

THE OUTREACH

A People of Hope. A Culture of Grace.

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BETHEL
 BAPTIST CHURCH

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In 2015 the movie "War Room" was released. The movie is about a couple who are having marriage problems. The wife meets a woman named Miss Clara, who is the epitome of a prayer warrior. Miss Clara has a prayer closet in her house that she calls the War Room. Miss Clara says, "In order to stand up and fight the enemy, you need to get on your knees and pray." I won't spoil the ending of the movie, but check it out; it's worth watching. The concept of a War Room inspired Pete Walmsley. Pete's had his fair share of difficulties the last few years. He says, "I've made some mistakes and I knew I needed to change some things. That movie showed me the power of prayer. The Lord put that movie in my life at just the right time. I don't believe that things happen by happenstance. God puts people in our lives and gives us experiences so that we can grow from it." Watching the War Room was one of those God-given experiences. Pete says, "The actress that played Miss Clara put on such a strong performance I said to myself, 'I want the peace that she's got.' I thought, 'If Miss Clara can do it, I figured I can do it.' So I put up a bulletin board in my bedroom and made it my War Room. Every night before I go to bed, I put on my pj's, brush my teeth, and then I go to the corner of my bed and get on my knees, face the board and pray. First, I give thanks for Jesus and then I give thanks for everything; the good, the bad and the ugly. Then I pray for the people on the board. I know God already knows what they need, but it's important to speak my petition out loud. I talk to Jesus just like he is right beside me, because He is there and it feels like He's present."



Pete Walmsley

Pete's War Room is full of prayer requests from Bethel. If we send out an email asking people to pray, Pete will print the email and put it on the board. The board is also filled with other quotes and sayings that inspire Pete. I asked Pete what his walk of faith has been like since he created the War Room. He said, "I've seen a lot of

Continued next column

answered prayers, but the biggest thing is that prayer is changing me. I used to blame God for the bad things in my life, a lot of people do. A lot of people ask, 'How could the Lord allow this to happen?' I was one of those people, but I realized that I made those bad decisions. God didn't lead me to make those bad decisions. Why all of a sudden is it God's problem if I made that bad decision? I've made decisions that I'm not proud of and now I'm paying the penalty for them. I'm being pruned and that's ok. At this stage of my life I'm finally learning I've got to walk with God full time, not part time. I also realize that I need to praise God not only for all the good things in my life, but for the bad things as well, because they both lead to spiritual growth and maturity. Prayer has changed me. I was hardened. I'm softer, gentler, but I'm still very much a work in progress. I'm by no means a saint. I'm just the clay and I've got to be pliable and allow God (the Potter) to do what He wants me to do and mold me. I now realize I'm on the earth to serve the Lord, not to serve Pete."

I want to share Pete's story because his story is our story. It's a redemption story. We've all made bad decisions. Every one of us is a work in progress. I really appreciate Pete's humility and his intentionality. He's 100% focused on his relationship with the Lord. Pete was quick to tell me that he's got a long way to go in his walk of faith. He's not perfect, but he's making an effort each day to commune with God, listen to God, and be led by God. Isn't that what faith is all about? It's a daily process of turning our lives over to the Lord and allowing Him to be Lord of our lives. This process begins with prayer. Prayer changes the lives of the people we pray for, and perhaps most importantly, prayer changes us. I want to encourage us to do as Pete has done, to create a sacred space in our homes for prayer. Be intentional about a time to pray. Live a life of prayer then watch what happens. Yours will surely will be a blessed life; soaked with God's grace and full of God's peace. The peace Miss Clara has can be yours. Pete's found it though prayer and you can too. Bethel, let's be about the business of prayer. May God bless Pete Walmsley and may God bless Bethel Baptist Church. This article was written with much love for the good people of Bethel.

God bless,

Todd



Just for Fun – by Gayle Taylor

Can you name the title or author/artist of these poems and songs about love?

(See answers below)



1. How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
2. Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
3. How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes are doves.
4. I'm a singer in a Sunday choir. Oh, my mama loves me, she loves me.
5. Are you still mine? I need your love. I need your love. God speed your love to me.
6. I see friends shaking hands saying, "How do you do?" They're really saying, "I love You."
7. Like a river flows, surely to the sea, Darling, so it goes, some things are meant to be.
8. It was many and many a year ago/In a kingdom by the sea/
That a maiden there lived whom you may know...
9. You know the night's magic seems to whisper and hush/You know the soft moonlight seems to shine in your blush.
10. There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth...

- ANSWERS
1. Elizabeth Barrett Browning (Sonnet 32)
 2. Shakespeare (Sonnet 18)
 3. (Song of Solomon 1: 18)
 4. Paul Simon ("Loves Me Like a Rock")
 5. The Righteous Brothers ("Unchained Melody")
 6. Louis Armstrong ("What a Wonderful World")
 7. "Can't Help Falling in Love" recorded by Elvis Presley
 8. Edgar A. Poe ("Annabel Lee")
 9. Van Morrison ("Moondance")
 10. "Oh, How I Love Jesus" (written by Frederick Whitfield)

Ash Wednesday

February 17

Ash Wednesday is February 17.

Look for an online devotional available on our website on the 17th which will explain the meaning of Ash Wednesday and how it begins the Lenten season.



*A Note From Your Associate
Pastor and Music Minister by
Gayle Taylor*



"The Price of Love"

The month of February, although a short month, includes several important events — all of which pertain to the price of love. On February 14, we celebrate Valentine's Day when we remember our family and friends with tokens of love. There can be a significant cost, however, if you are willing to pay for these tokens. If you plan on sending a bouquet of roses, the average price can range from \$20.00 - \$60.00. The price of an upscale box of candy can set you back starting at \$30.00. If you plan on going out to dinner, the price can vary from \$25.00 to \$200.00. Of course, the value of a homemade Valentine card made by a sincere 5-year-old is priceless! Tokens of love have their appeal, but the tenderness we give and receive from our family and friends is invaluable.

February also focuses on the value of the lives of young adults, particularly in the dating arena. Domestic violence organizations raise awareness on this issue by designating this month as *Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month*. According to the organization *Love Is Respect*, "one in three teens in the US will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from someone they're in a relationship with before they become adults, and nearly half (43%) of college women report experiencing violent or abusive dating behaviors." This year the organization's theme is "Know Your Worth." The organization's focus is to guide young people on how to have healthy relationships. Parents, teachers, and faith leaders can help with this effort by teaching young people how to establish relational boundaries, including physical, emotional, and digital. Modeling respect and open communication also trains young persons in appropriate social skills. Most importantly, helping young adults to recognize their inherent worth is a priceless gift that figures of authorities can bestow.

Another event occurs in February. On February 17, Ash Wednesday, Christians begin their Lenten journey. On this day, Christians are called to repent of their sins, with some wearing a visible symbol of ashes on their forehead. Christians do this to show their love and obedience to the Christ who died for them. From Ash Wednesday until Easter, Christians reflect on Christ's willingness to pay the ultimate price of love: dying on a cross. The Lenten season offers each one of us a time to meditate on our worth: we who are so unworthy have been given not only a pardon from our sin, but also a birth into the family of God. The gift of salvation comes by Christ, freely given to any who accept His love. This gift comes with no price tag for us.

So during February, let us remember the One who created us as we go out into the world: showing love to our family and friends, protecting and teaching our young persons about healthy relationships, and demonstrating our love for Christ through repentance and prayer. It is a short month, but it is packed with opportunities to validate the worth of others and to share the gift of love.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— 9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

~Ephesians 2: 8-10

Many Thanks

Dear Bethel Church Family,
I would like to thank everyone for the cards, the phone calls and the prayers that were prayed for me while I had Covid. God Bless you all. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Judy Pulley

Dear Bethel Church Family,
Thank you for the snack basket that was sent to Billy during his hospital stay. He enjoyed the goodies! The outpouring of prayer and concern, we fully know contributed and made possible, his release before Christmas! Best Christmas gift this family has ever received. God blessed us then, before and tomorrow. May He bless you all too!

Linda and Billy Redmond

Dear Bethel friends,
I want to thank all of you that have prayed for Nancy and I over the course of her dementia, those prayers have meant a lot. Also want to thank you for the huge amount of cards, words of encouragement, food and phone calls they have meant so much to both of us. One thing that stayed constant with Nancy, was her desire to go to church. She did not understand the COVID-19 problem and really missed going to Bethel. She always watched the service with me but never accepted it as a replacement for actually being there. She truly loves Bethel and the people that attend. Thanks again and may God's richest blessing be with you in 2021.

Dennis and Nancy Glazener

Dear Bethel Church ,
I would like to thank the church for the ornament and the generous gift card that was given to me for Christmas. Many thanks also to everyone for all the beautiful Christmas cards and gifts I received. I appreciate you thinking of me. I pray blessings on each of you and I pray that 2021 will be a wonderful year for Bethel Baptist Church and for you and your families

Linda Gardner

Dear Bethel Family,
Thank you so very, very, much for all the prayers, calls, and the many, many, cards. We are so blessed to have so many friends willing to give us a helping hand. God Bless all of you.
Bill and Joyce Bullock.



By Carter Cosgrove
Preschool Director

February is here, and Bethel Preschool is back into the swing of things. February is an exciting month for the preschool. February brings with it cold temperatures, crazy weather, Valentine's Day and open enrollment for the new school year. The Preschool begins enrollment for the 2021/2022 school year on February 1st to our church and preschool families first. Enrollment will then open to the public on February 22nd. We are offering a \$10.00 discount off the registration fee for all those who register their child before March 1st. If you know of any families who are looking for a preschool, please let them know about Bethel.

Our children are getting things ready for our Valentine's Day Celebration which will be held on Thursday the 11th for all classes. They are busy learning the true history of Valentine's Day and what it represents now. Children get so excited about creating their Valentine's and delivering them to their friends!

Another thank you is warranted to all the church members, staff and preschool families who have done everything possible to keep our program up and running this year during the pandemic. I know things have looked so different this year, but everyone has been so supportive and such troopers that I could not be prouder to be a part of this amazing program! Thank you for all your support, sacrifices and faith in what we do here. Please keep up the good work so we can continue to the end of the year.

I would also like to remind everyone that the Preschool will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of Presidents' Day.

Thank you again to all who help support the Preschool and myself. You are the reason we are the program we are today!

Joint Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Historic Sanctuary

Join us each Sunday, in person or on Zoom for our joint Sunday School class. Our teachers are Sherwood Dance, Gayle Rogers, David Grubbs, John Pulley, Mike Rider and Howard Humphreys. They will be rotating each week and they are teaching from the Formations Adult Bible Study. If you need a book, you may pick one up in the church office or there are some in the historic Sanctuary.

Youth News Connect



by Lauren Moore

The month of February and the word love go hand in hand. It's hard to think of the month of February and not associate it with Valentine's day and thus love. Here's a question for you to think over, how can you show love to someone today? Simple question, right? Not so fast! We likely do lots of things on a daily basis that could qualify as showing love to others. Opening a door for someone, helping a friend, paying it forward to someone in the Starbucks line, biting our tongue when it would be easier to lean into our flesh and say what we are actually thinking! Those things are good things, but what if we REALLY stretched ourselves? What if we really went out of our way to love someone well today? What would it cost us? A few minutes, a little pride, being inconvenienced a tad? While loving others will always cost us something (it cost Jesus his life) we almost always end up being just as blessed as those we stretch our hands and hearts to love. Take some time to engage in some Kingdom work and be an example of sacrificial love!

February Youth Calendar:

- 3: Connect, 7 pm, youth room.
- 10: Connect, 7 pm, youth room.
- 17: Connect, 7 pm, youth room.
- 24: Connect, 7 pm, youth room.

Sharing and Caring Monday Small Group



The "Sharing and Caring" group will not meet in February due to the continued rise in Covid cases. We will re-evaluate in March and keep you posted. For more information, please contact Bruce Bartlam at 804-739-2936.

Pastor's Message Posted on YouTube



Great News! The pastors message will be posted on YouTube. It will be available by searching YouTube using Bethel Baptist Church Midlothian Virginia, and the stream to YouTube will be available by 12 a.m. on Monday morning each week.

Missions News by Frances Morris

Women's Missionary Union Meeting—The monthly meeting of the WMU will be held on Monday, February 1, at 10 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. The program will be presented by Wendy Custer. Wendy is the owner of Corner Copia which is a farm and studio. She is the author of the book A Cup of Encouragement. Wendy has a passion to encourage women and gets her inspiration in every day life as she watches and listens to God speaking to her through her relationships and circumstances. We invite all the women of Bethel (and friends) to join us on the first and discover how Wendy acquired the title "AN ENCOURAGER".

Hope for Appalachia—See information on page 6

Bethel Preschooler Cards: If you have signed up to send a card to a preschooler, please be sure to remember his/her birthday and any upcoming holidays.

Kroger: Please **register your Kroger card** so Bethel can continue to receive reward points toward Missions. Go to www.Kroger.com and sign in. Then click on "Community" on tab bar and click on "community Rewards." The church member number is **QW701**. You will still get your points toward gas, Bethel will just get credit for any amounts you spend at Kroger.

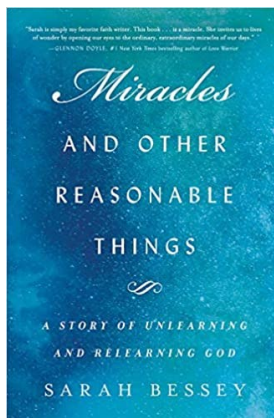
4 Ways to Give at Bethel

1. **In Person:** Drop your check in the offering plate as you enter or leave the People of Hope on Sunday morning.
2. **Send a check to our secure mailbox:** The address is: Bethel Baptist Church, 1100 Huguenot Springs Rd. Midlothian VA, 23113
3. **Online Giving:** On our Website there is a link to give. Once you click on the link you'll be prompted to give through either your bank account or a credit card. Here's the link for online giving: <https://www.bethelchurchmidlothianva.org/giving/>
4. **Text Giving:** Simply text the dollar amount you'd like to give to (804) 361-8590 and follow the prompts. You'll be asked to enter a debit card or credit card number. The minimum amount for text giving is \$10. The platform we're using is safe and secure and you'll be given the option of an email receipt at the end of your transaction. As always, we are grateful for your contributions to the church and we thank you for your gifts.

Book Club News

The Book Club will discuss *By the River Piedra I Sat Down and Wept* by Paulo Coelho on **February 21** after the worship service. Please bring a drink/and a bagged lunch. We will meet in the People of Hope Center.

The next book that the group will read is *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things* by Sarah Bessey. Here is a brief description: "Weaving together theology and memoir in her trademark narrative style, Bessey tells us the story of the moment that changed her body and how it ultimately changed her life. She invites us to a path of knowing God that is filled with ordinary miracles, hope in the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, and other completely reasonable things." We will discuss *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things* on **May 16**.



If you would like to participate in the book club and need a copy of the book, please contact Gayle Taylor at revgayletaylor18@yahoo.com or call the church office at (804) 794-8590.

Library News



Hello Everyone,
I am happy you had time to look at our display last month. There will be another in-house artist, this month. Wray Brown has agreed to bring in some of the wood-working pieces he created. If you have not seen Wray's work, you are truly in for a treat. It will be displayed on a table in the People of Hope Center. There is so much talent in this church. God gives each of us talent. If you have not found your talent, ask God to show you what it is and then put that talent or talents to good use. As for the library, the preschoolers are enjoying books on snow and winter. Cindy Wight does a great job of reading books to the children and she has also put up a new window display. You should check it out when you get a chance.

Barbara Bell, Media Director

Hoops! Come Join Us

We are taking every measure to ensure our students and volunteers stay safe so if you haven't been back to church yet, please consider joining us!



Feb. 21 WMU Sunday

February 21, is WMU Sunday. Our guest speaker will be Valerie Carter Smith, Executive Director and Treasurer of WMUV. Special music will be by Lucy Hansen. We look forward to seeing you there or you can join us online.

Quotes from the War Room

Below are inspirational quotes from Pete Walmsley's War Room:

- Regardless of what happened yesterday, if you will stick with the Lord today, your yesterday wont control your tomorrow.— T. Evans
- Welcome without judgment, Love without condition, Forgive without limits.
- God does not take away trials or carry us over them, but He strengthens us through them.— Edward B. Pusey
- O Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands.— Daniel 9:4



LifeLine Screening is coming to Bethel. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 8. They will set up in the People of Hope Center. More information will be coming in the March Outreach.

February Birthdays



1	Bruce Lewis	15	Sara Currie
2	Curt Nellis	16	Nicole Mayberry
2	Kaelyn Keaton	16	Sarah Moseley
5	Matthew Truban	16	Stephen B. Theriot
6	Shannon Truban	17	Kaitlyn Patteson
7	Lauren Birt	17	Madeline Talley
7	Jeff Huband	18	Jeff Ratliff
7	Charlie Jamerson	18	Tweedle Richardson
8	Suzanne Kiiffner	21	Elizabeth Bradbury
8	Robert Yeager	21	Coen Moore
9	Jason Moore	22	Carter Brandon
11	Sharon Laslie	23	Kilby Proffitt
13	Pamela Cody	25	Mark McNeel
13	Emily R. Montaigne	25	Shannon Cramer
14	Brian Moseley	25	Peggy Keatts
14	Barbara Phillips	27	Dee Garland
14	Bob Gillis	27	Joseph Thomas
14	Natalie Realubit	29	Doug Jamison
14	Josephine Realubit		

Wednesday Night Programs in February



- February 3 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
 February 10 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
 February 17 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
 February 24 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.

Hope for Appalachia

We will be collecting Hope for Appalachia Hope Boxes during the month of February and March. A HOPE BOX (shoebox) is our gift of essential items and also fun items to school children in eastern Kentucky. The box also helps us share the Good News of Jesus with the children. Boxes will be provided as well as a list of items needed. We are collecting for boys and girls in Grades K- 2. (4-8 years old). Carefully read the list to see what is accepted and what is not. Lists are on the round table in the People of Hope. The deadline for this project is MARCH 14.



Opportunities for:

Please note: Some of these ministries are on hold due to Covid

Mission/Ministry

- Music Ministry/Choir (See Gayle Taylor)
- Adults on Mission (Meets the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m.)
- Charlotte's Pantry (See Brenda Peck)
- Backpack Ministry (See Vera Caniglia)
- Sunday Morning Nursery Ministry (See Lauren Moore)
- Friends of the Homeless (5th Mondays at 8:30 a.m. (See Gayle Rogers)
- AA Meeting every Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
- Puppet Team (See Andrea Hale)
- Media Center (See Barbara Bell)
- Care Team Ministry (See Pat Reynolds)

Fellowship/Discipleship

- Men's Fellowship Lunch 1st Thursday of each month at noon (See Bruce Lewis)
- Women's Fellowship Lunch 1st Thursday of each month at noon (See Margaret Gillis)
- Youth Group Meetings every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. (See Lauren Moore)
- Bible/Discipleship Study Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. (See Gordon and Shirley Rutland)
- Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m. each Sunday
- Zumba Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. (See Megan Luck)
- Brotherhood Breakfast (every 5th Sunday)
- JIGSAW children's ministry, every Sunday (See Tina McNeel)
- Children in Action meet every 5th Sunday, during the Sunday School hour. (See Frances Morris)

Charlotte's Pantry Schedule

Upcoming pantry schedule:

- February 10, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
 February 26, 11 a.m. to noon
 March 10, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
 March 26, 11 a.m. to noon

If you would like to help on either of these dates, please contact Brenda Peck.



February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 WMLU—10 am	2 Boy Scouts—7 pm	3 Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect Youth (at Bethel) - 7 pm	4 AA Meeting—5:30 pm	5	6
7 Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH	8	9 Boy Scouts—7 pm	10 Charlotte's Pantry—5 to 6:30 pm Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect Youth (at Bethel) - 7 pm	11 AA Meeting—5:30 pm	12 Scouts Set Up	13 Scouts All Day Event POH
14 VALENTINE'S DAY Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH	15	16 Boy Scouts—7 pm B & G—7 pm	17 ASH WEDNESDAY Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect Youth (at Bethel) - 7 pm	18 AA Meeting—5:30 pm	19 Scouts Set Up	20 Scouts All Day Event POH
21 WMLU SUNDAY Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH	22	23 Boy Scouts—7 pm	24 Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect Youth (at Bethel) - 7 pm	25 AA Meeting—5:30 pm	26 Charlotte's Pantry—9 to 11 am	27
28 Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH						

Bethel Baptist Church

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Change Service Requested

WORSHIP TIMES

9:30 Sunday School | 10:30 Worship

♥ Happy Valentines
Day ♥