



Volume 13 Number 10 November 2023

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Heard through...

WILDWOOD CHURCH
Come Home to Bethel - Since 1858



The OPEN DOOR



17500 Manchester Road, Wildwood, Missouri 63038

NOW SHOWING IN FELLOWSHIP MOVIE "THEATER" THE CHOSEN, SEASON 3

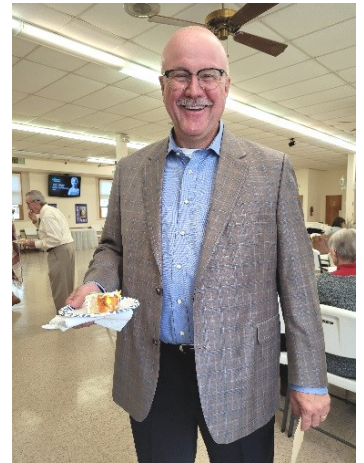
There is something special about joining with friends and enjoying Fellowship time after church to watch this movie. Diana Walsh always prepares materials giving key characters along with Jesus and background information on the subject for the episode. There is also further explanation of it in the Bible verses for this episode. The movie "goers" read the scriptures aloud.

Over on the side our projection "managers" (Don Walsh and Cody, his dog) get the film going. The 4th episode is currently being shown and it is in two parts. The Biblical times and the people become so real and there is so much more understanding of things we read, but can't always understand. Each episode is pretty much self-contained so you can join in and pick up right away. Thank you Diana and Don for bringing this to our ongoing programming.



TWO VERY SPECIAL SUNDAYS: PASTOR APPRECIATION AND DOGGIE SUNDAY

The first Sunday in October a greeting card for Pastor Jeff was quietly passed among the congregation to sign. An invitation to join in Fellowship Hall after church for a special cake and treats was announced. Among another of Jeff's talents we discovered is cutting a cake and he is shown here enjoying it. There is no doubt that Bethel appreciates Pastor Jeff, his excellent sermons that bring us closer to Jesus, and his good humor, leadership and participation in our church activities. But it is more. We have a Pastor who genuinely loves the people and the church. We have recently seen new faces visiting Sunday service and also returning.



Let's not forget Carol who is a wonderful Pastor's wife. She attends each Sunday to support Jeff and is a smiling and welcoming face to all as we Pass the Peace and visit. She joins in activities as always as a member and it is like a breath of fresh air to have her presence in the Sunday service. Thanks again, Jeff and Carol.

Doggie Sunday is an idea that has floated around for some time in discussions of ways that might attract more people to come to church. During the recent pet show such a Sunday was announced for the next morning, October 15! Would the dogs bay during the singing? Have accidents? Disrupt? Well, we are used to the two service dogs: Barb J's Katie and Elaine H's little Prince.

There were several people who brought their dog. There was no peep out of any of them, no fights, and no accidents. Maybe being blessed by our Pastor the day before had an effect! Anyway it was not until the end of service when Pastor Jeff finished the Benediction with an Amen that there was a sharp "arf" from the backrow. This reporter likes to think of it as a doggie Amen. Doggie Sundays are not planned as a frequent thing, but it is interesting to note that at least three of the pet owners were new or faces that hadn't been to Bethel in a while.



BEST FRIENDS COME TO BETHEL

It was a great day for “best friends” at Bethel on Saturday, Oct. 14, as Fellowship Hall was taken over by a happy gang of canines. They were big and small, fluffy and sleek. The one thing they had in common was they seemed to enjoy their day at Bethel’s Fun Dog Show and Pet Blessing.

The dogs strutted around the ring, competing for various fun classes. Some did tricks, some were a natural in “shaking paws,” and some made it through a complicated obstacle course, all to the applause of the audience.

The day was a big success, thanks to all the planning by Don and Diana Walsh and their crew. We had two excellent judges, Dr. Mary Ellenberger and Laura Balding, who managed to award at least a couple ribbons to just about every participant.

Pastor Jeff Fothergill gave a blessing to the pets and presented them with a certificate. Hot dogs were served for lunch, and every dog was given a fun take-home bag of treats.



Much thanks to our Bethel Dog show judges Laura Balding and Dr. Mary Ellenberger



Pastor Jeff and Carol Fothergill welcomed all the dogs for Pet Blessings. Each dog had its name posted on the board with a special doggie symbol.



Bethel's 2023 Pet Blessing & Dog Show!



Mia, the American Great Dane was shown by Dustin and Karen Mayfield-Jones



Ruby Slippers, is a Norwich Terrier who received her pet blessing with her owner Patti Bader



Bethel's 2023 Pet Blessing & Dog Show!



Bonnie Swanstrom & her dachshund CoCo



Samantha Swanstrom & her standard dachshund Pistol Pete



Moose and Mia, a pair of Yorkshire Terriers, shown by Mike and Katie Severns



Marilyn Weber and her multi-poo named Jet.



English Bulldogs Chewy and Saddle came dressed as "prisoners" with their owners Kitty and Rickie McReynolds



John McDonough & his poodle Herman



Barb Jacobs with Katie, Great Pyrenees who happens to be Bethel's official ambassador



Shirley with Meggie, her schnauzer who dressed up for the occasion



One of the final challenges of the obstacle course was for your dog to sit in the circle. John Bjur had no problem with his lab-husky mix Minnie.



Baxter, the poodle, was shown by Chylene Daub



Don Walsh takes a break with Cody, his corgi

BETHEL ANSWERS THE CALL TO HELP STOCK 'SOCKTOBER' EVENT FOR THE HOMELESS

Thank you, Thank you – for all your donations for the New Life Evangelistic Center. Because of Bethel's generosity, there will be warm, clean socks, cozy gloves and stocking hats to help folks in need facing a cold winter. Donations also included blankets and warm clothing. Boxes and bags were stuffed with all the items. Ray & Chylene Daub delivered everything to the NLEC headquarters, 2428 Woodson Road, on Thursday afternoon Oct. 19.

The donations were in response to the NLEC's special event they call "Socktober." It will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, downtown in front of 1411 Locust Street. On that day they expect 200 or more homeless people, who will receive "Bundles of Love" with the items to keep them warm. They also hope to have sleeping bags and backpacks to give away.

Socks are the most requested item at centers who serve the homeless. Without socks and gloves, many of these folks can suffer with frostbite. Anyone who would like to contribute further can send a check for \$35 to the New Life Evangelistic Center, P.O. Box 473, St. Louis, MO 63166. New Life staff members are on the streets daily, bringing meals to the homeless. They also invite them into safe houses and residential training programs.



CAST YOUR FEARS INTO THE FIRE

Bethel will host another bonfire on Saturday, Nov. 4, in the lower parking lot. This is a chance to write down any fears or troubles on your mind, crumple up the piece of paper, and throw it into the fire. Why not? You can also enjoy a hotdog with homemade chili, roast s'mores and just enjoy fireside conversation.

We plan to be on site from about 4 to 6 pm. Please bring your own folding chairs and any snack you may want to share.



ONGOING THANKS TO OUR SOLDIERS REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYERS THIS VETERAN'S DAY

“Thank you for your service” to someone who has served are not empty words. Without the sacrifice of many we would not be able to go about our daily lives and enjoy our church family. The *Open Door* has written often honoring our veterans and Bethel is a strong supporter of our many members who answered the call and served our country—those who are still with us and those who have passed.



The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in November 1918 World War 1 known at the time as the “the Great War—was supposed to end wars. President Wilson first commemorated the day in 1919 and it was called Armistice Day. It was President Eisenhower who changed it to Veterans Day in 1954.

Bethel has also put together boxes to send to active service men and women at Christmas.

Flags are placed at graves on Memorial Day in our cemetery. It should be noted that Veteran’s Day is a celebration to honor all veterans for their love of country and their service to sacrifice for the good of all of us. Memorial Day at the end of May remembers and honors those who lost their lives serving their country.

SUNRISE ON SUNDAY MORNING

Bethel’s welcoming sanctuary has opened its doors on Sunday mornings for 148 years. Since 1875 worshipers have come through these doors to hear the stories of Jesus and to praise the Lord.

On this Thanksgiving Day, we know that you will be praying for Peace and giving thanks for your family and friends. Remember also to pray for our nation, and to say a special prayer for Bethel. We thank our Lord for helping us see Bethel Wildwood Church through the past year, and we ask for His guidance for the future.

Happy Thanksgiving!





Don/Roberta V,

Thank you for donating postage stamps.— Bethel Wildwood Church

Dear Friends,

Once again thank you for another outstanding Open Door. You all are amazing and do such a wonderful job keeping everyone informed about Bethel. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! — Sincerely, Ruth Anne

Bethel,

Another outstanding edition. Loved reading about the chicken supper, crafters, great skunk caper and Scouts. I was there when we had the first Blessing of the Animals. It was held in May. We worked hard on cookbooks with animal treats recipes. I'm sure this one will be equally as well attended. — Thanks, Carol Dillard

Alison Verbeck

For the hard work and expertise you gave in getting the new church name and contact changes made after the disassociation. Anyone who has ever tried to just change a mailing address has only a little idea. As usual she did it with skill and a smile. — **Shirley G**

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 10/22/23:	\$13,564

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

healthy snacks, soup, oatmeal, canned beef/chicken, beef stew, canned fruit, condiments, rice, 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

Cast Your Fears (bonfire)—Saturday, Nov. 4 @ 4pm

Christian Perspectives Class—Sunday, Nov. 5 @ 9am

Communion —Sunday, Nov. 5 @ 10am

Board Meeting—Tuesday, Nov. 7 @ 7pm

Listening For God’s Voice (cemetery walk)—Saturday, Nov. 11

Christian Perspectives Class—Sunday, Nov. 12 @ 9am

Juliets’ Luncheon—Tuesday, Nov. 14 - Big Chiefs @ 11:30

Christian Perspectives Class—Sunday, Nov. 19 @ 9am

Hanging of the Greens—Sunday, Nov. 26 @ noon

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 November is as follows...

<u>Date</u>	<u>Devotion</u>	<u>Music</u>	<u>Lead</u>	<u>Prayer</u>	<u>ZOOM</u>	<u>PPT</u>
11/5	PJeff	Shirley	Diana	PJeff	TBD	TBD
11/12	PJeff	Shirley	Carolyn	PJeff	TBD	TBD
11/19	PJeff	Shirley	Don	PJeff	TBD	TBD
11/26	PJeff	Shirley	Louella	PJeff	TBD	TBD

The ZOOM & PPT Teams arrange their own schedules.

Contribution Recordkeeping Schedule

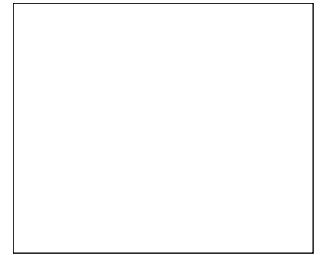
	Sheila	RuthAnne/Bert	Bert	Bert	
November	5	12	19	26	

Counters Schedule

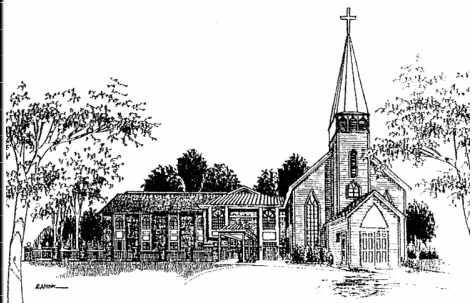
	Dale/Sheila	RuthAnne/Bert	RuthAnne/Suzi	Bert/Debbie	
Nov.	5	12	19	26	



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



**November 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.