

Bethel United Church of Christ  
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**JANUARY 2025 Bethel Record/Newsletter**



**Monthly Mission: United Caring Services**

Communion Sunday → January 5th

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE → January 15th

Office Closed → January 1st

**ANNUAL MEETING: January 26th after the worship service**

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 8AM - 2 PM, FRIDAY CLOSED

## MISSION FOCUS - JANUARY 2025 - UNITED CARING SERVICES



### Committed to Making a Difference

United Caring Services in Evansville, Indiana strives to be a community of caring for all people by providing relief, recovery, and restoration opportunities for those we serve. This organization offers six life-saving programs and services:

- ★ Day Shelter
- ★ Men's Night Shelter and Women's Night Shelter
- ★ Diversion Center
- ★ White Flag
- ★ Medical Respite
- ★ Affordable Low-Income Apartments for Rent

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### LADIES WHO LUNCH

Wednesday, **January 8th.**

@ Robert's by the River Restaurant.

'Robert's' is located at 6 Walnut St. Downtown Evansville. That's in the Hadi Shrine building. You know the location from the famous statue out front of the Shriner carrying the little girl. ("Editorial Without Words")

Parking is across the street. We'll meet at 12:30 PM. **RSVP by Monday, January 6th** by calling or texting Maureen Parmar at (812) 319-4970. You can email, too, at [mlparmar@yahoo.com](mailto:mlparmar@yahoo.com)

### YAWH

We had 6 YAWH kids that helped shop for one of our Bethel Buddies Families for Christmas. We all had a lot of fun picking out clothes, toys and things for the family. Then we went to Azzip for pizza, then back to church to wrap the gifts and play some games. It was a great way to spend a Sunday.

**OUR NEXT GET TOGETHER WILL BE JANUARY 26.** If you are or know of a middle or high school student that would like to come, please meet us in the Fireside room at 10:15-11:15. We would love to have you! **You Are Welcome Here!**

Sharon Lawson

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### ANNUAL MEETING

It's hard to believe that it is time again for our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please join us after worship on **January 26, 2025** to discuss all of the major happenings this past year, as well as approving this coming year's budget and team leaders. If you are a current team leader, please be sure to get those 2024 reports into the office so they can be included in the Annual Report.



# Bethel Buddies

## Child Care & Preschool



So many fun things are happening at this time of year! We had our Bethel Buddies Winter Ball, we had a visit from Ms. Amy the Traveling Artist, Ms. Denise & Ms. Kim read *The Little Gingerbread Man* and decorated gingerbread ornaments with the kids. The kids have been creating lots of Christmas arts and crafts as well. This week we had Winter Holiday Spirit Week and the staff began participating in a Secret Santa exchange.. Ms. Hayley is the 1st place winner in our Staff Window Decorating Contest!



Bethel United Church of Christ  
Leadership Council Meeting Summary  
November 17, 2024

**Continuing Business:**

1. Convergence update: The Vision Team is currently asking questions of the congregation centered around the themes of, hope, peace, joy and love.
2. Lawsuit: As reported in prior months, two lawsuits have been filed against Bethel UCC on behalf of the two children that were sexually molested on our premises. Leesa Scales and Sam Buehrer met with our attorney and he had suggestions on how to move the cases forward with the insurance company. The council agreed with his suggestions. Council has set a time of 11:30am on Sunday January 12 as an Information Session where information about the legal cases will be shared with members of the congregation and questions can be addressed.
3. Council Nominations for 2025: We are still looking for a Vice President for 2025.
4. Sabbatical: Sam will be on sabbatical for June – August of 2025. The Sabbatical is funded by a Lilly Grant. Rev. Lynn Moreno has agreed to provide pastoral leadership during the Sabbatical.
5. 2025 Budget. The budget for 2025 is being reviewed and discussed by the Admin Team, Leadership Team, and Rev. Buehrer. We received notice of a 35% increase in liability insurance costs. The increase is \$13,930. We also budgeted legal expenses of \$66,000 for the year. With these increased expenses we are looking for cost savings where we can find them. Unless additional funding is obtained, we are considering eliminating the positions of Nursery Attendants and the Youth Program Associate.

**New Business:**

1. The Annual Meeting has been set for Sunday, January 26.
2. The Housing Allowance for Rev. Buehrer was approved for 2025.

## SISTER JOANNA'S TABLE

Our next date is **1/11/25** finds Bethel leading off the calendar for our UCC consortium. In other words, all hands on deck.

We will have 3 churches this month, St. Paul's German Township, Emmanuel and us. We could use 7-8 total volunteers from Bethel. German township will provide the dessert. Our menu- which I am planning and managing the details:

Baked ham with pineapple rings, homestyle baked mac and cheese, green beans and canned peaches.

**Bethel volunteers needed outside (Gene & Sharon):**

8:30-1 cook team

8:30-1 cook team then serving at 11:30

9-1 silverware/ odds-ends/ bussing-cleaning

11-1 odds-ends/bussing-cleaning

10-1 chafing dish set up, odds-ends, serving, breakdown

10:30-12:30 bread station

**Please let me know as soon as you could about volunteering that Saturday, 1-11-25. Thank you and be well.**





# JANUARY

*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

## Happy January Anniversaries to:

2 Bob & Carolyn Bennett

## Happy January Birthdays to:

3 James Jett

6 Linda Hall

11 Nancy Bullinger

11 Ritchie Taylor

12 Maureen Parmar

14 Tamara Payne

18 Laurel Vaughn

23 Jennifer Nance

24 Keegan English

25 Steve Hape

28 Aaron Krueger

31 Kalia Garvey

**Family and Friends Serving in the Active Military** - We hold in our prayers: \* Jacob Swanson, Army, grandson of Ruth Willis.

**Memorials:** Thank you all who donated in memory/honor of loved ones this Christmas Season!

A donation to the Helping Hands Account in memory of Sandra Altheide & Ruth Ulrich was made by Helen Ancona

A donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of John & Betty Gustafson was made by David Gustafson.

Donations were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Sandra Altheide from Janel Allen, Michael Erwin, and Frank Schultheis.

★ *Sandra J. Altheide, 84, passed away on November 16th. Services were held December 19th.*

★ *Bruce C. Roth, 88, passed away Thursday, December 5, 2024 at Ascension St. Vincent Evansville. Services were held December 8th.*

★ *Nancy Westbo passed away December 2024.*

## NURSING/REHAB/RETIREMENT HOME/HOMEBOUND

Name	Room #	Address
Victor Luhring	149	Heritage Center 429-0700 1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville, IN 47710
Harriet Anderson	103	Holiday Villa 1200 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville, IN 47710
Letta Fraccaro	1119	Covenant Living at The Holmstad 700 W. Fabyan Pkwy, Batavia, IL 60510
Linda Garrett Jim Vogel	117 226	Primrose Retirement Community 9800 Lincoln Ave., Newburgh, IN 47630
Jeanette Plane	SOUTH RM.3	Protestant Home 476-3360 3701 Washington Ave., Evansville, IN 47714
Ritchie Taylor	528	River Pointe 475-2822 3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville, IN 47715
Doris Rohlfer	108	Brickyard / Woodlands Care Center 4088 Frame Rd, Newburgh IN, 47630
Cliff Kleymeyer		600 S Cullen Ave #603, Evansville, IN, 47715
Don Carrell	1	Bethel Manor 6015 Kratzville Rd, Evansville, IN 47710

Updated 12.26.2024