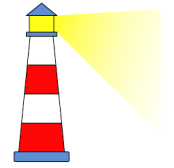


Newsletter
Bethel First Presbyterian Church
502 East Main St.
Campbellsville, KY 42718

U.S. Postage Paid
Campbellsville, KY 42718
Permit No. 19
Non Profit Standard Mail

January 2019

Bethel Beacon



Living as Christ Lived. Loving as Christ Loved. Serving as Christ Served.

Bethel First Presbyterian Church
502 East Main Street
Campbellsville, KY 42718
270-465-7091
E-mail bfpc@hotmail.com
Pastor's cell (270) 403-7709

Trustees Mr. Allen Burress (2019)
Mr. Paul Johnson (2020)
Mr. John Waldrop (2021)

Treasurers Mr. John Waldrop
Mrs. Betty Ewing

The Session

Class of 2019 Mrs. Nancy Dix
Mrs. Laura Farrar
Mr. E.G. Brown

Class of 2020 Mrs. Linda Caldwell
Dr. Eugene Shively
Mr. Mike Thomas

Class of 2021 Mr. Terry Feather
Dr. Robert Shipp
Mrs. Carole Whitley

The Staff

Pastor Rev. James C. Murphy
Organist Mrs. Suellen Shaw
Pianist Mrs. Ann DeSpain
Choir Director Mr. Joe DeSpain
Church Secretary Mrs. Mary Korn
Bookkeeper Mrs. Karen Reynolds
Youth/Child Dir. Mrs. Michelle Murphy

From the Pastor's Pen...

So, the new year rolls around and we all start making resolutions. It is what we do, right?

Well if you *are* making resolutions I certainly do not want to discourage you, but I would like to encourage you to add one to your list (or if you have no list, to make it your one resolution). It is different from most resolutions in that it is not a "I will not" challenge. Many, if not most, resolutions are designed this way. We resolve to *not* participate in certain activities, or to try and alter or eliminate certain habits. But, this resolution is one of inclusion rather than exclusion.

I would like to challenge you as an individual (and subsequently all of us as a church) to resolve to live **the greatest commandment** in 2019.

(Continued on Page Two)

Church Office Hours 9 a.m.-1 p.m.;
Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday
Rev. Murphy may be seen at other
times by appointment. Please feel free
to call when in need of pastoral
services. Cell (270)-403-7709.



(Continued from Page One)

“Teacher,” he asked, “which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Jesus answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’ The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22:36-40)

As we welcome 2019, may we resolve to prioritize this teaching. And, to help us along the way, I’d like to also offer a couple of helpful perspectives.

...on loving others...

God doesn't go by the kind of arithmetic that you and I go by. God has never learned to deal in fractions. God didn't get that far in school. I think he's like my father who had ten children, and many a time I thought, "Well, my goodness, with a family this big, Daddy can't love me very much. I can only claim one tenth of his love." But my father loved me with all of his love. It's just that way with love. There is no fraction in it. You can't break it up into pieces. And God wants the whole human race. He just can't deal in fractions.

And so Jesus is saying to these people who were griping and mumbling and grumbling about the fact that he was taking in all kinds of people, bums and drunks and the poor folks and everybody, he was saying, "Well, I just can't help it. God just has a sentimental attachment for his people. And, whether you like it or not, God loves 'em, and it does seem to me that if they're precious in God's sight, they ought to be precious in yours, too." -Clarence Jordan

... and on loving ourselves ...(This is not part of the greatest commandment, but becomes essential for practicing it.)

There is someone I love, even though I don't approve of what he does. There is someone I accept, though some of his thoughts and actions revolt me. There is someone I forgive, though he hurts the people I love the most. That person is me. -C.S. Lewis

In 2019, may we be blessed in our endeavors to love God, to love our neighbors, and to love ourselves.

Grace & Peace,

Jim



**Dr. Les and Dr. Cynthia Morgan—
Bangladesh**

Since 1989 Les and Cindy have been the PC (USA)’s only mission co-workers in Bangladesh, one of the world’s poorest and most densely populated countries. They run village clinics, and they have served in hospitals and have worked on controlling tuberculosis and leprosy. The Morgans live in the capital city Dhaka, where they serve as advisors for the Church of Bangladesh’s health ministries.

**Carlton “Cobbie” and Dessa
Palm—Philippines**

Working alongside the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), Cobbie reaches out and witnesses to Christ in three ways. First, he leads seminars for pastors and lay leaders to enhance their skills in evangelistic preaching. Second, he works to enable development projects such as clean water, waste, and sanitation, and he leads value formation seminars for youth in conflict with the law. Third, he promotes peace and reconciliation through his advocacy

role in Christian-Muslim peace talks. Dessa works in theater ministry with the UCCP that advances its evangelism and advocacy efforts.

Jonna Reeder—Tajikistan

Jonna serves as a community development facilitator with a multifaceted relief and development organization. She also is active in the worship and music ministry of an international church. “My call is to bring good news to the poor in Central Asia,” Jonna says. “God has brought forth and deepened a compassion in me that acts to help better the lives of those who struggle with a lack of material and spiritual resources.”

**Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Emily
Seitz—Taiwan**

Jonathan and Emily serve at Taiwan College and Theological Seminary in Taipei, where they help to prepare leaders for the Taiwanese church. Jonathan serves the school as a professor of theology and missiology. The seminarians he prepares for ministry typically begin their ministries in Taiwan’s small, rural churches. Jonathan also teaches lay leaders as a part of the seminary’s Lay Academy and pastors who return for continuing education.

Dear Bethel First Presbyterian Church:

Thank you so very much for reaching out to the international students at Campbellsville University for a Thanksgiving lunch. It was delicious and your friendly, Christlike attitude was wonderful and we pray for God's leading you in every way. In Christ,
Tom & Kay Bell

My Bethel First Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers and the beautiful flowers during my hospital stay.

It means so much when things do not go normally, that we have such a loving and caring family. Thank you!
Terry Coyle

To the Bethel Men of the Church and the Bethel Family:

Thank you so much for your generous Christmas gifts to us. We appreciate your thoughtfulness, and we value our opportunity to serve this church. Sincerely,
Joe and Ann DeSpain

Hello Joe,

Thank you so much for being a part of our choir festival at Muldraugh Hill Baptist. You blessed us!
Pastor Billy Compton

Many Thanks to the church and church members for all they do for this community on Thanksgiving Day. May God continue to bless us all.

A big shout out to a special person and dear friend "Jane Horn" for always thinking and remembering us!
Sincerely,
Elizabeth "Gilly" Beard and Buddy Anderson

Dear Bethel First Family,

Thank you for the thoughtful and generous staff Christmas gifts. It is wonderful to serve such a loving and supportive congregation. We are truly blessed with a wonderful church home, and we are grateful for your acts of appreciation. Thank You and God Bless,
Jim and Michelle Murphy

Dear Church Family:

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers! They smell heavenly and have lifted my spirits higher. I am continuously thankful for the generosity, fellowship, and compassion present in our church. I hope to know more about my prognosis soon. Thanks, too, for all your prayers. I trust in our Lord's plan for me and accept His will. Warmest regards,
Laura

Hello! I hope everyone had a great Christmas with family and friends. Sunday School began again, January 6th. I hope to see everyone there at 10:00 each Sunday in the Preschool room. In children's church this month we will be talking about God's unfailing love and protection.

Mark your calendars for February. We will once again be hosting the Souper Bowl luncheon, Sunday February 3rd following the church service. We will also have a Valentine's Party and make some goodies for people in our church so we can practice spreading God's love.

Have a great new year and I hope to see you all soon.

God Bless,
Michelle

Faith and Flicks

Faith and Flicks will be on **February 12, at 6:00 pm**. It will be dinner and a movie and we will be watching "*Contact*" starring Jody Foster. Please join us for a fun night of fellowship, food and a movie!

Circle #34

Circle 34 will meet Tuesday,
January 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Opportunity Circle

Opportunity Circle will Meet **Wednesday, January 9 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Church Library. Carole will lead Lesson Four. "**God**

with Us When we Seek God". ALL of our women are invited to share in these really good lessons. We know this is a busy time

but hope you will join us for fellowship and Bible Study.

BF Ladies Luncheon

All ladies are invited to our monthly lunch on the third Wednesday, January 16, 11:45, at Creekside. We will be honoring all the local ladies who are celebrating birthdays this month. Come join us and bring a friend!

Men of The Church

The Men of the Church will meet on **January 23rd at 6:00 pm**. David Payne is bringing white chili.

Revised Prayer Chain

Please notice the inclusion of the updated Prayer Chain List. Contact **Julie Caldwell** with questions or needed changes.

BFPC CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The survey of cemetery has been completed. New map is on bulletin board outside church office. **ALL** sites for each family need to be checked. Please locate your section (A, B,...) and get a copy of that section from office. Check out your plot info at the cemetery, labeling and noting **all** your burial sites on your copy. (Cemetery Committee members available to accompany and to answer questions.) Please return your copy to church office.

Kingdom Kids And B.Y.G.



2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00 pm Choir	3	4	5
6 10:00 am Church School for all ages 11:00 am Morning Worship Service	7 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	8	9 1:00 pm Opportunity Circle 7:00 pm Choir	10	11	12
13 10:00 am Church School for all ages 11:00 am Morning Worship Service	14 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	15 7:00 pm Circle #34	16 11:45 am Ladies Lunch Creekside 5:30 Session 7:00 pm Choir	17	18	19
20 10:00 am Church School for all ages 11:00 am Morning Worship Service	21 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	22	23 6:00 pm Men of the Church 7:00 pm Choir	24	25	26
27 10:00 am Church School for all ages 11:00 am Morning Worship Service	28 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	29	30 7:00 pm Choir	31		

January Birthdays

1st: Samantha Sandidge
 3rd: Gaye McCubbin
 Pat Tucker
 Terry Myers
 4th: Sara Sanders
 8th: E.G. Brown
 Lisa Turpin
 14th: Madison Dial
 16th: Sandie Cusumano
 Beth Robinson Gustaf
 17th: Laura Wilds
 19th: Lindsay Harris
 22nd: Dr. James A. Ewing
 25th: Tom Caldwell
 27th: Joey Johnson
 30th: Christian Murphy

Budget Information

Average Weekly Giving
 \$3,112.08
 Average Weekly Needs
 \$3,151.28
 (as of 12/31/2018)

Rev. Murphy

CONTACT INFORMATION:
 (270) 403-7709
 jimurphy71@hotmail.com