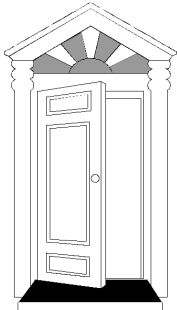


Heard through The OPEN DOOR

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17500 Manchester Road
Wildwood, Missouri 63038

www.BethelUnitedMethodist.org
FindJoy@BethelUnitedMethodist.org

Phone: 636.458.2255

FAX: 636.458.2251

Volume 7 Number 9

September 2011

Editor: Diana Camden

Here Am I, Send Me!

Many Christians are eager to find ways to work in their church. When opportunities arise they are there. At Bethel Church we have a policy of service in classes. When people are appointed or elected to a position in the church, one is assigned a class by year. For this year's positions, participants will be in the class of 2014. That means that at the end of 2014, 3 years from now, the term is over. That person has the option of taking another term with that team or choosing another. In this way people are not expected to be in a position for long periods of time. It also allows for new ideas to surface as new people join teams and committees. It also means that the Nominating Committee has to keep discerning whom God has equipped for each position.

In larger membership churches, people can serve on a team and then step away for a time. At other, smaller membership churches—like Bethel—each person has to step up and serve their church. We want to see our church do many things. It takes many people to make that happen. There are several positions that are open at Bethel.

There is an opening in the class of 2014 for a member of the **Pastor-Parish Relations** team. According to our Book of Discipline, "people serving on this committee must be engaged in and attentive to their Christian spiritual development so as to give proper leadership in the responsibilities with which the committee is entrusted. In conducting its work, the committee shall identify and clarify its values for ministry. It shall engage in biblical and theological reflections on the mission of the church, the primary task, and ministries of the local church. The committee shall reflect biblically and theologically on the role and work of the pastor and staff as they carry out their leadership responsibilities." There are openings on each of our program ministries—**Worship, Connecting, Inviting** and **Sending**. The **Worship Team** makes sure the church is prepared for worship. This includes maintaining list of volunteers for the many different jobs that have to be done each Sunday. The Worship team also makes sure audio/visual items are in working order. This team also provides the devotional booklets we use each Lent and Advent. Another duty is to choose types of special service media like Maundy Thursday chancel dramas. The **Connecting Team** is charged with connecting people with the activities of Bethel Church. Since we have many first-time visitors this team helps them move into the regular activities of making disciples. This team also sees to the needs of families associated with weddings and funeral activities at Bethel. The **Invite Team** is all about finding ways to bring people on to the church site. This team finds innovative ways to lead the congregation into connecting families with God. Bethel's **Sending Team** is concerned with leading the people at Bethel into the many mission

(concluded on page 2)

opportunities around us. They are organizing Volunteer In Mission trips, they are providing the church with activities for Serve 2011, channeling help to the Circle of Concern and keeping our covenant with our Mozambique partner. There are openings on the **Nominations and Leadership Development Team**. As mentioned earlier, this team—chaired by the pastor—is charged with discerning the gifts and graces of the people to get them serving in positions that edify the church and bring them joy.

There is an urgent need at Bethel for a **Director of Spiritual Development**. This person would see to the spiritual training of the congregation. They're not expected to do the training but to make sure our children, youth and adults have classes and opportunities to be intentional in their faith development. This includes recruiting leaders and scheduling teachers. Another urgent need at Bethel is for someone to take on the responsibility of the **Audio/Visual** needs. We have wonderful volunteers in this area but there is a need for one person to be in charge of sound and visual. Training is expected and available. We have a group of people who regularly see to the upkeep of Bethel's facilities. They are known as **The Facilities Team**. They gather at different times to keep lights on, gutters clean and flowing, minor repairs completed and generally see to the many things that always need attention in a church like Bethel.

There are more jobs to be done at Bethel but these are some of the more immediate needs. Where are you serving? Each of these committees was directed to align their vision with the vision of Bethel—connecting families with God. What a difference it will make when all of Bethel Church begins living out that vision!

To know more about any position at Bethel you may check with Pastor Len or our Lay Leader Dr. Gordon Gilliatt. There is joy in serving the Lord, we can do it better with you. Bethel—the church you come to for good!

God's blessings to you,

Pastor Len



Thank You

Thank you to everyone for the cards, thoughts and prayers. A special thanks to Pastor Len and Helen for the music at Do's memorial service. And, thank you to the folks who pulled together such a fine spread after the service.

Bob Morice and Family

THROUGH THE SANCTUARY DOORS . . .

September 4 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: The value of Christians gathering together

Scripture: Matthew 18:15-20

Message: When We All Get Together

WORSHIP

| SERVICE: | 9 AM | 10:30 AM |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| LITURGIST: | — | Jeff Fothergill |
| GREETERS: | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| USHERS: | Bob Morice | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| AV TECHNICIAN: | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> | Carla DeSalme |

SUNDAY SCHOOL

TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP

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

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Bus Driver | Dave Strickland |
| Minivan | — |
| Breakfast | Larry Blair & Dave Strickland |
| 1st Fellowship | Praise Team |
| 2nd Fellowship | Praise Team |

September 11 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: The reason Christians forgive

Scripture: Matthew 18:21–35

Message: Why Should I Forgive You?

WORSHIP

| SERVICE: | 9 AM | 10:30 AM |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| LITURGIST: | — | Karl Schoenefeld |
| GREETERS: | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| USHERS: | Bob Morice | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| AV TECHNICIAN: | Gary Hayes | Keith Coleman |

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

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Bus Driver | Tom Koonce |
| Minivan | — |
| Breakfast | Alison Verbeck & Carla DeSalme |
| 1st Fellowship | Praise Team |
| 2nd Fellowship | Praise Team |

THROUGH THE SANCTUARY DOORS . . .

September 18

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Working in God's vineyard

Scripture: Matthew 20:1–16

Message: Full Employment In the Church

WORSHIP

| SERVICE: | 9 AM | 10:30 AM |
|----------------|--|--|
| LITURGIST: | — | Sheila Olive |
| GREETERS: | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| USHERS: | Bob Morice | The Fincher Family |
| AV TECHNICIAN: | Shaan Muthukumar | Margie Muthukumar |

SUNDAY SCHOOL

TRANSPORTATION & FELLOWSHIP

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

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Bus Driver | Gary Hayes |
| Minivan | — |
| Breakfast | Gary Hayes & Jeff Roberts |
| 1st Fellowship | Praise Team |
| 2nd Fellowship | Praise Team |

September 25

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Levels of sinners

Scripture: Matthew 21:23–32

Message: Two Kinds of Sinners

WORSHIP

| SERVICE: | 9 AM | 10:30 AM |
|----------------|--|--|
| LITURGIST: | — | Margie Muthukumar |
| GREETERS: | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| USHERS: | Bob Morice | <OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE> |
| AV TECHNICIAN: | Carla DeSalme | Gary Hayes |

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

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Bus Driver | Jeff Roberts |
| Minivan | — |
| Breakfast | Steve Pautz & Evan Pautz |
| 1st Fellowship | Praise Team |
| 2nd Fellowship | Praise Team |

Happy Anniversary!



| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Dick & Ruth Agolia | September 19 |
| Greg & Laura Gaehle | September 7 |
| John & Marcella Harness | September 30 |
| Burt & Linda Knip | September 11 |
| Steve & Connie Pautz | September 16 |
| Roy & Marian Poertner | September 25 |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Greg Allerdissen | September 15 |
| Jan Allerdissen | September 19 |
| Cody Behrend | September 6 |
| Cindy Brown | September 12 |
| Amy Champlain | September 25 |
| Jessica Di Mariano | September 9 |
| Carol Dillard | September 2 |
| Grace Doherty | September 29 |
| Gordon Gilliatt | September 17 |
| Zach Johnson | September 5 |
| Julianna Kesselring | September 28 |
| Greg Kraus | September 21 |
| Jack Krudop | September 20 |
| Parker Krudop | September 20 |
| Ruth Anne Krueger | September 11 |
| Rich Love | September 28 |
| Sue Love | September 22 |

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Marian Poertner | September 22 |
| Donna Rudd | September 10 |
| Jenna Schoenefeld | September 25 |
| Evelyn Shaeffer | September 5 |
| Katie Smith | September 28 |
| Ryan Starck | September 11 |
| Christine Sutcliffe | September 14 |
| Teddy Sutcliffe | September 11 |
| Shirley Thompson | September 10 |

Methodism Has Always Been About Conferencing

Have you ever been to a Methodist Conference? Holy conferences are the genesis of the Wesleyan movement. No history buff would want to miss such an event. We have the opportunity to continue what our predecessors began in conferencing. Our district, the Gateway Central District, is planning a yearly conference on September 11, 2011. One needn't be elected or appointed or authorized in any way other than an interest in the workings of her, or his church.

The 2011 conference will have several workshops by excellent speakers and leaders that are especially designed to help people in the local church. Registration is required for the workshops. Our Bishop, Robert Schnase, will conclude the conference by speaking around 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Not every district in our Annual Conference provides this type of help to the people in the local congregations. Gateway Central is a model for the rest.

If you have more questions about the workshops or the conference, contact Pastor Len or our Lay Leader, Dr. Gordon Gilliatt for more information. The church bus and van will be available to assist with transportation needs.



Spread the Word!

In the past 86 years, Bethel has come a long way from the time when ladies of the church would go out back and catch the chicken to serve at the Bethel Chicken Supper.

2011 marks the 87th year of Bethel serving chicken dinners to the Wildwood community. How amazing is God's grace?

The price for a delicious chicken dinner with homemade German potato salad, scrumptious green beans, applesauce, coleslaw, and the most delicious desserts this side of the Mississippi is only \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 6-10 years and free for children 5 years and under.

As always, our group of talented crafters will have the craft boutique open, displaying beautiful, hand-made craft items for fall and Christmas.

Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us for the 87th Annual Bethel Chicken Supper.

You will be receiving your work letter shortly. We look forward to your joining us for a little work and a whole lot of fun and Christian Fellowship!!



Circle of Concern

*A Sending
Ministry*



Ever wonder why this terrific organization is called the "Circle of Concern"? When I went to their website this month for the list of current needs, I found the following reason:

"In the mid-1960's rural poverty was common in western St. Louis County. Individuals from a handful of local congregations began meeting to coordinate help for these families. They arranged their chairs in a circle so that all members were equal during the discussion. In March 1967 the group organized as Circle Of Concern".

I love that visual; everyone with an equal voice and working together for a common goal! Currently, Circle feeds over 1,800 individuals each month and provides financial assistance to families on a case-by-case basis; most of those families are in the Parkway, Rockwood and Valley Park school districts. This fall and winter they are anticipating even higher demand than last year!



HAVE YOU SEEN THOSE GREAT DEALS ON SCHOOL SUPPLIES?

Take advantage of those sales and donate the supplies to Circle. Sure, school has already started; however, they will need help resupplying families in January for the second half of the school year.

Just place your items in the Circle of Concern barrels--Thank you!

Pantry Needs:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------|
| Paper Towels | Peanut Butter | Jelly |
| Canned Meat | Canned Fruit | Pasta |
| | | Cereal |

Collection barrels are located outside of Fellowship Hall!

Circle sent the following messages to Bethel:

- ◆ Thank you for your donation of food and school supplies on August 2, 2011 to Circle of Concern's pantry!
- ◆ Thank you for your donation of \$100.00, dated 7-13-11, to Circle of Concern.

Festival of Sharing - October 15th, 2011 ***Missouri State Fairgrounds - Sedalia, Mo.***

*A Sending
Ministry*



The Festival of Sharing, an inter-faith, state-wide, ingathering event, is held on the third Saturday in October each year. This date was chosen because it is usually the Saturday closest to World Food Day. The ingathering is really a two-day affair with Friday being used for set-up by a host of volunteers and the overnight YouthFest event. Nearly 3,000 persons from faith communities across the state attend the full event on Saturday at the State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. The Festival of Sharing is:

- * An interfaith celebration and ingathering of mission resources.
- * A cooperative response to world hunger, poverty, and injustice and seeks to address, and to raise awareness of its root causes and solutions.

Bethel has been participating for the past 4 years and will again participate this year in the Festival of Sharing. From a selection provided to Bethel, the "Sending Team" has selected the following (2) kits:

Paper Products Pack - Pack Value \$14.00 - Gifts to be used in Missouri

- 2 pkgs toilet tissue (4 - double rolls)
- 3 rolls paper towels (good quality)
- 2 facial tissue (large rectangular boxes)

Place all items in a **tall-sized kitchen trash bag** and close securely.

School Kit - Pack Value \$13.00 - Gifts to be used Internationally (These kits give children in impoverished schools and refugee camps some basic tools for learning)

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 pair blunt child's scissors | 1 box of 24 crayons | 1-12 inch ruler |
| 1 large eraser | 6 new pencils with erasers | 1 pencil sharpener (hand-held) |
| Spiral or tape-bound notebooks of ruler paper, 8" x 10" containing a total of 200-210 sheets. No filler paper. | | |
| 1 - 12" x 14" to 14" x 16" finished size, cloth bag with cloth handles. | | |

Closure no longer needed. Canvas bags can be made or purchased. **Place the items in the bag. Please include \$2/kit to help with shipping charges.**

OTHER ITEMS NEEDED:

Wheelchairs - Used wheelchairs will be reconditioned as needed by inmates of state prisons and then shipped to places of need around the world.

Eyeglasses - Gently used reading glasses purchased from drug stores or discount stores as well as those obtained from an eye doctor. Please bring complete pairs of glasses only. The gift of a pair of glasses may provide some one with a means of earning a living.

Quilts/Blankets - New or gently used adult sized blankets or quilts for use in Missouri. (Please, do not sign hand made quilts with your name. Initials on quilts are O.K.).

Garden Seeds - Packets of vegetable seeds no more than 1 year old; they enable people to grow their own food; to share or sell for a small income.

Cash Gifts are always welcome. It can help cover shipping expenses for seeds and to purchase seedlings, plants, and fertilizer.

Your participation will be greatly appreciated! Please call Betty Lorange, Sending Team Chair at 636-386-0737 to let her know of your donation (group or individual), so that the "Sending Team" can organize your gifts going to "Festival of Sharing". **Bring your donations to Bethel no later than Wednesday Sept. 21st (Fellowship Hall), as our gifts will be picked up at Bethel the following Sunday.**

Help Needed with Scholarships



Bethel Church has been blessed with the generosity of several individuals who have contributed to a scholarship for our young people seeking higher education. For the most part the very generous Gift of Love that was given to Bethel some years past has earned interest sufficient to provide these scholarships without using any of the original principle. The scholarship rules apparently require that any investment of the moneys be in investments where there is no risk to the amount invested. That pretty much means Certificates of Deposit. Currently those CD's aren't paying enough to even keep pace with inflation. We have been giving \$250 per year to each student. In order to continue that practice the scholarship needs some help. You are invited to contribute to a secondary fund that can be used to meet the scholarship need.

Contributions may be mailed to the church or placed in the offering plate marked, "Scholarship Fund." This is a wonderful way to support the youth at Bethel.

Bethel Crafters Need Your HELP!



Do you have any light to medium weight sweaters you are willing to donate to the crafters? Patterns and solids are fine; please, no pastel colors. If you do, the Bethel Crafters can use them for a new project. They need polyester and/or cotton sweaters; please, no wool ones.

Please call Sherryl Rohlf, 636-405-1588, for pick-up or bring the sweaters to Fellowship Hall.

JULY RECYCLING RESULTS

The paper recycling effort saved 9.24 cubic yards of landfill space in July—that's 2,722.58 lbs. of paper waste!

Thank you for continuing to support our Youth group by bringing your paper to the Paper Retriever bin in our parking lot.



Gooch receives Ministry of Memory Award

Dr. John O. Gooch, retired Methodist pastor, received the prestigious national Ministry of Memory Award at the International Convocation of Methodist Archives and History held in July 2011 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Ministry of Memory Award recognizes a person who has achieved "excellence in archival and historical work in the local church, annual conference, jurisdictional or central conference." Dr. Gooch was nominated by the Missouri Conference Commission on Archives and History because of his



dedication to the preservation of the Methodist tradition in this state. Dr. Gooch is founding and current editor of *Toward the Setting Sun*, the Missouri Methodist historical journal which began in 1983. He is also the author of 12 books about Methodist history and has written numerous lessons for the Methodist church. Since 1976 he has been a member of the Missouri Conference Archives and History Commission. Dr. Gooch is an alumni of Central Methodist University in Fayette, Missouri and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. He received his Ph.D. in Historical Theology from St. Louis University. Currently he and his wife, Beth Hammond Gooch, live in Liberty, Missouri.

(This article appeared in *The Missouri Conference Review*. Dr. Gooch has a Bethel connection; he was a former pastor at Bethel.)

Dear Bethel Family,

Thank you so much for all the wonderful sympathy cards and prayers; they have helped me to find some peace at this hard time.

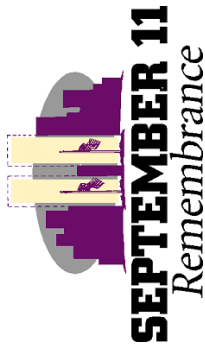




God Bless all of you.

Your sister,

Sharon Cameron

September 2011



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|-----------|--|--------|--|
| SUNDAY ACTIVITIES: 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship & Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Fellowship following both Worship services Quality Childcare and Preschool Education all morning! | | | | | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 2:30 PM Price Memorial Worship | 7 | 8 6:00 PM Program Committee Dinner Mtg. | 9 | 10  Conference Mission Blitz Weekend 8:30 AM Highway Cleanup |
| 11 Conference Mission Blitz Weekend 12:00 PM Sending Ministries Meeting 3:00 PM District Conference | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 8:00 PM Crossroads - Graduation Celebration in Fellowship Hall |
| 18 12:00 PM Connecting Ministries Meeting 12:00 PM Inviting Ministries Meeting | 19 7:00 PM Governing Board Meeting | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24  2:00 PM 87th Annual Chicken Supper |
| 25 1:00 PM Festival of Sharing - District Drop-off Site at Bethel | 26 6:00 PM Men's Club | 27 6:30 PM Gambriell LIFE Group | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Regularly Scheduled Opportunities:

Monday & Thursday: 9-10 am- Bethel Fitness
 Wednesday: 6 pm—Praise Team Practice, 7 pm Choir

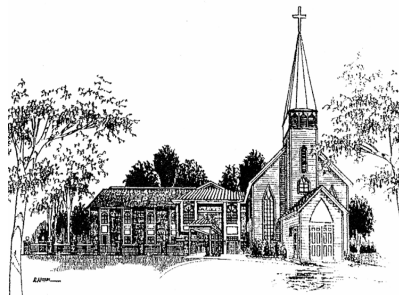
Tuesday: 10 am-Quilters
 Thursday: 9 am—3 pm Crafters



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**Bethel United
Methodist Church**

Experience It!

- 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast**
- 9:00 a.m. - Contemporary 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**