

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 29th - February 4th

•The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God by Libby Smith.



•Good morning and welcome to Bethel! Whether you are a member, a friend or a visitor please take a moment to fill out the friendship pad at the end of your pew. Don't forget to give the friendship pad to others to sign when you are done. Thank you!

•We welcome the Rev. Merle Fisher who will be preaching and leading the worship service this morning. Rev. Fisher grew up in Baltimore, graduated from The King's College in New York and graduated from Union Theological Seminary (Richmond) in 1969. He has been ordained for 47 years and served churches in Maryland, North Carolina and Virginia. He retired from Glen Kirk Presbyterian Church in October 2006. He has served as Stated Supply for Pines Chapel and most recently he has been the Parish Associate for Tinkling Spring. Rev. Fisher has two grown children, a son, Sean who is a chef, and daughter, Kimberly Wood who is a career counselor at Waynesboro High School. He enjoys his four granddaughters and one grandson. Please let him know how much we appreciate him being with us this morning!

•The Bells of Bethel will be playing the prelude this morning. The piece they will be playing is titled "Exuberant Joy" and the arranger is Paul A. McKlveen.

•Children's Church has been cancelled for today. (*Nursery is still available for ages birth through kindergarten.*) The Christian Education Committee is currently working on reorganizing Children's Church. Volunteers are needed to help with this important ministry! If you would be willing to help please contact Marion Simmers. Thank you!

•Congregational Appreciation Luncheon

Remember that there will be a Congregational Appreciation Luncheon today, sponsored by the Bethel Youth, following the worship service, in the Fellowship Hall.

•CAT Survey Results! Today in combination with the Congregational Appreciation Luncheon, there will be small table discussions with Session Members and the CAT Team on the findings of the CAT survey. These discussions should provide key points gleaned from the assessment. Looking forward to seeing you there!
Respectfully, the Congregational Assessment Tool Team

•Boy Scout Sunday Boy Scout Sunday will be next Sunday, February 5th, 2017. During the worship service, the Boy Scouts will be recognized for their contribution to the community and to Bethel. All are invited to this special service!

•Super Bowl Sunday Souper Bowl of Caring

The Bethel Witness/Mission Committee is asking you to tackle hunger with them on Super Bowl Sunday with the Souper Bowl of Caring. The congregation is asked to bring non-perishable food or make monetary donations next Sunday, February 5th, 2017. Our young people will be collecting the food and money for Kingsway after the worship service. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated in this annual service project.

•All Elders who are currently serving on the Session now have a mailbox in Memorial Hall. If you have had a mailbox in Memorial Hall in the past it may have been moved to a different box. In an effort to make mailboxes easier to find, all of the Elder's mailboxes have been put in alphabetical order according to last names. Remember to check your mailbox regularly for news, announcements, etc. If you have any questions please contact the Church Office.

•Rehearsals have begun for the Staunton Choral Society's 2017 Spring Concert Season. The rehearsals are on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at Christ Lutheran Church (2807 North Augusta Street - Staunton; meet in the Social Hall on lower level, enter from back parking lot). New and returning members are welcome to join through February. The fee per season is \$30.00 for music and concert cost. The director Raymond Hebert has a great program of fun pieces picked out for the Staunton Choral Society. Come join the Sing - Join the Staunton Choral Society!

•Congregational Care “Fellowship Following Worship” sign-up sheet: There is a new volunteer sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall. The Congregational Care Committee has placed monthly Sunday dates under the name of each month. Please write your name down next to the month you are willing to provide refreshments and then circle the date of the Sunday you have chosen. Communion dates are also included; we ask that no one sign up for refreshments on any of those four dates. As other events are scheduled they will be added to the sign-up sheet, e.g., Lemonade on the Lawn, planned meals. Thank you!

•Mission Project You will notice a receptacle in the vestibule for the Lions Club International to deposit eyeglasses that are no longer being used. Bethel is pleased to be able to contribute to the Lions Recycle for Sight program. Recycled glasses are distributed to people in need in low and middle income communities where they will have the greatest impact. Donated glasses can change someone's life. Imagine if you could help a child read or an adult succeed in his job. In just about any home, one can find a pair of eyeglasses that are no longer being used. That same pair of eyeglasses can change another person's life. For questions or interest in volunteering contact Laura Barmore.

•Worn blue hymnals are available in the Choir Room, on a first come, first choice basis.

•Church Inclement Weather Information

In the event of bad weather on Sunday mornings, please tune into WHSV-TV3 (Harrisonburg) or log onto their website:

www.whsv.com for information on whether church has been cancelled. If church is cancelled a congregational email will also be sent out to all active members.

For weekday activities please follow the Augusta County Schools. If school is cancelled, all events for that evening at the church are cancelled.

The Church Office may also be closed due to inclement weather if Augusta County Schools are closed (Monday through Thursday). If the Church Office is closed due to inclement weather and you have a need please email bethelpc@gmail.com. Adrienne will be checking email messages throughout the day even if she is not in the Church Office. Thank you!

•If you would like to join Bethel Presbyterian Church, please feel free to contact the Church Office or a Session member. We would love to hear from you!

January 22nd

Attendance: 80

Weekly Budget: \$3,323.00 Received: \$2,195.00

Four Cents A Meal Offering: \$319.00



Shenandoah Presbytery (PCUSA)



A Brief History of iCARE

At the request of Illubabor Bethel Synod, in the Illubabor region of Ethiopia, the Shenandoah Presbytery sought to find up to 50 sponsors for 50 children in the summer and fall of 1999. The children we were asked to sponsor were in dire straits in Ethiopia. We were told that the children, many of whom would be orphans, would be brought to the Gore Children's Home in the town of Gore, where they would receive reliable nutrition, clothing, access to the local public school, a spiritual lifestyle and a modicum of health care.

The Presbyterian Christians of the Shenandoah Presbytery responded quickly and by January 2000 all of the sponsorships were in place. From that time to this we have had extraordinary faithfulness on the part of sponsors.

The Gore Home has been in service as a children's home since 1985. Sponsorships before the Shenandoah Presbytery became involved were from Germany. The home currently houses approximately 125 students. Brian Gilcrest from the Shenandoah Presbytery served as a missionary with the Gore Home for two and a half years. He was instrumental in putting in place policies and practices that have contributed to the quality of life of all the children in the Home.

In addition to work with the Gore Home in 2002 the iCARE committee received a request to help raise funds to build student shelters in two Presbyteries in the Illubabor Bethel Synod.

(iCARE article continued)

Most regions of Ethiopia have only one high school. If a child comes from a more rural part of the region and does not live within walking distance of that high school, or can not find residence with a family member or other who lives near the high school, they simply do not have access to school beyond the primary grades. Once again, through the generous donations of the people in Shenandoah Presbytery shelters were built in the Algae and Alito Presbyteries.

iCARE stands for Illubabor Children's Agape REsponse.

(iCARE article continued on the other side of this sheet)