

Bethel United Church of Christ
3029 N Green River Road
Evansville IN 47715
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www.bethelucc.org

AUGUST BETHEL RECORD/NEWSLETTER

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Please help us to continue our
ministry to provide meals to the
United Caring Shelters.



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

Because we affirm the face of God in all, we fully welcome and include people of all abilities, ages, cultures, gender identities, races, sexual orientations, and socio-economic backgrounds, into our life and ministry.

FROM THE PASTOR . . . Rev. Sam Buehrer

“Updates on Ministries”

I thought that I would use this time to update you on several aspects of our ministries as we navigate these uncharted waters of the COVID-19 pandemic. I will address worship, general building usage, office staffing, Bethel Buddies Preschool, and our ministry with United Caring Services.

Worship: In our commitment to keep everyone safe, we are committed to following guidelines established by the CDC and other various governmental agencies. At the July meeting of the Leadership Council, it was determined that we will not return to worship in the sanctuary until at least September. We will continue to evaluate this on a monthly basis. In the meantime, we will continue to worship out-of-doors and to provide our online worship option.

General Building Usage: Our building is currently divided into three general uses on a daily basis throughout the year: 1) Bethel UCC generally uses the sanctuary and office areas; 2) English as a Second Language (ESL) uses the adult education wing; and 3) the Preschool uses the Preschool wing. In an effort to keep everyone safe, we are limiting our three main entrances to be used by each respective group during the week. Therefore, we ask that if you are coming for church business you enter through the office entrance unless given express permission otherwise. The gym entrance is reserved for ESL and the entrance to the lobby near the Fellowship Room is reserved for the Preschool. In similar fashion unless instructed otherwise, we ask church members to use the bathrooms near the office or in the kitchen since the others are reserved for the other organizations. Evening meetings may be exceptions to this rule.

Office Staffing: With the recent spike in positive COVID cases in our area, we are once again reducing our onsite staffing levels. We are committed to having one staff member on site during office hours but the others will work from home when feasible.

Bethel Buddies Preschool: A great deal has happened to get our Bethel Buddies Preschool open by our target date of September 8. A director has been hired. Teachers are being interviewed. One preschool room has been painted and will be furnished completely by the end of this month. The other two rooms are slated to be painted next month and set up shortly thereafter. We were able to purchase many pieces of preschool furniture, toys, etc. at significantly reduced costs from an area preschool that had closed. The preschool is registered to accept children ages 3 – kindergarten. By accepting kindergartners, we are uniquely positioned to assist parents who are choosing the online learning option this coming school year. Until we receive our state certification, we cannot officially register children, but we have met with numerous families who are looking at our preschool as their preferred option.



Early Childhood Committee - Our work to prepare for the Bethel Buddies Preschool continues to move at a rapid pace. Thanks to Bruce Lawson for letting us know about Arc selling their preschool furniture and supplies, we were able to save lots of money. Fortunately, our director, Denise Lane, knew exactly which items we needed and which items were wise purchases.

We are so grateful to Linda Garrett and an anonymous donor for very generous contributions to the Preschool. Due to those gifts, we were able to purchase large quantities of consumable items like paint, construction paper, crayons, and craft supplies while they were at summer sale prices. We were also able to order custom printed t-shirts for the children and employees.

Head Start has not used one of the rooms for several months, and they have agreed to move out of that room by July 21, 2020. We plan to be in there the next day to paint and deep clean the room. As soon as the room is set up, we will request that the state inspection take place. The goal right now is to hold Open Houses on September 2 and 3 with an opening date of September 8, 2020. If you know any parents of children ages 3-6, please let them know they can get more information by contacting Denise at dlane@bethelucc.org. In addition to younger children, we are planning to accept Kindergarten students who are enrolled in the EVSC Virtual Academy. Teachers will work with the students to complete their virtual lessons. This service may help parents who are hesitant to send their children to public school due to health concerns.

Denise plans to incorporate the handprint theme of the logo into valances for the windows, a rug, and smocks for the employees. She has also placed an emphasis on toys that emphasize multiculturalism and inclusion. The Bethel Buddies Preschool will be a mission that will bring the congregation pride.

SECOND SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS RETURN! Catching up on four months of Second Sunday Celebrations was a great treat on Sunday, July 19! Celebrations went back to March!

Donna Condi celebrated her new membership in the Medicare Club; Carlos Haskins had a birthday; Barry Burleigh celebrated his 72nd birthday on July 7; Kim Stevens had a June birthday; Cindy Schnapf celebrated her great nephew's and her niece's birthdays, as well as her wonderful church; Clark and Linda Absher celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary; and Ellen and Sam celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary, their son Stephen's birthday and Sam's 59th birthday!



Bruce and Joan Roth celebrated birthdays of a daughter in April, granddaughter and great-grandson in May, daughter-in-law in June and topped it off with Bruce's birthday in June. Then they added a grandson's birthday in July. These birthdays represented 222 years of life! Congratulations to the Roths.

Patti and Larry Coleman celebrated the birthdays of five grandchildren, a granddaughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law, as well as their son Lee being named a World Class Engineer in Leadership at Boeing Corporation where he is with the Communication Satellite Division. Also, Larry celebrated his 85th July birthday!

Louella Komuves had the most celebrations going all the way back to March -- birthdays of two sons, two grandsons, two granddaughters, step-daughter, step-son, grand son-in-law and; wedding anniversaries of two sons, step-son, step-daughter, three granddaughters and brother-in-law. Louella and Ed celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary in May, and Ed's 79th July birthday! WOW! It was a great celebration!



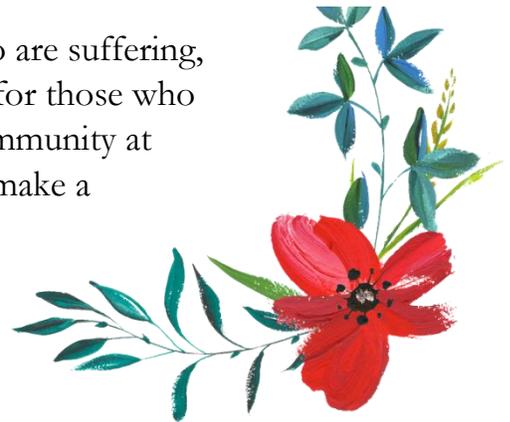
MISSION TEAM: We continue to accept donations to provide meals to the United Caring Services shelters. We are partnering with local restaurants to provide the meals, and the cost per meal is between \$500 - \$750. If you want to make a donation you may use our online giving tool, or mail a check

to Bethel, or put one in the offering at our Sunday outdoor worship service. Be sure to put UCS meals in the memo line. Thank you.

JOYS & CONCERNS – Please continue to pray for those who are suffering, whether from physical, emotional, or mental health issues. Pray for those who work in essential services, for families, for neighbors, for the community at large. Remember that we are all connected and what we do can make a difference in the lives of others.

“Be the change you wish to see in the world.” *Mahatma Gandhi*

We keep in prayer: Kim Armstrong; Jeff Dodson and the Dodson Family; Bernie Hurley; Mary Hurley; Cliff Kleymeyer



We mourn the passing of Candice Dodson, (daughter-in-law of Jean Dodson) who died July 22.

We celebrate the birth of Gavin Dale Wininger, born June 29. He is the son of Jennifer & Chad Wininger.

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.

MEMORIALS/IN HONOR

A contribution was made in memory Pat Perigo to the Helping Hand Fund by Jane & James Shackelford.

Contributions were made in memory of Jerry Greubel to the Helping Hand Fund and the Ironmen Group from Sharon Greubel.

Kim Stevens & Pat Pricher gave a donation to Habitat in honor of the Perigos.

Cliff Kleymeyer gave a donation to United Caring Services for meals, in honor of Marianna Vogel's birthday.

Happy Birthday to August Celebrants:

2	Carol Garvey	13	Deborah Josey	24	Sarah Haerle
3	Joan Roth		Jennifer Stephens	26	Gary Tichenor
4	Jacob English		James Vogel	29	Letta Fraccaro
6	Cindy Perigo	14	Frank Schultheis		Eric Manley
	Jamessa Potts	18	Emily Gallmeister	30	Lee McRae
	Claire Rowley		Amy Vogel		
10	Sandra Altheide	19	Bradley Neiswinger		
11	Sherri Hudson	21	Clay Schmitt		
	Ryan Langford	22	Mary Lee Korb		
	Corey Schmitt				



Happy Anniversary to August Celebrants:

1	Vicki & Gary Tichenor (50 years)	19	Joan & Bob English
4	Nancy & Fred Bullinger	21	Jean & Don Bernhardt (55 years)
12	Patti & Mickey Manley	25	Tracy & Todd Lamkin
17	Brenda & Stuart Perigo	29	Brenda & Mark Neidig
	Kelly & Derek Perigo		



YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED. Contribution Options: You may always mail contributions, or bring them to our parking lot worship services (weather permitting). This is a good time to make use of online giving. To use this giving tool, go to the Bethel website www.bethelucc.org. Click on the "Giving" link in the top menu bar. The first time you use it you will need to create an account. You may also give by texting to 844-949-0952, or by using the QR code printed on the left.



Recycling Tip: Remember to only put clean items in your recycling bins, as contaminated items can cause the whole lot to be discarded. It sounds counterintuitive, but if you are not sure that an item is clean, it is actually better to throw it away rather than have a whole batch of recyclable materials ruined. Plastic #1 (PETE) and #2 (HDPE) are recyclable, but not if they have oily residue. Most cardboards can be recycled, but pizza boxes soaked with grease cannot.

Bethel UCC is now registered on Amazon Smile! AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

To shop on Amazon Smile and designate Bethel UCC as your charitable organization of choice, use the following Amazon link in place of <https://amazon.com>:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-1375763>

After signing into your Amazon account via this link, Amazon Smile will remember your charitable organization choice, and you can sign in at <https://smile.amazon.com>, or just search for “Amazon Smile login” in any browser.



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

www.bethelucc.org

<https://www.facebook.com/BethelUCCEvansville/>

Rev. Sam Buehrer, Senior Pastor

Cynthia Grassman, Director of Music

Debra Niswonger, Program Associate

Ruth Saalweachter, Office Administrator

John Stevens, Financial Secretary

Denise Lane, Preschool Director

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ruths@bethelucc.org

jstevens@bethelucc.org

dlane@bethelucc.org

Sue Layman, Accompanist

Allison Payne, Nursery Attendant

Harold Golday, Custodian

Holly Beswick, Custodian

Rev. Donald Bernhardt, Pastor Emeritus



Bethel United Church of Christ
Suggested Protocol for In-Person Gatherings in Church Buildings
during COVID-19

Matthew 7:12 “In everything do to others as you would have them do to you.”

GENERAL CHURCH BUSINESS

- Enter the building through the office entrance only. (The other two main entrances are for the Preschool and ESL, respectively.)
- Sign in and sign out in the notebook provided so that we can maintain a record for contact tracing.
- Check your temperature with the infrared thermometer. Those with temperatures over 100.4 will be given a special blessing and asked to return home.
- Hand sanitizing is required upon entrance to the building. A portable station is provided.
- All are expected to wear face masks except children under 2 years old. Masks are available at the entryway to be picked up if someone forgets to bring their own mask.
- Social Distancing will be maintained.
- Restrooms available for use are those in the office wing. It is expected that each person that uses a restroom will wipe off the surfaces that were touched so that the facility is clean for the next person.
- All drinking fountains are disabled and not for use.

WORSHIP IN THE BUILDING (INCLUDING WEDDINGS & FUNERALS):

- Any large gatherings must adhere to the CDC, state or local guidelines for limitation in size of gathering at the time of the meeting. If these guidelines are in conflict, the Church Officers will set the limit.
- Enter the building through South Vestibule doors only. Additional entrances will be locked.
- Temperature checks at front door with infrared Thermometer. Those with temperatures over 100.4 will be given a special blessing and asked to return home.
- Hand sanitizing is required upon entrance to the building. Portable stations are provided.
- All should wear face masks except children under 2 years old. Masks will be available at the entryway to be picked up if someone forgets to bring their own mask.
- Alternate every other pew in the sanctuary to keep physical distance from anyone outside of one's household. The balcony will be closed. Access will be only to the organist and the sound person.
- Observe one-way traffic in the Sanctuary. Enter and leave through the center aisle.
- At the end of the service, exit through the center aisle starting at the front.
- The offering basket will be positioned at the entrance to the Sanctuary and will not be passed during worship.
- Worship Bulletins should be printed at home. Extras will be made available and will be positioned in an appropriate place to be picked up. Ushers will not hand them out.

- No physical touch rituals during passing of the peace.
- If communion is served - elements are displayed on table and picked up by each person as they enter the sanctuary. Individually wrapped elements will be used.
- Choir and Bell Choir are suspended. Soloists or small ensembles will be used if social distancing is maintained. Singing in worship is not endorsed until Phase 5.
- No fellowship time, Sunday School, Children's Church or nursery care is recommended. Fellowship time, Sunday School, Children's Church can be held only if safe distancing can be maintained in large rooms or out-of-doors. The nursery will be available for family use.
- Coffee hour can be held in an open space, such as parking lot or south lawn. Coffee and drinks will be poured by one designated server who will maintain safe distancing. If food is served it must be individually plated by a designated server and served at a safe distance.
- Anyone unwilling to comply to help keep everyone safe will receive a blessing and asked not to enter the building.
- Services will continue to be recorded and available for viewing on YouTube.
- Encourage people who are sick and immune-compromised to stay home and worship online or attend the drive-in service.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

(For those leading or assisting in worship)

- Sign in and sign out in the notebook provided so that we can maintain a record for contact tracing.
- Check your temperature with the infrared thermometer. Those with temperatures over 100.4 will be given a special blessing and asked to return home.
- Hand sanitizing is required upon entrance to the building. A portable station is provided.
- All are expected to wear face masks when social distancing cannot be maintained. All are expected to wear face masks in the building.

MEETINGS:

- Any large gatherings must adhere to the CDC, state or local guidelines for limitation in size of gathering at the time of the meeting. If these guidelines are in conflict, the Church Officers will set the limit.
- Meetings should happen by Zoom when possible. If meeting in-person, the group is encouraged to meet out-of-doors. Participants should bring their own chairs. The carpports are useful for such meetings when it is raining.
- Meetings in the Fellowship Room. If the group cannot meet by Zoom or out-of-doors, the Fellowship Room will be available for meetings after August 2. The entrance under the south carport will be used for these meetings. Participants will wear masks, and social distancing is expected (such as one person/table unless living in the same household). Hand sanitizer will be available on each table. Other rooms are off limits.
- Sign in and sign out in the notebook provided so that we can maintain a record for contact tracing.

- Check your temperature with the infrared thermometer. Those with temperatures over 100.4 will be given a special blessing and asked to return home.
- Hand sanitizing is required upon entrance to the building. Portable stations are provided.
- All are expected to wear face masks except children under 2 years old. Masks are available at the entryway to be picked up if someone forgets to bring their own mask.
- Social Distancing will be maintained.
- Each group must sanitize following their meeting. Supplies and instructions for sanitizing will be provided.
- The coffee/tea station has been removed. Participants are encouraged to bring their own drinks.
- Restroom use. Specific restrooms will be designated for use, dependent upon the meeting location.
- In the rare event that food is provided at an event, no buffet or family-style meal shall be served. Coffee and drinks will be poured by one designated server who will maintain safe distancing. If food is served it must be individually plated by a designated server and served at a safe distance.

AUGUST CALENDAR

Sundays, 10:15 a.m.	Outdoor Worship (in parking lot)
Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting (via Zoom)
Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.	Prayer Service (via Zoom)
Friday, August 7, 11:00 a.m.	Friday Fellowship (under the trees)
Monday, August 10, 6:00 p.m.	Administration Team
	Mission Team
Thursday, August 13, 10:00 a.m.	Congregational Development (under back canopy)
Monday, August 17, 6:00 p.m.	Leadership Council (via Zoom)
Wednesday, August 19	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Friday, August 21, 11:00 a.m.	Friday Fellowship (under the trees)

Nursing/Rehab/Retirement Home/Homebound

Atria Assisted Living 618-9685

5311 Rosebud Ln., Newburgh, IN 47630

Georgia McRae-Apt. 313 (812)704-0059

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 (135)

Good Samaritan Home 476-4912

601 N Boeke Rd., Evansville IN 47711

Betty Gustafson (South 549-1)

Hamilton Point 858-5300

3833 Eli Pl., Newburgh IN 47630

Gerald Griepenstroh (209)

Darlene Neidig (107)

Heritage Center 429-0700

1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville IN 47710

Victor Luhring (149)

North Park Nursing Center 425-5243

650 Fairway Dr., Evansville IN 47710

Nancy Westbo (159)

Protestant Home 476-3360

3701 Washington Ave., Evansville IN 47714

Barbara Krick (Apt 15)

Warren McCullough (4-ABN)

River Pointe 475-2822

3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville IN 47715

B. J. Caldemeyer (305-A)

Lloyd Caldemeyer (510)

Walnut Creek 420-1540

525 Bente West Court, Evansville IN 47715

Betty Hawkins (7)

Woodlands

4088 Frame Road, Newburgh IN 47630

Arlene Horton (214)