

# BETHEL MESSENGER

Bethel UCC, W4225 County Line Road, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020  
[www.bethelucc-ada.org](http://www.bethelucc-ada.org) (920) 565-2977



March 2019

## From the Pastor

In the last two months we have experienced a weekly Epiphany about Jesus Christ. From the Wise Ones bringing gifts we have had our eyes opened to Jesus' mission is to all people. At his baptism our ears heard God speak the words, "This is my Beloved Son." We start this month with the Transfiguration of Jesus. Imagine how overwhelming it must have been for Peter, James, and John to see Jesus bathed in the light of God. Imagine hearing God's voice, "This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him."

As we begin the journey to Jerusalem, I am overwhelmed knowing that God cared enough for you and I and all creation to send His Son to reconcile our relationship with Him and one another. I am listening to How Great Thou Art as I type this. There are churches that skip singing the third verse. The third verse is the verse that makes me cry, the verse that speaks to that overwhelming love.

*"But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin."*<sup>1</sup>

"I scarce can take it in." I am amazed, and I am awed. The Creator of the universe has not given up on His Creation. He loves us enough to send Jesus, the Christ, to us.

During the season of Lent we accompany Jesus in his journey to Jerusalem. Traditionally, some of us have "given up" something during Lent. For some people what we give up is something we love or for others a

time to try to give up a bad habit. I have found this a way to remind myself, over and over, of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. Each time I have to say, "No thank you" for something I would have enjoyed becomes a moment to think how special the time of Lent is.

A few years ago, we were challenged to add a positive habit or activity to our lives rather than give up something. It could be more time reading the Bible or praying. It could be donating to a charity. Perhaps this is more in line with what Jesus was teaching. Love God, love one another, let your light shine, be reconciled to your brother and sister, do to others what you would have done unto you. We could find millions of little ways to make a positive change. Perhaps you send a card to someone to let them know you love them, or you sit down with your child and read an extra book together. Perhaps you use one less disposable plate or cup. Just a reminder of how special the time of Lent is.

In the Gospel of John we read, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (Jn 10:10b-11) However you choose to prepare yourself for Good Friday and Easter morning, may it be a reminder of God's Love and God's Grace. In an overwhelming sense of thanksgiving may we all face this journey to Jerusalem with the words, "I can scarce take it in" on our mind and in our heart. Amen. Pastor Diane

## Spring Raffle Fundraiser

It's time to think about your prize donation for the Spring Raffle! I just received the license, so we're set to go.

Donation Sheets are available as of March 1st at church, or you can print it off from our church website (<http://bethelucc-ada.org/>), or pick one up from Carol Roethel (904 College Ave. Howards Grove). After you fill it out, the forms can be deposited in the container at the back of church, emailed to [droethel1@wi.rr.com](mailto:droethel1@wi.rr.com) or dropped off at the address above. Deadline for the Donation Sheets will be March 17. If I don't hear from you by then, you probably will get a phone call to see if you forgot. My goal is to have the prize lists and tickets available by March 24. I'm getting excited and hope all of you are too! Thank you to all of you that donate prizes each year and make this fundraiser a success.

## Spring Flowers

It is time to order spring flowers.

Easter Lily	\$8.75
Mum	\$9.00
Hydrangea	\$22.00
Azalea	\$21.00
Reiger Begonia	\$17.00

orders due to Teri Rietbrock by Sunday March 17.

## Fundraiser – Texas Roadhouse

You can help raise money for Bethel UCC. Go to Texas Roadhouse on Sundays between 11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Present a copy of your church bulletin to your server and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchase back to Bethel UCC!

## Bethel Sunday School

In February the students made valentine's cards for a number of our congregation's members. They also sang during a worship service and are learning some new songs.

The junior choir will be singing on Palm Sunday, April 14th; Mother's Day, May 12th and May 19th, our last day of classes. We will again have our Easter celebration on Palm Sunday. There will not be any classes on Easter Sunday in April.

Vacation Bible school dates have been decided. We will meet Monday July 22 through Thursday, July 25th. The time will be 9:00a.m. until 12:00 noon.

We were happy to have Rev. Diane to join us for this meeting. We introduced her to our events calendar and she was able to give us some new ideas for teaching and involving the whole church.

Mardell Blohm Sunday School Superintendent

**Lakeland University is having a free Seminar on the Doctrine of Discovery-Native Americans** on March 4, 7-8:15. This was a topic that was brought up at the last annual meeting that all churches should have this discussion before the next annual meeting, which is April 5-6 in Wisconsin Dells.

**A BIG THANK YOU from Backpack Buddies and Salvation Army.** The collection of items for these organizations were overwhelming and very much appreciated. (Thank You cards are found on bulletin board)

## Changes to the Bulletin

Dear Members and Friends of Bethel UCC  
Ada,

You may notice that I have been testing a few changes in the bulletins on Sunday. You may also find that I am incorporating new songs into the Worship Service. I appreciate this chance to share with you my goals for worship and the reasons for any changes you may see.

1. Change in Terminology in the Bulletins.

When I was a child you asked, "Where do you go to church?" Now you ask, "Do you go to church?" It is a change we have all experienced. There are many people who have not grown up belonging to a church. The terminology that we find so familiar can be confusing to a visitor. It is my hope that if we have visitors, they will feel comfortable and will come back. For my part I am trying terms that other Pastors have used to make the Worship Services more easily understood. For your part, please continue to be the welcoming church family you are.

2. New Hymns. I have spent many years sitting in the pews and know that it is uncomfortable to have a worship service with all unfamiliar hymns. I try to hum the tune of the hymns that I pick and look for the melody we know. I will also try to use two or three familiar hymns in each Worship Service. However, I would like to introduce new hymns into Worship. I grew up with the Red Hymnal that Bethel has in the pews. I love many of the songs. But I have also experienced The Red UCC Hymnal, The New Century Hymnal, The Gather Hymnal, The Sing Prayer and Praise Hymnal among others. There is a great deal of wonderful worship music

available for our use. We are blessed with an Information Technology Team and talented organists. With their help we can bring new songs into worship. My goal is to have a new song used in several worship services in a row. That will help us all become familiar with the hymns. We may find that after a couple of weeks the new song becomes a favorite!

3. This is a goal: To have more people participate in the Worship service. In worship classes we were encouraged to have as many people as possible leading worship. I have also observed that in thriving churches there are multiple people involved in leading worship. My goal would be to have a list of people who would like to be liturgists. I would love to hear from people who enjoy reading scripture or enjoy leading the prayers. Another goal is to find ways to involve the children in worship. We are going to try a noisy Sunday in which the children pass the Penny Pail during Worship. I do not want this to be an added burden for anyone. But I believe we all have gifts to share and it is a pastor's job to encourage use of those talents. I also believe we are called to recognize talents in members of our church family and support and encourage growth of those talents.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I welcome your thoughts and comments on our shared Worship Services.

Peace,  
Pastor Diane

## Lenten Services



March 6	Ash Wednesday -Ashes and Communion 7:00 pm
March 13-April 10	Soup Supper (6:15) Followed with 7:00 pm service Speakers: March 13-Angel Hugs-Plymouth March 20-Salvatorian Center- New Holstein March 27-Hatti' s Shipping Container Project-Cleveland April 3-Salvation Army- Sheboygan April 10-To Be Announced
April 14	Palm Sunday
April 18	Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
April 19	Good Friday (Ecumenical)
April 21	Easter

Please invite a guest to any of our Lenten services. We will be inviting local churches to join us for Soup Suppers.

A signup sheet to bring soup, desserts, bread, juice or milk will be found on a table in the narthex.

## Reading Scripture

If anyone would like to read scripture at the Sunday morning service, please contact Pastor Diane. She is looking for volunteers.

## Worship Schedule

March 3 – Pastor Diane  
March 10 – Pastor Diane  
March 17 – Pastor Diane  
March 24 – Pastor Diane  
March 31 – Bonnie Ziegler

## Annual Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2019

### Call To order

The Annual Meeting of Bethel UCC was called to order at 10:14 am by Dennis Roethel. We met our quorum to proceed with the meeting.

### Opening Prayer

An opening prayer was led by Bonnie Ziegler.

### Welcome and Review of Roberts Rules Order

Dennis reviewed Roberts Rules of Order.

### Minutes

Dennis asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the 2018 annual meeting as well as the special meeting minutes. There were none, and Dennis declared the minutes to stand approved as printed.

### Financial Report/Budget

Treasurer for Expenses Richard Lange provided the congregation with the 2018 Financial Report and the 2019 Budget. Dennis went over the decreased budget due to our Call with Pastor Diane. He explained that we left the budget on the high side in case Pastor Diane had to work more due to new confirmands or anything similar. A motion was made by Carol Roethel for approval and seconded by Karen Lisowe. The motion carried unanimously.

### Building Fund, Memorial Fund and Endowment Fund Reports

Dennis mentioned that we met with Brian Ruh to go over the \$54,000 from the Natalie Stauss trust. The funds left the account in January and were deposited into the stocks and bonds account we already have established with Brian. The monthly interest checks we receive will increase from about \$400 to \$600, and all are deposited into the memorial fund. The initial investment is to remain in the accounts,

however anything gained from that could be used in case of emergency. Dennis also mentioned that we were down in all of our major fundraising events this year. There were no objections or questions to the reports so Dennis declared them approved as printed.

### **Other Printed and Oral Reports**

Reporting for the audit team, Jim Raquet stated that our financial records were accurate and well maintained.

Since there were no questions or objections, Dennis declared all committee and team reports approved as printed.

### **Elections to Committees and Consistory**

The following people were nominated to a committee position by the nominating committee and approved by the consistory:

Building and Property Committee:

Terry Spindler

Cemetery Board: Bob Eckardt

Pastoral Relations: Dan Huber

Nominating Committee: Kim Rietbrock

There were no other nominations from the floor, so Dennis declared all the above people elected by acclamation.

The following people were nominated for a Consistory position by the nominating committee and approved by the consistory:

Treasurer: Kris Dirks

Memorial/Treasurer: Patte Puetz

There were no other nominations from the floor, so Dennis declared the above people elected by acclimation.

### **WI Conference/Association Meeting**

The annual meeting will be held in the Dells on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Dennis suspects that the two will have separate meetings again next year.

### **Black Topping Parking Lot**

The Building and grounds committee got some quotes from different vendors to black top the parking lot. We could seal the parking lot for

\$6000, which would last a year or two. Option B from Wasphalt is similar to the quote we received from Holmes. This option would level out high areas and recover the lot with 2 inches of asphalt. Holmes would charge us \$33,500 and Wasphalt would cost \$50,000. Ken Matzdorf said the cracks get wider every year, and it allows more weeds to grow. Bob Eckardt asked if there was potential for us to purchase land to grow the parking lot. Jim Raquet said that it was looked into 7 to 10 years ago and there was not anyone willing to sell us land. Jim also mentioned that from his experience, overlays do not hold over time, the base still cracks. Ken Dederling asked how long this would last, Dennis mentioned that Holmes would have a warranty of 2 years. Ken also mentioned that we should try to get a quote from Homes that is similar to option C from Wasphalt. This would be to remove everything and replace it with 3 inches of new asphalt. This would cost \$115,000 from Wasphalt.

To afford this, Dennis mentioned that we currently have about \$30,000 in memorial money and we would likely receive another \$7000 to \$8000 in interest checks. Dennis will reach out to Ron Holmes and ask about sealing the lot. Floyd Voss asked how many years ago the parking lot was black topped. It is suspected that it was close to 30 years ago. Dennis mentioned that maybe another option would be to seal the lot and then fundraise to redo the entire lot. Ken Matzdorf said it would be more beneficial to put the \$6000 towards the black topping, and instead of sealing, just fundraise. Carol Matzdorf asked if anyone felt the lot was currently a safety issue. No one felt that it was, which means we still have time to figure out our plan. We are not losing chunks of black top, but once we reach that point something would have to be done. This is being tabled until we can get further quotes.

### **Review Long Range Plan**

We will need to look at this with our new minister. Pastor Tom suggested that we put together a committee to work on this with Pastor Diane. Karen Lisowe, Faye Spindler,

and Carol Matzdorf all volunteered to serve on this committee.

### **Christmas Eve Church Time**

Dennis mentioned that a few people mentioned to him that other churches in the area are having an earlier Christmas Eve worship service. Ken Dederling asked if we knew if the attendance increased at the other churches after doing so. Dennis was not sure. Karen Lisowe felt that if we moved the time we likely would get the same attendance. Dean Ziegler said it would be nice to have something earlier than 6pm, and Bonnie Ziegler agreed that even 6pm would give them time to have family events after service. Larry Spindler mentioned that being a farmer they would not be able to attend a 6pm worship service. Carol Matzdorf mentioned that we could try to do a later service like 10 or 11 pm. After more discussion, it was determined that we would leave service at 7 pm for Christmas Eve.

### **Landscape Chair and Members Needed**

Dennis mentioned that we are still looking for a landscape chairman. He believes that we could run it similar to the church clean up. The chairman would not do it alone, but a day would be set and people would all come to help pull weeds. Karen Reagan mentioned that maybe everyone comes to church in their cleaning clothes to pick weeds right after service. Jodi Voss mentioned that she weeded for a bit last summer and that some of the weeds are starting to kill the plants we want to keep. The other option brought up would be to get a group together once a month to pick weeds. Karen Lisowe mentioned that in the past they tried to assign a flowerbed to a family. Tom Birschbach added that we should spray for ants and little yellow bees before we decide to weed. Crystal DuCharme also mentioned that when she cleans in the summer, she has quite a few bees and wasps that she cleans up. Bob Eckardt knows someone who sprays, so he will ask them for more information.

### **Bell Tower Repairs**

Dennis and Ken Matzdorf were looking to fix the missing pieces from the bell tower. The longer it is exposed, the more likely it will start to break down. Jim Raquet made a motion to table the parking lot while we get quotes, and then in the spring get quotes for the bell tower for repairs. Faye Spindler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **New Items of Business**

Jim Raquet says that the wreath sales only pulled in \$100 the past couple of years. He proposed that either we cancel the fundraiser all together or someone else can take it over. Fred Kraemer seconded. The motion carried to no longer do wreath sales.

Carol Roethel mentioned that she felt it was time to do another church directory, as it has been 8 years since the last one was done. There would need to be a committee that would have to do the prep work involved. Carol Matzdorf said that the book before this last one had pictures of people submitted by the congregation, and then the directories were sold at cost. Lifetouch, who we used last time, provides the directory free and allows family members to purchase their individual portraits. Bonnie Ziegler also has a contact at Lifetouch who she was going to ask for more information from.

Fred Kraemer mentioned that, as part of the pastoral relations committee, he would like people to talk to the pastoral relations committee if there is anything that is concerning them with the new pastor. Pastor Diane is going to start out with four Sundays a month in February and March, so she can get to know us better.

Dennis thanked Tom and Rich for their 3 years of service on the Consistory.

**Adjournment**

There being no other business, it was moved by Carol Roethel, and seconded by Bonnie

Ziegler to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 am. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lenora Stuckmann

**Consistory Meeting****Minutes 2-19-19**

Members Present: Dennis Roethel, Mark Zimmermann, Bev Voss, Lenora Stuckmann, Patte Puetz, Pastor Diane Cayemberg, Kris Dirks, Rich Lange

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Dennis Roethel. Pastor Diane led an opening prayer.

There was a motion (Mark, Kris) to approve the secretary minutes from the January meeting, the annual meeting and the special meeting held in January. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion (Bev, Mark) to approve all treasurer reports from January. The motion passed unanimously. It was also mentioned that this year and last year our reports may appear off, due to the \$54,000 deposit and withdrawal of the Natalie Stauss funds happening in two different years. Patte received the monthly interest check to deposit, but there were still some signatures needed to transfer authorization to her name. That was going to be taken care of in the next few days.

**Pastor Report**

- Church was cancelled on her first day of worship with us due to snow.
- February 10<sup>th</sup> communion was held due to the cancelled worship service the week prior.
- On February 24<sup>th</sup>, we will catch up in the lectionary scriptures from the cancelled service.

- After meeting with the Sunday School teachers, VBS will be held July 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be two students who have their first communion on May 5<sup>th</sup>, Kamryn Voss and Augustav Raquet.
- There was an Ecumenical Meeting of Churches in Kiel and New Holstein on February 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be hosting Good Friday this year. There will be a planning meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 so there will be pastors coming to view the church.
- April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> is the Association and Wisconsin Conference annual meeting in Wisconsin Dells.
- Diane mentioned some of her priorities are Worship, Visitations, adult study and finding some missions.
- Other church pastors participate in a laundry love program where quarters are purchased to do laundry for those that need it.
- Diane also messaged Rev. Jane Anderson to ask if her installation/ordination could be held after the General Synod, and it sounds like it should be ok. Dennis would like it to be done before Labor day.

**Correspondence**

- There was a thank you from the Salvation Army for the gift of bedding.
- There was also a thank you from the Christmas Fund.

**Old Business-Items from Annual Meeting**

- We tabled our black topping discussion until we could look at the bell tower.
- Dennis would like someone to look at the tower during our spring clean-up.
- The long-range plan will be reviewed with Pastor Diane by three volunteers-Faye Spindler, Carol Matzdorf and Karen Lisowe.
- The Christmas Eve worship service stayed the same time.

- We think a landscaping Sunday would be best, everyone show up in jeans one Sunday to do some yard work.
- New membership pictures will also be looked into.

- Cindy Meyer is having surgery, so she will have help from Lenora during this time.
- We discussed how many members are on our current associate membership

### New Business

- Dennis worked with Ken to update committee lists with the year that the member started serving on the committee.
  - The lay leaders were updated to include Karen Lisowe.
  - There is no longer a shift committee.
  - The worship team now has co-chairs of Karen Lisowe and Joyce Loy. Pastor Diane is listed as a member.
  - The Piggly Wiggly receipts collected no longer are turned in at the Kiel location, instead they are scanned in using Hu-Terra for compensation.
  - Pastor Diane was added as a rural church fellowship delegate.
- Kris mentioned that she needed updated letterhead, Dennis was able to provide her with the updated version.
- Pastor Diane and the worship team are planning Lenten services. Pastor Diane mentioned that there are 3 containers of ashes in the office, and they will be burning the palm leaves we currently have.
- Dennis reviewed the list of consistory duties for the new members.
- Mark asked if we could list the meetings for the week in the announcements, so that whoever has volunteered to shovel is aware of when they need to have the shoveling completed by.
- John Flesch is aware of our meetings ahead of time so he knows when the snow needs to be removed from the parking lot.

list and how many other members need to be contacted so they are not moved to the associate membership list.

There was a motion (Rich/Mark) to adjourn the meeting at 7:36pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lenora Stuckmann

### Spring Ahead

Remember to turn your clocks ahead at 2am on March 10th!

### Project Angel

To celebrate our church's birthday, we will be collection items for Project Angel Hugs during the month of March. Please see attached sheet of items they are collecting.

# 2018 Updated Toy Drive List

## Currently Needed Items

Thin/Fine Markers  
 Minecraft Items  
 Pokemon Items  
 Fishing Items (12+, small lures, magazines, no poles)  
 Holiday Candy (Individually Wrapped)  
 Collectable Sports Cards  
 Play-Doh Kits  
 Barbie Clothes  
 Body Wash Sets (teen girls)  
 Hunting Items (camo, no guns)  
 New, Fresh Nail Polish  
 Buildable Model Cars & Painting Crafts  
 Paw Patrol Items  
 Teen Activity Books & Games  
 Legos  
 Handheld Games  
 WWE Items  
 Shark Items  
 Mario Items  
 Power Rangers Items  
 Dog & Cat PFlush

## Could Use More

Shop-kin Items  
 Sports Balls  
 Hello Kitty Items  
 My Little Pony Items  
 Craft Kits (not jewelry)  
 Minions  
 John Deere Items  
 Thomas the Train  
 Transformer Items  
 Pretty Headbands (not plain)  
 Matchbox Cars Sets (5 or more)  
 Baby Dolls & Clothes  
 Board Puzzles



Project Angel  
 Hugs

## Full Stocked Items

Crayons & Colored Pencils  
 Barbies  
 Puzzles  
 Candyland, Connect4, Sorry & Trouble Board Games  
 Dinosaurs  
 Frozen Items  
 Magic Doodles  
 Books  
 Jewelry Making Kits  
 Stickers  
 Coloring Books  
 Melissa & Doug Sticker Scenes  
 Dory Items  
 Card Games  
 Standard Decks of Cards  
 Monster High Dolls

