



The Bethel Weekly News

Week of May 24th, 2020

Message of the Week . . .

Opinions

Proverbs 18:2

Fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions.

Proverbs 13:10

Where there is strife, there is pride, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

Hebrews 12:14

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Opinions - everybody has one and we usually think they're great! As long as these other opinions are in agreement with ours. But problems may arise when opinions are different from our own. Especially if we don't know how to deal with these differences. But we should never differ when it comes to our faith, beliefs, and scripture. The Bible tells us there will be conflicting viewpoints, tells us how we should handle them, warns us where they come from, but we as sinners still find ourselves with an abundance of them.

In today's world, opinions are tossed around like dust in the wind, only to stir up strife. People want you to follow their ideology and for the most part it's either for political reasons to get a vote, to advance an agenda, or in a way that may benefit them. The terrible thing about this is many Christians go against scripture to follow the wicked views of the lost or non-believers. Without a strong faith and acceptance of every word of the scriptures it's easy to be led astray. For the Bible was written by God with the hands of man. So let no man's opinion change the scriptures to fool you on the true interpretation. This happens everyday. Just turn on the television and you'll hear opinions trying to convince you one way or the other. The best alternative to keep from believing the wrong opinions is having knowledge of the Bible and scriptures before you believe the words of man's mouth.

2 Peter 1:20

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things.

Galatians 1:10

Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

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It seems many people claim to be believers, but only believe when the opportunity is ideal for them. They are quick to judge the strong at heart and people of faith when things are not in their favor. Knowing the difference between right and wrong, exercising patience, and not being quick to bitterness is the key to not falling victim to others opinions. But by also being quick to anger and ignoring other opinions, you may miss the chance to learn or to teach from them. There's a lesson from God in every opinion and the value of the meaning could be lost if you rush to judgement over a differing opinion. Remember your faith, have the true meaning and knowledge of the scriptures, and have forgiveness. Then you won't be the victim of a false witness with a silver tongue.

In conclusion, love your neighbor as yourself, don't be quick to judge, listen with an open mind, refrain from anger, and ask for forgiveness. If you can't do these things, even if you're right, you're wrong in the eyes of God. I will admit I struggle with all these things daily but I pray, come to church, and try to learn from my sins. I thank God everyday for the gift of Jesus, for I know I fall short, but I try to fix my wrongs by asking for forgiveness and understanding.

Ephesians 4:18

They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

James 1:19

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

2 Corinthians 11:14

And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

1 John 1:7-8

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Love and Prayers,
Brian Lee

Elder-on Call May 2020

If you have pastoral need during the month of May please contact Tammy Barbour.

(540) 471-0450 (call or text)
barbour.tamara@yahoo.com

A Note From the Deacons . . .

We'll be doing a little work around Bethel next Saturday, May 30th, starting at 9:00 am. There should be about 10 of us. So stop by and say hi!

- Wade Cash, Diaconate Chair

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Church Office News & Notes . . .

- ◇ The Church Office will be closed this Monday, May 25th for the Memorial Day holiday. Please contact the Elder-on-Call if you have a need. Thank you!
- ◇ *The June Tower deadline is this Tuesday, May 26th, at 9:00 am.* Please have all announcements and articles for the June Tower to the Church Office by the above date and time.
- ◇ Please have all Bethel Weekly News announcements to Adrienne by Wednesday, at 9:00 am.
- ◇ Printed copies of the current “Bethel Weekly News” are always available in the vestibule and Memorial Hall.
- ◇ The “Daily Family Devotions” are left out each week in the vestibule and the hallway next to the Choir Room.
- ◇ The “These Days” devotionals for this quarter are available in the vestibule, Memorial Hall and the hallway next to the Choir Room.

Church Office Hours (as circumstances allow):

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Office Email: bethelpc@gmail.com

Office Phone: (540) 886-6041

Christian Education News & Notes . . .

Class of 2020 Recognition Do you know of any Class of 2020 graduates that you would like Bethel to recognize? If so, please contact Adrienne in the Church Office by *this Tuesday, May 26th at 9:00 am.* Sending the information by email is the easiest way but you are welcome to leave the information in her mailbox too.

Please give the graduate’s name, parents names, school name, name of the major (if applicable), what their future plans are and any other information you would like to include. This information will be included in The Tower newsletter and the Weekly News in the future.

PRAYER LIST

Congregation Members

Jarod Davis & Family

Dan Gano Bobby Goodson

Karen Koogler Evelyn LaPorte

Kenneth LaPorte Sam Leonard

Margaret Liptrap John Pilson

Allen Quick Doris True

Alice Wooddell

Family & Friends of the Church & Congregation

Sarah Brownlee John Cordle

Ann Ellinger Bernice English

Joe Fleming Paul Harper

Matt Koogler David Law

Cecil Layman Mattie Marsh

John Michael Roy Pilson

Jamie Pirkey Van Pirkey

Lee & Katie Simon Gwen Stevenson

Linda True Walter Wade

Sympathies & Condolences

Family & Friends of Sara Ann Lamb

Community, Country, & World

Doctors, nurses, & those in healthcare including volunteers who are working with COVID-19 patients

All Military Leaders & Personnel
Police, Firemen, and EMS workers
& volunteers

Michael & Rachel Weller,

Missionaries in Ethiopia



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Mission Committee News & Notes . . .



Summerlee Mission Work We have been participating in the Summerlee Mission organized by Westminster Presbyterian Church and this year it will take on a new look because of the pandemic. It is still planned for July 5-11 but will be called Summerlee at Home. There will be local construction projects carried out and individuals that would like to participate will stay at home and travel each day to a site locally, for outdoor repairs on homes. Westminster is looking for local families with home repair needs. If you are interested in participating, please contact me and I will give you information.

Hope you are all staying safe and well.
Kathy Swisher, Mission Committee Chair

Personnel Committee News & Notes . . .

Organist/Music Director Needed

Eli will be leaving us in August to continue his study of voice. We are actively searching for an organist/choir director. If you have suggestions, contact Bill Brubeck, Dale Thompson or Jill Webb.

Youth & Youth Committee News & Notes . . .

The Youth Committee has come up with a proposal to serve the congregation. Our youth and young adults have shown an interest in you, our loved ones of Bethel. They have suggested and offered to help with weekend debris removal and yardwork at your home. All work will be outside only so we can maintain guidelines associated with the ongoing pandemic.

Tasks that will be offered but are not limited to include: leaf and grass raking, flower bed maintenance, removal of debris from storms, and mulching. (Cost of supplies and/or any other out-of-pocket expenditures will be the only cost for home jobs; i.e. mulch, flowers for planting, etc.) Hauling of any materials you need us to purchase will be done with care.

Please feel free to contact the Youth Committee with any interest or needs.

Brian or Penny Lee
Derek or Cindy Almarode

Stewardship & Finance News & Notes . . .

Weekly Financial Report

Estimated Weekly Budget
\$4,317.00

Offerings Received

May 3rd \$1,525.00

May 10th \$3,490.00

\$

We so appreciate and are grateful for your continued giving, as it's more important now than ever. As time goes on with services and activities suspended, our bills continue to come in and must be paid. If you are able to continue to contribute to Bethel's budget in the coming weeks, please mail checks to:

*Bethel Presbyterian Church
Attn: Kay Thompson
563 Bethel Green Road
Staunton, VA 24401*

Please stay healthy!

- Bethel S&F Committee

A letter of thanks from Kingsway Help Center . . .

May 8, 2020

TO; FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF KINGSWAY HELP CENTER;

Greetings to all of you, our loyal dedicated donars in so many ways which keep the wheels rolling here at Kingsway Help Center. At this writing and for the record, our Staff here at the Center are meeting the challenge of the time..namely the Coronavirus that has swept through our world. In order to continue serving in a safe and yet servicable way, the building proper is open only to staff and volunteers. Our Food Distribution day is "Drive-through" only for the health and safety of our clients. But, I digress...

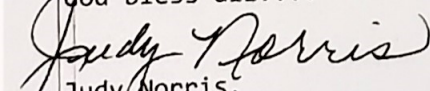
This report covers 2019 and, thanks to the generous continuance of the Churches, the Organizations and the personal giving, 2019 was a bountiful year.. We were able to distribute 153,478 Pounds of food - THAT averages 12,790 pounds per month - THAT averages over 6 tons per month !! What a blessing for the average of 146 families that we served - and that averages to some 424 individuals that we were able to give a "hand-up" to. Our numbers of families was a bit down in 2019 and we consider that a good thing. February, 2019 was our lightest month (120 families) and November. 2019 was our record month serving 181 families.

We feel very blessed that we are in a position to pass along the other various needs to those that pass through our doors, namely the number of items of clothing, kitchen wares, bedding, furniture and appliances. A note regarding the larger items, we gladly accept these, however, we are in no position to pick up OR deliver.

There are many churches, organizations, school departments and individuals who hold "drives" for designated items at special times of the year. Particular needs are met and soo much appreciated. We also salute and acknowledge the various Pastors who volunteer their time on the 3rd Wednesday of each month to bring devotions and encouragement to our Staff and volunteers on this our usually busiest day. Although, there are 25-30 volunteers that put in some approximately 30 hours a week sorting, sizing and storing all the clothing, foodstuffs, etc. Not all are there at the same time, but come gladly and happy to serve. Volunteers are always welcome - no experience necessary !!

We take this opportunity to especially thank the Spottswood-Raphine Ruritan Club for the use (rent free!) of the building in which we work. With all the continued prayers, and grateful support, we do the Lord's work with our hands. We appreciate all who make our mission of serving through Kingsway Help Center a success.

God bless all..!!


Judy Norris,
Secretary/Treasurer

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JOIN US AS
WORSHIP
RESUMES

JUNE 21, 2020
THE CHAPEL IN THE WOODS
(WEATHER PERMITTING)

MORE DETAILS ANNOUNCED
IN THE COMING WEEKS

*563 Bethel Green Road*Staunton, VA 24401*(540)886-6041*
bethelpc@gmail.comwww.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org*