



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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Pastor Emeritus – The Rev. Robert T. Johnson

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Minister of Music's email: music.bumc@gmail.com

Weekly Illuminations and Inspirations

November 27, 2016

Church Person(s) of the Week:

Today we'd like to thank Deb Albin for all her efforts on the church parsonage. She has spent a lot of time and energy getting the parsonage ready to rent.

Today's Worship Assistants:

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

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:

"Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus- Neal Maxwell

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.

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

Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am December 4th

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Peter Eckert **Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):**, Chris Barnabo **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Diane Meldon, Tom Wolff

Counters: Tracy Brown and Krista Mayer **Greeters:** Marty Bishop **Ushers:** Team C: Debbie Albin, Krista Mayer, Frank Tomaino

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.

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	11/27	First week of Advent 8:30am & 10:00am Worship Sunday School
Monday	11/28	7:30pm UMW Service of Light
Tuesday	11/29	1pm to 6pm Blood Drive
Wednesday	11/30	
Thursday	12/01	
Friday	12/02	
Saturday	12/03	
Sunday	12/04	8:30am & 10:00am Worship UMW Soup Sale 5pm-6pm Youth Group

Coming Events:

12/18 2:45pm Hanging of the Greens starts

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

Bethel UMC Outreach Opportunities

"The Giving Tree" is up in Mitchell Hall today. 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.

Today is also "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.

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.

Tres Dias Reunion Group

We will be having a Tres Dias Reunion Group on **December 10th** at 8:00am in the Sanctuary. The group is open to all members of the Tres Dias community. Please contact John Esposito at jtespo@att.net if you have any questions.

Women's Spirituality Advent Study

Our Women's Spirituality Advent Study is Saturday mornings 9:30am-11:00am. Please join us on **December 3rd, 10th, 17th**.

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!

Green coat lost

A green coat was accidentally taken home by someone else this weekend. It has a pair of gloves in the pockets. If you accidentally took this home would you please return it to the church office? TIA