Bethel United Church of Christ 3029 N Green River Road Evansville, IN 47715 812-473-0135 www.bethelucc.org

SEPTEMBER 2023 Bethel Record/Newsletter

September 2023 Bethel Record Newsletter

Monthly Mission: Helping Hands Fund

Communion Sunday \rightarrow September 3rd
Rally Day \rightarrow September 10th
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE \rightarrow September 20th

Email: office@bethelucc.org Phone: (812) 473-0135



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.



MISSION FOCUS - SEPTEMBER 2023 HELPING HANDS



Blessed Day Bethel Family! The Helping Hands account here at Bethel UCC is an account specifically set up to support our local community members who are experiencing hardship. This may include something as simple as helping with a utility bill, all the way to assisting with emergency help for a natural disaster. With this fund, we have been able to serve many families during their most vulnerable times.

The Helping Hands fund is 100% funded by congregational donations. For all those who continue to give towards this cause, we can't thank you enough for your support.

Mr. G has struck again! Mr. G is an anonymous donor who has repeatedly given out funds for local churches to match. The donation can vary widely from the \$500 we received this year, to the \$10,000 we received last year. So far, we have been the only church to be able to match his donation every year. Bethel UCC would like to match that \$500 for our September Mission Focus to Helping Hands.

Due to Rally Day, Second Sunday will be celebrated on September 17th Second Sunday Offering will go towards the ASP Fund



FRIDAY FRIENDS



The Friday Friends meet on the first and third Friday at 11 AM every month in Fellowship Hall. We each bring our own sack lunch, and someone brings dessert for all of us. Then we play cards or dominoes or "Apples to Apples." Sometimes we just chat, solving world problems or our own! We sure would like to make more friends! Everyone is welcome! How about having lunch with us on October 7th or 21st!?

Bethel Buddies Child Care & Preschool

Bethel Buddies students had a super fun end-of-summer FOAM PARTY! This sensory, social, and gross motor activity was a big hit. Best of luck to our graduates as they head off to kindergarten this week.









Thank you, Bethel Buddies supporters! We now have 7 new tricycles!!!

HELP NEEDED: We still need weighted blankets for our restless nappers. We are going to make them with a removable inside for easier washing. Monetary donations to go towards the materials needed would be awesome. Write preschool blankets in the designation.

On the morning of September 8th Pastor Sam & Sharon Lawson will visit the children to hold a

"Blessing of the Cubbies" as they begin their new school year. The preschoolers keep their papers, etc. in cubby storage shelves instead of backpacks.

★★Preschool is putting together the Special Guest Calendar and would love to add anyone who would enjoy reading, doing a presentation or craft with our preschoolers. We schedule our guests 10am-10:30am except Thursdays each week, we have music. Any other day so far is available.★★

STOCK UP STOCKWELL - THE FINAL COUNT!

Thank you for donating school supplies!! Thank you for the financial donations!!!

Stockwell students are using these items right now as you read this.

354	Ticonderoga #2 pencils 13 Art boxes	20	Kleenex				
42	Jumbo Kindergarten Ticonderoga pencils	17	Clorox wipes				
7	1-inch binders	7	spiral notebooks				
42	Crayola 24-count crayons	2 pkgs.	Wide ruled paper				
88	Composition notebooks	11	glue sticks				
24	Crayola colored pencils 7 Post-it notes	27	folders 13 pens				
75	Black Expo dry-erase markers chisel tip						
Boys underwear, 10 pairs to a package in sizes XS, S, M, L, XL.							



Girls underwear, 14 pairs to a package in sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16

A special note of thanks goes to the Stockwell Girl Scout Troop that counted the supplies and delivered them to school!

Volunteering at Stockwell

School has barely started and we're already into the fun events that we like to help with. Stockwell's annual Family Movie Night is Friday, September 22 at 6:30 PM. We typically help with selling refreshments. It takes place outside and is well attended. We stay busy and it's amazing how patient and friendly and hungry the kiddos are! We'll ask for volunteers closer to the date. In the meantime, please go ahead and register as a volunteer by googling "EVSC Volunteer Form" and filling out the form online. There will also be paper copies available in the narthex that can be given to Linda Hape. If you haven't volunteered before, please consider it. Talk to someone who has, and they will assure you that it's easy and we are so appreciated. You'll have a good time!

A Note From Stockwell School:

"Stockwell would like to give a huge thank you to Bethel UCC! The donation of school supplies is such a blessing to our staff and students. We are so grateful for our partnership with Bethel! Looking forward to fun activities in 23-24!"

Stockwell, Staff & Students

YOUTH PIZZA!



2121 N. Green River Rd. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

11:30 am (after the 10:15 service) - 12:30

Lunch is on us! bring your appetite, friends, and ideas for Youth events

In case you haven't heard, Christy Woywood will be taking on the role of "Office Manager" for us. Melissa (Lissa) Connville has resigned and Christy will be continuing her Financial Secretary duties and also Lissa's Office Administrator duties. As we move forward with this new configuration please be mindful of a few things:



- 1. Christy is very familiar with the duties in her new role. There may be a learning curve, and we will need to be patient with her as she moves forward in this new position. Mistakes will happen, and we need to show grace and forgiveness when they do.
- 2. It would be helpful to allow more time for tasks to be completed. For example, give her a document for the bulletin 2-3 days ahead of time and not the day the bulletin is being printed.
- 3. I know we all feel our "duties/projects" at church are a priority; however, there may be more pressing tasks for the office to complete before getting to our needs.
- 4. A smile, "Thank you's", and small acts of kindness (cookies, meals, etc) go a long way to show appreciation to those that help us in the office.

A common theme we have heard over many, many years is how stressful working in our church office can be. The office staff feel they have a multitude of "bosses" (i.e. church members). Please remember that sometimes you may have to "take a number" and wait your turn when you need something to be done.

Respectfully yours,

Leesa Scales Council President





WISE group led by Letta Fraccaro will begin meeting again every other Tuesday, beginning on August 8. Group will begin at 4pm with others joining as they can. Call Letta at (812) 454-2158 with any questions.









It is hard to believe that in less than five months members of the Evansville Tri-State Association will be traveling to **Back Bay** once again. Our trip is scheduled for November 4-11, 2023. You are receiving this email because you have participated in the past or have expressed an interest in going.

The meeting for our trip will be held on August 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Welcoming Area at Bethlehem United Church of Christ. At the meeting, you will fill out forms as well as turn in participation fees and money for food. A follow-up email will be sent out in late July to let you know exactly how much those amounts will be. We will also be signing up for opportunities to lead devotions and help with meal clean-up. Stacia and Paige Miller will be our cooks for the week. They are both great cooks. If you go away hungry, it's your own fault!

It is my understanding that there will be opportunities to work at the Food Pantry, Micah Day Center, Loaves and Fishes, and of course on the construction site(s).

I have been in contact with the Maritime Museum. The boat trip that we have taken in past years is still available. The plan is to go sailing on Tuesday, November 7th at 5:00 p.m., weather permitting.

If you are interested in going, planning to go, or cannot go this year please let me and Dee Carithers know. We look forward to hearing from you.

Brian Newton bfignewton0717@gmail.com 812-455-5102





UCC/DOC HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Thank you to all the volunteers who put in their time and hard work for the UCC/DOC build! The house is now COMPLETE! The house dedication date and time are yet to be determined, so keep an eye out for those updates.

AS THE HEAT OF SUMMER WANES...

But not as much as in seasons past and as the fires of Maui remind us that climate is crucial for our survival on this "fragile earth our island home," as one communion liturgy puts it, let me suggest the book, <u>The Heat Will Kill You First</u>. It is a scary title but a hopeful book. Jeff Goodell, a best-selling author, took three years to experience it and write it. Each chapter begins with an interesting, real-life story and covers one aspect of climate change. An excerpt from the closing chapter,



"The good news is that the world is decarbonizing faster than anyone anticipated a decade ago. And thanks to decades of innovation, clean energy is now cheaper than fossil fuel energy in most parts of the world. That means we now have the means to lift hundreds of millions of people out of energy poverty without relying on coal, gas, or oil. Right now, our dependence on fossil fuels is all about inertia, political will, and big oil and gas companies wanting to milk their investments as long as they can." Pages 310-311.

Sobering Fact:

250,000 annual worldwide deaths from firearms.

Nearly twice that:

489,000 annual worldwide deaths from extreme heat (30 million people live in extreme heat defined as above 85 degrees mean annual temperature).

As stewards of God's creation, we can, we must, address this!

Thanks for your attention, Stephanie Weiner

The Green Team



EVs for EVV Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023

Tri-State Creation Care will be holding its second electrical vehicle show event on Saturday, September 23, from 10 am to 2 pm (CT) at the Eykamp Scout Center (3501 E. Loyd). Local dealers and private owners will have many EV models on display with some offering test drives. The event will also include live music, food trucks, many interesting vendors, kid's activities, and robotic demonstrations. It is free and open to the public. Please plan on coming and invite your friends.

You can display your own EV and share your experience as an owner. Register by emailing Caroline at acnellis@twc.co



Happy September Anniversaries to:

1 Donna & Richard Condi

Happy September Birthdays to:

8	Regena Bell	11	Michelle Vanhooser	22	Tonya Brantley
8	Aleena Webster	13	Susann Jett-Phillips	26	Karen Haas
11	Bella Brantley	20	Allen Wilder	29	Gabriel Schentrup

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

And a note received in the office:

"Thank you to each of you who sent cards, called, or texted during Bruce's stroke and subsequent cancer encounter. We appreciate your concern and prayers. A special thank you to Pastor Sam for his visits, calls, and concern."

-Bruce and Joan Roth

Memorials:

A gift was made to the Memorial Fund from Linda Garrett in memory of Patti Coleman.

^{*} Scott and Will Kirk, Air Force, grandsons of Carmen Mazick.

^{*} Jacob Swanson, Army, grandson of Ruth Willis.

Nursing~Rehab~Retirement Home~Homebound

Celebration Villas of Newburgh (Previously Atria Assisted Living) 618-9685

5311 Rosebud Ln., Newburgh IN 47630

Georgia McRae-Apt. 313

(812)704-0059

Heritage Center 429-0700

1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville, IN 47710

Victor Luhring (149)

Holiday Village

1200 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville, IN 47710

Harriet Anderson (103)

North Park Nursing Center 425-5243

650 Fairway Dr., Evansville, IN 47710

Nancy Westbo (159)

Primrose Retirement Community

9800 Lincoln Ave., Newburgh, IN 47630

Letta Fraccaro (102) Linda Garrett (117) Marianna & Jim Vogel (226)

Protestant Home 476-3360

3701 Washington Ave., Evansville, IN 47714

Jeanette Plane- South

River Pointe 475-2822

3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville, IN 47715

Sandra Altheide (316) Ritchie Taylor (528)

Cathedral Health Care

520 West 9th St, Jasper IN, 47546

Jana Bonifer

Brickyard Healthcare/Woodlands Care Center

4088 Frame Road, Newburgh IN, 47630

Doris Rohlfer (108)





Letters mailed out by the Bethel Buddies this month. Thank you!!