



April 2015

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:00 am Traditional Service
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Contemporary Service (child care provided)

THE EC COLLECTIVE

Over the past year, our denomination has been looking for ways to develop a less hierarchical structure of leadership that will be more cost effective for our local churches. The EC Church has explored and is currently developing a leadership-team-approach among clusters of churches within each of our regions. In order for this peer-to-peer style of ministry to work, our churches will need to learn new ways to work together, while maintaining our unique identities.

Over the past months, the Outreach Commission of our church has been working with the similar committees from Bethany Fellowship in Cressona and Grace EC Church in Schuylkill Haven to find ways to share and develop outreach ministry together. Some of these ideas will be materializing and coming into existence in the near future.

At one of our recent gatherings, our pastors—Ted Rathman, Dennis Snyder, Mark, and myself—have agreed to stoke the fires of cooperation by developing other ways for our congregations to get to know about each others' ministries. The first and easiest venture will be occurring on Sunday, April 12th, when our three churches will be involved with a pulpit exchange. Pastor Jeff will be preaching in Schuylkill Haven, Pastor Ted will travel to Cressona, and Pastor Dennis will be presenting God's Word here at Reedsville.

Our theme will be derived from Ephesians 4:1-16 which speaks about a unity in the body that comes through personal maturity in Christ. Our hope is that as we begin now to plant seeds that will endure for Christ's kingdom among Bethesda, Bethany and Grace, this movement will spread throughout southern Schuylkill County and other regions nearby.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT February 2015

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$62,016	\$49,090	(-\$12,926)
Expenses	\$62,308	\$59,299	(-\$3,009)
To Reserves	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Excludes building fund transfers

**Adult Sunday School
 Opportunities
 Starting April 5th
 Gathering at 9:15 am**



1 The Invisible War by Chip Ingram - led by Pastor Mark & Cindy Brooks in the Cafe. Chip Ingram presents what every believer needs to know about Satan, demons and spiritual warfare. The Bible is clear: if you are a Christian, you are at war. But our approach to spiritual warfare usually falls into one of two extremes – either we place an undue emphasis on Satan and his powers or we completely ignore the existence of a personal enemy. The Invisible War offers believers a balanced look at what the Bible says on the subject, helping us to understand our position in Christ, putting on the full armor of God, and standing firm against the enemy.

2 King & Kingdom - led by Steve Minnich in the Library. Remember the Apostle's Creed? It starts like this: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried..."

Is there something missing there between being born of a virgin and being crucified? What about the "hands-on" Jesus who spent his short lifetime walking through his kingdom? What did he really say and do, and how does it relate to your life?

Join us for a continuing study of the gospel of John starting at the triumphant entry in chapter 12 as we confront the great truths recorded by the apostle

3 The Spirit Comes - led by a rotation of leaders in the sanctuary. Emphasis will be on... Mark, John, Acts, 1 Corinthians, and 1,2,3 John.

Easter Services & Events at Bethesda



Sunday, March 29th - Palm Sunday & Egg Hunt

Thursday April 2nd - Maundy Thursday Service

with Communion at 7:00 pm

Friday, April 3rd - Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 5th - Easter Sunday Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

The annual **Easter egg hunt** will take place on **Palm Sunday, March 29th** immediately following the 10:30 worship service up **at the Social Hall**. All **children up through age 11** are invited to take part in this event! If you care to make a donation of **eggs please have them at the church prior to the 10:30 service**. In the event of bad weather the egg hunt will be canceled and will not be rescheduled. **Feel free to invite a friend!!**





Save – A – Date!
Sunday, May 17, 2015

Spring Fellowship at the Church
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Featuring *special speaker TBA*

Sign up at Welcome Counter
Or www.bethesdaec.org starting mid-April

Men's Monthly Fellowship Breakfast
April 11th @ 8 am

Friedensburg Country Restaurant (Rt 443)
in Friedensburg. All men are welcome.
There is no need to sign up.



Ham & Dandelion Dinner
Saturday, April 11th

Departing Bethesda at 1:00 pm; AYCE Dinner begins at 3 pm
Approximate cost \$10 per person. For more information,
contact Bob or Ellen Degler @ 570-366-0730.

April Upcoming Events



- April 5 - EASTER - No BYM
- April 12 - Out to Lunch Bunch & Regular Meeting
- April 18 - BYM Service Day
- April 26 - BYM Theme Night

BYM is open to all students in 6th—12th grades.
Meeting in the Library



Mark Your Calendars!!! **Saturday, May 9th** is the **BYM Yard Sale** at Bethesda EC Church. As you begin to spring clean, why not **donate all your unwanted clean and unbroken items** to this opportunity? The **parsonage garage will be unlocked beginning April 1** (we are not fooling) through May 3rd for you to drop off your donations. Any questions, please contact Pastor Mark.

Crochet Circle on April 13th & 27th
at the home of Cheryl Bender.



2014-2015
Graduates

Please submit to the office the names of any persons who have graduated last fall or will be graduating this Spring from high school or higher levels of education so that we can recognize them. **Thank you!**

Every Monday 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Bethesda @ The Corner
(Rts. 183 & 443)



- April 6** – Surviving the Death of a Loved One
- April 13** – How Do I Know What God Wants Me to Do?
- April 20** – Inside the Gun Debate
- April 27** – Isolated and Alone: Imprisoned in Iran



April 12th & 26th
1:30 – 3:30 pm Library

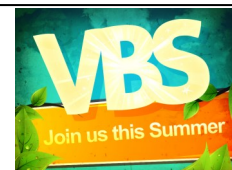
GriefShare is a support group for those who have lost a spouse, child, family member or friend. Video vignettes, group discussion, personal study, and reflection are part of healing. Call Paul at 570-294-0778 or Marcia Schlosser at 570-739-2889 for more information.

Every Tuesday @ the
Corner 6:30 – 8:00 pm



Celebrate Recovery® is designed to help those struggling with hurts, hang-ups, and habits 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! For more information, please call the church office.

Interested in VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL? VBS Volunteers Needed!



Do you want to get involved with planning Vacation Bible School 2015? We need your help! Anyone who has an interest in helping with VBS 2015 is invited to next **planning meeting, date TBD**, in the Library. Learn about the theme and what volunteer opportunities are available. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Use your talents and skills to bring VBS to life! VBS will be held July 13-17. Please call Michelle Canfield at 570-754-7253 or Tammy Munster at 570-739-1647 for more information or to RSVP for the meeting.



Membership Orientation Classes

Open for anyone interested in becoming a member of Bethesda. Each class is two hours and you **only need to attend one**.

The classes will meet on:
Saturday, April 25th at 1 pm
Tuesday, April 28th at 6:30 pm
Wednesday, April 29th at 6:30 pm

“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” - Psalm 27:1



Spring Clean-up
Saturday, April 11th
Starting at 8 am

Please bring gloves, rakes, shovels, and anything else you feel would be helpful. Come when you can, leave when you must.
 Many hands make light work!

For students interested in attending **Twin Pines Summer Camp**, information and registration forms are now available by **contacting Becky Hoover** at 739-1187 or becky@millerbros.com.



Blue Mountain School District
Backpack Program



We will be starting our **next collection** to purchase **toothpaste and toothbrushes** for the backpack program starting **Sunday, April 5th**. Be on the look out for more information!!

Yard Sale

@ The Social Hall
Fri, April 17th & Sat, April 28th
8 am to Noon



Tables are available for \$7 per table. Sign-ups are available at the Welcome Counter. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Hering 366-2152 or LaVerne Houtz 345-4998.

Reedsville Cemetery Association



The Cemetery trustees are encouraging families or individuals to consider the purchase of burial lots to alleviate placing it on your descendants.

Present lot prices are **\$175 for members and \$350 for non-members**. For **more information**, please **see any of the cemetery trustees**: Rod Betz, Wayne Blankenhorn, Bob Degler, Harold DeHappart, Glen heisler, Rich Luckenbill, Jr., or Steve Luckenbill.



Due to the decline in **lily and poinsettia orders** over the last decade, the Ministry Council has decided to **discontinue these orders**. **Flowers can still be presented throughout the year** in honor or memory of loved ones and/or special occasions by **signing up on the weekly flower chart** located at the **Welcome Counter**. Questions? Contact Pastor Jeff or Mark.

BETHESDA EC CHURCH

1ST ANNUAL CAR, TRUCK & MOTORCYCLE SHOW
SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2015



2:00 pm to 5:00 pm REGISTRATION
5:00 pm JUDGING
6:00 pm AWARDS

All Proceeds Benefit the Summer 2015
Trinidad Mission Trip!

\$12 PRE-REGISTRATION; \$15 DAY OF THE SHOW

Dash plaques to FIRST 50 registered cars. Music, Door Prizes, Food, Bake Sale, and Silent Auction.

Trophies for the Best:

Bike, Chevy, Ford, Import, Mopar, Truck, Pre-1949
 PLUS: People's Choice & Pastor's Choice

Questions?

Contact Lisa at 484-294-6765 or office@bethesdaec.org

Pre-Registration Deadline is May 24, 2015

Please return to: Bethesda EC Church, Attn: Lisa, 155 Reedsville Road, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Please make checks payable to: **"Bethesda Youth Ministries"**

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Bethesda EC Church **will not** be responsible for any known or unknown damages, injuries, losses, judgments, and/or claims from any cause to persons or property while attending and/or participating in the show.

SIGNATURE: _____

PRAYER CONCERNS

April 2015

Please Note – All prayer concerns will be listed for one month and then removed. If you would like your prayer concern to be continued longer than a month, you must contact the church office or Pastor Mark. Thank you!

Personal

Zara Albertini (recovery)
Daniel Behler (recovery)
Rod Betz Jr. (recovery)
Daniel Behler (recovery)
Lenore Carpio (cancer)
Cody Carr (kidneys)
Dorothy Conway (recovery)
Mike Diamond (recovery)
Bill Dukeman (recovery)
Amanda Ewing (paralysis)
Tina Heim (tests)
Bert Heydt (wrist)
Cathy Hollenbach (hospice)
Amanda Kilmer (recovery)
Jacob Jamison (back)
Jerry Knauf (recovery)
Jordon Krute (treatment)
Dennis Lauffer (shingles)
Rose Linzell (aneurysm)
Bill Leymeister (transplant)
Manny Lopez (recovery)
Joan Luckenbill (hospice)
Bill Mills, Sr. (recovery)
Brad Murphy (recovery)
Robert Moyer (rehab)
Mariah Nabholz (recovery)
Dolly Natale (comfort)
Amber Pavalko (recovery)
Kendra Perry (pain management)

Shut-ins

Margaret Bender
Dorothy Blankenhorn
Alice Corby
Bert Heydt
Virginia Hoover
Edith Houtz
Ardith Luckenbill

Military

Josh Behler (Air Force)
Keith Drummer (FBI)
Tosha Fegley (Air Force)
Brandon Huntzinger (Army)
Benjamin Kilmer (National Guard)
Adam Lawler (Army)
Luke Long, Jr. (National Guard)

Dwayne Reber (throat cancer)
Dawn Reiter (recovery)
Marcia Schlosser (recovery)
Diane Stock (tests)
Jim Stranix (recovery)
Allyson Tebin (leukemia)
Charles Walton (recovery)
Flo Walton (pain)
Patsy Weaver (cancer)

Family

Charlotte Blankenhorn family (loss)
McCormick Family (transition)
Charlotte McDonald family (comfort)
Freya Ann Drummer (birth)
Jack Strouse family (loss)



Prayer Meeting

Join us in the **Library**
at Wednesdays at
7:30 pm to pray for
the needs of our community
and congregation.

Congregational

Blue Mtn & Sch. Haven School Districts
Backpack Programs
Celebrate Recovery
Family Hope
Griefshare Ministry
Lifetree Café
Prison Ministry
Single & Parenting

Local, National and Global

Church Health, Church Planting,
Leadership, Evangelism, and
Discipleship
Connie Wright, CEF, Schuylkill County
E.C. Church of Liberia, Ebola Outbreak
President Barack Obama
Rev. Bruce Hill, Bishop
US Military Forces
PSP Troop L - Frackville, Schuylkill
Haven & Jonestown



Community Prayer Ministry

Sunday, April 26th at 6:15 pm
@ the Corner



All articles for events held during May 1st through June 5th, should be submitted by the **11th of April** in order to be included in our **May issue**. Please do your best to get your information in on time. Thank you!

A copy of this newsletter can also be found on-line at www.bethesdaec.org.