

## PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in extending friendship to someone you have known for a long time and/or someone you don't know well.
- Praise God for Shirley King's testimony of faith shared through her 'celebration of life' service last week. Remember her family and friends in prayer as they mourn her death.
- Kyle V. invites our prayers for Alex and Joe, 16-year-old twins, and their family as Alex is living with kidney disease. Pray for those who are dealing with long-term illnesses, including Jan, Paul, Jeanette, Ron King, Patrick Stanton, and others you know.
- Pray for God's wisdom and leading in the work of Bethel's Gifts Discernment committee. Give thanks for the variety of talents present in our congregation. Turn your prayer into action this week by expressing thanks to a fellow Bethelite for their presence and participation in our life together.
- The Mennonite Church of Angola (west-central Africa) has about 15,000 members and 30 ordained pastors. Pray for the three women who are preparing for ordination to serve in these churches, as well as the three additional women who are waiting for funding to study in preparation for ministry.

Bethel Mennonite Church 937- 465-4587  
P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street [www.bethelchurchwl.org](http://www.bethelchurchwl.org)  
West Liberty, OH 43357  
**Pastor: Rebecca Kauffman** ([Rebecca@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:Rebecca@bethelchurchwl.org))  
Home Phone (937) 887-8151  
**Office hours:** T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,  
W & Th 1:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment  
**Office Assistant:** Twila Wilkins  
**Leadership Team:** Elaine Newcomer, Carol Buck, Byron Kauffman,  
Ken Shank, Jeanie Swartz

# Bethel Mennonite Church

*“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”*

Vol. 66

August 11, 2024

No. 31

*Biblical Wisdom*

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

You have heard people say, “Love your neighbors and hate your enemies. But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you. Then you will be acting like your father in heaven.

Matthew 5:43-45a (CEV)

Call to worship

Hymns: Come, Christians, Join to Sing – VT #28

We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer – VT #34

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for their labor:

**If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.**

**But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.**

Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.

But how can one keep warm alone?

**Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.**

**A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.**

Offering & prayer

Scripture: Proverbs 17:9, 17; 18:24; 20:6; 22:24-25; 27:5-6, 10, 17

Message: Friendship: we really do need each other

Response hymn: I Bind My Heart This Tide – VT #556

Sharing: reflections on the scripture, joys, requests, testimony  
Intercessory prayer

Sending hymn: Blest Be the Tie – VT #831

Benediction

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Women Serving in Love** meets this Tuesday, beginning at 9:30. Beach party theme! Hostesses: Judy and Kyle. Women with last names beginning with M-Z bring salads for lunch. NOTE: We will begin with devotions at 11:30 (by Isla and Elin Leichty), have lunch and then continue our meeting agenda. Project: School kits.

**Note:** There are a couple **audio CDs** of Shirley King’s ‘celebration of life’ service to borrow if you missed the service.

Information & pre-order prices for **the Anabaptist Community Bible** are on the bulletin board. **Sign-up** if you are interested in doing a group order to get a discount on shipping. Questions? Talk to Rebecca or Barb.

**New Path Pregnancy Resource Center** – “We are so grateful for your church’s participation in our 2024 Baby Bottle Campaign. We cannot thank you and your members enough for such generous support! Thank you!” Bethel members contributed **\$464.32** toward this project.

Need help **engaging with your Star Word**? Here are some options:

- Invite any member of the Worship Ministry (or another friend) to have a conversation about the word over coffee/tea.
- Talk to Rebecca if you would like her to offer a message focused on your word this fall. (You may remain anonymous to the congregation.)

**Grief Share** is a 13-week seminar and support group designed to help people who have experienced the death of a loved one. It will be offered at the WL United Methodist Church, Tuesdays at 6:30 pm, from August 20 – Nov. 12. Please register (\$10) by calling 937-441-3592. Walk-ins are welcome. If you have attended in the past, we

invite you to come refresh your learning and continue your healing journey through a new edition of the program.

Note: There are several **hearing assistance devices** available. Talk to an usher or the sound person if you would like to use one during the worship service.

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

**10:30 a.m.** – Worship; speaker: Rebecca Kauffman

### TUESDAY

**9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.** – Women Serving in Love

### WEDNESDAY

**10 a.m.** – Bethel Bible reading

**11 a.m.** – Gifts Discernment Committee

### NEXT SUNDAY

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

**10:30 a.m.** – Worship; speaker: Rebecca Kauffman

Scripture: Ecclesiastes

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK:** Mary Jean Horn, 937-539-8055

## LAST WEEK

Worship: 24

Offering: General Fund

\$601.00

Sunday School: 13

*Your generosity empowers our collective work for God’s kingdom purposes. Thank you!*

### OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – August 11

**Worship leader:** Brenda Montgomery

**Music leader:** Carl Newcomer

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kauffman

**Greeters:** Dave & Brenda M.

**Sound:** Mark Kauffman

Next Sunday – August 18

**Worship leader:** Elaine Newcomer

**Music leader:** Janet Wilkins

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kauffman

**Greeters:** Ed Holliday

**Sound:** Ken Shank