

THE
CONVERSION
OF ST. PAUL



Bethel United Methodist Church
Lewes, Delaware

9:00 a.m. In Person 11:00 a.m. YouTube Streaming October 4, 2020

Greeting and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Great Spirit of God, you have healed our wounds.

People: You have brought us from paths of hurt and anger.

Leader: You have blessed our life that we might be a blessing to others.

People: Let us worship you in great joy.

Leader: Let us remember the ways you have turned our mourning into dancing.

People: Let us give thanks to you forever. AMEN.

Opening Songs of Praise and Worship:

"Majesty" and "Come, Christians Join to Sing"

Linda Chantler, vocalist

Opening Prayer:

God of power and might, let your love shine on us and through us to others. Take the scales from our eyes and our hearts. Give us the joy of knowing and serving you in all that we say, think, and do. Help us to always seek you, in good times and in bad. In Jesus' Name, we pray, Amen.

Children's Message:

"Help in Tough Times"

Pastor Jim Penuel

Musical Offering:

"Be Still My Soul" arr. Lanier
Robert Snyder, trumpet

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for Fallen Firefighters

Scripture Lesson: Acts 9:1-19 (New Revised Standard Version)

9 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

Message: "Adversity Wakes Us Up" Pastor Jim Penuel

Prayer for the Offering

Holy Communion

Closing Hymn: "The Blessing"
John Harris and Kim Edmonds, vocalists

Benediction: Pastor Jim Penuel

Postlude

Bethel CCLI License #1774982, Streaming License #20110751
Bethel One License (with Podcasting) #A-736194

Announcements:

**COME JOIN US for a COMBINATION SERVICE
Held in the Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY's at 9am
"Mixture of Traditional & Contemporary Worship"**



HOLY COMMUNION

**Communion is for all who believe &
trust in our Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation.**

Join us for our first Communion

since the Pandemic began

Sunday, October 4, 2020 @ 9am, Fellowship Hall

- **Communion will be served in individual, prepackaged units containing wafer and juice**
- **Individually wrapped Gluten free wafers will also be available**
- **NO RSVP required / maximum of allowed attendees: 130**
- **Please remember to check in upon entering church due to COVID guidelines of contact tracing**
- **For those watching the 11am livestream service, purchase your elements ahead of time (juice, bread)**
- **Don't forget your mask!!**

**Blessings,
Alison Parsell
Board of Trustees**

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

During October we at Bethel UMC and at many other churches have traditionally set aside a time to show our appreciation to our pastors. This is an opportunity to extend our thanks and appreciation to Pastor Jim Penuel and Pastor Charlie Wagner. This is the perfect time to commit to praying for and encouraging our pastors. It is also an excellent time to demonstrate your love and appreciation by sharing with them a special note, card, email, or other acknowledgment.

In spite of the unusual times we are in and knowing that this situation is also very stressful on our pastors, we need to take time to show our appreciation.

You may drop your cards or notes in the box in the church narthex outside the Fellowship Hall if you are attending the 9:00 service or if not attending, you may mail items to the church at 129 W. Fourth Street; Lewes, DE 19958 or drop them in the slot of the Parsonage Meeting House door. If you prefer email, their addresses are:

Pastor Jim: pastorjim@bethellewes.org

Pastor Charlie: cwagner@bethellewes.org

Please take time to express your appreciation to our pastors for the leadership and service they provide to all of us at Bethel.

"But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work." 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Bethel Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee

SPECIAL OFFERING

As you are aware, when the pandemic arrived in March, BUMC started livestreaming a combined service in the Sanctuary at 11am through the church You-tube livestream. This enabled, all who watched, a connection to their church and a way to worship our Lord safely in our homes away from the virus. This also allowed us to reach those who were already homebound.

On August 2, the live in-person combined services at 9am began. We have been averaging 50-70 people for the services except for the retirement service with Pastor Earle and confirmation when we filled the FH to the maximum of 130 people.

The time has now come to take the next step of providing more worship opportunities for those who care for either a contemporary or traditional service and not a combined service. This would entail livestreaming both the 9am & 11am services to offer those at home the chance to watch one or the other or both services from the comfort and safety of their own home.

As the pandemic continues to slow down (hopefully), the next step would be to start a live in-person 11am service. For this we need another camera in the Sanctuary to livestream and have an in-person service at the same time. The way it is now, equipment is in the middle of the aisle where people can trip over it or knock it down.

In order to do this, we need more equipment in the sanctuary and FH. We can piece meal this and do the Sanctuary first then the FH. OR we can save a couple hundred dollars and have it all done at one time.

The work will be done by Mid-South Audio who has done all the other work at Bethel. They are the most reliable, trustworthy, and knowledgeable audio company around. The final cost for this project is \$16,000.

We do not know how long the COVID-19 will cause our lives to continue to take a new direction, but we do know that we are in for the ride for another year or so.

The Board of Trustees will gratefully accept any donations to add to some monies already set aside for this project and to assist us in completing this project sooner than later. God Bless you all as you consider assisting in any way, big or small.

Alison Parsell
Board of Trustees

Love Offering for World communion Sunday will again go to the five organizations, Sussex Pregnancy Care Center, Delmarva Teen Challenge, A Wave of Healthy Meals, Victims Voices Heard, Children and Families First. The monies will be collected through December for these five groups and each will receive 1/5 of the cumulative funds in December.

Operation Christmas Child: On Sunday October 11th, Operation Christmas Child boxes will be handed out after the 9:00 a.m. service in the Fellowship Lobby. Also, starting Monday, October 5th, empty boxes will be available on the porch of the Parsonage Meeting House in a pink box. Filled boxes can be returned in person on November 8th or to the empty pink box on the porch of the Parsonage Meeting House marked filled boxes. Be sure to include your \$8 shipping fee in the box.

Pastor Jim's Sermon Series: Adversity: How Do We Overcome it? Based on Charles Stanley's Book and Study: "Advancing Through Adversity".

Description: Most of 2020 has been filled with adversity for just about everyone. Between the struggles with issues of race, the pandemic, hurricanes, wildfires, and more, it's hard to make sense of it all. Why does God allow Adversity? What does Adversity teach us? Is adversity always a bad thing? How does Adversity make us grow? We will explore these questions and more in this 5 week series. This series will also dovetail with a pastor-led study.

Confirmation Class for the 2020/2021 school will begin on Sunday, October 18th from 5:00-6:00. We will begin on Zoom for now and will transition to in-person class as the church opens for meetings.

Confirmation class will be one Sunday a month from October-May and students will be confirmed at the 9:00 church service on Sunday, May 23rd. Confirmation class is open to 7th graders and so above who have not yet been confirmed. Please email Ray at ray@bethellewes.org to sign your student up.



Are You in Need of Prayer? We know that prayer is an integral part of our faith journey, especially in these troubled times. So we are offering several ways in which you can share your prayer concerns with us:

- One-on-one prayer will be provided by Pastor Jim after the 9:00 a.m. in-person service. Simply remain in your seat at the close of the 9:00 a.m. service and after Pastor Jim greets everyone leaving he will come back in and pray for those who want one-on-one prayer.
- Virtual One-on-one Prayer will be offered immediately after the 11:00 livestreamed service via ZOOM. The ZOOM login information can be found on our website (bethellewes.org) by clicking on the Prayer tab at the top of the screen. Then click on the Virtual Prayer Zoom Link (at around 12:00) and wait in the 'virtual waiting room' and Pastor Jim will pray with each person individually.
- You can also share your prayer request or joy by clicking on the Prayer tab on our website and then clicking the Online Prayer Request link. The form will give you the option of sharing your concern with the congregation or keeping it private, shared only with our ministerial staff.



Live Streaming: We want you to know that we've changed our YouTube name to make it easier for you to find us, our live streams and our weekly Pajama Sunday School and children's videos. Our YouTube name is **Bethel Lewes**. Just head to YouTube on any device or Smart TV and enter "Bethel Lewes" in the YouTube search bar and there we are!! Click on the

lighthouse to see all our videos or past services.

Bethel will continue to Live Stream & record a service each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. you can view through our website, www.bethellewes.org. At the top of the page click on 'Virtual Bethel.' For the live service, click on Virtual Worship.

Upper Room's for September/October have arrived. To have a copy mailed to you, please contact Sandy Stough in the church office, and indicate whether you want regular print or LARGE PRINT.

Call to Prayer for Racial Justice:

Rev. Marjorie Belmont-Burns, Pastor of Faith & Israel United Methodist Churches invites you to join with them in silent prayer every Monday night-7:00 p.m.-7:09 p.m. now through December 28, 2020. (If you are unable to pray at that hour, please pick another time.)



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

There are five 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. Fourth 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 new 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.



Key: Red type indicates a request new this week
Green type indicates an answered prayer
Blue type is Covid-19 related

Hospital: Eluria Downs, **Bill Jackson**, Rev. Charlie Kind, Mary Louise Scott, Lon Solomon

General Concerns: John, Dee Becker, Kerrey Bradford, Donna Carr, Randy Haith, **Mary Lou Jackson**, Eden Jenkins, Caddie Joseph, Norman Kugel, Harold Landis, **Paulette Lazarro**, Veronica McKain, Carroll Miller, Jim McCarty, **Janet McGinnis**, Dave Parks, George Pepper, Joe Seay, Linda Shurkey, Peggy Thomas, Jack Weeks, Tom Whittaker

Up Coming Procedures: **Patty Jo Mock**

Recovering from Procedures: Sandy Bassett, John Caycedo, Edith Cross, Elizabeth Fields, Bill Gaskill, Randy Hoffpauir, Dottie McKain, Dr. David Robinson, Edie Sipos, Nancy Smith, Dale Stough

Covid-19 Related Requests: Lorraine Layton, Terry Slater

All staff and residents of Hospitals, nursing homes and continuing care communities

Other:

- People who are unemployed and under employed, and homeless families.
- For racial justice in the United States.
- For principled and just law enforcement personnel

Sympathy to:

- **Rev. Fred Duncan on the loss of his Mother, Betty Duncan on Monday, September 28th.**
- **Pat Slater and Betty Slater, brother-in-law and wife of Terry Slater who passed away from Covid 19.**
- The family and friends of Peachie Carlton. Peachie was Terry Slater's Mother-In-Law.
- Bill Harper on the passing of his wife, Carolyn Harper, on Sunday, September 13th.
- All the people who have died locally, nationally, and globally **to Covid-19**

Staff Contact Information:

- Jim Penuel, Pastor, pastorjim@bethellewes.org 645-9426
- 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'

We need your Feedback

- ✚ If you know of someone who is not able to receive the Bethel Newsletter by email, and is not on the newsletter mailing list please contact Sandy Stough at office@bethellewes.org so they can be added.
- ✚ If you would like to have a DVD of Sunday services, email Jane at jane@bethellewes.org so we can get one to you.