

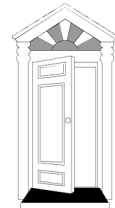


Volume 14 Number 4
May 2024

Editors: Chylene Daub/Shirley Giebel
Graphics Editor: Ginger Doherty

Heard through...

WILDWOOD CHURCH
Come Home to Bethel - Since 1858



The OPEN DOOR

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



A VERY SPECIAL SUNDAY: BAPTISMS & NEW MEMBERS JOINING BETHEL

One knew something special was happening on Sunday morning, April 14, when Pam Queen brought her family members in and filled the first three rows of pews. The family was there to see Pam's grandchildren, Hazel (age 7) and Colton (age 11) Spencer baptized. Katie Severns was also baptized. Pastor Jeff dipped the water in his hand from the baptismal fount and carried out the ceremony that means so much to everyone. The congregation joined in its' part to nurture these new followers of our Lord in their life journey.



Mike Severns and his wife began coming to Bethel one morning and kept returning. It was a special joy to have him become a member of the church and we welcome him. Of special joy was Ginger Doherty, our church secretary and active participant in so much of our church life. For all who call on Ginger or work with her, it was a very special moment to have her join the church.

A carry-in luncheon was served after service with the usual wonderful array of food and choices. A lovely day all around!

THE LIFE-SAVING ACT OF DONATING BLOOD WAS JUST ONE BENEFIT AT BETHEL HEALTH EXPO

The Healthy Living Expo, held April 20th at Bethel, was an opportunity to donate blood, and receive valuable health tips from local professionals. It was coordinated and organized by Grace D. She is a Senior Girl Scout, having been in the scouting program throughout school. She partnered with Bethel and local businesses to improve health in the community and earn the Gold Award (one of the highest awards in Girl Scouts).



Blood donations were administered by Impact Life, who have collected blood for over 50 years. Each donor was carefully screened and monitored by the staff, to ensure an exemplary experience. Also offered at the fair was a chance to have a hearing test, discuss issues with a local chiropractor, and to be reminded of household tips for safety from the Metro-West Fire Protection District. Local businesses at the expo included:

- ◆ Shirley Martka, Bethel's music leader and Christian counselor, was there to answer questions and give spiritual advice.
- ◆ Suzi Hladky, the leader of Bethel Fitness Classes each Monday and Thursday.
- ◆ Dr. Shannon Lefler, Washington University audiologist, administered hearing tests.



Shirley Martka



Suzi Hladky



Dr. Shannon Lefler

THE LIFE-SAVING ACT OF DONATING BLOOD (continued)

- ◆ Dr. Grant Nelson, a chiropractic doctor located in Wildwood, was there to discuss any questions about his service. Dr. Nelson is a military veteran; after leaving the military he decided to pursue a career in chiropractic medicine to offer drug-free healing for body pain.
- ◆ Joe Arthur, public education officer for the Metro-West FPD, demonstrated the “hands-only” method of CPR. These classes are available to those who want to learn the technique that can save lives. Class signups are online at metrowest-fire.org. They also teach the proper usage of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator), which can aid someone having a heart emergency. Bethel has one of these crucial devices located just outside the sanctuary. More classes focus on kitchen safety, how to make your home safety-conscious, and using a fire extinguisher.



Dr. Grant Nelson



Joe Arthur



Posted for all to see at the Healthy Living Expo was the quote from Impact Blood: “Your blood donation may have just saved a life. Every 2 seconds someone in the United States needs this life-saving resource.” According to Impact Blood, our blood drive resulted in 12 donations, each of which has the capacity to save three lives, meaning that our efforts have the potential to impact up to 36 patients. **Thanks for donating!**



THE LIFE-SAVING ACT OF DONATING BLOOD (continued)

“Vial of Life”

Metro West FPD has another program that could be valuable during a medical emergency at home. This is called the “Vial of Life”; it’s a way to have all of a person’s information about medical conditions and prescriptions immediately at hand when paramedics arrive. Each person fills out a detailed information sheet about themselves. Then, you fold the sheet, and place it in a bright yellow, plastic envelope with a magnet attached. You can hang the “Vial of Life” on your refrigerator. It also includes additional details about handling emergencies, the steps needed to Dial 911, what information they need, and what to do while waiting for help. This will avoid any delay in giving all pertinent information to the responders. The “Vial of Life” envelopes are free at the Metro-West FPD, and we will have a supply of them in the Bethel Church office.

The Healthy Living Expo was just one more way that Bethel Wildwood Church strives to get involved and serve the Wildwood community.



Jan Allerdissen & Katie Severns were able to smile while donating blood at the Healthy Living Expo!

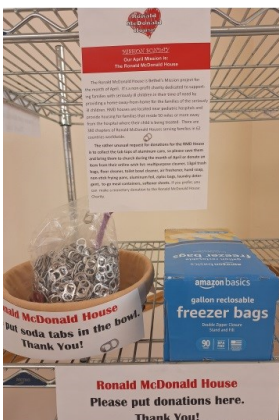
BETHEL’S MISSION PROJECTS FOR APRIL

Thanks to Bethel members, we collected quite a few aluminum tab tops for the Ronald McDonald House along with a monetary donation of \$150.

Also, we collected the following for the Girl Scouts’ April Showers:

8 rolls of toilet paper, 24 toothpaste, 42 toothbrushes, 74 razors, 100 Band-Aids, 1 mouthwash, 2 floss, 11 deodorants, 2 hairspray, 2 lotion, 42 bar soaps, 3 hand soaps, 5 body wash, 20 pads, 2 shaving creams, 1 acne wash, 5 shampoo, 3 conditioners, 7 makeup removers, 1,428 tissues

Thanks to everyone who donated!



MAY: A MONTH OF HONORS AND HISTORIC EVENTS

A check of the calendar shows National Day of Prayer; May 2, Mother's Day; May 12, and Memorial Day; May 27.



The National Day of Prayer May 2, 2024 will take its theme from the book of Colossians 2:6-7, which is a call to prayer which praises God. This special day has been around, history tells us, since the Continental Congress 1775 set aside a day of prayer. It became part of our national calendar by Congress and two Presidents: Harry Truman and Ronald Reagan. Millions of Americans are predicted to pray on this day for the United States of America and their own personal prayers.

Mother's Day 2024 is May 12. It has been an official national holiday since 1914. While mother goddesses were celebrated in Greek and Roman times, one can find that in the United States the earliest Christian honoring was called "Mothering Sunday." It was seen as a time when faithful Christians would return to the church nearest where they were living or had lived. The first Mother's Day as we know it to honor mothers and by extension relatives and friends who take on roles of mothering, "spiritual mothers" like Mary, mother of Jesus. It is a special time for gifts, flowers, phone calls and greetings to say how much we appreciate mothers and motherhood in our own personal way.



Memorial Day 2024 is Monday, May 27th. It is a much anticipated holiday weekend. It was originally known as Decoration Day. Both terms define its meaning. In the United States it is the day we honor and mourn the military personnel who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Flags are placed at the graves of those remembered and still cherished. The placing of flags has long been a tradition at Bethel. God bless our traditions.

Note: This year the flags will be placed on the graves on Saturday, May 18 @8:30 and taken down on Saturday, June 1 @8:30. Please be present at that time if you would like to help.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY MAY 5—NEVER FORGET!



Railway to the Nazi concentration & extermination camp Birkenau.

Our Christian Bible is a story of the Jewish people. Our Lord Jesus was a Jew. This reporter remembers the first photos in newspapers and newsreels of our soldiers opening the gates of Hitler's concentration camps. At the age of 12, I have never forgotten those living near human skeletons and the horrors of the gas chambers and all the rest. My heart is burdened by the outbreak of anti-Semitism on college campuses and among our young people.

St. Louis has survivors of the Holocaust. We have a wonderful resource right here—The Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum at 36 Millstone Campus Drive off North Lindbergh Blvd. Permanent Holocaust exhibitions highlight through voices and photos of the survivors telling their stories. It is a sobering, but somehow reassuring visit to never forget what happened to more than 6 million souls within our lifetime. The exhibit inspires change and resolve not to forget. I was privileged to have a bus from the facility where I now live take a group to visit the museum. I viewed everything through the eyes of a new friend who is Jewish and a docent who was very knowledgeable and answered all our questions. I encourage our church members to make a visit to understand our own Biblical history and that of our Lord and country even better.



Jewish badge worn on the clothing used to segregate Jews from the general population



Reenactment of the capture of Jews.



Piles of shoes from the deceased Jews.

BETHEL PLANT SALE RETURNS MAY 11 WITH A FELLOWSHIP HALL FULL OF BEAUTY

On Saturday, May 11, Bethel's Fellowship Hall will be overflowing with flowers, luscious green plants, vegetable plants, and more to help everyone to get their gardens started. The Annual Bethel Plant Sale will open its doors at 9 a.m. Plant sale chairman Barb Jacobs has been preparing for months, nurturing plants at her home. Many she raised from seeds and some are from cuttings off other plants such as geraniums and friendship plants.

Last year, the double petunias were popular, along with hollyhocks, corn flowers and primrose, and a variety of sunflowers. This year she has added the Mongolian giant sunflower. Indoor plants, succulents, hanging ferns and other hanging baskets will also be offered. There will be a special table for pollinator plants that will attract bees and butterflies to your yard and vegetable plants will include a variety of tomatoes, peppers and cantaloupe, herbs and more.



The plant sale relies on volunteers who help with donating plants, and potting soil, and with helping with sales on Plant Sale Saturday. Plan now to attend the sale from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and bring your friends. The sale is just in time for Mother's Day.

TAKE TIME TO RECALL A SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY MOMENT



Those cute little glasses. My mom and dad had many a chuckle over the years at my first solo shopping for a Mother's Day gift for my mom. I was 7 years old. Dad had given me money and let me wander through the dime store on my own. I found these cute little glasses and had enough money for four of them. They did their best not to laugh. I had bought four whiskey shot glasses! Thanks for letting me kick off what I hope are lots of memories of moms and everyone in your life who is in some way a mother—aunt, friend, neighbor, sister, and on and on. - Shirley Giebel

EQUINE THERAPY BEGINS WITH A LOVE OF HORSES

Some say that: “Heaven is where all the dogs you have ever loved come to greet you.” Horse lovers would add: “Those dogs will be joined by a thundering herd of horses.” There is a special bond between a horse and rider. Anyone who has ever loved a horse understands this. The horse becomes a very close friend. Equine-Assisted Therapy, Inc. is based upon this unique relationship, and they know the special qualities of the horse can be therapeutic. Equine-Assisted Therapy (EAT) is dedicated to providing therapeutic horse experiences to those with challenges and or disabilities. This special charity is Bethel’s Mission project for the month of May. We would like to send them a monetary donation to help sponsor a horse.

EAT, located just a few miles from Bethel at 3360 Highway 109 in Wildwood, is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Initially, they were located at Longview Farm Park in Town and Country where they had their first therapy classes in April, 2004. In 2010, they acquired the 25-acre property on Highway 109 and have grown in their ability to serve. They now have 160 or more riders each week, and have given 4,000 therapy sessions. Lulu Bogolin, executive director of EAT, explains that they are strictly a therapy facility. They do not board horses, and do not offer open lessons. Instead, they specialize in equine therapy for people who have physical or mental challenges such as autism, Down syndrome, multiple sclerosis, and cerebral palsy. A physician must clear the person’s ability to participate, and there is always a waiting list for people who want to come.

The equine facility on Highway 109 has a massive indoor arena and is open year-round. The satellite facility in Town and Country is open from May to September. All 16 of the EAT therapy instructors are certified in the top four certifications. Equine Therapy also holds classes to train and certify new instructors. But, not only are the instructors well trained, the horses must be trained as well. When a new horse is acquired at EAT, he goes through 3 to 6 months of training before being used in classes. The horse must have a calm demeanor.

There are 21 horses in the EAT program currently. The perfectly organized tack room has the equipment carefully labeled by the horse’s name. Each horse has both a Western and an English saddle. The horses are fitted twice a year, in the Spring and in the Fall, to be sure their saddles are just right. The tack room also has special adaptive equipment necessary for some riders. In the indoor arena, there is a lift chair for riders who need extra help to mount the horse.

Nutrition for the horses is also carefully monitored. Ms. Bogolin said they mix their own mash from the delivered ingredients, according to what their horse nutritionist recommends. There is one very special addition for some of the horses. According to the specialist, some of the older horses can benefit from having one beer a day, specifically a Guinness Stout.



The Wall of Horses portraits proudly displays the beautiful therapy horses.

EQUINE THERAPY BEGINS WITH A LOVE OF HORSES (continued)

The EAT programs include not only the therapeutic horseback riding, but also Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy, and the Silver Saddles program for those ages 55 and over who can benefit from core strengthening and muscle tone. It is believed that working with horses helps people of all ages to build confidence, to improve fine and gross motor skills, and to learn trust and respect. Participants are encouraged to stretch and sit up straight to improve core body strength. All Ages is not just a phrase. At EAT the youngest rider they have had was 18 months old, and the oldest rider was 91. They also work with veterans and first responders. They never charge for classes for veterans or for children in foster care. There is a charge for therapy classes, but often there are scholarships available, so no one is turned away because of inability to pay for a class.



Marilyn Weber enjoys a session with the Silver Seniors program at EAT. She has been riding for several years and has a special bond with her horse Ace, who is a Tennessee Walker.

How to Help Equine Therapy – Sponsor a Horse

Many of the horses in the Equine Therapy program were donated. Some were “cowboy horses” who actually worked cattle or were ropers. Some were jumpers, and several breeds are represented in the therapy horses.

Ms Bogolin says that to maintain a horse for a year with proper feed, farrier and veterinary services is about \$1,500. To meet this cost, EAT tries to find people or groups who will agree to sponsor a horse for one year. Some already have sponsors, but others are still in need. To sponsor a horse for one year, the cost is \$1,500. They also will appreciate any monetary donations. Each year they hold a “Hoedown for Hope” fund raiser with a dinner, dancing and auction in the indoor arena. This year’s event will be held Sunday, September 28.



Lulu is in the tack room. She has worked for the charity for 12 years.

Volunteers Are Most Valuable

Dedicated volunteers who give of their time are a large reason that Equine Therapy is successful, according to Ms. Bogolin. They have about 225 volunteers every week, she says. Volunteers come each morning and evening to feed the horses. They do all of the maintenance on the property, and volunteers help with all the therapy sessions. It takes three volunteers per horse to assist many of the riders. One person leads the horse, and two “side walkers.” Anyone who would like to know more about the Equine Therapy program, or would like to donate for the September “Hoedown for Hope,” can call 314-971-0605.



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT COMPLETED

Thomas Ponstingl, a local boy scout, has completed his Eagle Scout Service Project by installing a flag collection box next to our cemetery sign. If you have a worn or damaged flag that you would like to dispose of feel free to place it inside the flag box to ensure that it is retired in a dignified manner, showing respect for the flag and our country. **God bless America!**

Shirley G,

Thank you for donating postage stamps.—**Bethel Wildwood Church**



Bethel,

Thank you to everyone that came to my Healthy Living Expo, especially those who offered to roll up a sleeve to donate blood and also for the use of the Fellowship Hall for the event. Thanks again for hosting the blood drive with me.—**Grace D.**

Grace & Bethel,

Thanks for hosting such a great drive with us on Saturday! The drive resulted in twelve donations, each of which has the capacity to save three lives, meaning your efforts has the potential to impact up to 36 patients.—**Impact Life**

Shirley, Chylene & Ginger,

Thank you all for another wonderful Open Door. You all do an awesome job of bringing the good news of Bethel to everyone. —**Ruth Anne**

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: | \$13,900.00 |
| Total offerings received as of 4/28/24: | \$13,744.50 |

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

healthy snacks , cereal, canned beef/chicken, pasta sauce, canned fruit, condiments, rice, body wash, vitamins, lotion, hygiene products, cleaning products, dry pet food & litter

Please leave donations in the shopping cart next to the elevator. Thank you!

On The Calendar @ Bethel

- Bethel Fitness**—Mondays & Thursdays @ 9am
- Music Ministry Practice**—Tuesdays @ 3pm
- Crafters & Prayer Shawl Warriors**—Thursdays @ 9:30am
- Communion**—Sunday, May 5 @ 10am
- Board Meeting**—Tuesday, May 7 @ 7pm
- Plant Sale**—Saturday, May 11 @ 9-1pm
- Juliets' Luncheon**—Tuesday, May 14 @ 11:30 - Big Chiefs
- Memorial Day flag placement**—Saturday, May 18 @8:30
- Equine Assisted Therapy Mission ends**—Sunday, May 26
- Memorial Day (observed)**—Monday, May 27

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 May is as follows...

| Date | Devotion | Music | Lead | Prayer | ZOOM | PPT |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 5/5 | PJeff | Shirley | Patricia | PJeff | TBD | TBD |
| 5/12 | PJeff | Shirley | Diana | PJeff | TBD | TBD |
| 5/19 | PJeff | Shirley | Barb | PJeff | TBD | TBD |
| 5/26 | PJeff | Shirley | Louella | PJeff | TBD | TBD |

The ZOOM & PPT Teams arrange their own schedules.

Contribution Recordkeeping Schedule

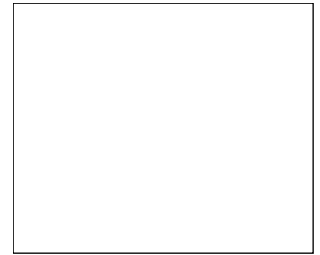
| | Sheila | RuthAnne/Bert | Bert | Bert |
|------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| May | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |

Counters Schedule

| | Dale/Sheila | RuthAnne/Bert | RuthAnne/Suzi | Bert/Debbie |
|------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| May | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |



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



**May 2024
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.