



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Sunday, June 26, 2022

Worship led by: Randy Koppenhaver

Organist: Kathy Bowe

If listening from your car, please tune your car radio to 101.3 FM

***= Please rise in body or spirit**

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: It is good to give thanks to the Lord;

All: Let us sing praises to God's holy name!

L: We will declare God's steadfast love in the morning,

All: And God's faithfulness night after night.

L: Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

All: For God is good and we know God's blessings.

L: Let us worship God with grateful hearts;

All: We will give God thanks in our prayers and praise.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Faithful, fruitful God,

you created our minds to grow in wisdom.

You created our hearts to expand with love.

You created our voices to sing your praises forever.

We bring you our worship with joyful praise,

turning to Jesus for grace and guidance.

Fill us to overflowing with your Holy Spirit

so that the fruit of the Spirit will bound in our lives.

May we worship you in spirit and in truth,

and serve you in the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #47 all

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Good and Gracious God,
you call us to follow you, whatever the circumstance,
yet we confess we prefer to remain where we are.
You offer us new beginnings,
yet we continue to make the same choices,
guided by our own desires.
We make excuses for avoiding your challenge to change.
Forgive us, O God. Cleanse us with your mercy,
and energize us to serve you even when the challenge seems great.**
(silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In Christ, we are made a new creation; **the old life is gone and the new life has come!**

Know that God loves us and forgives us. **Let us not be afraid to make a new start!**

*RESPONSE

“Gloria Patri”

**Glory be to the Father, And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who

belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

SERMON

*HYMN #322 all

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

CALL TO THE OFFERING

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be:

All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, we know you to be kind and generous, so we bring our gifts in gratitude and joy. Pour out your Spirit on these gifts and on our lives, so that we may bear the fruit of your Spirit in every situation and relationship, through Christ, our Living Lord. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER... LORD'S PRAYER (congregation may be seated)
Petitions end with "God or purpose and promise," Response: **Receive our prayers**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Pastor Randy will be on vacation from June 29-July 10. Please contact Pastor Roy during this time if you have any pastoral needs.

2022 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

Elder/President - Steven Volland (920)286-0162 or svolland44@gmail.com

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or trabefamily5@gmail.com

Elder – Open Position – Prayerfully consider serving your Bethlehem family

Deacon - Ross Westphalen (920)629-0193 rossw@forhealthycows.com

Deacon/Secretary – Kathy Bowe (920)894-7243 LandKBowe@outlook.com

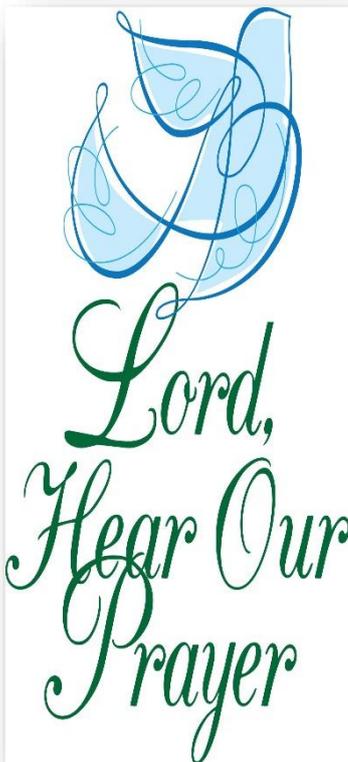
Financial Secretary - Ruthie Rumpff (920)946-5849 srumpff@tm.net

Treasurer - Jane Umland (920)286-2175 jm59umland@gmail.com

JUNE JINGLE CHANGE supports Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

Those in our thoughts and prayers:



Joys:

*Zander Robert Jeanty was baptized into God's family on June 12. His parents are Benjamin and Cassandra Jeanty – Grandparents are Bruce and Polly Jeanty.

Families who have lost loved ones:

Everett Henning

Those struggling with health issues:

Nikki (Friend of Bonnie Z)	Steve Kornely
Tom Lefeber	Steve Rumpff
Glen Schad	Jessica Horneck
Signe Burkhart	Janice Schad
Kenzie Koppenhaver	Darlene Horneck
Hattie Lucille	Karl(nephew of Will and Lora)
Warren Fidlin	Helen Henning
Jane Markelz	Olivia Marie
Dana P (friend of Melissa K)	
Bennett (Grandson of Schmidts)	

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer

Other Concerns:

People of the Ukraine and others affected by war and violence.

People affected by recent gun violence in our nation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Deignan family wishes to thank all those in the congregation for the kind words cards and gifts celebrating the arrival of Elizabeth Lynn. Also, they'd like to invite everybody to the July 10 service to witness Elizabeth's baptism. Peace and love to all!
- The blue and yellow candle on the altar is lit in unity with the people of the Ukraine.
- Field of Dreams is currently closed to visitors again. Please hold Merlin and Doris Mae in your prayers.

Bethlehem's Spiritual Leadership:

Reverend Roy Rogers

Phone: 920.428.0183 or email:

rogersr671@gmail.com

**Randy Koppenhaver,
Licensed Lay Minister**

Phone: 920.286.2531 or email:

randynmel5@gmail.com

Community Announcements:

Wednesday, June 29 – 4p-7:30pm - Picnic in the Park (Kiel City Park) – Sponsored by St. Peter's UCC

*Brats, Burgers, Chicken Breasts, German potato salad, Strawberry shortcake

*Patriotic Concert at 7pm by Kiel Municipal Band

OUR LADY OF THE HOLYLAND PARISH – ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH (JOHNSBURG) – CHICKEN & TIPS

TAKE-OUT DINNER: Sunday, July 17th served from 11:00AM – 1:00PM. Blanck's chicken and dressing and Jim and Linda's beef tips, potatoes, & corn. \$17 per plate. TAKE-OUT ONLY, no dining in. Pre-orders preferred - call to place your preorder by July 9th [Kelly 920-539-6886, or Sharon 920-795-4728]. Only 500 meals will be sold! Cash or check only. Raffle ticket drawing @ 2:00PM. Hope to see you there! N9288 County Road W, Malone (Johnsburg).

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 6/26: 9:30am Worship; ~Happy Birthday Jerry Wehrmann!

Monday 6/27: ~ Happy Birthday Kayla Hanson and Warren Fidlin! Happy Anniversary Brad & Maria Hoban!

Tuesday 6/28:

Wednesday 6/29:

Thursday 6/30:

Friday 7/1:

Saturday 7/2:

Sunday 7/3: 9:30am Worship w/ Communion

June Pantry Items: Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant or Lotion