

The Bethel Weekly News Week of June 14th, 2020

Message of the Week

Have you ever been reading your Bible and notice a word that puzzles you? Lately, I have been reading mostly random passages of scripture along with studying and researching them. The following scripture passage keeps coming back to the front of my mind.

"But if a servant declares, I love my master and my wife and children and do not want to go free, then his master must take him before the judges. He shall take him to the door or doorpost and pierce his ear with an <u>awl</u> then he will be his servant for life"

- Exodus 21:5-6

When I do not know what a word means, I continue reading in the hopes that the meaning will be revealed or defined later on in the text. In this case I was baffled at word <u>awl</u>. What is an awl? Upon research and asking Google, I determined it's a large nail or spike. In the verse above, it was referring to being a servant for life and bearing the mark of a servant. We as Christians also bear the mark of a servant with the cross but do not have to be pierced. The correlation I obtained from this is how many times Jesus was pierced on the cross to be our servant. His hands – serving us by lending a helping hand, holding our hands in times of need, etc. His feet - to walk or run with us, to carry or pick us up when we're down, etc. The crown of thorns - to serve our prayers and thoughts and his body- to include everything else and all we have. You can probably think of more metaphors to go along with Jesus' piercings. He endured the torture to serve us, and all we must do is accept and serve him. For even the son of man did not come to be served but to serve and give his life as ransom for many. - Mark 10:45

The second part of the verse pertains to a doorway, yet again I wondered what was the symbolism of the doorway. I concluded the doorway represented choice. You can choose the outside world or stay and faithfully serve. We are given the same choice to either serve our Lord or to give in to the ways of the world. In today's world we are tempted in so many ways, with spinning the meaning of words or enticing you to follow ideologies. We must always remember we have a choice and that choice is whether we follow and serve Jesus Christ. In conclusion Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice, endured pain, was pierced to the cross to serve the world, and give us a doorway between heaven and hell.

Which side of the doorway are you on? Is your choice to serve being done with a full heart? Are you standing in the doorway with one foot inside and one foot out?

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Some answers are amazingly simple, and some answers come from a word that I didn't know the definition of: "awl".

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place, "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. You call me "teacher" and Lord, rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done to you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor a messenger greater than the one who sent to him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

- John 13:12-17

With love and prayers, Brian Lee, Bethel Elder

Church Office News & Notes

- ⇒ This will be the last issue of the Bethel Weekly News since worship will resume next Sunday, June 21st. If you would like to continue receiving a printed copy of the bulletin and announcements please call or email Adrienne to let her know.
- ⇒ The deadline for bulletin information and announcements is Tuesday at noon (unless otherwise noted). Please email the information to Adrienne or place it in her mailbox in Memorial Hall. Thanks for your cooperation!
- ⇒ The July Tower Newsletter Deadline will be Tuesday, June 23rd, at noon. You may leave articles and announcements for the Tower in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall or email them to: bethelpc@gmail.com. We welcome and appreciate early submissions before the 23rd! All announcements for the newsletter should include: Who? What? When? Where? Why?

Elder-on Call June 2020

If you have pastoral need during the month of June please contact Kathy Swisher.

(540) 885-7397 (call or text) kwswisher@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (as circumstances allow)

Lunch *usually* taken: 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm

Phone: (540) 886-6041

Email: bethelpc@gmail.com

⇒ The "These Days" devotionals for the July - September quarter have arrived! Pick up your copy in the vestibule, Memorial Hall or on the table in the hallway next to the Choir Room.

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Congregational Care News & Notes

We still plan to have the Keurig available in Memorial Hall. Please wash your hands with soap or use hand sanitizer (provided) before using. When you are done please remove your k-cup from the machine. Then wipe down the Keurig and the coffee cart with a disinfecting wipe (also provided). Throw all trash in the can next to the cart. Thank you!

These instructions will be attached to the wall above the coffee cart within the next week.

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.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in the position please let them know that information can be obtained by checking indeed.com. For "What" search "Choir Director" and for "Where" search "Virginia".

Stewardship & Finance News & Notes

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 Bernice English Joe Fleming Paul Harper Matt Koogler David Law Cecil Layman Mattie Marsh John Michael Roy Pilson Jamie Pirkev Van Pirkey Barbara Shaner 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

Weekly Financial Report May Financial Report

Estimated Weekly Budget \$4,317.00 Estimated Expenses for May \$18,702.00

Offerings Received for May 31st \$1,145.00 Total May Offerings Received: \$8,005.00



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Worship Committee News & Notes



Massanetta Springs News & Notes

MASSANETTA THEN. NOW. ALWAYS. JUNE 24TH, 2020

SAVE THE DATE - Mark June 24th on your calendar for the *Massanetta Then. Now. Always*. Fundraiser! Every gift of every size is going to make a HUGE difference. With over \$25,000 in matching funds and incentives from the Community Foundation, there is no other day in 2020 where your investment in Massanetta's future can stretch further.

<u>SHARE</u> – Don't forget to share information about the fundraiser on Facebook and Instagram. And make sure to "like" Massanetta Springs to receive updates and additional information.

<u>GIVE</u> - On June 24th, make your gift via the secure online giving platform. We will be sending out the giving link early on that day through all of our electronic outlets.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

HAPPY FLAG DAY!

Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson is-



sued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

SUMMER BEGINS NEXT SATURDAY!

In 2020, the June solstice is **Saturday**, **June 20**, at 5:44 PM EDT. This date marks the official beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, occurring when Earth arrives at the point in its orbit where the North Pole is at its maximum tilt (about 23.5 degrees) toward the Sun, resulting in the longest day and shortest night of the calendar year. At

the June solstice, the Northern Hemisphere receives sunlight at the most direct angle of the year.

