

Bethel United Church of Christ
6650 Elizabeth Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48327
(248) 682 9240



Bethel United Church of Christ April 2011 Newsletter

Our Mission Statement:

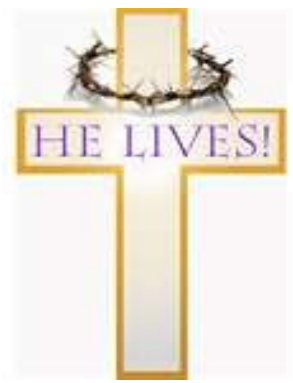
We are seeking the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit,
and the faithful response of our congregation to:

- Spread God's Word,
- Reach out to the community and world by
imitating Christ's service,
- Share the comfort of knowing Jesus Christ, and
- Grow in the knowledge and love of God in Christ.

Web site – www.BethelUCCwat.org

e-mail BethelUCCwat@sbcglobal.net

From Pastor's Desk



Pastor's Message – April 2011

I read a story recently about two oak trees. One stood right on the edge of the prairie. The other, surrounded by water, grew from a bog in the spring hole. Each year when the fires came sweeping across the plains, the Prairie Edge Oak lost its leaves and was badly scarred on its ugly and increasingly twisted trunk... But the Springhole Oak, surrounded and protected by water, remained pure and beautiful and lovely. "You're a disgrace to the rest of us, the Springhole Oak said to the deformed Prairie Edge Oak."

But then came the winter of the rabbits, and with their voracious gnawing, the hungry little beasts lit into the trunks of the two trees. The scarred, thick layers of the Prairie Edge Oak were impossible to break through. And so the homely tree was spared destruction. But when the rabbits hopped over to the Springhole Oak, the little tree that had seen neither trial nor tribulation was sweet and soft to the touch—and was soon ripped apart by sharp little teeth. The Prairie Edge Tree survived one more year and grew ever stronger despite its scars. But the Springhole Oak slowly withered of its wounds. And finally, since it had never known adversity, it died.

This month we begin our journey towards the heart of our Christian faith. A season that the world does not understand. A season that we don't exactly understand. Jesus dies for our sins? Through the suffering and blood of the cross we inherit eternal life? What, exactly, does all of this mean? Well, after all these years, I still have searching questions – particularly about the sin and the blood parts. But the suffering part? That makes a whole lot of sense. Scarred and tenacious, with love in his eyes, Jesus enters and endures and survives adversity. And he proves without a shadow of a doubt that nothing in all of life and in death can separate us from the love of God.

While reflecting on Jesus' journey to the cross, the story came to mind of the parable of the vineyard stewards found in Matthew 21 and Mark 12, in which we hear judgment spoken to those who killed the landowner's son. However when I compare this story to what Jesus represents, I see a different side of God – one of a forgiving Father, ready to restore relationship with God as we turn in repentance. And, maybe this love is also evidenced in how God concluded the story of Jesus' death. Instead of leaving Jesus in the tomb, God raised him from the dead, defeating death and sin and all of the evil intentions the world could throw at him in the process. Again we're reminded of how God operates: Not with killing and wiping people out, but with Love and Life; a powerful testament and display of God's almighty and enduring love.

So my friends, as we approach Easter, remember that even creation witnesses to the strength and perseverance of the process of dying and resurrecting unto new life. I see that evidence in the Iris and Daffodil bulbs I planted several years ago. Each winter they take a beating from the freezing blasts we endure throughout our Michigan winter months. Then, faithfully each spring, they push through the barely thawed ground to reveal – life!

Let these things be a reminder for us in our own Lenten journeys. And remember: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." (Jas. 1:3-4) And, "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus." (Rom. 6:8-11)

May the Love and Joy of the Risen Christ be yours,

Pastor Diane

Bethel United Church of Christ
6650 Elizabeth Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48327

Office: 248.682.9240
Email: bethelucwat@sbcglobal.net
Web: www.betheluccwat.org

Pastor: Diane Baker
Organist: Teri Lynn Barnaby
Secretary: Kimberly Eve
Custodian: Renee Ingsbee

Ushers

Ed and Joan Matthews

Greeter

Rose Sanok

Communion Servers

Shirley Milligan, Dorothy Sherrit,
Dean Baker, Lance Shew

Council Members

Lance Shew President
Gary Bussard Financial Sec.
Jane Ellen Bussard Treasurer
Nola Shew Recording Secretary

Council Liaisons

Chris Eve
Property
Shirley Milligan & Dorothy Sherrit
Missions/ Christian Education
Rita Milner
Finance
Council at Large
Fellowship/ Membership/ Worship

Pastoral Relations Committee:
Nola Shew, Shirley Milligan,
Virginia Hudnell, Kim Eve, Pastor
Diane, Rita Milner and Lee Collins

Mission of the Month

Power Company Kids Club



Military Prayer Requests

Sr. Medical Technician Penny Barker
Staff Sergeant Nicholas Barker
SPC Benjamin Duhamel
PV2 Eric Stewart
HM1 Michelle Teschner
—1st Class Petty Officer
SGT. Brandon Yarbrough
PFC Robert Yarbrough
SGT. Jeffrey Bussard

Bethel Ministry of Prayer

Here at Bethel

Lillian Bailey, Bettie Kluesner,
Kathy Petrik, Chris Struthers
Mardell Williams, Peggy Austin
Les Hotchkiss
Iris Davis

Bethel Friends

Todd Hensel,
Pat Howell (Shirley Milligan's Sister)
Ryan Morrissey, Betty Jean Mulanix,
Carol Shew
Joe D. (Friend of Paul Crook)
Ralph & Diane Mueller
Nancy McNeff (friend of Dot)
Bill Cote (Cousin to Karen Crook)
Dave and Kathy Barker



Every living creature with a heart beating in its chest wants friends. I dare say NEEDS friends! We can understand the human need for friends. Someone to take care of, to share with and love, but humans are not the only beings with interspecies friends. In North Attleboro, Massachusetts

Walter and Ann Caletto were sitting on their front porch when they noticed a stray kitten about 3 or 4 months old. They had always had cats for pets but were without one at this time. While thinking about bringing this one into their home they heard and saw a crow near the kitten. Birds and cats are supposed to be enemies but this crow seemed to be taking care of the kitten. They played together in Caletto's back yard and the crow cawed loudly when the kitten was in the road. Even pushing the kitten with its beak to the side out of the road. Later Ann saw Cassie, the name she had given the kitten, laying in the yard and the crow looked like it was feeding the kitten, picking worms and other particles from the ground and poking them in Cassie's mouth. Ann had been putting out water for the two friends for over a week. She decided to see what would happen if she put out cat food for the kitten. Cassie loved it and would allow the crow to grab bites from the dish. The crow seemed to understand that this was cat food and was content to share a bit of it as the kitten had shared the worms from the crow. Ann and Walter started letting Cassie in the house to sleep and eat but each morning the loud cawing at the back door and mewing in the kitchen signaled the two unlikely friends wanted to be together.

In an animal preserve 'Doc' Antle takes the elephant, Mocha for a walk every day. Often Angela, his associate, and Surya, the orangutan, go with them. One day the three of them were walking down this lane to the river, where the elephant takes a bath. Out of the forest comes this worn out hound dog. Surya and the hound make eye contact. The orangutan jumps off the elephant and runs over to the dog and they hug like long lost friends. The rest of this trip they play together in the forest and the river. When they get back to the compound, Doc assumes the dog would leave them and go find his pack. They say, "Nice to meet you buddy. Now go find your home." They shut the front gate. Now the compound has a fence all around it but it is not all that secure. The hound dog goes around to the back and finds a hole it can squeeze through. He goes to the orangutan habitat where Surya was eating monkey biscuits. The orangutan breaks the biscuit in half and starts feeding the obviously very hungry dog. Now Doc and Angela know they will have to keep the hound dog whom they have named Roscoe. Roscoe and Surya can play everyday rolling around on the ground and hugging each other. Orangutans have this incredible thing and that is sharing. When Angela feeds Surya, the orangutan has to give half of it to Roscoe. Doc describes the orangutans as very generous. If you give an orangutan a candy, more often than not, he will break the candy in half and hand half back to you.

For those of you who have a computer with internet service, open your browser and type in www.youtube.com Then in the search window put "Unlikely Friends". Click on unlikely friends and you will find videos of Cassie and the crow and Roscoe and Surya. There are others also, that you might want to check out.

Nola WFIM

Youseetimmy: True love is neither physical nor romantic. True love is an acceptance of all that is, has been, will be, and will not be.

Council News, April 2011

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Diane is attending the Lenten Noon Services so she will have a feel of how to prepare for the one she is preaching at April 13. (Mark your calendars; April 13, 12:00, at the four Towns United Methodist Church.) Diane has also had conversations with Rev. Thom Webster concerning her requirements for ordination. A portable communion set has been ordered so that Pastor can share communion with our shut-ins when she visits.

Finance:

Pastor reported that pledge cards have been sent to members who are out of town. The finance Committee dropped the ball for not getting this done last fall but late is usually better than never.

Mission / Christian Ed:

The February mission was Grace Centers of Hope- D. Sherrit reported that there were lots of food items, canned and dried goods, cereals etc. There were lots of clothing items along with several toiletry items and a bag of infant toys. \$70 was also collected. The Center was very appreciative of these things

The March mission was One Great Hour of Sharing.

In April, the mission will be the Power Company Kids Club. This organization is located in Pontiac and provides summer camps with Bible study for kids. They also provide tutoring for children during the school year. Dot Sherrit and Shirley Milligan plan to visit the organization for a firsthand look.

The committee is going to contact the UCC offices to find out if there are any disaster relief funds that could help Haiti, New Zealand or possibly Japan.

Fellowship / Membership / Worship:

Greeter for April:	Rose Sanok
Ushers for April:	Ed and Joan Matthews
Communion servers April 3:	Shirley Milligan, Dot Sherrit Dean Baker, Lance Shew

The council complemented Pastor Diane on her first Ash Wednesday service.

The April Ladies Luncheon will be on the 14th, at the Lion's Den hosted by Kim Eve.

The April adult dinner will be on the 28th. Location TBD after March's dinner. (And we know who was last to arrive.)

Bethel will host the Lenten Luncheon on April 6. Nola Shew is coordinating the lunch preparation. See the signup sheet in the middle room if you can help.

Pastor Diane and Teri Barnaby are planning a Good Friday "Memorial Service".

Property:

Have you noticed the new parsonage mailbox, yet? (I didn't until it was pointed out to me. I guess I was "looking" but not "seeing".)

A new receiver for the front sanctuary fan has been received. As soon as it gets installed, the fan will reverse the same as the back fan.

A request to hold a wedding reception in our fellowship hall set the council to working on a suggested donation schedule for non-members who want to use the building for meetings, receptions, parties, etc. This subject has been discussed in the past but

Continued

no definitive decision made. A schedule needs to be prepared and kept in the office so Kim will have information should someone inquire.

Other items discussed:

Be sure to visit our new website, <http://betheluccwat.org>. Take a look!

Staff pictures still need to be taken and put on our website. (I have been derelict in my picture taking duty.)

The church is still working on preserving our pictorial history. Come see who you can identify in the many, many pictures we have.

Pastor has identified two seminars in May that she is interested in possibly attending, one in N. Carolina and the other in Minneapolis.

Lance Shew, Council President

p.s. Just a reminder that all are welcome to attend the Council meetings.

Missions

The Grace Centers of Hope received our February donations of loads of clothing, which included coats, pants, tops, and various other items. In addition there were cans of fruits, soups, tuna, peanut butter, pastas and oatmeal. Also toiletries such as deodorant, shampoo, a bag of toys for toddlers and \$70.00 in cash. They really appreciated our generous gifts.

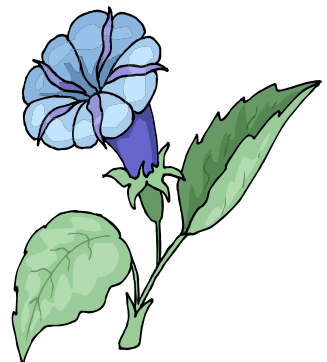
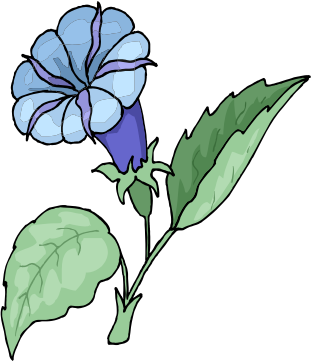
Our April mission will be centered on the Power Company Kids Club, of Pontiac. This group does so much for the children, such as after-school tutoring twice a week and a Saturday morning and an afternoon club meeting, which involves a bible story, fun and games, and occasionally a field trip. This serves at least 500 children. They also have a summer day camp for 350 or more. All this takes quite a bit of money, which is dependent only on donations. This sounds like a good investment, so let's all help.

Mission Committee
Shirley Milligan
Dorothy Sherrit

Benevolent Contributions thru February

Altar Flowers	6.00
Baldwin Center	55.00

Gary Bussard
Financial Secretary





MEMORIALS



TO THE HONOR AND GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

March Memorials

In Remembrance

Tom Robert Bussard
Born: August 10, 1957
Died: March 10, 1988

Bob Wellemeyer
In Honor of his birthday
Born: March 20, 1922
Died: March 27, 2000

Bob Wellemeyer
Born: March 20, 1922
Died: March 27, 2000

Presented By

Jane Ellen Bussard

Jamie Wellemeyer
(Bob's daughter)

His wife Mary Wellemeyer
and family

April



Mr. & Mrs. George Edwards
April 09, 1950

Rita Milner	4/02
Donita Bussard	4/05
Les Hotchkiss	4/06
Diane Baker	4/14
Jane Ellen Bussard	4/16



**The 2011 Annual Waterford Ministerial Association
Lenten Devotional and Luncheon Schedule is included in this newsletter for
those who are interested in attending!
This schedule is also posted on the bulletin board at Bethel**

**MONDAY, APRIL 11TH
THERE IS A COUNCIL MEETING
AT
6:00 PM**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20TH
THERE IS A PASTORAL
RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING AT 1:00 PM.**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH
IS
BLOOD PRESSURE SUNDAY
DON'T FORGET TO PLAN ON SEEING CRAIG,
AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE, TO HAVE YOUR
BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKED**

**COME JOIN US TO SAY FAREWELL
TO GARY BUSSARD!
Sunday, May 1, 2011; 12-4 pm
Here at Bethel!
Invitations are being sent!**



**Mark your calendars for the next
Adult fellowship dinner
Thursday, April 28, 2011, at 6:00 pm**

**Hosted By: Dean & Diane Baker
At: Dave & Amy's**



**PASTOR DIANE AND TERI
BARNABY ARE PLANNING A
MEMORIAL SERVICE, TO TAKE
PLACE HERE AT BETHEL AT 1:00
PM ON GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND.
WATCH THE WEEKLY BULLETINS
FOR MORE DETAILS!**

**Ladies luncheon is Thursday,
April 14th at 12:30**

**Hosted By: Kim Eve
At: Lions Den**

WATERFORD MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

2011 ANNUAL LENTEN

DEVOTIONAL AND LUNCHEON SERIES

Wednesdays of the Lenten Season

Worship at 12:00 pm and Luncheon at 12:30 pm

2011 Annual Waterford Ministerial Association

Lenten Devotional and Luncheon Schedule

Worship at 12:00pm - Luncheon at 12:30 pm

(Free Will Offering)

Wednesday, March 30th

Canterbury on the Lake Episcopal Church

5601 Hatchery Rd.

Worship Leader: Rev. James Kellermann

Central United Methodist Church

Wednesday, April 6th

Bethel United Church of Christ

6670 Elizabeth Lake Rd.

Worship Leader: Rev. William Hale

Canterbury on the Lake Episcopal Church

Wednesday, April 13th

Four Towns United Methodist Church

6451 Cooley Lake Rd.

Worship Leader: Rev. Diane Baker

Bethel United Church of Christ

For those who came to the Ash Wednesday dinner that was done by Craig and Teri, I'm sure you remember the wonderful dessert that was served. For those of you who were not able to attend, this recipe is highly recommended, especially for the chocolate lover.

Chocolate Melting Cake

Recipe By: Carnival Cruise Lines
Serving Size: 25 Servings
Categories: Desserts

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Ingredient</u>
---------------	----------------	-------------------

2 lb	semisweet chocolate	1/2 pound (1 cup) sugar
2 lb	butter	2/3 pound (2&2/3 cup) flour
19 1/2	fresh eggs (1/2 egg = 2Tbsp.)	

Melt chocolate & butter in large pan. Beat the eggs together with a whisk add the sugar. To half the egg & sugar mixture, add flour. Then add the balance of the egg and Sugar mixture. Add the melted chocolate & butter mixture. Pour into the ramekin cups (about 1/2 to 3/4 full).

Preheat oven to 200 degrees F. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes.

Dust with powdered sugar and serve with vanilla ice cream in 2 oz. ramekin cups.

For 6 servings

1 1/3 cup or 1/2 lb. semisweet chocolate Chips	5 eggs
1 cup or 2 sticks butter	1/4 heaping cup sugar
	2/3 cups flour

Preheat oven to 200 degrees F. Melt chocolate & butter in a Pyrex 2 quart measuring bowl. Set aside. Beat eggs & sugar together with a whisk. To half the mixture add the flour. Mix well then add the rest of the egg & sugar mixture. Add the melted chocolate & butter mixture. Mix well and pour into six ramekin cups. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes. Dust with powdered sugar and serve with vanilla ice cream.



Easter Joy

Jesus came to earth
To show us how to live,
How to put others first,
How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work,
That God sent Him to do;
He took our punishment on
Himself;
He made us clean and new.

He could have saved Himself,
Calling angels from above,
But He chose to pay our price for sin'
He paid it out of love.

Our Lord dies on Good Friday,
But the cross did not destroy,
His resurrection on Easter morn
That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death,
Like His, is just a rest.
We'll be forever with Him
In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus,
Think of Him in all we do.
Thank you Savior; Thank You Lord.
Help us love like You!

By Joanna Fuchs

For more beautiful Christian poetry by
Joanna Fuchs
Visit: www.poemsource.com

The Easter Story

Jesus came to compensate
For all the wrongs we do.
He came to earth to die for us,
So we'd be born anew.

"This bitter cup, let it pass from me,"
He cried, in a plaintive voice;
"Yet not MY will, but Thine be done;"
He said, in His faithful choice.

The Judas kiss would seal his fate;
He faced a hostile crowd;
The governor, Pilate, saw through it all;
Jesus' guilt he disavowed.

"I wash my hands of all of this,"
Said Pilate, "let Him be."
But the crowd yelled "Crucify Him now,
And set Barabbas free!"

Pilate yielded to their wish'
And Jesus was led away.
The soldiers beat him, and mocked Him, too,
Yet He continued to obey.

A crown of thorns lay on His head,
As His sentence was carried out;
His hands and feet were pierced with nails,
But He did not scream or shout.

"Father, forgive them for this crime;
They know not what they do."
He said this despite His torment, because,
He was thinking of me and you.

"It is finished," he sighed in His anguish and pain,
As His body gave up to death.
The curtain tore, and darkness fell,
After He took His last breath.

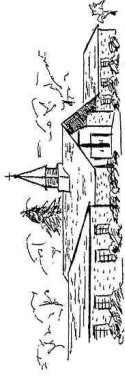
The best of the story is the very last part;
It's why on Easter we're filled with pleasure.
Death could not our Savior hold;
His power is beyond all measure.

He rose from the grave, and was seen all around;
Ever since, He's inspired devotion,
And we'll be with Him for eternity,
When we get our heavenly promotion.

That's why Easter is a major event:
He suffered and died in our place.
He rose and forgave us and loves us still,
Our Savior of matchless grace.

By Joanna Fuchs

April 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Choir 9:30	4	5 QQ 9 -1	6 Lent service Bethel UCC	7	8	9
10 BP Sunday Choir 9:30	11 Council 6pm Meeting	12 Knitters 6-9 pm QQ 9 -1	13 Lent service See schedule	14 Ladies Luncheon 12:30 Lions Den	15	16
17 Palm Sunday Choir 9:30	18 First night of Passover	19 QQ 9 -1	20 P.R.C. Meeting 1 pm	21 Maundy Thurs- day	22 Good Fri- day. Memorial service 1:00	23 Holy Saturday
24 Easter Sunday Choir 9:30	25	26 Knitters 6-9 pm QQ 9-1	27	28 Adult dinner 6pm Dave & Amy's	29	30
					** Location to be Announced	