



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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Rev. John Parille - Pastor

Pastor John Esposito -Assistant Pastor of Outreach and Evangelism

Pastor Emeritus – The Rev. Robert T. Johnson

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Weekly Illuminations and Inspirations

June 18, 2017

Church Person(s) of the Week

Many thanks to Dave McClain for his carpentry expertise in installing our AC units in the sanctuary!

Today's Worship Assistants:

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: Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus

Greeters: Family Worship

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

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.

Quote for the week:

"A man ought to live so that everybody knows he is a Christian ... and most of all, his family ought to know." --Dwight L. Moody, 19th Century American Evangelist

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. If you need a flower arrangement during the week for a special occasion you can order flowers from Alice @ 203-748-2774. They are \$13.00 w/ the vase, delivered. This year's flower/plant funds will go for front yard landscaping.

Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am June 26th

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Martha Bishop **Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** Diane Meldon, Tom Wolff **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Angela Bassett, Uta Robertson

Counters: Bill Struth **Greeters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus **Ushers:** Team D: Tracy Brown, Fran Bartholomew, Paul McHugh, Lee Griswold

Summer Worship Hours

Starting July 2nd we will be starting our summer schedule with our morning service starting at 9:30am and our evening service starting at 6:00pm.

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

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	06/18	Father's Day 8:30am Worship 10:00am Family Worship 5:00pm Sunday Night Live
Monday	06/19	Capsule Articles due in office
Tuesday	06/20	7:30pm Church Council
Wednesday	06/21	
Thursday	06/22	6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir
Friday	06/23	
Saturday	06/24	
Sunday	06/25	8:30am & 10:00am Worship 5:00pm Sunday Night Live Worship

Coming Events:

Summer Worship hours begin	7/2
Ringing the Bells	7/2
Vacation Bible School	7/31-8/4
Blood Drive	10/12

Summer is here, God is now on vacation!

No, that can't be true. Even as I type these words for this article I'm looking up to the heavens expecting mini lightning bolts to come and zap my computer! However, I have notice that many often tend to take church off during the summer.

I'm pretty sure in all of my days of attending church, the pastors at the end of spring did not preach a message entitled "See you in September!" No, that was a song from the group "The Happenings" back in 1966. If you were born before 1965 you might remember it...."Bye-bye, so long, farewell, Bye-bye, so long, see you in September."

But yet it seems when the Memorial Day holiday is over, sometimes folks get this notion in their heads that the pastor is giving everyone a pass for the next few months, see you in September! The days are brighter and longer, the weather is warmer, so God must be on vacation too.

News flash...He is NOT, and neither should we. Our beautiful church has been in what I would call a good ole fashioned revival. We have seen an incredible jump in our attendance. Our finances are probably the best they have been in years. Our fellowship time has the feel of a family holiday every week. Why in the world would we want to miss any of this or put it at risk?

What about our faith? Do we schedule it to take the summer off as well? Do we check out of church in early June vowing to return once school starts again in the fall? I think the more pointed question is this: do we put God on the shelf for three months, and yet expect his blessings all 365 days of the year?

Now I understand many of us will be traveling and taking vacations, me included! But last time I checked most folks in our church are not retired or independently wealthy, me included! In reality very few of us get to be on vacation for three months of summer. I encourage you to of course enjoy your travels, but please don't take the entire summer off from worship.

Thankfully, God does not take the summer off. He continues to bless us with family, friends, health, a job, food on the table, and in countless other ways all year long. God created the beauty of the beach and mountains that we so much enjoy during the summer.

A relationship with God is a two-way street. Don't let it slip into a one-way deal, enjoying the beauty of God's creation while ignoring the creator.

Here is my final "hook" for you to consider: we will have air conditioning in the sanctuary this summer! Yup, that's right! Cool, beautiful air will be flowing and so will the Holy Spirit each Sunday! Let's not stop the wonderful momentum we have here at BUMC. I'm happy to see you in September, but also June, July, and August as well! - In Christ, Rev. John Parille-Senior Pastor

UMW

June 28th- The next Prayer Shawl group meeting is at 7 pm on June 28th in the Johnson Building Alcove. All who like or want to learn crochet or knitting are welcome. See Linda Bruce for information.

July 4th – Church Bells will be ringing

On Tuesday July 4th at 2:00pm the churches of the Greater Danbury area will be "Ringing the Bells" 13 times in honor of our freedom and the original 13 Colonies of the United States of America. In 1963 Congress authorized "Let Freedom Ring" where bells all around our Nation would ring 13 times as we honor our Nations' Founding and recall the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Our church will be participating in this event.

Vacation Bible School at BUMC this year July 31st through August 4th, 2017, mornings.

Pre-register/volunteer: Go to the website www.bethelmethodist.net and click on the VBS link to register your children, middle schoolers who want to be assistant crew leaders, high schoolers who want to be crew leaders and adults who wish to help that week as area assistants, food preparers, registrars, etc.

Donations/loans: There is a **list of items** in the Capsule and in Mitchell Hall. Please check to see if you can donate or loan us any of these items. Contact Ann McLellan 203-744-2421 or ann_mc_lellan@sbcglobal.net.

Holy Land Trip Opportunity

Have you ever wanted to see the Holy Land? To walk where Jesus walked? Feel the waves of the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea? Pray in the Garden of Gethsemane or stand on the Mount of Olives? If so, consider joining Pastor John and Maria Parille on a trip of a lifetime to Israel next February 20 to March 1, 2018. An incredible 10 day tour of the Holy Land awaits you starting at only \$2,998 including air fare and first class hotels. for information, contact Pastor John at the church office or by email at pastorjohnparille@gmail.com.

Spring Perennials

Anyone interested in buying perennials for their garden please pick up a copy of Alice's list. The list is on the table in the Narthex.

Covenant to Care Family Needs our Help

The Wellmore Agency needs our help with a new Covenant to Care Family in Danbury. The mother has tried to support the family since the father had a stroke. They have a diminished income as well as large amounts of medical bills and they are getting farther behind. They have asked for help with food: tuna, peanut butter, pasta, sauce, red kidney beans, Canilla white rice, mac & cheese, apple juice, canned fruits, cereal, etc. Because of ongoing medical issues they drive to doctors in New Haven. Gas gift cards would be a great help. The little girl needs diapers but can only use the Pampers Sensitive brand [size 4.] Paper products and toiletry items would also be appreciated. THANK YOU! Carol Morey damorey@comcast.net 203-744-6345

2017 ASP Fundraiser -Team Sponsors

We need team sponsors for the 2017 Appalachia Service Project (ASP) trip. There are five teams making this year's 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 (Please include a business card), Platinum: \$100.00, Gold Sponsor: \$ 75.00, Silver Sponsor: \$ 50.00 , Bronze Sponsor: \$ 25.00, Helping Friends: (Any amount) Please make all checks payable to: Bethel United Methodist Church (Please write ASP Fundraiser in the memo section) - Thank you all for your support, The Murad Family – Chuck, Laura, Rachel, and Sara 203 798-0428

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.

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: pledging members \$15.50 hr, non-pledging members \$25.00 per hour

Food Pantry

Please remember the basket (by the front door) for food donations for the Bethel Community Food Pantry located right here @ our church. The Bethel Food Pantry is open every other Tuesday from 3:00pm to 5:30pm. Their phone number is 203-947-1754

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 in room 206
Additional Support Group: "Over-eaters Anonymous" contact Chris at 203-942-3986 for more information.