

The Capsule

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

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Pastor – The Rev. John Parille

Pastor Emeritus – The Rev. Robert T. Johnson

Director of Music – Todd Gorski

Administrative Assistant – Cheryl DePoi



Summer 2016

A Message from our Pastor

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Allow me to introduce myself to you if I have not had the pleasure of meeting you in church as of yet. I'm Reverend John Parille and I have been appointed here in Bethel to be the new pastor for our great church in the heart of Bethel. My wife Maria and I are very excited and honored to be called here to downtown Bethel, Connecticut.

In this issue of the "Capsule", I wanted to talk a little about change. As expected, a new pastor will usually bring forth some changes. Many people say they do not like change, but I have found that this is not necessarily true. People will resist change when change makes them worry it will make a situation worse and not better.

Folks do embrace change when it comes to say a better job with higher pay, a new car with all the bells and whistles, a bigger home in a better neighborhood. It really is not change that can be the issue, it is the sense of loss that can sometimes come with change or the fear of experiencing loss.

I think in the end we would all agree that change is both inevitable and yes surprisingly necessary. If everything would remain the same, then no one could be growing. I think this can be the same when it comes to making changes in our church. We love our routines, our certain seat in the pew, it really could be a number of things.

As we see some changes happening here at the Bethel United Methodist Church, we should try to remember that God is in control of the future of our wonderful church. As long as we commit as a congregation to spend time in prayer asking for guidance and wisdom for our church leaders, we do not need to fear change.

Yes, not all change in life is pleasant, but when we know that we are being led as a church and as individuals by God, we can have peace to be patient and rest assured that God is in control. Jesus is our great shepherd and he protects us all even during time of change.

In Christ,

Pastor John Parille

John 10: 14-16 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also."

New Website

We have a new website! Log on at www.bethelmethodist.net and discover our church calendar, download and listen to our weekly sermons, as for prayer requests and so much more!

Facebook

If you are on Facebook and have not liked our page, please do so. Here you will find links to our sermons and also 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.

We Welcome Our New Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton

Thomas J. Bickerton has been the spiritual leader of the nearly 850 United Methodist congregations in Western Pennsylvania since he was elected a bishop in 2004. On September 1, he will officially begin his work with the New York Annual Conference.

A native of West Virginia, Bishop Bickerton began his pastoral career as a student pastor serving a six-point charge. He later was pastor of medium and large membership churches and was serving as superintendent of the Northern District when he was elected as a bishop.

Bishop Bickerton earned a Bachelor's of Arts degree in sociology and psychology from West Virginia Wesleyan College (1980), a Master's of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School (1983), and a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological School (1994). He has also served as an adjunct faculty member at United, teaching Wesleyan doctrine and United Methodist polity. The bishop is an avid sports fan and enjoys travel, playing golf, and photography. He and his wife Sally are the parents of four adult children: Elizabeth, T.J., Ian and Nick.

Sunday Morning Ministries for 9:30am August 7th

Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): 9:30am: Bill Struth, Diane Meldon **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Pat Deuschle, Tom Wolff **Counters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus **Greeters:** Linda Bruce and Betty Lepus **Ushers:** Team C: Krista Mayer, Debbie Albin, Frank Tomaino

Sunday Morning Ministries for 9:30am August 14th

Communion Stewards (set-up and serve) 9:30am: Chris Barnabo, James Wolff **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Tracy Brown, Jessica Bardelli **Counters:** Bill Struth and Claudia Schaefer **Greeters:** Deb and Dave Albin **Ushers:** Team D: Tracy Brown, Fran Bartholomew, Paul McHugh, Lee Griswold

Sunday Morning Ministries for 9:30am August 21st

Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): 9:30am: Sarah DeShan, Uta Robertson **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Julien Schaad, **Counters:** Tracy Brown and Krista Mayer **Greeters:** Alan and Debbie Brown **Ushers:** Team B: Alan Brown, Linda Bruce, Tammy Esposito

Sunday Morning Ministries for 9:30am August 28th

Communion Stewards (set-up and serve): 9:30am Kyle Johnson, Martha Bishop **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):** Diane Meldon, Pat Deuschle **Counters:** Janette Blackstock and Dave Albin **Greeters:** Marty Bishop **Ushers:** Team C: Krista Mayer, Debbie Albin, Frank Tomaino

The People's Corner

Keeping up with the news of our congregation:

Rev. Johnson's cancer has returned in his lung. He began a rigorous course of chemotherapy and radiation on Monday June 20th. Rev J is registered Caring Bridge.com. You visit the site, create a password and then read and send greetings.

Alice Hurd retired and moved to Texas to be closer to her daughter her new address is P.O. Box 113 Leesburg, TX 75451. Email AWH1943@yahoo.com

Save a Suit one of our tenants in the Johnson Building was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the RED SOX FOUNDATION! Congratulations to Jessica Ewod and her team!

Volunteers

If anyone would like to volunteer their time to help with our Sunday Morning Services now is the time to sign up! We currently need an usher, greeters and can add readers to our list anytime! The commitment is usually once a month. We would love to increase our acolyte list too (grade 4 and up)! If you are interested please call Cheryl in the office or send an email to bmethodistchurch@snet.net.

Summer Sunday School

Volunteers needed to teach and assist Summer Sunday School -There is a sign- **Communion Stewards (serve and clean-up):**up sheet in Mitchell Hall.

News from the United Methodist Women

* The Prayer Shawl group continues to meet at 7 pm on the 4th Thursday of the month, even during the summer months. All who like or want to learn crochet or knitting are welcome. They meet in the Johnson Building alcove. Contact Linda Bruce for more information.

* The first UMW meeting of the Fall will again be at the Comida Pantry, sponsored by the Association of Religious Communities. We will be sorting beans this time, as the need is great. Save the date: Saturday, September 17, 2016, from 10 am until noon.

* UMW meetings are usually the 4th Monday of the month. Upcoming programs include, 'Wicked Women of the Bible' in October, and our memorial "Service of Light" in November. Please join us.

* We will be scheduling Paint Events, definitely, during the first quarter of 2017.

Come and get to know the new Pastor!!

Please set aside some time to come and meet our new Pastor and his wife Maria! Our family meet and greet is **July 31st** from 2:00pm -4:00pm at the home of Alice Mayer - 1 Summit Lane, Bethel – Rain date is Sunday August 7th as this is an outdoor get-together, kid friendly with playing in the brook available.

RSVP to Jackie Penyak: Jackiepenyak@me.com Cell# 203-994-9717 or sign up in person with her at coffee hour following church. RSVP is necessary for hosts. Thank you.

Cave Quest Vacation Bible School

August 1-5, 2016 VBS for PreK through 5th grade; Crew members - 6th grade and up; Station leaders – Adults. Please pick up a registration form located on the table in the Narthex.

Vacation Bible School needs your help. There is a poster board in Mitchell Hall with supply cards in envelopes. The supplies needed for VBS are on the cards. If you can help, please take a card and

return the supplies as soon as possible. Thank you for your help and support for Vacation Bible School. It is much appreciated.

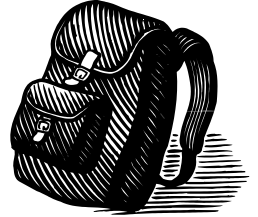
Off the Streets

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 **August 6th**. For more information, go to www.offthestreetsnow.com or call 203-733-5880.

7th Annual Blessing of the Backpacks

Bethel Backpack Ministry will be celebrated on **Sunday, August 7th**

The Nurture Committee's "school bus" visited BUMC and dropped off TAGS for 12 children in need. Your generous spirit showed up again and all the TAGS were taken! Please return the backpacks, school supplies, gift cards, and underwear [with gift receipts] to the church by Sunday, August 7th. The **TAGS must be included** with your purchases so we can match your gift to the correct child! Additional supplies are very welcome. There are always children at each school who are not able to purchase everything on the substantial class supply lists. Thank you so much for caring about these 12 special Bethel students. Carol Morey [damorey@comcast.net]



Special Premier of the new BEN-HUR movie

Our church has been invited to attend the upcoming special premier of BEN-HUR, produced by Mark Burnett and Roma Downey on August 18th at 7:00pm. The discount tickets are \$10.00 each. The link to view the trailer is www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLJdzky63BA Please sign up on the clipboard hanging near the church office or call Cheryl at 203-743-6835 or email at bmethodistchurch@snet.net

Fall Sunday School

Please contact Ann McLellan (203-744-2421 or ann_mc_ellan@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested in being a part of the teaching team.

Dates to remember:

September 11, 2106 – Teacher Dedication and Sunday Registration Day, 10:00am service

September 18, 2016 - Worship in the Park

September 25, 2016 - Full classes begin at 10:00am service

October 16, 2016 - 3rd grade Bibles are presented at the 10:00am service

December 11, 2016 - Rehearsal after church for Christmas Pageant

December 18, 2016 - Christmas Pageant at 10:00am service

January 22nd through February 26, 2017 Heifer Project

Perennials

Forms to order perennials are located on the table in the narthex.

Church Bazaar 11/18 & 19

We are looking for a chair/co-chairs for this year's annual church bazaar in November. It is an important fund raiser for our church. We will provide guidance. If you can help, please see Alice Mayer. Thank you.

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.

Bloodmobile

We are considering hosting a Red Cross Blood drive at our church. In order to make sure the Red Cross is using their resources wisely, they want to know if our church can supply persons who would be willing to donate. It would also be open to the public. You don't need to sign up for a specific date. Just your willingness to donate in general. Please see Alice Mayer for the sign-up sheet. You can also sign up if you can help @ a blood drive, but are unable to give. Let's make this happen.

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

Vacation Bible School - Cave Quest

Vacation Bible School will be held at the First Congregational Church this year. Below you will find the Registration Form for children to attend, as well as sign up for crew leaders, assistant crew leaders and adult helpers. We need adults for 9 am registration and 12 noon check out and to lead the Imagination Station (craft area). Please mail this form to the church or leave it in the church office.

The Red Maple tree in front of our church

A special meeting of Trustees was held on Wednesday July 13 to discuss and vote on several ongoing issues that warrant immediate attention. Painting the front of the church was one of the issues discussed and as part of the painting discussion, the need for removal of the maple tree in the front of the church

was brought up and it was agreed and voted on that to facilitate the painting of the church and to preserve the paint in the future, the tree would have to be removed. Questions can be brought to Trustees Chairperson, Bob O'Neil at pboneil@att.net or 203-743-5181.

Vacation Bible School Registration Form

August 1st – August 5th 2016

9:00am – 12:15pm

For ages 4 years through 5th grade

\$25 per child

\$50 max per family

(scholarships available)

My child(ren) will attend (last name and age/grade)

For those going into 6th grade through seniors:

The following would like to be Crew Leaders or Assistant Crew Leaders (requires all 5 days) – list name and grade;

Adults – I am willing to help (please indicate phone number, available days and times)

Registration may also be done on line at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/FCCBUMC

BUMC "Giving Gifts for Christ" List Items Needed

The Giving Gifts for Christ program is a program where you can make a donation of an item needed by the church in honor or memory of someone. Below is a sample of some of the items needed at this time:

General Needs of Church

- Donations to the painting fund
- New steam mop
- Water for the cooler
- Replacement chairs for Mitchell hall
 (Costco, # 253029 Samsonite)
- Costco gift cards

Music Program

- Donate to a new organ

Pasta Dinner Needs

- Sponsor a Pasta Dinner - \$200.00
- White Plastic Tablecloths 52" x 108"
- Roll of white plastic for tables
- 1 case of sterno for dinners (Costco)
- Bethel Food Market gift cards

Sunday School Needs

- Sanitizer wipes or hand sanitizer
- 3 first aid kits
- Small item for the Incentive Store (Religious theme items preferred.)

