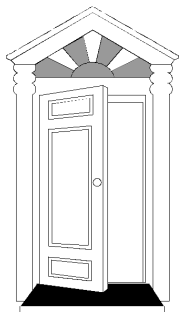


# Heard through The OPEN DOOR

A monthly publication of



17500 Manchester Road  
Wildwood, Missouri 63038

[www.BethelUnitedMethodist.org](http://www.BethelUnitedMethodist.org)  
[FindJoy@BethelUnitedMethodist.org](mailto:FindJoy@BethelUnitedMethodist.org)

Phone: 636.458.2255

FAX: 636.458.2251

Volume 7 Number 5

May 2011

Editor: Diana Camden

## Faith and Belief

There was a recent survey taken in the United States that revealed some interesting statistics. The survey, taken in 2011, found that 51 percent of the respondents said they believed in God, or a god, or some form of higher power. Now, while that sounds like only about half of the people, only 18 percent said they were sure there was no god. This kind of thinking always reminds me of the Blood, Sweat and Tears song, "And When I Die," that has this verse: "Now troubles are many, they're as deep as a well. I can swear there ain't no heaven but I pray there ain't no hell. Swear there ain't no heaven and I pray there ain't no hell, But I'll never know by living, only my dying will tell." It's pretty sad really, but I believe there are quite a few that believe that the only way they'll know for certain is to die. That *doctrine* rejects the gift of faith that God is eager to give to all people who will accept it.

This isn't a new understanding. In 1738 John Wesley wrote a sermon called "Salvation By Faith." In his sermon Wesley emphasizes that salvation is a gift of God and uses Ephesians 2:4-5, 7-8 to establish his point. The founder of the Methodist movement says, "Of yourselves cometh neither your faith nor your salvation. 'It is the gift of God,' the free, undeserved gift—the faith through which ye are saved." Wesley argued that the "righteousness which is of faith cannot be given him while he trusteth in that which is of the law." The law is the doctrine that says if we're good then we'll be able to go to heaven. Wesley said, "And so it ought; for none can trust in the merits of Christ till he has utterly renounced his own. He that goeth about to establish his own righteousness cannot receive the righteousness of God."

So, by his discussion of faith, Wesley acknowledges that proof of God is not available—it takes faith. My favorite definition of faith is found in the book of Hebrews, the first chapter, the first verse, "The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see." (MSG) With the gift of faith the understanding that "only my dying will tell," is overturned. Our faith becomes our fact! Because of faith we can know for certain that not only is there a God, not only are we saved, but that God cares for us as individuals and knows us as individuals. God's promise never to leave us or forsake us becomes an awareness of the presence of God—even before we die.

Those with the gift of faith have just celebrated Jesus' resurrection. The Apostle Paul connects faith and resurrection in his first letter to the church at Corinth. He says, "if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins.<sup>18</sup> In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost!<sup>19</sup> And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world." 1 Cor 15:17-19 (NLT) It is for this reason that faithful Christians celebrate Jesus' resurrection—his victory over death—on Easter morning. We celebrate it each Sunday since Jesus was raised on a Sunday. Each Sunday becomes a little Easter. So we shout together, "He is risen—He is risen indeed!"

*Pastor Len*

# THROUGH THE SANCTUARY DOORS . . .

**May 1**      2nd Sunday of Easter

**Theme:** See Jesus through faith

**Scripture:** John 20:19-31

**Message:** "Is Doubt the Opposite of Faith?"

**WORSHIP**

<b>SERVICE:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	—	Jeff Fothergill
<b>GREETERS:</b>		
<b>USHERS:</b>	Bob Morice	Rusty & Dot Pendleton
<b>AV TECHNICIAN:</b>	Steve Pautz	Carla DeSalme

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP**

Nursery & Preschool	Ginger Doherty
K-3:	Alison Verbeck
4-8:	Carla DeSalme
Adult Bible Study	G. Gaehle, Leader
Contemporary Issues	Various Leaders

Bus Driver	Jeff Roberts
Minivan	—
Breakfast	Dave Strickland & Larry Blair
1st Fellowship	
2nd Fellowship	

**May 8**      3rd Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

**Theme:** See Jesus in the breaking of bread

**Scripture:** Luke 24:13-35

**Message:** "Do You See Him?"



**WORSHIP**

<b>SERVICE:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	—	Karl Schoenefeld
<b>GREETERS:</b>		
<b>USHERS:</b>	Bob Morice	
<b>AV TECHNICIAN:</b>	Gary Hayes	Keith Coleman

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP**

Nursery & Preschool	Ginger Doherty
K-3:	Carol Fothergill
4-8:	Diana Camden
Adult Bible Study	G. Gaehle, Leader
Contemporary Issues	Various Leaders

Bus Driver	Mike Lantz
Minivan	—
Breakfast	Steve & Evan Pautz
1st Fellowship	
2nd Fellowship	

# THROUGH THE SANCTUARY DOORS . . .

**May 15**      4th Sunday of Easter

**Theme:** See Jesus as the Entrance to Life

**Scripture:** John 10:1-10

**Message:** "Which Door Do You Choose?"

**WORSHIP**

<b>SERVICE:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	—	
<b>GREETERS:</b>		
<b>USHERS:</b>	Bob Morice	The Fincher Family
<b>AV TECHNICIAN:</b>	Shaan Muthukumar	

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Nursery & Preschool	Ginger Doherty
K-3:	Connie Pautz
4-8:	Alison Verbeck
Adult Bible Study	G. Gaehle, Leader
Contemporary Issues	Various Leaders

**TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP**

Bus Driver	Karl Schoenefeld
Minivan	—
Breakfast	Gary Hayes & Jeff Roberts
1st Fellowship	Diana Camden
2nd Fellowship	

**May 22**      5th Sunday of Easter

**Theme:** How can we help?

**Scripture:** John 14:1-14

**Message:** Rev. Daniel Taylor Preaching

**WORSHIP**

<b>SERVICE:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	—	Carolyn Reed
<b>GREETERS:</b>		
<b>USHERS:</b>	Bob Morice	
<b>AV TECHNICIAN:</b>	Carla DeSalme	Gary Hayes

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Nursery & Preschool	Ginger Doherty
K-3:	Diana Camden
4-8:	Carol Fothergill
Adult Bible Study	G. Gaehle, Leader
Contemporary Issues	Various Leaders

**TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP**

Bus Driver	Dave Strickland
Minivan	—
Breakfast	Sue Easterby & Ruth Agolia
1st Fellowship	
2nd Fellowship	

# THROUGH THE SANCTUARY DOORS . . .

May 29

6th Sunday of Easter

**Theme:** See Jesus through the Spirit

**Scripture:** John 14:15-21

**Message:** "Catch the Spirit"

## WORSHIP

<b>SERVICE:</b>	9 AM	10:30 AM
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	—	Carla DeSalme
<b>GREETERS:</b>		
<b>USHERS:</b>	Bob Morice	
<b>AV TECHNICIAN:</b>	Josh Ocuaman	

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nursery & Preschool	Ginger Doherty
K-3:	Alison Verbeck
4-8:	Carla DeSalme
Adult Bible Study	G. Gaehle, Leader
Contemporary Issues	Various Leaders

## TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP

Bus Driver	Gary Hayes
Minivan	—
Breakfast	Nina Lantz
1st Fellowship	
2nd Fellowship	



## Confirmation Class

Bethel Church would like to start another confirmation class. The goal of the class is to equip the participants to articulate their faith. Confirmation connects baptism and the vows that were made, sometimes by sponsors answering for infants. This is the time when a person can make a profession of faith. This is their faith, not their parents', not the pastor's but their own personal faith.

Participants will be in sixth grade or above. We are currently planning on a Saturday morning class. If you would like to be involved or you have a child, grandchild or friend that would benefit from the experience please contact Pastor Len. One may call the church office at 636-458-2255 or email [Pastor@BethelUnitedMethodist.org](mailto:Pastor@BethelUnitedMethodist.org).



Brandon Brouk	May 20	Jack Lenox	May 15
Carol Brown	May 17	Shelby Lester	May 31
Debbie Coleman	May 22	Evan Pautz	May 25
Keith Coleman	May 4	Karl Schoenefeld	May 10
Shawn Crum	May 17	Ruby Simon	May 24
Ginger Doherty	May 5	Emma Smith	May 14
Ruth Dupree	May 10	Grenville Sutcliffe	May 27
Cindy English	May 6	Chuck Weber	May 21
Allie Fothergill	May 14	Mary Wilson	May 21
Susan Harmon	May 14	Agnes Wong	May 16

## *Happy Anniversary!*



Rick & Diana Camden	May 27
Gary & Nina Hayes	May 24
Chuck & Jan Ossenfort	May 24
Tim & Debra Warren	May 2
Craig & Diane Winters	May 5

## Attention All Pets



You are Invited to Attend a

# Blessing of the Animals & Fun Pet Show

**11-3:00, Saturday, May 14, 2011**

Meet Randy Grimm, Stray Rescue of St. Louis, and miracle dog "Quentin"

Demonstrations by Gateway Sled Dog Club &  
Eureka PD's Officer Werges and his Canine partner "Rikki"

Adoptable pets! Free photos of you with your pet!

Awards for best look-alike, smallest handler, and more!

*Blessed Animals will receive a Certificate of Blessing*

Kona Ice, food, and beverages, too

Event is **free**. We are collecting donations to go to participating animal rescue shelters including: Purina ONE dry dog food, and pop-top canned dog food, cat /dog beds, collars, treats, leashes, blankets & towels (gently used), kitty litter, cleaning supplies.

Pets must be accompanied by an owner and must be leashed or crated and under control at all times



You may register at [www.BethelUnitedMethodist.org](http://www.BethelUnitedMethodist.org),  
By calling Bethel UMC @ 636-458-2255, or at the event



**Bethel Ambassadors and workers are needed for this fun event.  
Help us demonstrate Bethel's Radical Hospitality!  
Signup sheets in Fellowship Hall.**

# THANK YOU

*My thanks to all of the Bethel people who were so kind and helpful to Dovie and me during the past almost-five years of her illness and recent death:*

*Special thanks to Pastor Len and Helen for their many visits and for conducting the funeral,*

*To Leonhard Ries for the beautiful solo,*

*The friends who served as pallbearers,*

*The cemetery workers for all their help,*

*And those who arranged for the funeral luncheon and those who brought food.*

*I am grateful to all who had spent time with Dovie so that I could get out to do necessary errands, and for all the gifts of food, flowers, visits, and encouragement.*

*It is good to be back at Bethel!*

*Bob Berry*



## Circle of Concern

*A Sending  
Ministry*



### **Pantry Needs:**

Spaghetti Sauce

Breakfast Cereal

Hamburger Helper

Rice A Roni

Muffin Mix

Paper Towels

Bath Soap

**Collection barrels are located outside of Fellowship Hall.**

Excerpts from letters sent by Glenn Koenen, Circle of Concern's Executive Director:

- \* Thank you for your donation of \$50 dated 3-14-2011 to Circle of Concern.
- \* Thank you for your donation of food items on March 21, 2011 to Circle of Concern's pantry!

We know that we can continue to face new challenges and reach out to our neighbors because of the love and support we receive from people like you, the 'links' in the Circle of Concern.

# BETHEL'S CHANCEL CHOIR NEEDS MORE MEMBERS

## Come to the Choir Recruitment Event!

**WHEN?** Sunday, May 15, 2011, 2-5 pm

**WHERE?** Home of: Debbie Schirmer, BUMC Chancel Choir Director  
960 Fairway Drive  
Union, MO 63084  
636-584-7881

### WHY?

Try us out ... if you like us, include us in your fall schedules on Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 p.m., beginning September 7, 2011.

On May 15, the choir will review new music to kick off the fall season, and we'd love to have you give us a try now and come back to join us full time in the fall.

Because we realize everyone has busy schedules, we have a very relaxed rehearsal policy (come when you can) – we rehearse our music well in advance, so you can catch up very easily even if you miss a few rehearsals.

And the best thing, there are **no try-outs!** Our door is always open. If you like to praise the Lord and sing along with the radio in your car or in the shower that's all the requirements needed.

**MENU?** Music, food and beverages will be provided (in that order!)

**RVSP:** Debbie: 636-584-7881



Would you like to keep up-to-date  
with Bethel News via email?

Here's how you subscribe:

1. Go to Bethel's Home page: [www.bethelunitedmethodist.org](http://www.bethelunitedmethodist.org)
2. Click on the link marked:  
"Sign up for our new emailed news at: <http://www.bethelunitedmethodist.org/e-news/lists>"
3. Click on "Subscribe to our Newsletters".
4. Enter your email address (once in the box marked email address, a second time in the box asking you to confirm your email address) and check "I prefer to receive emails in HTML format."
5. Check the boxes you want to receive (i.e. Prayer List, Announcements, Open Door, Methodist News)
6. Click on the SUBSCRIBE button.
7. Log into your email and you should receive an email from COMMUNICATION MANAGER. If all is correct in the email, click on the link at the end of that email.
8. You should be taken to the e-list site and see a note thanking you for confirming your subscription.

News and announcements cannot be received by subscribers who haven't confirmed their subscription (steps 7 and 8).





Bethel Church currently has openings for several unpaid servants. Bethel is blessed with many young people. The weekend of the Lock-in, Pizza Party and Bowling outing showed the numbers of youth that associate themselves with Bethel Church. The youth are talented and energetic. They are eager to begin a Sunday morning meeting time at 10:30. That meeting time will require adult supervision. While there are several adults that have committed to work with the youth, there isn't an overall leader. They have a president, Raina Muthukumar, but would love to have someone committed to overall

supervision and leadership.

This is the next generation of Bethel Church. Pray about being their support person on a regular basis. The rewards for working with these spiritual and enjoyable kids are limitless.

Bethel Church is continuing to pray for the person God is raising up to be the Spiritual Formation Director. This position will have overall responsibility for Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Bible Studies for all ages. Vacation Bible School materials should have already been chosen for this summer. If you are this person don't delay.

Our Worship Team, chaired by Margie Muthukumar, would like to have assistance on the team. This team has responsibility for the worship services. The Worship team provides innovative worship opportunities like dramas and the like.

If you think you would be interested in shepherding the youth of Bethel or even volunteering to be there with them, or if you are the one to be the Spiritual Formation Director, or if you can help the Worship Team, call the church office at 636-458-2255 or email [Help@BethelWired.org](mailto:Help@BethelWired.org).



### From Kingdom House...

Thank you so very much for supporting the work of Kingdom House with a donation of \$100.00. With your help we are able to provide programs for members of our community who continue to struggle with the problems of poverty. These include day care, after school programs for children and youth, job training and placement, a thrift shop, a food pantry and support

senior citizens.

We truly appreciate the long association Kingdom House has had with your congregation and look forward to continuing that relationship. Please express our thanks to all your members. We invite you to visit the agency and see first hand the work that



## Coming Next Quarter in Bethel's Adult Sunday School "God Instructs the People of God"

The Old Testament books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth form the backdrop for a study of what it means to live out the love of God in community. It consists of three units:

- \* *God's People Learn from Prosperity*—In this unit, they will look at Israel's early life as God's people prepared to enter the Promised Land. In the Book of Joshua, the unit highlights God's blessing in response to obedience and His anger in response to disobedience.
- \* *Listening for God in Changing Times*—In this unit, they examine the repeated cycle of disobedience, oppression, repentance and renewed faithfulness that occurred after Israel entered the Promised Land.
- \* *A Case Study in Community*—The three lessons in this unit will consider how Ruth's choice to live with Naomi affected a whole community and will lead us to consider how respecting one another in community is the basis for a healthy community.

Please consider joining this class and its facilitator, *George Gaehle*, in the upcoming quarter. If you want to start right away, *George's* class will be looking at the book of Revelation during the month of May!

### UM Day at Busch Stadium Cardinals vs. Toronto Blue Jays Saturday, June 25th @ 6:15 PM



#### **TICKETS:**

OUTFIELD BOX SEATS—\$35

OUTFIELD LOGE SEATS—\$28

OUTFIELD PAVILION SEATS—\$20

OUTFIELD TERRACE RESERVE SEATS—\$15

Proceeds will go to support "The Bridge" an arm of Centenary Methodist Church to help feed the homeless and to the Illinois Great River Conference.

**Ticket requests are due to the church office by May 25th!** All of Bethel's ticket requests and payments have to be consolidated into a single order and submitted to the UMM Baseball Night coordinator.

The due date for ticket requests may sound early; however, there are a limited number of tickets and it is on a "first come" basis.

When requesting tickets, put the number of tickets, type of ticket ("box", "loge", etc.) on the memo line of your check. Make the check out to "Bethel UMC" and place the check in the offering plate. Thanks!

# Resurrection Remembrances

## Providing Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary on Easter Morning

Ruth Agolia	HONORING	Sharon Gough
Ruth Agolia	IN MEMORY OF	Patricia Siekerman
Sue Easterby & Rachel Brown	IN MEMORY OF	Rita Easterby
Gordon Gilliatt	IN MEMORY OF	My parents
Sue Johnson	HONORING	Christina Johnson
Sue Johnson	IN MEMORY OF	James & Marjorie Nelson
Burt & Linda Knip	IN MEMORY OF	Our Parents
Inez Kroenung	IN MEMORY OF	Harvey Kroenung & Loved Ones
Mike & Nina Lantz	IN MEMORY OF	Lee Feuerstine
Mike & Nina Lantz	IN MEMORY OF	Jim Lantz
Bill & Louella Phipps	HONORING	Anna Phipps
Bill & Louella Phipps	IN MEMORY OF	Mildred & Clarence Tillock
Bill & Louella Phipps	IN MEMORY OF	Marilyn Shaw
Scott & Tracey Rue		
John Snider	HONORING	Betty Lorance
John Snider	IN MEMORY OF	Willa Snider
Eloise Taylor	IN MEMORY OF	Samuel F. Taylor
Don & Diana Walsh	IN MEMORY OF	Helen & Robert Walsh
Don & Diana Walsh	IN MEMORY OF	Joyce & Ed Stone



## Donations benefiting Circle of Concern

Rick and Diana Camden	HONORING	Our Parents
Jeff and Carol Fothergill	HONORING	Our Parents
Gordon Gilliatt	HONORING	The Dupree Family
Sheila Olive	IN MEMORY OF	Alice Miller
Sheila Olive	IN MEMORY OF	Dorothy Miller
Bill & Louella Phipps		
Adora (Frick) Warren	IN MEMORY OF	Rev. Harold L. Frick
Hardy & Adora Warren	IN MEMORY OF	Dorlene Warren

## Donations benefiting UMCOR (Japan)

Ray & Chylene Daub	IN MEMORY OF	Our Parents
Sue Easterby & Rachel Brown	IN MEMORY OF	Robert Easterby
Sheila Olive	IN MEMORY OF	Mayme Pilkington
Sheila Olive	IN MEMORY OF	Irma Hardcastle
Grenville & Dianne Sutcliffe	HONORING	Mrs. Hazel Sutcliffe
Grenville & Dianne Sutcliffe	IN MEMORY OF	Mr. E.G. Sutcliffe
Grenville & Dianne Sutcliffe	IN MEMORY OF	Mrs. Charles Steed
Eloise Taylor	IN MEMORY OF	Samuel F. Taylor

# Just in Time for Memorial Day!



Our new flag poles and flags have drawn a lot of admiring comments in the last few weeks. They are a terrific addition to Bethel's already beautiful grounds. The Bethel quilters provided the dollars needed to purchase and install them. (There's a LOT of stitches standing there!)

The project's not done yet! We need lighting and landscaping to complete it. We've received some generous donations from Bethel members that should allow us to complete the project soon.

Thank you to EVERYONE who has donated their time and/or money to the completion of this project!

thank  
you!





Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation to The Bridge. Thank you for your heart that cares for those who are hungry and hurting. Thanks for your gift of hope.

Pastor Kathleen

# MAY

# 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 12:00 PM Inviting Ministries Meeting	2	3 2:30 PM Price Memorial Worship	4 2:30 PM Marymount Manor Worship	5	6	7
8  Proverbs 31:28 "Her children arise and call her blessed."	9	10	11	12	13	14  Animal Blessing & Fun Pet Show
15  12:00 PM Connecting Ministries Meeting 2:00 PM Chancel Choir Recruitment	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 12:00 PM Inviting Ministries Meeting	23 6 pm Men's Club	24 6:30 PM Gambrell LIFE Group	25	26	27	28
29	30 	31	<b>SUNDAY ACTIVITIES:</b> 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9 a.m. Praise & Gospel Worship, Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Fellowship following both Worship service Quality Childcare and Preschool Education all morning! Regularly Scheduled Opportunities: Monday & Thursday: 9-10 am-Slimnastics Tuesday: 10 am-Quilters Wednesday: 6 pm-Praise Team Practice, 7 pm-Choir Practice			



Bethel United Methodist Church  
17500 Manchester Road  
Wildwood, MO 63038-1907

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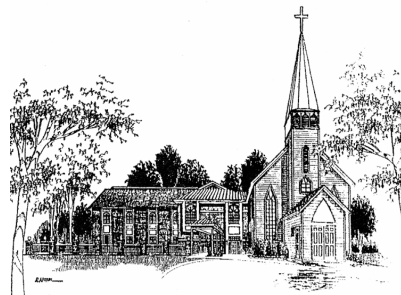
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Wildwood, MO 63038



**Bethel United  
Methodist Church**

***Experience It!***

**8:30 a.m. - Breakfast**  
**9:00 a.m. - Praise & Gospel Service**  
**9:00 a.m. - Sunday School & Bible Class**  
**10:00 a.m. - Fellowship**  
**10:30 a.m. - Traditional Service**  
**11:30 a.m. - Fellowship**  
**Quality Nursery Care all morning**

**14**