



Bethel United Methodist Church

11:00 a.m. April 26, 2020

Reflections on the Emmaus Road.

Greeting and Announcements

Call to Worship: by Rev. Nancy C. Townley, United Methodist (Alt.)

L: Come and hear the good news of our Savior Jesus Christ.

P: We thought He was dead, but He is risen from the dead and lives evermore.

L: Sometimes good things are right in front of us and we don't see them.

P: Our fears and our prejudices blind us.

L: Sometimes the risen Savior walks beside us...

P: But we are blinded to His presence, but His nearness warms our hearts.

L: Hallelujah!

P: Hallelujah!

L: Let us worship Jesus our Risen Savior.

P: Let us bring our praises and joyful hearts to our Lord.

Opening Hymn "What A Beautiful Name" by Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood.
Nancy Cirelli, soloist, Paul Faircloth, guitar

Opening Prayer: From the Anglican Church of Ireland

Risen One, like those disciples on the road to Emmaus, we struggle to recognize You in the everyday journey of our lives. We seek Your wisdom in the midst of the questions we have about the circumstances we find ourselves in—circumstances far beyond our control, and not even of our own making.

Open our eyes, Light of the World, to Your work of transformation in and around us. As we walk with you day by day, may Your new life be made manifest in what we say to others. Help us to understand the power of our words to hurt or to heal; give us the graciousness to make all our conversations holy. Just as we desire that our speaking be holy, may our seeing be holy as well. O Christ, shape our attitudes and behaviors.

As You opened the scriptures to the disciples and taught them everything, open our eyes to behold You in Scripture, in the beauty of nature, the beauty of other human beings, and the beauty of sacred art. And in our seeing, help us to recognize and welcome the stranger in our midst. May our welcome be a celebration of the gifts and graces of persons who are different from us.

You were known to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. May Your resurrection presence guide us in the decisions we make about our self-care. So often we forget, Holy One, that You invite us to abide with You; to have our lives hidden in You. We thank You that You travel with us in our joys and our concerns, in sickness and in health, in time and eternity. Hear our prayer Lord, in the name of Jesus Who has 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.*

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 24:13-24, -35 NIV

Ray Davis

The Walk to Emmaus ¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹ And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since this happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning ²³ and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see."

²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, ²⁹ but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and

the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?” ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, ³⁴ who said, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *“In the Presence of Greatness”* Pastor Baker

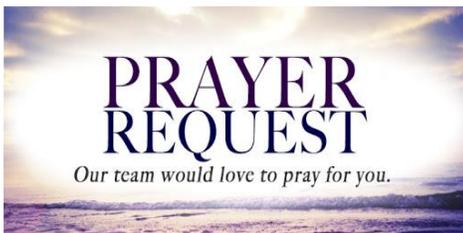
Closing Hymn: *“Easter People Raise Your Voices”* by Wm. James & Henry Smart
Nancy Cirelli, soloist, Paul Faircloth, guitar

Postlude Joyce Mentzer

Also participating in today’s service: Nick Mentzer, Camera
Todd Mentzer, Tech, Sound & Streaming



Live Streaming: Bethel will continue to Live Stream a service each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and record the service for those who want to view it later. To access the service go to our website, www.bethellewes.org. At the top of the page click on ‘Virtual Bethel.’ There you will see three choices, ‘Virtual Kids’ ‘Virtual Youth’ & ‘Virtual Worship.’ For the live service, click on Virtual Worship. For Sunday School click on Virtual Kids. For Youth Ministry click on Virtual Youth.

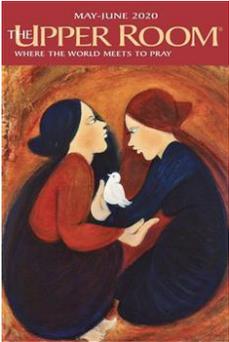


Prayer Link: Need prayer? You can now get prayer requests to the pastoral staff, or if you choose, add a prayer request to our Prayer List. Just go to our Website www.bethellewes.org Across the top of the home page, click on ‘Prayer Request’ a screen will open for you to enter your prayer request, and whether it is private, or can be shared with our prayer ministry.



Show Beebe Staff & First Responders that We Care

Everyday hundreds of Beebe employees and first responders drive past Bethel Church and the Parsonage Meeting house. You are invited to show them your support, appreciation, and caring by making a water-resistant sign on a wire frame, like the one shown to the left. Please encourage our Beebe friends and neighbors who are working hazardous duty during the Covid-19 pandemic. Feel free to encourage the many first responders who pass by Bethel as well. Once your sign is complete, you are free to plant it in front of the Church or Parsonage Meeting House. Thank you.



Upper Room Daily Devotion: The Upper Room for May & June arrived on schedule a couple weeks ago. Since you cannot pick a copy up when you are in the church, we will gladly mail you a copy. If you aren't familiar with the Upper Room, it is a Daily Devotional guide published by the Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church. If you haven't used a Daily Devotion book previously, this moment of social distancing allows time to begin a new spiritual discipline. Sandy Stough, our Office Manager, will be happy to send you a copy. Call the Church Office at 302-645-9426 and leave a message, or email sandy at office@bethellewes.org Thank you.

BREAKING NEWS! The Upper Room is making the May-June edition free on-line. Click on this link: <https://www.upperroom.org/special-editions> When the page opens, click on **English**, then you can download it to your computer, or even print it.



Charge Conference Report: The Called Charge Conference on April 16th was attended by twenty-five people of which 19 were voting members. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and vote on whether to seek a forgivable loan through the Payroll Protection Program that was recently passed by Congress as part of the CARES Act.

Introductory remarks by Debbie Dawson (Chair of Church Council), Donna Fleischauer (Lay Leader) and Bob Monti (Associate Lay Leader.) Reports were heard from three standing committees. Ron Mead, Chair of the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee reported they voted unanimously to pursue the PPP Loan. Ed Emmett, Chair of the Finance Committee reported a unanimous vote from Finance, and also a vote by the Finance Committee to put the loan in a separate bank account to ease our reporting to the government. Alison Parsell, President of the Board of Trustees reported that they too, had voted unanimously to move forward with the loan.

Cindi Clavette, Treasurer, filed the loan application. She said we could request 2½ months of our average 2019 monthly payroll which is \$28,631 per month. We requested a forgivable payroll loan of \$71,577. The motion was approved unanimously. In addition, a motion to open a bank account to hold these funds was approved unanimously.

Pastor's note: The application was promptly delivered to our bank, on the day the \$349 billion allocation ran out, just before our application was approved. On April 22nd Congress allocated an additional \$--- Billion. We are monitoring to make sure our loan request makes it to the front of the line of applications. Many thanks to all our Committee Chairs, and to Cindi Clavette for gathering all the needed information in such a timely manner.



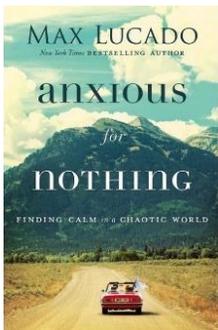
Food Drop Off: The hunger needs of our neighbors do not go away during pandemics. The just get worse. Most local food pantries are closed, or limited to emergency assistance because of Covid 19.

The Food Bank of Delaware has responded to this crisis with Drive-Thru Mobile Pantries where prebagged boxes of groceries are placed in the trunks of cars at no cost. Hope Ellsworth from Bethel will be making another delivery this week to the warehouse in Milford. To make a donation, just drop groceries off on Hope's front porch, 112 W. Third St., Lewes, or call her at 302-236-6805. Thank you.



Save the Date: The Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee is in the very early planning stages of organizing a retirement party for Pastor Earle. Please clear your calendars for 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 20th to join the Bethel Church Family and others as we come to say goodbye and celebrate Pastor Earle's 40-year career of service to God and The United Methodist Church. Obviously, this assumes that the large group restrictions that we are currently experiencing have been lifted by then. If they are still in place,

an alternate date will be scheduled. Please look forward to more information in future announcements as we approach Pastor Earle's retirement.



Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World by Max Lucado

You can still participate in this on-line Bible Study that meets each Wednesday from 6:00-6:40 through May 13th. Sign up to receive a free digital book at studygateway.com. The study guide, & videos will be emailed to participants each week. Meetings will be facilitated through ZOOM. You can join the meeting by phone or internet. The leader will send the meeting code by email weekly. For more information contact: Ellen Marshall, cell: 302-381-5265, Landline: 302-966-0031, Email: drellen@comcast.net



Your Financial Support

Thank you for your weekly support. We thank you for providing funds to keep Bethel's ministries going. Donations during the last two weeks of March were 75% less than our weekly need. April is looking better, and we thank each person who had made a contribution. We are not asking

anyone to increase their giving, but as you are able please continue to give at your former level. You can get your gift to Bethel five ways:

1. **Drop off your donation** through the mail slot in the front door of the Parsonage Meeting House at 130 W. Fourth St.
2. **Mail donations** to BUMC, 129 W. Fourth St., Lewes, DE.
3. **E-giving:** Thank you for strong e-giving in March. If you would like to begin giving electronically, 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 new option for donations, using a cell phone or hand-held device. Call (302) 202-6625, text the word "GIVE" and follow the prompts to set it up. Once the account is set up, subsequent donations are quick and easy.
5. **IRA Distribution.** Those who are over 70½, can donate part of their mandatory distribution to Bethel. To receive a tax deduction, the donation must move directly from your financial institution to Bethel, without going through your Bank. Please speak to your financial advisor to learn more about this option.

Here are some ways you can help others in the Bethel Family:

- **Be a Tech Buddy:** People who do not have a smart phone or the internet are even more socially distanced from the Bethel Family than society in general. As a Tech Buddy we would ask you to relay information to someone who isn't on the web over the phone; or by printing it out for delivery. Your help will be greatly appreciated
- **Transportation Aid:** If you need someone to pick up groceries or medications for you, please contact Jane Lenkner (302-645-9426) volunteers are available to help. If you need transportation, contact Jane Lenkner at the church jane@bethellewes.org. so that we send a transportation volunteers Thank you.
- **Occasional Meals:** If you are able to provide and deliver an occasional meal for people who are isolated at home, please contact Jane Lenkner at the church jane@bethellewes.org. so that we can build a data base of occasional meal volunteers.

Community Needs in the Cape Region:

- **Donate Blood:** Blood supplies are critically low. Make an appointment to donate in either Salisbury or Dover. Call 888-824-6638 or go to www.delmarvablood.org/give-blood
- **Make Protective Masks for Beebe Healthcare Workers:** Sewists are needed to make protective masks. Contact Pam Smith at piecefefullypam@gmail.com who will show you completed samples, safety guidelines, and online tutorials.



Congratulations: To Norma Adams who will celebrate her 92nd Birthday next Sunday.

Illness:

- **Allen Riley, home with Hospice, prayers are requested.**
- **All people with the Covid-19 Virus,** their families, health care workers, researchers and scientists
- **Susan Leighton,** Trisha Emmett's Aunt is improving from Covid-19 in PA. On a ventilator but awake and alert.
- **Wayne Leighton,** has Covid-19 and is doing well at home Trisha Emmett's uncle
- **Theresa Wise, recovering from double mastectomy, Sandy Stough's sister**
- **Peggy Wise, beginning immuno therapy for breast cancer, Sandy Stough's mother**
- **Everyone isolated in nursing homes** and continuing care communities, as well as the staff.

Other: Last weekend, a Gold Alert went out for Cary Williams a 95-year-old member of Bethel. We are pleased to report that Cary had driven to North Carolina to visit his cousin. Cary arrived safely after an uneventful drive and was reported by his cousins as fine when he got there.

Sympathy to:

Jim Gastner and family on the death of his mother, Marianne Gastner from Covid-19 on April 23rd
Family and friends of Ben Roy

Staff Contact Information:

- Earle Baker, Pastor pastorbaker@bethellewes.org 302-841-1305
- Joyce Mentzer, Director of Music jkmentzer@bethellewes.org 645-9426
- Ray Davis, Director of Youth and Family Ministry ray@bethellewes.org 645-9426
- Sandy Stough, Office Manager, office@bethellewes.org 645-9426
- Jane Lenkner, Administrative Assistant, jane@bethellewes.org 645-9426

For a complete list of Bethel's Staff, visit our website: www.bethellewes.org.

Click on 'About' then click on 'Staff'

Bethel: "A Beacon of Hope at the Beach Since 1779"

