



**BETHEL UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST "AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION"**

Rev. Karen J. Aitkens—Pastor

September 14, 2020

Greetings Bethel,

What a glorious Sunday we had celebrating our children, teachers, parents and volunteers as we prepare for a new adventure in Sunday School. The Christian Education team is looking over a new curriculum, a gift from the Indiana-Kentucky Conference shared with our Missouri Mid-South Conference and sent out to interested churches in all associations. CE will be contacting parents to get input on parents' expectations and the best time to do virtual Sunday School on ZOOM. If any parent would be interested in leading a lesson, doing a craft or teaching anything to do with movement: yoga, dance, exercise, let the CE team know. After looking over the lessons from this curriculum, I am excited about the possibilities. My hope is that we can keep the Sunday School gathering on ZOOM on Sundays: morning or afternoon for a 30 minute lesson. It will be determined if Sunday School will meet every Sunday or twice a month.

Congratulations to Laci Fleener, Adria Lane and Kadence Lane on receiving their Bibles. And congratulations to Jody and Lauryn (Berka) Thorson on the baptism of Clark Douglas Thorson on 9/13/20, at a private outdoor ceremony here at Bethel. You can see pictures that have been posted on our Bethel Members page.

Thanks to all who have given to Festival of Sharing for Clean-up Buckets. Those gifts will be sent to Church World Service sometime in October so you still have time to give. Bethel has two quilts that are being auctioned on line sometime in September. Bethel will be bidding on the Christmas quilt made by Debbie Robi-nett's mother entitled "Follow the Star". If you are interested in joining the online auction, please let me know and after I get the information, I can send it on to you.

The CROP walk will be virtual this year and you were sent an e-mail with the info on how to give online to the Bethel team. The need this year is so great due to the pandemic and a large portion of what is raised goes to local food pantries around the Kansas City area. Your gifts will make a difference. Thanks to Jan Rickert for coordinating this special mission that Bethel has been part of for many years.

Thank you for all your generosity during this unprecedented time. Your giving has made it possible for Bethel to stay in touch virtually through our worship services and additional programs. Please continue to practice distancing and wear masks for one another's safety.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Karen

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 Never place a period  
where God has placed  
a comma,  
**God Is  
Still Speaking**



## PRAYER LIST UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

*In Sympathy:* **Bobbi Wendle's** uncle Leo "Pete" Schaaf passed away Friday, Sept. 11

Rev. David Lyon, (ret. St. Luke's UCC Pastor) passed away Sunday, Sept. 13

**Prayers:** **Preston Corn;** **Vicki Thompson's** mother, Velma Farrar, and her brother working at NKC Hospital and all health care providers; **Marquita Pace;** **Marilyn Helmich's** daughter Carolyn McNeal and daughter-in-law, Allison Pope; **Cathy Leslie;** **Liz Guevel;** **Alice Inman;** **Vern Bohlmeier;** **Lauri Buck's** Brother-in-law, Jim Saylor, **Stan Niederhauser's** mother, Nancy Niederhauser; **Joe Germer;** **Alice Terrill,** **Dave Bunch;** **Jim Derry;** **Jamie Elder;** **Jeremy Manley;** **Jim Inman;** **Adam Niederhauser;** **Gerry McGuire;** **Doug Berka;** Shanna Villarreal, friend of the **Pace's;** **Kathy Corn's** sister, Ruthanna Rodatz (& friend Judy Lighthead; Crittenton Center staff and residents, prayers for all medical staff and first responders; **Mollie Geitz;** Mark & **Jeanene Easley;** **Maggie Basch's** cousin, Linda Phelps; Karen Lind-Olson, sister of **Doug Berka;** Pat Conrad, **Shellie Willis'** cousin; friend of **Laurie Arbuthnot,** Fred White; **Lora Carey;** **Schindlers'** sister-in-law, Susie Carpenter; Aiden Liesveld, neighbor of **Bob & Lauri Buck;** **Jody Meyer's** niece Delores Starr and great niece, Diane Shoemaker  
Please keep us informed of any additions or corrections to the Prayer List.

**SPECIAL MISSIONS—SEPTEMBER:** Festival of Sharing and Clay County Clothes Closet, Please support are Bethel Team for the virtual CROP Walk [Click Here for Link to CROP Walk Donation Page](#) On the Crop Walk donation page you will see the place where you will type in the team name: Bethel UCC. From there just follow the online instructions.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU:** A special thank you to those members who call and check in on other. You are appreciated!

### **\*Outdoor services— September 20 at 10:00 AM**

#### **Welcome to Bethel's Drive-in Parking Lot Service**

Note: If you are watching from home, we plan on posting the service Live on Bethel's Facebook page Sunday morning.

#### **The Worship Plan**

##### **Bethel Parking Lot - Arrive 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM. Service begins at 10:00 AM!**

- Everyone will be directed to a parking place and will remain in their vehicle
- Masks are required
- Bring your bulletin
- Tune to 92.1 FM on your car radio
- During the offertory you have an opportunity to contribute to Bethel's mission
- At the end of the service you will leave as directed

##### **Worshipping on the Hillside – Parking at Eastgate Parking Lot (if available)**

- Arrive in the **Eastgate Parking Lot** before 10:00 AM. **Service begins at 10:00 AM!**
- Bring your bulletin
- Wear your mask
- Bring your chair, umbrella, and a cold drink (it's going to be a hot day)
- Families may set together, but they must social distance from others.
- An offering basket will be by the Chapel.
- At the end of the service return to your vehicle.

#### **Use of Restrooms During Drive-In Services**

- The church building will be closed except for bathroom emergencies.
- When finished you will need to exit the church quickly.



## Backpack Shepherd's Update

**The first back packing will be Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>.** We will pack grocery sacks, no backpacks for children to return due to COVID and the split school schedule!! All sacks will be equal, no extra for large families, but extra bags will be made available at the school for those who need.

We are in need of a volunteer from Bethel to be our team leader, we pack on the second Thursday of each month. This will involve the following:

There are three basic components to this job. They are as follows:

1. Make sure that everyone in the group knows when we are meeting and any other information that is necessary. You would call or e-mail everyone.
2. Be in charge of our opening time, ask for birthdays, anniversaries, announcements and prayer requests.
3. Check off the backpacks and fill out the proper forms, when backpacks are used again.

The three tasks could be divided up among three people with each person doing only one. If you would like to donate an hour of your time on the second Thursday of the month, please **contact Pat Armstrong at 816-695-7825.**

Suggested donations:

- 4-packs of puddings
- Microwave popcorn
- 4-packs of fruit drinks
- Canned vegetables—especially green beans, corn, and carrots
- Flour tortillas
- Canned stew or chili
- Ramen noodles
- Granola bars

There is a tub just inside the outer doors of Bethel for donations and you may leave sacked items beside the tub. Your help in this situation is very much appreciated. Thank you, on Behalf of Backpack Shepherds Board.