

November 2009

BETHEL MESSENGER

Bethel UCC, W4225 County Line Road, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
www.bethelucc-ada.org (920) 565-2977

I Give Thanks...

With the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, I thought I'd pause for a few moments and tell you about just a few of the things that I am thankful for this year.

I give thanks for the brisk air that fills our lungs with a freshness and vitality. I give thanks for the beauty of leaves as God paints them with that magical paint brush that brings such beauty to the Fall season.

I give thanks for family and friends that nurture us, for this faith community with which we worship, and for the spirit of Christian unity that is so prevalent in this congregation.

I give thanks for all the people that help and support this church in so many ways. The people who volunteer their time, their talents, and their treasure in support of the ministry that is done here.

I give thanks for all the wonderful communities from which this congregation is drawn. These communities that, in spite of the difficult times we live in, give us a friendly and safe place to live and raise children.

And finally, I give thanks that God has called me to ministry here at Bethel United Church of Christ in this interim time. My prayers are with the entire congregation but especially the Search Committee as they continue their important task with thoughtful and prayerful consideration.



May God truly bless you and keep you during this season of Thanksgiving, and may we all give thanks for the abundance of God's bounty.

Pastor Greg

Change of date and time!!

The Thanksgiving Sharing of Talent service will be held on Sunday, November 22 during worship instead of Thanksgiving Eve as in previous years. We are also asking that members bring a donation for the Kiel Food Pantry as part of this Thanksgiving celebration.



We need you!!



It's that time of year again...an opportunity for you to share the talent God has given you. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex and

become part of this fun-filled service. Singing, dancing, playing an instrument, reading a poem or story, doing a skit, etc.....it's your time to shine! Our Thanksgiving Sharing of Talent Service will be held during worship on Sunday, November 22nd.

Consistory Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 7:00 PM

Opening Devotions and Prayer – led by Pastor Greg

Members Present – Ken Matzdorf, Eric Raquet, Jim Raquet, Judy Zimmermann, Faye Spindler, Chuck Grubisic and Pastor Greg.

Secretary Minutes – were reviewed by Ken.

Chuck made a motion to approve the Aug. minutes. Faye seconded it. The motion was approved.

Report of Receipts - Judy e-mailed her report of Income.

Overview: YTD income is down from last year about a 10% decrease.

Ken made a motion to approve the receipts. Eric seconded. The motion was approved.

Report of Expenses – Faye handed out her report.

Overview: Major expenses were salaries, insurance, and Web Pro (gas).

Judy made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report. Eric seconded. The motion was approved.

Memorial Fund Treasurer - Eric e-mailed us his report.

Chuck made a motion to approve the Memorial Fund reports. Faye seconded. The motion was approved.

Building Fund Treasurer - Chuck e-mailed us his report.

Ken made a motion to approve the Building Fund report. Eric seconded. The motion was approved.

Correspondence - Jim handed out mail he has received to share with consistory.

1. In memory of Edna Brumstedt - \$25
2. Chicago Theology Seminar – put out in narthex

E-Mail – Ken sent out a motion to use Rick Kruger snow removal again this year with the same prices as last year. Jim seconded the motion. Carried.

Pastor Greg's Report -

New members joined in August (23) Tammy Henschel, Dewey Grunewald, Julie & Jim Autumn & Brook Herschleb.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Old Items

1. Hymnal Committee – Update – Pastor Greg discussed the first meeting of their group, (Kelly, Dana, John, and Jodi). Jodi and Dana would like a new hymnal for new music. Kelly and Greg

think it will help link with current theology. The group will try to move past the issues of name, cost, and acceptance. Old hymnals that were donated with a name inside could be given back to the donators or their families. There are 6 or so good hymnals out there to be considered. (\$12-\$14 per)

2. Youth leaders – Update – no volunteers yet.
3. Child Safety Gate- installed and working fine.
4. Discussion on Confirmation- Church attendance required, Erin Hanke is only for sure at this point. Pastor Greg to work with LuAnn on this.

New Items

1. Dean Ziegler attended the meeting to discuss new credit card for church. Dean came up with a card (Visa) that seemed to fit our requirements.

No annual fee, unlimited number of cards, 1% fee, and cash back on purchases.

Judy moved to get a church credit card (2 copies) Chuck seconded. Motion carried.

2. Review Annual Meeting minutes - tabled.
3. Sound System Meeting with Congregation – tabled to review annual meeting minutes.
4. Worship/Music Team report - Tabled
5. Other business – add parking lot to capital fund drive
6. Sell apple pies at Wood Lake - Faye suggested we sell 1 weekend with a limit of 50 pies. \$10/pie and \$2.50/piece (harvest days in October) 10-11 or 17-18. Ask for help on Sunday.

7. Search Committee – To come to the next meeting.
8. Budget Meeting scheduled for December and Faye to send out initial numbers in November.
9. Faye suggested the October Consistory Meeting to be September 29 to avoid Chili supper week.

Adjournment: Faye moved to adjourn, Chuck seconded; motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting scheduled: September 29, 2009

Sunday School News

We have been very busy in classes this Fall. We started the year by finishing a lesson from our VBS 'Crocodile Dock' material and watching a video.

The students sang in church as the Youth Choir, in September and are learning some new songs. All too soon we will be practicing Christmas songs.

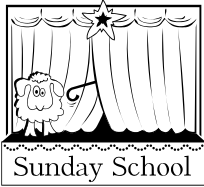
Attendance awards were handed out the first Sunday of October.

Receiving their awards:

Perfect Attendance! 

Kendra Ertel.....1st Year
Alfred Regan5th Year
Nicholas Hanke.....7th Year
Erin Hanke.....9th Year

Congratulations go out to these students for their dedication.



Christmas Program

We will be presenting a Christmas program on Sunday, December 20th at the 10:00 a.m. service. There will be one Saturday practice and that will be on the 19th. The youth will be lighting the advent wreath again this year. Advent begins Sunday, November 29th. Candy bags will be prepared for our youth and any members who are interested in purchasing one. The cost will be \$5.00 each. A "Giving Tree" will be set up in the narthex by the 1st of December.

We will be attempting to give a local family a joyous holiday by purchasing gifts for them. There will be more information in the bulletin as the season gets closer.

Mardell Blohm,
Sunday School Superintendent



Meet Our Confirmation Students

Hi I'm Roman. I love to run. I was cross country. I'm in soccer. I love my cat shain. I go to Howards Grove Middle School. My dad's name is Ken Langley and my mom's name is Phyllis Brunner and I have 5 sisters and 2 brothers.

I'm Gen and I am a 7th grader at James Madison Middle School. I have 6 step siblings and 3 real siblings. I like the sport, volleyball, and I have 50 some rabbits and three dogs and 4 cats. My favorite thing to do is go on vacation. My favorite animal is a dog. My dad's name is Brian Brunner and Lynn Leeman. All together I have 9 siblings and 4 parents (including step parents).

Hi, my name is Frederick Meyer and I go to Howards Grove Middle School and I'm in 7th grade. I am also in band and football. My football jersey number is 82. I play trumpet or cornet for band. I have 7 people in my family, one brother and three sisters and my parents are Fred and Cindy Meyer. I'm a big fan of WWII and I am a big fan of planes. My favorite planes are a P-51 Mustang and the Dyke Delta. I also want to be a pilot when I grow up.

Dear Bethel U.C.C.,

Hi! My name is Erin Rietbrock Hanke. I'm 13 years old. I live with my mom and my brother Nick who's 11. My mom's a registered nurse at St. Nicholas Hospital. We live in a woods next to my grandpa. He owns a farm on highway 32. He has pigs, chickens and cats. We also have a Siberian Husky named Daisy. We have chickens at my house and my Grandpa's. My mom sells eggs at work. I started Sunday school when I was four, and now I'm starting confirmation. I'm in seventh grade and I go to Howards Grove Middle School. At school I play basketball and softball. Some other things I like to do is play piano. I've been playing for eight years including this year. I also play alto saxophone. Another thing I like to do is read. My two favorite books/series are Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling and The Host by Stepinie Myer. I also love the Twilight Series by Stepinie Meyer. Some other books I like to read are Kissing Vampires and Vampire Diaries. I can't wait for the year to get started and I hope to see you all soon!