

The Capsule

A Monthly Newsletter for Members and Friends of Bethel United Methodist Church

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October 2017

A Message from our Pastor

Disappointment of an 0-3 Start!

Football season is upon us and for me that is a happy place. I'm not a real big sports fan but I enjoy watching football. Of course, Sunday Night Live has cut into my football watching but that is quite ok! I still have Sunday night, Monday night, and even Thursday night games to catch.

I like a lot of different teams and there are some I don't like at all. To keep the peace in the church, I won't reveal who they are as not to offend anyone. However, there are one or two teams that I do root for. One of these teams has a way of letting me down. Their starting season so far after week 3 is just downright embarrassing. Fans are quite disappointed to say the least.

Thankfully, God is not like this football team. We can always count on Him! God will never disappoint us in the end of any of our life's seasons. You see, God always keeps his promises, God's word never changes and always remains the same. All of these promises found in scripture can provide hope, comfort, and direction for us every day.

When King Solomon dedicated the temple at the completion of the long awaited construction, his speech included the fact that God never let His people down. This remains true for us today, thousands of years later. He will never let us down or disappoint us.

I have been a fan of this particular team for many, many years. Just being a fan does not improve our chances for a Super Bowl victory. Being a fan does not improve their performance or ability to win. However, the longer that we are connected to God, everything gets better! The closer we draw unto Him, the more compelling He becomes in our lives.

This season of football will come and go and next year I will probably not remember what happened this season. The season of our faith goes on and on as well and each one is important. If you are looking for someone who won't disappoint you, look no further. Jesus never fails; Jesus never disappoints! We always win with Jesus on our team! Call upon Him and watch the victories pile up!

Enjoy the autumn season,
Rev. John Parille, Senior Pastor

Our Contemporary style worship service is in full swing. Our service is held on Sunday evenings from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. We believe that there are many folks in our community that are not able to attend a Sunday morning service because of other family or work commitments. This service is intended to reach those folks! Come join us!

SUNDAY
NIGHT LIVE
Worship

Facebook

If you are on Facebook and have not liked our page, please do so. Here you will find links to our sermons and get a sneak preview of the upcoming sermon. If you are a member of our Facebook page we would ask that you "share" links with your community of friends.

Church Conference – October 18th at 7:00pm

This is the most important meeting of our church year & you are invited to attend. Our new District Superintendent, **Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester**, will preside. This is an opportunity to talk about the church's future. We will also elect officers to serve on our various ministries. Please plan on attending as your voice & vote are very important to how we will be the Church of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions please contact Pastor John or our Lay Leader Steve Temple.

October Volunteers**Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am October 1st****Reader & Communion Steward 8:30am:** Marty Bishop**Readers & Communion Stewards 10:00am (set up & serve):** Stacie McLaughlin & Dave Morey**Communion Stewards 10:00am (serve and clean up):** Angela Bassett & Rick Kelly**Counters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus**Greeters:** Deb and Dave Albin**Ushers:** Team C: Debbie Albin, Krista Mayer, Frank Tomaino**Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am October 8th****Reader & Communion Steward 8:30am:** Peter Eckert**Readers & Communion Stewards 10:00am (set up & serve):** Steve Temple & Chris Barnabo**Communion Stewards 10:00am (serve and clean up):** Tracy Brown & James Wolff**Counters:** Bill Struth and Tom Wolff**Greeters:** Alan and Debbie Brown**Ushers:** Team D: Tracy Brown, Fran Bartholomew, Art Langer, Andrew Serfilippi**Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am October 15th****Reader & Communion Steward 8:30am:** Paul Young**Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** Family Worship**Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Family Worship**Counters:** Tracy Brown and Krista Mayer**Greeters:** Family Worship**Ushers:** Family Worship plus Alan Brown and Tammy Esposito**Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am October 22nd****Reader & Communion Steward 8:30am:** David McClain**Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** Julien Schaad & Stacie McLaughlin**Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Tom Wolff & Dave Morey**Counters:** Janette Blackstock and Dave Albin**Greeters:** Marty Bishop & Dawn Tomaino**Ushers:** Team B: Alan Brown, Joe Benner, Tammy Esposito**Sunday Morning Ministries for 8:30am & 10:00am October 29th****Reader & Communion Steward 8:30am:** Martha Bishop**Readers & Communion Stewards (set-up and serve):** Diane Meldon & Steve Temple**Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Angela Bassett & Rick Kelly**Counters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus**Greeters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus**Ushers:** Team C: Debbie Albin, Krista Mayer, Frank Tomaino**Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria**

The folks in the areas affected by these hurricanes could use our help! The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has set up a link so we can make donations to help assist those devastated by Hurricane Harvey. The good news is that 100% of your donation will go directly to helping others. If you feel moved to make a donation, we have special donation envelopes available in the pews (write

: Advance 901670 in your check memo line) **or you can make a direct donation to**

<http://www.umcmmission.org/Give-to-Mission/Search-for-Projects/Projects/901670>.

To give by mail: Advance GCFA

P.O. Box 9068

New York, NY 10087-9068

Please note in the memo line: Advance 901670

BUMC Information Center

In case you haven't noticed we would like to introduce you to our new BUMC Information Center. The center is located next to Mitchell Hall downstairs. Please post all announcements in this area. You can pick up the latest Heart Beat or Capsule here too!

Church News

During the month of September we had 3 baptisms! Lucas Sven Linstrum son of Christopher Linstrum and Danialle Loubier. (Great grandparents are Jim and Jackie Kulp. Avery George Gentile the son of Ella and Meghan Gentile and Raquel Ann Olson the daughter of Don Olson and Michele Marucci (Grandparents Don and Kathy Olson).

Hello Gardeners

It's Iris & Peony transplanting time. I will be digging the week of **10/2** and I will deliver the orders on **10/8**. Let me know by 10/4 what you would like. Thanks for your support for our church landscaping project.
Alice (amayer@snet.net)

Peonies: \$3.00/large tuber

Double pink w/ pink center
Double White w/ magenta center

Old Fashioned Iris Colors-2107 \$1.00 each:

Light Purple w/med. Purple tip
Gold w/burgundy tip (yellow beard)
Med violet w/dk violet tip (yellow beard)
Med yellow (yellow beard)
White w/purple tip (yellow beard)
Pale yellow (yellow beard)
Pale pink (orange beard)
Pale purple (orange beard)

Giant Special Iris (limit of 1 each) \$2.00

White and purple
Baby blue
Rose w/orange beard

Off the Streets

Off the Streets is all all-volunteer run organization which works to get homeless people into housing. If a homeless person has a source of income, Off the Streets will provide a security deposit and basic furniture and household goods. Off the Streets collects furniture and household goods from 10am to 12noon on the first Saturday of each month behind the Bethel United Methodist Church. Items most in demand are dressers, small kitchen tables with chairs, end tables, nightstands and lamps. The next drop off date is **October 7th**. For more information, go to www.offthestreetsnow.com or call 203-733-5880.

Bloodmobile

The 3rd BUMC sponsored Red Cross Bloodmobile will be held **October 12th** in Mitchell Hall from 1:00-6:00 p.m.

You can schedule a lifesaving appointment @ redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-red cross. Save time the day of your donation by signing onto redcrossblood.org/rapidpass Help save up to 3 lives with your blood donation in just 1 hour. If you can help the day of with registration or the canteen, please see Alice Mayer.

Fundraiser – Bottle/Can Drive

Please consider saving your nickel deposit bottles and cans for our bottle/can drive the 2nd Saturday of every month. Our next drive is **October 14th**. You can bring them to the parking lot between the hours of 11:00am – 1:00pm. This year the benefits go to Julien Schaad's ASP tuition.

Please join us for our monthly**Family Pasta Dinners**

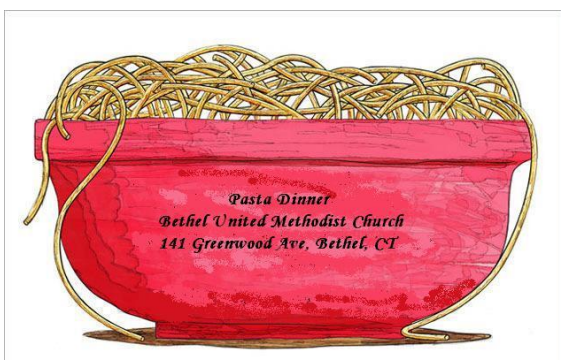
**Bethel United Methodist Church
141 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT**

October 14th

Serving 5:30 – 7:30 pm

**Adults \$10 Seniors & Students with College ID \$8 Kids \$5 (under 5 eat free)
Family max price \$25 (parents & kids)**

Dinners also available to go! Call BUMC 203.743.6835 the day of dinner to place your order



**Dinner includes:
Salad with homemade dressings
Pasta with marinara or meat sauce
Homemade meatballs .50 ea
Homemade desserts**

UMW's Gently Used Clothing Sale



Our first annual sale of gently used clothing will be held on Saturday, **October 21st**, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Mitchell Hall. Proceeds will benefit organizations supported by the United Methodist Women.

If you have donations of gently used clothing, belts, jewelry, ties, socks, hats, gloves, scarves and more please bring them in starting on October 7th. There will be tables set up in Mitchell Hall. You can contact Ann McLellan at 203-744-2421 or email her at ann_mc_ellan@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions.

Our next UMW meeting is October 26th at 6:30pm. We will be making crafts for the Christmas Bazaar.

Small Groups

Are you ready to go deeper in your faith and make some new friends along the way? Then our new Small Groups are for you!

Brotherhood of Christ for the men meet every Monday night at 7:00 pm. Ladies will be coming together for Sisterhood of Christ every Wednesday night 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.

Plan Ahead!

The 48th annual Bethel United Methodist Church **Bazaar** will be held the evening of Friday **December 1st** and 9:00 to 4:00 on Saturday **December 2nd**.

Four things for you to do:

1. If you volunteered to work at the Bazaar last year and intend to return again this year GREAT! Plan on being there these dates. A note will be coming out soon to confirm your interests.
2. If you have not participated in volunteering at the Bazaar and would like to volunteer for this years Bazaar please contact Peter Philip
3. Use your talents and make something for the Bazaar! - Artwork, Wood something, Home baked cookies, knitting. What can you donate? A summer or winter vacation home for a week, yard clearing, baby sitting, a pie a month, bee keeping, a couch potato who will come to your house and sit on your couch! Music lessons, tax filings. Plants you propagated. Yes, there is something you can donate.
4. If you have people on your Christmas gift list that are difficult to find a gift for this is your opportunity to find that "one of a kind" unique gift they will appreciate. So, plan on being there, and please bring your friends.

We are in the planning stages of having events in the sanctuary on Friday night and on Saturday and offering free drinks at the Bazaar for those who attend these presentations.

We will have all of our traditional booths and our gourmet lunch offerings, supported by our experienced and energetic staff.

Our church looks forward to your support of this festive event. -Peter Philip

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 more information, contact Pastor John at the church office or by email at pastorjohnparille@gmail.com.

Prayer Shawl

The Prayer Shawl group meets at 7 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Johnson Building Alcove. All who like or want to learn crochet or knitting are welcome. See Linda Bruce for information.

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. 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.

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.

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!

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 , non-pledging members \$25.00 per hour

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.

Food Pantry

Please remember the basket (located in our Information Center) 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

Covenant to Care/Outreach

Wellmore, our Danbury Covenant to Care Agency, asked us to help provide fall clothing and shoes for 10 young people. These children and teens come from families who have great difficulty paying for rent and providing food for these children. 7 people and the UMW stepped up and helped provide a few basic outfits for each child. We were able to get shoes for about half of them, give a Walmart gift card to the 3 teen girls, and supply 1 box of diapers for the 10 month old girl. It was doubtful for 3 weeks if we would be able to help all 10 children but a few "angels" helped pull it together. I am deeply grateful to those who understood the needs of these families. I am quite sure that the givers experienced the joy of sharing. With gratitude, Carol Morey

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 will be a box in Mitchell Hall to drop these books off. You can also make a monetary donation so our Library Coordinator can purchase a book or two. Any questions please leave a note in the box or contact Uta Robertson.

Letter to the Congregation

To My Church Family

Thank you all so much for all the prayers, cards, calls and food while I was recuperating from knee replacement surgery. Also thanks for the offers of rides to go to rehab. I was able to drive at week 3 so I could take myself. I am doing very well and finished rehab on August 31, 2017. Pastor John than you for your visit to the hospital and your many prayers. It all helped. I appreciate all of you so much. I am blessed to be a member of BUMC.

Blessing and Love
Linda Bruce

CBS

Community Bible Study is beginning again! We have a challenging year ahead as we consider 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 held Mondays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Our local CBS meets at the Ridgefield Baptist Church located at 325 Danbury Road in Ridgefield, CT. Feel free to invite a friend or two to come along!

For more information, feel free to call Peter Eckert ((203)-733-8917). To register, please contact our class coordinator, Linda Tilton at 203-431-9491 or L.Tilton@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

I am looking forward to studying God's Word together!

Village Pre-School News

The Village Pre-School is off to a great start for the 2017-18 school year. To our returning families, we say WELCOME BACK! To those new to our school, we offer a warm WELCOME! We look forward to a wonderful year of exploration and discovery.

This is an exciting year for Village as we are currently working toward our reaccreditation with the **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**. This accreditation holds the school to the highest standards of best practices for our students and families. Wish us luck as we go through this process in October and November.

We will begin some fundraising activities in the next few weeks. A perennial favorite is our *Butter Braid* fundraiser with MCM Fundraising. The pastries are a big favorite with our families and the best thing about them is that they can be frozen! Your freezer can be stocked with a delicious baked treat throughout the year! We'll keep you posted on the dates of the fundraiser and be sure to have some order forms in the church office. As in years past, all orders from the Church family will be stored in the Mitchell Hall freezer for easy pick-up.

As always, please know that we would love for you to share your talents and passions with our students. If you would like to visit our school and share your wisdom, or even just want to see what we are all about, please contact us at villagepre@sbc.global.net or (203) 743-9497.