



February 2018

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:00 am Traditional Service

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Contemporary Service (child care provided)

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Year End 2017

| | Budgeted | Actual | Difference |
|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Income | \$ 470,900 | \$ 469,116 | \$ (884) |
| Expenses | \$ 449,151 | \$ 409,241 | \$ (40,794) |
| Transfers In/Out | \$ 40,000 | \$ 94,293 | \$ 54,293 |

Women of Bethesda

healthy, growing & full of love

WooHoo Ministries

Revive. Rejuvenate. Restore

Featuring Tawn Battiste



Women of Bethesda Annual Retreat

March 23, 24, 25, 2018

Kenbrook Bible Camp, Lebanon, PA



Standing on the Promises of God

You may remember Tawn from our 2017 Spring Fellowship! She will share her testimony on Friday evening and share two teaching sessions on Saturday and one on Sunday morning. We will be challenged to identify and confront any "Stinkin' thinkin'" that sets itself against the promises of God. We will be encouraged to open the gift of the Holy Spirit daily and keep our minds steadfast with Christ and much more! Plan to share in this time of revival, rejuvenation and restoration together. The retreat begins on Friday evening and ends Sunday morning right before lunch. Day guests are welcome to come from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday to hear two sessions and enjoy times of fellowship. Kenbrook is located just 25 minutes from the church. **Sign up at the Welcome Counter!**

Ladies Monthly Breakfast

All women are welcome, no need to sign-up!

Saturday, February 3rd at 9 am at Blue Mtn

Family Restaurant, Shartlesville. Questions? Lisa at 484-294-6765.



Crochet Circle on February 12th & 26th at the home of Cheryl Bender.

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."

"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." - Colossians 3:14

Sunday School

learning to live the life

Adult Sunday School Opportunities Thru February 25th

1 How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth - led by Pastor Jeff in the Cafe. Understanding the Bible isn't for the few, the gifted, the scholarly. The Bible is accessible. It's meant to be read and comprehended by everyone from armchair readers to seminary students. A few essential insights into the Bible can clear up a lot of misconceptions and help you grasp the meaning of Scripture and its application to your 21st-century life.

2 When God's Spirit Moves - based on the book by Jim Cymbala led by Connie Wright in the Library. We will be pondering Jim Cymbala's study. Jim says "Understanding the ministry of the Holy Spirit is key for anyone who wants to live a vibrant and victorious life. His power and presence is what makes life exciting as we follow Jesus." This study may challenge you to think beyond your current level of attention to the Holy Spirit's work in your life to pursue a deeper relationship with Him.

3 Faith In Action - led by a rotation of leaders in the Sanctuary. Emphasis will be on Daniel, Matthew, Acts, Ephesians, I Timothy and James.

Regular Sunday School classes for students in nursery thru 12 grade resume this quarter in their respective classrooms. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Stewart at 570-789-4952.



What's For Dinner Wednesdays February 7th & 21st

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. Menus will be shared prior to each date. If you are able to bring a dessert it is appreciated!



VOLUNTEERS

CALLING ALL HELPING HANDS

We are in need of individuals willing to teach a Sunday School class, be a helper for the classes; be a helper for Junior Church; and lastly to help with childcare during second service. If you are willing to help in any way whatsoever, please contact Pastor Stewart at 570-789-4952 as soon as possible. Volunteer planning is on-going.

Open to all students in Age 4 to 4th grade. Meets on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Common Ground.




Missionary Corner

Robert & Bettina Schaeffer

Praises:

- * Robert's ministry to those struggling with homosexuality.
- * Serving weekends in a Saint Clair church.
- * Meetings with various recovery groups.

Prayer Requests:

- * Ongoing wisdom in ministry both in NYC and St. Clair.
- * Safety in travel between NYC and PA.
- * Continuing for Robert's father in St. Clair.



Bethesda Youth Ministries

Students in 5th thru 12th grade

BYM is now split into *BYM Senior* (8th thru 12th grades) which meets **Sundays** in the Library from 6 to 8 pm and *BYM Junior* (5th thru 7th grades) meets **Wednesdays** the Log Cabin Room from 6:30 to 8 pm. A complete schedule can be found online at bethesdaec.org/bym.

February Special Events:

February 4th - BYM Combined Super Bowl Party
 February 16th thru 18th - BYM Sr Winter Thaw Retreat

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 or Dawn Koch at 570-691-6457.

Please return your baby bottles filled with change for CareNet Pregnancy Center by Sunday, February 25th. Thank you for your support of this important ministry!



Some tentative calendar events have been scheduled for MOB's the first few months of 2018:



- February 24th - Grillin' & Fishin' at Bethesda
- March 9th thru 17th - MDS Workteam, Ft. Meyers, FL
- April 7th - Racing Car Fanatic, Branchdale
- April 14th - Iron Sharpens Iron Conference, Allentown
- May 6th or 20th - Zipline & High Ropes Course, Lancaster
- June 2nd - Day at Carlisle Car Show, Carlisle

Interested in meeting needs in our surrounding communities? Keep your eyes and ears open for service work opportunities (landscaping, minor home repairs, painting, etc....).

Men's Monthly Breakfast, Saturday, February 10th at 8 am at Friedensburg Family Restaurant.




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

- February 5th - Whistleblower
- February 12th - In the News
- February 19th - Does God Have a Plan for You?
- February 26th - Finding the Family I Never Knew

JOY Activities will resume in March, keep your eye out for details!



February 11th & 25th
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.



... a thank you to Annette Holopirek for 20 years of active involvement with Child Evangelism Fellowship both in the community as well as with Bethesda's Junior Church Ministry. If you look up commitment and dedication in the dictionary – Annette's picture is there for her support and involvement with this children's focus ministry. Bethesda appreciates and values Annette for all she has done through the ministry of CEF and Junior Church as she steps down from the Junior Church teacher rotation!!!

Building Expansion News & Updates

The **Building Expansion Steering Team** (Mark Hoover, Steve Reiter, Steve Minnich, Steve Babb, Curt Behler, Pastor Jeff, and Jim Miller, Sr.) are continuing to meet on a regular basis to review the project, make decisions, and direct the Building Expansion Team Leaders. At their most recent meeting on January 15th, the floor plan for Phase 1 of the renovations, which includes the church offices, were approved, and Miller Construction was authorized to start a portion of the project. (Please see next page for floor plan.) The Industrial Modern concept was approved as a theme for the building which will include large windows, wood features, and a metal roof. A rough design of the exterior of the building based on this concept was presented by Norma Minnich, and the BEST Team asked the Design & Decorating Team to continue to develop this design.

Interior demolition continues Wednesday mornings starting at 8 am; Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm; and Saturday mornings at 7 am. If you are free any of these times and would like to come out and help, please stop by, we will put you to work!

The **Design and Decorating Committee** has met three times since October and plans to meet the **1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month from 9 to 11 am in the Café at the church** until the details are sorted for these renovations. We are happy to report that the interior design for Phase One is almost complete! We are making good strides in the exterior design. **Anyone interested in being part of this process is more than welcome to join us at our meetings!**

The **Facilities Use Team** has considered a variety of uses for the new property. During several months of research on community needs, we discussed after-school programs for youth, a coffee shop, senior citizen programming, possible recreational uses, and a medical clinic. **The idea that is being examined further is establishing a Senior Center.** Several meetings with county human services officials have led us to begin the process of organizing a senior citizens group for Wayne Township and the surrounding area. **We will need volunteers from Bethesda who have an interest in planning a Senior Center, if you have any interest in helping in this area, please contact Michelle Canfield or Charlie Killian.** Stay tuned for more information...

The **Building Expansion Prayer Team** asks you to pray for:

Connection

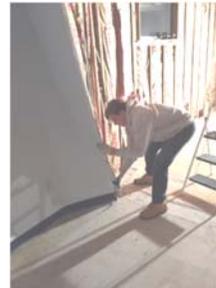
- Development of the concept of a "senior center without walls".
- Seeking a grant funded through local government.

Construction

- Final inner demolition – workers, safety.
- Movement into the renovation phase – purchase of materials, contracting labor.

Congregation

- Growing sense of excitement and "ownership" as construction proceeds.
- Ongoing prayer for this facility to be used to serve our community to the glory of God.



The **You Name It Team** has met a couple of times to discuss names for the new facility. At this time, we do not have a name yet selected, but keep your eyes and ears open for more information in the next couple months! The **Communications Team** invites you to check the bulletin board in the hall by the office for updates!

The **BEST and various Sub Teams** are always looking for those interested in helping with the building expansion. **If you are interested in being a part of this project in any way, please contact the appropriate team leader listed below.**

Building Expansion Steering Team:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Mark Hoover, Co-Chair | 570-739-1187 |
| Steve Reiter, Co-Chair | 570-345-4246 |
| Steve Minnich, Secretary | 570-527-0298 |
| Steve Babb | 570-739-7310 |
| Curt Behler | 717-933-8074 |
| Jeff Byerly | 570-739-2241 |
| Jim Miller Sr | jimsr@millerbros.com |

Team Leaders:

| |
|---|
| Demolition & Construction Team - Jim Martin 570-345-8528 |
| Facility Usage & Program Team - Michelle Canfield 570-754-7253 & Charlie Killian 570-754-7528 |
| Interior Design & Decoration Team - Norma Minnich 570-617-0931 |
| Communications Team - Lisa Minnich 484-294-6765 |
| Prayer Support Team - Connie Wright 570-573-1450 |
| You Name It Team - Deborah Babb 570-739-7310 |

PRAYER CONCERNS

February 2018

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

Rich Ankenbrant (recovery)
Debb Babb (eyes)
Jane Baudoin (recovery)
Curt Behler (recovery)
Estell Bensinger (recovery)
Bonnie Betz (recovery)
Bob Brennan (cancer)
Linda Christman (recovery)
Joe Conway (recovery)
Irene Conway (treatment)
Diana Curry (cancer)
Don DeWeese (treatment)
Janene Ditzler (medication)
Adam Drobnick (healing)
Gloria Ebling (cancer)
Donna Evans (cancer)
Gary Farabaugh (recovery)
Chris Garcia (recovery)
Eileen Goodwin (rehab)
Judy Harig (surgery)
Wayne Herring, Sr (recovery)
Gary Hess (surgery 2/22)
Michelle Hoy (testing)
Pat Johns (Alzheimer's)
George Kershner (stability)
Henry Larsen (transplant)
Dennis Lauffer (respiratory)
Leah Lauffer (recovery)
Andrea Long (eye)
Rev. Roy Luckenbill (recovery)
Don M (recovery & employment)
Jim Martin (recovery)
Marilyn Matthias (recovery)
Francis McDonald (recovery)
Lisa Minnich (testing)
Lynette Moyer (recovery)
Jenn Oswald (recovery)
Amber Pavalko (recovery)
Donna Platts (cancer)
Joe Powell (eye)
Jennifer Rader (arthritis)
Harold Rehl (recovery)
Mary Reinhart (recovery)
Dawn Reiter (testing)

Shut-ins

Margaret Bender
Walter Bilger
Dorothy Blankenhorn
Bert Heydt
Edith Houtz
Ruth Liddle

Military

Josh Behler (Air Force)
Ryan Brooks (Air Force)
Caleb Jennings (Marines)
Issac Long (Coast Guard)
Jeff McNeal (Army)
Nicole Perkins (Army)

Hannah Reiter (recovery)
Riley Renjyak (cancer)
Carol Rolshausen (cancer)
Vicky Sleinkofer (recovery)
Judy Snyder (recovery)
Ron Stine (recovery)
Diane Stock (cancer)
Marty Stoyer Sr (recovery)
Mary Ann Subalesky (cancer)
Jeanie Stoltz (recovery)
Maria Szumblinski (recovery)
Joan Wall (rehab)
Flo Walton (pain)
Richard Welker (cancer)
Darlene Welsh (surgery 2/18)
Brenda Wessner (therapy)
Randy Wessner (heart)
Zack Williams (heart)
Maria Wolfe (heart)
Connie Wright (radiation)
Viola Yoder (heart)
Beth Zimmerman (cancer)

Family

Rev. Robert Daneker, Sr family (loss)
Sawyer Joseph Graser family (birth)
Kevin William Houtz family (loss)
Joseph "Butchie" Luckenbill family (loss)
Ralph Maurer family (loss)
Caitlin McGarry family (comfort)
Jenna Murry family (health)
Rafael & Milagros Pacheo family (recovery)
Waschko family (support)

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
Hurricane Recovery - TX, LA, PR, & FL
President Donald J. Trump
Vice President Mike Pence
US Military Forces
PSP Troop L - Frackville, Jonestown
& Schuylkill Haven

Congregational

23 Meadowbrook Drive (Barracks)
Celebrate Recovery
Coffee @ the Corner
Griefshare Ministry
Lifetree Café
L.I.F.E. & TUMI Prison Ministries



Prayer Meeting

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

Fellowship of Prayer
6 pm in the Café
February 11th & 25th



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.



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