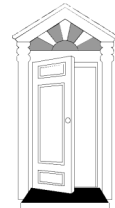




WILDWOOD CHURCH
Come Home to Bethel - Since 1858

Heard through...

The OPEN DOOR



17500 Manchester Road, Wildwood, Missouri 63038
www.BethelUnitedMethodist.org Phone: (636) 458-2255



INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Bethel's 97th Annual Chicken Dinner/Fall Craft Boutique Returns Saturday, Sept. 16

Bethel's famous Fried Chicken Dinner will be celebrating its 97th year on Saturday, Sept. 16, and Bethel members and friends are reminded to invite everyone to come and enjoy this special day. Dinners will be served from 2 until 7 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall, with both dining in and carry-out meals. The dinner includes fried chicken, German potato salad, coleslaw, green beans, applesauce and dessert. Plates for adults will be \$15, for children (ages 6 through 10) plates will be \$10. Dinners for children under the age of 5 years are free.



Bethel Fall Craft Boutique

The Bethel Crafters will host their popular Fall and Christmas Boutique, featuring their beautiful handmade items. It will be open throughout the dinner hours. There will also be bakery goods for sale, along with their beautiful handmade items.

The Chicken Dinner co-chairmen Carla Desalme and Nina Lantz will be sending out work assignment letters to Bethel members. The day goes smoothly with everyone working together. Assignments will include setting up tables in Fellowship Hall, food preparation and cooking, serving in the dining room, taking tickets, manning take-out orders and clean-up.

Bethel members provide desserts for the meal. The dessert choices include pies, cakes, muffins and brownies or cookies. Coffee, lemonade and ice tea will be served in the dining room. Each member also is asked to donate \$5 to give the dinner committee a head start on dinner supplies. If anyone cannot make it to their assignment, just call Nina or Carla or the church. But remember, most of all, to spread the word about our Chicken Dinner and consider taking a meal to someone you know who is a shut-in and cannot attend. This is truly a wonderful old-fashioned church dinner, and a delicious meal!

CHICKEN SUPPER GROCERY SHOPPING WITH NINA AND CARLA

As far back as anyone remembers a certain large red potato has been purchased for Bethel's famous potato salad. The right kind is found at Soulard Market located just a hop, skip and jump from the Missouri River in downtown St. Louis city. "No one knows exactly why, but that's what *the recipe* calls for," Nina laughs. It takes 200 pounds of potatoes which are packed in four boxes of 50 pounds each. "As you know, the cooking of the potatoes starts at 1a.m. Potatoes are sorted for size and placed in pots accordingly so they cook evenly. When we assemble at 6 a.m. the potato skins are removed and the potatoes cut.



The internet offers a clue to why the red potato may have been designated. The red potato is especially rich in anti-toxins and anti-inflammatory and has more potassium than a banana. They are low in fat and sodium and are cholesterol-free. However, it is more likely the red potato was chosen because of its less starchy texture. It is more "waxy" and holds together better.



Timing and Freshness Top Priority. This year, the 12 dozen eggs needed will be purchased from a local farmer. Freshness and getting things assembled as close to their use is a priority. The 21 pounds of bacon required will also be brought in the week of the event. The huge cans of green beans and apple sauce will be brought in the week before, purchased from a long-time source that delivers reliable good quality. No one is forgetting the fried chicken, of course, and even in mid-August before the Sept. 16 event, it is at the top of the list! The foregoing barely touches the surface of all the things that must be done, and so we thank Nina and Carla a bunch!!!

Letter going out. Each Bethel family is asked to contribute \$5 to get the shopping ball rolling. And don't forget the pies. That is a special yearly event for Bethel's famous bakers and a really wonderful addition to the menu. Beverages and dessert are all in the price of the ticket, not an add-on! The letter will have suggested work assignments and all hands are welcome Nina and Carla say.

COME CELEBRATE WILDWOOD & REPRESENT OUR CHURCH



We need your help! We will have a booth set up at the upcoming Celebrate Wildwood event on September 23, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and we need volunteers to represent our church and to hand out information to people stopping by the booth. If you have an hour or two available that day and would like to help out, please call the office to let us know what time(s) you can help. Thanks!

BETHEL'S SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED AND AWARDED DURING SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, August 20 arrived with a heat advisory warning that kept many from the service. There was none-the-less a welcome announcement by Bert Foster of Bethel's awardees of this year's scholarships. Since the program's beginning in 2005, with a generous gift by much remembered members Mary and Eddie Schalk-- the program has allowed Bethel to fund some of the college study expense for 33 children, grandchildren or close relatives of our members or those affiliated in some way with our church.

Of the four awardees this year, three are returning and everyone is pleased to see they are continuing on their educational path. The awardees this year are again:

Abigail Reed, Skidmore College in NY (Daughter of Dale and Carolyn Reed—who were in church to receive the award check); **Dylan Howard, Missouri State University** (Grandson of Diane Smith); **Ashley Queen, St. Louis Community College in Wildwood** (Granddaughter of Pam Queen) and **Evan Guentz, Kennesaw University, in GA** (Grandson of Ron Guentz) is the new awardee for 2023-2024.



The initial gift from the Schalks was never to fall below the initial amount and was to be invested and carefully stewarded. Kudos go to Bert Foster who has managed this year along with a decision of the Board to increase the stipend to \$750. It was also decided to add a trade school option along with college or university. More than money, our church wants each of you students to know we are pulling for you and wishing you the best!

I LOOKED OVER JORDAN AND WHAT DID I SEE?

This line from the old and beloved hymn *Swing Low* is a perfect lead into the paragraphs that follow. They are contributed by Linda Himmelman who recently travelled to Israel with a group to be rebaptized in the Jordan River. The same river where Jesus was baptized. Linda may be new to some of Open Door readers. She came to visit Bethel and stayed. She has offered her help and talents in many ways. Most recently she has been playing the organ and the piano with Shirley Martka in the Sunday service. Here are her words and photos:

This past June, I had the good fortune of traveling to Israel with Christ for the Nations, a 75-year-old bible school in Dallas, Texas. Among the many adventures I enjoyed, was being rebaptized in the Jordan River. The opportunity to be rebaptized where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, was too exciting to pass up.



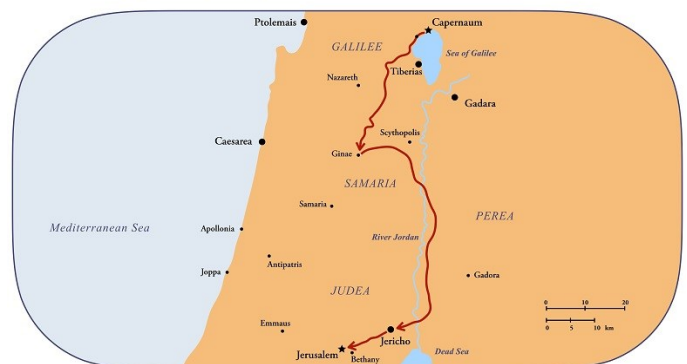
This photo is of Van, a student from Myanmar, who is studying at Christ for the Nations.



On the cross, Jesus experienced death, burial, and resurrection for all of us. Water baptism by submersion, provides an identity with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul writes: if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are washed away, all things become new.

Historically besides the Jordan River being the very river where Jesus was baptized, it is also the river the Israelites crossed to enter the Promised Land. And a miracle between Elijah and Elisha also took place on the Jordan River. According to 2 Kings 2:8-11, Elijah folded his mantle together, struck the water, and it divided so he and Elisha could cross over to the other side of the river. Elijah was also taken in a whirlwind to heaven from this place. So, the river has special meaning to both Jews and Christians for the miracles God performed at this river.

The journey of Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem



Geographically, the Jordan River is connected to the Sea of Galilee and ends in the Dead Sea.

SEPTEMBER 11 ANNIVERSARY REMINDS AMERICANS TO HONOR OUR VETERANS AND OUR FLAG

The anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attack on our country is a date that Americans remember with grief and reverence. It still seems impossible that people could mastermind such an attack on the United States of America.

But, we must never forget. The date should remind us to honor our veterans, and to show respect for our flag. The flag of the United States was created in 1777, when on June 14 the Continental Congress adopted the stars and stripes design as the official flag of our nation. This is why June 14 is known as Flag Day.

According to legend, it was a group headed by George Washington who commissioned Betsey Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress, to create the flag. The design includes 13 stripes of red and white, and a blue field with 13 white stars. The stars represented the 13 colonies, and they were arranged in a circle. As more states were added to the union, the flag was revised to include more stars.

The U.S. flag is flown from sunrise to sunset, and should be taken down during inclement weather. It is flown 24 hours a day at the White House and at several military institutions. It was flown in space in July, 1969, when astronaut Neil Armstrong placed the flag on the moon. It was placed on the moon six times when our Apollo program returned men to the lunar surface.



When and How Should a Flag Be Retired?

There is a protocol for the retirement of a U.S. flag when it shows wear and tear with fading and fraying. It is then considered no longer fitting to display. The Boy Scouts of America and the American Legion can guide anyone who has a flag to be retired, or they can retire it for you.

A dignified ceremony is suggested that should include saluting the flag, and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. The flag can be retired by burning or by burying it.

SEPTEMBER 11 ANNIVERSARY REMINDS AMERICANS TO HONOR OUR VETERANS AND OUR FLAG (continued)

Bethel Wildwood Church has a long history of hosting Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops, and this year a special Eagle Scout project is being planned that would assist people who have a flag they wish to retire. Eagle Scout candidate Thomas Ponstingl is planning to build a box where flags that need to be retired can be placed. The box will be accessible to anyone who visits Bethel Wildwood Church or the Bethel Cemetery.



CELEBRATING MOM'S BIRTHDAY

Sherryl Rohlf was honored by sons Lee and Lyle, and grandson Dom bringing her to church as part of her birthday celebration. We were glad to see Sherryl in the congregation with her family.

“THANKS FOR BRAKING FOR ME!”

If you recall, we mentioned to be on the look out for any stray box turtles trying to cross the road during the summer months. This little fellow must have made it across safely. Thanks, he deserved a break.



THE LITTLE BLACK HORSE

There's a little black horse that lives on a farm
Right down the road from me.
When I drive by, I always slow down,
Hoping that I can see.
Is he munching on hay, or watching the road?
Perhaps he is looking for me.
Yet, the world seems at peace and my day starts off right
When the little black horse I do see.

(Written by Chylene Daub)



Does this seem like a frivolous little poem? Not to me. I have always had a special connection with animals, both wild and tame. I still love every pet I have ever had. I search the woods when passing by, hoping to catch a glimpse of a deer, or squirrel, rabbit or hawk. Often a deer will stop dead still and together we share a moment in time, a slight nod of the head, then a quick retreat into the woods. Each time I see my little black horse I experience a moment of appreciation of God's glorious creation –the world and all the critters who thrive here alongside mankind. Thank you, Lord, for our beautiful world and for all the graceful, beautiful animals that You created. Just like my little black horse. *Chylene Daub*

The Little Black Horse has three white socks and a white blaze. He is a gentle little creature that I enjoy seeing each time I pass. He has a large pasture to roam around in, so somedays he is not in view of the road. I am doubly blessed that I often see the horses at Brookdale Farm, which is located at the other end of Jim Weber Road, where it joins Twin Rivers Road. These magnificent horses are sometimes seen in St. Louis City pulling carriages for tourists.



Ruth Anne, Louella, and Diane D,



Thanks for your contribution of stamps. — Bethel Wildwood Church

Alison,

Thanks for all your hard work updating our website. — Bethel Wildwood Church

Ruth Anne,

Thanks for the reminder to update “Come & See” on our sign. — Jeff Fothergill

OPEN Praise Team

Anyone with singing or instrumental musical talents interested in helping the praise team please get in contact with Shirley Martka ASAP.

Giving

In an effort to make you aware of our ongoing income and expenses Bert, our treasurer, has calculated our monthly expenses and we have provided a total of our offerings for the given month as follows:

Total estimated monthly expenses:	\$12,600.00
Total offerings received as of 8/20/23:	\$ 11,188.97

Circle of Concern

They are currently in need of the following items:

healthy snacks, jelly, cereal, canned beef/chicken, condiments, tomato products, baking items, flushable wipes, cleaning products, pet food

Please leave non-perishable food donations in the shopping cart next to the elevator. Thanks for your donations!

On The Calendar @ Bethel

Bethel Fitness—Mondays & Thursdays @ 9am

Music Ministry Practice—Tuesdays @ 3pm

Crafters & Prayer Shawl Warriors—Thursdays @ 9:30am

Labor Day—Monday, Sept. 4

Board Meeting—Tuesday, Sept. 5 @ 7pm

Listening For God’s Voice (cemetery walk)—Saturday, Sept. 9

Communion—Sunday, Sept. 10 @ 10am

Juliets’ Luncheon—Tuesday, Sept. 12 - Big Chiefs @ 11:30

Annual Chicken Dinner/Fall Craft Boutique—Sunday, Sept. 16 @ 2-7pm

Celebrate Wildwood (booth)—Saturday, Sept. 23 @ 11-6:30pm

Fellowship Time

Join us for coffee in fellowship hall after worship every Sunday. All are welcome.

Nursery

Childcare provided during Sunday service.

We are blessed to have a good number of gifted lay leaders willing to help make our Zoom service a success.

Our schedule for September is as follows...

Date	Devotion	Music	Lead	Prayer	ZOOM	PPT
9/6	PJeff	Shirley	Louella	PJeff	TBD	TBD
9/13	PJeff	Shirley	Diana	PJeff	TBD	TBD
9/20	PJeff	Shirley	Carolyn	PJeff	TBD	TBD
9/27	PJeff	Shirley	Don	PJeff	TBD	TBD

The ZOOM & PPT Teams arrange their own schedules.

Contribution Recordkeeping Schedule

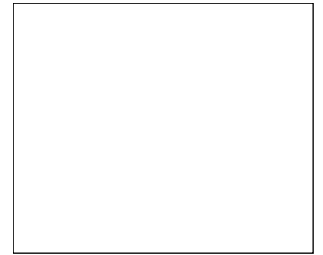
	Sheila	RuthAnne/Bert	Bert	Bert	N/A
September	6	13	20	27	

Counters Schedule

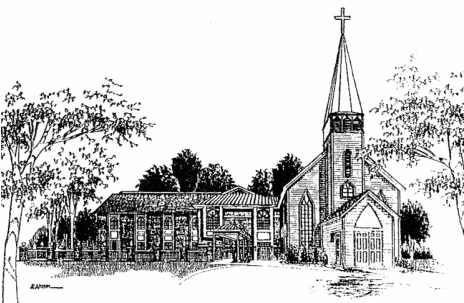
	Dale/Sheila	RuthAnne/Bert	RuthAnne/Suzi	Bert/Debbie	N/A
Sept.	6	13	20	27	



Bethel Wildwood Church
17500 Manchester Road
Wildwood, MO 63038-1907



**September 2023
News!**



Bethel Wildwood Church

***Love God,
Love Others,
Serve All!***

Please Join Us Sunday For Service

Service will be **LIVE** in the sanctuary @ **10 a.m.**
or you can use one of the following:

Church webpage: www.bethelunitedmethodist.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BethelWildwoodChurch/> **"Like Us" on Facebook**

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@BethelWildwoodChurch>

Zoom: Please contact the church office at 636-458-2255 to receive the link.