

# EMILY'S EDITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fellowship Hall and library have been transformed this week! The flooring folks have been diligently working and the word is that by the weekend, it will be safe for us to walk in there and take a look around. I hope you will find the time to do so as we gather for worship this weekend.

On Saturday night, Pastor Doug will take another pass through Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52. There is so much to be gleaned from these parables about the Kingdom of Heaven! On Sunday morning, we'll take a look at 1 Kings 3.5-15 and we will think about how this snapshot of Solomon's life fits into the rest of his legacy.

I hope you'll make plans to join us for the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday immediately following worship. We will receive some important updates as well as vote on the leadership slate for 2027.



## Prayer List

The family and friends of Rose Crockett (Erica Hirsch's mother, passed away July 21)

The family and friends of Lois Yarger (sister-in-law to Pam Wiseman)

Family and friends of June Risinger (grandmother of Stephen Risinger)

The family and friends of Rob Mohr (Mark Sirnic's stepbrother, killed in auto accident)

Lily (recovering from surgery, parents are Cris and Kristie Hochwender)

Hayes Hirsch (recovering from tonsillectomy)<sup>1</sup> (requested to be removed after two weeks)

Jenny Reising (recovering from surgery)

Ruth Ann Krall (upcoming surgery, mother of Cindy Carwile and online worship

participant)  
Tess and Reed Head (recovering from illness)  
Carol Kolb (recovering from fall)  
Brian Newton (health concerns)  
Annie Blackburn (recovering at home from automobile accident)  
Mike Dean  
Bill Kreighbaum  
Jeff Hoffman (renal cell carcinoma, friend of Tim and Amy Spurling)  
Chris Dugan (serious car accident, son-in-law of Hungates)  
Those affected by weather-related disasters  
Middle East  
Russia/Ukraine Conflict  
Victims of gun violence  
All those battling addiction and facing the daily struggle to stay clean.  
Our military

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**



## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given by Carl and Debbie Kuebler in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. The single white roses are in memory of Rose Crockett and June Risinger.

Please use the buttons below to view dates and sign up for altar flowers. If you prefer a paper form, they are always available in the vestibule (office entrance open 24/7), church office hallway, Welcoming Area, children and youth entrance, and narthex.

For altar flower needs, please contact Carol Kolb at [carolrkolb@yahoo.com](mailto:carolrkolb@yahoo.com) or

(812) 589-8322.

**Upcoming available dates**

August 2, 9, 23, 30

**Upcoming Available Dates**

**Altar Flower Sign Up**

**Serve** 

**Sunday Worship Acolyte**

**Sunday Worship Liturgist**



Recently the large trees by the boulevard have dropped several limbs. Tree service companies are evaluating the trees' condition. To exercise caution, please continue to park outside the coned-off area. Thank you!



**Semi-Annual  
Congregational Meeting**

**This Sunday!**

Please join us for the next Semi-Annual Congregational meeting this Sunday, July 26, following worship in the sanctuary. An agenda and information will be sent to members prior to the meeting. Additional copies will be available that

morning. Looking forward to a great turnout!



## An invitation from the Green Team

We invite you to join us for a video series, “Caring for the Earth: Stories from Faith Communities” from Blessed Tomorrow: Caring for Creation Today. We’ll watch these 20 minute films and discuss them through August, taking breaks for the church retreat and Rally Day.

Classes and groups will catch up with one another at 9 AM. All are welcome to join us in the Conference Room at 9:15 to watch and discuss the films, finishing at 10:00, in time for more catching up before worship.

Remaining topics in July and August are:

- July 26: Seeds of Fire: Building Resilient Communities
- August 2: Break for the Church Retreat
- August 9: “Holy Water: Protecting What Connects and Sustains Us” (Conference Room)
- August 16: “Climate Justice: Sacred Voices Rising” (West/left breakout room in the Youth Room)
- August 23: Break for Rally Day
- August 30: “Healing Creation: Honoring Nature and Each Other” (Breakout room in Youth Room)

It’s been said that no matter what today’s headlines are, the climate is the issue. We look forward to seeing you!



## Submit a cause!



**Submission deadline is this Sunday!**

Last month, the STAR included a piece about legacy giving at Bethlehem. This month, the Church Council offers you an opportunity to engage with one of these gifts in a way that continues the generosity!

Each year, the church receives a disbursement from the Voigt Trust that is at the discretion of the Church Council. For 2026, in light of the church’s strong

financial standing, the Council decided to give the entire amount away! And we want your help!

You can submit for consideration the cause or organization that is most meaningful to you. Forms to submit your idea will be available at the entrances to the church and should be returned to the church office by July 26.

Help us decide to whom we extend the generosity that has been extended to us!



**SAVE THE DATE**

*Bethlehem United Church of Christ*

# ANNUAL METAL RECYCLING DRIVE

**August 15, 8:30 - 11:30 AM**

**Any metal item is welcome  
except those containing Freon and TVs.**



## 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 this Tuesday at Bar Louie. If you would like to join the group for lunch, please RSVP to Barry Jones at [Twinpapa02@yahoo.com](mailto:Twinpapa02@yahoo.com) by Monday morning. New faces are always welcome!



**THANK YOU!**

**Thank you to everyone who  
has agreed to serve as ushers. Youth  
(Confirmation Class) are assigned to August.**



# Coming Up

## **Saturday, July 25**

5:30 – 6:30pm

Worship

Welcoming Area

## **Sunday, July 26**

9 – 10am

Sunday School - Adults Only

10:15 – 11:15am

Worship

Sanctuary

11:30am – 12pm

Council Chat

Welcoming Area

3:30 – 5:30pm

UCS DINNER - YAC

United Caring Services

## **Monday, July 27**

8:30 – 10am

Conference Room Rsvd. - Worthington

## **Tuesday, July 28**

4 – 7:30pm

Welcoming Area Rsvd. - Busy Mrs. Meeting

Welcoming Area & Kitchen

## **Friday, July 31 - Sunday, August 2**

All day

Pennyrile State Park Retreat

## **Saturday, August 1**

All day

## Pennyrile State Park Retreat

9:30 – 10:30am

Memorial Visitation - Rose Crockett  
Sanctuary

10:30 – 11:30am

Memorial Service - Rose Crockett  
Sanctuary

5:30 – 6:30pm

Worship  
Welcoming Area

### **Sunday, August 2**

9 – 10am

Sunday School - Adults Only

10:15 – 11:15am

Worship - Communion & Canned Fruit Collection  
Sanctuary



### **Bethlehem United Church of Christ**

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