



### Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:00 am Traditional Service

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Contemporary Service (child care provided)

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

May 2017

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$ 196,208	\$ 204,664	\$ 8,456
Expenses	\$ 189,615	\$ 178,456	\$ 11,159
To Reserves	\$ 16,666	\$ 0	(\$ 16,666)

### Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 10 thru Friday, July 14

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Age 4 – completed 5th grade



*Searching the Visible, Discovering the Invisible*

**Kids Will Discover the Invisible Wonders of God** - Turn your kids into Galactic Starveyors! As kids focus their telescopes on the marvels painted in the sky by the Creator, they will discover the wonder among all wonders - that the God who created everything there is - the knowable and the unknowable, the visible and the invisible - wants a personal relationship with them! Invite your kids into the clubhouse and show them the God who is over the moon in love with them.

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. -Colossians 1:15-16*

Nightly skits and videos, songs, puppets, crafts, games, and snacks will be out of this world! Children will earn points by coming to Bible School, bringing friends, and learning bible verses. Points will be redeemed for awesome prizes!

Register your children for VBS 2017 TODAY! Three convenient ways to register:

**Online:** Visit [www.bethesdaec.org](http://www.bethesdaec.org) and click on the Galactic Starveyors logo.

Fill out a registration form at the **Welcome Counter**.  
Call the church office at 570-739-2241.

### We are looking for the following items for VBS:

Telescopes (*do not have to work*), white Christmas lights (*on strands & must work*), material (*with stars and or planets on it*), a machine that displays stars on your house (*used at Christmas-time*), stars that glow in the dark and any other space items (ex. *stars, rockets, planets, etc.*).

**Decorating sessions continue every Tuesday & Thursday evenings starting at 6:30 pm thru June 30th, then daily starting July 3rd. Everyone is welcome to help when they are able! Questions, please contact Roger Steffy at 570-385-5273.**



Adult Sunday School Opportunities  
Continue thru August 27th

**# 1 No Perfect People Allowed** by John Burke *led by Tasha Byerly in the Library*. How do we live out the message of Jesus in today's ever-changing culture? The church is facing its greatest challenge—and its greatest opportunity—in our postmodern, post-Christian world. God is drawing thousands of spiritually curious “imperfect people” to become his church—but how are we doing at welcoming them? We will analyze and focus on removing the five main barriers standing between emerging generations and your church by creating the right culture.

**# 2 A study on The Book of Ruth** - based on the teachings of Warren Wiersbe and David Jeremiah *led by Deb Perkins in the Café*. Have you ever been in “Moab”? 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. The lives of Ruth and Naomi can serve as a fail-proof guide to staying on the path that God has laid before us.

**# 3 God 's Urgent Call** - *led by a rotation of leaders in the Sanctuary*. Emphasis will be on ... Exodus; Judges; Isaiah; Jeremiah; Ezekiel; Amos; & Acts.

### VBS Needs Your Help!

**DONATE:** We need lots of stuff to make VBS come to life! Please visit the display at the Welcome Counter to choose a card with one of our needs. Please return all donations by July 2nd. Decorating items are still needed as well—see message to the right.

**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!



Young adults age 18 thru 24 are invited to join us on Friday evenings, July 7th & 21st from 8 to 11 pm @ the Corner. Questions should be directed to Pastor Stewart at 570-789-4952 or Dawn Koch at 570-691-6457

**Bethesda Youth Ministries**  
Students in 6th thru 12th grade



- July 1st - Geocaching
- July 10th to 14th - Plan to volunteer to help with VBS!
- July 16th - Sports Night
- July 20th - Book Club
- July 28th - Movie Night
- July 30th - Sports Night

For more information or to sign-up for an event, please visit the bulletin board in the downstairs hallway. Questions? Contact Pastor Stewart at 570-789-4952 Dawn Koch at 570-691-6457.



Join us on **Saturday, July 8th** at 5:30 pm in the Common Ground for a Pot Luck Dinner. Please bring a dish to share. Sign-up online or at the Welcome Counter. For more information, please contact Linda Bollinger at 570-739-4580.

**July 9th & 23rd**  
1:30 – 3:30 pm in the 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.



**Mondays 7:00 to 8:00 pm**  
**Bethesda @ the Corner**

- July 3 - The Majesty and Mystery of Nature
- July 10 - When Love Hurts
- July 17 - What People Really Think of Christians & Why
- July 24 - Body Language
- July 31 - Getting Unstuck

**Tuesdays @ the Corner**  
6:30 to 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.



**MEN OF BETHESDA**

Two small group studies continue the first *When I Don't Desire God* at Bethesda @ the Corner **Wednesday evenings 6:60-7:30pm** led by Steve Minnich, and the second, *Experiencing God* every other **Tuesday** at residence of Keith Koch (3 Meadow Brook Dr., SH).

MOBs BBQ at Paul Moyer residence – **Saturday, July 29th, 5 - 7pm** (pool is open!!!) More details to follow!

Do you know someone who has a Home and/or Auto need and just cannot afford it? Do not hesitate to complete the MOB Home & Auto repair Program card at the Welcome Counter and we will see if we can help!!!



The Men's Breakfast will be on **Saturday, July 8th** at the Friedensburg Family Restaurant.



**Save – A – Date!**

**Saturday, September 16, 2017**

**Women's Fall Breakfast at Blue Mountain Family Restaurant**

**Shartlesville, PA**

**8 a.m. to 10 a.m.**

Featuring *Personal Testimonies*

Volunteers are needed to help with **monthly weeding and weekly watering** in various areas around the church.



Sign-ups with dates and reminder cards for both are available at the Welcome Counter. If you have any questions about where things are or exactly what needs to be done, please call the church office (570-739-2241) or Norma Minnich (570-617-0931).



**Walker Bag Coordinator Needed** - We are in need of a lady who is willing to coordinate the creation and distribution of the walker bags and/or cut walker bag patterns. If you are interested or able to help, please call the church office (570-739-2241) or Norma Minnich (570-617-0931).

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



**Ladies Monthly Breakfast**



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

*"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]



## The Churches Will Leave Their Buildings

As we mentioned last month, we are once again planning a cooperative outreach event with our sister EC churches from Schuylkill Haven and Cressona. Our plan is to utilize Sunday, October 8th as a combined event where our churches can serve our communities together throughout the day - light repair projects, painting, landscaping, visiting the elderly, and more will take place on this date. Others will help behind the scene as drivers, meal preparers, photographers - the opportunities are endless. We will finish off the day with a combined worship event.

Our goal is to cooperatively serve our community together - that we would learn that we are in this ministry thing together and that our children will learn that church is more than our building or a few hours on Sunday morning - it is the body enlivened on mission to serve!

We are still looking for sites for individuals or families that are financially challenged in non-rental properties. Please pass their contact information on to Pastors Mark or Jeff.



## Church Family Picnic Sunday, August 20th

Our annual church picnic will soon be here; Aug 20th and you are invited!

The day is always a lot of fun and includes lots of food and fellowship. Of course to put on such a big picnic requires a lot of volunteers to make it all happen. **Would you be interested in helping with our picnic? If so, please sign-up at the Welcome Counter or on-line @ [bethesdaec.org/signup](http://bethesdaec.org/signup) starting July 2nd and indicate the area you would like to help. We need help with: serving food and drink, clean up, games and activities, parking and baking cakes.**



*Even if you have helped in the past, please sign-up, as we are creating a new volunteer list.* Once this list has been compiled, we will contact you with additional information. Yes, it does take some time and work, but I think you will find it to be rewarding and fulfilling as you serve our Lord and one another.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact either Joel Holubec at 610-488-7198 or Wayne Blankenhorn at 570-739-2533.



## A Change Has Come.....

Beginning June 1st, a new approach is being taken toward Bethesda's prayer list located in the monthly newsletter. Once a prayer concern is passed on through the office or pastoral staff, if that request is not updated within four weeks, it will be removed from the list. Because much time is spent every month following up with prayer concerns, the goal is to place this responsibility to the "giver" of the initial prayer request. **The purpose of this change is to change the responsibility of follow-up, while we continue to emphasize praying for others. Thank you - and continue praying!!!**

## A STANDING O.....

Thank you faithful servant Nancy Wertman who is "retiring" as a children's Sunday School teacher. Nancy connected with VBS, SS, and Wednesday evening children's ministries for the past 15 years+. When asked about her involvement, "...it is just part of being in a family doing whatever needed to be done. Nothing special, just showing up and letting God do his thing." We thank God for Nancy!!!



A Mission-Minded Kids program will be held during Junior church on **July 23rd**. This is a great opportunity for our children to learn about local and global missions.

**Fellowship of Prayer  
6 pm in the Café  
July 9th and 23rd**



A time of adoration and worship followed by small group prayer focused on specific requests. Everyone is welcome to join this fellowship of prayer. Questions or for more information, please contact Connie Wright at 570-754-2259.



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.



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



## 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.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

July 2017

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

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Nanette Albright (transition)  
Daniel Behler (hospice)  
Donald Behler (treatment)  
Bonnie Betz (heart)  
Walter Bilger (transition)  
Douglas Blain (heart)  
Mary Ann Boyer (heart)  
Johanna Brauer (therapy)  
Jeff Brown (recovery)  
Joe Conway (recovery)  
Irene Conway (cancer)  
Diana Curry (cancer)  
Janene Ditzler (medication)  
Gloria Ebling (cancer)  
Donna Evans (cancer)  
Eileen Goodwin (rehab)  
Mike Gossard (testing)  
Kharizma Harris (testing)  
Glen Heisler (recovery)  
Gary Hess Sr (recovery)  
Mina Horan (leukemia)  
Pat Johns (Alzheimer's)  
Dorothy Kerschner (recovery)  
Ira Kinsel (cancer)  
Henry Larsen (leukemia)  
Dennis Lauffer (respiratory)  
Joleen Lauffer (healing)  
Leah Lauffer (healing)  
Sandy Long (recovery)  
Don M (recovery & employment)  
Jim Martin (sciatica)  
Marilyn Matthias (recovery)  
Caitlin McGarry (rehab)  
Jimmy Miller (recovery)  
Lynette Moyer (recovery)  
Paul Moyer, Jr. (recovery)  
Gladys Nagle (cancer)  
David Novatnak (cancer)  
Thomas Parnell (testing)  
Enol Paul (recovery)

Amber Pavalko (recovery)  
Kathy Price (lymes disease)  
Alexandra Rader (recovery)  
Jennifer Rader (arthritis)  
Riley Renjyak (cancer)  
Blake Richardson (heart)  
Howard Rio (heart)  
Carol Rolshausen (cancer)  
Andrew Schock (cancer)  
Vicky Sleinkofer (recovery)  
Diane Stock (cancer)  
Jennie Stoltz (diabetes)  
Dave Strohl (rehab)  
Mary Ann Subalesky (cancer)  
Maria Szumlanski (pneumonia)  
Gene Voydik (rehab)  
Joan Wall (rehab)  
Flo Walton (pain)  
Richard Welker (cancer)  
Brenda Wessner (recovery)  
Randy Wessner (heart)  
Paula Winn (cancer)  
David Wright (transition)  
Helen Youse (heart)  
Beth Zimmerman (cancer)

### Family

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Michael Carter Ball family (birth)  
Lewis Ebert family (loss)  
Charlotte McDonald family (comfort)  
Maidenford family (fire loss)  
Jesse Stickell family (loss)  
Waschko family (support)

### Local, National and Global

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CEF, Schuylkill County  
EC National Conference at Messiah College  
EC Officers:  
Bishop: Bruce Hill  
Exec Director: K. Henry  
Associates: J. Byerly, L. Cool,  
G. Kuehner, & R. Sizemore  
President Donald J. Trump  
Vice President Mike Pence  
US Military Forces  
PSP Troop L - Frackville, Jonestown  
& Schuylkill Haven

### Congregational

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Appalachian Trail Ministry  
Celebrate Recovery  
Coffee @ the Corner  
Griefshare Ministry  
Lifetree Café  
L.I.F.E. & TUMI Prison Ministries

### Shut-ins

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Margaret Bender	Ardeth Luckenbill
Dorothy Blankenhorn	M. Jean Luckenbill
Bert Heydt	Hazel Minnich
Edith Houtz	Flo Walton
Ruth Liddle	Hilda Yeager

### Military

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Josh Behler (Air Force)	Nicole Perkins (Army)
Ryan Brooks (Air Force)	Thomas Perkins (Army)
Tosha Fegley (Air Force)	Steven J Russell-Rhen (Army)
Caleb Jennings (Marines)	Zehn Schropp (Air Force)
Benjamin Kilmer (National Guard)	Zach Siple (Coast Guard)
Issac Long (Coast Guard)	Jake Stoudt (Air Force)
Jessica Nabholz (Army)	Joe Sweigart (Army)



All articles for events held during August 1st through September 15th should be submitted by the 10th of July in order to be included in our August issue. A copy of this newsletter can also be found on-line at [www.bethesdaec.org](http://www.bethesdaec.org).