

April 2010

# BETHEL MESSENGER



Bethel UCC, W4225 County Line Road, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020  
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## From The Pastor

This is the time of year where we remember the last week of Jesus' earthly life. Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' coming into Jerusalem. Then we remember the upper room, the last supper, the betrayal, the crucifixion, and the resurrection. Special services are planned for Thursday, Friday and, of course, Easter Sunday.

Maundy Thursday service is at 7:00 p.m. at Bethel UCC. It is a communion service. Good Friday service is a community service at 6:30 at the First Presbyterian Church, in Kiel. It is planned as a service of Scripture and song. Resurrection Sunday will be celebrated twice at Bethel, with a sunrise service at 7:00 a.m. and the regular church service at 10:00 a.m. A brunch will be served, starting after the sunrise service, in the social hall.

On the Sunday after Easter Bethel will have a different kind of service. In many churches that Sunday is often called "Low Sunday" because after a high attendance on Easter, many churches record a much lower attendance the next week. Some churches are combating this with Holy Humor Sunday – a day to celebrate laughter.

Although Holy Humor Sunday is a relatively recent phenomenon, its tradition goes back many centuries. In the Middle Ages, Lent was such a time of fasting and sacrifice that, when Easter finally came, church was expected to be a time of laughter. In many parishes the congregation expected the Easter sermon to start with a joke.

So, the service on April 11 may have some surprises. But it will include a time for the congregation (including you, if you wish) to share some of their favorite jokes or stories. It will also have a "say-so" time. "Say-so" is based on Psalm 107: 2 "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so." This is a time for members to witness or give thanks for what God has been doing in their lives recently.

After Resurrection and Holy Humor Sunday, scripture and sermons will center on the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus. Sermon titles and scripture for April include:

Thursday, April 1     **Maundy Thursday Service**  
"Upper Room Conversations"  
I Corinthians 11:23-26;  
John 13:1-17

Friday, April 2     **Community Good Friday Service**  
6:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Kiel

Sunday, April 4     **Resurrection Sunday**  
"Resurrection Evening"  
I Corinthians 15:19-26;  
John 20:1-18

Sunday, April 11     **Holy Humor Sunday**  
"The Final Fixing of the Foolish Fugitive"  
Psalm 107:1-9;  
Luke 15:11-32

Sunday, April 18     "Resurrection Evening"  
I John 1:1-2:2;  
John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 25     "A Roadside Meeting"  
I John 2:3-11;  
Luke 24:13-35



## Consistory Meeting

Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 7:00PM

**Opening Prayer** – led by Rev. Jim Liddle  
Members Present – Ken Matzdorf, Jim Raquet, Diane Rietbrock, Tina Nohl, Judy Zimmermann, and Chuck Grubisic.

Jim welcomed new members Tina Nohl and Diane Rietbrock.

**Secretary Minutes** – were reviewed by Ken. Chuck made a motion to approve the January minutes. Judy seconded it. The motion was approved.

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

Overview: Year To Date 2010 income was up 8% compared to last year.

Discussion:

Tina made a motion to approve the receipts. Diane seconded. The motion was approved.



**Report of Expenses** – Tina e-mailed her report.

Overview: Major expenses were pulpit supply, insurance, Web Pro (gas), and Ross Imaging.

Discussion:

Ken made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report. Chuck seconded. The motion was approved.

**Memorial Fund Treasurer** - Diane e-mailed us her report.

Discussion:

Judy made a motion to approve the Memorial Fund reports. Tina seconded. The motion was approved.

**Building Fund Treasurer – Chuck reviewed to his report.**

Ken made a motion to approve the Memorial Fund reports. Diane seconded. The motion was approved.

**Correspondence** – Jim reviewed mail that was received to share with consistory.

1. Tina asked about bills from Burkhart Insurance agency – Tina to follow-up Audit of 2009 Books needs to be scheduled – Jim to follow up  
Moving bills for Pastor Jim to be paid directly to him as he paid for it by his credit card- Tina wrote him a check.
2. Tax return items to be completed with Faye and Tina working together.
3. Musical licensing information to be directed to Dana R. for review
4. Habitat for humanity thank you for \$ from penny pail- to be put on the bulletin board.
5. Letter from SCIO – thanking us for our support and asking for our dues for 2010; Tina to take care of this.
6. Sheboygan Cancer Society; request for \$ (Selling Daffodils for a fund raiser) – to be put on the bulletin board.

Pastors Report – Jim and Betty moved into their new house today but furniture doesn't come till tomorrow. E-mail at church is [jim.liddle@bethelucc-ada.org](mailto:jim.liddle@bethelucc-ada.org);

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### Old Items

1. **Stewardship team direction-** The team was directed to initiate a Capital Fund drive to raise \$ to repay a loan from ourselves for the audio/video system (purchased from Arrow Communications). The team prepared a letter requesting a commitment from each member for each of the next 3 years. The letter will be edited to include a statement that any funds collected in excess of the amount needed for the Audio/video system will be saved in a special fund to be used for the future projects. It will then be sent out to all members. Cindy M. to assist team with mailing.
2. **Pastor's Responsibilities-** the Pastoral Relations Committee met with representatives of the Worship Team and Call committee to review the job description for Pastor Jim's duties. Additions and changes were made to clarify items they deemed important in the ministry of Bethel church. Ken to send the revised file to Jim R. to give to Rev. Jim.

3. **Sound system update-** The \$ needed to complete funding for the new audio/video system will be borrowed from the Memorial Fund saving account and repaid from \$ collected in our 2010 Capital Fund Drive. Chuck will handle the \$ collected and do the tracking; Diane to assist if needed.

#### New Items

1. **Review Church Brochure** – The visitor handout brochure prepared by Pastor Greg was reviewed and it was decided to try and update several of the pictures and make copies to have on hand to give to visitors and members. Ken to send brochure file with new pictures to Chuck.
2. **Review Team/Committee meeting schedule** with Consistory- The volunteer and nominated team lists were reviewed and dates for each team to report to the consistory was developed for 2010. Jim to send Ken the updated list and Ken will get an article in the next messenger to remind teams when they are to report to or meet with the consistory.
3. Went over the **Sunday morning duties list**. Ken to send a copy to Jim.
4. Went over list of people who have keys to the church – Jim to update.

#### Tabled Items

Computer software update

Ken made a motion to adjourn and Judy seconded. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting scheduled: Tuesday, March 2, 2010

## Bethel UCC – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2012 will be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bethel Church. We would like to have a celebration for our sesquicentennial and need a committee to plan the event. If you would like to be on the planning committee for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary see Pastor Jim.



### From the Pastoral Relations Committee

The Pastoral Relations Committee met with Rev. Little on February 23 to review his job description and discuss any responsibilities that needed clarification or elaboration. During our meeting, Rev. Little expressed that the congregation has made him and Betty feel very at home since they arrived in February. The meeting was very fruitful, and the PRC would like to thank Jim and Betty for hosting the meeting at their home. Their hospitality was greatly appreciated.

The PRC functions as a liaison between the pastor and church members, and so we encourage you to contact us with any concerns, questions, or compliments that you would like the committee to share with Rev. Little. All proceedings of the PRC are confidential, and the committee will meet again on Tuesday, April 20.

The Pastoral Relations Committee:  
Carol Matzdorf, John Anderson, and Victor Schueller



## Library Notes

Progress on getting the library moved upstairs is moving right along. The books have been cleaned, some patched, and recorded into inventory. We have over 300 books!! If the bookcases are not already in the fellowship hall, they will be soon.

Many thanks to those who have already donated books. If you have books you would like to donate, please bring them to church or talk to me. Remember, we would like gently used and appropriate books for the church library. The spring garage sale season will soon be here and I am hoping to find many 'gems'.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who sent get-well cards and expressed concerns during the last three months. Everything is greatly appreciated.  
Sincerely, Doris Henschel

### Sunday School News

The Sunday school students have been busy during the Lenten Season. We have been learning about Jesus and His good works from the Book of Luke. We have also been learning some new songs and sharing them with the congregation. Our Easter/Palm Sunday celebration was a lot of fun with food, egg hunt and crafts.

In April, we are taking off from classes on Easter Sunday. The 11th, will be Humor Sunday and we are planning some special entertainment. Looking ahead at our schedule, our classes will run through Sunday, May 23rd. Then we will break for the summer months.

The Vacation Bible School program has been scheduled for the week of August 15th-19th, with the program being presented on Sunday, August 22nd. This gives our students some time off before gearing up to the Back-to-school season. I am still looking for a few teachers to help with our week's lessons.



Speaking on behalf of the students, they all appreciate the applause and comments you have given them when the Junior Choir sings and for the Christmas program. This really makes them feel as they are a part of this congregation.

Sunday School Superintendent,  
Mardell Blohm

### UCC Camps

We now have information about United Church Camps, including Moon Beach Camp and Pilgrim Center. There is a wide variety of themes and activities available. There are youth camps for campers from 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through senior high, and family camps for those older and younger.



Pastor Jim has camping brochures in his office, but you can also access information, through a link in Bethel's website [bethelucc-ada](http://bethelucc-ada).

At my previous churches, many of my most rewarding times were in adult Bible study groups. If there is interest from the congregation, I would like to form similar Bible studies at Bethel Church. To accommodate everyone who is interested I'd like to form two groups, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. If you would be interested in an adult Bible study, please fill out the form below and give it to Jim. Or, if you prefer, you can phone the information to Jim (565-3149) or email him ([jmlbj@yahoo.com](mailto:jmlbj@yahoo.com)).

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I am interested in a Bible study. I would prefer (check all that you could make, circle the one or two that would be the best for you.)

Monday afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

Monday evenings \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday evenings \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday evenings \_\_\_\_\_

Friday afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

Friday evenings \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer:

To meet at the church \_\_\_\_\_

To meet at Jim's house in Howards Grove \_\_\_\_\_