

EMILY'S EDITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This weekend in worship, Pastor Doug will be looking at John 21.1-19 on Saturday night (and hopefully answering the question, “who ACTUALLY eats fish for breakfast?”).

On Sunday morning, the Green Team will lead worship outdoors near the pavilion, weather permitting. If the weather does not cooperate, we will move the service indoors. Children are invited to bring their favorite stuffed animal to be part of the Children’s Chat. That service will be focused on the creation narrative of Genesis 1.

Sign Up Spot

 **Worship Acolytes** 



Worship Liturgist



**Listen to Last Weekend's
Worship Message**



PLAY



Prayer List

Jennifer Gander (being treated for cancer, Andrea and Wayne's daughter-in-law)
Michelle Oglesby (recovering from surgery)
Ashley Risinger (recovering from surgery)
Alan Mason (prayers for healing for his foot)
Bill Shafer (treatment for pancreatic cancer; brother of Judy Kattman, Jane Jackson, and Lee Ann Shafer)
The Catholic Church on the loss of Pope Francis
Those affected by weather-related disasters
Middle East
Students and Teachers
Victims of violence
All those battling addiction and facing the daily struggle to stay clean.
Our military

For some in our church family, this has been a very hard week. We have many students and alumni connected to the North High School district. When a teacher abuses his position in any fashion, it breaches trust. When the abuse is of the magnitude of the accusations in this instance, it is devastating to our entire community. We are wise to turn to God in prayer.

Here are some ideas that might guide your prayers for this situation:

- Pray for the victim, giving thanks for her courage and strength, and asking for her comfort and healing. Pray also for those who love her and are her support system.
- Pray for any others who have similar stories and for whom this story recalls their own pain.
- Pray for students who knew and loved this teacher. Ask God to hold them in their disillusionment, hurt, anger, and this loss of innocence.
- Pray for teachers everywhere who work so hard to cultivate healthy relationships with their students, who show up every day demonstrating they are worthy of the trust we place in them. Comfort them in their grief and anger.
- Pray for the officials who are handling the fallout. May they investigate and lead with integrity and sensitivity.
- Pray for the accused. Pray for truth, accountability, and repentance. Ask the

Holy Spirit to intervene to give voice to the prayers we cannot articulate, but know we should be praying, as our Lord instructed us to (Matthew 5.44-45; Romans 8.26-27).

Online Giving

Whether giving to the church's general fund or a special offering, doing so online (24/7) is a quick and easy alternative to check-writing or having cash on hand. Simply click the button below.

[Give Here](#)

Annual EARTH DAY Worship

This Sunday!

Join us outside for Bethlehem's annual Earth Day Worship on May 4 at 10:15 am for interaction and inspiration on our beautiful campus. We will gather at the pavilion located off the west parking lot. Some chairs will be available, however please bring one if able.

It's time for spring cleanup, and the Property Committee needs lots of helping hands of all ages for an All-Church Workday on **Saturday, May 17, from 8 am to noon.**

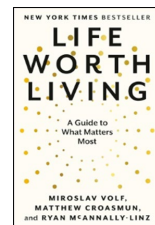
All-Church Church Workday

The Committee has a variety of indoor and outdoor tasks and looks forward to welcoming everyone with bagels, donuts, and coffee as early as 7:00 am.

The workdays are a fun opportunity to meet new people while deepening the meaning of caring for our creation and church campus. **We look forward to a great turnout, as many hands make light work for all!**

We have a date, and it's not too late to participate!

Beginning June 12 at 6:00 p.m.



Pastor Emily has a few more spots available for this summer's book study on *Life Worth Living: A Guide to What Matters Most* by Miroslav Volf, Matthew Croasmun, and Ryan McAnnally-Linz. The group will meet starting Thursday, June 12, at 6:00 pm in the Confirmation Classroom. **If you'd like to be part of the study, please emily@bethlehemucc.org.**

SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

There are numerous opportunities in 2025 to donate Sunday's altar flowers. Click the button below to sign up for a weekend. If you prefer a paper form, they are available in the vestibule (office entrance open 24/7), church office hallway, Welcoming Area, children and youth entrance, and narthex. Please contact Cindy Carwile with any questions at ckcarwile@gmail.com.

Available dates in the coming months:

May 18

June 1, 8

July 6, 20, 27

August 3, 17, 24, 31

Altar Flower Sign Up

CAJE

CONGREGATIONS ACTING FOR JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

This Monday



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

&

CONGREGATIONS ACTING FOR JUSTICE EMPOWERMENT - CAJE

Grass-roots Democracy in Action through Faithful Congregations is how we bring the love of God and the way of Jesus the Christ into the decision making process for the priorities and allocation of public resources for our community.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to participate.

MAY 5TH – Nehemiah Action 6:30pm at Bosse High School,
Washington Ave & Highway 41

This is the gathering at which our request for a sustainable funding stream for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund will be presented to our elected officials who have the capacity to allocate public funding and political support for this ACTION that We The People have determined will benefit our community.

We need at least 1000 community members present

This event will be well organized, well scripted, and Respectful of all participants.

Please plan to be present representing the Faith and Vision of Bethlehem United Church of Christ.



R.O.M.E.O. CLUB

What is the Bethlehem R.O.M.E.O. Club? It is Retired Old Men Eating Out (just men gathering) every Tuesday for food, fellowship, and faith. ROMEO Club is open to anyone no matter your age! The Club will meet again at 11:30 am for lunch this Tuesday at Sunrise Cafe. If you would like to join the group for lunch, please RSVP to Barry Jones at Twinpapa02@yahoo.com by Monday morning. New faces are always welcome!

**THANK
YOU!**

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to serve as ushers. The WEB group is scheduled for May.



Coming Up

Thursday, May 1

6:30 – 7:30pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal
Music Room

7:30 – 8:30pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Music Room

Saturday, May 3

5:30 – 6:30pm
Worship
Welcoming Area

Sunday, May 4

10:15 – 11:15am
Worship - Earth Day in Pavilion

11:30am – 1pm
WEB Luncheon
Fellowship Hall

11:30am – 12:30pm
Pastoral Relations Cmte. Meeting
Confirmation Classroom

Monday, May 5

8:30 – 10am
Confirmation Classroom Rsvd. - Worthington

Tuesday, May 6

10:30am – 12pm
Bible Study on Tuesday Mornings
Confirmation Classroom

6 – 7pm
U-10 Study Group
Welcoming Area

Thursday, May 8

6:30 – 9pm

Welcoming Area Rsvd (Wiseman)

6:30 – 7:30pm

Bell Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

7:30 – 8:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

Saturday, May 10

8am – 12pm

BUCC Church Workday

5:30 – 6:30pm

Worship

Welcoming Area

Sunday, May 11

10:15 – 11:15am

Worship & Bible Presentation (Hungate)

Sanctuary



Bethlehem United Church of Christ

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