



Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

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

**FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT
August 2016**

Information is not available at this time....please keep your eyes out for an updated financial snapshot in the September 25th bulletin.

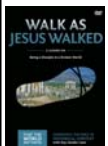
- Thank you!

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRIES KICK OFF
ON SEPTEMBER 21ST!!**

Come join us at 6:30 pm as we kick off our Wednesday night ministries! Classes are available for all ages during our Wednesday night programs and childcare is available for children 3 and under.



Open to all students age 4 thru 5th grade.
Meeting in the Common Ground. Pre-register on-line @ www.bethesdaec.org.



FOR WOMEN ONLY – Walk As Jesus Walked by Ray Vander Laan – Led by Norma Minnich in the Library. How badly do you want to be like Jesus? As disciples of Jesus, we've discovered that following him demands an intense commitment to the text and complete devotion to Christian community. But there is more. Come discover the fierce passion of our early Christian brothers and sisters to walk like Jesus – even when the path became treacherous.

FOR MEN ONLY – The Me I Want To Be by John Ortberg - Led by Pastor Jeff. God wants you to become a new creation. But new doesn't mean completely different; instead it's like an old motorcycle that gets restored to its intended magnificence. The good news is that as God redeems you and restores you, you become more you. You become more that person God has in mind when he first thought you up. God is not interested in mass-producing you, but rather handcrafting you to be his best version of you.



Choir Practice - Meeting in the Sanctuary. New members are welcome! Please let Kim know if you plan to join so that music will be available for everyone.



Prayer Meeting - Join us in Pastor Jeff's Office at 7:30 pm to pray for the needs of our community and congregation.

Practices will begin for the Christmas Cantata on Sunday, October 2nd from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



Save the Date!! The Cantata will be held on Saturday, December 17th at 3:00 pm with a snow date of Sunday, December 18th.



**What's For Dinner Wednesdays
October 5th & 19th
Dinner served: 5:30 - 6:15 pm**

Come enjoy a hearty meal and fellowship before our Wednesday evening activities. (Adults \$3, Kids \$1, Family cost \$10.00 max). Nursery available. No need to sign-up.



**Adult Sunday School
Opportunities
Through November 30th**

1 God Is Closer Than You Think - led by Pastor Jeff in the Library. 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. Yet, somehow, intimacy with God eludes 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.

2 The Divine Conspiracy - led by Steve Minnich in the Café. Is Jesus part of your daily life—here and now? Or, by failing to take him seriously, have you relegated him to the realm of the "hereafter"? In *The Divine Conspiracy*, biblical teaching, popular culture, science, scholarship, and spiritual practice are weaved together to capture the central insights of Christ's teachings in a fresh way and show the necessity of profound changes in how we view our lives and faith. Christians for the most part consider the primary function of Christianity to be admittance to heaven. But a faith that guarantees a satisfactory afterlife, yet has absolutely no impact on life in the here and now, is nothing more than "consumer Christianity" and "bumper-sticker faith." In an era when so many consider Jesus a beloved but remote savior, readers of *The Divine Conspiracy* will explore a revolutionary way to experience God—by knowing Him as an essential part of the here and now, an integral part of every aspect of our existence. *The Divine Conspiracy* calls us into a more authentic faith and offers a practical plan by which we can become Christ-like. It challenges us to step aside from the politics and pieties of contemporary Christian practice and inspires us to reject the all too common lukewarm faith of our times by embracing the true meaning of Christian discipleship.

3 The Sovereignty of God - led by a rotation of leaders in the sanctuary. Emphasis will be on ... Isaiah, Matthew, Hebrews & Revelations.

Every good and perfect gift is from above.— James 1:17a

Don't forget about our other
Fall Semester Small Groups
Starting the week of September 13th
Ending week of November 13



THANK YOU FOR...



...volunteering with The Church Has Left the Building!!! Taking place **Sunday, October 9th**, volunteers from Bethany, Bethesda and Grace EC Churches will invade homes and properties in the communities surrounding our churches to do yard work, painting, and repairs to structures. Stay tuned for an update of all the dynamics from this day in our November Newsletter!!!

Sundays:

2 to 4 p.m. - 1814 Crazy Horse Drive, Lake Wynonah - Death and Resurrection of the Messiah with Ray Vander Laan
 Hosted and led by Steve and Michelle Svenson. Follow Him. Being a follower of Jesus does not mean staying away from evil. It means confronting it – face to face – just like Jesus did every single day and through his resurrection. In this fourth set of Faith Lessons, learn how confronting evil can be loudly proclaiming the name of Jesus or quietly caring for someone in need.

6 to 8 p.m. - 411 Stoney Run Road, Chestnut Hill - Fire on the Mountain with Ray Vander Laan – Hosted and led by Mark and Cindy Brooks. When the Israelites left Egypt, they were finally free. Free from persecution, free from oppression, and free to worship their God. But with that freedom comes a new challenge – learning how to live together the way God intends. Discover how God teaches the Israelites what it means to be part of a community that loves him and what that means for us today.

Tuesdays:

6:30 to 8 p.m. - 109 Sunset Drive, Bernville - The Psalms (Life Lessons) by Max Lucado – Hosted and led by the Holubec's. The Psalms form a praisebook for God's people, a collection of hymns and petitions to lead us in worship. The variety found in the Psalms reminds us that worship is personal and, that while each worship's differently, each should worship. With scripture reading, inspirational readings, questions to answer, space for journaling, and a prayer, it's like studying the Bible with



Fill a Stocking for Joe Toy's Sidewalk Sunday School Kids

Be sure to pick up a stocking starting September 25th to fill for missionary Joe Toy's Sidewalk Sunday School kids. Please **return them by Sunday, October 23rd.**

CARE NET.

You're Invited To Our 16th Birthday!



October 6 at 6:00 pm - Faith Church, 1168 Centre Turnpike, Orwigsburg

You're invited to the biggest birthday party in Care Net's history!
 Please join us on October 6th as we light 16 candles to celebrate the impact that you have made in our community.

Tickets are \$12.50 each if reserved by September 23rd.
 After September 23rd, price increases to \$15.00.
 Reservations will not be accepted after September 30th.

CALLING ALL ADVENTUREERS:



We are looking for adults of all ages to possibly experience the impact and work of Menonite Disaster Relief sometime in late Winter/early Spring, 2017. In the past, groups from Bethesda have been blessed to serve with MDR in Pass Christian, MS (Katrina), Phil Cambell, MS (tornado) and Staten Island, NY (Sandy). Based on response, possible trip plans could be made to Detroit, MI, West Virginia, North Carolina, or Louisiana to assist communities recovering from natural disasters.

Sign-ups will be available at the Welcome Counter and on-line starting October 25th. I am looking forward to serving with you!!

- Pastor Mark

Missionary Corner

Joe Toy
Open Air Evangelist



Prayer Requests:

- * Monday/Wednesday - College Campus
- * Tuesday - Camden
- * Thursday - Camden and Olney, Philadelphia
- * Friday - Abortion Clinic and Camden
- * Some Sunday morning preaching on October 16th
- * September 30th - October 4th some time off in NC
- * Possible trip to England and Scotland - Oct 19th to 31th outreach and visit Adam
- * I need some more workers for the Camden ministry as some of our solid men have moved on.
- * Wendy could use prayer for her work at the church office, which can be stressful at times.

Praises:

- * Sharing the gospel at the Democratic National Convention
- * Summer outreaches at the NJ beaches

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.





Ladies Monthly Breakfast


All women are welcome, no need to sign-up!
Saturday, October 1st at 9 am at Haag's Hotel,
Shartlesville. Questions? Lisa at 484-294-6765.



Crochet Circle on October 10th & 24th
at the home of Cheryl Bender.

"Optional Women's Opportunities" which include events for women being held by other churches and/or the denomination are now listed on the Community Bulletin Board by the church office. This list will be updated as we hear about events. If you hear about an event that you think other women would like, please contact Norma Minnick at 570-617-0931 to have them included.



 Savings Banks are now available at the Welcome Counter for the Spring Ladies Retreat. Pick yours up TODAY to start saving for this great event!!

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.



"Under [Christ's] direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body healthy and growing and full of love." Ephesians 4:16 [NLT]

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday, October 8th at 8 am
at the Friedensburg Family Restaurant.



JOY Invites you to hear from...
Rich Nickel as he shares
his slides from his trip to India
Saturday, October 15th
at 6:00 pm in the Library

Bring a snack to share. Ice cream sundaes will be provided.
If you have any questions contact Linda Bollinger at 739-4580.
Sign-up at the Welcome Counter or on-line.

Every Monday 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Bethesda @ The Corner



- October 3 - The President's Faith
- October 10 - Cutting
- October 17 - Redeemed
- October 24 - Difficult People
- October 31 - Enough Already!

BYM meets on Sunday evenings from 6 to 8 pm and is open to all students in 6th thru 12th grades.



- October 2nd - Regular Meeting
- October 9th - TCHLTB
- October 16th - Regular Meeting
- October 23rd - Regular Meeting
- October 30th - Regular Meeting



Questions should be directed to Dawn Koch at 570-691-6457 or Pastor Stewart at 570-789-4952.



Yard Sale @ The Social Hall
Friday & Saturday, October 21st & 22nd
8 am to Noon

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



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



October 9th & 23rd
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.

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.

For we walk by faith, not by sight - 2 Corinthians 5:7

PRAYER CONCERNS October 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 (recovery)
Donald Behler (cancer)
Butch Blankenhorn (cancer)
Betty Boyer (memory)
Rev Chuck Campbell (recovery)
Mary Cook (cancer)
Joe Conway (recovery)
Ellen Cote (cancer)
Sam Douglas (recovery)
Fred Fannelli (cancer)
Angela Haynes (recovery)
Gary Hess (tests)
Heidi Irwin (recovery)
Eleanor Jamison (recovery)
Jacob Jamison (recovery)
Gail Knauf (knee)
Gerry Knauf (eye)
Wesley LeVan (cancer)
Andrea Long (tests)
Manny Lopez (memory)
Marilyn Matthias (sciatica)
Janel Mengel (recovery)
Gary Moyer (back)
Lynette Moyer (recovery)
Amber Pavalko (recovery)
Kendra Perry (pain management)
Brent Rhen (testing)
Natalie Rich (recovery)
Dave Rothermel (healing)
Roseanne Saul (breathing)
Kevin Schneck (kidney failure)
Andrew Schock (cancer)
Diane Stock (cancer)
Jennie Stoltz (diabetes)
David Strohl (recovery)
Mary Thompsin (recovery)

Shut-ins

Margaret Bender
Dorothy Blankenhorn
Bert Heydt
Edith Houtz
Edna Huegal

Military

Josh Behler (Air Force)
Ryan Brooks (Air Force)
Keith Drummer (FBI)
Tosha Fegley (Air Force)
Benjamin Kilmer (National Guard)
Issac Long (Coast Guard)
Jessica Nabholz (Army)

Ronda Thompson (testing)
Ellen Turner (Bell's Palsy)
Joan Wall (recovery)
Wendy Walter (cancer)
Flo Walton (pain)
Alan Warner (recovery)
Deborah Webber (tests)
Louis Welsh (breathing)
Viola Wright (recovery)
Clyde Yost (brain tumor)

Family

Maggie Arbushites family (wisdom)
Matt Folk family (loss)
Kaye Harding family (loss)
George & Dorothy Kershner family (transition)
Noah Benjamin Kilmer (birth)
Corey Kissinger family (loss)
Mildred Manbeck family (loss)
Charlotte McDonald family (comfort)
Jim Mellott family (loss)
Wilbur Killian family (loss)
Finn Jameson Peters family (birth)
Norm & Betty Spotts family (transition)
Ken White family (loss)
Ashley Wollyung family (transition)
Sandy Zanini family (loss)

Congregational

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

Local, National and Global

Bible Release at BMEW
CEF, Schuylkill County
EC Officers:
Bishop: Rev. Bruce Hill
Exec Director: K. Henry
Associates: J. Byerly, L. Cool,
G. Kuehner, & R. Sizemore
President Barack Obama
Students, Teachers & Administrators
heading back to school
US Military Forces
PSP Troop L - Frackville, Jonestown

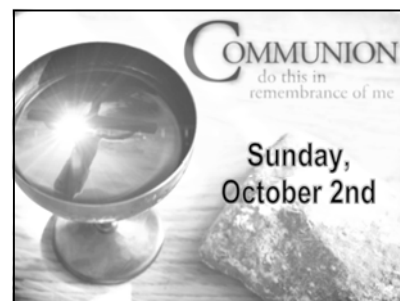


Prayer Meeting
Join us in Pastor Jeff's
Office on Wednesdays
at 7:30 pm to pray for
the needs of our community and
congregation.



**Community Prayer
Ministry**

**Sunday, October 23rd
at 6:15 pm @ the Corner**



All articles for events held during November 1st through December 15th should be submitted by the 10th of October in order to be included in our November 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.