



BETHESDA E.C. CHURCH

at Reedsville "A Healing Community"

SERVICE TIMES & INFORMATION

Sunday Morning Services

8:00 am - Traditional Service

9:15 am - Sunday School

10:30 am - Contemporary Service

All Sunday Morning Services are
"Come as you are comfortable."
With or without a mask.

Jr. Church available during the
10:30 service for children in grades K-4.

The 10:30 service is also streamed
on YouTube. Find us at:
Bethesda EC Church

Table of Contents

Page 2.....Family Ministries
Page 3.....Family Ministries Cont.
Page 4.....Support Ministries
Page 5.....Local & Global Ministries
Page 6.....Bethesda Leadership
Page 7.....Celebrating Pastor Mark
Page 8.....Celebrating Pastor Mark
Page 9.....Prayer Requests



Vacation Bible School
2021
July 12-16, 2021

This year's theme is Treasured! Kids will discover that God's greatest treasure isn't diamonds, gems, or gold... it's them all while embarking on a treasure hunt for evidence of God all around them. We want kids to know that:

- God Knows You
- God Hears You
- God Comforts You
- God Forgives You
- God Chooses You



Nightly skits and videos, songs, puppets, crafts, games, and snacks will highlight the week. Children will earn points by coming to Bible School, bringing friends, and learning bible verses. Points will be redeemed for candy & Prizes!

Register your child for VBS TODAY! Three convenient ways to register:

1. **Online:** Visit www.bethesdaec.org and click on the Treasured logo
2. Fill out a registration form at the **Welcome Counter**.
3. **Call** the church office at 570-739-2241.

VBS needs your help!

1. **DONATE:** We need lots of stuff to make VBS come to life! Please visit the display at the Welcome Counter to choose a card with one of our needs. Thank you in advance!
2. **VOLUNTEER:** Your time and talents are in demand! Give as much time as you can...come one night or all five. Visit the Welcome Counter to learn about volunteer opportunities and to sign-up today!
3. **PRAY:** Ask God to use our volunteers to bring the gospel message to willing hearts. Pray that children are brought into Christ's Kingdom.
4. **Recruit:** Invite the kids in your life to come to Bible School. Children of friends, family, co-workers and neighbors all need to hear about Jesus!

Financial Snapshot May 2021

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$175,269	\$153,420	\$ (21,849)
Expenses	\$175,320	\$194,591	\$ (19,271)
PPP		\$ 49,002	\$ 49,002
NET			\$ 7,882



Kids Klub

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES AGES 4-4TH GRADE

Sunday School - Sunday mornings at 9:15 in Common Ground. Available for ages 4 through 4th grade. Join us for a time of games, activities and fun all centered around the lesson that will be shared in Jr. Church

Jr. Church - Sunday mornings during the 10:30 service, in Common Ground. Available for ages 4 through 4th grade. This time will build on the activities during Sunday school and provide a lesson and songs during this children's church service!



BYM

BETHESDA YOUTH MINISTRIES GRADES 5-12

- **Monday, June 28th - Tuesday, June 29th** - Sleepover at Janet Stoyer's for grades 8-12. 6 pm - 10 am.
- **Monday, June 28th - Tuesday, June 29th** - Video Game Tournament for 8-12 grade boys. 8 pm - 8 am.
- **July 12-16th** - Vacation Bible School - All youth are welcome and encouraged to volunteer. Connect with Pastor Stewart if interested.
- **July 25-30th** - BYM Missions Trip



Women of Bethesda

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's ZOOM Thursday Night Fellowship - 7 pm. Are you craving connection during this time of isolation? Join a lightly moderate hour of fellowship. Visit www.bethesdaec.org for the link.

Crochet Circle

Held at the home of Cheryl Bender. Monday, July 11th and 25th from 6:30-8:30 pm.



Men of Bethesda

MEN'S MINISTRY

Summer Story Series - Saturday, July 24th at 5 pm. All men are invited to Paul Moyer's residence for a time of food, fellowship as well as the hearing of a testimony. Sign ups will be at the Welcome Counter beginning in July!

MenConnect - every weekday morning at 6 am. Join Pastor Jeff for a 15 minute devotional to start your day. Not an early riser? Watch later on YouTube. Links available at bethesdaec.org.



JOY Group

JUST OLDER YOUTH OPEN TO ALL ADULTS 18+

JOY group is currently not meeting due to COVID.

Family Ministries

Ministry Highlights



Join the Bethesda Youth and Children's group on Facebook to stay up to date on all upcoming events.



VBS Volunteer Breakfast

If you are volunteering for VBS join us on **Saturday, July 10th at 9 am** for a breakfast meeting where we will go over the week and share all the pertinent info!



VBS Decorating Work Parties

6-8 PM

Join us on **Sunday, June 20th, Monday, June 21st, Sunday, June 27th and Monday, June 28th** for VBS decorating work parties. No artistic experience needed! Please wear old clothes as you might be painting or gluing. **No need to sign up, just come when you are able!**

We are also looking for donations of cardboard! Please call the church office for more information!



Bethesda EC Church - 155 Reedsville Road - Schuylkill Haven - 17972 - Phone: 570-739-2241

Mailing Address - 23 Meadowbrook Drive - Schuylkill Haven - 17972

www.bethesdaec.org



Sunday School

ADULT ELECTIVES - CONT. THRU AUGUST 29TH

"The Confident Hope" - Steve Minnich & Ed Redding - In the International Room

The lessons will be drawn from Leviticus, Matthew, Luke, Romans, 2 Corinthians, Hebrews and 1 John. In our crazy world there is a dearth of hope. Sometimes it takes a tragedy or setback to force us to switch off the auto pilot of everyday life. When that happens the result can be an exposure of cracks in our beliefs and we begin to ask deeper questions of life. A times like this we need ample confident hope, and that comes exclusively in a continuing relationship with Jesus. Join us to see what Scripture says about confident hope.

"Death and Resurrection of the Messiah" - Steve Svenson - In the Library
Teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan brings together history, culture, and geography to illuminate the Gospels. The insights you gain will transform your reading of the Gospels and inspire a deeper faith commitment. Faith Lessons on the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah focuses on the last week of Jesus' life, his death and resurrection, and the Holy Spirit's visit on Pentecost.

Transition Update

- The Evangelical Congregational Church assigns Pastors on an annual basis. The next process for assignment does not begin until January 2022. This means we have a six-month window to evaluate our current state in order to make an informed decision come January.
- In the Meantime, leadership will be evaluating various pastoral roles, our own leadership make-up, and available means for compensation.
- The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) has already met with each pastor individually over the past month to get a big picture view of our overall ministry needs.
- Currently, the PRC is working on a three-phase plan that will help our leaders to understand and address the overall needs of the congregation.
- Phase One has been approved by the Ministry Council.

Phase One

- Pastor Jeff will assume the bulk of visitation duties and transition some preaching responsibilities to Pastor Stewart.
- Pastor Jeff will work with leaders to oversee targeted community outreach opportunities. He will also participate in all commission meetings.
- Pastor Stewart will be moved to 3/4 time in order to assist with visitation and other responsibilities.
- Pastor Stewart will assume a greater role in preaching to help balance the load, and delegate some aspects of youth and children's ministry.

Sunday School

CHILDREN AND TEENS

- **Ages 0-3** - Crying room available for Parents with their children.
- **Ages 4- Grade 4** - Teacher: Miss Lynn - Sunday school available in Common Ground starting June 6th.
- **Grades 5-7** - Teacher - Pastor Stewart - Sunday school in the Cinema Room.
- **Grades 8-12** - Teacher - Lily Stoyer - Sunday School in the Café.

.....



PRC Members:

Chair: Ed Redding

Secretary: Jody Stine

MC Chair: Steve Minnich

Lay Delegate: Connie Wright

Members: Bill Canfield,
Charlie Killian, and Christine Morrison

Bethesda EC Church - 155 Reedsville Road - Schuylkill Haven - 17972 - Phone: 570-739-2241

Mailing Address - 23 Meadowbrook Drive - Schuylkill Haven - 17972

www.bethesdaec.org



GriefShare

FOR THOSE GRIVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

Sunday, July 11th & 25th at 1:30 pm

GriefShare is a support group for those who have lost a spouse, child, family member or friend. Video vignettes, group discussion, personal study, and reflection are part of healing. Call Paul at 570-294-0778 for more information.



Celebrate Recovery

FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH HURT, PAIN OR ADDICTION OF ANY KIND

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Celebrate Recovery is designed to help those struggling with hurts, habits, and hangups by showing them the loving power of Jesus Christ through the recovery process. The program is based on eight principles from the Beatitudes and the Twelve Steps (i.e. AA) and their biblical comparisons. A limitless number of issues can be dealt with through the program such as chemical addictions, overspending, anger, overeating, need to control, fear/anxiety, and more!



Prayer Meetings

MEETING AT NATE & PEG HEIMS

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Join us on Wednesdays in person at **Nate & Peg Heim's** residence **starting at 6:30 pm**. Call the church office for more information.



Extended Hands Ministry

HELPING ONE ANOTHER WITH GIFTS IN OUR FELLOWSHIP

Here are some resources if you have a need:

- Meals (ie frozen dinners): Call the church office 570-739-2241
- Interpreting or researching Medical Insurance: Maggie Arbushites 570-573-0412
- Care-giving Issues: Christine Morrison 570-640-1459
- Housing/property project: Jeff Hughes 570-617-4254
- Information & resources about premature babies: Samantha Pfeffer 570-617-5368

Support Ministries

Ministry Highlights

The Church Has Left the Building

Get Ready!!! On **Sunday, October 10, 2021**, Bethesda and Grace EC Churches will



again come together to experience The Church Has Left the Building. As the Outreach Commissions from each church continue to meet and plan this opportunity, your help is needed. **We are searching for job site possibilities.**

If you know of someone or a family who owns their home (not renting), and needs some landscaping and/or simple renovation or "handyman" work on their property, **please forward their contact information to the church office at 570-739-2241 or email us at office@bethesdaec.org**. The preference is for those who cannot afford or are limited by age or physical condition to complete this work on their own. We must have job sites in order to make October 10th a reality.

Thank you for helping us find projects. **Please have your suggestions to the church office no later than Sunday, July 4th.**

Frozen Meals/Food Pantry Church Office

Are you or someone you know in need of a warm meal? Did you know that we have meals available in the freezer of the church kitchen? If you know of someone who could benefit from a warm meal, call the church office and we will arrange for pick up or delivery of a meal.

Call the Office at 570-739-2241

Bethesda EC Church - 155 Reedsville Road - Schuylkill Haven - 17972 - Phone: 570-739-2241

Mailing Address - 23 Meadowbrook Drive - Schuylkill Haven - 17972

www.bethesdaec.org



Missionary Corner

Dan & Mary Lynne Wills
Wycliffe Bible Translators

PRAISE

- We are all healthy and doing well
- Troy, Justin and their families are doing well (their sons)
- Dan & Mary Lynne will be celebrating their 37th anniversary next month.
- During this past year new Bibles were available in 704 languages and an additional 1551 languages have complete New Testaments.

PRAY

- That we all stay healthy
- As we continue to bring God's Word to those who are waiting.
- For more donors and prayer partners
- That God will be honored in everything we do.



Coffee @ the Corner

Open Every Saturday
8 am till 12 pm

To provide a safe space to have
dialog and be heard.

FREE COFFEE

At the NW corner of 443 & 183

Communion

Sunday,
July 4th



Local & Global Ministries

Wayne Township Senior Group

23 Meadowbrook Center
July 2021 Events

Wednesday, July 7th -

Closed for the Holiday

Wednesday, July 14th -

Lunch: Ham & Cheese Sandwich & Soup
Program: Movin & Groovin with Barb & Jim

Wednesday, July 21st -

Lunch: Halupkies & Roll
Program: BINGO!

Wednesday, July 28th -

Lunch: Coney Burger & Cold Salad
Program: BINGO!



If you have any questions, please
call the office at **570-739-2241**.

For a more detailed list of
reopening procedures visit
www.23meadowbrook.org.

Diakon's Programs:

Zumba Gold takes place every
Thursday at 6 pm.

Soft Yoga takes place every
Tuesday at 6 pm.

For more information call Diakon
directly at **570-624-3018**

Bethesda EC Church - 155 Reedsville Road - Schuylkill Haven - 17972 - Phone: 570-739-2241

Mailing Address - 23 Meadowbrook Drive - Schuylkill Haven - 17972

www.bethesdaec.org

The Leaders of the Ministry Council

Our Ministry Council consists of the following officers, commission leaders, and members-at-large:

Officers:

President: Steve Minnich
Vice-President: Craig Stine
Secretary: Tim DeLay
Lay Delegate: Connie Wright
Alternate Lay Delegate: Marty Stoyer
Financial Secretary: Cheryl Bender



Commission Chairs:

Outreach: Janet Stoyer, Lily Stoyer
Integration: Rae Huneke
Discipleship:
Missions Assistant: Bill Mills
Church Life: Steve Svenson
Operations: Steve Babb
Member at Large: Mark Hoover

Ministry Point People Quick Reference Guide

Benevolence: Pastor Mark
Celebrate Recovery: Norma Minnich
Child Care Coordinator: Pastor Stewart
Children's Ministries: Lynn Koch
Learning Opportunities: Steve Svenson
Counseling Reference: See Pastors
Custodial Issues: Roxanne Seltzer
Decorating: Cara Stine
Denominational Relations: Pastor Jeff
Financial Giving Statements: Cheryl Bender
Financial Peace University: Mark Hoover
Food Pantry: DeLay Family
GriefShare: Paul Moyer
Hospitality/Welcome Counter: Rae Huneke
Information/Communications: Church Office
JOY Fellowship: Linda Bollinger
Memorial Gifts: Cheryl Bender
Men of Bethesda (MOB): Pastor Mark
Missionary Support: Connie Wright/Bill Mills
Official Church Matters: Steve Minnich
Outreach Opportunities: Janet & Lily Stoyer
Pastoral Relations: Connie Wright
Prayer: Connie Wright
Prison Ministry: Steve Minnich
Property/Vehicles/Insurance: Steve Babb
Life Groups/Triads/Connections: Connie Wright
Sunday School: Pastor Stewart
Treasurer: Lisa Minnich
Twin Pines: Bette Jo Long
Use of Facility/Pavilion/Fields: Lisa Minnich
Vacation Bible School: Pastor Stewart
Website: Lisa Minnich
What's for Dinner Wednesday: Linda Bollinger
Women's Ministry: Norma Minnich
Worship Related: Church Office
Youth Ministry: Pastor Stewart

Who's Who at



Pastoral Relations Committee:

Bethesda EC Church maintains a Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC). The PRC helps to fulfill our commitment to the best interests of the pastors, as well as the health of our congregation.

If you have a question or comment you believe would help the PRC in attaining these goals, please contact one of the following PRC members:

Connie Wright 570-573-1450
Steve Minnich 570-527-0298
Jody Stine 570-640-2043
Charlie Killian 570-617-6697
Bill Canfield 570-573-2059
Ed Redding 570-915-6367
Chris Morrison 570-640-1459



While on one of many of our work camps with MDS, Mark was pumping gas into the church van when someone approached him and asked what E.C. meant following Bethesda on the side of the van. His response "Eating Constantly"!

I also remember our first trip to Pass Christian, Mississippi to do Hurricane Katrina cleanup. We were constructing a pavilion and while up on the frame of the roof Mark split his shorts completely out down the seams. Thank goodness his boxers stayed intact because he had to work the rest of the day that way!

Sue Killian



Big thank you to Mark Brooks (aka the beating heart of Bethesda EC Church) for such amazing leadership and many hours of back-breaking work and loads of coordination to help victims of flooding in Tremont for work team week and beyond. Please make sure to tell him that his efforts are appreciated!

Lisa DeLay April 10, 2019

Pastor Mark, You are Loved!



Thanks Mark Brooks for the Family 101: Back to the Basics class! When the last class in a series was a packed house, there is no denying it was a great one!!! I also greatly appreciated the message in worship. !

Jane Baudoin August 25, 2019

What an AWESOME service today pastor Mark Brooks... I was saved and baptized as a child at my nan's church after hearing your message. Today I'm ready as an adult to fully apply the message today to my life and give this gift to my children... Thank you for opening my eyes (and my heart)

Cara Spatz May 5, 2019





On behalf of Joelle and myself, I want to say that Mark and his family will be truly missed, but we are excited for the opportunity that God has provided for this next step in ministry.

I want to extend my appreciation for the heart that was shown in Mark's service to the community and the families of Bethesda. His example of what it means to bring heart and hands to the head of God's kingdom was a strong encouragement for me as I took on this first position in church ministry.

We wish them the best in this next leg of their journey and are excited to hear what kind of adventures God will take them on in this new position.

Pastor Stewart



The first time I met Mark was outside the front door of our seminary townhouse on a snowy morning. He was shoveling my sidewalk. I was amazed at his energy then and still respect the energy that he still applies to ministry today. His investment into the community will be missed by many organizations that provided help to people in need or who found themselves in peril from tragedy. Mark was not only a lifeline for many individuals but also helped to steer clergy groups, volunteer organizations, social agencies, and mission trips toward the needs of others.

As the Pastor of Connectional Ministries, he provided the glue that made ministries stick. He was responsible for launching several new relational-based ministries, such as What's for Dinner Wednesday and Men of Bethesda. These ministries provided the means for people to connect together, and Mark was always at the center of them. These ministries still exist today because of his persistence.

Lastly, Mark was a blessing to people. He will be greatly missed here. And we are confident that residents of Stone Ridge will experience the same blessing that we experienced for the past 19 years. May Pastor Mark find blessing in his new role and adventure in the course of his life.

Pastor Jeff



On Behalf of the Brooks Family...

Thank You so much for your kind words, love, and gifts received over the past days and weeks. We appreciate and value the time God allowed us to be at Bethesda. Continue to be a light in the community as you keep Christ at the center of all you do!!!

With Love,
The Brooks Family



Prayer Concerns

July 2021

Personal

Aaron Albertini (recovery)
Jim Berger (cancer)
Bonnie Betz (heart)
Angie Blankenhorn (migraines)
Eileen Blew (knees)
Linda Bollinger (recovery)
Jean Bolton (recovery)
Carol Bowen (stroke)
Dean Brauer (heart/lungs)
Dennis Buck (cancer)
Bill Canfield (recovery)
Marie Canfield (cancer)
Bruce Croneburger (heart)
Abner De Diazzy (stroke)
Marcia Donlin (cellulitis)
Jill Dorang (rehab)
Jed Dunlap (rehab/dialysis)
Kandi Dysinger (back)
Carol Endres (treatment)
Mary Jo Faust (back)
Elona Fromm (fractures)
Allie Greene (auto-immune)
Allen Gruver (cancer)
Judy Harig (pain)
Tina Heim (recovery)
Glen Helbert (treatments)
Ezekiel Holzer (cough)
Cathy Imschweiler (eyes)
Jacob Jamison (heart)
Theresa Keylor (breathing)
Brett Kindig (recovery)
Barry Kintzel (cancer)
Marilyn Kissling (recovery)
Justin Krute (rehab)
Lori Lehman (testing)
Susie Lowenthal (treatment)
Jim Martin (dialysis)
Amanda Mason (transition)
Karen McNeil (recovery)
Pastor Rob McSurdy (recovery)
Barb Miller (cancer)
Lori Morgan (recovery)
Arlene Moyer (recovery)

Laverne Otto (recovery)
Amber Pavalko (recovery)
Dawn Reiter (testing)
Don Rothrock (heart)
Wayne Schlottman (cancer)
Robin Schoener (cancer)
Jessica Sledzinski (sobriety)
Xavier Smith (blood clots)
Bud Snyder (hospice)
Dennis Snyder (recovery)
Cara Stine (pain management)
Joe Stock (stroke)
Lynn Stranix (recovery)
Maria Szumlanski (pulmonary)
Delores Walck (cancer)
Rebecca Walser (recovery)
Alissa Waschko (recovery)
Jim Witmer (heart)
Cindy Yeager (chemo)
Patti Young (rehab)

Family

C. Emily Babb Family (stability)
Phillip Christman Family (transition)
Robert Donton Family (parkinson's)
Dylan & Brianna Erber Family (rehab)
Carol Gehrig Family (loss)
Emerson Sage Hess Family (birth)
Merry Witmer Hoover Family (transition)
Dawn & Kel Jarman Family (loss)
Mary Elizabeth Killian Family (loss)
Sharon Koch Family (loss)
Joe & Brenda Krasinsky Family (transition)
Edgar Meade Family (loss)
Claire Miller Family (loss)
Brian Mullens Family (incarceration)
Jim & Kathy Price (transition)
Carol(schauers)Pliler Family (discernment)
Sylvia Snyder Family (loss)
Lloyd & Cindy Yeager Family (transition)

Local, National & Global

EC Officers:

- Bishop Bruce Hill
- Exec Director: K Henry
- Associates: J. Byerly, L. Cool, G. Kuehner, & T. Rathman
- President Joe Biden
- Vice President Kamala Harris
- US Military Forces
- Coronavirus
- National Conference
- EC Bishop Elect Randy Sizemore

Congregational

- 23 Meadowbrook Center
- Celebrate Recovery
- Coffee @ the Corner
- GriefShare ministry
- L.I.F.E. & TUMI Prison Ministries

All articles for events held from **August 1st** through **September 15th** should be submitted by the **10th of July** to be included in our **August issue**. A copy of this newsletter can also be found on-line at **www.bethesdaec.org**

Shut-ins

Walter Bigler
Eileen Blew
Theron & Mary Anne Boyer
Edith Houtz
Sharon Kissenger
Eleanor & Jacob Jamison
Sheree Minnich
Mary Rhen

Karen Rountree
Maria Szumlanski

Military

Alex Amaya (Navy)
Josh Behler (Air Force)
Jessica Kelley (Air Force)
Ben Kilmer (National Guard)
Jeff McNeil (Army)

Thomas Perkins (Army)
Zhen & Sharon Schropp (Air Force)
Nate Stine (Air Force)
Joe Sweigart (Army)
Thomas Walser (Air National Guard)