Ephesians 5:6-16 NRSVUE

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be associated with them, ⁸ for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." ¹⁵ Be careful, then, how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil.

This is the Word of God, for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

August 31, 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.



August 31, 2025 8:00 & 11 a.m. Service

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude: "He Leadeth Me" arr. McKibben

Greeting & Announcements

*Call to Worship:

Leader: Let us thank the Lord with all our hearts in the company of

the congregation.

People: God's deeds are majestic and glorious. God's

righteousness stands forever.

Leader: God is famous for His wondrous works.

People: The Lord is full of mercy and compassion.

Leader: God's handiwork is honesty and justice.

People: All God's rules are trustworthy, established always and

forever.

Leader: God sent redemption for his people and commanded that

his covenant last forever.

People: Holy and awesome is God's name.

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Opening Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling".....#384 UMH

Opening Prayer: O Lord our God, though we are as little children, not fully able to discern the spiritual forces coming in and out of our lives, you have chosen us as your people. Give your servants understanding minds to discern between the good and evil surrounding us each day, that we may choose what is good and pleasing in your sight. 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.

AUGUST 31—SEPTEMBER 7

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary

9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship -Come Alive Time - Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary

Monday Joyce Mentzer's Sabbath

Church Office Closed - Labor Day

Tuesday 12:45 p.m. Elizabeth Circle Meeting - BFH

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry - Lounge

6:30 p.m. SPPRC Meeting - PMH

Wednesday 1:00 p.m. EC-Missions Sewing Committee Meeting - PMH

Thursday 6:00 p.m. Miracle Singers - BFH

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - Music Room

Friday Pastor Jim's Sabbath

Ray Davis's Sabbath

Sandy Stough - Vacation Day

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Live - Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Bounce Back to Church - BFH

6:30 p.m. Fuel Fall Kick Off - 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 8/31/2025

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

Rehabilitation: David Hurlock, Bobby Lane, Paul Webb Hospital: Kathy Counts, Dottie Mckain, Thom Pemberton

Hospice: Gary Arrell, Rosemary Bouvier, Harlow Carson, Joann Cooke, <u>Sean Eviston</u>, Lucy Harris, Jim Kardas, Brenda Keith, Sharon Messinger, Mrs. Sample

<u>General Concerns</u>: Carolyn Arrell, Felena Bartlett, Marilyn Battiste, Paula Carridan, Tracy Carson, Scott Dailey, Bob Dathe, Pat Emmett, <u>Jessi Ferree</u>, Jessica, Kelsea, Lee Maxwell, Whitney Murray, Kelly Pinsky, <u>Will Powell</u>, Pam Reed, Naomi Rickards, Janice Skok, Linda Sydell & Family, Jayne Tamborello, Theresa Walls, Joan Webb, <u>Linda White</u>

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, Nancy Hecker, Lou Henderson, Sharon Henderson, Connor Hiple, Jim Hooban, Kayla Hottinger, Chubby Joseph, Deb Kellenbenz, 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: Irving Walls

Recovering From Procedures: Joyce Famelio, Marissa Legates, Patty Marvel, Cecelia Offidani, Rob Skok

Other:

- Pray for all those affected by the Minneapolis School Shooting.
- 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 Joseph Capaldi, Sr., who passed away August 17th.
- Family of Paul Sponaugle on the passing of his father Bill Sponaugle. Grandfather to Kayla & Owen Sponaugle.
- 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: "O Rest In the Lord" by Mendelssohn

presented by John Andalora

*Doxology:.....#94 UMH

Hymn of Preparation: "Break Thou the Bread of Life".....#599 UMH

Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 5:6-16

Message "For the Living of These Days" Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light".....#206 UMH

*Benediction

*Postlude: "Praise to God In Heavens Above" arr. Schelat

*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

WORSHIP Come Alive Time

August 31, 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: "Worthy Of My Praise"

"All Things New"

Children's Message: "Daily Life"

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering: "Word of God, Speak"

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 5:6-16

Message "For the Living of These Days" Pastor Jim Penuel

GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Closing Song: "We Are"

*Benediction

*Those who are able, please stand.

Bethel CCLI License #1774982, Streaming License #20110751 Bethel One License (with Podcasting) #A-73619

E C E C E C E C E CANNOUNCEMENTS



<u>Prayer Team</u>: 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.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20



The Methodist Men are again sponsoring a work day with Habitat for Humanity. Our next assigned date is Saturday, September 20 and we have ten slots to fill. Any adult man or woman is welcome to join our team. You do not need to have any construction experience to contribute. We are

looking for some new faces to join the team this time. If you would like to participate please email Ron Mead at rmmead50@gmail.com. Ron will then forward you the necessary information to sign up with Habitat and to register for this date. While we do not have a definite assignment yet we will most likely be working either in Seaford on one of the nine houses scheduled to be built in Milford this year as part of the Sussex County Habitat's "community revitalization" program.

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle Meeting: Please note time! The Elizabeth Circle will begin our new year of service and fellowship in Fellowship Hall on Tuesday September 2nd, 2025, at 12:45 PM. We will serve refreshments and enjoy a social gathering, then begin the business meeting shortly after, planning some of our

activities for this year. For more information about the Circle, contact Donna Fleischauer (djmarrin@yahoo.com) or any Circle member. We welcome all women of Bethel to join us.



<u>Love Offering</u>: The September Love Offering will benefit Folds of Honor. The Foundation provides scholarships to the spouses and children of fallen or disabled veterans honoring their sacrifice and supporting their legacy. Also to

employed or volunteer first responders.. 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.



Fall Bible study: Jonah and Hosea These two prophets tell the leaders of Nineveh and of Israel what changes need to be made to be acceptable to God and avoid His harsh judgment. Jonah runs away from delivering God's message and Hosea gives a real life example in his own marriage. Although they lived around 700 BC, we can see many of the same issues are

happening today in our country and in the world. What can we learn about God from their experiences? We meet in the PMH on Thursdays from 1 - 2:30 pm beginning September 18. We will end no later than December 11th. Led by Kay Poole. For questions or to let Kay know you plan to attend email - bookay10@comcast.net

Men's Ministry - New Monthly Gathering Launching This Fall!

The Bethel Men's Ministry is growing! We will continue to meet on the second Sunday of each month in the Parsonage Meeting House from 8:00-8:45 AM, as we have been. In addition, we're excited to launch a new monthly gathering starting this fall. Beginning Wednesday, September 24, and continuing on the fourth Wednesday of each month, we'll meet from 7:00-8:30 PM at Barry Eaton's home for a time of fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

We'll be using video-based studies throughout the year, kicking things off with an Andy Stanley series on the importance of community.

All men of Bethel are invited and encouraged to join us. Please contact Barry Eaton at 1785eaton@gmail.com to let him know you're planning to attend or if you have any questions. Let's grow together in faith and friendship!

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
Earle Baker, Pastor of Visitation
Joyce Mentzer, Director of Music
Ray Davis, Youth & Family Director
Sandy Stough, Office Manager
Cindi Clavette, Treasurer
Laura Petranto, Financial Secretary
Katie Davis, S.S. Superintendent
Todd Mentzer, AV Coordinator
Susan Kremer, PR Coordinator
George Pepper, Maintenance
Bill Gaskill, Custodian
Kathy Pepper, Bethel Christian School

pastorjim@bethellewes.org enbaker54@gmail.com jkmentzer@bethellewes.org ray@bethellewes.org office@bethellewes.org cindi@bethellewes.org laura3152@live.com Kdavis4786@gmail.com tamjam3@gmail.com suzykq@mchsi.com gpepper@bethellewes.org chillydgz@aol.com 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.

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Leaders for Today's Service

Greeters: 8:00 Phil & Olga Fitch

9:15 Libby Gibson

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

Minual Carrage C Dalah Caatta Aca

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

Miracle Singers: 9:15 Kim Edmonds, Cathy Ferree, John Harris,

Faye Kintz, Patty Marvel, Bill Powell

Weekly Statistics

Attendance: August 24, 2025: 296 (8:00-58; 9:15-137; 11:00-101)

Contributions for August 24, 2025

weekly deposit	\$ 18,898.68
weekly budget	\$ 16,461.43
YTD collection	\$ 526,385.46
YTD budget	\$ 559,688.62



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

Sunday School Teachers Needed

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

We are looking for Sunday School teachers for several SUNDAY SCHOOL 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.

NO Sunday School 8/31: There will be no Sunday School today. We are transitioning from summer to the school year. Please join us as we kickoff our school year of Sunday School during our combined 10:30 Bounce Back worship on 9/7. Bring your backpacks to be blessed as well.

5



<u>Tuesday Morning Bible Study</u>: Paul, Galatians, and the Fruit of the Spirit and You: The Bible was not written in a vacuum. The writers of each book were flesh and blood just like us. Each had their own experiences that shaped their view of the

world as they journeyed with God. Probably none of them more complex and provocative than Paul. Come and explore together this crucial letter that Paul sent to the churches in Galacia that he had earlier established. Examine the persuasive arguments he presents through his use of opposing lifestyles and choices. But is this dusty, old letter useful and important to us today? Hint: Many of these same arguments were used by Martin Luther as he ignited the Protestant Reformation. We'll meet in the PMH on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 - 11:30 beginning September 23rd and ending November 4th and will be led by John Hammett. For questions or to let John know that you'd like to attend, please send him an email at hammettjohnj@comcast.net.



Sunday Night Fuel fall kick Off!

Our Fuel Fall Kick off Party will be coming up on September 7th! Fuel (our youth group here at Bethel) will meet each and every Sunday evening from 6:30-8:00 in the Parsonage meeting House. Fuel is open to any student in the 6-12th grade. We can't wait to meet our new 6th graders and kick off the school

year with our returning students. For new families, there are several ways to stay connected with all the weekly Fuel events. You can follow us on Facebook under "Fuel Student Ministries", you can follow us on Instagram @fuelstudentmin and you can join our Remind list to get updates sent directly to your phones or email. To join our Remind group please email Ray Davis ray@bethellewes.org and he will get you set up.

Mary Martha Circle Meeting: The Mary Martha Circle will be meeting Wednesday, September 10th, at 12:30p.m. 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



Note Sheet

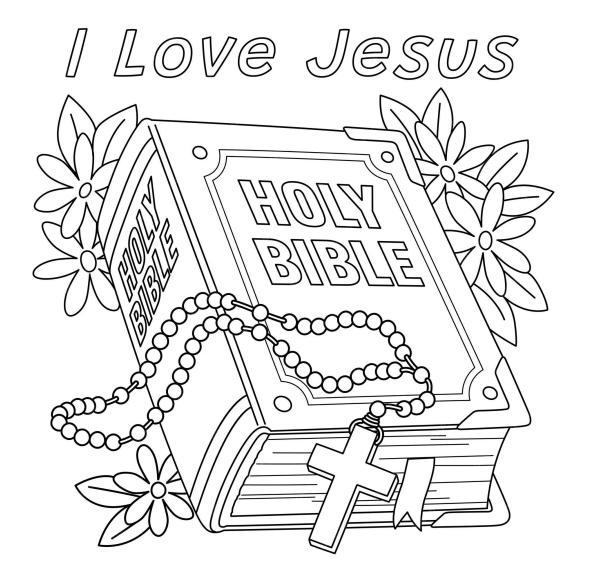
"For the Living of these Days"

Ephesians 5:6-16

8/31/25

1. In the most literal sense, the Greek word for Holy means to be			
2. We've heard this time and time again, because it's so us as Christ followers to be the of the	_		
When we do good in the world it blesses	and		
SOAP Bible Reading Method: 2 3			
Pastor Craig Groeschel quote, "Our lives are moving in of our strongest Watch your though become your words; watch your words; they become your habits; watch your ecome your character, watch your character, it become lestiny."	ghts, they our actions; ur habits, they		
Scripture reading for further reflection: Ecclesiastes 1:1 Corinthians 5:11-21 Note: You may access the Digital Sermon Note Page by scanning the QR Code	1-11, 2 nd		

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FOLDS OF HONOR PIZZA, SALAD AND DESSERT SUPPER SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14^{TH} AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

- MEET A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPEINT.
- HEAR FROM THE FOLDS OF HONOR FOUNDER, LTCOL DAN ROONEY.
- FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS ARE WELCOME TO COME WITH YOU.
- PLEASE, PLEASE RSVP BY:
 - ° CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE

 NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, OR
 - ° SENDING AN EMAIL TO <u>RROBISON@FOLDSOFHONOR.ORG</u>.









BISHOP LATRELLE EASTERLING'S DAY ON THE DELAWARE DISTRICT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025 6:00PM

WYOMING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 216 WYOMING MILL RD., DOVER, DE 19904

You're invited to an evening of sharing with Bishop LaTrelle Easterling.

We welcome you to join us for a meaningful afternoon of sharing, listening, and connection with Bishop Easterling as she visits our District. As we embark on a new appointment year and begin forming new relationships, this gathering offers a vital opportunity to come together in unity and purpose.

This meeting is mandatory for all appointed clergy. All laity of the District are encouraged to attend and take part in this time of fellowship and sharing. Any appointed clergy wanting to request an excusal, please send a written request to Rev. Tom Pasmore in the District Office at DelawareDistrictUMC@gmail.com.

If you need an ALS interpreter, please contact Rev. Jackie Ford at jford@pen-del.org.



CHILDREN'S PAGE

celebrating

Word Search

0

See how many of these newspaper related words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

- 1. LABOR
- 2. DAY
- 3. HOLIDAY
- 4. SEPTEMBER
- 5. WORK
- 6. LONG
- 7. WEEKEND
- 8. ENDING
- 9. SUMMER
- 10. NATIONAL
- 11. USA 12. TRAVEL
- 15. DAY
- - 16. OFF

13. AMERICAN

14. MONDAY



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 Ringers (older youth & adults) meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 starting Sept. 17. Please contact Joyce Mentzer if you're interested in participating.
- <u>Miracle Singers</u> (older youth & adults) meet on Thursdays at 6:00
 Please contact Joyce Mentzer if you're interested in participating.



Bethel Website Resource Spotlight

Have you visited the church website recently? There are many resources available that you might find helpful, and we want to share them with you!

Today's resource spotlight is the Church Facility Usage Form. If you'd like to request the use of a room in the church to host a church event or meeting, start a book study or Bible study, work on a missions project, or even change the location of a regular meeting, you can do so easily by using the Facility Usage Form. Just click on the Information tab on the church website (bethellewes.org) and then click Forms & Sign-ups and scroll down to the Facility Usage Form. Your completed form will then be sent to everyone involved with making your event happen (church office, custodian, audio/visual tech, etc.)

Be sure to check out other great website resources that will be shared in the weeks to come!





Volunteers Needed For Bounce Back to Church

The "Bounce Back to Church" event on September 7th 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!