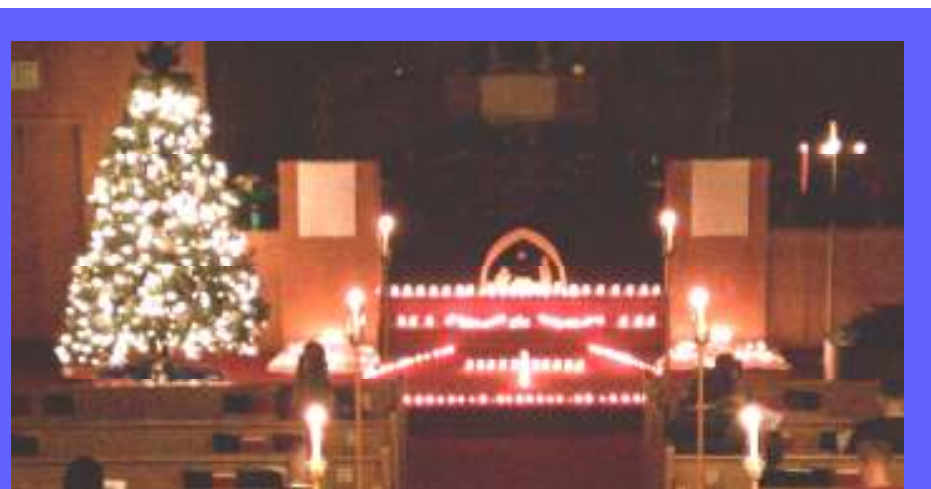


Bethel United Methodist Church
 2116 Commerce Blvd
 Mound, MN 55364
 (952) 472-1522
www.bethelumcmn.org



Sunday Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.
...warms the heart, feeds the soul.



Bethel's Christmas Eve Contemplative worship at 10 p.m. was enjoyed by many, a wondrous candlelit experience!



If you are interested in helping with odd jobs around the church, please contact Pastor Cheryl or Roxanne Eccles at 952-472-1522. Thank you!

**PACKING DATES
 FEED
 MY STARVING CHILDREN
 IN CHANHASSEN, MN**



- Jan 12th** -- 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.
- Jan 26th** -- 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Feb 2nd** -- 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Feb 16th** -- 12:00-2:00 p.m.
- Feb 24th** - 8:00—9:30 p.m.

There are several times to share time at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in the next few months. If you have questions, please contact Joleen Carlson. Carpooling is available from Bethel UMC (Arrive 30 minutes prior to scheduled time)

**BETHEL
 UNITED METHODIST
 CHURCH**



2116 Commerce Blvd. Mound, MN 55364 — (952) 472-1522
www.bethelumcmn.org — betheloffice@mchsi.com

Volume IX, Issue I

**January February
 2012**

THE BELLRINGER

Vital Signs by Pat Goralczyk, Renovation Committee Chair

As another year comes to a close I find myself reflecting on the challenges and successes of the past twelve months. It is easy to dwell on the challenges as they have been both plentiful and mighty but perhaps it is wiser still to dwell on the successes as God has provided vast fruits from the seeds of our efforts.

The Renovation Committee has worked tirelessly for the last year to bring to life our vision of the renewed Bethel facilities. That vision has taken shape and we now have modern, functional, clean facilities that should instill pride in the members of Bethel.

This year also saw the great success of the G.R.O.W. Gardens, community garden, hosted on the Bethel grounds. This fantastic outreach drew community members to our facilities and fostered a Christian spirit of love and sharing as gardeners shared their knowledge with each other and their harvest with those in need.

Perhaps unnoticed by many amongst all the hustle and bustle was the successful completion of two Eagle Scout projects. Our cherished Labyrinth has been restored to a beautiful state and the raised beds in the community garden have been expanded to provide a more bountiful harvest in future years.

The facts are clear— GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT BETHEL!

We have spent many hours of discussion in various Rethink and Church Council meetings discussing how to transform Bethel into a vital congregation. We have generated many ideas and demonstrated a great desire to make that transformation a

reality. Many of those discussions included conversations about the challenges in getting momentum for this transformation started. Guess what?...The wheels are turning! This congregation has generated a renewed community interest in our church. My wife and I have personally experienced community members asking us "what's going on" at Bethel. People can physically see the changes happening here.

Our work is not nearly done. We need to build on this momentum. The successes of the past year bring us vast ways in which to utilize the assets of Bethel in service to God during the years to come. Have you considered the possibilities?

We could host classes on Saturday mornings to teach children (and kids at heart) crafts and cooking skills. We could offer ourselves in mission by providing a soup supper for those in need.

Many people take the opportunity of the New Year to make a resolution. I offer each and every member of Bethel the following challenge: What will you do this year to add to the vitality of Bethel? Do you have a particular skill or talent that you can share with others? You could lead a Saturday morning skill session. Do you have a knack for coordinating and organizing? You could help to plan new activities. Do you just want to be part of the transformation? Join the VBS team and help Bethel teach the children in our community about Jesus. I encourage you to give this challenge serious consideration. Let's make 2012 a year of action for Bethel "and they'll know we are Christians by our love".



**Open House
 Bethel UMC
 January 22nd**

Check bulletins for details.

**ANNUAL CHURCH
 CONFERENCE**

Sunday, January 15
(Following Worship)
 All are welcome!

Come celebrate 2011 and chart the course for 2012

UNITED
 METHODIST
 WOMEN
**9th Annual
 Prayer Breakfast**
January 28 at 10:00 A.M.
 Fellowship Hall



*The Hands of Lent:
 A Journey of Hope*

LENTEN BEGINS
February 22nd with
Ash Wednesday

Complete with
 5:30 p.m. Soup Supper
 6:15 Worship/Bible Study

Look at your hands. What do you learn from them? Come and join the journey of hope as we examine our hands and understand the implications for our life of faith.

Worship Highlights

January 1—1st Sunday after Christmas

Holy Communion
Liturgist: Ron Carlson
Scripture: Luke 2:22-40
Sermon: "In View of Grace"

January 8—Baptism of the Lord Contemporary Sunday

Liturgist: Oberdeck Family
Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5
Sermon: by Tyler Oberdeck

January 15—2nd Sunday After the Epiphany Name Tag Sunday

Liturgist: Bev Johnson
Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)
Sermon: "What Did You Say?"

January 22—3rd Sunday After the Epiphany Traditional Worship

Dedication of Leadership of 2012
Liturgist: Mona Hovelsrud
Scripture: Mark 1:14-20
Sermon: "Fishing Angles"

January 29—4th Sunday After the Epiphany Hymn Sing Sunday

Liturgist: Cindy Gibbs
Scripture: Psalm 111

February 5—5th Sunday of Epiphany Holy Communion

Liturgist: Steve Pinney
Scripture: Mark 1:29-39
Sermon: "The Rigors of Discipleship"

February 12—6th Sunday of Epiphany Contemporary Worship—Scout Sunday

Liturgist: Boy Scout Troup #569
Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-14
Sermon: "Another Hoop?"

February 19—Transfiguration Sunday

Liturgist: Cindy Gibbs
Scripture: Mark 9:2-9
Sermon: "The Power of Fear"

February 22 Ash Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Soup Supper
6:15 p.m. Worship—"Dirty Hands"

February 26—First Sunday in Lent

Traditional Worship
Liturgist: Liz Friday
Scripture: Genesis 9:8-17
Sermon: "God's Promise"

February 29—Worship/Bible Study

In the Fellowship Hall

Rule of Christ Training

February 16 at 10:00 a.m. and February 19 at 11:30 a.m.

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. - Matthew 18:20

Members, friends and staff of Bethel are invited by the Staff- Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) to share in a training program called the **Rule of Christ** which is based on Matthew 18.

The Rule of Christ workshop is a 2½ hour workshop designed to highlight and facilitate the development of strong, positive communications

within the congregation with a particular focus on how to deal with situations where tensions arise in relationships. We use a workbook that walks/ guides us through a healthy practice.

Twenty-three Bethel folk have received the training as of December 13. You need only attend one session to complete this training and start the

practice . The SPPRC will be bringing policy implications to the Annual Church Conference Meeting on January 15

(Childcare will be provided for the training session on the 19th.)

Please contact Pastor Cheryl to reserve your spot around the table.

MISSION DINNER

Plan to attend a Mission Dinner to benefit the Mariposa DR Foundation of the Dominican Republic on **Sunday, January 15 at 11:15 in the Fellowship Hall.** Becky Maas will talk about her experience volunteering for Mariposa and the impact this organization has on young women in the Dominican. The dinner is free, but donations will be accepted and matched (by mission fund with \$250 limit) to benefit the Mariposa Foundation. Come support Becky's work to educate and empower young women and girls! Call church to reserve spot

Quilt and Craft Group



will meet on Saturday, January 21, 9:00 a.m. Bring projects (knitting, sewing, beading etc.) you're working on and a dish for Potluck Lunch. Devotions by Kate Fox. All are welcome—children, too!

Information on Sunday Morning

Greeter, Hospitality and Altar Flower Sign up charts are located in the Narthex. Please offer to serve in one of these ways in coming months to make welcome new and old members and friends. Check calendars for openings in January and February.

If your interest lies in the area of **caring for our children or teaching** on Sundays, please speak with Tina Goralczyk.

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m.	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES Lower Level Adult and Teen Class Two Children's classes
10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP
11:15 a.m.	Cherub Choir rehearses (balcony)
11:45 a.m.	Youth Choir rehearses (balcony)

March's Bellringer Deadline: February 7th
Receiving earlier contributions is always welcome!
The Bellringer is available via email upon request.

Church Office Hours

Mondays 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
Tues-Thurs. 8:00a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Fridays 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Or call for an appointment, 952-472-1522, to meet with a specific staff person.

Bag Lunch Bible Study

WHEN: Noon on Wednesdays
WHERE: Ella Richter's home (952-472-2089)
WHY: To deepen our relationship with God.
Contact: Pastor Cheryl (952-472-1522)

THANK YOU

Thank you to those who sent cards, said a prayer or shared condolences with us during the recent passing of our mom, Dorothy.

We will miss her but know that she is in a better place and free of any pain. We appreciated the support our church family has given us.

Jeff and Bev Johnson

Directory Updates

Dr. Charles & Anita Carlson
4501 Shoreline Drive, #11
Spring Park, MN 55384-9758
952/471-6098

Dewey & JoEllen LaGow (Winter Address)
1308 New Natchitoches Rd.
West Monroe, LA 71292

Mary Johnson
16500 92nd Avenue North
Maple Grove, MN 55311

If you have additions or changes for your contact information, please call the church office or email us, thank you.

Bethel's NOVEMBER EXPENDITURES 2012	
MEN'S CLUB	0.00
ADMIN & FINANCE	2,424.23
PASTOR PARISH STAFF	9,418.26
CONGREGATIONAL TRUST FUND	0.00
MEMORIAL GARDEN	1,423.37
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	(27.00)
SHEPHERDING MINISTRIES	65.00
MISSIONS SOCIAL CONCERNS	0.00
WORSHIP WORK AREAS	120.28
TRUSTEE'S	4,948.40
OTHER	0.00
Total Expenses	18,372.54
Total Revenues	25,944.79
Net Income	7,572.25

Sunday Morning Christian Education

Adult study resumes in the SonShine room starting Jan 8th.
Children's Education will continue in the balcony for January, resuming in the Suzanna Room and the "New Art Room" in February.
Youth Class resumes on January 8th after worship in the Balcony

Parish Nurse Notes

NEW! Parish Nurse Office Hours
Have a question for Tina?
Want your blood pressure checked?
Starting in January I will be having office hours on most Fridays from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Watch the bulletins for specific dates!

Nursery

A temporary nursery has been provided (until downstairs nursery is completed) on the west side of the Narthex for families during worship. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Cheryl.

If you can **DRIVE FOR Meals on Wheels OR NEED Meals on Wheels**, call Carolyn Dillon, 952-472-0742.



November totals for the Westonka Food Shelf:

- 169 families were served (not including thanksgiving baskets)
- 303 Thanksgiving baskets were given out
- 472 Households got help from the shelf
- 12,000 pounds of food were given out
- Approximately, 1,400 people benefited from the food shelf in our community this month.

**The biggest area of need we have right now is cold cereal. Seems to be a quick easy meal or snack in lots of households...so if anyone should ask, please tell them.*

Thank you for your support
—Mission Committee

Bethel's Support Staff

Rev. Cheryl Goode
Pastor

952-472-5405 (work)
612-202-0527 (cell)
952-472-5405 (home)
bethelrev@mchsi.com

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Parish Nurse

Director of Christian Education
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"Jake" John Peter Stodolka
Director of Youth Ministry

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Marjorie Austin
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Choir Director

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Praise Team Director

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Financial Secretary

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davisw1@mchsi.com