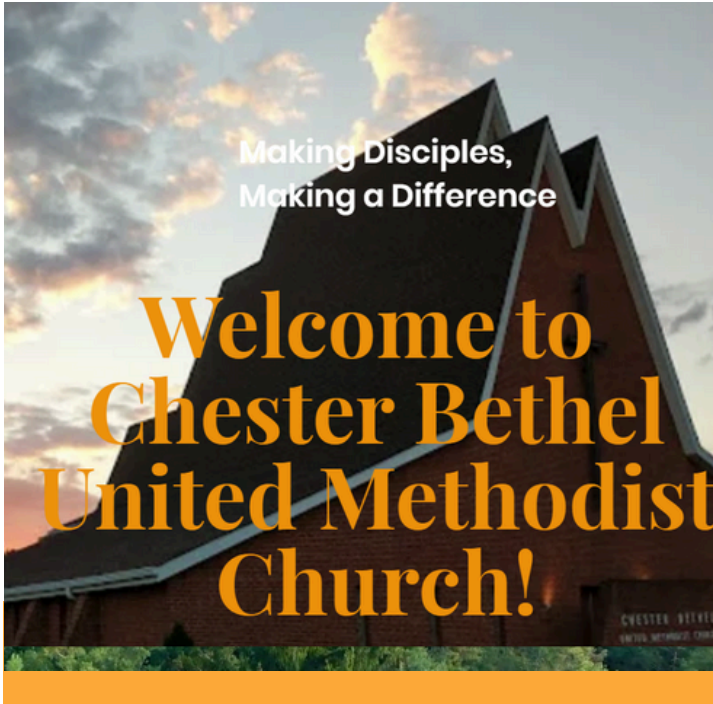




The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER OF CHESTER BETHEL UMC



Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

Welcome to Chester Bethel United Methodist Church!

What's Inside:

PAGE 2&4-PASTOR'S LETTER
PAGE 3- DATES,
HALLOWEEN, BOOK STUDY
PAGE 5-WORLD COMMUNION
DAY, MISSIONS
PAGE 6-HOW WOULD
WESLEY VOTE? PRAYERS

Money for Missions

gift cards for places you already shop make us \$

Raiserright.com



We are trying a new kind of fundraiser; one that doesn't require you to bake cookies, stand out in the cold, sell hotdogs or beg for money. All you do is spend money on gift cards for the very same places you already spend money and a % of that purchase automatically comes back to Chester Bethel. Easy! See Linda Lyons!

Sept - October 27

Order your cards; use them anytime!

A % of your purchase automatically comes back to missions!

Linda Lyons, Coordinator

Be Prepared!

Rev. Kelly
Conner

In my sermon on Sunday, Aug. 18, I shared that earlier in the week, my car battery had decided to quit on me – and that I had been very pleased with my past self for having the foresight to charge my portable jump starter! I'm fortunate that I was sufficiently able to use it for its intended purpose, and to have the time to go and get the battery replaced.

The moral of my story is, unsurprisingly, that one should “Be prepared!” We never know what the future will bring. While this is the same logic that my mom uses for refusing to throw out her spices from the 1970s (“You never know when a recipe will call for caraway seeds!”, that's not exactly the kind of “preparation” that I mean. I mean to instruct us to be prepared in more important ways: having a flashlight handy in case of a power outage; saving money for our taxes each month; decluttering from our homes any unused or unnecessary items; talking with family about our (and their own) plans in the event of death; making sure our records, bank documents, and online passwords can be easily located by family members in case of an emergency in which we are incapacitated. These kinds of preparations are easy to make at any age, and they can also make a big difference!

Paul's first letter to the Thessalonian church urges them to the same kind of urgency in preparation. At the time when he wrote it, Paul and the early Christians in Thessalonica believed that Jesus would be returning imminently and immediately – and that it could happen at any time. The end and resurrection of all things were on the forefront of their minds – not way in the back, like they are for us today, as we've lived so many more centuries of waiting for Jesus than they did. Paul told them:

*Now concerning the times and the seasons,
brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the
Lord will come like a thief in the night. (NRSV: 1 Thess. 5:1-2)*

Dates to Remember

Oct 3 - Energy Audit

Oct 6 - World Communion Day

Oct 7 - Charge Conference-6:30 @ Aldersgate

Oct 8 - Trustee's Mtg @ 6 PM

Oct 9 - Admin Council @ 6 PM

Oct 10 - Preschool Harvest Day

Oct 13 - Missions Mtg service

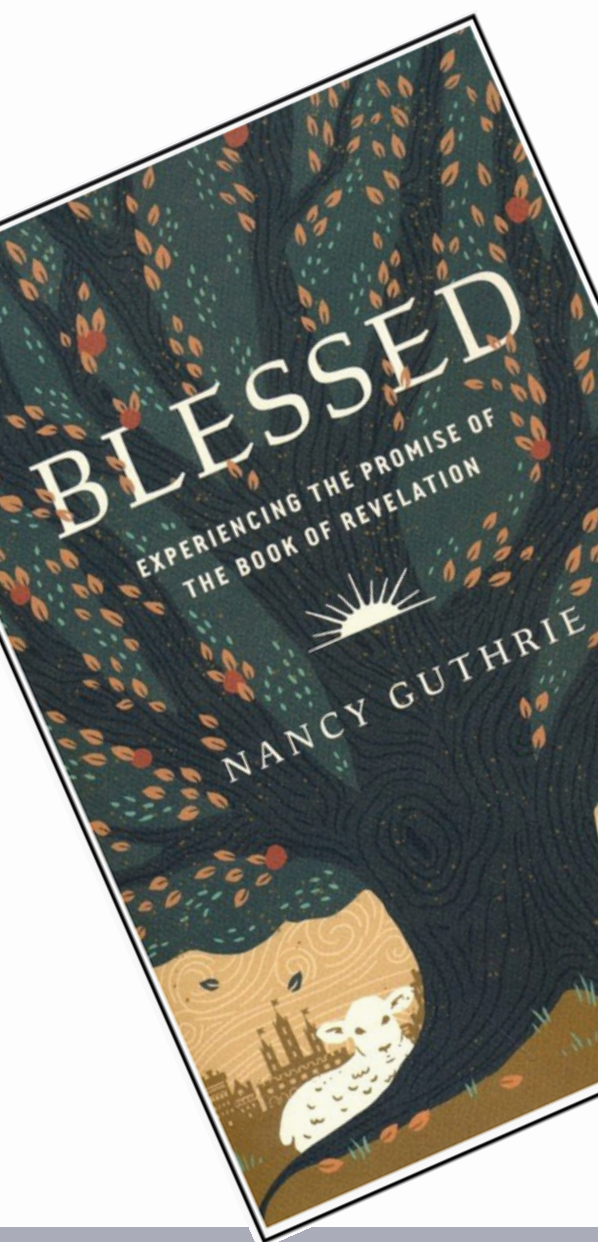
Oct 26 - Trunk or Treat 3-5PM

Nov 5 - Election Day!

Nov 12- SpRC Mtg @ 3:30; Trustees Mtg @ 6 PM

Nov 13 - Admin Council @6 PM

Nov 28 - Thanksgiving !



Dear Preschool Parents,

**COME AND JOIN US FOR A
FUN AND SPECTACULAR**

**Trunk or
Treat!**

October 26TH
Chester Bethel Parking Lot
4-6 PM

Family friendly!
302-47-3549 for info

We know today that the Thessalonian church was almost too prepared! Many Christians there were quitting their jobs, selling all their possessions, and leaving themselves without resources as they waited for Jesus. In the minds of those folks, Jesus could come that very afternoon! And if they weren't prepared, then they wouldn't be ready to meet him. The second letter that Paul and his disciples wrote to the Thessalonian church addressed those folks who had basically decided to live in a bunker until the return of Christ. He said to them:

For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right. (NRSV: 2 Thess. 1:11-13)

In our preparation for any possible event, we can become just as overwhelmed and frightened as those members of the Thessalonian church. We can over-prepare – and that's almost as unhelpful as being underprepared! Paul is saying in these two letters that as we remember the instruction of Jesus, we should be mindful to focus not on the end times, but on living as Jesus taught us to live now. We should work hard for the Kingdom; we should not be so focused on what comes next that we neglect our responsibilities in this life. This is great advice for all of us.

World Communion Sunday, Oct 6

**UNITED METHODIST SPECIAL SUNDAY
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

50%
FUNDS TRAINING
PROGRAMS & GRANTS


35%
RACIAL & ETHNIC
SCHOLARSHIPS &
MENTOR PROGRAMS

15%
FUNDS LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT
& SCHOLARSHIPS

SUPPORT
Donations support racial
and ethnic students
with scholarships,
grants, mentoring and
training for leadership
development.

PHOTO BY RON LACH

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church™



World Communion Sunday is a denomination-wide celebration emphasizing the value of education and training. We commemorate this day by giving generously to support young adults and make a global impact for Christ.

Half of the offering benefits World Communion scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. The remainder provides grants to support training for worldwide inclusion, diversity, equity, and access.

Missions Reminders!

We are still collecting new socks and personal hygiene products to be delivered to different charities. We also collect food to be delivered weekly to Claymont Community Center. For this period we are financially supporting:

The Good Samaritan Fund

Food Bank of Delaware

Pecometh Camp

Please also remember the fundraiser for missions through Raiseright--be sure to place your order between before October 27th. The committee thanks you for your faithful support in ALL of these efforts!

How would John Wesley Vote?

- The United Methodist Church does not tell its members how to vote, but it does enumerate the values members of the denomination could consider as they make their decisions.
- An election toolkit is available online as a guide, put together by the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, the Baltimore-Washington Conference and United Methodist Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century.
- Voter suppression is a danger with this election, Church and Society leaders say, and United Methodists should serve as poll workers if they can, to help prevent it.



CLICK FOR THE UMC ONLINE TOOLKIT



Please Pray for:

Linda Lyons (L); Nancy Storer (L); Bill and Doreen Jones (H); Mary Ann Box (H); Darene Hazel (H); Ramona Harlow (LT); Jane Dean (H); Lillian Williams (H); Richard J. Steele (H); Holly Dorner (H); Donna McCormick (H); DeBrock Family (O); Laura White (H); Allison (H); Kim Nally; Amy (H); Cecelia Steele's family (L); Gail Kracyla (H); Dominic King (LT); Jill Brownback (LT); Nancy Walker (H); Mabel & Alan Ladd (H); MaryAnn Rumford (LT); Rick Browne (LT); all peoples impacted by war.