



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

----Bethel Record - December 2025----



BETHEL UCC NEWSLETTER

Monthly Mission: UCC Christmas Fund

Communion Sunday → December 7th

Wassail → December 21st

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE → December 17th

Candlelight Service → December 24th

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

MISSION FOCUS - DECEMBER 2025 - UCC CHRISTMAS FUND



***...WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR,
THEY WERE FILLED WITH JOY..."***

MATTHEW 2:10

Be the Light

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

If you would like to read up more on The Christmas Fund, managed by the Pension Boards, follow the link here: <https://www.pbucc.org/index.php/christmas-fund-home>

Order Envelopes are also available at the Welcome Desk for this season's **Poinsettia and Christmas Music**. Please be sure to fill out the bottom part of the envelope if you are wanting these items to be In Memory/Honor of a particular person/people.

Poinsettia Order Form



You may purchase poinsettias to adorn the sanctuary for Christmas.

Plants are \$15 each.

_____ Total number of poinsettias

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Order placed by _____

Special Christmas Music 🎵

Contributions will go to special music fund here at Bethel UCC.

I am contributing \$_____ for special music for the season

Make all Checks payable to Bethel UCC

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Thank you for your generosity! Barry & Doris Burleigh delivered 6 Thanksgiving Baskets to Stockwell on Monday, November 24. Many people made this happen! Thank you to everyone who contributed, shopped, stocked the baskets, and loaded them into the delivery vehicles!



CHRISTMAS WASSAIL



The warmth of Christmas is calling—
and nothing says holiday cheer like our beloved Church Wassail Celebration!

Join us on **December 21** as we **gather after worship** for a cozy and joy-filled time of fellowship. There will be steaming cups of traditional wassail, festive treats, sparkling conversation, and plenty of Christmas spirit to go around.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

All are invited to gather with us on this holy night as we celebrate the miracle of Christ's birth at our **Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** at 3PM

In the stillness of Christmas Eve, we will join our hearts in Scripture, prayer, and beloved carols as the sanctuary fills with the warm glow of candlelight—a symbol of the **Light that shines in the darkness** and the hope Christ brings into the world.

✨ *"For unto us a Child is born... and His name shall be called Wonderful."* ✨



ANNUAL REPORTS

Please remember that reports to be included in the annual report are due in the church office by **December 26th** so that there is time to compile the report for the meeting in January. If you have any questions, please call 812-473-0135. Thank you.



Bethel Buddies

Child Care & Preschool



WE DID IT!

We are thrilled to announce that Bethel Buddies has been awarded Platinum in the Community Votes Evansville for Best in Childcare Services! Thank you to our incredible families and community members for your support and votes — this achievement is all because of you.



We're also celebrating the success of our recent Build Your Own Car Drive-In Day, where our little learners showed off their creativity and cruised into a fun-filled afternoon of imagination and excitement! Thank you for the box donations that made this event possible!

**Bethel United Church of Christ
Leadership Council Meeting Summary
November 16, 2025**

Continuing Business:

1. Lawsuit: No Update
2. Sabbatical: Work has begun on the draft of the Final Congregation Report. Once that is completed, we will begin submitting a report to the Lilly Foundation.
3. Sanctuary Roof & Sidewalk: The roof was completed. The sidewalk modification has yet to be scheduled.

New Business:

1. 2026 Budget Process: Work continues on the 2026 budget. A draft budget will be submitted to the Leadership Council at its December meeting.
2. We are following up on an outstanding invoice involving Dream Street Studio and MTI (a production company). This invoice should not have included Bethel UCC as we were not working with Dream Street Studio at the time of the purchase.

Financials:

1. Our income is behind budget \$39,267 year-to-date. (Contributions primarily) while expenses are over budget by \$11,943 primarily due to unbudgeted computer upgrades and October having a third (additional) pay period. The ASP funds (\$6,684) were redesignated for Back bay Mission
2. Bethel Buddies: Enrollment continues to be a problem (entirely due to the State of Indiana cutting the funding for the voucher program for children of low income families).



ADVENT DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE NOW!

It's that time of year again! Our Soon and Very Soon Advent Devotionals are now available in the Narthex—be sure to pick up your copy as we prepare our hearts for the coming season. You can also download a free Advent calendar to accompany your reflections here: [Advent Calendar – Soon and Very Soon](#).

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, Dec. 10th, 2025**

 Time: **12:30 PM**

 Location: **Biaggi's**

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

A huge THANK YOU to the YAWH kids
that helped with the Thanksgiving food
baskets. 6 baskets were filled for families at
Stockwell. They did this very quickly and
quietly in the Narthex during the service.
What a HUGE help!

Watch your mailbox for our upcoming event
in Dec. We will hopefully be able to shop for
a needy family for Christmas. The details
have not yet been worked out so keep an eye
out for more information to come.

Again, thank you, thank you to the YAWH
kids for all their help!

You Are Welcome Here



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.

BIRTHDAYS



AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy December Anniversaries to:

12 Barry & Doris Burleigh	18 Wilder & Janel Allen
15 Sam & Mackenzie Schentrup	31 Gregory & Susan Gordon

Happy December Birthdays to:

1 Pat Pricher	18 Doylyn Neiswinger	26 Linda Williams
3 Deb Vannatter	18 Emily Webster	27 Linda Hape
11 Rob Hartmann	19 Doris Glesige	27 Carmen Mazick
16 Jack Kuykendoll	19 Michael Schentrup	29 Victor Luhring
16 Mickey Hall	21 Christy Woywood	



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
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 Kleymeyer		<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
Cindy Montgomery	515	Brickyard Healthcare-Brentwood 30 E Chandler Ave., Evansville, IN 47713
Linda Williams		1100 Erie Ave. #311, Evansville, IN 47715

Updated 11.26.2025