



A Beacon of Hope

The Monthly Newsletter of Bethel United Church of Christ

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May 2020

From the Pastor

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As I contemplate at the Emmaus text from the 24th chapter of Luke's Gospel, we see two men who are on the road with Jesus after the resurrection. While they walk, the men are discussing the events of Jesus' death on the cross and his ministry without realizing that Jesus was with them. It is not until Jesus breaks bread with them that they recognize him. Suddenly, Jesus is gone, and they realize that while he was there, they felt something burning within them. We are on a long journey of isolation and distancing and we don't know what God has in store for us along the way. In this issue of the Beacon we are asking people to share those moments when they recognized Christ in the "breaking of bread".

Looking for Christ in all of this strange and challenging time can be difficult. I am glad that we had a chance to get away just before the lock-down to visit our new grandson, Hunter Ray Van Viegen. We also got a chance to see Xander in his Spring concert for Kindergarten, and we also spent time with Norah. As many of you know there is nothing like spending time with your grandchildren. With that said, the joy that I find in this time is taking time to continue to spend time with my children and grandchildren in new ways. Last Friday I had virtual lunch with Xander and Norah; we ate together via zoom while they chatted, waved and played around. Every Sunday I get pictures of the grandchildren watching the Bethel worship service on their TV.

Good things about these difficult times

Venice is the clearest it has been in 60 years, and dolphins have been spotted down in southern Italy, swimming in clearer water. This has happened because of the lesser tourism and even local traffic.



These times have made us more conscious about the care of our environment.

Personally even though it is driving me a little crazy I have taken time to slow down and think about what things are important. One of those important things for me is my children and grandchildren. I miss seeing and holding them. I know though we will be reunited soon.

It has also caused me to learn how to use new technology to be able to communicate with my people.

It has also reminded me that we are not islands. We need each other in many ways. It has been helpful that our pastor is communicating with us by doing services on Sunday morning and by letting us know, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, what is happening in the life of our church.

I am impressed with what I see on TV. People and organizations are make a great effort to feed and care for people from all areas of our society . News reporters are broadcasting from their homes. This lets us relate more personally with them. I'm hoping that the things I have mentioned will also be remembered when this pandemic has passed.

Thinking of you all

Deb C.

Kat is graduating from Salem High School on May 24th. The ceremony will be done virtually at 2:pm. If you would like to watch, you can go to the Salem City School Facebook page or Studio 203 You Tube Channel. After graduation Kat will start her classes with Eastern Gateway Community College to become a Respiratory Therapist, a career that has been in the news a lot lately. We are very proud of all of Kat's hard work and of the young lady she has become!

Hugs and prayers to our wonderful church family. We miss seeing all of you but we know we are together in spirit. Blessings to all!

Phil, Pam and Kat



“Hi” to ALL my Bethel family and friends!!!! Hope you are all doing well and staying healthy!! It was absolutely WONDERFUL to hear from so many of you in our BEACON OF HOPE last month! No one....not even in our wildest dreams.... could have predicted a few months ago that our world would be experiencing something like this....yet...here we are. Smack in the middle of it.

We have been challenged this month to find the good in all of this. To see the ways in which God is bringing GOOD up out of the ashes! I see us being creative! Finding new ways to reach out to our family and friends. New ways to “be” with others from a distance. I see us digging deeper within ourselves, searching our souls, spending more time praying, coming to terms with the fact that the “little things” aren’t really all that important. We have been stripped of a lot of those “little things” and as we open our eyes we see standing before us the things that truly do matter. Our families, our church, our GOD!!! Our health, our service to others, giving encouragement and love, doing our part to protect others.

With the “little things” pushed aside....no longer so important.... we are face to face with what God intended for us. The realization that we CAN do without many of the things we have cluttered our lives with over the years. Amid this horribleness....the ashes of this pandemic.... God is giving us the opportunity to rise up out of those ashes and see the beauty and love all around us (His Gifts to us) that are no longer hidden behind the earthly clutter we have created for ourselves. There have been times over the years that I wanted to just shout....”Stop the world!! I want to get off for a while!!!!” Well...that time has actually come! For all of us! Embrace this gift of TIME that God has given us to reflect and listen for His wisdom and guidance. *“Be still and know that I am God!”* Find time to just sit and be still and listen. We can and will all rise from the ashes with a new vision of the world around us. God Bless!

Luanne Sanor

Class of 2020

Dylan James Garlock

United Local Class of 2020

Son of Debbie and the late Jim Garlock

Dylan is a four year letter winner on the United Boys Soccer team. He was a part of 3 straight Eastern Ohio Athletic Conference championship teams in 2017, 2018, and 2019. The 2017 team was also District Champions. He was awarded the most improved player award in 2018 and was selected to the EOAC 1st team all stars in 2019. Dylan is also very passionate about tractors and tractor pulling. He pulls both antique and garden tractors. He will be continuing to work as an agriculture mechanic following graduation.

Congratulations Dylan, we love you and are proud of you.

Mom and Harlee



HOLY
OTHERS
POTENTIAL
Everlasting

College Graduate Tayler Baum is Graduating from Northeast Ohio Medical University with a Doctorate Degree in Pharmacy. She will be doing a one year residency at The Geauga Medical Clinic before going on. She is the Granddaughter of Patsy Harlan and the late Wayne Harlan

College Graduate Brandon Baum is graduating from Youngstown State University with a Mechanical Engineering Degree. At present he is interviewing with several Engineering firms. Brandon is a grandson of Patsy Harlan and the late Wayne Harlan

Colton is a graduate of United High School. He doesn't have any definite plans after graduation as of yet. He will be working until he decides what he would like to do. We are very proud of what he has achieved and will support him in any decision he makes.

Love from Mom & Dad



CAMPP News

Hi to all the CAMPP Kids and families!!! Sure miss you all!!!

It has been different.... but GREAT.... keeping in touch with all our CAMPP families through texts and emails. Such an AWESOME group of young families!!!! And even though we can't be together in person this "virus" has not taken away ALL of our fun. The kids have been receiving weekly emails of coloring pages, puzzles and scavenger hunts to complete at home. Once they have finished any of the pages they are asked to text pictures to me of them holding their completed work. I am keeping track of each project sent to me so the kids will continue to earn points even while we are physically away from each other.

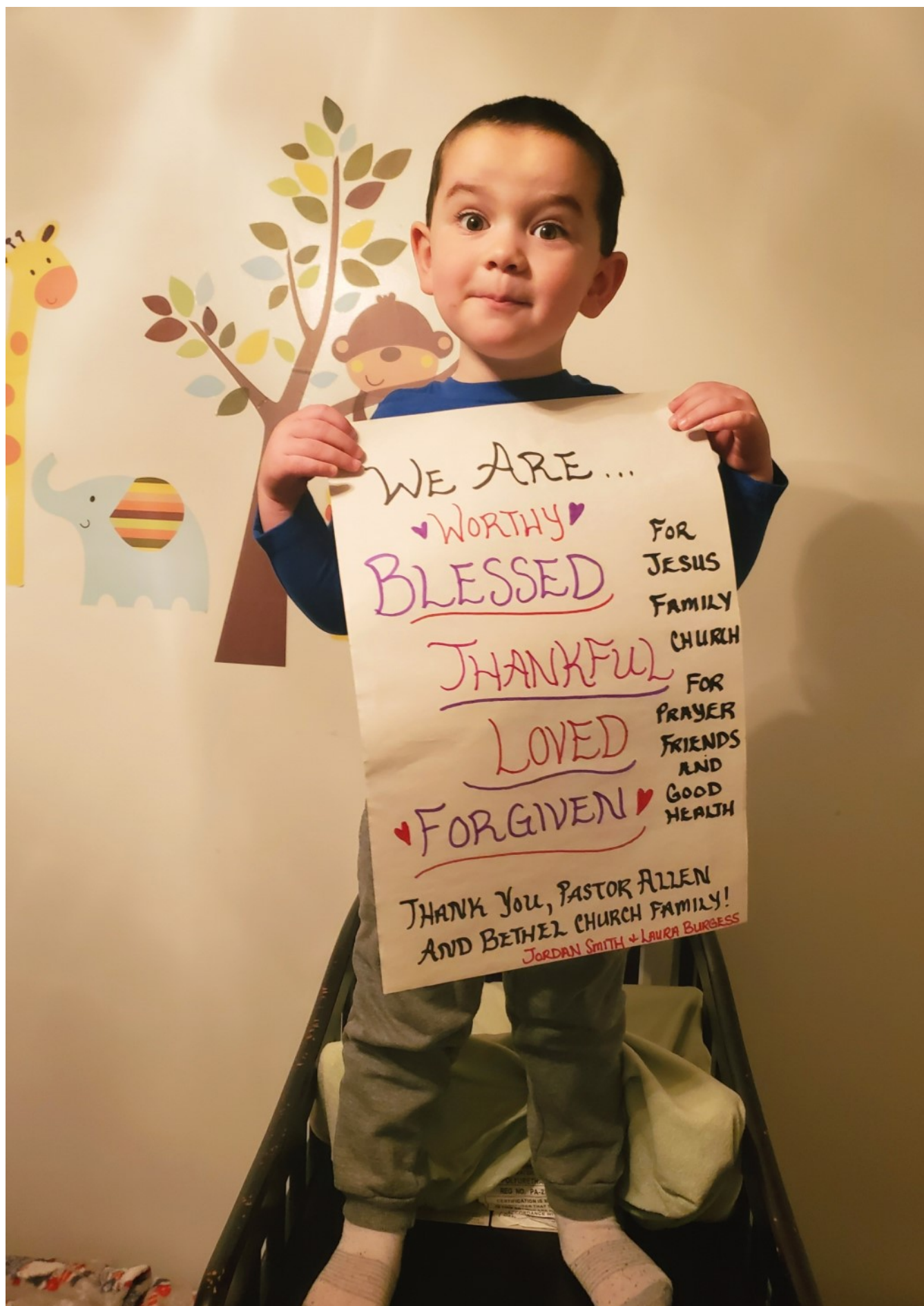
It has been such a delight to receive these text pictures of their smiling faces that we all miss so much. Pastor Allen will be posting some of the pictures soon so all of you can enjoy the smiles as well.

Keep up the great work KIDS and remember.... as you wash your hands....sing "Jesus Love Me"!! By the time you are done with the song your hands will be nice and clean and it will remind you how much Jesus love you and that His love is with you always.

To our wonderful Bethel congregation....I ask for your continued prayers for these super CAMPP kids and their families as we all struggle to find a new "normal" in this time of uncertainty and social distancing. It is a confusing time for adults, but doubly so for kids (especially the little ones) who just don't understand what is happening. We will ALL get through this together and we will look forward to being back together (however that may look) in the near future. Blessings to ALL!!!!!!!!!!



Luanne Sanor/CAMPP Director



WE ARE ...

♥ WORTHY ♥

BLESSED

THANKFUL

LOVED

♥ FORGIVEN ♥

FOR
JESUS
FAMILY
CHURCH

FOR
PRAYER
FRIENDS
AND
GOOD
HEALTH

THANK YOU, PASTOR ALLEN
AND BETHEL CHURCH FAMILY!
JORDAN SMITH + LAURA BURGESS



Vicki Foos

5/2

Pamela Harlan

5/5

Darlene Bradley

5/12

Bonnie Finch

5/13

Deana Kornick

5/13

Mark Hergenroder

5/15

Anne McKarns

5/15

BillieJo Mercer

5/18

Connie Larsen

5/30

Happy Anniversary

William & Wanda Humphrey

5/13/1971

Phil & Pam Harlan

5/18/1985

Wayne & Sandy Fieldhouse

5/22/1971

Ed & Marie Miller

5/23/1976

Allen & Shannon Kahler

5/24/2008

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Minister

Deborah Cappa
Ministry Assistant

Anne McKarns
Treasurer

Wayne Fieldhouse
Building Maintenance

Luanne Sanor
Music Director
CAMPP Director

Peggy Christie
Pianist/Organist

A Beacon of Hope

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