



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

November 20, 2016

Church Person(s) of the Week:

Today we'd like to thank everyone who helped make the annual Bazaar such a success. A big thank you to Peter Philip for chairing the bazaar this year and adding a musical portion to it.

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: Bill Struth and Claudia Schaefer

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.

Quote for the week:

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.
John F. Kennedy

Our Prayers Local Concerns: Rev. Robert Johnson **Prayers for the world:** All the families of Sandy Hook, Newtown and surrounding communities as they continue to heal. All the men and women who have served and are serving in our Armed Forces. **Conference prayers:** Prayers for our new NYAC Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton.

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

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Marty Bishop **Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** Bill Struth, Kyle Johnson **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Jessica Bardelli, Julien Schaad **Counters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus **Greeters:** Alan and Debbie Brown **Ushers:** Team B: Alan Brown, Linda Bruce, Tammy Esposito

Note from Todd Gorski- Minister of Music

After 21 years in the music ministry, I have made the difficult decision to step down in order to focus more time on my primary career, a library media specialist at Nonnewaug High School. My last service will be on Christmas Day, 2016. After that, I will serve as a substitute church musician on occasion and spend time as a BUMC volunteer, continuing to apply for grants to fund the chancel renovation project. I hope to thank all of you personally for your love and support over the past five years.

Sunday School Christmas Pageant

This year we are doing "How the Maji Truly Became Wise" by Rev. Donnel O'Flynn. The date is Family Sunday **December 18th** at the 10:00am service. We need a few more royal costumes. An email is going out with an explanation of the roles so that sign up can be completed before **December 4th**. Adult volunteers are always needed to help with dressing and entrance cues. Rehearsal will be after church on December 11th. For questions please contact Ann McLellan at 203-744-2421 or annmc_ellan@sbcglobal.net

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.

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	11/20	8:30am Worship 10:00am Family Worship Sunday School; 5:00pm-6:00pm Youth Group
Monday	11/21	
Tuesday	11/22	7:30pm Trustees
Wednesday	11/23	7:30pm Interfaith Celebration
Thursday	11/24	Thanksgiving
Friday	11/25	Office Closed Articles for December capsule due in office 2:00pm-4:00pm Hot Chocolate on lawn
Saturday	11/26	
Sunday	11/27	8:30am & 10:00am Worship

Coming Events:

Bethel Tree Lighting

The Bethel Tree Lighting is Friday, **November 25th**. Our church will be greeting people and offering free cups of hot chocolate. Won't you please consider lending a hand? This is a great way to give some time to helping the church. Please email Jackie Penyak at jackiepenyak@me.com or call her cell, 203-994-9717 and let her know your availability. We also need donations of canisters of hot chocolate.

Bethel UMC Outreach Opportunities

"The Giving Tree" will be up in Mitchell Hall on Sunday **November 27th** and if the Spirit so moves you please ask the Lord which tag and family that He would like you to bless and to pray for.

November 27th will also be "Warm Bodies Sunday" and we are looking for new and slightly used coats, hats, gloves, scarves, jackets, and boots. Again we ask that if the Spirit so moves you to bring some of or all of these items to church.

This is also a great way to get your family and friends in the Christmas Spirit by asking them if they want share in the gift of giving.
-Your BUMC Outreach Committee

Braided Pastry Fundraiser for Village Preschool

VPS is selling Braided Pastry! Orders are taken through **November 28th**. Forms on the table in the Narthex.

Blood Drive

Our first church sponsored blood drive will be held on Tuesday **November 29th**. The Red Cross has asked us for this date since there is such a shortage of blood after Holidays. **You can sign up on line @ redcrossblood.org**. It will run from 1:00-6:00 p.m. We have volunteers for the drive, but are still in need of finger foods. If you can help please see Alice Mayer.

Women's Spirituality Advent Study

We are offering a Women's Spirituality Advent Study Saturday mornings 9:30am-11:00am starting **November 26th**. There is a signup sheet by the church office in the Narthex.

UMW News

We celebrate the **Service of Light** at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary on **November 28th**. We will remember all the women who have paved the way and touched our lives. All are welcome to participate. There will be a business meeting after the service. Election of 2017 officers and Mission spending are on the agenda.

Thank you from Peter Philip

I extend my thanks to all of you who attended our 47th annual Bazaar. It was a total effort by everyone.

52 Local businesses donated to our Bazaar thanks to the significant efforts of Carol Morey who led the team of Rick Kelly, and Tom Wolf to bring these donations to us.

32 of our members donated all of the food items that Don Olson, Bob Greene, and Dawn Johnston cooked together to insure a memorable lunch. Judy Serfilippi once again made the orders flow in and the lunches flow out effortlessly. Steve Deuschle and crew kept all the dishes washed. And before you could leave Janette Blackstock made you feel happy and comfortable as you paid your bill.

10 unique booths Chaired by Ann McLellan, Sandy & Ken Bardelli, Brook Friedman, Alice Mayer, Maureen Raftery, Maddy Wachnuik, Dawn Tomaino, Willa Philip, Nancy O'Halloran, Jim & Tabby Burghoff, Pat Deuschle, Jess Bardelli, Jackie Penyak - offered you an array of choices you could consume, or grow at home, or take a chance, or make a bid, buy that book you wanted, or find the unique Christmas gift, and then get a forever picture with Santa. Helping out where ever it was needed was Carol Ritch, Jill Brenner, and Uta Robertson, and Caren Rabjohn.

Special honors go out to Krista Mayer who packed all of the silent bid items into her condo, created a name tag and description for each; then received numerous last minute e-mails of additional items coming in; bought them all over to MH and set them up; then monitored the booth all day.

Special recognition also to David McClain who spent six plus hours to design and build four long reusable shelves to enhance the display and visibility of many booth items for this year's Bazaar and for many years to come.

Marty Stejskal designed our flyer and with Lori Mott created and submitted the marketing of our Bazaar to every publication they could find in Connecticut.

Audrey Stejskal gave visitors a special treat by operating a kid's craft room that allowed the visitors uninterrupted time to tour our Bazaar.

Chery DePoi created the Holiday spirit program for the Community Christmas carol sing along. The sing along was made possible by our Music Director, Todd Gorski and his angelic choir members.

Dave Morey kept the cash counted and the credit cards machines humming.

Chuck Murad made it possible to continue the tradition of our offering cheddar cheese and pickles for sale !

Pastor John donated the flyers, the posters, and place mats used at the pasta dinner and handed out to local restaurants.

I could not have put this all together without the support, inspiration, and experience of Tamara Wachnuik and Alice Mayer.

Most important say thanks to Willa who told me "You should run the Bazaar! Hugs; Peter

Free Piano and bench

Upright Fisher piano, currently located in the Classroom. If interested, please contact Todd Gorski, Director of Music, at music.bumc@gmail.com or 203.743.6835. First come, first serve.

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.

Opportunities to serve our church

Please consider volunteering for our church service! We currently need readers, communion stewards, greeters, ushers and acolytes. Please contact Cheryl for more information or to sign up at bmthodistchurch@snet.net or 203-743-6835

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

Leadership

Have you ever thought of being in church leadership? This is a wonderful opportunity for your faith to grow and to serve your local church. In the coming months, the nominating committee will be meeting to fill positions for our church leadership. Will you consider becoming part of the team? See Pastor John for more details.

Randall Wright Hall 50 year anniversary

We are looking for people to join our Randall Wright Hall Anniversary committee. Anyone interested in being part of the committee please contact the church office at bmthodistchurch@snet.net or 203-743-6835. Also anyone having information concerning the construction of this building please leave your name and number so we can get in touch with you. Thank you!