

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



# Bethel United Church of Christ February 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](http://www.BethelUCCwat.org)**

**e-mail [BethelUCCwat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:BethelUCCwat@sbcglobal.net)**

# Pastor's Letter

February 2011 – Pastor's Message

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I hold you in my heart as I write this message. At this moment I am enjoying the warm temperatures in Hawaii, specifically here on the island of Maui. I realize this news may evoke slight pangs of covetousness for some but the fact of my location has allowed me to reflect on the effects of place in our lives. When we hear about the good fortune some may be encountering at the moment, we may automatically desire to be in that place too, instead of in our current situation. (For instance, hearing about people who have won mega-millions in the lotto naturally gets us thinking of all the things we would do with the money if we would be so fortunate to encounter such a wind-fall.)

As we ponder this process, let us also consider how the place we inhabit now in our lives will change. Those of us who hold the place of vacation at this time will return to hold the place of work; those who are in a place of work will move eventually to the place of vacation (or to the place of retirement...a place where many of us who work long to be at times!) We can see this rhythm too as we look back on our lives. Consider our health: Each of us can recall a time when we have been ill, then remember how we moved back to a place of health (perhaps seeing this pattern happen several times) and so on.

As I think about place in this manner, I also reflect on the question, "As we move from place to place in our lives, how do we see God in each of these places?" If we are intentional in our observation, we notice that God's "ways" are different in each place. We can see God's ability to "scatter the frost like ashes" (Ps. 147:16) when we are in a cold place. By comparison, we can see God's praises being lifted up as we observe a pounding surf in a place like Jaws, where 30+ foot waves are not uncommon (much to the delight of surfers.) Psalm 93:3 says, "The seas have lifted up, O LORD, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves." This verse has a very different meaning when you actually see (and hear) these awesome waves crash in.

Likewise, God's ways will look much different while lying on the beach than they do lying in a hospital bed. Nevertheless, God is still present in each circumstance. Are we able to see God's presence in each event? Are we able to discern just where God is in each of the moments of our lives? Maybe we need to begin by looking at *how* we look for God in these moments. Psalm 53:2 says that "God looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God." How do we seek (or see) God in each moment?

As I close, I am reminded anew how temporary the places we hold now in our lives truly are. By the time you read this, I will be back home in the chilly climate of Michigan. A new place to see God and realize how different God looks with mittens on!

Blessings and aloha,

Pastor Diane

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***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**

**Lance and Nola Shew**

**Greeter**

**Rose Sanok**

**Communion Servers**

**Shirley Milligan, Jane Ellen Bussard,  
Gary Bussard, Rita Milner**

**Council Members**

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

**Council Liaisons**

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

**Mission of the Month**

**Grace Center  
Of  
Hope**

**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 & Marge Hotchkiss**

**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)**

## February No-Gossip Column



Do you know that you have only one birthday in your whole life? And it isn't even numbered! What we call birthdays are really anniversaries of your birth. I have been thinking, lately, of these deep subjects and facts of life and of things we take for granted. In the early days of our country babies had a hard time surviving. When a child reach its first birthday there was a celebration because the baby had made it. Now he / she was stronger and could survive for another year which brought about another birthday celebration. A birthday cake has been an integral part of the birthday celebration since the middle of the 19th century in this country. However, the intertwining of cakes and birthday celebrations stretch back to the Ancient Romans. Jesus may have had several birthday celebrations but the cake was usually for the very rich.

We understand why we celebrate little kids birthday but to celebrate older folks I have a theory. God loves each and everyone of us and we need to feel that special individual attention at least once a year. What better time than the anniversary of your birth. I got tired of researching "birthdays" before I got to the singing, candles, and blowing out in one breath, but I'm sure there is a very good reason for all of those practices.

In February there are two of our well known presidential birthdays. The anniversary of George Washington's birth is the twenty second of February and Abraham Lincoln's is February 12th. We celebrate the anniversary of their births because they were great men. They were Christians and depended on God to sustain them when hard decisions had to be made. I admire Lincoln and the many quotes that were attributed to him. The Gettysburg Address was written on the back of an envelope on the way to Gettysburg and Mr. Lincoln thought the people didn't like it because there was no applause when he finished. But the people were so awed by the words that to applaud would be like applauding at the end of a prayer. For our Youseetimmy this month I have used a few quotes from Mr. Lincoln.

Nola WFIM

Youseetimmy:

**You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift. \* You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. \* You cannot help the wage earners by pulling down the wage payers. \* You cannot further the brotherhood of man by encouraging class hatred. \* You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich. \* You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than you make. \* You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence. \* You cannot help man permanently by doing for them what they should and could do for themselves. \* You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today. \* You have to do your own growing no matter how tall your grandfather was.**

***Abraham Lincoln***

## Council News, February 2011

### **Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Diane attended a recent meeting of the Waterford Ministerial Association. She plans to again have Bethel involved with the Lenten Noon services which will begin in March. She reported that she has not yet received her license from the local association. But in talking with some of her associates who have recently been licensed, it seems that the licensing process takes a long time. She is hopeful that the paperwork is moving along. In the meantime, her colleague, Rev. Mathew Jackson who will be with us for two Sundays, will serve communion both times.

### **Finance:**

The council finally was presented with the proposed budget for 2011. Discussion involved reimbursing Pastor Diane for health insurance. The budget was approved with the addition of an amount for her reimbursement.

The finance committee is to meet to decide on an amount needed from the Legacy Fund for support during 2011. The Congregation will be asked to approve the support at the Congregational meeting.

Pledge cards will be sent to out-of-town members in early February.

19 pledges have been received so far with a total of \$31640.

### **Mission / Christian Ed:**

Gloves, mittens and hats were delivered to Beaumont school on January 10. The School said the timing was excellent because a lot of kids lose gloves and hats over the holidays.

I hope everyone enjoyed a very Soupy Sunday potluck.

The mission focus for February will be Grace Centers of Hope. Dot Sherrit and Shirley Milligan are going to contact them to find out what will help most, food, clothing, etc.

Kathy Petrik reported that the children are enjoying Sunday School. She has found a multi-age curriculum that she wants to use. She also plans to have some fun nights at the church with games and snacks so the children can invite friends and parents can have a few hours respite. Snacks are a part of Sunday School (surprise, surprise). Kathy could use some help with juice and goodies to eat.

### **Fellowship / Membership / Worship:**

Greeter for February:

Rose Sanok

Ushers for February:

Nola & Lance Shew

Communion servers February 6:

Shirley Milligan, Jane Bussard

Rita Milner, Gary Bussard

“Un-hanging” of the Greens on January 8 went very well with the decorations being stored in boxes that were labeled better than ever. Maybe we won't have to trust our fuzzy memories so much next Christmas. Everyone thought the soup luncheon was absolutely delicious. The only thing we might change is to start at 10:00 instead of 9:00 – YEA! Another hour to sleep on a Saturday The Ladies Luncheon –It was suggested that the date be changed to the second Thursday to be further from the Adult Dinner. The council said OK since the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday are adjacent in April and July this year. So the next lunch will be February 10. The Adult dinner will still be the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday. Next one on February 25.

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**Property:**

The boiler (furnace) has been inspected so we are safe for another year.  
A note from Renee indicated that the vacuum is on its last gasp. It is making weird noise and creating a bad odor. Since it is over 10 years old, the council asked Renee to find out the cost of a suitable replacement. A new vacuum is more than likely in our future.  
Look for a new mail box for the parsonage. The rusty one is useable but ugly.

**Legacy Fund:**

The Legacy Fund will be asked to support Bethel's General Fund again in 2011.

**Other items discussed:**

Be sure to visit our new website, <http://betheluccwat.org>. Take a look!  
The office computer is still in need of an overhaul. It will hopefully get done in the near future.  
Blood pressure clinic is February 13.

New Council Organization:

President: Lance Shew  
Secretary: Rita Milner  
Financial Secretary: Nola Shew (after Gary Bussard leaves)  
Treasurer: Jane Bussard

Shirley Milligan  
Dot Sherrit  
Chris Eve  
Kim Eve  
Pastor Diane

A Pastoral Relations Committee is being formed to provide support for Pastor Diane and liaison between the congregation and the pastor. Kim Eve, Shirley Milligan and Nola Shew have offered to serve on the committee. One more member from the congregation at large is needed.

Lance Shew, Council President

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

## Missions

In December we supplied Christmas dinner and gifts to a family of five, which was referred by Beaumont School. In all, there were a dozen presents, canned & packaged food, plus \$100.00 gift card from Krogers to purchase meat and other foods needed. The children were wide-eyed upon seeing all the brightly wrapped gifts, and the mother was positively over-whelmed and so-oo appreciative.

Also in December, we collected money for the Christmas Fund for the retired pastors. And the Lady's Christmas Luncheon donations went to Haven House.


The January donations of soups and other items will be delivered to the Baldwin Center.

Our February mission is to supply Grace Centers of Hope with needed items such as cleaning supplies, grooming necessities, diapers, good used clothing, and canned foods.

Mission Committee  
Shirley Milligan  
Dorothy Sherrit

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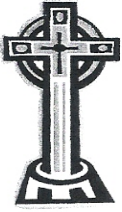
### **Benevolent Contributions thru December**



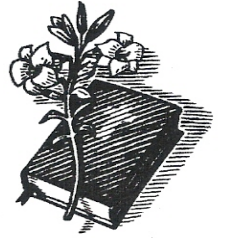
|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Altar Flowers</b>                     | <b>23.00</b>  |
| <b>Baldwin Center</b>                    | <b>120.00</b> |
| <b>Open Door</b>                         | <b>150.00</b> |
| <b>Haiti Relief</b>                      | <b>120.00</b> |
| <b>O.G.H.S.</b>                          | <b>120.00</b> |
| <b>Grace Centers of Hope</b>             | <b>155.00</b> |
| <b>Penny Baker Care Package</b>          | <b>286.00</b> |
| <b>Open Door/ Julie K./ Thanksgiving</b> | <b>420.00</b> |
| <b>Light House</b>                       | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>School Supplies</b>                   | <b>80.00</b>  |
| <b>Crop Walk</b>                         | <b>301.00</b> |
| <b>Haven</b>                             | <b>105.00</b> |
| <b>Christmas Fund</b>                    | <b>228.00</b> |
| <b>Beaumont Family Christmas</b>         | <b>70.00</b>  |
| <b>Women's Christmas Lunch</b>           | <b>107.00</b> |

**Gary Bussard**  
**Financial Secretary**





# MEMORIALS



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

*January Memorials*

In Remembrance

Presented By

# FEBRUARY



**A couple of birthdays were missed in January:**

**Craig Barnaby 1/30**

**Ruby Sey 1/29**

**Sorry guys and Happy Belated Birthday!!**

**Bill Bussard 2/02**

**Jim Nicklow 2/02**

**Jeff Spurier 2/04**

**Kathy Petrik 2/17**

**Mr. and Mrs. Lance Shew  
February 06, 1960**

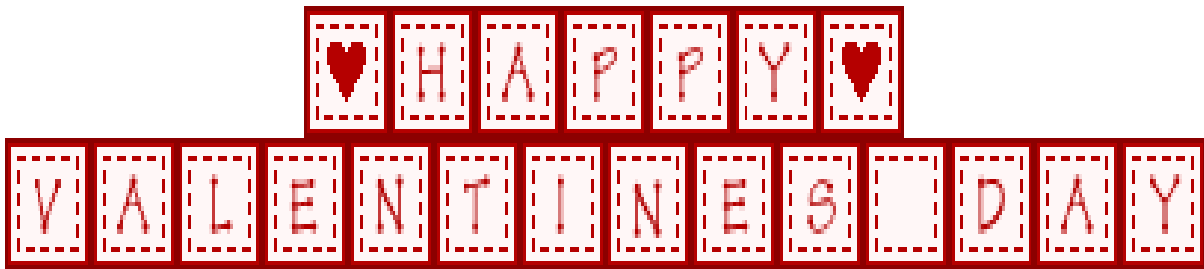


## **Flowers**

**Gary Bussard  
Happy Birthday  
By  
Bill and Donita Bussard**



**Bill Bussard  
Happy Birthday  
By  
Donita, Gary, Bonnie & Norbe**



**HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW WEBSITE YET?  
BE SURE TO VISIT US THERE AT:**

**[Www.betheluccwat.org](http://www.betheluccwat.org)**

**WHILE YOUR THERE VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TOO!  
GO TO THE MENU BAR AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE CLICK ON THE  
MEDIA TAB AND GO TO FACEBOOK.  
ENTER YOUR COMMENTS OR RESPOND TO SOMEONE ELSE'S  
HAVE FUN!**

**BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH  
12:30 PM  
THE FEBRUARY LADIES LUNCH**

**Hosted by: Lance and Nola Shew**

**The ladies luncheon day has been moved  
to the second Thursday of the month**

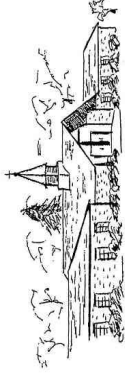
**We have a new group of ladies and  
Gentlemen that are using the fellowship  
hall.**

**Waterford Area Knitters and Crocheters  
They meet every other Tuesday evening  
from 6 - 9 pm.**

**Their meetings started on January 18th.  
Anyone who is interested is welcome to  
join in.**

**Mark your calendars for the next adult fellowship dinner!  
Friday, February 25, 2011  
6:00 pm**

# February 2011



| Sun                               | Mon                          | Tue                              | Wed   | Thu                         | Fri                                  | Sat |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|
|                                   |                              | 1<br>Knitters 6-9 pm<br>QQ 9-1   | 2<br>Life Line<br>Screening<br>Grace Church | 3                           | 4                                    | 5   |
| 6<br>Annual meeting<br>Choir 9:30 | 7                            | 8<br>QQ 9 -1                     | 9   | 10<br>Ladies Lunch<br>12:30 | 11                                   | 12  |
| 13                                | 14<br>Council 6pm<br>Meeting | 15<br>Knitters 6-9 pm<br>QQ 9 -1 | 16  | 17                          | 18                                   | 19  |
| 20<br>Bp Sunday<br>Choir 9:30     | 21                           | 22<br>QQ 9 -1                    | 23  | 24                          | 25<br>Adult fellowship<br>Dinner 6pm | 26  |
| 27<br>Potluck                     | 28                           |                                  |   |                             |                                      |     |
|                                   |                              |                                  |   |                             | **Location to be<br>Announced        |     |