



The Bethel Weekly News

Week of September 6th, 2020

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today, Sunday, September 6th

Mark Wilson, Guest Speaker

10:00 am Worship at the Chapel
in the Woods
*(if it's raining, please
meet in the Sanctuary)*

Monday, September 7th

Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8th

12:00 pm Bulletin & Weekly
News deadline for the
13th

Friday, September 11th

Patriot Day

(Sanctuary Reserved)

Saturday, September 12th

(Sanctuary Reserved)

Next Sunday, September 13th

Brian Lee, Guest Speaker

10:00 am Worship at the Chapel
in the Woods
*(if it's raining, please
meet in the Sanctuary)*

7:00 pm Session Meeting
(at Bethel)

*If possible please print out a copy of the
Order of Worship & bring the copy with you on Sunday.
It will be needed for the responsive Call to Worship
& unison Prayer of Confession.
Thank you for your cooperation!*

MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

Seconds Count

“Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” - James 4:14 (NIV)

This morning after a long-awaited return to school both Ashlyn and I ran out the door at breakneck speed to meet her awaiting friends at the high school. This was their breakout year! HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMEN on the move. They now believe themselves to be grownups, adults without the experience as I call them! A whole new chapter in the race of life awaits Ashlyn and her friends and for all the parents the same outcome. Ashlyn, asked this morning in the car on the way to school, she said, “Dad what do you think about your daughter being in high school now?” She then chuckled and said, “I am so old”. Where has my little girl gone? This morning went by like a flash of light. If I compared it to a pit crew on a racetrack, we would have been in the pits and back out onto the racetrack in 25 seconds flat!

Crazy! Is life always like this? The answer should be no, and if it is not, it is because we allow it to be like this!

Friends, we should not live our lives on a racetrack because the pace is simply not healthy. We cannot function consistently at these speeds and expect to experience our lives and the world we live in at the speed of a racecar. In fact, life does not give us a checkered flag when we finish our race. It is the opposite.

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SEPTEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS:
DEREK ALMARODE & BRIAN LEE

ALL SEPTEMBER WORSHIP
SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM

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The book of James teaches us that life is like a vapor, here one moment and gone the next. James 4:14 says, “*Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.*”

My dad always said, “*stop and enjoy the moment: you are here today and gone today*”.

I observed this life lesson this morning as I drove into school traffic around Riverheads. It looked like bees swarming around a beehive. Everyone traveling at breakneck speed to get their kids into the building on time and then suddenly in an instant the traffic halts and grinds to a stop. 100 Miles per hour turns to zero in 1.3 seconds. Waiting on others is the story of our lives. Someone else’s schedule dictating ours. This isn’t how it’s supposed to be. We have things to do and folks to see, let’s go, let’s go! One can become very annoyed and frustrated with all the commotion, cars inching forward, buses trying to merge, people walking everywhere, new drivers displaying their talents behind the wheel and my favorite, texting your friends while walking beside them. It is a show for sure!

As I departed several miles down the road I observed where there had been an accident earlier, the remnants of emergency services remained, the skid marks still visible. At that moment it hit me, they did not make their destination, someone’s family member may have been injured or even killed. What happened in that split second to cause this accident?

In the importance of the day and all the hustle and bustle surrounding it, this scene, or what was left of it, was a sobering reminder that we are not in charge and that in a split second someone’s world instantaneously can be changed, their tomorrow turned out completely different than their expectations of yesterday.

I stared through the side window of the passenger’s seat where my daughter sat just a few short moments ago and I realized we rush through everything and miss the point of living. We do not live each moment with a God-given peace and gratitude for the life we have been granted. Our job is to make moments matter!! The question is, do we do this?

Friends, are you making the seconds and minutes count? Are you living each day to its fullest? God is calling you to live on mission, to intentionally share the gospel to those around you. Whether at home as a stay at home parent, in a factory on a production line, on a tractor seat, in a cubicle, in a high school or college classroom, or engaged in a community event. We have the finite ability to make time count.

Know this; what we have done in the past, and what we are doing this very second, will affect our future?

1. What are we doing this month that will make a difference?
2. What are we doing this week to make a difference in someone’s life?
3. What are we doing today to savor the gift of life God has given us?

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Perhaps the greatest question is: what is the value of time?

Well, the answer is that it is invaluable!

Time cannot be purchased; it is the gift of our Lord. It has a beginning and an end.

One year, one month, one week, one day, one hour, one minute, one second, they all matter. If you do not believe this, ask the Olympic gold medalist who has spent most of his or her lifetime training for this one attempt to win. While standing on the podium of victory, it's announced that they won the gold medal by one millisecond.

A millisecond defined a lifetime!

Scripture calculates life by vapor, so treasure every moment you have. Remember you may not see the white flag indicating your last lap on the racetrack of life, so I encourage you to live like it's your last go-around and savor the straight stretches, turn one, turn two, turn three and turn four.

Make even the seconds count. They are sometimes all you have!

- Derek Almarode, Elder

GUEST MINISTER - SEPTEMBER 6TH

Bethel welcomes Mr. Mark Wilson as the Guest Speaker today (September 6th).

Mark is from Augusta Stone Presbyterian Church in Ft. Defiance where he is an Elder and Trustee. He has done pulpit supply for a number of local Presbyterian churches, most recently from Hebron Presbyterian Church.

Please let Mark know how much we appreciate his being with us!

The flowers at the chapel this morning (September 6th) are given by Jill Webb in memory of her father, E. Theodore Webb and her brother, Theodore W. Webb.

ELDER-ON-CALL SEPTEMBER 2020

If you have a pastoral need during the month of September, please contact Derek Almarode.

(540) 280-4940 (call or text) almarodes@verizon.net

Church Attendance

August 23rd: 45

August 30th: 40

Upcoming Supply Ministers & Speakers

September 6th Mark Wilson

September 13th Brian Lee

September 20th Derek Almarode

September 27th Derek Almarode

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Church Office News & Notes

The Church Office will be closed tomorrow (September 7th), for the Labor Day holiday.



Please have all announcements for the Bethel Weekly News for September 13th to the Church Office by this Tuesday (September 8th), at noon. Thanks for your cooperation!

- Adrienne Barker, Office Manager

Personnel Committee



Organist/Music Director Needed

At this time we are actively searching for an organist/choir director. If you have any suggestions, please contact Bill Brubeck, Dale Thompson or Jill Webb.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in the position, please tell the person that information can be obtained by checking indeed.com: search "Choir Director" and "Virginia".

Stewardship & Finance Committee

Weekly Financial Report

Estimated Weekly Budget: \$4,317.00

Offerings Received August 23rd: \$1,665.00

Offerings Received August 30th: \$1,066.00

August Financial Report

Estimated Expenses for August:
\$18,702.00

Total August Offerings Received:
\$9,773.00



PRAYER LIST

(updated 9/3/20)

New Additions

Rob Schnurr (*cousin of Jill Webb*)

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

Joe Fleming

Matt Koogler

David Law

Mattie Marsh

Roy Pilson

Jamie Pirkey

Van Pirkey

Barbara Shaner

Beth Shaw

Walter Wade

Lee & Katie Simonds

Dennis & Sarah Russell & Family

Sympathies & Condolences

Family & Friends of Bobbye D'Orsi

Family of Mark Sawyer

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

