

Announcements

Christmas Flowers



Please remember to order your Christmas flowers by December 10th. Order sheets are available on the literature table in the fellowship hall and can be given to Vicky Rivelli.



Gifts for the Christmas Season



We are currently collecting for three different ministries; winter clothes and toys for Project Hospitality (new only), non-perishable foods for the South Shore Food Pantry, and items for our love baskets (see bulletin insert). Please help us make Christmas a joyful time for those in need.



Help Decorate for Advent / Christmas



Today after social hour we'll be putting up our Advent and Christmas decorations, and you're welcome to help out. Stick around and enjoy the fellowship!



Christmas Choir Begins Practice Next Week



Be part of our Christmas Choir! We'll be rehearsing for the next two Sundays (December 3rd and 10th) starting at 10 a.m. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall.



Children's Christmas Party



Join us for the Children's Christmas Party on December 2nd starting at 5 p.m. There will be worship, dinner, movie, fun, and a special visit by a special Christmas character. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.



Special Advent Service



The Staten Island Council of Churches will be holding an ecumenical Advent Worship Service on Sunday, December 3rd at 4 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church. There will be refreshments served after the service. Please join us for this special service!



Join the Carolers!



Joy to the World!

Bethel will be Christmas Caroling again this year, stopping to bring holiday cheer to many of our members. We'll gather at the church on Friday, December 15th at 6 p.m. and get back to the church for hot cocoa and donuts at around 9 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.



Joy to the World!

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Beacon of Hope

7033 Amboy Road at Bethel Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10307

Website: www.bethelumcsi.com

Email: bumcsi@verizon.net

Pastor's study: (718) 984-1354

Church Office: (718) 984-1277

Welcome to all who have come today!

If you are new to Bethel, please sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary.

We hope you can join us in the social hall for fellowship and refreshments.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists: Carol Blankenhorn, Lori Lambertson,

Dennis Sheeran, Richard Bartels

Preacher: Pastor Matt Schaeffer

Musicians: Team Bethel

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for Debbie ForLizzi and family, the family of Donald Bruckmann, Tak Tanaka, Ed Cardona, Peter Dolan, Kate Cameron, Detective Lisa Bergen, John Bauerlein, those affected by recent hurricanes, victims of the earthquake in Mexico, Angel Izquerno, Diane Toth, Beth Cherrick, Diane Toth, Donna Bergrin, Patricia Sheeran, Dawn Tanaka, the family of Lilian Popp, Sandra, Sonya and Anna, George Psilakis, Grace Brown, Gadalía Reis, Gene Baufard, Alice & Eddie, Mildred & Gordon Ekstrand, Dana White, Joan Jorgensen, Herb Gruberger, Lewis Pascola, Carol Plumb, Becky Weeks, Kim Thomas, Sal Alaimo, Wally, Gloria, & Ken Eagle, John Higgins, Tom Quinn, Carol Barringer, the Lambertsons, Frank DeJulio, Kevin Monahan, Carol and Don Josey, Tom Metz, Isabella, Rose Braadt, Margaret Beyl, Jenny, Julius Pinto, Tom Cameron, Bill Cameron, Dawn Caldwell, Jeanine, Laura Ryan and family, Danielle, Zack Harrison, Maria & Christopher Gerardi, Phil Chavez, Joyce and Janet, Cristian Perullo, Sarah Hall, Robert Kay, Danielle S., Judy Bradley, Barbara Geidel and family, Bob Treglia, Jason Braadt, Kari Dalquist, Roy and Barbara Redman, Jean Houston, Peggy Lee, Don Lee, the people of Haiti, those struggling for human rights, refugees looking for a home, victims of violence, discrimination, and terrorism, those in prison, our elected officials, those seeking employment, our service members, police officers, veterans, and their families.

Please contact the pastor if you would like a concern added to our list.

Ongoing Events at Bethel

Prayer Chain

If you'd like to join the chain, or if you would like those on the prayer chain to pray for something, call (718- 984-1277) or email (bumcsi@verizon.net) us.

Bible Study

Lectionary Bible Study on Wednesdays from 7–8:30 P.M. at the parsonage (241 Bethel Ave.). Book study on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. at the church

Prayer Services

Join us in the sanctuary weekday mornings at 6 a.m. as together we bring our praises and concerns before God.

Team Bethel

Speak to Karen Jensen or the pastor if you would like to be part of the music team. We rehearse three Sundays each month from 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

UM Men's Group

Fourth Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the church. Join us for breakfast, fellowship, and prayer.

Saturday Worship

Worship God at our contemporary service at 5 p.m. Fellowship and refreshments after the service.

Bethel United Methodist Women's League

The ladies meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 11 a.m. at the church. For more info, call the church.

Social Hour

Join us after worship for coffee and snacks. You can support us by bringing a treat or placing a donation in the basket on the snack table.

Project Hospitality

Help in preparing / serving a meal for the clients of Project Hospitality. Our next event is January 19th. Please call the church if you'd like to help.

Saint Paul's Food Pantry

Please bring your non-perishable gifts to the church and deposit them in the box near the front door. Many families need our support!

Support Our Penny Fund

Please note the quaint little model church at the back of our sanctuary. Support our ongoing ministries by offering us some spare change.

Dinner and Movie Night

Each month we have a Children's Movie Night and a Classic Movie Night on Saturdays, starting at 5 p.m. with worship and a potluck dinner at 6 p.m.

EVENTS CALENDAR

| <u>WHAT'S HAPPENING?</u> | <u>WHERE?</u> | <u>WHEN?</u> |
|---|------------------------|---|
| Christmas decorating | Bethel | Today, after social hour |
| Seeing Gray book study | Bethel | November 28 th , 10 a.m. |
| Lectionary Bible Study | The parsonage | November 29 th , 7 p.m. |
| Worship planning meeting | Bethel | November 30 th , 10 a.m. |
| South Shore Band holiday concert | St. Paul's UMC | December 1 st , 8 p.m. |
| Children's Christmas party | Bethel | December 2 nd , 5 p.m. |
| Christmas Choir rehearsal | Bethel | December 3 rd , 10 a.m. |
| Staten Island Council of Churches Advent Service | Christ Lutheran Church | December 3 rd , 4 p.m. |
| Christmas Choir rehearsal | Bethel | December 10 th , 10 a.m. |
| Bethel Christmas Caroling | Bethel | December 15 th , 6 p.m. |
| Family Christmas Worship | Bethel | December 17 th , 11 a.m. Party at the parsonage following worship |
| Christmas Eve Day worship | Bethel | December 24 th , 11 a.m. |
| Christmas Eve Worship | Bethel | December 24 th , 7 p.m. |
| Christmas Day Service | Bethel | December 25 th , 9 a.m. |
| Classic Movie Night | Bethel | December 30 th Worship at 5 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Movie at 7 p.m. |

For further information about these events, visit the church website at www.bethelumcsi.com, or call 718-984-1277. If you would like to include an announcement about an upcoming event, please contact the pastor.

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| Readings for November 25th – 26th | <input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 64:1-9 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 80 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 13:24-37 |

Faith Challenge: "Hope"

In today's church, many Christians seem to think, "Since the time of Jesus' coming cannot be known, we need not think much about it." Mark draws the opposite conclusion: since the timing is unknown, we should think about it all the time! Modern Christians often think, "Since the time is unknown, it could be hundred, or thousands, or millions of years from now." Mark draws a very different conclusion: since the timing is unknown, it could be today! We should live our life in the hope of our Lord's return, which could occur at any time!