



# THE BETHEL BANNER

**DECEMBER 2010**

“Growing in Christ together, sharing God’s love with everyone”

## Attention all Bethel United Seniors!



Shearer Elegance

Join us on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> for a Christmas Luncheon (your choice: chicken & broccoli or beef stroganoff) at Shearer Elegance, Linfield. A Christmas Program

will follow the luncheon. We will meet at the church at 11 AM to car pool over to Linfield.

The cost is \$15 per person and the deadline to reserve your place is Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

See Elaine Richardson to sign up.



## DECEMBER 19, 2010

10:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICE  
(NO 8:30 SERVICE THAT SUNDAY)

THE SENIOR CHOIR PRESENTS:

SELECTIONS FROM “MESSIAH” BY G. F. HANDEL

JESSICA SABO, DIRECTOR

*COMFORT YE*

*AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD*

*THE LORD WHOM YE SEEK*

*BUT WHO MAY ABIDE*

*BEHOLD A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE*

*O THOU THAT TELLEST GOOD TIDINGS TO ZION*

*FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN*

*THERE WERE SHEPHERDS ABIDING IN THE FIELD-*

*AND LO! THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME UPON THEM*

*AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM*

*AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL*

*GLORY TO GOD*

*HE SHALL FEED HIS FLOCK*

*HALLELUJAH CHORUS*

SOLOISTS: FRANK BAKAY, AUBREY BATES, RON MOORE, ELAINE O’CONNOR, SUSAN WOOD, KARLA ROMBERG AND JESSICA SABO



## LUMINARIES

Don’t forget to sponsor luminaries this year for the Christmas Eve Service!

All proceeds will go toward our youth program.

Signup sheets are in the Church Lobby.

Deadline to order is December 19<sup>th</sup>.



GIFT TAG TREE

All items are due back to the church by December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please DO NOT wrap your gifts. There will be no tags on the tree for 3-5 year old boys or girls, as Project Outreach was gifted with an abundance of these last year after Christmas.



## Christmas Caroling

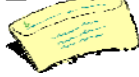
## MANATAWNY MANOR

DECEMBER 12, 2010

3:00 PM

ALL ARE INVITED!

## Offering Envelopes



The 2011 Offering Envelopes are now available at the back of the church sanctuary. Mailing these envelopes is costly. You can help us save money by picking yours up when you’re here.

If you would like to begin using envelopes this year, please see Peggy Linderman or contact the Church Office.

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Merry Christmas  
From  
Pastor Hines, Jessica, Joy and Peg



**MISSION STATEMENT:** Bethel United Methodist Church seeks to be a church that fulfills the spiritual needs of the community, shows God’s love to all, and serves God in all it does.



State of the Church Report  
from Charge Conference

The year has been very busy; nevertheless, Bethel found time to offer a musical interlude and tribute during worship to mark my year as pastor. I was speechless and humbled by the gesture and all the kindnesses displayed to me and my family. No doubt this core asset of hospitality is a key reason Bethel flourishes.

The stories of sacrifice and excellence remain a constant source of joy and encouragement to many and come often on the wings of God's grace and mercy. In our strength we have victory. We see this victory in

- the miraculous maintenance of Sunday school and Vacation Bible School in spite of transitioning and retiring leadership
- vibrant bible study regardless of schedule, topic, and preference changes
- technological advancements and upkeep in worship
- increased financial and leadership commitments undaunted by secular competition
- untiring youth adventures that are thoroughly responsive and responsible.

Quite frequently, Bethel announces the Good News of misery and mishap overcome by the powerful hand of God. We have witnessed many acts of courage as members usually forbear and keep the lines of communication open. In persevering, we have, at times, felt the sting of momentary rejection, the lousiness of misunderstanding, or disappointing reactions. We are as vulnerable and strong as any family.

We articulate many hope-filled dreams that justify our faith. Our annual January leadership training and long-range goal setting is a stepping stone to renewal. We aim to pay our apportionment monthly, maintain and expand mission efforts among youth, engage fervently in mentoring across all committees and risk caring for those who suffer most.

I have had a year to "Rethink church" and experience the Spirit of God's presence at Bethel as an "outsider" as well as an "insider." There is a sweet Spirit as we work and pray together; it is welcoming for many, motivating us to reach out to the enormous amount of un-churched individuals in our community. As we strengthen our ability to discern God's plan together, I expect a surge of energy and creativity that can revitalize our missional and evangelistic efforts.

At the last Council meeting, I referred to a discernment process that I hope to cultivate. It is the same process that allowed us in very satisfying ways to develop a proposal for the Prayer Garden. Prayerfully, this process will allow God's purpose and plan to unfold with fervor and contentment among us.

*Pastor Hines*

**WARNING**

Mobile phones that light up when switched on or when they ring release enough energy to provide a spark for ignition.

Mobile phones should not be used in filling stations, or when fueling lawn mowers, boat, etc.

Mobile phones should not be used, or should be turned off, around other materials that generate flammable or explosive fumes or dust, (I.e., solvents, chemicals, gases, grain dust, etc...)



Welcome to the Daubert family who joined Bethel in morning worship. After all the children were baptized, they shared a very special communion as a family. Enough cannot be said about the joy and sunshine they bring, especially in Sunday school. They love the outdoors and are very, very athletic. They are sure to be at the next Bethel game night and campfire.



A Thank You Note to all who supported the annual CROP Walk. Bethel supporters collected around \$520...a great job!

Also, a BIG Thank You for the food you donated to the Spring City Pantry.

December's Mission Projects are to support

- A. Methodist Home for Children
- B. Simpson House in Philadelphia
- C. Cristo Rey

The offerings we receive from the Advent envelopes added to a monetary gift from Outreach and UMW will be divided equally among these three recipients.

# MISSION & E UMW S

The traditional Christmas Tree at the bottom of the steps will be waiting for you to put on socks, hats and mittens for the Methodist Home for Children in Philadelphia.

The UMW of Bethel thanks all of you who supported our Christmas Bazaar – the workers, bakers, soup-making crew, set up & take down team, “cleaner-uppers”, and those of you who supported us financially through your purchases at the Bazaar. The profit from the Bazaar goes to missions (local, district and global). We also donated \$200 to the oil fund. Next year's Bazaar will be on November 12, 2011...Save the Date!

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BIBLE STUDY



We will be starting a new study of the writings of Luke (The Gospel and the Book of Acts). This study will not be chapter by chapter, but will explore these books according to Luke's perspective. The study will begin on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM. All are welcome to attend.

## DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



ORDER DEADLINE IS NOV. 28, 2010  
YOU CAN PLACE YOUR ORDER BY USING THE FORMS ON THE LOBBY TABLE OR BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
2pm-5pm  
\$5 a person

Snow Date Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

# Innabah's Christmas Open House

Crafts Appetizers Cookie Decorating  
Candy Cane Hunt Tree Trimming  
Holiday Music and much more

R.S.V.P. is not required but is helpful!



- 12/01 Suzanne Graham
- 12/02 Ray Ayers
- 12/02 Caitlin Bailey
- 12/02 Jason Ackerman
- 12/02 Megan Haring
- 12/03 Shannon McKinley
- 12/03 Laurel Wynn
- 12/03 Alex Wood
- 12/06 James McMillan
- 12/08 Richard Shantz
- 12/09 John Corbett
- 12/09 Geoffrey Kantner
- 12/13 Joseph Guest
- 12/15 Michael Guest
- 12/15 Margaret Shick
- 12/15 Joy Platchek
- 12/16 Zachary Brunner
- 12/17 Chris Bachrach
- 12/17 Harrison Long
- 12/21 Tina Abel
- 12/22 Aidan Ohst
- 12/24 Blaise Kilroy
- 12/25 Brooke Allison
- 12/27 Mark Ferriss
- 12/31 Eugene Barton



## FREE FUN NIGHT SQUARE DANCE

On December 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 9:30 PM there will be a fun night of square dancing and fellowship in Fellowship Hall. The Caller, Ray Ayers, will provide the music and teach some basic square dance calls for your enjoyment.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED.**

**AGAIN, IT'S FREE.**

## CHURCH CAT

Church Cat passed away a few minutes before 5:00 am on Friday, October 22. I will miss her terribly. She lived a good life for 18 years, and was a real trooper -- adjusting well to five residences (including Bethel's parsonage), not to mention navigating the dangers of the outdoors for most of her life. She had mellowed quite a bit, living indoors for the past five years, and she was a joy with her happy and loving nature. She was a great companion, and there are lots of good memories.



I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Darrell Hoffman for his time and expertise in taking care of Church Cat, especially during those early years when she actively patrolled the property around Bethel. Darrell is a key reason why we were able to enjoy Church Cat for so long.

Blessings,  
Kimberly Pierce

**This section of the Banner is reserved for those who want to share a witness to the ways of God and the power of the Holy Spirit to guide and direct our lives.**

### A Faithful Witness



Harold Haring is a man of a million and one stories. In a flash, he replays scenes of childhood lessons and never-to-be-forgotten sayings from his mother like "If you don't listen, you WILL have to feel." In 1914, his father was about 20 years old; he lost the use of his right hand in a work-related accident at McClintock-Marshall Factory, which later became Bethlehem Steel. He spent a year in the hospital recuperating. The following year, a machine fell on his legs and he broke both ankles. A doctor prepared him for the amputation of both feet. Fortunately, he followed the advice of a second opinion which saved his legs. This all happened years before unions and safety measures were in place. Nevertheless, "Pop" was extremely industrious and managed to supply the needs of his eight children. He was truly an example of enormous fortitude and encouraged his children to boldly face every obstacle life presented.

Mr. Haring knows that today's young families are facing the toughest of times. He is concerned about their ability to thrive and prosper, and he prays fervently that they will learn the valuable lessons that have enabled so many to endure against great odds.

He and Jeanne are expecting two new grandchildren next year. The legacy of rich family stories and their power to strengthen and inspire all who hear will no doubt be passed on to this fourth generation.





**PREMIER URGENT CARE OPENS IN LIMERICK**

Bridging the gap between hospital emergency rooms and primary care providers, Premier Urgent Care is bringing a new health care option to the Greater Philadelphia area with the opening of its urgent care center in Limerick. The new Limerick location is the sixth urgent care center opened by Premier since 2006.

Premier Urgent Care provides affordable, walk-in health care services for medical situations that require immediate treatment. Nearly 80 percent of all hospital emergency room visits can be treated successfully more efficiently and more affordably by urgent care centers.

The Limerick facility, located at the intersection of Ridge Pike and Township Line Road, will be open 365 days a year, from 9 AM to 9 PM. No appointments are necessary.

Premier has five urgent care centers in Pennsylvania in Limerick Douglassville, Exton, Oaks and Hellertown, and one in Cherry Hill, N.J. To learn more, visit [PremierUrgentCare.net](http://PremierUrgentCare.net).



**BETHEL UMC LEADERS FOR 2011**

(Names in Bold are newly elected)

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

- Church Council Chair: Jeanne Haring
- Church Council Vice-Chair: Rob Hanlon
- Recording Secretary: Marie Spiece
- Treasurer: Karen Kehs
- Financial Secretary: Peggy Linderman
- Lay Member to Annual Conference: Sandy Davies
- Alternate Lay Member: Terrie McKinley
- Lay Leader: Jean Domin
- Finance & Stewardship Chair: **Janet Long**
- WINGS Co-Chairs: Aubrey Bates, Barb Hanlon
- Nurture Chair: **Elaine Richardson**
- Outreach-Mission Chair: Sonia Kulp
- SPRC Chair: Terrie McKinley
- United Methodist Women: Sonia Kulp
- United Methodist Men: Alan Collins
- Church Council At Large: Amy Keller, Mary Kelly, **Peg Cuthbert**

**COMMITTEES**

**Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC):** Elaine Richardson, Dale Richards, Elaine O'Connor, Barb Pizii, Diane Raab, Lori Spera, **Terrie McKinley**, **Carol Osiol**, Jean Domin, Sandy Davies

**Trustees:** **Harry Forbes**, **Harold Haring**, Dot Shantz, Janet Long, Karen Kehs, Bob Meissner, **Joe Moyer**, **Sonia Kulp**, **Craig Collins**

**Lay Leadership & Development:** Martha Meissner, Sandy Davies, Dorothy Hall, Janet Long, **Terrie McKinley**, **Elaine Richardson**, Jean Domin

**Finance & Stewardship:** **Janet Long**, **Sharon Allison**, Peggy Linderman, Jean Domin; Trish Richards, Bill Richardson, Karen Kehs

**WINGS (Witnessing in God's Spirit):** Aubrey Bates, Barb Hanlon, Joyce Shutt, Brianna Kehs, Susan Wood

**Nurture:** **Elaine Richardson**, **Joyce Shutt**, Jean Domin, Elaine O'Connor, Elaine Richardson, **Marty Meissner**, **Karla Romberg**, **Mary Tyson**

**Outreach:** Sonia Kulp, Rob Hanlon, Tina Abel, Don Pick, Marie Pick, Dorothy Hall, Edith Northacker, Marie Spiece

**Union of Churches Representative:** Sonia Kulp

**Worship:** **Joyce Shutt**, Edith Northacker, Alice Collins, Kathy Gresko, Martha Meissner, Marian Bilger, Linda Condy-Wynn, Sandy Davies

**Green Committee – Cheryl Emery (Chair)**

**Historian:** **Michael Osiol**

**Project Outreach Delegates** : Alice Collins, Sonia Kulp

**Assistant Sunday School Superintendent:** Aubrey Bates

**8th in Motion:** Chris Cuthbert, Jim O'Conner, Ray McKinley

A complete list of Bethel's Leaders for 2011 (with phone numbers and meeting schedules) is posted on the bulletin board in the Church Office.

Limited copies will be in the lobby.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> - 6:30 PM**  
**TO**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> – 10:00 AM**

- Be prepared to learn the art of the WOK and create our own dinner
- Paint a huge/beautiful tree in the pre-school class as a community project for Bethel
- Fill and prepare the luminary candles for our Christmas Eve service
- Watch a movie on the big screen
- Have lots of fellowship, fun and games
- Pancake breakfast in the AM to send you home for a good afternoon nap!

See Peg Cuthbert for details.

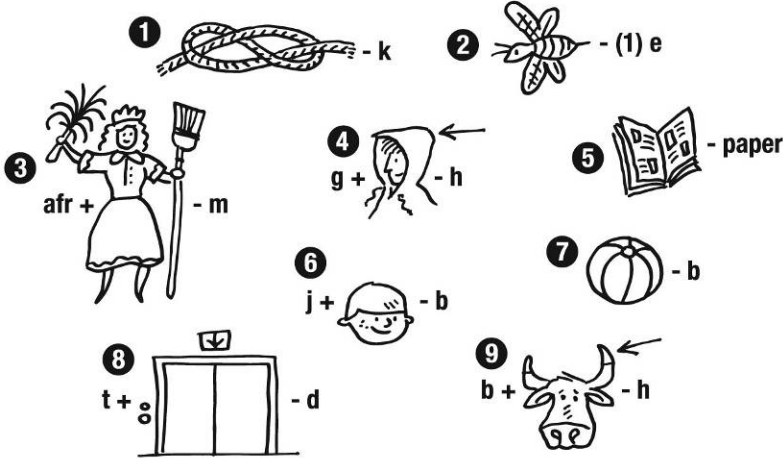


# PUZZLE

## The angel's message

On the first Christmas Eve, shepherds were watching over their flocks when an angel suddenly appeared.

Use the picture clues below to find out what the angels said to the terrified shepherds.



"Do \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4. I bring you \_\_\_\_\_ 4

\_\_\_\_\_ 5 of great \_\_\_\_\_ 6 that will be for \_\_\_\_\_ 7 the people.

Today in the \_\_\_\_\_ 8 of David a Savior has been \_\_\_\_\_ 9

to you; **he is Christ the Lord.**" Luke 2:10-11, NIV

Answers: 1. knot-k=noy; 2. bee-(1)e=be; 3. afr+maid-m=afraid; 4. g+hood-h=good; 5. newspaper-paper=news; 6. j+boy-b=joy; 7. ball-b=all; 8. t+down-d=town; 9. b+horn-h=born  
 "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11, NIV



**JUST FOR KIDS!**

# NATIVITY SCENE POTS

Celebrate the joy of Christmas — and remember Jesus' birth — by making this craft to decorate your home or to give as a gift.

### What you need:

- 3 terra cotta pots (any size)
- Acrylic paints (including one for skin color)
- Paintbrush
- Craft glue (or a glue gun, with an adult to help)
- Brown yarn
- Material swatches
- Straw-colored raffia

### What you do:

1. Decide which pot will be Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus. Turn each pot upside-down and paint a face on each one.
2. Decorate the pots by painting hair and clothes or by using yarn and material as hair and head coverings.
3. For baby Jesus, glue raffia along the bottom to look like straw in a manger.



NOVEMBER WORSHIP DATES	OLD TESTAMENT	PSALM / READING	EPISTLE	GOSPEL	SERMON SERIES ON STEWARDSHIP
December 5 Advent II	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12	"Shoots and Branches from the Stump of Jesse"
December 12 Advent III	Isaiah 35:1-10	Luke 1:47-55	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11	"No Offense"
December 19 Advent IV	Isaiah 7:10-16	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25	Special Music (no spoken sermon)
December 26 Christmas I	Isaiah 63:7-9	Psalm 148	Hebrews 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23	"Joseph: Warned in a Dream"



**Kids on the Old and New Testaments**  
(Kids' Answers to Questions about the Bible)



B  
I  
B  
L  
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P  
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G  
E

- ❖ Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark, which the animals came on to in pairs.
- ❖ Samson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.
- ❖ Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
- ❖ The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.
- ❖ Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
- ❖ The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.
- ❖ Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
- ❖ When Mary heard that she was the mother of Jesus, she sang the Magna Charta.
- ❖ When the three wise guys from the east side arrived, they found Jesus in the manager.
- ❖ The people who followed the lord were called the 12 decibels. The epistles were the wives of the apostles.

**BIBLE QUIZ**

The gospel of Luke tells about Joseph and Mary taking the baby Jesus to the temple "to present him to the Lord" (Luke 2:22, NRSV). An old man approached and said the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he wouldn't die before he saw the Messiah. Seeing Jesus and being moved by the Holy Spirit, this man proclaimed that the baby was indeed the Messiah.

What was the man's name?

- A. Simeon
- B. Simon
- C. Phanuel
- D. Zechariah






**Answer: A (See Luke 2:25)**

SUNDAY SCHOOL



"Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse' is NOT a Bible verse!"



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><b>December</b></p>			<p>1</p> <p>Girl Scout Service Unit Mtg. 6:00 PM</p>	<p>2</p> <p>P &amp; W Rehearsal 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM</p>	<p>3 MOMS Club 9:30 AM</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Advent II Worship-8:30 &amp; 10:45 S.S.-9:30AM F8th in Motion-3:00 PM</p>	<p>6 Bible Study 10:00 AM  Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM</p>	<p>7  6:30 PM Coventry Singers Rehearsal</p>	<p>8 Women's Fellowship Bible Study 9:30 AM  Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Finance 6:45 PM Council 7:30 PM</p>	<p>9 B.U.S. Luncheon- 11:00 AM Boy Scout Comm. 6:30 PM P &amp; W Rehearsal 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM</p>	<p>10  6:30 PM – Youth Overnight begins</p>	<p>11 10:00 AM – Youth Overnight Ends</p>
<p>12 Advent III Worship-8:30 &amp; 10:45 S.S.-9:30AM Caroling at Manatawny Manor 3:00 PM</p>	<p>13 Bible Study 10:00 AM  Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM</p>	<p>14  Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Square Dancing 7:30 PM</p>	<p>15  6:30 PM Coventry Singers Rehearsal</p>	<p>16  P &amp; W Rehearsal 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Advent IV Worship-8:30 &amp; 10:45 S.S.-9:30AM F8th in Motion-3:00 PM</p>	<p>20  Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM</p>	<p>21  Girl Scout Troop 41058 Holiday Party 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM</p>	<p>22  Cub Scouts 6:30 PM</p>	<p>23  P &amp; W Rehearsal 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM</p>	<p>24 Church Office Open 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM  Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 PM</p>	<p>25</p> 
<p>26 Christmas I Worship-8:30 &amp; 10:45 S.S.-9:30AM F8th in Motion-3:00 PM</p>	<p>27 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Church Office Open 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM</p>	


**The Bethel Banner**

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**We're on the Web:**  
[www.bethelumchurch.com](http://www.bethelumchurch.com)




+ Christian Symbols +



Candle

The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season. Each candle on an Advent wreath has a special meaning. Many churches have a candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve, often at midnight.

**THE MISSING PIECE**



It's frustrating trying to complete a picture puzzle and realizing a piece is missing. The same is true when we try to make sense of our lives and discover something's missing within.

Each of us has an emptiness that only God's Spirit can fill. Philosophers speak of a "God-shaped hole," and Augustine wrote, "Our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you." Until we rest in God, inner peace and "completeness" will evade us.

That's why the psalmist wrote, "'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, LORD, do I seek" (Psalm 27:8, NRSV). That's also why Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10, NRSV). Being filled with God is the only way to fill in the missing piece and have a truly fulfilled life.