

## PRAYER MINISTRY

### Prayers of Celebration, Thanksgiving, and Petition

Give thanks and pray for persons celebrating birthdays this week: Charles Hanlon, Jennifer Vondercrone, Nicole Moore, Paul Long, Joann Murray.

**Pray for those who are ill, homebound, receiving treatment or recovering from illness or surgery:** Betty Jo Borzick (knee surgery); Sonia Kulp (double eye surgery); Caitlyn Ferris (cancer), wife of Mark Ferris, Jr.; Benita Adams; Harrison Groman; Ruth Peterman; Ronald Hopson; Terry Miller; Janet Long (healing); Walter Shultz; David Bishop, father-in-law of Becky (Lankenau hospital); Russell Bush (knees); family and friends struggling with addiction; physical and emotional well-being.

**Other prayer needs:** Military personnel; employment concerns of members; prayers for Jennifer (Hasselhan) and Doug Rowley on the loss of their young son, Jack, and for their other son Drew, who lost his brother; and for Ron Brien and family on the passing of his wife, Victoria. Prayers for the family of Donald Pick who passed away Wed. afternoon. His service is being planned near his home in Sugarloaf, where he and Marie moved a few years ago. Marie's home number is 570-359-3118. Her address is 10-2 Brockhill Square West, Sugarloaf, PA 18429. Pray the family will find God's peace and comfort in their time of sorrow.

**Renewal of Marriage Vows and ALL Christian Covenants:** Married couples and all covenant keepers will gather on Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> to renew our vows. The service will include a renewal of vows that are made at our baptism, our confirmation, our wedding, our reception into the church as members, as well as our induction into office as church leaders. Come join the celebration of our Holy Covenants and God's faithfulness to His people. Service begins at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A reception and catered dinner will begin at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Bethel's Building Committee** will begin meeting again Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the air-conditioned lobby. If you would like to be part of the committee, see Chairman Bob Meissner. Current members are Aubrey Bates, Lori Corbett, Mike DeMarco, Ralph Emery, Chad Haring, Paul Long, Joe Moyer, Val Romberg, Dot Shantz and Jeff Wynn. If you have thoughts to share, please submit them to Bob. Email would be great!

**Interested in exploring senior housing?** Sanatoga Ridge Community and Buchert Ridge Community in Pottstown are now conducting tours. Bethel members and friends have found the community to be a lovely option. For more information, contact Howard Moyer at 610-326-7312 or Jon Kline at 610-326-6282, ext. 1260.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**May Focus Prayer for the Church:**

*Your will be done, God.*

Trinity Sunday and Peace with Justice Sunday - May 27, 2018

☺ **PLEASE SIGN THE ATTENDANCE PAD FOUND IN YOUR PEW** ☺

Worship Attendance Total: 122 Early Service: 29 Late Service: 93

Christian Education Attendance: 27

Giving Last Week: \$6,514.50 Amount Needed per Week: \$3,884.00

Building Fund Monthly Mortgage Commitment: \$2,048.75

Received in April for Building Fund: \$1,025.36

The Building Fund Mortgage has approximately \$14,396.66 to go!

**CALLING ALL MOMS AND KIDS:** Make Dad's favorite treats for Coffee Hour on Father's Day, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Got graduates?** We want to celebrate graduates and those with other scholastic accomplishments of Bethel members and friends. Send names, schools and degrees to the office.

Activity packets are available in a basket in the narthex for children to use during church services. Feel free to take your packet home with you.

Got used ink cartridges and cell phones? Please leave them in the church office for recycling.

Thanks for removing old bulletins from the pews and putting them in the recycling basket.

**The next B.U.S. meeting will be June 12.** We will travel to Yoder's for lunch. There is a sign-up sheet in the Sanctuary corridor.



**Bethel Christian Preschool - Registration is open for the 2018/2019 school year.**

**Wawa Hoagie Coupons** - are being sold for \$4 each for a shorti hoagie that normally costs \$4.39. They make great gifts and a fast family meal. Get your coupons from Joyce Shutt or Barb Hanlon. The proceeds benefit the Bethel Christian Preschool.

### **THE POPPY, A SYMBOL OF MEMORIAL DAY**

The wearing of poppies in honor of America's war dead is traditionally done on Memorial Day (not Veterans Day). The origin of the red poppy as a modern-day symbol of this day was actually the idea of an American woman, Miss Moina Michael.

In war-torn battlefields, the red field poppy (*papaver rhoeas*) was one of the first plants to grow. Its seeds scattered in the wind and sat dormant in the ground, only germinating when the ground is disturbed—as it was by the very brutal fighting during World War 1.

The practice of wearing of poppies was further inspired by the poem “In Flanders Fields,” written in 1915 by Canadian soldier John McCrae. He saw the poppies in burials around his artillery position in Belgium.

Today, poppies are both the symbol of loss of life as a symbol of recovery and new life, especially in support of those servicemen who were damaged physically or emotionally.

#### *In Flanders Fields*

*by John McCrae, May 1915*

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*