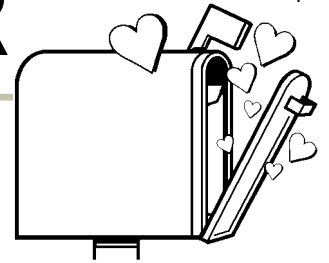


February 2010

BETHEL MESSENGER

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

Betty and I are excited about coming to Bethel Church to be with you all. We look forward to seeing you again and getting to know all of you better. I have been the pastor at Mt. Troy UCC for over twelve years and I enjoyed my ministry there immensely. Certainly, I am leaving with some regrets. But I am looking forward to starting my ministry at Bethel and trust that I, and you, will be challenged, be blessed and together we will grow in Christ.

Although this is an exciting time it has also been a hectic time for us. Since I've been a pastor we have had to move twice. The first time, about 30 years ago, I moved ½ a block from one apartment to another apartment. The second time, about eight years ago, we moved about seven miles from an apartment on the West End of Pittsburgh to a house on the North Side of Pittsburgh. Moving from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin is quite different from our past moves.

The move itself is nerve-racking. We are getting rid of about 25 percent of our accumulated belongings and packing up the other 75 percent.

I understand that most of you will get this newsletter on the last Sunday of the month. On January 31, I am preaching my last sermon at Mt. Troy UCC in Pittsburgh. By February 7,

I expect to be preaching and sharing communion again with you at Bethel UCC. For those of you getting this letter on the 31st, say a prayer for nice traveling and hauling weather between Pittsburgh and Elkhart Lake.

The season of Lent will start shortly after my arrival at Bethel. This year Lent begins on February 17 (Ash Wednesday) and continues through April 4 (Easter Sunday). For Scripture lessons during Lent, and the two weeks before Lent, I've focused on the gospel of John. These are a variety of stories, including miracles, lectures, private discussions, and prayers of Jesus Sermon titles and scriptures for February include:

- Feb. 7 **Communion Sunday**
"Healing on the Sabbath"
James 5:13-20; John 5:1-16
- Feb. 14 "Judgment and Resurrection"
I Corinthians 15:12-19;
John 5:15-29
- Feb. 17 **Ash Wednesday**
Communion and Distribution
of Ashes
"Fasting and Feasting"
Zechariah 7:1-7; Mark 2:18-22
- Feb 21 "Witnesses to Jesus"
I Corinthians 15:20-28;
John 5:30-47
- Feb. 28 "The Hardest Commandment"
II Peter 1:1-11; John 13:31-38

Consistory Meeting**Tuesday, December 1, 2009 7:00PM****Opening Prayer** – led by Jim Raquet

Members Present – Ken Matzdorf, Jim Raquet, Judy Zimmermann, and Chuck Grubisic.

Secretary Minutes – were reviewed by Ken. Chuck made a motion to approve the November minutes. Judy 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 3% decrease.

Discussion:

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

Report of Expenses – Faye e-mailed her report.

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

Discussion:

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

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

Discussion:

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

Building Fund Treasurer – Chuck had no changes to his report.

Correspondence - Jim reviewed mail he has received to share with consistory.
(no action was needed)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSIONOld Items

1. Review 2010 Budget / Reports – Reviewed the numbers for 2010 and changed a few amounts and now need to approve a final amount at the annual meeting.
2. Nominating Committee update – Jim met with this committee and they are working on nominees for the open positions.
3. December worship schedule – Cary Knier will preach on Dec. 25 and Pastor Greg last Sunday will be on Dec. 27th. Jim to send Carol Matzdorf January schedule of worship leaders as soon as it is complete.
4. Sound system update – Meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, Dec. 8th.
5. Stewardship team direction – Jim to ask them to start a capital campaign to pay for parking lot and video system; Consistory may jump start this fund by allocating excess moneys from 2009 budget.
6. Insurance requirements policy and procedure - Jim wrote a policy to keep proof of insurance on file for insurance company. Jim will e-mail Cindy the policy and which church members need to provide insurance info to her to put in the file.

New Items

1. Church cancellation policy – Stress the web site, WHBL and a call list for all

- members to be notified in several ways. Jim will send the call list to all consistory members.
2. Communion Schedule – Rotation from 2009 will be continued in 2010 but new consistory members will be substituted for Faye and Eric. Jim will send file out to all consistory members.
 3. Met with Search Committee to discuss expenses and 12/6 plans – After the Service, vote takes place and then results are made known.
Travel and meals will be covered for Rev. Liddle and Betty's trip up this weekend.
 4. Pie Sale & Chili supper income – 10% to go to missions (we decided to complete OCWM obligation with the 10 % or a little more if needed) Judy made a motion to put the rest towards capital campaign; Chuck seconded. Motion carried.
 5. Computer Software budget – We are getting obsolete in operating system and software (tabled until new pastor is here)
 6. Bulletin Sponsors – We decided to do this again for next year.
 7. Investment for checking account options – Tabled until next meeting
 8. Gift for Pastor Greg – Chuck moved and Ken seconded a motion to present Pastor Greg with a \$50 gift certificate and card on Dec. 27. Ken to get the card and certificate. Jim to make the presentation. Motion carried.
 9. Jodi Voss requested use of a pizza cooler – Jim moved to approve; Chuck seconded. Motion carried.
 10. Audit needed for the books. Jim to ask Mark Zimmermann and Peggy Hanson to do this again for 2009.

Tabled Items

Investment for checking account options
Sound system update

2010 budget approval
Ken made a motion to adjourn and Chuck seconded. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer
Next meeting scheduled: January 5, 2010

Lent 2010

The Lenten season is fast approaching. Below you will find the Lenten schedule. February 17th – Ash Wednesday. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m. and take place in the sanctuary. We will have communion and the imposition of ashes.



The remaining Wednesday night Lenten services (Feb. 24 – Mar 24) will start off with a soup supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by the worship service starting at 7:00 in Fellowship Hall. If you cannot make it to the soup supper, you are still welcome to join us for the worship service.

The Maundy Thursday service will be on April 1st at 7:00 p.m. We will not have a soup supper before this service.

In regards to the soup suppers, we are asking for people to volunteer to bring soup. There will be a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex with the details. Please sign up if you are able. We would really appreciate it.

Thank you!
The Worship Team

**SIGN
UP
FOR
THIS!**

SPRING RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

The time for our Spring Raffle Fundraiser will be coming soon. Sign up sheets for your prize donations will be on the table in the narthex at church starting this Sunday.

Please return the filled out forms by Sunday, March 14. If you have any questions, please ask Carol Roethel or any Consistory member. Thank you.



Thank You

Dear Friends,
Just a quick note to express my appreciation for the many wonderful expressions of thanks I received both from individuals as well as the church.



I can't thank you enough for allowing me to share your faith journey with you.
Grace and peace,

Pastor Greg

Bethel Website – Did you know?

1. How to find the weekly announcements if you miss church on Sunday?

Answer: Click on “**Schedule of Events**” on the upper left side of the “Home Page” or use the hotlink:

<http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/calender.htm>

2. That Bethel has a Visitors Page on our website?

Answer: Click on “**Visitors**” on the left side of the “Home Page” or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/htm_files/visitors.htm

3. How to find a copy of the Consistory Minutes on the website?

Answer: Click on “**Inside Bethel**” on the left side of our “Home Page”, then click on “Consistory” in the upper left hand corner, or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/consistory_files/consistory.htm

4. How to contact our Pastor, President, Secretary, or Webmaster via e-mail?

Answer: Click on “**About Bethel**” on the left side of our “Home Page”, then click on “Contact Us”, or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/htm_files/contact_us.htm

5. When we go to summer schedule or back to winter schedule for our Sunday Worship Service?

Answer: Click on “**Visitors**” on the left side of the “Home Page”, then click on “Service Times”, or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/htm_files/service_Time.htm

6. How to find a picture of our Confirmation Class from 4 years ago?

Answer: Click on “**Inside Bethel**” on the left side of our “Home Page”, then click on “Christian Education”, then click on “Confirmation”, or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/htm_files/confirmation_class.htm

7. How to get to our Conference or National UCC websites?

Answer: Click on “**Links**” on the left side of our “Home Page”, or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/htm_files/links.htm

8. How to find a copy of the Messenger or monthly Calendar from March of 2008?

Answer: Click on “**2008 Messengers**”, on our “Home Page”.

9. What is the policy for members or non-members using our church or fellowship hall for special activities?

Answer: Click on “**Church Usage**”, on the left side of our “Home Page”, then click on “Wedding - Church facility Usage”.

10. Where to find out about the History of our church on the website?

Answer: Click on “**About Bethel**” on the left side of our “Home Page”, then click on “History”, or use the hotlink:

http://www.bethelucc-ada.org/htm_files/history.htm

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So How Many Questions did you get right?

- A. If you answered all 10 questions right, you should be our Webmaster!
- B. If you answered between 5 and 9 questions right, you are to be commended. Please share your knowledge with your friends.
- C. If you only answered between 1 and 4 questions right, you need to spend a lot more time on our website. Please ask your friends for assistance.
- D. If you didn't get any questions right, you probably don't care and you can forget all about this article.