



Bethel United Methodist Church

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR.....

Greetings Family

In the next few days there will be 4th of July celebrations across the country. Holidays provide opportunities for families and friends to come together to have fun and enjoy quality time together. This holiday holds a special meaning. We are reminded of the day that independence from British rule was declared. The Revolutionary War was a hard-fought battle. Many lives were lost to ensure the freedom of our country. We gained freedom and there was a great cost paid by many. Many soldiers paid the ultimate price in this and other wars throughout history, so that we are able to enjoy our freedoms today. I'm reminded of the saying that says freedom is not free. There is always a price to pay for freedom and the moment we take our freedom for granted, we run the risk of losing it. We enjoy the freedom that comes from living in a country that is no longer forced to be subject to the rule of another nation. Every fourth of July is special as we celebrate the freedoms we enjoy in America.

I would like to remind us of another type of freedom that those who know Jesus Christ are able to enjoy. This is the freedom in Christ from our sinful nature and from Satan who is often referred to as the god of this world. Christ has set every believer free through His victory over sin and death on the cross. Jesus paid the ultimate price for you and me. In Him we have been granted the ultimate type of freedom. We must be intentional to maintain the gift of freedom that is available in and through Jesus Christ. We must be careful so that we do not lose any measure of our freedom in Christ. Galatians 5:1 tell us "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery". It is essential that we do what is necessary to maintain a right relationship with God. Often times we lose a measure of our freedom to the ways of the world and the ways of our spiritual adversary Satan. We put ourselves in a greater position to enjoy the freedom we have in Christ when we stand firm in our faith and walk daily in obedience. We should never take our freedom in Christ for granted. Just as there are steps taken daily to ensure that America remains a free nation, there must be steps taken daily to enjoy freedom in Christ. We must daily spend time in the Word of God. We must spend time in prayer and worship. We must also submit our will to God's will for our life. As a result of our relationship with Christ we must maintain a life of service. We must be sensitive to the warnings that the Holy Spirit gives us to help us stay on track. The wars fought for freedom throughout history could easily have had different outcomes. As followers of Christ we know that Satan's limited attributes are no match for the immeasurable power and divine attributes of Holy God. We know that in the end God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will be victorious. Our enemy is a defeated foe. In Christ we will all ultimately emerge as victorious as we serve the ultimate Commander in Chief. Let's celebrate our freedom in America and let's celebrate even more the freedom that we have in Christ over sin, death, and the attacks of our spiritual adversary Satan. Let's all praise God for the freedom we enjoy in Christ. The freedom to worship, the freedom to serve, and the freedom to grow spiritually. It is my prayer that God will strengthen your will so that you may choose to walk in freedom daily. May God continue to bless you and give you life.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Lavell



July 2010



This month we will be highlighting the Christmas Outreach of Bethel and the Education teams. Take this opportunity to learn more about the ministry of Bethel.



The Education Committee's primary goal is to foster and cultivate a community of comfortable learning for everyone at Bethel. We want to develop sustainable, engaging programs that appeal to a variety of ages and interests. Bethel currently offers opportunities to engage in Christian learning through Sunday School and small group bible studies, as well as age-specific programs like LIVE B.I.G and UMYF.

We recognize, also, that learning can occur anywhere at anytime. Often, some of our greatest experiences of growth arise from

natural fellowship with others. The Education Committee is dedicated to collaborating with ministries like United Methodist Men, Katie Nep Circle, and JOY Circle to ensure that organic learning is occurring, too.

In order to establish a true community of engaged learners, we have to understand the desires of our church family. Therefore, we want to improve communication between the Educational Leadership of Bethel and our church members and attendees. We appreciate that you need to be aware of what is offered in order to take advantage of it. We also want you to recognize the vital role you play in ensuring that our

education ministry is meeting your needs. Perhaps you are a natural leader, or a great communicator with facilitation skills, or someone who inspires others, or simply an avid learner. Everyone has an opportunity to make our education ministry as special as we are individually and collectively. We welcome your ideas, talents, and willingness to engage. Please visit with Kimberly Cowan-Keane, Education Committee Chair, or Lance Brookings, Sunday School Superintendent if you are interested in joining the Education Committee or if you simply want to express your ideas and thoughts about this vital ministry at Bethel.

What is **COB**? A quick glance at our logo sheds a clue. **Christmas Outreach @ Bethel** is a committee whose main concern is reaching out to needful folks at Christmas, specifically in the greater Stockbridge area. We service 10 or more families with a full holiday meal, toys for children, canned goods, blankets and other necessities specific to their individual needs. In order for us to do this, we ask various organizations, such as schools, ROTC's, and local businesses to sponsor drives and or donate items that are crucial to our cause. Money is also garnered to supplement what our drives do not

bring in. Volunteerism is a huge part of **COB**. We depend on volunteers to help shop, cook, sort, pack, distribute and greet our needful families. For more information about **COB** or if you'd like to be a part of this ministry, see Doreen Elliott, Alan Pierce, Mary Ann Hill, Harold Moore or any other committee member.



Thank you so much for a years' worth of music well done. Bethel would not be the same without your talent & commitment to God. Have a great summer break and we'll see you on July 28th!



Thank you on behalf of our family for the love and gifts we received at the baby shower. We appreciated everyone who came out and everyone who sent their love.

Sincerely and with much love,
Pastor Lavell and Valerie
Nia and Caleb



It has been a wonderful whirlwind of a month for me since I began my ministry here at Bethel. I am so fortunate to be working with some amazing and tender-hearted students. In my 6 years as a youth pastor, they are by far the most special young people I have encountered.

The beach retreat went great. Many thanks to Alan and Patti Pierce for all the hard work they put into planning and organizing the trip. It was a great time to get to know the youth by spending one-on-one time with them and getting to know their hearts. Of course getting a

good tan was a bonus!

During Wednesday night bible study we have been going through the book of Hosea. The overall theme has been getting to know the heart of God with the focus of understanding that He relentlessly pursues us even though we turn away from him time after time. My goal is to see the students understand the heartbeat of God throughout their lives and also for them to see it in the lives of others. It is definitely intense stuff, but it has been great. We will continue this study throughout the summer and I hope all of the youth will make Wednesday night bible study a regular part of their week.

On Sunday nights from 5pm to 7pm this summer, we are enjoying a casual time of fellowship. That might include anything from watching a movie, playing ping pong or other games, or just hanging out talking about what God is doing in our lives. Whatever we do, we always have fun just spending time with one another. This is a great opportunity for youth to bring their friends!

I have been so warmly received at Bethel. I have felt very welcomed and supported since the first day I arrived. SO thank you all for receiving me and being generous and helpful. It's been great! I am excited about being a part of the youth ministry at Bethel and can hardly wait to see where God will lead us.

Blessings,
Nathaniel

A Plea for Nursery Volunteers



The nursery ministry needs you. We have had someone drop off of our team to serve on Sunday mornings. We have two teams on Sundays. The first team is there from 8:30-10:30 and the second team is there from 10:30 until the end of service.

Also, beginning January 2011 the position of Nursery Coordinator will be open. If you would like to serve in either of these two capacities please contact either Pastor Lavell or Sheila Ricks.

Thanks very much!
Sheila Ricks, Nursery Coordinator

Our 5 week Wednesday night small group study on "The Me I Want To Be" by John Ortberg concludes July 7th.

College and Young Adult



Ministry

Thanks to the 11 who participated and for those of you who didn't...WE MISSED YOU!

Opportunities to Serve this Summer! The children who will be attending our Hero Headquarters Vacation Bible School July 18-22 are calling your name! Please plan to be a Hero to the kids by offering your time and talents on one or all 4 nights. Guaranteed good times! There are also opportunities for you to help with the Children's summer camps July 5th-9th from 9am-2pm. Contact Pam Gay or Alicia Mohr now if you can volunteer!

Food & Fun Activities: Coffee Anyone? Plan to join us for coffee and hang-out time at Starbucks on Hudson Bridge at 7PM Friday, July 16th

Love Mexican Food? Plan to join us at Rico's on East Atlanta Road at 7 PM on Friday, August 6th

Church Health Team Update

Since we haven't communicated to you in a while, here's an update from the Church Health Team. Many of you took a survey, and many of you joined in small group discussions. The team has met several times since, and are organizing to address a couple of the top items of concern that surfaced. In the specific area of communication, both inside and outside Bethel, we're looking to (1) help ministry leaders get more informed about North Georgia Conference resources available for their particular ministries, (2) take a closer look at our website, eNews, and monthly newsletters as sources of communication, and (3) assess current signage, both campus and inside buildings, and what we need after the old sanctuary gets moved. Be looking for more updates in the next few months on the progress we make !

Team Jean Update

Congratulations! We met our goal for this year's Team Jean Lupus Foundation Annual walk ! This event brings more awareness to the 55,000 Georgians who have been diagnosed with Lupus, and to fund research to find a cure. No new breakthrough in science to help Lupus has been found in over 50 years ! And ask Jean Cornwell about her large cardboard butterfly !



The Henry County Board of Commissioners have put out a plea for new Box fans to be donated for Henry County's senior citizens. If you are interested in participating you can either leave your donations or check (made out to Henry County Board of Commissioners) at any Fire Station. If you have any questions about this please call 770-288-7865.



Motee Smith
Nolen Ridgway
Tommy Smith
Walt Leonard

Calvin Boring
Charles Sinnemon
Heather Allen
Jean Cornwell
Steve Grizzard
Jodi Dills
Viola Hanners
Debra Noble

Ferald & Ronnie Berryman
Amy Hopkins
Daniel Montgomery
Susan Bowlin
James Mathis
Joseph Hyde
Harvey Hill
Harry Orne
Barbara Huffman
Donald Moye
Tillie Clark
Cheryl Thomas
Patty Lyons
Kelsey Knight
Julie Spores
Toni Barnes
Cyde Davies' family
Wayne Phillips
Yvonne Walters
Annette Johnson
Patra McAfee
Connor Mobley
Stephanie Spivey
Reginald Crosby
William McArthur
Mary Jane McArthur

Bethel Church Family
All of our Home
Bound Members.

Please notify the church office if you would like to have a loved one added to the Prayer List and please notify us when they can be removed from the list.

**Sincerely,
Pastor Lavell**

Katie Nep Circle

We will be attending the Shingle Roof Camp meeting on July 17th. We will meet at the church at 10:00 am and take the church van to worship at 11:00. Afterwards we will have lunch in the dining hall (so bring money). Seating in the van is limited to 15, so please call Doreen at 770-507-9354 to

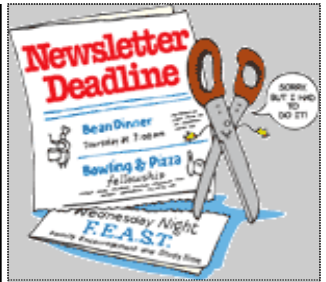
JOY

“Joy Circle” of the United Methodist Women meets July 15, at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Come and bring a dish to share and join in the fun, fellowship and growth. You do not have to be a member of the church or Joy Circle to attend. Come find out why it is called “Joy Circle”

United Methodist Men

The monthly meeting will be on July 24 at 8:00 AM Join us for Breakfast and Fun and Fellowship. All men of the church are urged to come!



July 23

Pastor Lavell leads a Mid Day Bible Study. Wednesdays at NCCN in the Conference Room. Drop-Ins Welcome



Ladies, please join us! We meet at the church around 11:00 am every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month. You are welcome to come eat and fellowship with us!

GIVING SUMMARY FOR JUNE 2010

General Fund Received	\$19,175.03
Conference Apportionments Received	370.00
	<u>1,619.50</u>
Total for all Sundays in June	<u>\$27,408.97</u>
Special Offering (second mile giving)	<u>\$ 6,244.44</u>

Our Monthly Budget goal is \$32,000.00

Bethel Service Times Contemporary Service 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45-10:45 am Traditional Service 11:00 am

**PRAY FOR OUR
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MILITARY**

The days are longer, the temps are hotter.
That can only mean one thing . . .

It's time for COB's "Christmas In July" supper!



Date & Time: Wed., July 7, 2010 at 6:00pm

What & Where: Holiday meal w/trimmings in the FH

Price: \$6.00 per person or \$20.00 per family of 4

Please bring in an unwrapped toy so the Elves can take a day off!

Find huge savings on cards and decorations at our "Trim-
A-Tree" display!

(All proceeds go toward Christmas Outreach @ Bethel)

150th Homecoming and Abigail's Pantry

Bethel has been part of this community for 150 years. Part of our 150th celebration will include dinner Saturday night, and a Sunday lunch. While we enjoy these wonderful meals prepared by awesome cooks, some folks in our community are struggling to feed their families. To share Bethel's blessings, please bring a donation for Abigail's Pantry, a service we provide for our neighbors needing some extra help during these trying economic times. Bring non-perishable goods to these meals and drop in the specially marked boxes in Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer with Abigail's Pantry please contact Pastor Lavell or Sonia Forster in the church office. 770-474-2570.



A special thank you goes to Ms. Lucy Stembridge for all of her hard work as Interim Music Director during this past June. Lucy, we couldn't have done it without you!

Fellowship Dinners

July 7: Fellowship Dinner will be hosted by the Christmas Outreach @ Bethel
\$6.00 per person, \$20 family of 4

July 28: Fellowship Dinner will be hosted by the Chronological Class. The menu will be Salads, chicken salad, pasta salad, green salad, tuna salad, etc. There will be home made cakes for dessert!

\$5.00 per person, \$20 family cap



Bethel Service Times
Contemporary Service
8:30 am
Sunday School
9:45-10:45 am
Traditional Service
11:00 am

CHURCH STAFF

OFFICE: 770-474-2570 FAX: 770-389-4845 WEB: WWW.BETHEL-UMC.COM
OFFICE HOURS MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
9:00AM - 1:00PM

Pastor Lavell Sanders

Mrs. Sonia Forster, Administrative Asst.

Mr. Nathaniel Edison, Youth Minister

Mrs. Margaret Marlow, Pianist / Organist

Mr. Brian McClure, Pianist / Organist

Mr. Randy Godwin

Doreen Elliott, Treasurer

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941-504-4180

678-447-1242

770-954-0198

770-507-9354

Morning Moments for Honduras Mission Team

Please take a moment to write a note for the Honduras Mission Team. We have a tradition of reading notes from the congregation every morning to start the day off right. This gives the team a connection back to home and gives you a chance to connect with them while they are gone. The notes can be serious, funny, mushy, whatever you want! Bring them with you when you come to the church, or fill them out at the church and put them in the offering plate or hand them to Doreen Elliott, Kellie Frissell, or Ron Beavers. We'll have sheets at the Wednesday night supper on July 7 to write on, or you can email them to the church office at office@bethel-umc.com please indicate in the subject line "HMT moment"

"The Joy We Share" Cookbook

Great News!
The Cookbooks are Here!
The Cookbooks are Here!
Don't miss out ... see Mary Ann Hill or Jeanette Moore for your copy today.

"The Joy We Share" Homecoming Meal

As all of you know Homecoming this year is a very special occasion. In honor of this the members of Joy Circle would like to invite people who contributed recipes for "The Joy We Share" cookbook to prepare one of their recipes for the Homecoming meal. We will have place cards available at each sanctuary to highlight the dish as a recipe from the cookbook. So, all who contributed recipes be thinking about which recipe you would like to prepare and get a card and write the recipe name and your name on it and bring it to Homecoming to be placed on your dish. If you have any questions, contact a member of Joy Circle or Mary Ann Hill or Jeanette Moore.



Kids Summer camps

5 individual one day camps, the week of July 5-9th for those who have finished pre-K through 5th grade.

- Monday: Art Camp
- Tuesday-Cooking Camp
- Wednesday: Make-a-race car **OR** Jewelry making
- Thursday: Movie and Outdoor games
- Friday: Drama



These day camps will occur from 9am-2pm. The kids need to bring a sack lunch. We will provide lemonade/Kool-Aid daily. Each camp will have time for the kids to play outside on the playground.

The cost is \$10 per day, or \$40 for the week. A sign-up form will be posted soon, or call the church office to sign up. Please help us advertise this event by telling your neighbors, family and friends.



The dates have been set for VBS! July 19-22 with a registration night on July 18th! Our theme is "Hero Headquarters" and it's sure to be full of high flying fun!

Volunteers are needed to help with VBS!
We need people for:

- Leading the groups of children around the stations.
- To help serve dinner
- To help procure donations from local businesses
- To help decorate
- To help publicize

Volunteers can either contact Alicia Mohr at (770) 507-7880 or samohr@bellsouth.net, or they can sign up on the poster in the narthex. Thanks for your dedication to the children of the Bethel!



Charlotte Lewis	7/2	Matt Hallmark	7/17
Taneisha Williams	7/3	Noah Wilkerson	7/18
Jane Duke	7/4	Charlotte Coltraine	7/19
Jo Ellen Cox	7/5	Michael McLendon	7/19
Lisa Hill	7/5	Ardyth Bankston	7/20
Keith Ingram	7/5	Mike Barnwell	7/22
John Per-Lee	7/5	Rebecca Marucci	7/22
Patrick Lowe	7/6	William McArthur	7/22
Seth Goodwin	7/7	Gerald Wansley	7/22
Kitty Ulmer	7/7	Andrew White	7/22
Jogi Mauger	7/8	Jean Cornwell	7/23
Kristen Smith	7/8	Tava Kirk	7/23
Diane Geno	7/10	Robert Magill	7/23
Don Lewis	7/10	Melissa Magill	7/23
Kyle Hudalla	7/11	Milton Plant	7/24
Nell Nash	7/11	Gail Quinteros	7/25
Jasmine Payne	7/11	Catherine Johnson	7/27
Ray Morris	7/12	Cortney Johnson	7/27
Larry Ricks	7/12	Dot Hammond	7/28
Cameron Weber	7/12	Nia Sanders	7/28
Samantha Boldt	7/13	Mima Dawonde	7/29
Pastor Lavell Sanders	7/13	Mimie Dawonde	7/29
Linda Taylor	7/13	Jesse (Ed) Redding	7/29
Bonnie Davies	7/15	Phillip Beck	7/31
April Hartoon	7/15	Annette Howe	7/31
Kyla Linde	7/15		
Nathan McLendon	7/15		
Joey Fuqua	7/16		
Cathy Steward	7/16		



Pamela & Jason Masters	07/12	Christy & Steven Meyer	07/19
Charlotte & Edward Lewis	07/15	Marie & Fred Przystas	07/21
Linda & Richard Price	07/16	Tomika and Corey Johnson	07/24
Carolyn & Bobby Scott	07/18	Beth & Glynn Phillips	07/28
Jock & E. Y. Baine	07/19	Marcela & Rufino Graves	07/29

July Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS (July 4)

Ushers: Team 1 Jerry Wansley, EY Baine, Jock Baine, Mack Brown, JP Brown

Nursery: 8:30: Joni & Abigail Per-Lee

11:00: Jeanette & Harold Moore

Children's Church: Alicia Mohr

Money Counters: Harold and Jeannette Moore

VOLUNTEERS (July 11)

Ushers: Team 2 Sheila Ricks, Judy Caskey, Bill Caskey, Jeanette Moore, Harold Moore, Johnny Goodwin, Jennifer Gomez, Leo Gomez

Nursery: 8:30: Charmie & Eugenia Walters

11:00: Linda Henderson

Evelyn Haymons

Children's Church: Alicia Mohr

Money Counters: Harold and Jeannette Moore

VOLUNTEERS (July 18)

Ushers: Team 3 Nick Sparks, Liz Sparks, Ann Owens, Mary Ann Hill, William Cowan, Gail Quinteros

Nursery: 8:30: Cindy & Clarice Brooking

11:00: Neda Brimer

Kellie Frissell

Children's Church: Alicia Mohr

Money Counters: Harold and Jeannette Moore

VOLUNTEERS (July 25)

Ushers: Team 4 Charlie Henderson, Linda Henderson, Bo Shealy, Mary Jane McArthur

Nursery: 8:30: Linda Taylor

Betty White

11:00: Charlotte Coltraine

Carolyn Scott

Children's Church: Alicia Mohr

Money Counters: Harold and Jeannette Moore

Caring Before, During, and After Hospitalization - 3 hour course

Join Stephen Ministry for continuing education on the topic of caring for someone who's been or currently is, hospitalized. This is a three hour course, held for one hour each on Tuesday, Aug. 17, and Tuesday, September 21, and Tuesday, Oct. 19 at 7:00 pm. The location will depend on how many people want to take this, so be looking for sign up sheets in the narthex of both buildings. Topics include understanding needs and challenges of hospitalized people, knowing practical dos and don'ts of caring for those in a hospital, and gaining insights about hospital ministry from experts. Questions: contact Laurie Smith or Diane Geno.