

**Sunday Morning Worship Schedule**

8:00 am Traditional Service

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Contemporary Service (child care provided)

**FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT**

April 2016

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$126,160	\$148,689	\$22,529
Expenses	\$135,590	\$136,918	\$(1,328)
Reserves	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000

**Children & Youth  
Ministry News!**



STEWART & JOELLE MACDONALD

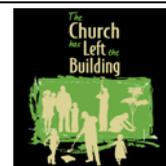
On Tuesday, May 17, the Ministry Council approved Stewart MacDonald as the Pastor of Children and Youth at Bethesda Church. Pastor Stewart and Joelle joined Bethesda Church in the fall of 2015 as members, transferring to us from the Wesleyan Church in Pine Grove, and have since been enjoying the teaching and fellowship opportunities that the church has to offer.

Pastor Stewart received a call to ministry during his teenage years, while participating in various youth groups, where he grew up in Maryland. He went on to receive a BA degree (June 2005) in Youth Ministry from the University of Valley Forge. He is also a recent graduate (May 2015) of Evangelical Seminary in Myerstown, where he earned a MAR degree in Spiritual Formation. Pastor Stewart brings a substantial level of maturity and experience into this position, having worked at two different campuses (Buffalo and Rehrersburg) for Teen Challenge, and most recently with Bethany Children's Home in Womelsdorf.

Pastor Stewart and Joelle met in Buffalo on a blind date "for coffee." That cup of coffee eventually led to romance and marriage. They are both very excited to move into the parsonage in late June, and begin ministry with us (officially) in July. Currently, they do not have any children, but look forward to starting a family in the near future.

Please take time to welcome Pastor Stewart and Joelle to the ministry team at Bethesda Church. We are confident that you will love them, and be blessed by their gentle, humble ministry to our children and youth.

**The Church Has Left  
The Building - Part II**



On Sunday, October 11, 2015, about 200 volunteers from Bethany, Bethesda and Grace EC churches embarked on a day of volunteerism as we implemented The Church Has Left the Building. These teams of volunteers connected with close to 30 job sites through Schuylkill County – from homes to assisted living facilities, from painting and weeding to visiting and cooking. We represented the hands and feet of Christ well that day.

Get ready!!! On Sunday, October 9, 2016, Bethany, 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 Pastor Mark at the church office, cell/text 570.573.2824 and e-mail mdbrooks@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 9th become a reality!!!

Thank you for helping us to find projects! Please have your suggestion to Pastor Mark no later than Sunday, July 3rd.

**Sunday School Update**



For the Summer Quarter (June–August), the Toddler, Pre-K and Kindergarten students will come together to form a group, with the 1st and 2nd grade and the 3rd and 4th grade classes joining together as a rotation schedule is implemented. Students will report to designated areas from 9:15 – 9:30, whereupon a rotation will begin every 15 minutes covering Bible teaching, memory verse/crafts, and games. The purpose for this adjustment is twofold: 1) to help students feel more comfortable with more students, as we usually experience lower attendance during the summer, and 2) to give teachers a break – we will only need a team of 4 per week, technically giving these teachers 2/3rds of the summer quarter off.

We value our Sunday School and the volunteers who are committed and dedicated to its success each week. Hopefully this will give them a much needed break!!! If there are any concerns or questions, do not hesitate to talk to our Sunday School Superintendent, Joel Holubec.

**Congratulations Graduates!!**



*Blue Mountain High School:*

Bradley Dunleavy

Allison Green

Quinten Jurista

Jeremy Murphy

Dillon Wertman

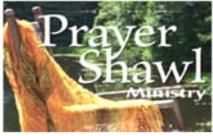
Anna Marie Perkins - *Purdue University MS Nuclear Eng.*

Hue Perkins - *University of Maryland BS Accounting*

Nicole Perkins - *Am. Military Univ. MA International Relations*



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



Please ask at the Welcome Counter for direction on how to get a free **prayer shawl** that is individually packaged including a gift card and bookmark for you to personally give to someone you know that is going through difficult or challenging circumstances. Each shawl is handcrafted by a woman of Bethesda who begins its creation with prayers and blessings that continue throughout the time the crafter is working with the unique and meaningful color yarn and pattern.

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; over-eating; need to control; fear/anxiety and more! For more information, please call the church office.

**Ladies Breakfast**

All women are welcome, no need to sign-up!  
Saturday, **June 4th @ 9 am** at Haag's Hotel, Shartlesville. Questions? Lisa at 484-294-6765.



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



- June 6 - Overcoming Life's Obstacles
- June 13 - Political Correctness
- June 20 - Tell Me the Real Story
- June 27 - Temptation



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

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

Saturday, **June 11th @ 8 am** Friedensburg Family Restaurant.



June 12 & 26  
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 for more information.



**June Event TBA**

Please keep an eye out at the Welcome Counter for sign-ups and information for our June event. Any questions, please contact Linda Bollinger at 570-739-4580.



Adult Sunday School  
Opportunities  
*Starting June 5th!*

Upcoming Events:

- June 23-24 – Appalachian Hike (TBA)
- June 24-26 – Camp Swatara



# 1 *The Book of Ruth* led by Deb Perkins in the Library. Based on the teachings of Warren Wiersbe and David Jeremiah by Deb Perkins in the Library. Have you ever been in "Moab"? When we live as Christ-Followers we are not guaranteed an easy life. Throughout our lives we will have times of emptiness, confusion, bitterness and the list goes on. We are tempted to say that God is nowhere to be found in our lives and will want to run away to Moab, a place that seems right to us; a place that meets our immediate needs and desires. We can all agree that the world will gladly offer a vending machine of choices! The lives of Ruth and Naomi can serve as a fail-proof guide to staying on the path that God has laid before us. The path to Bethlehem; the "bread" of life.



**Yard Sale**  
@ The Social Hall  
Friday, June 17th & Saturday, June 18th  
8 am to Noon

Tables are available for \$7 per table. Sign-ups are available at the Welcome Counter starting June 5th. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Hering 570-366-2152 or LaVerne Houtz 570-345-4998.

**Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever - Psalms 146:5-6**

# 2 *Being Satisfied in the Land Between* led by Tasha Byerly in the Cafe Why is it so hard to find the contented, satisfied life? This course will provide an inspiring and transformative vision for living a deeply contented life in our consumer-driven culture. Whether you possess full closets and empty souls, are equating your self-worth with your net worth, or are traveling through undesired transitions, you can encounter hope, guidance and encouragement on our way toward spiritual growth. God desires to meet us in our chaos so that we encounter his goodness and provision. This study is based on the books *Satisfied* and *The Land Between* written by Jeff Manion.



**YogaTone**

You'll be moving on your mat to upbeat music, toning muscles from head to toe and stretching into pure yoga bliss. Classes continue **Saturdays from 8:30-9:30 am in the Common Ground**. Cost is \$5 per class. Please contact Melissa Kapushinski at 570-573-5315 or yogafit101@yahoo.com for more information.

# 3 **Toward A New Creation** - led by a rotation of leaders in the sanctuary. Emphasis will be on ... Zephaniah and Romans.



*What lies beneath?*  
**Vacation Bible School**

Monday, July 11 –  
Friday, July 15  
6:30 – 8:30 pm

**Age 4 – completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

VBS 2016 will take kids on an adventure like no other, deep with in the mysterious sea! As kids submerge themselves in God's Word, they will discover that Jesus didn't just see what's on the outside of people. He looked deep down on the inside. So grab your goggles, step into your flippers, and dive in to find truth below the surface! Kids will discover the truth that Jesus knows all about them and loves them unconditionally. Bible teaching will explore the way Jesus saw people and examine the truth of the key verse:

*Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way.— Psalm 139:23-24*

Nightly skits, songs, puppets, crafts, games, and snacks will bring our underwater world to life! Children will earn points by coming to Bible School, bringing friends, and learning bible verses. Points will be redeemed at week's end for awesome prizes!

- Register your children for VBS 2016 TODAY! Three convenient ways to register:
- ONLINE: Visit [www.bethesdaec.org](http://www.bethesdaec.org) and click on the Submerged logo.
  - Fill out a registration form at the Welcome Counter.
  - Call the church office at 570-739-2241.

**VBS Needs Your Help!**

**DONATE:** Can you donate the items below? Be sure to check the Welcome Counter in June for more craft and snack donation ideas. All donations can be turned in at the Welcome Counter.

- Cardboard rolls from toilet paper
- Old CD's
- Any shade of blue or green streamers
- Bright colored spray paint
- Pool noodles
- Plastic table clothes – any shades of blue, green, yellow
- Paper lanterns
- Monetary gifts

**VOLUNTEER:** Your time and talents are in demand! Visit the Welcome Counter or check out the information to the right to learn about all volunteer opportunities and to sign-up today!

**PRAY:** Ask God to use our volunteers to bring the gospel message to willing hearts. Pray that children are saved into Christ's Kingdom.

**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!



Your time and talents are in demand! Read through the job descriptions below and then sign-up at the Welcome Counter for a job that you think would suit you and your schedule best!

**Decorating Helper:** Do you have an artistic side? Creative juices overflowing? Help us with decorating the church. This job can involve painting, putting together props, or cutting and handling cardboard! This is a job that gets done in the weeks prior to VBS. You can donate as much time as you have – there are decorating opportunities during the weekdays, weeknights and weekends.

**Crafts, Recreation, or Snack Helper:** Help the kids enjoy themselves during each rotation. These are good jobs for those that like to stay busy and work with the kids. You could come one night or all the nights of VBS to help. You will help with set-up and clean-up of the area where you are assigned.

- Crafts* - work with kids to complete individual crafts;
- Recreation* - help the children participate in games and other physical activities;
- Snack* - assemble and serve snacks to kids.

**Registration Helper:** This fast-paced job gives you an opportunity to see all the families and children coming to VBS. You would help parents complete registration forms, make name tags, help kids find their group, and share smiles and well wishes with everyone! This job is needed on Monday and Tuesday night of VBS.

**Group Guide:** This is a job for someone who can attend VBS every night! You will be assigned to help guide a group of children (10 -15 kids) through all the VBS rotations. You will be responsible for keeping attendance, teaching nightly bible verses, providing appropriate discipline, and loving each sweet child! You will be paired with at least one other group guide to do this job.

---

**Bethesda EC Church 2nd Annual Car, Truck  
& Motorcycle Show**  
**Saturday, May 28th, 2016**  
**10 am to 3 pm**  
**(Raindate: Sunday, May 29th 2-6 pm)**



**Silent Auction items are now available to look at and bid on in the hall.** We have some wonderful items that were donated by local businesses and the families of the students going on the trip. **Please stop by and check them out and help support our BYM Kentucky Work Team!**

Also, plan come out and peruse the cars, trucks, and motorcycles, & enjoy some great food during the show on **Saturday, May 28th!**

---



## The Leaders of the Ministry Council

This past year had presented us with a challenging exercise for our leadership to make adjustments and cover our critical leadership needs. Our Ministry Council consists of the following officers, financial officers, commission leaders, and members-at-large:

### Officers:

**President:** Curt Behler  
**Vice-President:** Mark Hoover  
**Secretary:** Tim DeLay  
**Lay Delegate:** Jim Martin  
**Alternate Lay Delegate:** Marty Stoyer, Jr.

### Financial Officers:

**Treasurer:** Kathy Wanamaker  
**Financial Secretary:** Cheryl Bender

### Commission Chairs:

**Outreach:** Janet Stoyer  
**Outreach Assistant:** Craig Stine (Member-at-Large)  
**Integration:** Michelle Canfield  
**Discipleship:** Steve Minnich  
**Missions Assistant:** Bill Mills (Member-at-Large)  
**Church Life:** Joseph Powell  
**Operations:** Steve Babb  
**Prayer Coordinator:** Sue Killian (Member-at-Large)

## Ministry Point People Quick Reference Guide

**Apprentice Ministries:** Steve Minnich  
**Benevolence:** Pastor Mark  
**Celebrate Recovery:** Norma Minnich  
**Child Care Coordinator:** Vanessa Minnich  
**Children's Ministries:** Becky Hoover  
**Choir:** Terri Smith  
**Connection/Learning Opportunities:** Joseph Powell  
**Counseling Referrals:** See Pastors  
**Custodial Issues:** Roxanne Seltzer  
**Decorating:** Jody Stine  
**Denominational Relations:** Jim Martin  
**Financial Giving Statements:** Cheryl Bender  
**Financial Peace University:** Mark Hoover  
**Food Pantry:** Steve Babb/Wayne Blankenhorn/Dean Boyer  
**GriefShare:** Paul Moyer  
**Hospitality/Welcome Counter:** Michelle Canfield  
**Information/Communications:** Church Office  
**JOY Fellowship:** Linda Bollinger  
**LifeTree Café:** Janet Stoyer  
**Memorial Gifts:** Cheryl Bender  
**Men's Ministry:** Pastor Jeff  
**Missionary Support:** Connie Wright/Bill Mills  
**Official Church Matters:** Curt Behler  
**Outreach Opportunities:** Janet Stoyer/Craig Stine  
**Pastoral Relations:** Steve Reiter  
**Prayer:** Sue Killian  
**Prison Ministry:** Steve Minnich  
**Property/Vehicles/Insurance:** Steve Babb  
**Small Groups/Triads/Connections:** Steve Minnich  
**Sunday School:** Joel Holubec  
**Use of Facility/Pavilion/Fields:** Church Office  
**Vacation Bible School:** Michelle Canfield/Tammy Munster  
**Website:** Church Office  
**What's For Dinner Wednesday:** Linda Bollinger  
**Women's Ministry:** Norma Minnich  
**Worship-Related:** Michelle Canfield  
**Youth Ministry:** Dawn Koch

Elderly friends and neighbors in your community are in dire need of friendly faces and willing hands to help with everyday tasks that keep them healthy, improve their quality of life, and maintain their ability to live in the homes they love. You have the ability to be the difference. RSVP of Schuylkill County is now recruiting volunteers aged 55 and above who have kind hearts and some free time and want to help our seniors. Contact them at 570-622-3103 or e-mail [cbowen@co.schuylkill.pa.us](mailto:cbowen@co.schuylkill.pa.us) for more information on these and other volunteer opportunities.



### Reedsville Cemetery Association

The Cemetery trustees are encouraging families or individuals to consider the purchase of burial lots to alleviate placing this responsibility 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.

If you or your group are planning to use the church facilities, please call the office, 570-739-2241 so that we can put your event on the calendar. By doing so, this eliminates conflicts and helps us better plan heating/cooling needs.



**DO NOT FEAR, for I am with you, DO NOT BE AFRAID, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you.—Isaiah 41:10**

Do you know of any **repairs or maintenance work that needs to be done around the church but don't know who to tell?** We have now made it easier for you to let the right people know!! There is a **notebook in the church office located in the "Operations Commission" mailbox**. Just stop in the office, write in your concern, and it will be looked at during the next meeting.



### Happy Father's Day!

F is for the faith in God he's shown me.  
A means that my Dad is "always there."  
T is for the training that he gave me;  
H is for the happy times we share.  
E means extra, endless love and patience.  
R is right, and Dad's just right for me!

- Marge Edwards

# PRAYER CONCERNS

June 2016

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

Victor Arbushites (treatment)  
Donald Behler (cancer)  
Butch Blankenhorn (cancer)  
Jean Bolton (treatment)  
Betty Boyer (memory)  
Carol Boyer (recovery)  
Joe Conway (recovery)  
Mary Cook (cancer)  
Alysa Dejesus (infection)  
Chris Ebling (recovery)  
Fred Fannelli (cancer)  
Jesse Henry (rehab)  
Mary Ellen Hering (recovery)  
Joel Holubec (recovery)  
Dorothy Kerschner (recovery)  
Adele Lech (recovery)  
Fred Lehr (recovery)  
Phillip Leibensperger (rehab)  
Bill Leymeister (transplant)  
Ruth Little Family (transition)  
Andrea Long (tests)  
Manny Lopez (memory)  
Joanne Lowe (comfort)  
Doris Mantz (recovery)  
Janel Mengel (recovery)  
Erika Minnich (recovery)  
Doris Motley (rehab)  
Gary Moyer (back)  
Amber Pavalko (recovery)  
Kendra Perry (pain management)  
Roseanne Saul (breathing)  
Kevin Schneck (kidney failure)  
Andrew Schock (cancer)  
Diane Stock (cancer)  
Jennie Stoltz (diabetes)  
David Strohl (recovery)

## Shut-ins

Margaret Bender  
Dorothy Blankenhorn  
Alice Corby  
Bert Heydt  
Edith Houtz

## Military

Josh Behler (Air Force)  
Keith Drummer (FBI)  
Tosha Fegley (Air Force)  
Benjamin Kilmer (National Guard)  
Luke Long, Jr. (National Guard)  
Jessica Nabholz (Army)

Allyson Tebin (leukemia)  
Joan Wall (recovery)  
Flo Walton (pain)  
Ashley Wollyung (brain tumor)

## Family

Maggie Arbushites family (wisdom)  
Martha Deibert family (loss)  
Wava Hamilton family (loss)  
Kyle Hatter family (loss)  
Kirt Johnson family (loss)  
Ron Lowe family (loss)  
Charlotte McDonald family (comfort)  
John Hinkley family (loss)  
Gerald Hoy family (loss)  
Frances Miller family (loss)  
Leslie Schoffstall family (loss)  
Glenn Snyder family (loss)  
Patsy Weaver family (loss)

## Congregational

Celebrate Recovery  
Griefshare Ministry  
Lifetree Café  
L.I.F.E. Prison Ministry

## Local, National and Global

CEF, Schuylkill County  
National Conference at Messiah College  
Newly Elected Community Associates:  
K. Henry, G. Kuehner, L. Cool, J. Byerly  
President Barack Obama  
Rev. Bruce Hill, Bishop  
US Military Forces  
PSP Troop L - Frackville, Schuylkill  
Haven & Jonestown



**Prayer Meeting**  
Join us in the Library  
on Wednesdays at  
7:00 pm to pray for the  
needs of our community and  
congregation.



**Community Prayer  
Ministry**

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

All articles for events held during July 1st through August 15th should be submitted by the 10th of June in order to be included in our July 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](http://www.bethesdaec.org).