



The Bethlehem STAR

Pride in Our Past - Faith in Our Future

November 2019



Pastor's Perspective



It has been fun watching the heart in the Welcoming Area grow this month, as we celebrate all the ways this church gives of its time, talents, and treasure. What a blessing that we have enough to share with others in this community and around the world!

Jesus tells us in the Sermon on the Mount that storing up treasures on earth is a pointless exercise—we'll find that our stockpiles are vulnerable to moth, rust, and thieves. But not so for treasure stored up in heaven. It is under divine protection. "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). The ever-growing display in our Welcoming Area reveals to me (and I hope to you) that the heart of this church is not locked in on the treasures and pleasures of this world, but rather we are pursuing heavenly treasure.

The generosity of this church family and the ministry that generosity makes possible are two of the items I will be giving thanks for this month as we approach Thanksgiving Day.

Another opportunity we will have for giving thanks as a church family this month is our annual Totenfest service. Please join us for this beautiful and poignant service of remembrance November 2-3. During this service, each person is given the opportunity to come forward and light a candle in memory of loved ones. We will offer thanks for those who have gone before us, the lessons they taught us, and the legacy they left for us. I hope you can join us!

With gratitude,
Emily

What a wonderful surprise of cards, emails, and well-wishes for "Pastor Appreciation Day." I am blessed to be part of this church, and doubly blessed to be serving with so much loving support from the congregation. Thanks be to God for the common mission we find ourselves on together!

Children's Ministry & YOUTH



Pumpkin Patch

Thank you, thank you, thank you, for those who helped with the pumpkin patch this year. I am happy to report that we are still making profit, but most important, we are still making memories for our church families and our community. It has been really fun hearing all the favorite stories from all generations about the Pumpkin Patch (everyone has one!). I loved looking at our purchase notebook to find all the children's handwriting and sales work. It has been exceptionally rewarding to hear our community neighbors' traditions and memories that have been created around our pumpkin patch. AND it never gets old to tell our church's fifteen-year-old pumpkin patch story.

REVERSE TRICK or TREAT





FAMILY NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 15th, at 5:00 PM for Bethlehem's annual Family Night. This year we have an exciting program scheduled, The Nativity Story. Through music and play the children will guide us through the story of the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior. CDs will be passed out on Nov. 3rd, and parents, please check your email for details on parts, scripts and rehearsal details.

Rehearsal Schedule

Sunday, December 1 @11:15AM

Sunday December 8th @11:15AM

Sunday December 15th @11:15AM and 4:30PM

We will meet in the Youth Room directly after worship for a quick lunch, then head to the Sanctuary for practice. Please plan to stay until 1:30 PM each day.

Youth Progressive Dinner

On Sunday, January 5th, we will close the holiday break with our Progressive Dinner. We will meet at church at 5:30 PM, and make our way around town for appetizers, a main course dinner, and dessert! We would love to extend an invitation to all college kids who will be in town over break. Bring a \$10 gift for an exchange game.



**We still need one more host! Please contact Elizabeth at elizabeth@bethlehemucc.org if you are interested.

Youth Serving at UCS on Sunday, November 24

Let's meet at church @ 3:00 pm to serve at UCS. We will have a fellowship dinner of our own after serving.

Totenfest Worship Service

We are preparing again to honor and remember those who have passed from this life into the next with our annual Totenfest service. Please join us on Saturday, November 2, at 5:30 or Sunday, November 3, at 10:15 as we light candles, remember, give thanks, and allow God's presence to soothe our grief. Most importantly, this service will remind us of the hope of eternal life that we all have in Christ. Please join us for this special service.



Flowers for the Altar



You might like to celebrate a special occasion, honor a special person, or maybe you just enjoy seeing live flowers on the altar! Dates are first-come, first-serve, so reserve early! Below is a list of dates currently available. To reserve a weekend, email (koch.judy.40@twc.com) or call Judy Koch at (812-867-5403)

December
1

January, 2020
5, 12, 19, & 26

February, 2020
2, 9, 16

March, 2020
1, 8, 15, 22, 29

The Retirees next Dining Out Luncheon will be on January 15, 2020! A November lunch would be one week before Thanksgiving and a December lunch would be one week before Christmas. Let's skip November and December lunches and enjoy the other events during that busy time.

Carolyn Hartig and Carolyn Kreighbaum



Cookie Walk Bake Sale



Christmas is coming, and so is the Bethlehem Cookie Walk bake sale. Let's make this the biggest and best year. How can we do that? Simple - lots of bakers of all ages, great varieties of cookies, fudge and treats, wonderful specialty items, and hungry shoppers. Mark your calendar now for the weekend of December 14 and 15.

Kitchen Benevolence

Most know a tithe amount to benefit charities was included in the Kitchen Project budget. This amount totaled \$22,000.00. The Outreach Committee was charged with receiving suggestions, and researching those suggestions to determine if the organizations were worthy of consideration for donation. After much research, we received 13 suggestions from Kaye Platts, Pam Wiseman, Elaine Shreffler, Brian Newton, Carol Newton, Pam Small and Bill Gilbert. The 13 organizations were presented to Council, and 12 were approved for donation. It is indeed significant this tithe was built into the Capitol Campaign, and that we have the opportunity to truly make a difference to those selected.

The organizations, a short synopsis, and amounts approved were:

- 1. T.O.U.C.H.** Touch is committed seeing that no one facing cancer is forced to do without basic needs during treatment. Touch is local, an all volunteer organization and headed by Rev. Phil Hoy, a retired UCC pastor. \$2,000.00
- 2. Bridge Builders Transportation, New Hope Development Corp.** A ministry of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Bridge Builders provides transportation to our community since 2015 with a fleet of 6 vans and 15 volunteer drivers, primarily taking people to work and back. Riders pay based on need. \$2,000.00
- 3. Harvest Time Inner City Ministries** % First Ebenezer Baptist Church Designated for the Hot Meal Ministry. Church volunteers serve meals in a soup kitchen at noon 3 times per week. \$2,000.00
- 4. St Lucas UCC.** Designated for the Sunday AM Breakfast Ministry. The ministry provides a hot breakfast every Sunday at 7:30 AM for the hungry and homeless since 2007. Staffed by volunteers. Currently serving 125+ each Sunday. \$2,000.00

5. Jack Henry Gates Memorial Community Laundromat. Since 2015, with two minimum wage employees, provides washers, dryers, and detergent for anyone who needs to do laundry. They operate through donations and business partnerships, and receive no government funding. \$1,500.00

6. UCC Disaster Ministries designated International Emergency Relief Fund/Hurricane Dorian relief/Bahamas. \$1,500.00

7. EVSC Foundation designated Teacher Locker. Located within AIS School, Teacher Locker is a place where teachers can receive free school supplies, therefore saving teachers out-of-pocket expense. \$2,500.00

8. Sleep in Heavenly Peace. A nationwide ministry where volunteers build and deliver beds and bedding for children who need them. \$2,000.00

9. Back Bay Mission Designated Construction Supplies. This is the site of multiple mission trips. Nine BUCC members went Oct. 26 for one week. \$1,500.00

10. Bethlehem UCC Cub Scout Pack. To be used to purchase a trailer for their monthly camping trips, and to store camping gear. \$1,500.00

11. EVSC Foundation designated Culver Closet. BUCC members Lino and Pam Wiseman have a designated space in Culver School to set up a Clothing Bank for kindergarten and pre-school children. \$1,500.00

12. Isaiah 1:17 House. They provide physical and emotional support in a safe and loving home for children awaiting foster care placement. All volunteer help. \$2,000.00



Solar Array Numbers

Year to date savings through 9/30 2019 have been \$7002.02.

Accumulative savings since installation, through 9/30 have been \$23,175.41.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Bucket Blitz either through your contributions or by helping the children fill the buckets. Because of your generosity we were able to exceed our goal of 30 buckets, and hope to continue this project next year.



A big thank you to all of the Visitor of the Week men and women that have been so faithful in visiting our home bound members at Bethlehem. This is a very important service that we do here at church, and I appreciate you answering the call. With a new year coming, I do hope there are those members that would like to join in and help with this ministry. Those interested in learning more about the Visitor of the Week, please give me a call at 812-453-3995.

Thank you so much.

Pam Small, Chair

Thank you Bethlehem UCC members for your continued and gracious donations of the Food Pantry of St. Matthew's Church. Thus far in 2019, we have served 300 families, 750 individuals, plus 65 monthly senior food commodity boxes.

Allene Saunders
Food Pantry Coordinator

Our fish fry on Saturday, September 21st was another huge success. We were blessed with a beautiful day, hungry guests and many enthusiastic volunteers. We served over 350 meals in three hours. What an accomplishment! Our new kitchen got its first big test and it worked out great. What a blessing. As a result of the fish fry, Bethlehem will be able to make a monetary contribution of \$1345 to be split between the Tri State Food Bank and Gather Network International. In addition, Bethlehem made a food donation of approximately \$150 to the Evansville United Caring Services.

Thank you, everyone, for helping make this ministry a success.

Glenn Heseman and Tresa Miller

Sheri Schenk's 20 Anniversary Celebration



Fish Fry





The Altar Guild will again be selling poinsettias to decorate the altar and chancel for Christmas. The cost will remain the same at **\$10.00 per plant** in a 6 1/2" pot with gold foil cover and will be available in red or white. The **deadline for ordering your plant(s) is Sunday, December 8th**. A complete list of donors will appear in the December 22nd and the Christmas Eve worship bulletins. **Poinsettias will be available for pick-up after the Christmas Eve service. However, if you have no specific plans for your plant, the Altar Guild would like to let them remain on the altar until after the 10:15 AM worship service on Sunday, December 29th, the Sunday after Christmas.** You may place your order form, with your check, in the offering plate OR in the Altar Guild box near the office by the second floor elevator. We purchase our poinsettias from Steve Worthington's Kiwanis organization, who use their monies to support various community projects throughout the year.

Name of Donor _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Bulletin Wording:

Total Number of Plants ordered _____ Cash _____

Check# _____

COLOR: Red _____ White _____ No Color Preference _____

Orders must be pre-paid with checks made payable to BETHLEHEM UCC. Please plan to take the plant(s) you order with you, as the Altar Guild can no longer deliver plants to nursing homes, etc. You may contact the church office with any questions. The Altar Guild appreciates your willingness to be a part of this special tradition.



Come one, come all for the Hanging of the Greens! Due to the first Sunday of Advent falling right after Thanksgiving, the Altar Guild needs help with decorating the church for Advent on Sunday, November 24 immediately following the 10:15 worship service. All ages are welcome to be part of the fun!

United Caring Services Who's Serving?



One of Bethlehem's local outreach ministries is cooking a meal at United Caring Services on the fourth Sunday of each month from 3:30 - 5:30 pm. If your group cannot serve, please find a replacement.

November 24
Youth

December
Smalls & Gilberts

January
Youth

February
Motley Crew



We celebrate the birth of Ava Grace Orth, who was born October 2 at 8 pounds and 20.5 inches long. She was welcomed by parents Matt and Erin, big brother Christopher, and Aunt Erika Johnson.

Directory Changes

Carolyn Bennett
A Family Affair Assisted Living
1661 Madeline Drive
Lapeer, MI 48446
810-664-8264



Corinne Crockett
5325 Garden Ct. Apt. 2G
Evansville, IN 47715-5027

Nancy & Paul Faucett
3751 Sandstone Ct.
Evansville, IN 47711
812-401-1779

Ben & Sarah Hoffman
3501 Birch Bay Dr.
Evansville, IN 47725-8092

The Palmer Family
500 Sandalwood Dr.
Evansville, IN 47715-7289



52 WAYS TO CARE FOR CREATION NOVEMBER BULLETIN INSERT

WEEK 45: GET OUT AND VOTE

Check out Creation Justice Ministries voting guide to brush up on how to be a creation care voter. Our votes determine who makes decisions for our nation. Prioritize voting for candidates that prioritize creation care. You can also check your state government websites for information about all the candidates to help you make an informed decision.



WEEK 46: INVEST IN A REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE



Cut down on plastic by carrying your own water bottle with you. Preferably a reusable one made of aluminum rather than plastic. You will find that you save money by bringing your own water instead of buying new bottles every time you are thirsty.

WEEK 47: WORK WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO SPONSOR A RECYCLING EVENT FOR ELECTRONICS OR HAZARDOUS WASTE

With the holidays coming, new electronics are likely to be under the tree. Make room for the new by safely recycling the old. Too much on your plate? See if an event like this already exists in your community and attend!

WEEK 48: #OPTOUTDOORS THIS BLACK FRIDAY

Instead of buying more stuff this black friday opt outdoors. This alternative is greener plus you save money and can spend quality time with family and friends.

Share with us on social media your #CareForCreation tips and tricks and how you've used our November list!



@CreationJustice

Find out more how you can #CareForCreation



AS AMERICAN AS APPLE PIE !!!!!!!

Once again the Eosin Sunday School Class will be selling Dutch Apple Crumb Pies. These delicious pies will be available for only \$8.00, just in time for your Thanksgiving gatherings. We are taking PREPAID orders at this time. If you want to be assured of getting your Thanksgiving pies – complete the form at the bottom of this page and put it in the Eosin mailbox or leave it in the office. Please make your checks out to Eosin. You may pick up freshly made pies on Thursday, November 21 in the church kitchen between 4:00 and 7:00 P.M. or get them frozen on Sunday, November 24. We will be selling any extra pies on these dates. We will only save pies that have been prepaid.

Only 140 of the fabulous homemade pies, filled with fresh apples, will be prepared. All you need to do is purchase a pie (or several), take home, and bake. Instructions for baking are included on the label.

The profits from this project will be used to help fund Bethlehem's Missions. **This is a win/win project – help our church's missions and impress your holiday guests with homemade pies!**

Number of Pies _____ @ \$8.00 each total cost _____

Name _____ phone number _____

Email address

Remember to pick up your fresh pies on Thursday, November 21 between 4:00 and 7:00 P.M.

Checks should be made out to Eosin.

Financial Recap

Financial Summary Report

September General Account

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Monthly Beginning Balance	\$ 167,990.72	\$ 181,618.64
Monthly Pledge Deposits	\$ 39,101.75	\$ 25,506.65
Monthly Other Deposits	2,002.30	1,793.60
Monthly Operating Disbursements	(38,765.29)	(45,197.45)
Monthly Other Disbursements	345.39	12,213.38
Monthly Ending Balance	<u>\$ 170,674.87</u>	<u>\$ 175,934.82</u>

YTD General Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 200,344.80	\$ 217,388.39
Pledge Deposits	\$ 276,580.63	\$ 281,093.97
Other Deposits	19,203.05	18,013.62
Operating Disbursements	(325,254.75)	(340,928.65)
Other Disbursements	(198.86)	367.49
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 170,674.87</u>	<u>\$ 175,934.82</u>

September Capital Campaign Loan

Beginning Loan Balance as of 1/1/2019	\$ 44,960.18
Principal payment 3rd Qtr.	\$ 9,666.47
Ending balance as of 09/30/2019	<u>\$ 35,293.71</u>



Charitable Giving End-of-the-Year Details

There are tax advantages when your charitable giving involves your investments. If you and your Financial Advisor determine that you want to donate shares of stock, IRA distributions or other investments, it is important to notify the church of your intentions. It is not the responsibility of your broker to share your name with Bethlehem.

We want to ensure that your gifts are processed properly and that you are correctly credited for your generosity.

Please contact Kelly Gates, kjgates98@gmail.com or 812-480-0402 by **November 15th** to make sure these special gifts are **deposited and credited for the 2019 tax year.**

November Birthdays



1st	Matt Delano	Tricia Vaupel	22nd	Donna Cravens
2nd	Patty Seltzer	10th	Charlotte Brandenberger	Penny Garrett
	Lesley Allen		Sarah Schultz	23rd
3rd	Marcy Hahn	12th	Mary Jean May	Shirley Kirby
	Melinda Milheiser		Suzy Picking	Parker Hirsch
	Lauren Ozete	13th	Penny Barter	24th
4th	Jerry Euler	14th	Lois Schultheis	Marvin Sunderman
5th	Tracey Stevens	16th	Chris Champion	Alex Koch
	Wyatt Zausch	18th	Faith Fox	Gwyn Traylor
6th	Amy Walker	19th	Ray Cashen	Nathan Longwell
	Becky Stucki		Gabriel Hirsch	25th
	Laura Head	20th	Brent Miller	Denis Hirsch
7th	Marlys Blalock		Lois Smith	David Goebel
8th	Caroline Delano		Adam Akin	26th
	Logan Ewers		Linda Leipold	Danielle Hayes
9th	Nick Martin	21st	Julie Trice	27th
				Tim Fickas
				28th
				Audrey Kuhlenschmidt
				30th
				Darrell Blankenship

November Anniversaries



2nd	Ben & Sarah Hoffman	18th	Jan & Tom Schmitz
4th	Bob & Doris Harrison		Adam & Emily Schmitt
	Emma & Sarah Loane	25th	Jim & Linda Goebel
5th	Carolyn & Michael Dean		Dean & Stacy Gaslin
8th	Michelle & Ryan Williams	29th	Beverly (Plymire) & Marvin Sunderman
11th	Lyn & Max Jones		
16th	Brent & Tresa Miller		
	Michelle & Sean Oglesby		

Serving in November

Sunday Worship (10:15 AM)

Acolytes **3** Abby Bernal & Caroline Palmer
10 Abby & Annie Blackburn
17 William Dus & Allen Felt
24 Amelia & Olivia Eckert

Liturgist **3** Jerry Brandenberger
10 Debbie Havens
17 Connie Crab
24 Melinda Milheiser

Nursery **Attendant: Elizabeth Nero**
3 Palmer Family
10 Mark or Elaine Hodoval
17 Michelle Oglesby
24 Judy or Glenn Heseman

Ushers **3** The Oglesby Family, Tim & Paula Courtney
10 The Oglesby Family, Tim & Paula Courtney
17 The Oglesby Family, Tim & Paula Courtney
24 The Oglesby Family, Tim & Paula Courtney

Children's Church

3 Margaret Eberhart & Donna Black
10 *Second Sunday Stay*
17 Tracey Stevens & Elizabeth Daywalt
24 Elizabeth Daywalt & Gerry Schmitt

Visitor of the Week

3 Terry Brinker
10 Sara Miller
17 Jean Hunt
24 Pam Hirsch

Saturday Worship (5:30 PM)

Ushers: **2** Randy & Chris Champion
9 Bob & Dee Carithers
16 Randy & Chris Champion
23 Bob & Dee Carithers

Audio Visual Support

Saturdays

Andy Ozete

Sundays

Steve Oglesby

THE BETHLEHEM STAFF

Rev. Emily Slade, Senior Minister
emily@bethlehemucc.org

Elizabeth Daywalt, Director of Children and Youth
elizabeth@bethlehemucc.org

Sheri Schenk, Organist/Music Director
12music34@twc.com

John Schmitt, Choir Director

Sherry Bernal, Administrative Coordinator
sherry@bethlehemucc.org

Chris Champion, Bookkeeper
chris@bethlehemucc.org

Troy Vaupel, Creative Director
troy@bethlehemucc.org

Kristen Molander, Director of Publications and Public Relations
publishing@bethlehemucc.org

Sarah Loane, Guitar

Rick Chandler, Custodian

Nancy Myers, Custodian

OUR MISSION is to serve God by spreading the news of God's love and the promise of Jesus Christ. As faithful stewards of the gifts God has given us, we will be inclusive of all people and serve the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs and development of our church members, the wider community, and the world. We will be stewards of our youth and future generations, providing guidance, education, and resources.

BETHLEHEM
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

6400 Oak Hill Road, Evansville, IN 47725

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



(812) 867-2497 (Office)

Email — church@bethlehemucc.org

Web Site—www.bethlehemucc.org

Office Hours 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Saturday Contemporary Worship 5:30 PM

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Sunday Worship/Children's Church 10:15 AM

Please contact the church office if you are aware of any address changes.

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

***Striving to welcome all who seek God; to grow in faith;
and to love neighbor as self through action.***