



*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

December 10, 2017

### Church Person(s) of the Week:

Thanks to Jess Bardelli and Sarah Deshan for leading our Hanging of the Greens service that had over 115 in attendance!

### Today's Worship Assistants:

**8:30am: Reader & Communion Steward:** Paul Young

**Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** James Wolff

**Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Julien Schaad & Diane Meldon

**Counters:** Tracy Brown and Krista Mayer

**Greeters:** Deb and Dave Albin

**Ushers:** Team B: Alan Brown, Joe Benner, Tammy Esposito

**Coffee Host(s):** Marty Bishop

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](mailto:arstejskal@aol.com)

**Nursery Care:** The nursery (for ages 2 and under) is located in the Education wing just before the bathrooms on the right!

### **This Week's BUMC Calendar:**

Sunday	12/10	UMW Soup Sale Rededication of Randall Wright Building ASP Jewelry Show
Monday	12/11	UMW Christmas Party 7:00pm Brotherhood of Christ
Tuesday	12/12	Brotherhood in Action - sort
Wednesday	12/13	7:00pm Sisterhood of Christ Brotherhood in Action-pack
Thursday	12/14	6:30 Handbells 7:30pm Choir
Friday	12/15	
Saturday	12/16	8:00am-10:00am Breakfast with Santa Brotherhood in Action-deliver
Sunday	12/17	8:30am Early Worship 10:00am Worship Children's Christmas Pageant

### **Coming Events:**

### Quote for the week:

*"Advent: the time to listen for footsteps – you can't hear footsteps when you're running yourself."* Bill McKibben



Sunday, December 24, 2017

8:30am & 10:00 am Morning Services

Family Worship at 5:00pm Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Worship at 9:00pm Candlelight Service of Lessons with Holy Communion

### Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am December 17<sup>th</sup>

**8:30am: Reader & Communion Steward:** David McClain **Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** Family Worship **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Family Worship **Counters:** Janette Blackstock & Dave Albin **Greeters:** Family Worship **Ushers:** Family Worship plus Alan Brown and Tammy Esposito **Coffee Host(s):** Betty Campbell

### **Jewelry Show**

Our Annual ASP Jewelry Show fundraiser is today @ 11:00am in Mitchell Hall. This is a Premier Design Jewelry. Any questions please contact Tracy Brown at 203-241-8523.

### **UMW News**

UMW Christmas Dinner will be held on **December 11<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30pm at Putnam House. Instead of our grab bag we decided to put together a basket for Dorothy Day House. Please bring adult socks or adult warm winter gloves or adult warm winter hats. We will be bringing the basket of items to the house before Christmas.

We filled 34 cubic feet of boxes with clothing not sold at the clothes sale. They will soon be on a barge to the commonwealth of Dominica! They are being received by the Wesley Methodist Church and will be distributed to people in need. The winter clothes went to Good Will and all else (over 34 cubic feet) went to Save a Suit.

### **Salvation Army Kettle Bell Ringers**

Megan Alworth-Khazadian, our town social services director, has asked our church to RING THE BELL on Friday, **Dec. 15** from 1PM to 3PM. We will be stationed at Dolan Plaza in front of In Style [right next to Salz'Pizza.] This meaningful activity will enhance your Advent season and will help provide funds for the needy in our Bethel community. Please consider donating even 1/2 hr. of your time. Carol Morey [ 203-744-6345] [damorey@comcast.net](mailto:damorey@comcast.net). You won't regret it! Thank you.

### **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!!!



### **Buy a Brick and Give the Gift that Lasts a Lifetime!**

BUMC is selling engraved commemorative bricks that 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. 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).

We also offer a 4" x 4" replica brick of your order, suitable for indoor display, or use as a coaster! These replicas are offered at \$20 each in addition to your brick order.

Orders can be placed either by a paper order form found in our communications center, or online at [www.polarengraving.com/BethelUnitedMethodist](http://www.polarengraving.com/BethelUnitedMethodist). At the site you can see a sample of your brick with your image and engraving. Orders placed online still need to have a check mailed in - there is no online payment accepted. Deadline is **December 10<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact Lori Mott at 203-300-8516 or [zoogirl527@gmail.com](mailto:zoogirl527@gmail.com) with questions. Thanks!

### **Food Pantry**

Please remember the basket for food donations for the Bethel Community Food Pantry located right here @ our church. The basket has been relocated to our Communications area downstairs outside the kitchen. The Pantry is open every other Tuesday from 3:00pm to 5:30pm. Their phone number is 203-947-1754

### **Dorothy Day House – Annual Report and Call for Volunteers**

Dorothy Day House would like to thank all of the volunteers, and donors, who have helped feed the hungry and shelter the homeless in our community this past year. With no paid staff, this mission has continued for 35 years thanks to the 300+ volunteers from throughout the greater Danbury area.

On Spring St.: We served 24,629 people (68 per day) at our daily afternoon meals. Our shelter provided 5,108 bed-nights, 11 months/year. The Morning Glory program, run by Catholic Charities, also served breakfast in our kitchen each morning. During the 5 winter months, the Overflow Shelter we managed at the First Congregational Church of Danbury provided 2,420 bed nights of shelter. Our Evening out of the Cold program at St James AME Church (Williams St) had 5,017 visits and provided a safe, warm refuge every evening for those waiting to enter the 4 shelters.

New volunteers are needed every year to continue this mission. Most volunteers serve 1 day/month. Currently we are most in need of volunteers for the weekday afternoon meal, and for overnight shelters.

For information on volunteering, please visit the Dorothy Day website at <http://www.dorothydaydanbury.org/volunteer.htm>

Again, we are very grateful for the countless hours of volunteer support, and the generosity of our community.

### **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 is a box in Mitchell Hall to drop them off. You can make a monetary donation so our Coordinator can purchase books. Any questions contact Uta Robertson.

### **Ushers**

We currently need ushers to help during our 10:00am service. You would be added to a team that would serve approximately once a month. If you could help please see Alan Brown.

### **Sponsorship**

We have set a goal this year to have a sponsor for each of the pasta dinners. We currently need sponsor to offset the cost. When you contribute towards a sponsorship, you are at least doubling your donation towards the church. The pasta dinner committee works so hard for the church and having a sponsor makes it all worthwhile. A full sponsorship is \$300. If that doesn't work for you, you might be able to donate half or a quarter of that amount. Caraluzzi's gift cards can always be used too. Please consider being a sponsor to make this year's pasta dinners a big success. To donate please contact Jen Garrity at 203-300-1982 or Dave Morey at 203-744-6345.

### **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 6:00pm-7:00pm. 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: pledging members \$15.50 hr, non-pledging members \$25.00 per hour

### **Small Groups**

Brotherhood of Christ meet Mondays at 7:00 pm. Sisterhood of Christ meets Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. This is not a Bible study but more of a time to discuss matters that effect our lives today. We start with a core piece of scripture, some devotional time that speaks to our topic and then look at some pointed questions that will help us go deeper in our faith and get to know one another a bit better at each meeting. You can talk or you can just listen. You can come every week or once in a while! We start on time and end by 8:15pm.

Questions? Men, see Pastor Esposito or Pastor John. Ladies see Maria Parille or Pastor John.

### **Announcements**

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

### **CBS**

Community Bible Study has started and continues to study the book of the prophet Isaiah. While Isaiah contains some sobering judgments against the nations of the world, it also holds glorious promises and comfort for God's people! Though written centuries ago, much of what was happening in Isaiah's time might be surprisingly applicable to the situations of today. Human nature with its needs, desires, attitudes, and weaknesses remains the same, but we have a God who is in control. Isaiah highlights God's power, sovereignty, holiness, trustworthiness, and salvation. Classes are Mondays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the Ridgefield Baptist Church 325 Danbury Road in Ridgefield, CT. Feel free to invite a friend or two to come along! Call Peter Eckert ((203)-733-8917) for information. To register, please contact our class coordinator, Linda Tilton at 203-431-9491 or [LTilton@prodigy.net](mailto:LTilton@prodigy.net). May this study of Isaiah awaken us to hear God's voice.

"They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31