

The Outreach

A People of Hope. A Culture of Grace.

Bethel Baptist Church

1100 Huguenot Springs Road, Midlothian, VA 23113
bbc1817@verizon.net | www.bethelchurchmidlothianva.org
804-794-8590

Vol. 50 No. 1 January 2018



Inside This Issue

Message from Todd	pg. 1	Chick-fil-A Spirit Night	pg. 4	Charlotte's Pantry Schedule	pg. 5	Wednesday Nights	pg. 4
Mission News	pg. 3	Music Director's Note	pg. 2	Connect (Youth News)	pg. 5	Bethel Care Team	pg. 5
Chick-fil-A Devotional	pg. 4	Ladies Lunch	pg. 3	Opportunities for Ministry	pg. 3	Holiday Office Closings	pg. 5
Men's Fellowship Lunch	pg. 3	Many Thanks	pg. 2	Preschool News	pg. 4	Upcoming Concerts	pg. 6
Worship Schedule	pg. 3	JIGSAW	pg. 5	Birthdays	pg. 4		
Parish Nurse	pg. 3	Volleyball Schedule	pg. 4	Mission Box	pg. 5		

Here's a very pointed question for you to consider. Has Jesus Christ transformed your life? If so, how? That's really where the "rubber meets the road" in terms of our faith isn't it? The church exists so that people can encounter Jesus Christ and have their lives transformed by Him. Our mission at Bethel is "To live transformed lives by experiencing, embodying and extending the grace of Christ." What does a transformed life look like? It looks a lot like Stephen McWhirter. Stephen is the lead vocalist for Iron Bell Music. Iron Bell Music has a hit single called "The God That Saves." Before Stephen was a successful Christian artist with a hit single he was a drug addict. Here's Stephen's story in his own words:

"I grew up the son of a traveling evangelist, but the man I knew in private and the one I knew in public, were not the same. Due to the hypocrisy I witnessed as a child, I believed Jesus was simply a fantasy. As I grew into my early teens I wanted nothing to do with Christianity. I was the guy who would get volatile if you even mentioned the name Jesus around me. In this time of my life, I fell into extreme drug addiction. Eventually, I became a crystal meth addict, for about 5 years. During this dark chapter, someone gave me the book, "The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel. One night, at 3am, I sat in a bed reading the book, with drugs next to me on the side table. That night, as I read, I was acutely aware of the presence of God, in the room. I began to have an internal dialogue with Him, I knew He was real but I didn't know how to quit the life of addiction I had known for so long. In that moment, with a thought more powerful than I could ever have imagined, I felt the Lord say, "You don't have to do it alone, because I will do it!" And in that moment, I believed Him and gave my life to Christ. I found myself with a willpower not my own. Overnight, I went from addiction to redemption. A year later,

I was hired as the worship leader for a small church, and began my journey into worship leading and Christian songwriting. God is good!"

Amen to that Stephen! God is indeed good and our God is in the business of transforming lives, but in order to be transformed we have to do what Stephen did and give our lives to Christ, the whole of our lives. So I ask again, has Jesus Christ transformed your life? If not, why not give all of yourself to Christ and trust him with your life? Ask Him to transform your life and be made new. I trust Christ will do for you what He did for Stephen. There is a great lyric in the song "The God That Saves" that goes like this: "This soul once torn and beaten / Left without reason to move on / Then You reached down and brought me / Up from the valley of dry bones / You are that **God** that **saves**." Our God is a God who raises us up from the valley of dry bones to lead transformed lives. We thank God for His gracious redemption, for what He's done for Stephen and for what He's doing in our lives. If you'd like to know more about Stephen's story and meet him and his band you'll have that opportunity on Friday night January 26th when Iron Bell Music visits Bethel. Lauren Moore, our Youth and Children's Minister, has done outstanding work in getting Iron Bell to visit Bethel. Perhaps you know someone who does not know the Lord, if so, please invite them to this concert and I believe they will encounter "The God That Saves." Tickets to the concert are only \$5 and can be purchased at <https://www.itickets.com/events/390315.html>. May God bless Stephen McWhirter and Iron Bell Music and may God bless Bethel Baptist Church. Amen.



Todd

Continued next column

Many Thanks

Dear Bethel Church,

I would like to thank Todd for the wonderful job he did for my family before, during and after Ashley's service. I want to thank the ladies for the wonderful luncheon they provided and for all they work they did pulling it all together. Thank you to Cathy Marshall for the music and to Bruce Moseley for taking care of the AV. I also want to thank Bethel for the beautiful flowers, all the cards and a special thanks to all the members that attended the funeral. I am blessed to be part of such a caring congregation.

With Love, Liz Atkinson

Dear Bethel Church,

I would like to thank the Bethel Church family for the fruit basket, the calls, the prayers and visits while I was recovering from knee surgery.

Bill Rogers

Many thanks to everyone who adopted a child from the Middle District Christmas Store. 590 children were served this year. Bethel adopted 18 children. Out of the 18, 6 of them were provided for by our youth group. Thanks for being a blessing to the children in our community.

Many thanks to those who put together a shoebox for the Shoebox Ministry. Due to your generosity, Bethel was able to send 102 boxes to the distribution center to be delivered to girls and boys all over the world. Not only will these children get a gift this year for Christmas, but 102 children will hear the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you so much.

The Missions Team

Dear Bethel Church,

Thank each of you for providing the meal for Grace Fellowship. I'm sure everyone enjoyed the puppet show. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, your kindness, and your generous heart. May each of you be blessed during the holiday season.

Blessing,

Charlene Duling

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



"I am Resolved!"

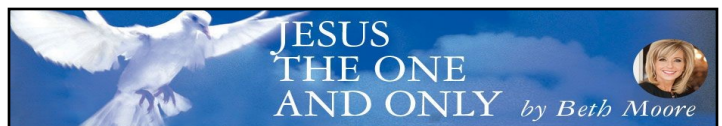
Have you made a New Year's resolution? Resolutions typically involve promises to replace negative lifestyle habits with healthier ones. What lifestyle habits have you resolved to change about yourself? If you are like many Americans, you might resolve to lose weight or to manage your money more responsibly. For most people, however, resolutions do not hold up over time--- they tend to be short-term investments with short-term results. Consequently, it is difficult to resist the sense of failure when the resolutions do not work out. Gradually, old habits often slip back in until the next year; thus, the cycle of resolutions continues.

This cycle can occur in our spiritual lives as well. Do you have areas in your spiritual life that need to change? Maybe you need to spend more time in communication with God. Maybe you want to share your faith with others. Perhaps you desire to become more involved with missions. Have you made these resolutions before only to slip back into old habits? For resolutions like these to succeed, you need to lift them to God. He will help you because He loves you and He wants you to have a closer relationship with Him. Even if you have made resolutions like these before and have fallen short, God does not mind. He will pull you up and guide you if you let Him.

In the hymn, "I Am Resolved," by Palmer Hartsough, he reminds us of two ways that can help us keep our spiritual resolutions: by paying attention to what the Savior says and by obeying Him. If we listen and obey, then we are on track to experience a healthy spiritual life since Christ "is the living way" and He provides the true "words of life." Christ is ready to meet you half-way if you are committed and resolved to "hasten to Him."

May you have a closer relationship with your Lord and Savior this year!

Happy New Year!



Starts Sunday January 7th

Join us for a new Beth Moore Bible Study called "Jesus the One and Only." It is based primarily on the Book of Luke. This study is a careful examination of the life of Christ. You will be introduced to an intimate Savior as you get a close-up and personal portrait of the life of Jesus the Messiah. You'll see Jesus come to a funeral and raise the dead, confront conniving religious leaders, teach on a hillside, and even walk on the waves. The study starts Sunday, January 7 and continues through Sunday, March 25, at 2:30 p.m. each Sunday. We will meet in the parlor. Please sign up if you plan to attend so we will know how many books to order. A sign up sheet is on the side table in the People of Hope Center. You may also contact Wendy McClellan to sign up or for more information about the study.

Opportunities for:

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 Errin Hasty)
- 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)
- Library Volunteers Needed (See Barbara Bell)
- Care Team Ministry (See Shirley Lewis)

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 Pat or Bruce Bartlam)
- Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m. each Sunday
- Zumba every Thursday evening 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)

Parish Nurse

Cindy Luck, is available on the third Sunday of each month from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. Feel free to stop by on January 21, to get your blood pressure checked or to ask questions.



Worship Schedule

We now meet each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the People of Hope Center.

Missions News

by Frances Morris

Mission Opportunities

Monday, January 8: Adults on Mission: Meet at Bethel at 10 a.m. All women are invited. Members and guests will go out to lunch following the meeting.

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 83564. You will still get your points toward gas, Bethel will just get credit for any amounts you spend at Kroger.

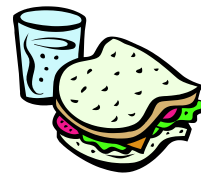
Mission Team: Church members are encouraged to support this year's Mission Box project of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The project will enable Anna Julia Cooper School to provide its students with necessary resources to accomplish the school's mission. The following items will be collected from the middle of January until the middle of February:

Pack of pencils
Pack of pens
Dry Erase Markers
Sticky Notes
Hand Sanitizer
Pack of Lysol Wipes

Optional: You may donate gift cards from Walmart or Target to help purchase khaki uniform pants

Men's Fellowship Lunch Thursday, January 4, at noon

Our next lunch is set for Thursday, January 4, at 12 noon. We will meet at the **Italian Delight** in South Creek Shopping Center in Powhatan. Everyone will be responsible for the cost of their own lunch. Please call the church office if you plan to attend so we can make the appropriate number of reservations. All men are invited.



Ladies Fellowship Lunch Thursday, January 4, at noon

Please join us on Thursday, January 4, at noon at O'Charley's on Rt. 360 for our Ladies Fellowship Lunch. Please text or call Margaret Gillis at 804-305-6931 to let her know if you will attend. All women are invited.



January Birthdays



1	Erin Chauncey	16	Robbie Cordle Gill
2	Ryan McGinnis	16	John Pulley, Jr.
4	Leah Ellis	17	Jake Florence
5	Caroline Bransford	19	Bob Bealsey
5	Doug Wight	20	Karen Smith
6	Jerry Jenkins	20	Morgan Pearce
7	Leonard Vaughan	20	Madison Pearce
8	Faye Cohen	21	Rachael Bailey
10	Jocelyn Vergara	24	Becky Turner
11	Michael Gerace	26	James Waller
12	Michaela Goodman	27	Michael Roper
12	Amanda McDade	27	Mason Watkins
12	Troy Patteson	29	Manny Sanchez
14	Justin Whitney	30	Lindsey Brown
15	Elizabeth Atkinson		
15	Cameron Wynne		



By Carter Cosgrove
Preschool Director

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Bethel Preschool is now back into the swing of things and the children are excited about winter and what it can bring...snow! Inclement weather is synonymous with January so we ask that everyone please take care this winter season and stay safe!

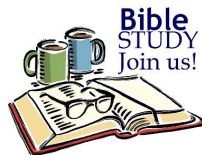
Our teachers will be performing student assessments during the month of January. These assessments help the teachers to gauge where a child is developmentally and academically. The teachers use their findings to tweak the classroom curriculum and to assist the parents in their practices at home. Preschool will be closed on Tuesday, January 23rd for our parent / teacher conferences.

I would like to say thank you to all the church members and preschool families who came out in December and supported our Chick-fil-A night. We did well but not as well as November which is understandable with the holidays. Let's see if we can do better this month! Come and join us on Wednesday, January 17th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Chick-fil-A at Westchester Commons to support the preschool!

I would also like to remind you that the Preschool will be closed on Monday, January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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

Wednesday Night Programs in January



Starting on January 17, Dr. Scott Spencer, from Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond will be teaching a class called "New Testament 101" Dr. Spencer is a New Testament professor at BTSR.

January 3—No Bible Study

January 10—No Bible Study

January 17—6 p.m. Bible Study with Dr. Spencer—Please support Chick-fil-A Night and eat there before class or get it to go and bring it to class with you.

January 24—Dinner at 6 p.m. Bible Study with Dr. Spencer at 6:30 p.m.

January 31—Dinner at 6 p.m. Bible Study with Dr. Spencer at 6:30 p.m.

Volleyball Schedule

Come out and support Bethel!! All games are played at Manchester Middle School. For more information contact Jake Florence at 804-677-5438.

Friday, January 5: 9:15 p.m.

Friday, January 12: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 19: 9:15 p.m.

Friday, January 26: 6:15 p.m.

Friday, February 2: 8:30 p.m.

Friday, February 9: 7:45 p.m.



Chick-fil-A Spirit Night

The next Spirit Night fund raiser will be Wednesday, January 17, between 5 and 8 p.m. Money raised will go toward Bethel Baptist Preschool. Please remember to mention Spirit Night when you place your order.

Morning Devotional at Chick-fil-A



Join us at Chick-fil-A at Westchester Commons Shopping Center each Monday morning at 8 a.m. We will enjoy breakfast and a devotional time together. This is a wonderful time of fellowship. For more information, please contact Bruce Bartlam at 804-739-2936.

Memorial Association Meeting Feb. 11, 2018



Bethel Care Team



HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!

Well, here we are: January 2018, the beginning of 365 days of this new year. Opportunities to make it a good year for ourselves and for everyone around us. Each day represents "time" to use in so many different ways. Of course there are usually workdays for many of us but some of us have "time" on our hands so to speak. Think about how you can be a helping hand to so many; next door neighbors, the elderly, children who need extra attention with maybe a kind word to make their day special, volunteering at hospitals, or food banks or schools. There are so many ways to "love one another".

This is a fresh new beginning for each of us, each month, each week, each day of this new year to make a positive impact on our "little world". I am ready to do whatever God puts in my path this year, to do my best for him in this ministry as are all of our group. Please let us know if there is someone who is in need of a friend from Bethel Church. We are a dedicated and busy church already, let's make 2018 successful for ourselves and the God we serve.

Thank you to Dr. Jerry Jenkins, Andrea Hale with her Jigsaw group, Lauren Moore and the Youth Group, Peggy Heath and the support of our church for handmade items for our 14 baskets this Christmas season. They loved the crosses, snowmen, ornaments and letters. They are feeling the "love" of their church family.

Ready, set....go into 2018 with joy and happiness.

Shirley Lewis, Care Team Leader



The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of VA's 2017-2018 Mission Box focuses on a Virginia school named after Anna Julia Cooper: the Anna Julia Cooper Episcopal School (AJC) in Church Hill. This school that helps educate 108 students in grades 4-8 is planted in the midst of three housing projects in downtown Richmond. AJC's mission is to provide students with tools necessary to ensure the opportunity of a full and meaningful life. In addition, AJC exists to "create a community where their students grow and prosper." Certainly, the Anna Julia Cooper Episcopal School in Church Hill lives out beloved community. This year's Mission Box project will enable The Anna Julia Cooper School to provide its students with necessary resources to accomplish the school's mission. Please pack these items in a shoebox for AJC. (picture and information above from www.cbftva.org)

A list of needed items are on page 3, under Missions News. Please bring the items to church and drop them in the boxes marked Mission Box.

Connect

YOUTH NEWS by Lauren Moore



Happy New Year!

Let's do 2018 right by LOVING GOD, LOVING PEOPLE, and LOVING LIFE! God has given us so much to be thankful for that even during the hard times we are to rejoice and be thankful. Galatians 6:9 tells us to "never grow weary in doing good." Let's keep that in mind as we continue to serve those in our community, church and as we serve each other. The Hope Supper Table does not meet this month or in February.

The January Schedule is below:

Jan. 3: Connect, 6:30-8 pm

Jan. 10: Connect, 6:30-8 pm. Meet in the food pantry to pack backpacks.

Jan. 17: Connect, 6:30-8 pm. Dinner at Chick-fil-a to support the preschool and then return to church for Connect. The van will leave at 6:30. No money needed.

Jan. 24: No Connect

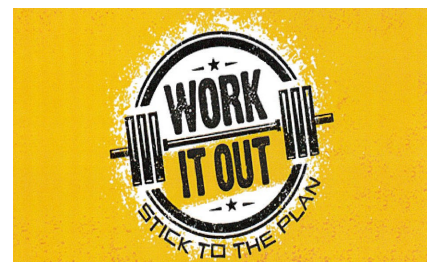
Jan. 26: Iron Bell Music concert, 7 p.m.

Jan. 31: Uptown Alley, 6-8pm (note start time is 6 pm). Cost: \$5. Van will leave at 6 pm.

What's Happening in January



Jigsaw in January is all about COMMITMENT! Experiencing faith takes practice, and that takes commitment. We want to show kids how they can practice faith by reading God's Word, praying to Him consistently, talking about Him with Friends and living out your faith every day.



Charlotte's Pantry Schedule

Upcoming pantry schedule:

Wednesday, January 10, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, January 26, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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



Holiday Hours

Below are the church office closings for the upcoming holidays: New Year's Day—Office will be closed Monday, January 1.

LeFevre Gospel Quartet Concert

When: January 5

Time: 7 p.m.

Where: Bethel Baptist Church,
People of Hope Center



This year The LeFevre Quartet was nominated as a Top 10 Traditional Quartet in the Singing News Magazine's Fan Awards. It often takes more than just a legendary name to gain the recognition this group has attracted, but with stellar vocals, high energy performances, and a heart for ministry, this combination of talent is one you won't soon forget. The LeFevre Quartet strive to reach the masses with a message of hope, grace and salvation through Jesus Christ!

There is no charge for the concert. A love offering will be received.

Iron Bell Music Concert Friday, January 26, 7 p.m.

Iron Bell Music is passionate about cultivating a heart of adoration in believers through creating worship music that leads people into the knowledge of God. Birthed out of encounters in His presence, their music invites people into a transformational experience where hearts are set free as they declare the truth of who God is.

Flyers are available in the People of Hope Center. Tickets are \$5.00 each and are on sale now. Show is at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

To purchase tickets go to itickets.com and search Iron Bell Music. Be sure to go to the church's Facebook page and share this event. For any questions, see Lauren Moore.



Bethel Baptist Church

1100 Huguenot Springs Road
Midlothian, VA 23113

7

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 2133
MIDLOTHIAN, VA 23112

Change Service Requested

WORSHIP TIMES

9:30 Sunday School | 10:30 Worship

