Museum of the Bible, it examines Old Testament figures like Noah, Abraham, and Rahab to teach how to build an enduring, trust-filled faith during difficult times. The series focuses on breaking cultural norms, navigating trials, and applying biblical principles for a lasting legacy. Are you living out your faith?

All men of Bethel are invited and encouraged to join us. Even if you haven't been before, we welcome you to check out either/both gatherings. Light refreshments.

Please contact Barry Eaton at 1785eaton@gmail.com or Ray Davis at ray@bethellewes.org for more details.

NOTE SHEET

Note Sheet

Paul: From Enemy to Ambassador

Acts 9:1-19

8/2/26

- 1. We serve a God of _____.
- 2. We might not be able to change on our own, but God can _____ us.
- 3. Jesus had a _____ for Saul.
- 4. God _____ writes people off.
- 5. Paul used his _____ to inform his _____ and so must we.
- 6. Once we mature in the faith, it's up to us to help _____ do the same.

Scripture reading for further reflection: Acts 7-9, Ephesians 4:17-32.

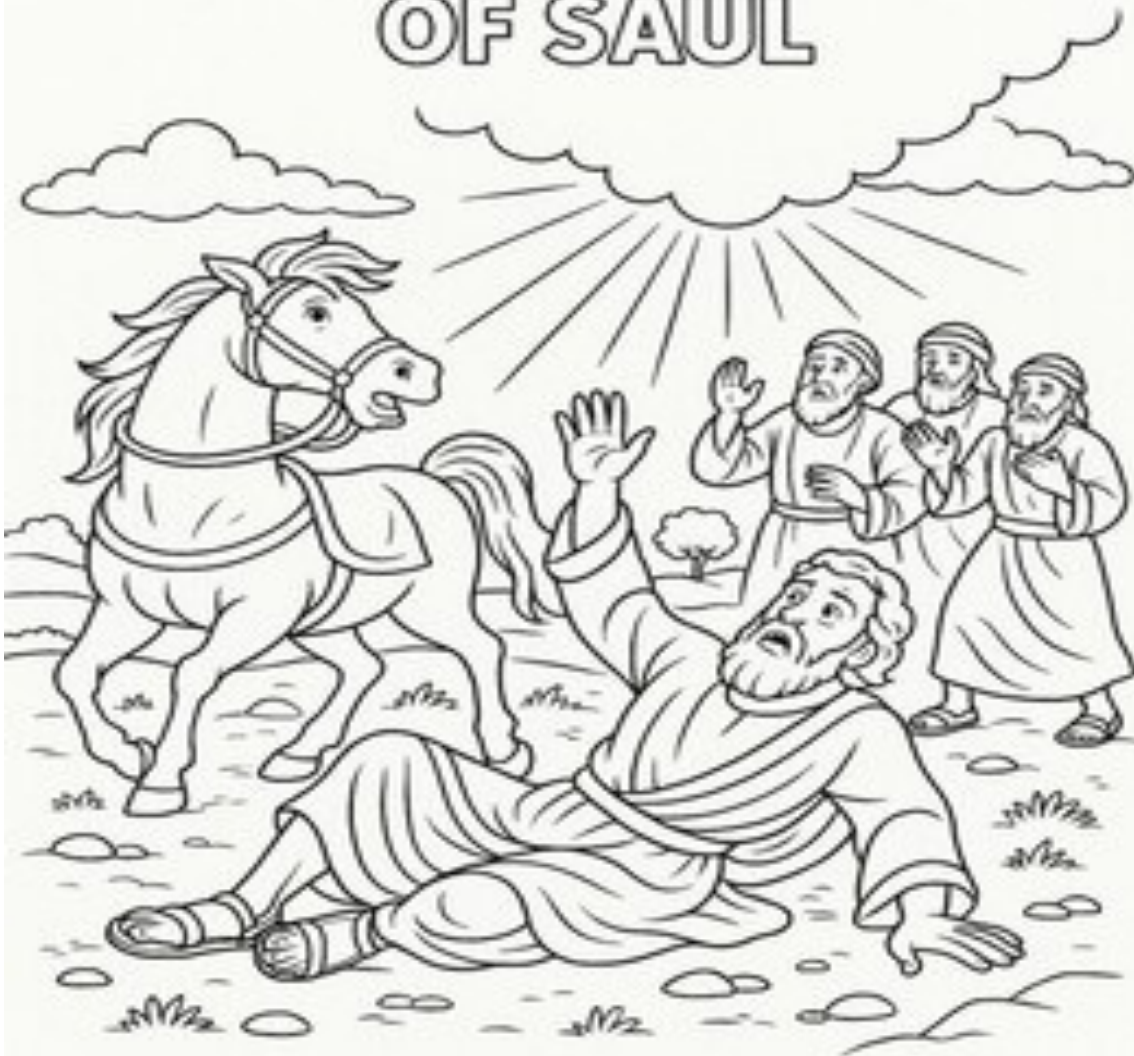
Note: You may access the Digital Sermon Note

Page by scanning the QR Code



CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE CONVERSION OF SAUL



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sandwich & Side for 18 for Tharros. Tharros is fully operational, with 18 residents. Bethel is one of several faith-based organizations that will be supplying a cold supper of a sandwich and a side for each resident. To sign up just go to bethellewes.org; click on the “Information” tab and select “Bethel Food Ministries” from the dropdown menu. Under the heading “Tharros Village - Sandwich and Side” there are instructions and a direct link to the SignUp.com signup page. Openings are available every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday through November 28th.

Deliver sandwiches and sides to 18006 Coastal Highway, Lewes between 4pm and 6pm.

Gate is kept locked: Detailed instructions are on the SignUp.com page. To view click on the words “Sandwich & Side for 18”, under any of the dates. Contact is Cathie Wagner ccwgr@aol.com.



Bethel Cookbooks Are Here!!!



The Elizabeth Circle continues to have Bethel Cookbooks for sale. They may be purchased online through the church website or by using the order forms in the lobby. Books may be picked up Sunday after services or by other arrangement. Contact Donna Fleischauer at djmarrin@yahoo.com with any questions

Cookbook Recipe Correction as of June 30, 2026:

Page 5 - Pimento Cheese Spread - Add 1 cup sharp shredded cheddar cheese to ingredients.

Page 102 - Southern Shores Cheesecake - Butter should be $\frac{3}{4}$ cup softened, not $\frac{1}{4}$ cup.