



WILDWOOD CHURCH
Come Home to Bethel - Since 1858

Heard through...

The OPEN DOOR



17500 Manchester Road, Wildwood, Missouri 63038

BETHEL CHICKEN DINNER SUCCESS: “POTATO SALAD JUST LIKE MOM’S”

This year’s Homestyle Chicken Dinner was the 97th annual hosted by Bethel Wildwood Church, and there is a sure sign that it was another success. As one of our neighbors was leaving the dining room, she told us that she was from a German family, and our potato salad was excellent. “It tasted just like my Mom’s!” she said. Once again, Bethel demonstrated our hospitality and loyal participation as our church members all joined in to plan, prepare and serve a delicious fried chicken dinner. This is accomplished with the dedicated leadership of Carla DeSalme and Nina Lantz, and everyone is eager to help. The result is a day that is full of hard work but warm fellowship.



Last year the Bethel chicken dinner actually ran out of chicken. To make sure that did not happen again, we ordered more chicken this year and increased the amount of side dishes. We did have left overs, and Nina was concerned. She immediately researched online to find a charity that could make good use of the leftover food. The answer was Tent Mission: STL, a non-profit group that serves homeless people in downtown St. Louis. Carla helped Nina pack her car full of trays of chicken and potato salad and Nina headed downtown. On Sundays, Nina said, Tent Mission serves coffee and donuts to folks under a tent set up near St. Louis City Hall. On this Sunday, the people were offered fried chicken and German potato salad as well. Nina said they told her that if there was chicken left over, it would be taken to the St. Patrick’s Center. Nothing would go to waste.



BETHEL CHICKEN DINNER SUCCESS: “POTATO SALAD JUST LIKE MOM’S” (cont.)

Nina received a grateful note from the folks at Tent Mission which read as follows: “Thank you for driving the food downtown this morning. The chicken and potato salad meals were a huge hit. That was a nice surprise.” Bethel’s Chicken Dinner served our neighbors not only from the Wildwood – West County area, but also our neighbors downtown!



CRAFT SALE WITHOUT A HITCH

Buyers and lookers started arriving at the cottage at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16. There was a steady flow and the crafters were especially happy to hear comments about the “new” cottage. Compliments like “Love your work.” “Love the cottage.” “So glad to have you here again. The upstairs at the church was OK, but we’re glad not to take the elevator and climb the ramp this year!” Thanks to everyone!!!





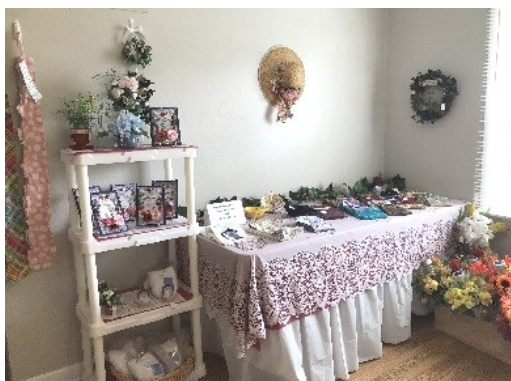
THE GREAT SKUNK BREAK-IN AT CRAFTER'S COTTAGE BETHEL'S FIRST RESPONDERS TO THE RESCUE!

It was just an ordinary Thursday afternoon. The “baton” of leadership had been passed to Diane Durbin from Ruth Anne Krueger and the others earlier in the year. Diane was on her way to the renovated parsonage, now Bethel Crafter's Cottage, to decide on placement of some peg board panels. As Diane started up the ramp to the front door she smelled that unmistakable odor of a skunk. The smell got worse the closer she came. She unlocked the door not knowing what to expect. The smell increased as she neared the basement door. It was shut and latched. Nothing appeared touched.

Diane opened the door to the basement and at the bottom of the steps she saw the little critter. It appeared dead. “Thank goodness it wasn't poised with its sprayer aimed at me!” She called Ron Guentz only to find him answering from out of state. He suggested calling Gary Hayes. (Both seem to be on speed dial for the church's electrical, mechanical, and repair needs!) Gary was mowing grass in the cemetery and was close by.

“Bring a shovel,” Diane suggested. “I think it's dead.” Gary arrived with a bucket and a shovel and made his way gingerly down the steep basement steps. Do skunks play possum? Hopefully not, and it was indeed dead. A basement window some feet away was broken. It is assumed that the skunk was in the window well and something in there broke and smashed the window. The skunk may have died from the fall. It did not appear to be cut by glass. No autopsy was held! Donning plastic gloves used for food handling, Gary moved the skunk into the bucket and disposed of it in a far place among some cut brush where nature would take its course. On Ron's return he replaced the broken window with Plexiglass to prevent a glass break again.

Diane dove into action sweeping and disinfecting the area with Clorox and sprays. After cleaning, no odor lingered. At the back of everyone's mind was the “what if”. What if the skunk had perfumed the crafters' display of months of work ready now for sale at this year's Chicken Supper? No one wants to go there!!!



BOY SCOUT TROOP 456 HOLDS COURT OF HONOR

Anyone who is concerned about the youth of today needs to attend a meeting of Bethel's Boy Scout Troop 456. The Boy Scout promise is as follows: "On my honor I promise that I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to help other people and to obey the Scout Law."

These young men of Troop 456 definitely reflect their code. They are courteous and respectful and are ready to lend a hand. This is what they have been taught and encouraged to do through the Boy Scouts.

Bethel Wildwood Church sponsors Troop 456 of the Boy Scouts, and also Cub Scout Troop 3456, providing them with a meeting place in Fellowship Hall. In September, Troop 456 held its annual Court of Honor when merit badges are awarded to each scout who has earned them and rank advancements are announced.

The Scout program emphasizes that Boy Scouts always show respect and appreciation for their parents. This was demonstrated in the awards ceremony when a Scout was given his pin, he was given a pin for his mother also. This pin symbolizes the support Moms give to their sons while meeting their scouting goals. Many dads are involved as well, serving as scout leaders and participating in scouting excursions.

This year the troop also honored their Scoutmaster Charlie Rooney on his retirement. They especially thanked him for his leadership through the years of the pandemic, and for his dedication to the troop. The new scoutmaster will be Joe Attea.

The Scout Court of Honor opens with presentation of colors as the Scouts enter with the flag of the United States of America and of their scout troop. The boys then recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.



**New Scoutmaster Joe Attea (L)
& former Scoutmaster
Charlie Beeson (R).**



Boy Scout Court of Honor

BOY SCOUT TROOP 456 HOLDS COURT OF HONOR (continued)

The history of the Boy Scouts begins in England in 1907 when an English soldier Robert Baden-Powell founded the organization. He is credited with creating the Boy Scout motto of "Be Prepared," and said that this meant for boys to strive to "always be in a state of readiness in mind and body to do your duty." He said that he wanted young men to be able to react quickly in an emergency, and to prepare themselves to be "productive citizens and strong leaders."

The Boy Scouts of America was founded in 1910, and scouting has spread around the world. Scouting still has its primary purpose to prepare young men to become good citizens who look for ways to help other people.

The people of Bethel have seen this at work at our church. Each year, the Boy Scouts have participated in helping place flags on the graves of veterans in our cemetery on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Scouts also show up at our annual chicken supper to help with clean-up at day's end.

Troop 456 is called "The Adventure Troop," and their activities describe the nickname. The Scouts frequently participate in numerous outdoor experiences such as camping, swimming, hiking, canoeing, rock climbing, repelling and cycling. They learn archery, and participate in many outdoor sports. In October, they have a Bike Outing planned and the Fall Camporee will be held at Beaumont Boy Scout Reservation October 27-29.

Bethel has been a sponsor of Boy Scout troops for many years, the longest support has been for the Cub Scout Pack 3456 which has been in place for 72 years. Bethel also sponsors Boy Scout Troop 456 and Cub Scout Pack 3304.



The Boy Scouts of America use a three-finger salute when greeting other Scouts to represent the three aspects of the Scout promise:

- 1. Honor God, 2. Help Others, and 3. Obey the Scout Law.**

The Boy Scout slogan: "Do a good turn daily."



RETURN OF BETHEL PET BLESSING AND DOG SHOW OCTOBER 14

Bethel's Blessing of Pets and Fun Dog Show will return on Saturday, Oct. 14, from 10am to 2pm. All pets are welcome to come to the church for this fun event. Pastor Jeff Fothergill will bless each pet recognizing the importance of all God's creatures for the companionship they provide.



The fun Dog Show will feature several categories, giving everyone an opportunity to take home a ribbon for such special characteristics as "longest tail," "best trick," "best handshaker," etc. There will be a costume contest as well.

There is no charge to enter, and pre-registration is not required. Volunteers are needed to help make the event go smoothly. Let Don or Diana Walsh know if you can help.

BETHEL'S LITTLEST HELPER

Maia C, seven years old, won a lot of hearts at the Chicken Supper when she thanked people for buying tickets and afterward politely asked if they had a good dinner. At the recent Bethel booth at Celebrate Wildwood she invited people to our booth. There they could pick up flyers giving our contact information and upcoming events. All this is her own idea to help but inspired by Bible stories we are told.

Ginger D. who has Maia in the large, sunny nursery room with all the toys during Sunday service says: "Maia helped in the garden in July after we read a story about serving others from John 13. This past Sunday we read the parable of the mustard seed and visited the garden again." The photos below show her helping at our Celebrate Wildwood booth and picking vegetables in the Bethel Garden destined for the Circle of Concern. Thank you, Maia!



THE LOWLY PUMPKIN SHINES FOR HALLOWEEN

Times have changed. Halloween no longer brings out the little kids in Super Hero costumes or dressed as Princess look-alikes trying to keep tilted tiaras on their heads as they go door-to-door in the neighborhood. Trick or Treat and handing out candy in person have evolved to trays of candy left at the end of the driveway or on the porch. But one thing still remains pretty much intact, and that is the carved and lighted pumpkin on the porch.

A Classic Part of Halloween. Some estimate that 1.5 billion (with a B) pounds of fresh pumpkin are harvested in America and sold for Halloween. Many are carved into the grinning Jack-O-Lantern face, a candle or other light put inside and set on our porches. History records they were originally used to scare away supposed evil spirits and were preceded by the lowly hollowed out beet with candle for the same purpose. Ultimately the pumpkin became the tool of choice for this protection. Likely few of us think of Halloween and the pumpkin as other than a light-hearted end of summer tradition and a start to the major holidays to come.



Shining the Light on History. Halloween is traced back to the ancient Celts holiday named Samkain. This was a time to honor the deceased at the end of summer and a time when it was believed souls would pass on. The Day of the Dead celebrated in Mexico is now celebrated as All Saints Day and All Soul's Day on the 1st and 2nd of November.

In the meantime, in American tradition, we make a trip to a pumpkin patch or our grocery store to pick out our pumpkin. It's carved, mostly on the scary side, and a candle inside glows with light and brings a smile to our faces. Our next favorite pumpkin time comes with that pumpkin pie at Thanksgiving!





Nina L,

Thank you for donating postage stamps.— Bethel Wildwood Church

Bethel Wildwood Church,

Thank you very much for selecting me for your scholarship program. It really means a lot! I have applied the funds toward textbooks & online programs.— Sincerely, Dylan Howard

Bethel Wildwood Church,

Thank you again for the scholarship. We received the check on Saturday just in time for tuition payments. This is such a nice gesture and please pass on our appreciation to the church and sponsor.— Sincerely, Chad Guentz (Evan's father)

Bethel Wildwood Church,

Thank you so much for the scholarship! — Abigail Reed

Shirley G & her staff & contributing helpers,

*September issue of The Open Door was the best ever!! I always read it thoroughly & keep it on hand to refer back to about special events. Thanks!!!— Blessings, Louella Phipps
P.S.: My daughter Liz from CA enjoys it also.*

Bethel members,

Thanks to Carla, Nina L, and everyone else that helped for all they did in preparing the chicken dinner and those that shopped at the Craft Cottage.— Bethel Wildwood Church

Nina H,

Thank you for planning the "Celebrate Wildwood" events.— Pastor Jeff

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
Total offerings received as of 9/24/23:	\$13,564

Circle of Concern is currently in need of the following items:

healthy snacks, pasta sauce, soup, jelly, cereal, canned beef/chicken, canned fruit, condiments, tomato products, baking items, flushable wipes, body wash, hygiene products, cleaning products, dry pet food & litter

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

Christian Perspectives Class—Sunday, Oct. 1 @ 9am

Communion—Sunday, Oct. 1 @ 10am

Board Meeting—Tuesday, Oct. 3 @ 7pm

Christian Perspectives Class—Sunday, Oct. 8 @ 9am

Communion & Mission Sunday—Sunday, Oct. 8 @ 10am

Columbus Day—Monday, Oct. 9 (Holiday)

Juliets' Luncheon—Tuesday, Oct. 10 - Big Chiefs @ 11:30

Pet Blessing & Dog Show—Saturday, Oct 14 @ 10-2pm

Listening For God's Voice (cemetery walk)—Saturday, Oct. 14

Christian Perspectives Class—Sunday, Oct. 15 @ 9am

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 October is as follows...

<u>Date</u>	<u>Devotion</u>	<u>Music</u>	<u>Lead</u>	<u>Prayer</u>	<u>ZOOM</u>	<u>PPT</u>
10/1	PJeff	Shirley	Louella	PJeff	TBD	TBD
10/8	PJeff	Shirley	Diana	PJeff	TBD	TBD
10/15	PJeff	Shirley	Carolyn	PJeff	TBD	TBD
10/22	PJeff	Shirley	Don	PJeff	TBD	TBD
10/29	PJeff	Shirley	Barb	PJeff	TBD	TBD

The ZOOM & PPT Teams arrange their own schedules.

Contribution Recordkeeping Schedule

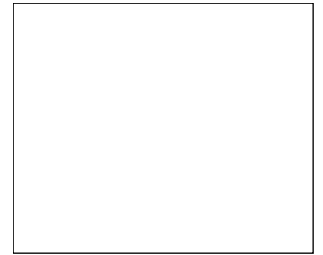
	Sheila	RuthAnne/Bert	Bert	Bert	Bert
October	1	8	15	22	29

Counters Schedule

	Dale/Sheila	RuthAnne/Bert	RuthAnne/Suzi	Bert/Debbie	Bert
Oct.	1	8	15	22	29



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



**October 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.bethelwildwood.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.