



Bethel United Church of Christ
3029 N Green River Rd.
Evansville, IN 47715

---Bethel Record - October 2025---



Monthly Mission: Neighbors in Need
Communion Sunday → October 5th
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE → October 15th

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 8AM - 2 PM, FRIDAY CLOSED
812-473-0135 • office@bethelucc.org • www.bethelucc.org

MISSION FOCUS - OCTOBER 2025 – NEIGHBORS IN NEED

“Rarely have I seen a church without some form of ministry that helps feed people. From community meals to food pantries, churches across the country make sure people have enough to eat. But I always wondered, wouldn’t it be better if none of these services had to exist. What if everyone simply had enough to eat?”

Our churches share compassion by not only providing for the basic needs of our neighbors but also asking deeper questions of why these inequalities exist in the first place. Our immediate call to alleviate the suffering of those around us is paired with a prophetic witness calling for systemic reform.



All congregations in the United Church of Christ are invited to take part in the **Neighbors in Need** offering to address just this. Two thirds of the offering support justice and witness ministries of the United Church of Christ with one third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Your gifts directly fund the Neighbors in Need grant program. This grant, for UCC congregations and partners, offers funding for both direct service and advocacy projects.

The Rev. Rachel McDonald works for the National Ministries of the UCC as Generosity Officer, OCWM and Special Mission Offerings. The four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ are One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund. Together they demonstrate a commitment to building a just world for all. To learn more, go to https://www.ucc.org/ocwm_special-support/

**Bethel United Church of Christ
Leadership Council Meeting Summary
September 9, 2025**

Continuing Business:

1. Lawsuit: Ron Vogel and Sam Buehrer met with our attorney. A trial date has been set for September 2026. He does not expect to see much movement on the lawsuit until after the first of the year. He continues to hope for mediation as the end result.
2. Sabbatical: Christy Woywood and Sam Buehrer have finalized the expenses. Over all expenses were right at the budgeted amount of the money that the Lilly Foundation had granted us. A final report now needs to be prepared and submitted to the Lilly Foundation.
3. We are proceeding with the sanctuary roof replacement and the sidewalk construction. We collected over \$32,000 toward the expenses. The remaining amount of around \$25,000 will be covered by the bequest from Jim Vogel.

New Business:

1. Altheide Bequest: The monies from this bequest will be invested in a similar manner as the Endowment monies are invested. The income from the bequest investment will be treated in a similar manner as the income from the Endowment is determined and utilized.
2. 2026 Budget Process: We are beginning to make preparations on the 2026 budget.

Financials:

1. Our Operating Income is behind budget by \$47,000. Expenses are less than \$5,000 over budget. The shortfall in income is largely due to lower than expected contributions. We are researching the cause of the decrease.
2. Bethel Buddies: Income is running behind expenses by \$28,900 for the year. Due to many changes by the State of Indiana related to preschools, as a result our program has suffered a significant loss in income and a loss of students. With the change to enrolling 2 ½ year old's, we are hopeful that this will move us into a positive financial position in the near future. We are cautiously optimistic that the changes that we have implemented in the past month are positioning us to break even for the month of September and place on in a better financial position in the coming months.



We are going to have our community **Trick or Treat again in the gym on October 26th** after the church service. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!** We'd love for you to sit at a table and hand out candy to the kids in our community. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. This is a great way to reach out to our neighbors. We will have hot dogs and chips for you and those that attend. It will only last an hour or so so please join us and let's have some fun! If you can decorate your own table, that is awesome. If you can't, we will be happy to do that for you. You can also help us by donating candy. You can bring this anytime or we will take monetary donations as well. Help us put some smiles on some kids' faces and reach out to our community. Talk to Sharon Lawson with questions.

Bethel Buddies

Child Care & Preschool



Last month, our Bethel Buddies Preschool students participated in a heartwarming tradition: the Blessing of the Cubbies. As our little learners begin a new school year full of play, growth, and discovery, we took a special moment to pray over their cubbies—those small but important spaces where they keep their treasures, snacks, artwork, and backpacks.


As part of the celebration, every child received a small wooden prayer cross to keep in their cubby or take home. This cross is a gentle reminder that God is always with them—during story time, play time, and even when they feel a little shy or unsure.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE NEXT LUNCH BUNCH GATHERING!

Join us for delicious food, lively conversation,
and warm company at our upcoming Lunch
Bunch get-together!

 Date: **Wednesday, October 8, 2025**

 Time: **12:30 PM**

 Location: **Copper House**

Whether you're a longtime regular or joining
us for the first time, we'd love to have you
there. Bring your appetite—and feel free to
bring a friend, too!

Kindly let Pat Stolz know if you plan to
attend.

YAWH Youth Ministry

In August we had a great group that helped
make a snack bowl for the AA group that
meets in the Youth Room during the week.
We talked about what the Bible says regarding
tips for having a good school year and life.
We discussed our highs and lows from the
past month.

In October, we will meet a little later than
normal. We will meet on **October 26th in
the gym for our community Trick or
Treat. This will be right after church so
around 11:15-12:30.** We will have a YAWH
table that will hand out candy to kids in our
community. So if you are in middle or high
school, please join us. Bring your great ideas
for decorating our table. You can bring candy
or there will be candy provided. We will have
hot dogs and chips. There might even a little
Trick or Treat bag for you for helping! Please
come!

You Are Welcome Here



PRAYER TEAM

Join us every Thursday at 11:00 AM for a time
of uplifting prayer and meaningful
fellowship—all from the comfort of your
home.

Experience connection, encouragement, and
spiritual support as we come together in
community.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84809058817?
pwd=bzhGVGtYLzhQbWhVUW5pOGcw
Zlp2Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84809058817?pwd=bzhGVGtYLzhQbWhVUW5pOGcwZlp2Zz09)

FRIDAY FRIENDS

Looking for fun, friendship, and a few good
laughs? The Friday Friends meet on the first
and third Friday of each month at 11:00 AM
in the Fellowship Hall - and we'd love for you
to join us!

- ★ Bring your own sack lunch
- ★ Someone always brings a dessert to share
- ★ After lunch, we play cards, dominoes, or
a round of Apples to Apples

Whether you're new or a familiar face,
everyone is welcome, and we're always excited
to make new friends.

EVs4 EVERYONE

EVs 4 EVVeryone is an exciting experience for all ages! Get ready for electrifying EV test drives, thrilling demos, hands-on activities, and impressive displays, all set to the backdrop of lively music and delicious food. With plenty of space to explore, there's something for everyone to enjoy!

Saturday, Oct. 4 : 11 AM - 3 PM at Wesselmann Woods

sponsored by Tri-State Creation Cares. Find out more at: <https://evs4evv.com/>

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Happy October Anniversaries to:

4 Dan & Debra Patterson 10 Bob & Shirley Mangold

Happy October Birthdays to:

3 Nancy Noland	18 Betty Clark	23 Lynne Finney
6 Ellen Buehrer	18 Laylani Garvey	24 Kraig Nance
7 Patti Manley	18 Judi Schultheis	24 Jerry Noland
9 Joan English	21 Kim Shafer	
17 Chad Winingar	22 Theodore Scales	

Donations to the Memorial Fund were made by Frank Schultheis & Family, in memory of Larry Coleman.

A donation to the Memorial Fund was made by Anne Rossi, in memory of Jim & Marianna Vogel.

H•O•M•E BOUND

Nursing Homes, Rehab, Retirement Homes, and Homebound Members

Name	Room #	Address
Victor Luhring	149	Heritage Center 429-0700 1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville, IN 47710
Harriet Anderson		West River Health Campus 714 S Eickhoff Rd., Evansville, IN 47712
Letta Fraccaro		<i>Please drop off any letters at the church and they will be forwarded to Letta's family</i>
Linda Garrett	117	Primrose Retirement Community 9800 Lincoln Ave., Newburgh, IN 47630
Jeanette Plane Carlos Haskins	S. RM.3 N. RM 26	Protestant Home (812) 476-3360 3701 Washington Ave., Evansville, IN 47714
Ritchie Taylor	528	River Pointe (812) 475-2822 3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville, IN 47715
Doris Rohlfer	108	Brickyard / Woodlands Care Center 4088 Frame Rd, Newburgh IN, 47630
Cliff Kley Meyer		<i>Address Unavailable at this time</i>
Don Carrell	1	Bethel Manor 6015 Kratzville Rd, Evansville, IN 47710
Joan Roth		6337 Elise Lane, McCordsville, IN 46055

Updated 08.20.2025