
AUGUST 2024

Bethel Beacon

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Living our faith, sharing God's love.



Message from the Pastor

Dear Bethel Family,

I recently read this beautiful hymn in one of the books assigned for my doctoral degree, and I couldn't resist sharing it with you all, hoping that God would speak to you through this. The hymn's title is "Lord, You Give the Great Commission," and it was written by Jeffery Rowthorn in 1978. The hymn invites the Christians to a deeper understanding of the great commission. One of the reasons I like this hymn is its challenge to reprioritize the "do list" in the disciple-making business. The hymn opens with this verse:

"Lord, you give the great commission: 'Heal the sick and preach the word.' Lest the church neglects its mission, and the gospel goes unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity."

It's profound that the poet, guided by the Holy Spirit, places 'healing' before 'preaching'. This gentle yet powerful reminder to us, the church, is that when healing is our primary focus, the

Message from the Pastor—continued

task of the great commission becomes not just straightforward and relevant but also joyful. Conversely, if we focus solely on preaching without a desire and action to bring healing, the church's kerygma will go unheard.

In the gospels, we see that Jesus often healed before he preached during his ministry on earth. This approach makes disciple-making more relational, a perspective that John and Charles Wesley shared. They saw Christianity not as a religion but as a relationship. This understanding enlightens our approach to the great commission.

Imagine how our disciple-making efforts will be blessed if we, as a church, are intentional about allowing ourselves to be the instruments of healing to others through our words and actions before even inviting them to take the next step. Amen!

In Christ

Rev. Nadeem



Lay Leadership:

Lay Leader: Brett Hahne
 Council Chair: Nancy Pinson
 Vice Chair: vacant
 Staff-Parish Relations:
 Rosanne Williamson
 Finance Chair: Lewis Lee
 Finance Vice Chair:
 Travis Taylor
 Trustees Chair: Ava Lee
 Church Treasurer:
 Donna Broadbent
 Finance Secretary
 TBD
 Recording Secretary:
 Gary Pinson
 Worship Committee Chair:
 Nancy Pinson
 Funeral Care Committee Chair:
 Cathy Carayas
 Sunday School Superintendent:
 Crystal Taylor
 Nurture/Fellowship Committee
 Chair: Charlene Hahne
 Mission & Outreach Chairs:
 Sandra Colvin,
 Karla Yocum
 United Women in Faith
 President: Dolores Goff
 United Methodist Men
 President: Joe Florence
 Lay Member to Annual
 Conference: Brett Hahne
 District Conference
 Representative & Steward:
 Murray Edwards
 Youth Representative:
 Grant Taylor
 Young Adult Representative:
 TBD

Finance Committee

The last 90 days shows a wonderful display of when our congregations hearts and minds come together. Our church office has been successfully relocated, the parsonage fully outfitted to accept the Khokhar's. Due to the amazing generosity of our congregation, the vast majority of the furniture appliances and other fittings in the parsonage house were adopted via the bulletin board sign up and did not have to be taken from our budget. This was extremely key at a time where we are still working to catch up and have our income begin to keep pace with the church expenses

The Finance Committee

Finance Monthly Report

Income & Expenses*

July Income: \$24,393.00 July Expenses \$22,853.64

YTD 2024 Income: \$158,647.00 YTD 2024 Expenses: \$185,911.40

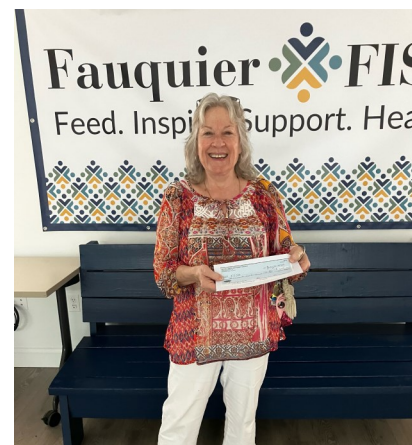
*Because the Beacon is published monthly, finances for the prior month will be reported.

Attendance & Giving

Date	Views	In-Person		Average	Giving
		Adults/	Kids		
July 7	64	74		99.39	\$8185.00
July 14	51	67		100.03	\$4,223.00
July 21	45	72		100.60	\$8,895.00
July 28	39	79		101.16	\$3,090.00

School Backpacks for Fauquier County Students

Thank you for your donations! Bethel Church raised **\$1600.00** to donate to FISH for their annual backpacks for students drive. Your generosity will provide **40 backpacks** for our community students.



August Birthdays

- 1 Liz Langan
- 6 Alex Swain
- 8 John Chadsey
- 8 Samantha Cunningham
- 8 Eleanor Wilcox
- 9 Nathan Sellers
- 12 Debra Mroczek
- 14 Dan Janickey
- 17 Tiffany Broadbent Beker
- 21 Stephen Miles
- 22 Gloria Killinger
- 27 Don Otey
- 28 Cynthia Fortney
- 31 Helen Edwards

August Anniversaries

- 6 Joe Florence and Kirsten King
- 8 Dick and Jane Brewer
- 11 Tom and Ruthann Litchford
- 14 Mark and Liz Langan
- 22 Jimmy and Alison Lee

Worship Reminder

Communion will be served by intinction on the first and third* Sundays of the month. Those who prefer the self-serve elements or the gluten-free elements can ask the server when they come up.

Don't Stop the Music

Pat Martin, Music Director

I hope you have been touched by the Special Music we have had in worship services this summer. I have several more Sundays of Special Music planned to enhance our worship and help to direct our focus on how God is alive and at work in us. And if you'd like to share your musical gifts with us for a Sunday morning, please just let me know.

The Choir Needs YOU!



Rehearsals begin on August 29th at 6:45 p.m.

Would you like to become part of a group that makes a difference? Could you share your singing voice with the choir as we help people worship through music?

Could you carve out an hour or so on Thursday evenings from 6:45 – 8:00 p.m. to rehearse?

Now... WILL you?

What's holding you back?

Has someone along your way suggested you “can't sing”? In my experience, I find there are very few folks who “can't sing”. I'll let you in on a little secret. As you sing out on the hymns on Sunday mornings, others have heard you and let me know that some of you sure CAN sing. ***Would you give it a try?***

Do you have a travel schedule? A work schedule? Commitments with others? We are very flexible. If you can make at least two of the Thursday rehearsals during the month, you will still be a welcome addition. I'm a planner and have the music planned at least 10 weeks in advance.

So, we rehearse many pieces on Thursdays evenings. Then on Sunday mornings we gather at 9:15 a.m. to review the music prior to the worship service.

Take a step out and give it try!

The fun starts on Thursday, August 29th at 6:45 p.m.!

Church Staff:

Pastor: Nadeem Khokhar
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 434/480-1063

Music Director:
 Pat Martin
 pat88piano@gmail.com

Accompanist:
 Joan Bacot

Director of Hymndingers
 Joice Fredenburgh
 dfredenburgh@verizon.net

Administrative Assistant:
 Christine Winters
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 540/347-4874
 Office Hours:
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August Sermons

- August 4:** Humility Adjustment Luke 1:29-38
- August 11:** Invited and Included Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
- August 18:** Living in the Briar-patch 2 Corinthians 4:1-18
- August 25:** The Promise Continues Exodus 1:1-7

Events and Meetings

Wednesdays	Prayer Gathering, 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary
Saturday, August 3	United Women of Faith (UMF) Meeting, Pavilion Room, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday, August 4	Motel Ministry, 11:30 a.m. Social Hall
Tuesday, August 6	Fauquier Cty Quilters, 7:00 p.m. Social Hall
Sunday, August 11	Trustees, 11:30 a.m., Upper Room, Rm 402
Thursday, August 15	Ruritan Dinner, 7:00 p.m., Pavilion Room
Saturday, August 17	Private Event, Kairos Picnic, All Day
Thursday, August 29	Choir Rehearsal Begins, 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Sanctuary, All are Welcome.

Motel Ministry

We always need the following items. Please drop them off in the Social Hall Motel Ministry bin. Thank you

Canned Food----meats (chicken and tuna), soups, spaghetti, beef stew, chili, fruit, etc.

Can openers

Deodorant (men’s and women’s)

Men’s and Ladies’ **Disposable razors**

Small packs of **cookies and crackers**

Capri Sun **Drink Packets**

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Mustard and Mayonnaise