



OUR VISION IS TO BE **UNITED** IN SEEKING GOD'S WILL
AND SERVING ALL PEOPLE.

APRIL 2019 – *Bethel Record*
Newsletter of Bethel United Church of Christ
812-473-0135 www.bethelucc.org.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR . . . Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner

Lent is a good time for spring cleaning the spirit as well as the house! So, mea culpa, Latin for “my guilt.” We didn’t schedule child care for Ash Wednesday. We haven’t needed it for so long. The good news is that this Ash Wednesday we did! Such a nice problem to have. We are very grateful for Geri Lovelace for agreeing to be with us on the Wednesday evenings for the rest of Lent as well as Sunday mornings. Please remember to sign your child in and leave your cell number with her and turn to vibrate when you are in the sanctuary.



Speaking of Spring Cleaning. We have some to do!

We have lots of old documents. There is a free shred day on Saturday, April 6. Who can take ours?

We need space in the library and have a lot that we can cull. Who can help? We’ll meet your time schedule! We have a two-hour stretch planned for April 4 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

We need space in the Oasis and Tell Tale Rooms. To get it we need space in the loft. Who can help? This is more physical than the library. We’ll meet your time schedule. We have a two-hour stretch planned for April 6 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

We have space outside and can use your help to spruce up for Easter. Come, Saturday, April 6 from as early as you want. Watch Steve Schmitt and his Castle Knights crew spread mulch. Help Donna Condi pick up sticks and trash on the south side of our property. (It took her three days last year, so six of us can accomplish that task in the morning.) Coffee and pastries will be available at break time.

Now back to cleaning the spirit. Many of us have found the God Box exercise of Lent to be helpful. The idea is quite simple. Do you have some worries that just keep rolling around in your head and heart? If you can do something about them, do it! If you can’t, write them down on a piece of paper and put them in a God Box. If you don’t have one, you can make one or use the one at the church at the welcome center. In addition to giving them up to God as you put them in the box, we will give them up on Easter morning by putting them in the fire pit, at the first light service, sunrise, 6:07 a.m.! Join us at 6!

“O Lord, you have searched me and known me . . .

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?” – *Psalm 139*

And, why would we want to?

Seeking and Serving,
Stephanie

SPEAKING OF SPACE

Great news from the Early Childhood Committee . . . Carolyn Bennett, Chair

At the March meeting, Leadership Council voted to approve a one year lease agreement with Head Start for use of rooms 107 and 108. Head Start has agreed to the conditions of the lease. When we receive it, Early Childhood will send the contract to the Administration Team for approval. We are expecting Head Start to open their daycare in August or September.

Leadership Council also approved a proposal for the Early Childhood Committee to continue exploring the possibility for a Bethel Daycare for a future date.

In other news, we are now an educational site for Villages, the not-for-profit that facilitates adoptions. Such good ministry! Thanks, Bobby and Jamessa Potts for connecting us.

FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE . . . Leesa Scales, Chair

A HUGE thank you to all of the members of the Search Committee: Nancy Bullinger, Jerry Dills, Carol Garvey, Dan Patterson, Makenzie Schentrup, Kim Stephens, and Chad Wininger. The committee has been meeting regularly during the last several months. We have reviewed profiles from 20 candidates at this time, and we are still receiving profiles.



The Committee has interviewed numerous candidates and was hoping to move forward with a couple of them. Unfortunately, we were not able to move forward with those candidates for a variety of reasons. The Committee has moved on and is interviewing several new candidates, and we are hopeful.

Please continue to pray for all of us as we search for the next leader of our beloved church. We are confident the right individual will be found. We will let the congregation know when we have found that individual! Thank you!

WORSHIP IN APRIL: April 7: We continue our effort to “connect with the unhurried God.” The sermon, “A Time for Every Matter,” will be based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-13.

April 14: Palm Sunday, come ready to wave a palm and enjoy the processional. The text is a bit unusual for the day, Mark 2:21-28. The sermon, “Give it a Rest.”

There will be no Wednesday Service during Holy Week.

April 18: Maundy Thursday, our Agape Feast (supper) takes its cue from the Seder that Jesus shared with his disciples. It also has touches of Earth Day with references to the elements. We’ll adjourn to the sanctuary for the stripping of the altar, a traditional practice of taking symbols out of the sanctuary in preparation for the darkest day, Good Friday.

April 19: Good Friday, come between noon and 1:00 p.m. for quiet communion shared in the chancel area, as people come and go. Stay as long as you feel, for music and meditation.

A Community Service, sponsored by the Evansville Tri-State Association, will be April 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Good Samaritan Home, 601 North Boeke Ave. The service will feature Dr. Robert Asa, professor at Oakland City College/Seminary, portraying “Abraham.” The special offering will be used by the Laity Committee for community programs, such as this, other educational events, and mission outreach.

April 21: Easter Sunrise! We have a beautiful campus, let’s enjoy it. Outdoor worship begins at 6:00 a.m. as the sunrises at 6:07 a.m. Bring the worries from your God Box for the firepit. The text is Luke 24:1-12. Stay for a continental breakfast, following – or, come back for pancakes from 8:30-9:30, over just in time for the Egg Hunt.

Festival Service at 10:15! The music will be glorious. The text is John 20:18. We will share communion.

April 28: Bright Sunday, never a low Sunday at Bethel. We revive the ancient practice of holy humor Sunday, the Sunday after Easter. Bring your favorite (clean, positive 😊) joke! The text is John 20:19-31, and the sermon is, “No Joke!”

APRIL SPECIAL OFFERING: Our Easter and April offerings are for the Appalachian Service Project, the early summer trip for youth and adults to help impoverished people of Appalachia have a decent place to live. As of this writing, we have a full contingent of 20, though there is always room for one more. The goal to finance the trip is \$12,500, raised through Scrip, the Easter Offering, the Rummage Sale (Saturday, May 4, 8:00 a.m.-noon) and the Barbeque Sale on May 26 – just in time for your Memorial Day gatherings. To date, we have raised \$4520. April offerings in 2018 were \$5487. Do I hear \$6,000 for 2019?

Are you receiving this by email and without the usual envelope? There will be envelopes at church, of course, and we’d like to see you there! Another option: donate on line via our website www.bethelucc.org.

LENTEN WEDNESDAYS

Wednesdays: 3/13 – 4/10

6:15 - Bells and Dinner

7:00 - Worship for everyone

7:45 - Choir, Youth Group, Search Committee

We need some people to help with the simple, very simple, dinners.



UCC WOMEN'S LENTEN BREAKFAST: If you receive this before Saturday, March 30, there is still time to attend the first-in-a-long-time Women's Lenten Breakfast, at Bethel UCC 9:00-11:00 a.m. Join us for good food, great fellowship, camaraderie, and worship. The offering will go to Ruth's House.

UCC MEN'S LENTEN BREAKFAST SCHEDULE: The theme this year is, "What Jonah can teach us about Lent?" Breakfast is served at 7:00 a.m. with the service at 8:00, finishing by 9:00. Any profit from the breakfasts will be distributed to the following: Food Pantry Consortium; United Caring Shelter/Women's Shelter; and United Family Counseling Services. Last year over \$650 was provided to each of these organizations to help families in our community. To place your reservation, please call the host church office by Wednesday with your name and your church's name.

March 30 Christ Church UCC (812) 476-4919 – 3601 Washington Avenue, Evansville

April 6 St. Paul's UCC (812) 425-1522 – 2225 W. Michigan Street, Evansville
(Memorial Breakfast)

April 13 St. Paul's UCC (812) 963-3394 – 8701 Big Cynthiana Road, Evansville
(Communion)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

- Bethel children, preschool to 5th grade are invited to participate in the ETSA, Pre-Easter event. April 7, 12:00-3:00 p.m. at St. Paul's UCC, 2227 West Michigan Street. We will have a meal 12:00-12:30 p.m. (optional); then 12:30-3:00, a rotation of spring crafts, egg dyeing, and games. RSVP by March 31, please. Walk-ins are welcome.
- Easter Egg Hunt - Sunday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m.
- Spring Connection at Merom: Friday, April 26 - Sunday, April 28; grades 6-12; cost is \$95. (The church will pay half; please see Debra.) The theme is from Deuteronomy 31:6, "So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. God will neither fail you nor abandon you." We'll watch the movie Hercules. Registrations are online now (ikcucc.org). To receive a t-shirt, register by April 5; deadline April 12.



- Come, support Allison Payne and Stage Z at the production of Bang, Bang, You're Dead on April 26-28. The show will take place at 321 Studios, behind the Mall. (Times TBD.)

The Merom Camping Schedule is available at the church or at Merom.org. The church will sponsor half the cost of a camp for each of our children and youth.

IRON MEN: Will continue to meet on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. at Friendship Diner.

LUNCH BUNCH will meet on Wednesday, April 10th at 12:30 p.m. at China Bistro (5636 Vogel Road). If you plan to attend please call Ruth Ulrich at (812) 424-9745.

WISE WOMEN meet each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. New women, and wisdom, are always welcome.

YOGA: WOMEN AND MEN ARE WELCOME. Chair Yoga is on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the Children's Church (no cost). Regular Yoga is on Thursdays at 7:45 a.m. in the Children's Church (fee charged).

MISSIONS TEAM:

The Green Team is helping us explore ways we can help turn back the tide and save the earth for future generations. As one worshipper said this Wednesday after singing, "This Is My Father's World," it doesn't belong to us. Members as of now are Tonya Brantley, Greg Gordon, Mike Roth, Debbie and Mike Vannatter. We have room for more! Come to the Roundtable on Sunday, April 14 to learn more. For now, check out the Katharine Hayhoe Ted Talk, if you haven't seen it. A climate scientist, Prof. Hayhoe has an informed mind and hopeful spirit. A must see!



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION: April 22 at 5:00 p.m. at the Four Freedoms. Come! Take an Earth Day Quiz:
<https://www.conservation.org/quizzes/Pages/Earth-Day-Quiz-ScienceMatters.aspx>

The Helping Hand Fund enables us to help members of our congregation, and the community, with extraordinary expenses. We can't be a part of someone's regular budget, but we can help in a pinch. Your support is always welcome.

ASP Scrip - Tamara Payne will place a Scrip order on April 25. Orders can be placed online, in the church office, or by contacting Tamara at tpic20@hotmail.com or at 812-760-7680.

Ride for Habitat: Our friend, the Rev. Brian Buschkill, bike rides for Habitat. He'd like to get a group together to start from Evansville, rather than having to meet others elsewhere. The ride is May 5-11. Brian assures us that everyone can ride, and the length of time committed depends on the person. You don't have to ride all six days. He encourages our participation by referencing an 85-year-old who does this each year. Contact Brian at St. Peter's UCC (Highland) 812-867-5271 or saintpetepastor@gmail.com.



FAITH FORMATION

Activities for Children and Youth are on page four.

Looking Ahead: Opportunities for our youth in 2019 and 2020!

- **ASP:** June 9 - 15. Scott Scales and Tamara Payne are heading up this ministry. Keep those Scrip orders coming in!
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** June 16-20 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Kick-off Night is June 16, and this year's theme is BIBLE SCIENCE.
- **General Synod** in Milwaukee, Wisconsin: June 21-25, 2019.

Three classes are available for adults, and newcomers are always welcome. Consider joining the Bethel Book Club; the Seekers (contemporary issues); or the Gideon Class (Bible study) at 9:00 a.m.



THIRD SUNDAY ROUNDTABLES for the coming months, following worship until noon:

- **April 14:** or another Third Sunday on the Second Sunday (because of Easter on the 3rd). It is easy to raise money for tigers and bears, but not for bees. However, we can live without tigers and bears, but not bees. Learn three things we can do to affect climate change: adopt a plant-based diet; combine and lessen transportation; be careful with utilities. What if Bethel were a "Creation Care" congregation?
- **May 19:** or a Second Sunday Celebration with the Third Sunday Round Table (because of Mother's Day on May 12). Let's ask the, "Why?" question about many things, including why we should consider being part of CAJE, Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment.

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM:

Second Sunday Celebrations for April: We will be celebrating again on April 14 all those April birthdays, anniversaries, and special occasions! We are so close to having our full Ark for the Heifer Project and appreciate all those contributions from our happy celebrants. Our March event included celebrating Doris Rohlfers' 93rd birthday, Linda and Steve Hape's 50th anniversary, and the combined events of Lori and John Glasers' birthdays and their anniversary. Hooray! What a party! You are cordially invited to this special party!



Nametags: If you have a nametag, would you please wear it more often? It would help the new members and frequent visitors connect names and faces. If you don't want to clip your nametag to your clothing, there are black ribbon "necklaces" you can attach to your nametag. They are in the baskets attached to the stands. Also, there are disposable sticker nametags at the Hospitality Center that you may use. The stickers can also be used by visitors who want a nametag.

IN AND AROUND BETHEL:

Our Thanks . . .

To Donna Condi and Linda Hape, for taking inventory in the kitchen. Please check the paper products, condiments, etc. before buying (and never Styrofoam).

To Andrew Kempf and his back-up, Kyle Ingram, for projecting our morning services. Please know we are working on upgrading our equipment.

To Bob and Carolyn Bennett, Carmen Mazick, and Deb Wilson, for serving as delegates to the inauguration of Ronald S. Rochon as fourth president of the University of Southern Indiana. Rev. Weiner was asked to take part in the procession.

To the behind-the-scenes folks of the Building and Grounds Committee who are putting door stops on the doors, and a myriad of other things most of us don't even notice, but make life much more pleasant. Thanks!

To Donna and Richard Condi, for attending a safety and security seminar for churches. We'll be hearing (and doing) more about this later.

To Bob Britt, our photographer extraordinaire, for taking the council pictures.

BETHEL BUDDIES: If you are aware of someone in your family, neighborhood, or workplace who really needs an extra hug, please take them one of the Bethel Buddies located in the pews. If you have any new/like-new stuffed animals to donate, contact Carmen Mazick or bring them to the church office.



OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE WIDER CHURCH

We are grateful for the ministries of the Rev. Monica Ouellette and the Rev. Toni Hawkins. Both were installed as Associate Conference Ministers for the IN-KY Conference in March.

We need delegates for the Evansville Tri-State Association meeting, Saturday, May 4, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Bethlehem UCC; and for the IN-KY Annual Gathering, May 31 (education day) to June 1 (meeting), in Indianapolis. Please see Deb Wilson, president; Carmen Mazick, chair of missions; or Stephanie for more information.

Thank You

Dear Bethel UCC: Thank you so much for the use of your gym for our annual style show. ~ **Evansville Chapter, American Sewing Guild**



for your Kindness

To Bethel UCC: Thank you for letting the Society for Creative Anachronism use the church facilities for our practices. ~ **The Shrine of Riviere Constelle of the Society for Creative Anachronism**

JOYS AND CONCERNS: Since this is a composite of joys and concerns since the last newsletter, many of the health issues have been overcome. So, whether a joy or concern, **we pray for:**

Robert Batey	Ray Meinert (Cynthia Grassman's father)
Myron Ice	Jim Prickett
Doris Lamkin	Evelyn Vanhooser
Charlie Marx	

We give thanks for the lives of:

- *Palmer Hanebutt (member of St. John's downtown) who died on February 26, at age 101;
- *Susie Umbach (the mother-in-law of Sara Bernhardt Umbach) who died March 15;
- *Margaret Vogel (widow of Dr. John Vogel, Jim's brother) who died on March 9, at age 98.

We celebrate:

- *Patti & Larry Coleman's granddaughter on becoming a Registered Nurse.
- *The arrival of Linda & Clark Absher's 12th great-grandchild (February 25) Quinn Carolyn Absher. She and her parents are doing well – and the great-grandparents are beaming!

Family and Friends Serving in the Active Military - We hold in our prayers:

- Scott and Will Kirk, both in the Air Force and grandsons of Carmen Mazick.
- Jacob Swanson, Army stationed in Germany, grandson of Ruth Willis.

(Do you know of others? Please contact the church office.)

MEMORIALS

We are grateful for contributions received in memory of Kim Kilinski to the:
ASP Fund from Ruth & David Willis;
Memorial Fund from Suzanne Farney; and
Music Fund from Carolyn Stephens.

OUR MINISTRY IS EXTENDED THROUGH:

Children's Church:

7	Leader: Debra Niswonger	Helper: Kyle Ingram
14	Leader: Jamessa Potts	Helper: Carol Garvey
21	Leader: Julie Vogel	Helper: Sharon Lawson
28	Leader: Carol Garvey	Helper: Leesa Scales

Greeter:

7	Linda Absher
14	Carlos Haskins
21	Debbie Wilson
28	Patti Coleman

Ushers: (The head usher for April is Larry Coleman.)

7	Clark Absher; Don Carrell; Stuart Perigo; Bobby Potts
14	Janel & Wilder Allen; Jo & Charlie Haller
21	Bob English; Steve Schmitt; Carolyn Stephens; David Vanhooser
28	Barry Burleigh; Dan Patterson; Jim Rine; Frank Schultheis



ALTAR FLOWERS: Altar flowers in memory or honor of a person or event, may be ordered by signing up on the flower chart in the hallway at the side of Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$36, payable to Bethel UCC, and can be dropped off in the church office or placed in the collection plate on Sunday. Please let the office know which Sunday you sign up for. If you do not take the flowers with you after worship, they will be shared with others.

BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STAFF (812) 473-0135

Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner, Interim Minister	sweiner@bethelucc.org
Cynthia Grassman, Director of Music	cgrassman@bethelucc.org
Debra Niswonger, Program Associate	dniswonger@bethelucc.org
Ruth Saalweachter, Church Secretary	ruths@bethelucc.org
John Stevens, Financial Secretary	jstevens@bethelucc.org
Sue Layman, Accompanist	Gerri Lovelace, Childcare Attendant
Harold Golday, Custodian	Joyce Johnson, Custodian
David Willis, Night Caretaker	Rev. Donald Bernhardt, Pastor Emeritus

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

3	Keeli Webster	9	Andrea Wright	19	Barbara Krick
5	Cathy Johnson	11	Greg Gordon	22	Alyssa White
	Bob Mangold	12	Ruth Ulrich	23	Debbie Patterson
	Vicki Tichenor	16	Betty Hawkins		Robert Vogel
7	Carolyn Bennett		Sue Kuykendoll	26	Jerry Greubel
	Isaac Pricher		Reide Perigo	28	David Emery
	Ron Vogel		Kahra Schmitt		

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

7	Mary & Robert Cates	20	Judy & Frank Schultheis (56)
13	Jennifer & Chad Wininger	26	Karen & Stephen Haas

ABOUT THE MAY RECORD: The deadline for the newsletter is Wednesday, April 17.

Easter Flowers Order Form

To purchase flowers to decorate the church at Easter, please complete the form below and return it to the church office **NO LATER than April 2nd**. Checks should be made payable to Bethel UCC. You may designate the flowers to be in honor or memory of loved ones. (Please pick up your flowers from the church after worship on Easter.) We are also encouraging gifts to the Music Fund, the source of special music for the season. All gifts will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletins. Please return this order form to the church office by April 2nd. Checks should be made payable to Bethel UCC.



Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

In memory/honor (circle one) of _____

I am contributing \$_____ for instrumental music on Easter.

I am purchasing:

of hyacinths (purple) ordered: _____ x \$8.00

of lilies ordered: _____ x \$10.00

of tulips (red) ordered: _____ x \$8.00

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Nursing/Rehab/Retirement Home/Homebound

Atria Assisted Living 618-9685

5311 Rosebud Ln., Newburgh, IN 47630

Georgia & Arlin McRae (Apt. 313)

(812)568-6119

Barbara Schmitt

Core of Nursing Rehabilitation

P O Box 325, 510 W Medcalf St., Dale IN 47523

Jana Bonifer (812)937-7073

Cypress Grove 853-2993

4255 Medwell Dr., Newburgh, IN 47630

Gene DeForrest

Good Samaritan Home 476-4912

601 N Boeke Rd., Evansville IN 47711

Betty Gustafson (South 549-1)

Marion Nauert (541)

Hamilton Point 858-5300

3833 Eli Pl., Newburgh IN 47630

Gerald & Barbara Griepenstroh (209)

Darlene Neidig (107)

Heritage Center 429-0700

1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville IN 47710

Victor Luhring (149)

Mt. Vernon Nursing & Rehab

1415 Country Club Rd., Mt. Vernon IN 47620

David Emery

North Park Nursing Center 425-5243

650 Fairway Dr., Evansville IN 47710

Nancy Westbo (159)

Oasis 303-3310

4301 Washington Ave., Evansville, IN 47714

Pat Perigo (412)

Protestant Home 476-3360

3701 Washington Ave., Evansville IN 47714

Eloise Buente (11-N)

Jeanne Carter (Apt. 29 S)

Barbara Krick (S Rehab #7 A & B)

Warren McCullough (4-ABN)

River Pointe 475-2822

3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville IN 47715

B. J. Caldemeyer (330-B)

Walnut Creek 420-1540

525 Bente Court, Evansville IN 47715

Betty Hawkins (7)

Doris Lamkin (22)

Sylvia Stamm

2501 Lexington Rd., Evansville IN 47720

“Dust If You Must . . .”

Dust if you must.
But wouldn't it be better
to paint a picture, or write a letter,
Bake a cake, or plant a seed.
Ponder the difference between want and need.

Dust if you must.
But there is not much time,
with rivers to swim and mountains to climb!
Music to hear, and books to read,
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must.
But the world's out there
with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
a flutter of snow, a shower or rain.
This day will not come around again.

Dust if you must.
But bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind.
And when you go, and go you must,
you, yourself, will make more dust.

Remember, a house becomes a home when you can write,
“I love you,” on the furniture.

“She (or He),” by T.V. Smith (shared by Joan Meyers)
She who works with her hands is a laborer;
She who works with her hands and head is an artisan;
She who works with her hands, her head, and her heart is an artist.

Bethel United Church of Christ
3029 N Green River Road
Evansville IN 47715

Maundy Thursday, April 18, Meal and Worship beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 19, Communion at Noon

Easter Sunrise Service, 6:00 a.m. Easter Festival Service, 10:15 a.m.

