



The Capsule

A Monthly Newsletter for Members and Friends of Bethel United Methodist Church

141 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, Connecticut 06801

Office: 203-743-6835

Church email – bmethodistchurch@snet.net

Pastor's email – pastorjohnparille@gmail.com

Website – www.bethelmethodist.net

Pastor – The Rev. John Parille

Pastor Emeritus – The Rev. Robert T. Johnson

Choir Director – Jessica Bardelli email: jessicabardelli@gmail.com

Praise Team Leader – Erin Volpintesta

Administrative Assistant – Cheryl DePoi

April 2018

A Message from our Pastor

Hello Saints,

It's been a long, cold winter and I am sure you have the same thoughts running through your minds as I have. We are all eager for some nice warm weather. As I look out across my property every morning, I have grown tired of seeing bare trees and dirty, lifeless brown leaves covering the ground. I'm ready to see some green grass and flowers poking their way up through the soil to announce in a big way: "winter is over, spring is here!"

Yet, even as I anticipate one of my favorite seasons, I hear a still small voice inside of me stating, "Don't wish your life away." Do you ever find yourself saying, "When such and such happens, then I will . . . or, If only so and so would do this, then I would do that . . . or, I would be happy if . . . or, I will be satisfied when . . ." We should be very careful that as we long for the future, we can easily forget about today. How does that famous song go? "This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made. I will rejoice, I will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it."

As we want for some good in the future, we can forget that every day is a day that the Lord has made.

Regardless of the weather or our circumstances, each new day is a gift from God to be used for His glory. The book of Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3 tells us that there is a time for everything and every season, both good and bad. However, verse 14 promises us "I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it."

In every season here in New England and in our lives, there is a reason to rejoice and an opportunity to for us to do something positive and good. The challenge for each of us every day is to find something to rejoice about and some good to do—and then go out and make an impact for Jesus by doing both.

Have a blessed and peaceful spring season

In Christ,

Rev. John Parille

Senior Pastor

Facebook

If you are on Facebook and have not liked our page, please do so. Here you will find links to our sermons and get a sneak preview of the upcoming sermon. If you are a member of our Facebook page we would ask that you "share" links with your community of friends.

Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am May 6th

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Peter Eckert

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Julien Schaad & Tom Wolff

Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up): Diane Meldon & Lisa Gallichio

Counters: Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus

Ushers: Team B: Alan Brown, Art Langer, Tammy Esposito

Greeters: Marty Bishop & Dawn Tomaino

Coffee Hosts: Carol Morey

Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am May 13th

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Paul Young

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Stacie McLaughlin & Steve Temple

Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up): Angela Bassett & Rick Kelly

Counters: Bill Struth & Tom Wolff

Greeters: Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus

Ushers: Team C: Debbie Albin, Krista Mayer, Frank Tomaino

Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am May 20th

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: David McClain

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Family Worship

Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up): Family Worship

Counters: Tracy Brown & Krista Mayer

Greeters: Family Worship

Ushers: Team F: Family Worship plus Alan Brown and Tammy Esposito

Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am May 27th

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Martha Bishop

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Tracy Brown

Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up): James Wolff & Julien Schaad

Counters: Bill Struth & Dave Albin

Greeters: Deb and Dave Albin

Ushers: Team D: Tracy Brown, Fran Bartholomew, Andrew Serfilippi

Pasta Dinner Dessert Donations

Each month for our Pasta Dinners we need donations of desserts. Please contact Ann McLellan at ann_mc_ellan@sbcglobal.net if you can help out. All donations are greatly appreciated!!!!

Please join us for our monthly

Family Pasta Dinners

Bethel United Methodist Church

141 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT

April 14th

Serving 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Adults \$10 Seniors & Students with College ID \$8 Kids \$5 (under 5 eat free)

Family max price \$25 (parents & kids)

Dinners also available to go! Call BUMC 203.743.6835 the day of dinner to place your order

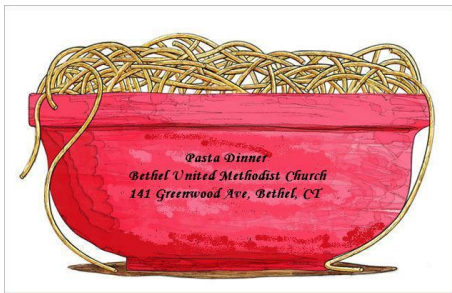
Dinner includes:

Salad with homemade dressings

Pasta with marinara or meat sauce

Homemade meatballs .50 ea

Homemade desserts



United Methodist Women News

The UMW Tag Sale is being held **April 20th** (6-8 PM) and **April 21st** (9-3:00)

We are accepting the following donations:

Clean and folded clothes

Kitchen items

Jewelry, purses, belts, and scarves

Books, toys, games & puzzles

Household decorations

We are NOT accepting the following;

TVs and all electronic equipment

Household remodeling items

Items can be dropped off in Mitchell Hall starting Sunday, April 15th but NOT before that date.

The UMW appreciates your contributions. -Thank you!

April 26th - The Prayer Shawl group continues to meet at 7 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month. All who like or want to learn crochet or knitting are welcome. They meet in the Johnson Building alcove. Contact Linda Bruce for more information.

Penny Plus Auction

The Bethel Women's Club GFWC is sponsoring a Penny Plus Auction on **Saturday, April 28** here at the Bethel United Methodist Church. Doors will open at 11:00am with calling for prizes to begin at 1:00pm. Admission is free, but auction tickets will be available. Three sheets of 25 tickets are just \$5.00 and each sheet includes a door prize ticket. There will also be a raffle for themed baskets, a 50/50 and the ladies of the club will be selling a variety of refreshments for your enjoyment. Proceeds to benefit the club's community programs and projects. Any questions call Bonnie at 203-312-6292. Also please view photos and information about our club on Facebook at Bethel Women's Club GFWC.

Food Pantry

Please remember the basket (located in our Information Center) for food donations for the Bethel Community Food Pantry located right here @ our church. The Bethel Food Pantry is open the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 3:00pm to 5:30pm. Their phone number is 203-947-1754

Off the Streets

Off the Streets is all all-volunteer run organization which works to get homeless people into housing. If a homeless person has a source of income, Off the Streets will provide a security deposit and basic furniture and household goods. Off the Streets collects furniture and household goods from 10am to 12noon on the first Saturday of each month behind the Bethel United Methodist Church. Items most in demand are dressers, small kitchen tables with chairs, end tables, nightstands and lamps. The next drop off date is **May 5th**. For more information, go to www.offthestreetsnow.com or call 203-733-5880.

Holly Hearth Crafters Meeting

Holly Hearth Crafters meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00pm. All are welcome! We will be sharing Christian fellowship and crafting for next year's Bazaar. Our next meeting is **May 8th**.

Fundraiser – Bottle/Can Drive

Please consider saving your nickel deposit bottles and cans for our bottle/can drive the 2nd Saturday of every month. Our next drive is **May 12th**. You can bring them to the parking lot between the hours of 11:00am – 1:00pm. This year the benefits go to Julien Schaad's ASP tuition.

Sunday School Heifer Project: Buy a Goat! (\$120.00 each)



Goats are adorable, hilarious and they can help end hunger and poverty for struggling families around the world. Banks have been given out to the children last week for them to save their coins. The Heifer Celebration will be Sunday **May 20th**. Banks will be available to the congregation in the Narthex.

ASP JUG

“Brother can you spare a dime?”

Our ASP spare change jug is being placed in Mitchell Hall on Sunday mornings. Please stop by and drop in your loose change. Every little bit helps our teams get to Appalachia...

Thank You!!!



Support Meetings / Groups Held at BUMC

AA Meetings are held Sunday @ 7:30pm, Monday @ 6:00pm, Thursday @ 7:30 pm, Friday @ 7:30 pm and Saturday @ 8:00 pm. Additional Support Group: “Over-eaters Anonymous” contact Chris at 203-942-3986 for more information. Emotions Anonymous: Tuesdays 5:00pm- 6:00pm, Saturdays 5:00pm-6:00pm. Support Group for Family & Friends who have a loved one suffering from the disease of addiction and/or alcoholism contact Joe Benner 203-313-3681.

Need activity space?

Mitchell Hall: \$180 for 4 hrs including set up time, (Pledging Members: \$51.00 – tax deductible donation). \$51.00 for partial Kitchen use (refrigeration and warming of meals), There is also a \$75 refundable deposit in case of damage to the room or in case professional cleaners have to be called in. Rm. 201: \$15.50 hr , non-pledging members \$25.00 per hour

Red Bird Mission

The UMW collects **Campbell's labels** and **Boxtops for Education** for the **Red Bird**. Please cut the bar code labels as we only need the bar codes. There is a small basket on the counter in Mitchell Hall for the labels.

Library

Our lending library is currently looking for new or gently used infant to teenage books. The books should be appropriate for our church library. There will be a box in Mitchell Hall to drop these books off. You can also make a monetary donation so our Library Coordinator can purchase a book or two. Any questions please leave a note in the box or contact Uta Robertson.

ASP

ASP has a few spots available for this summer's trip. We will be spending the week in Virginia, leaving on Saturday June 30th and coming home on Saturday July 7th. If you are interested in joining us and/or learning more about the trip please contact Tracy Brown at tracybrown1085@gmail.com

Vacation Bible School News –“Shipwrecked” Aug 6th – 10th, 9:00 am – 12:15 pm

Location: First Congregational Church of Bethel – Our two churches do this VBS together and alternate the location. The cost is \$25/person, \$50 max per family.

Pre-register/volunteer: To pre-register children **Pre-K through 5th grade** or volunteer as an adult or Crew worker, please go to the website vbspro.events/p/fccbumc or to the link on the **BUMC website**. We need **Crew Leaders (9th-12th grade)** and **Crew Assistants (6th-8th grade)**. There will be a mandatory training session for Crews prior to VBS week.

Adults are needed to run various stations and to help as food preparers and registrars. Please consider giving even one morning's time to help. Job descriptions will be given in the April capsule.

Preparations: Please start gathering items for decorations: underwater, jungle, beach and bamboo things. Also we need shells, large cardboard tubes (carpet) and paper towel tubes. If you have something to give or donate please call the office 203-743-6835 and let us know.

2018 ASP Fundraiser - Team Sponsors:

We are actively recruiting team sponsors for the 2018 Appalachia Service Project (ASP) trip. We send multiple teams to make the ASP journey. Every team requires dedicated, passionate people as well as a vehicle, fuel, supplies, equipment, material, and as much money as we can raise to help with special projects for families in need. There are several categories which everyone can choose from to participate:

Corporate Sponsor	\$150.00	Silver Sponsor	\$ 50.00
(Please include a business card)		Bronze Sponsor	\$ 25.00
Platinum Sponsor	\$100.00	Helping Friends	(Any amount)
Gold Sponsor	\$ 75.00		

We ask everyone to approach the companies you work for to donate a corporate sponsorship. Please make all checks out to Bethel United Methodist Church and write ASP Fundraiser in the memo section. Contact Chuck and Laura Murad for any additional information 203-798-0428. Thank you for your support, and may God bless you.

Brick orders are still being processed.

PLEASE CONTACT LORI MOTT RIGHT AWAY TO PLACE A NEW ORDER OR PAY FOR YOUR EXISTING ORDER.

There is still time to order a brick – contact Lori Mott!

The bricks will line the walk way to our front door. The bricks may be personalized with names, dates, and special messages, and can include one of five artwork designs if you choose. Bricks will be 4" x 8", red, and are offered at \$50 per brick (same price if artwork is used or not). Includes up to three lines of print, and 15 characters with an image, or 20 characters without an image, per line.

Your brick will remain visible for generations to come! All proceeds raised from the bricks will go to fund our landscaping design project. A sample of the brick is available for viewing in the downstairs area outside the kitchen (Brick will not include the company's name).

Please contact Lori Mott RIGHT AWAY at 203-300-8516 or zoogirl527@gmail.com . Thanks!