



Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:00 am Traditional Service

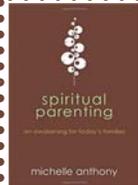
9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Contemporary Service (child care provided)

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

June 2017

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$ 235,450	\$ 235,920	\$ 470
Expenses	\$ 216,832	\$ 189,240	\$ 27,592
To Reserves	\$ 20,000	\$ 0	(\$ 20,000)



Spiritual Parenting Sunday School Class

No one can deny that leading a family through life comes with its challenges and struggles. Working hard to provide while making sure that children are raised to be respectable and productive members of society provide a great amount of burden to the task of leading a family and when we add parents and teachers prepare us for much of what life has to offer, we simply cannot avoid the fact that, unless you were raised with a parent as a pastor, effective spiritual leadership within a family setting is not a course that is offered in any school.

Beginning September 3, we will be holding a trial Sunday School class which is different from anything that has been done before here at Bethesda. We will not be offering age based Sunday school classed for children ages 4 through 12th grade but, instead, will be holding a class which brings the entire family together to learn what it is to be an effective disciple making family.

Using the material found in the book *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony, we will take a look at the spiritual nurturing within the family structure as well as offer creative ways in which parents/guardians can take part in God's plan to develop an intimate relationship with all people by starting with the most intimate environment that we have, the home. Using stories, service, crafts and other mediums, each family should leave the class equipped with a proper understanding of church leadership's role in the family's spiritual development, a better understanding of their role in God's big story, and the confidence to be able to actively seek spiritual discussion and development at home.

This is a class that will require parent/guardian and child participation and will rely heavily on discussion and activities to effectively communicate the importance of spiritual development within each home. There will be no other Sunday school classes offered for Children ages 4 through 12th grade so we encourage you to set aside this time every Sunday to gather together with your spouse and children to devote yourselves to learning more of what God desires for the families that make up the body of Christ.

- Pastor Stewart



A Team for the Ages

After over 20 years of service, the nursery team of Cheryl Bender and Sue Killian has finally come to an end. Sue stepped down about one year ago, and Cheryl will make it official as of August 27th. Cheryl's thoughts: "I remember Josh Lehman (24) and Dillon Wertman (19) being in nursery!!!" Thanks to each of you for being a blessing to this ministry and for your faithful service!!!



Thank you to everyone for all the beautiful cards and words of encouragement. I feel blessed to have been able to serve here at Bethesda over the past ten years. May the Lord continue to bless this church and for all those who serve here. Our new address is 11 Amber Circle, New Holland, PA 17557.



- Madeline



**Church Family Picnic
Sunday, August 20th
12 Noon - 4:00 pm**

Following Sunday School and a combined Worship service we will start the fun and food at the Social Hall. The menu includes chicken corn soup, hot dogs, hamburgers, veggies, soda, lemonade, ice cream and watermelon. There will be a selection of desserts that we encourage you to bring along and share with the group. Dress comfortably and bring a lawn chair, if you like. There will be plenty of time for fellowship, playing volleyball or just relaxing in a friendly environment. Games and hayrides are provided for the children.

The day is always a lot of fun, but of course to put on such a big picnic requires a lot of volunteers to make it all happen. If you are interested, please sign-up at the welcome center and indicate the area you would like to help at. We need help with: serving food and drink, clean up, children's games, bounce house and parking. 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. Thank you for your willingness to participate and serve!

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

collegeministry

Young adults age 18 thru 24 are invited to join us on Friday evenings, August 11th, 18th & 25th 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



- Aug 3rd, 17th & 31st - Book Club
- Aug 4th - Knoebels Family Day (raindate Aug 11th)
- Aug 12th - Geocaching
- Aug 20th - Church Family Picnic

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, Aug 12th for Corn & Doggie Roast at the Social Hall

Sign-up online or at the Welcome Counter. Cost is \$3 per person, bringing a side dish is optional. For more information, please contact Linda Bollinger at 570-739-4580 or Wayne Blankenhorn at 570-739-2533.

August 13th & 27th
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

- August 7th - Science and Religion
- August 14th - Coping with Grief
- August 21st - They Hijacked my Life!
- August 27th - Concussions

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.



MOB's Home & Auto Repair Program continues as we try to utilize our abilities, gifts, and resources to help those in need. Do not hesitate to complete the MOB program card at the Welcome Counter and we will see if we can help!!!

MOB's BBQ will take place on Saturday, July 29th from 5 to 7 pm at the home of Paul Moyer, Jr. (153 Schuylkill Mtn Road). Pool is open!!

A new small group study will begin Wednesday, July 26th beginning at 6:30 pm at Bethesda @ the Corner. Come be a part of John Ortberg's *Soul Keeping* led by Chuck Pishock.



The Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, August 12th at the Friedensburg Family Restaurant.



Nourishing the Total Woman
Saturday, August 26th at the Hoy Residence
10 am to 12 pm

Are you the kind of woman that puts everyone first and then sometimes silently wonders who is going to nurture you? Do you feel out of balance, stressed, or discontent with the way your life is going? Does it seem almost impossible to take time for yourself and when you do, you feel guilty or self-indulgent? Is your energy waning, your health just so-so, or your passion for life deflated?

If you answered yes to any of these questions... Then it's time for a little "Me-Time". Join us on Saturday, August 26th for a morning of encouragement, equipping, and refreshing with our guest speaker, Danna Demetre.

Sign-up at the Welcome Counter starting July 30th. For more information contact Michelle Hoy at 610-823-3563.

Save the Date - Saturday, September 16, 2017
Women's Fall Breakfast at Blue Mountain Family Restaurant, Shartlesville - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Featuring Personal Testimonies

Crochet Circle on August 14th & 28th
at the home of Cheryl Bender.



Ladies Monthly Breakfast

All women are welcome, no need to sign-up! Saturday, August 5th 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]

Missionary Corner

Keith & Sarah Evans



PRAISE:

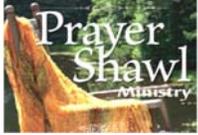
- ◆ For a beautiful wedding day!
- ◆ For the refining work God is doing in Keith and Sarah through their marriage.

PRAY:

- ◆ For Keith and Sarah's continued reliance on the Lord as they continue to navigate married life.
- ◆ For the summer Bible study for college students.



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



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.

A Change Has Come.....



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 **Mission-Minded Kids** program will be held during Junior church on **August 27th**. This is a great opportunity for our children to learn about local and global missions.

Fellowship of Prayer
6 pm in the Café
August 13th and 27th



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.



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

Community Blood Drive
August 24th 2-7 pm
in the Library



Sign up for a time to donate at the table in the hall starting August 6th, by calling the Red Cross at 1-800-Red Cross, or visiting www.redcrossblood.org.



Be on the lookout for **Fall Semester Small Groups to begin the end of September**. Those interested in attending will be able to pick a small group based on topic, leader, location and time. **Anyone interested in hosting and/or leading a Fall Semester Small Group** for six to ten weeks should contact Steve at 570-527-0298 or Norma at 570-617-0931.

Yard Sale at the Social Hall
Fri & Sat, August 25th & 26th - 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 570-366-2152 or LaVerne Houtz 570-345-4998.**



The Churches Will Leave Their Buildings

As we have been talking about, 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. **As of July 20th Bethesda has accumulated approximately 10 job sites to evaluate.**

On Sunday, July 30th there will be a Cooperative Outreach meeting to continue planning for this fall service opportunity. 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!

Questions or site recommendations should be directed to Pastors Mark or Jeff.

PRAYER CONCERNS

August 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

Nanette Albright (transition)
Daniel Behler (hospice)
Donald Behler (treatment)
Bonnie Betz (heart)
Walter Bilger (transition)
Eileen Blew (knee)
Mary Ann Boyer (heart)
Johanna Brauer (therapy)
Joe Conway (recovery)
Irene Conway (cancer)
Diana Curry (cancer)
Janene Ditzler (medication)
Glenn Ebert (healing)
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)
Ira Kinsel (cancer)
Henry Larsen (leukemia)
Dennis Lauffer (respiratory)
Leah Lauffer (recovery)
Sandy Long (recovery)
Don M (recovery & employment)
Marilyn Matthias (recovery)
Caitlin McGarry (rehab)
Andrew Mollick (testing)
Helene Motley (liver)
Lynette Moyer (recovery)
Paul Moyer, Jr. (recovery)
Gladys Nagle (cancer)
David Novatnak (cancer)
Thomas Parnell (testing)
Amber Pavalko (surgery 7/26)
Donna Platts (cancer)
Kathy Price (lymes disease)

Jennifer Rader (arthritis)
Riley Renjyak (cancer)
Clyde Rhen (legs)
Mary Rhen (recovery)
Howard Rio (heart)
Carol Rolshausen (cancer)
Vicky Sleinkofer (recovery)
Diane Stock (cancer)
Jennie Stoltz (diabetes)
Mary Ann Subalesky (cancer)
Maria Szumlanski (pneumonia)
Gene Voydik (rehab)
Joan Wall (rehab)
Flo Walton (pain)
Richard Welker (cancer)
Brenda Wessner (knee)
Randy Wessner (heart)
Paula Winn (cancer)
David Wright (transition)
Helen Youse (heart)
Beth Zimmerman (cancer)

Family

Daniel Behler family (loss)
Michael Carter Ball family (birth)
Amy Jenkins family (loss)
Charlotte McDonald family (comfort)
Maidenford family (fire loss)
Jesse Stickell family (loss)
Waschko family (support)
Ed Webber family (loss)
Weeble family (loss & recovery)

Shut-ins

Margaret Bender
Walter Bilger
Dorothy Blankenhorn
Bert Heydt

Edith Houtz
Ruth Liddle
Ardeth Luckenbill
M. Jean Luckenbill
Hazel Minnich

Military

Josh Behler (Air Force)
Ryan Brooks (Air Force)
Tosha Fegley (Air Force)
Caleb Jennings (Marines)
Benjamin Kilmer (National Guard)
Issac Long (Coast Guard)
Jessica Nabholz (Army)

Nicole Perkins (Army)
Thomas Perkins (Army)
Steven J Russell-Rhen (Army)
Zehn Schropp (Air Force)
Zach Siple (Coast Guard)
Jake Stoudt (Air Force)
Joe Sweigart (Army)

Local, National and Global

CEF, Schuylkill County
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

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



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