OCTOBER 2021

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.

Nursery & 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.....Upcoming Special Events
Page 5.....Support Ministries
Page 6.....Local & Global Ministries
Page 7.....Bethesda Leadership
Page 8.....Prayer Requests

Saturday, October 16th 6-8 pm

Children up to 5th grade are invited to come out to our 4th annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 16th at the church. There will be lots of FREE candy and FUN for the kids! Trunk or Treating is a fun and safe alternative to Trick or Treating. Children go from car to car to collect candy. Each trunk will be decorated in a unique fashion. Don't forget your costume! In order to make this night a success, we need you! We are in need of individuals willing to help with parking, direct the children and most importantly to provide a decorated trunk and hand out candy!

If you are willing to help in any way, please sign up at the Welcome Counter, call the office or visit bethesdaec.org. We also need CANDY to hand out to the children who come. Please drop off your candy donations in the box by the welcome counter by Wednesday, October 13th.

What's for Dinner Wednesday will take place on October 6th & 20th. Dinner is served 5:30 - 6:15 pm. Come and enjoy a hearty meal and fellowship before our Wednesday evening activities. (Adults $3, kids $1, Family cost $10.00 max.) Menus will be shared prior to each date. If you are able to bring a dessert, it is appreciated!

Financial Snapshot
August 2021

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	$288,077	$245,182	$ (42,895)
Expenses	$288,602	$291,531	$ (2,929)
PPP		$ 49,002	$ 49,002
NET			$ 3,178

Bethesda Children

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!

Kidz Klub - Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8 pm in Common Ground running through November 10th. Kidz Klub is a time of games, snacks, fun and learning about God! This semester's topic will be Make Things Industries - How God can use "unimportant" people and make them great!

BYM

BETHESDA YOUTH MINISTRIES GRADES 5-12

- October 1 - Drive In Movie Night-more info to come
- October 8-10 - Fall Retreat with Community EC
- October 10 - NO BYM
- October 17 - Regular BYM 6-7:30 pm
- October 24 - Regular BYM 6-7:30 pm
- October 30 - Campfire at the Social Hall 6-8 pm
- October 31 - NO BYM

Sunday School - Sunday mornings at 9:15. Grades 5-7 in the Cinema Room and grades 8-12 in the Surfer Room.

Women of Bethesda

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Crochet Circle Held at the home of Cheryl Bender. Monday, October 11th and 25th from 6:30-8:30 pm.
Ladies Brunch will resume on Saturday, October 16th at 12:30 pm. The new location will the the Long Run Diner on the corner of 443 & 183. Any questions connect with Cherie Avezzano at 570-292-6917.

Men of Bethesda

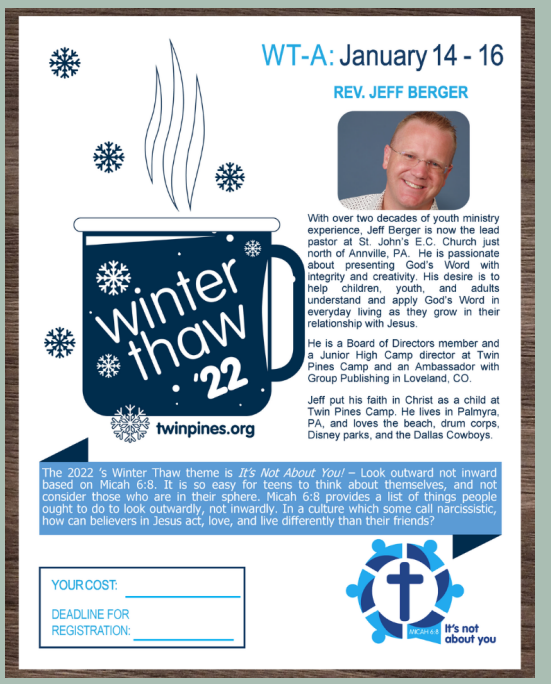
MEN'S MINISTRY

Stay tuned for service opportunities like The Church Has Left the Building, which will take place on October 10th. Also stay tuned for future Men of Bethesda events.

Family Ministries

Ministry Highlights

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



Winter Thaw Signups will begin on September 26th! Stay Tuned!

Wednesday Night Adult Study

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm in the Library

Pastor Stewart is teaching on **Celebrating the Great Traditions of the Christian Faith.**
Have you ever wondered why we do what we do in church?
This study will look at the history of some of our traditions and bring them into modern day by looking to Jesus as the model for these traditions.

Sunday School

ADULT ELECTIVES - CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 5TH

Adult Classes continuing through November 28th

International Room - *Celebrating God* - Taught by Steve Minnich and Ed Redding - The lessons will focus on the gift and privilege of worship, the acts of celebrating God for who He is, and God's work in our lives and in the world.

Library - *God Is Closer Than You Think* - Taught by Tasha Byerly - The Bible is filled with examples of an intimate God, a God keenly interested in connecting with ordinary people. He promises to be with us. *God Is Closer Than You Think* shows how you can enjoy a vibrant, moment-by-moment relationship with your heavenly Father. Not some abstract theological concept, but the real deal-intimate connection with a deeply personal God.

Transition Update

- As the PRC considers how to handle the transition from three pastors to two pastors, we must consider how to replace or supplement the work that Pastor Mark provided.
- Since the Evangelical Congregational Church assigns pastors on an annual basis, the next process for assignment does not begin until January 2022. This means we are in a six-month window to evaluate our current state in order to make an informed decision come January.
- As we enter Phase II of a 3-phase process, the PRC and Ministry Council have approved a leadership assessment for all leaders in the month of November.
- The Ministry Council will utilize this information to consider possible arrangements for pastoral leadership or adjustments to responsibilities.
- The Ministry Council continues to monitor the spiritual health of the church. Additionally, the church is experiencing a slight rebound in its financial picture. This will be evaluated closely as decisions need to be made about the future.
- Please continue to pray as the PRC and the Ministry Council work to implement Phase Two.

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 - Michelle & Bill Canfield - Sunday school in the Cinema Room.
- **Grades 8-12** - Teacher - Lily Stoyer - Sunday School in the Surfer Room.

Membership Classes

If you are interested in becoming a member at Bethesda, these meetings are for you! You only need to attend one. More information to come. If you have any questions, connect with Pastor Jeff.

- Tuesday, October 26
- Thursday, October 28
- Saturday, October 30
- Sunday, October 31

Upcoming Special Services and Special Guests

On **Sunday, October 3rd at 4 pm** Pastor Stewart MacDonald will be having his **Ordination Service**. All Are invited to attend. Pastor Ted Rathman will be speaking, as he has served as Stewart's mentor through the ordination process. A reception will follow. Join us as we celebrate with Pastor Stewart!

On **October 24th**, Bishop Bruce Hill will be presenting the message in both worship services on Sunday morning. Bruce has served as the bishop since 2010. Prior to his election as Bishop, Bruce has served Community Church in Sinking Spring, served as director at the ECC Retirement Village, and served in Bridgeville and Hosensack, PA.

Bruce has spoken in the United States, as well as Costa Rica, Ethiopia, India, Japan, Liberia, Mexico and Nepal. He has shown himself to be a dynamic and innovative leader in both the church and community. Beyond that he enjoys the outdoors; hunting, kayaking, and golfing, as well as collecting Roy Rogers memorabilia. Bruce and his wife Gloria are the parents of three grown children and grandparents of nine. They live in Richland, PA.

Beginning in the month of November, Dr. Douglas Buckwalter from Evangelical Seminary will be teaching ***A Survey of the Book of Revelation*** on five Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. (**November 7 – December 5**). Doug first began to teach at Evangelical in 1993, soon after returning to the States after finishing his post-graduate studies in Scotland with Prof. I. Howard Marshall. Before coming to Evangelical he was working as a free-lance editor with Walter A. Elwell and J. D. Douglas for Baker Book House and Zondervan Publishing House on various theological and biblical reference works.

Doug has also coached as a parent volunteer for many years with the Warwick School District in Lancaster County, the distance runners on their Varsity Cross Country and Track teams, and the Junior High girls' volleyball team. His family is certified in Scuba Diving, and Doug and his family have recently hiked an 800-mile section of the Appalachian Trail.

Pastor Appreciation

It is essential that we pray for our pastors every day. However, October has been designated as Pastor Appreciation Month. Let's choose to remember Pastor Jeff and Pastor Stewart and their families in some special way this month. It doesn't have to cost much. A card, a note, or a phone call - simple gestures that would show that you appreciate how dedicated they are to God and Bethesda church. Most of all, continually lift them up before the throne of our Heavenly Father.

Pastor Stewart MacDonald
Bethesda EC Church

Bishop Bruce Hill

Dr. Douglas Buckwalter
Evangelical Seminary

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, October 10th & 24th 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 or Maggie at 570-573-0412 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

Extended Hands offers help with:

- **Interpreting/researching medical insurance (reconciling Explanation of benefits and medical billing; understanding policies; researching coverage)**
- **Understanding the steps involved in estate settlement (executing a Last Will & Testament or closing an intestate processing)**

Support Ministries

Ministry Highlights

The Church Has Left the Building

THANK YOU FOR...

Volunteering for Church Has Left the Building!!!

Taking place Sunday, October 10th, volunteers from Bethesda and Grace EC Churches will invade homes and properties in the communities surrounding our churches to do yard work, painting, and repairs. Please sign up at church on Sunday or by calling the church offices at 570-739-2241.

We will not be meeting in-person for services on that Sunday, but we will have a prerecorded service available for you on Youtube. Just search for us at Bethesda EC Church. Any questions call the church office.

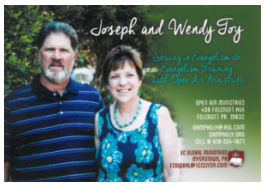
We look forward to this outreach ministry and how it will impact the lives of people in our communities.

Yard Sale at the Social Hall

October 8 & 9, 2021

8 am - 12 noon

Tables are available for $7 per table. For more information contact LaVerne Houtz at 570-345-4998.



Missionary Corner

Joe & Wendy Toy

Joe and Wendy Toy have moved to **North Carolina**.

- Praise the Lord that they have found a home.
- Give thanks that Joe and a team of men have had the opportunity to share the gospel at Myrtle Beach and the Raleigh Bus Station.
- Pray for these specific requests from Joe:
  - North Carolina State University Football games outreach in September, October, and November
  - North Carolina State Fair outreach October 14-24

The Food Pantry is full!

Please gather a box of food if you know someone who is in need.

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,
October 3rd

Local & Global Ministries

Wayne Township Senior Group

23 Meadowbrook Center
October 2021 Events

Wednesday, October 6th -
Lunch: Baked Ziti & Fruit Salad
Program: BINGO!! (bring $2 item for prizes)

Wednesday, October 13th -
Lunch: Ham & Cheese Sandwich & Soup
Activity: Movin & Groovin with Barb & Jim

Wednesday, October 20th -
Lunch: Halupkies & Tossed Salad
Activity: Trivia Pursuit with Jim

Wednesday, October 27th -
Lunch: Coney Burger & Soup
Activity: BINGO!! (bring $2 item for prizes)

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.

Diakon Age Busters takes place every Tuesday & Thursday from 10-11 am.

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

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: Steve Minnich
Missions Assistant: Bill Mills
Church Life: Steve Svenson
Operations: Steve Babb
Member at Large: Mark Hoover

Ministry Point People Quick Reference Guide

Benevolence: Pastors
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): Jeff Hughes
Missionary Support: Connie Wright/Bill Mills
Official Church Matters: Steve Minnich
Outreach Opportunities: Janet & Lily Stoyer
Pastoral Relations: Ed Redding
Prayer: Connie Wright
Prison Ministry: Steve Minnich
Property/Vehicles/Insurance: Steve Babb
Life Groups/Triads/Connections: Norma Minnich
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 Bethesda E.C. Church at Reedsville

"A Healing Community"

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

Prayer Concerns

October 2021

Personal

Jane Baudoin (treatment)
Jim Berger (cancer)
Bonnie Betz (heart)
Eileen Blew (knees)
Carol Bowen (stroke)
Dean Brauer (heart/lungs)
Dennis Buck (cancer)
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)
Allison Greene (auto-immune)
Allen Gruver (cancer)
Judy Harig (pain)
Tina Heim (recovery)
Glen Helbert (treatments)
Theresa Keylor (breathing)
Barry Kintzel (cancer)
Marilyn Kissling (recovery)
Joe Krasinski (pneumonia)
Justin Krute (rehab)
Susie Lowenthal (treatment)
Jim Martin (dialysis)
Amanda Mason (transition)
Jeff McNeil (pain management)
Anna Meade (recovery)
Steve Minnich (surgery 10/8)
Lori Morgan (recovery)
Jenna Ogden (recovery)
Laverne Otto (recovery)
Amber Pavalko (recovery)
Dawn Reiter (testing)
Wayne Schlottman (cancer)
Robin Schoener (cancer)
Jessica Sledzinski (sobriety)
Dennis Snyder (recovery)
Cara Stine (recovery)
Joe Stock (stroke)
Lynn Stranix (recovery)
Maria Szumlanski (pulmonary)
Miriam Tirjan (COVID)
Delores Walck (cancer)
Alissa Waschko (surgery 10/6)
Robert Wenrich (recovery)
Jim Witmer (heart)
Patti Young (rehab)

Family

C. Emily Babb Family (stability)
Phillip Christman Family (transition)
Robert Donton Family (parkinson's)
Dylan & Brianna Erber Family (rehab)
Payten Grace Costenbader (birth)
Carol Gehrig Family (loss)
Joe & Brenda Krasinsky Family (transition)
Claire Miller Family (trauma)
Barb Miller Family (loss)
Brian Mullens Family (incarceration)
Carol(schauers)Pliler Family (discernment)

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
- EC Bishop Elect Randy Sizemore

Congregational

- 23 Meadowbrook Center
- 23 Meadowbrook Rec Center Project
- Celebrate Recovery
- Coffee @ the Corner
- GriefShare ministry
- The Church Has Left the Building
- L.I.F.E. & TUMI Prison Ministries

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

Shut-ins

Bonnie Betz
Walter Bilger
Eileen Blew
Theron & Mary Anne Boyer
Edith Houtz
Sharon Kissinger
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)
Zhen & Sharon Schropp (Air Force)
Nate Stine (Air Force)
Joe Sweigart (Army)
Thomas Walser (Air National Guard)