



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

141 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT 06-801
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Office phone 203-743-6835
Pastor's Phone: 203-312-6789

Pastor Emeritus – The Rev. Robert T. Johnson

Admin Assist email: bmethodistchurch@snet.net Minister of Music's email: music.bumc@gmail.com

Weekly Illuminations and Inspirations

December 18, 2016

Church Person(s) of the Week:

We would like to thank Jim LaFlam who each year donates the greens we use in our Hanging of the Greens service.

Today's Worship Assistants:

Readers & Communion Stewards 8:30am: Peter Eckert

10:00am Readers: Kayleigh Wood

Communion Stewards: Christy Robertson, Caidyn Wachnuik, Brooke Brescia, Kayleigh Wood

Counters: Craig and Kathy Keith

Greeters: Zachery Wood, Rocco Volpintesta

Ushers: Team F: Nathan Wood, Aislyn Wachnuik, Abby Mott, Hailey Mott, 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:

Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

-Martin Luther King Jr

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**

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	12/18	Fourth week of Advent 8:30am Worship 10:00am Family Worship with Christmas Pageant 2:45pm Making of the Greens 4:00pm Hanging of the Greens followed by potluck
Monday	12/19	
Tuesday	12/20	7:30pm Church Council
Wednesday	12/21	
Thursday	12/22	7:30pm Choir
Friday	12/23	
Saturday	12/24	5:00pm Family Worship 9:00am Candlelight Communion Service
Sunday	12/25	11:00am Worship No Sunday School

Coming Events:

01/01	11:00am Worship Service- No Sunday School
01/08	Sunday Night Live Worship Service



Saturday, December 24, 2016
Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols
Family Worship at 5:00pm

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

Christmas Day Service will be held at 11:00am

Sunday Morning Ministries for 5:00pm December 24th

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Bill Struth, Sarah DeShan **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Uta Robertson, Angela Bassett **Counters:** Betty Lepus **Greeters:** Alan and Debbie Brown **Ushers:** Ushers: Team B: Alan Brown, Linda Bruce, Tammy Esposito

Sunday Morning Ministries for 9:00pm December 24th

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Peter Philip, Kyle Johnston **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Wendy Williams, Doug Williams **Counters:** Betty Lepus **Greeters:** Deb and Dave Albin **Ushers:** Team C: Debbie Albin, Krista Mayer, Frank Tomaino

Sunday Morning Ministries for 11:00am December 25th

Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): Tom Wolff, Diane Meldon **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Chris Barnabo, Pat Deuschle **Counters:** Craig and Kathy Keith **Greeters:** Marty Bishop **Ushers:** Team D: Tracy Brown, Fran Bartholomew, Paul McHugh, Lee Griswold

New Choir Director Announcement

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:10

It was not part of my plan to become an active member of a church. It was not part of my plan to join a church choir. It was not part of my plan to learn to play bells. It was not part of my plan to work hand-in-hand with the music director and the pastor as a music coordinator. And now - it was NOT part of my plan to say "yes" and accept the position of choir director at BUMC.

But MY plans aren't important. God's plans are!

I am excited, hopeful, and yes - a little nervous about becoming your new choir director. I have worked closely with Todd for the many years he's been with us, and hope to seamlessly transition the program that he's built into the future. I pray that God will guide me, and all of our musicians as we begin a new journey together.

Want to know more about me? We'll have a bio up on our website soon!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have: jessicabardelli@gmail.com. Or you can always find me in the choir room from 7:30-9pm on Thursdays. :-)

Blessings, Jessica Bardelli

Bethel UMC Outreach Opportunities

"Spare Change Sunday" will be **January 29th**. All the spare change will go directly to anyone in our community needing some help in the form of gift cards and other ways to help someone get through a tough time... Thank you! 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

SAVE THE DATE

Next Bloodmobile Sat. 2/25

The Bethel business community was extremely generous donating to our Bazaar. When you visit these businesses, who donated to us please take a moment to thank them for their support of our Bazaar. They need to receive this very important feedback directly from you! And they will remember your appreciation when you return next year to help solicit their donation for 2017!

Alice's Flower Shop	Hollandia	Peachwave
A New Beginning	Integrated Pain and Stress Relief	Pizzeria Lauretano
Armando's	Jacqueline's	Plain Jane's Restaurant
At Home Again	Joe Brenner	Quality Gem
Bethel Music Center	John Fulton Jewelers	Rizzutos
Bethel Food Market	La Mitad del Mundo	Sandy Hook Diner
Bethel Garden Club	La Zingara	Savings Bank of Danbury
Bethel Pizza House	Littlest Angel	Silver Touch
Big Y	Mazzo	Spa at Grassy Plain
Biksbees	Molten Java	Stop and Shop
Billy's BBQ	Music Guild	Sycamore
Blue Jay Orchards	My Place	Tail Waggers
Brushworks Salon	O'Neil's	The Gift Cottage
Byrd's Books	Old Heidelberg	The Toy Room
COPAS	Olive's Amoire	Toe Toe Nails
Cream and Sugar	Ortegas	UK Gourmet
Danbury Westerners	Outback Steakhouse	Union Savings Bank
English Apothecary	New Fairfield Press	Yoga Space
Famous Pizza	Pancho's Tacos Mexican Restaurant	
Grassy Plain Pizza	Paul Morton Jewelers	

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 bmethodistchurch@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!

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.

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