



Our mission is to welcome everyone to God's House of Worship in the Heart of Bethel. We are committed to active spirituality, Bible-based learning applied to everyday life, and service to our brothers and sisters in communities near and far.

The Heart Beat

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Weekly Illuminations and Inspirations

April 09, 2017

Church Person(s) of the Week

We want to thank Alice Mayer for providing the beautiful flowers in our sanctuary every week!

Today's Worship Assistants:

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Peter Eckert

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Diane Meldon & Tom Wolff

Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up): Rick Kelly & Uta Robertson

Counters: Bill Struth & Claudia Schaefer

Greeters: Marty Bishop

Ushers: Team D: Tracy Brown, Fran Bartholomew, Paul McHugh, Lee Griswold

Nursery: Claudia Schaefer & Vicky Wolff

For the convenience of those who wish to cleanse their hands after exchanging signs of peace and before handling the communion elements, there are alcohol gel pumps available.

Lost and Found: please check the rack near the side entry, or the small basket on the shelf in the church office.

Restrooms: The restrooms are located through the side door on the right of the sanctuary, go through both doors and make a left then a quick right. They are towards the end of the hallway on the right. Each restroom is equipped with a commode.

Prayer List: If you would like to receive the [prayer list](#), or add someone, please contact **Audrey Stejskal** at arstejskal@aol.com

Quote for the week:

"Anything under God's control is never out of control." [Charles R. Swindoll](#)

In order to keep our services flowing, Council is asking that no **unscheduled** announcements be made from the floor during service. Pastor John will no longer be asking for additional announcements. If you need to have something announced to the congregation, you must give it to Pastor John **before** service and then he will call upon you. Council is also asking that only church related items are announced in service. You are free to send any announcements to the office for publication in the Heartbeat.

The flowers on the altar are for sale after the service. They are \$7.00 or \$10.00 with the vase. Please see Alice Mayer. The proceeds this year will go toward landscaping the front lawn.

Education Committee Meeting

The first meeting of the new Education Committee will be **April 27th** at 7:00 pm in Room 201. Interested non-committee members are also welcome.

Confirmation Sunday

Please plan to attend our special service of confirmation on April 23 at 10:00 am. We will be confirming 18 young adults as they begin their own journey of faith. We will honor and bless them as well as their hardworking mentors.

Nursery Care: The nursery (for ages 3 and under) is located in the Education wing just before the bathrooms on the right!

This Week's BUMC Calendar:

Sunday	04/09	8:30am Worship 10:00am Palm Sunday Service Sunday School 2:00pm ASP Jewelry Sale 12pm-1:00pm Confirmation Class 5:00pm Sunday Night Live Worship
Monday	04/10	Mitchell Hall Closed
Tuesday	04/11	Mitchell Hall Closed
Wednesday	04/12	Mitchell Hall Closed
Thursday	04/13	Mitchell Hall Closed 7:30pm Holy Thursday Service
Friday	04/14	7:30pm Good Friday Service Mitchell Hall Closed
Saturday	04/15	7:30pm Holy Saturday Service
Sunday	04/16	9:00am Easter Worship 11:00am Easter Family Service (childcare available at 11:00)

Coming Events:

Confirmation Sunday	04/23
Blood Drive	10/12

Stations of the Cross on Good Friday

We will again be participating in the annual Ecumenical Stations of the Cross Walk around Bethel. Meet at 12:00pm at Bishop Curtis Apartments across from the train station. At each station of the cross, there will be an appropriate reading and a short hymn. The walk ends at the First Congregational Church where a light lunch will be served. **We are responsible for dessert!** -Please bring a dessert and drop it off at the Congregational Church prior to the walk.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**APRIL 9TH PALM SUNDAY
8:30AM & 10:00AM WORSHIP**

**APRIL 13TH HOLY THURSDAY
7:30PM WORSHIP**

**APRIL 14TH GOOD FRIDAY
12:00 NOON STATIONS OF THE CROSS – MEET @ BISHOP CURTIS HOMES
7:30PM GOOD FRIDAY PASSION SERVICE**

**APRIL 15TH THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL
7:30PM WORSHIP**

**APRIL 16TH EASTER SUNDAY
9:00AM & 11:00AM (FAMILY WORSHIP) SERVICES
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE AT THE 11:00AM SERVICE**

UMW News

Knives, Forks and Spoons: We are collecting miscellaneous flatware for Off the Streets through the month of April. There is a box in the Narthex or they can be left in Mitchell Hall next to the Boxtops for Education basket.

April 24 – UMW Meeting at 7:30 with a Workshop on Welcoming the Disabled to Church. How do we rate?

April 26 - 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.

May 6,13,20,27 – Women in the Bible – Bible Study lead by Marty Bishop Saturday mornings, 9:30-11:00 am.

Vacation Bible School

Looking ahead: Vacation Bible School is **July 31st through August 4th, 2017**. Save the Date!!!! Anyone interested in helping out, please leave your name and contact information on the church office desk.

Next Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will be Oct 12 1:00-6:00.

Outreach update

We told the congregation about a family who has 5 children and they are sleeping on air mattresses. We collected \$286 to put toward bunk beds and mattresses from Walmart that will be delivered to this family. We also contributed some new towels and washcloths as well as gently used towels and sheets.

Also for the "Days for Girls" project we collected: 13 boxes of ziplock bags, 32 hotel soaps, 73 washcloths, 32 material pieces and 1 large thread. Thanks to all who helped with both these requests.

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.

Family & Friends Group – Support Group for Family & Friends who have a loved one suffering from the disease of addiction and/or alcoholism meets Tuesday @ 7:00 pm

Additional Support Group: "Over-eaters Anonymous" contact Chris at 203-942-3986 for more information.

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.

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

Food Pantry

Please remember the basket (by the front door) for food donations for the Bethel Community Food Pantry located right here @ our church.