

THE BETHEL CONNECTION

APRIL 7, 2020

PRAYER

- ❖ **Pray for those whose employment has been or may be impacted by the pandemic. Be sure to let the church leadership know of situations like this as they arise.**
- ❖ **Pray for our Easter Sunday drive-in service that God would be pleased with our worship and lives would be changed as the gospel is proclaimed.**
- ❖ **Pray for our local, state and federal leaders as they continue to lead through increasingly complex times. Pray for them to seek endurance, humility and wisdom from the Lord.**
- ❖ **Pray for each other, as some in our church family are faced with hard choices regarding work, family, finances and childcare to name a few.**
- ❖ **Continue in prayer for Becky Arthur. She is in an Lafayette hospital due to complications. She has had some severe pain for the past 2 days. Her husband can't be with her being that he needs to be the one staying with the children.**

If you are interested in one of the Zoom meetings (video conferencing), please be sure to email the office.

We will be offering prayer meeting Zoom calls this week.

- **Wednesday, April 8 @ 4:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, April 8 @ 6:00 pm**

Youth Group News

For many of us, the chaos caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has been a dramatic pause in our regular schedule, one with consequences that remain to be fully known and understood. One group that I want to take the opportunity to recognize is the seniors in our youth group. For them, the pandemic crisis brought an abrupt ending to things they earned and have anticipated for many years, and those things won't be resumed after the crisis is over; they're just gone for good. We have been blessed with an AMAZING group of seniors this year: Katie Allen, Juan Bailey, Kassie Dahn, Sammy DePoy, Ryan Lynch, Brenna McKay, Kyle Smith, and Camille Wuethrich. Y'all are rock stars, and I have great confidence that God is going to use each of you in remarkable ways, to His glory. In the coming weeks, please be on the lookout for a spotlight on each of these incredible young men and women, and uphold them in your prayers as they commence with the next phase of life!

Mike

BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH

6966 West SR 14
Winamac, IN 46996
574.946.6229

To access the directory on our website, go to www.bethelbiblechurch.org click on "About", then "Church Directory" and enter the password: bcbcwinamac

Lead Pastor: Don Whipple
whip1030@gmail.com
765.404.6070

Director of Kid's Ministries: Kelly Hines
bethelbiblekids@gmail.com
765.210.1206

Ministry Assistant: Melody Perez
bbcwinamac@gmail.com
574.225.0288

What about the offering?

We encourage you to continue giving generously to the Lord's work here at Bethel. Here are some different options available:

- Mail
- Bank bill pay
- Drop off at the office
- Call & have an elder or deacon pick it up for you
- Online giving through the website

Office Hours:

We will mostly be working from our homes in the coming weeks. Please contact our cell phones or email us!

Teen Gals:

Bridget, Erika, & Valerie are going to lead a Teen Girls Bible study. We would go through "Growing in Godliness: A Teen Girl's Guide to Maturing in Christ" by Lindsey Carlson. You would read a chapter & we'd do a Zoom meeting to go through it maybe once a week? We would love to have you all participate. Please let one of us know by Wednesday, April 8th, if you want to participate so we can order you a book & get it mailed out to you.

Missions Spotlight

Tony & Kathy Pepe



Pray for the Pepe's. They are also feeling the weight of the COVID-19 pandemic. They have been in "confinement" since March 17. So, much like BBC, they have not been able to meet for normal church services for 4 Sundays. They are able to connect with most of their flock via Zoom meetings and can get out to help take supplies to those who are not able to get out themselves. Unlike here, there is a heavy fine given if their guidelines for getting out are not followed. As of now, the confinement is in place until April 15, which is expected to be extended.

Please pray for Huguette and Aline. These 2 ladies are fairly new to their church. Huguette had been attending regularly and has made quite an effort to be a part of the Zoom meetings which are being offered.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

GET WITHIN 6 FEET OF A TYCHICUS!

Tychicus, a traveling companion with the Apostle Paul, was an encourager. He was relied on to encourage the hearts of people in the churches. Check out Colossians 2:1-3, Ephesians 6:21-22 and Colossians 4:7-8.

We all have read about or experienced some of the impact distancing and isolation have on our mental and emotional health. We know that distancing can add to the stress of the pandemic in various ways...from being harsh to wanting to eat too much! It is easier to grow weary, distracted and make excuses these days. We need encouragement and encouragers.

Encouragement is an ongoing, regular, healthy and necessary component of our living the life of faith. Our hearts are like batteries that can be highly energized and productive but can only remain so if regularly and often recharged. The scriptures encourage us, the Holy Spirit encourages us and prayer encourages us...but the truth is that we encourage each other in incredibly effective ways.

Here are 3 questions that you can use when you reach out to someone that may help you genuinely encourage them:

1. Are you encouraged today? Any answer lets you ask "Why's that?" and may lead to sharing at a deeper heart level.
2. What have you read or heard from the Bible lately that is worth sharing? If met with awkward silence or extended clearing of the throat, be prepared to politely answer the question from your own experience. They will listen and be encouraged.
3. Do you mind if I pray with you? Wait for a response or not, but ask "What can I pray with you about?" or "If you could get God to do one thing, what would it be?".

Learn to pronounce Tychicus, read about him in the Bible and then ask God to help you be an encourager like him!

Pastor Don

For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Fear not, I am the one who helps you."

Isaiah 41:13