

# BETHEL BELL FAMILY NEWS

## March 2026

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



It's March and Lent! This lent, we are using some liturgy and sermon ideas from "A Sanctified Art". We are approaching Lent with the theme "Tell me something good."

Below is information about our series.

"Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. As we crafted this series, we studied what was central to Jesus' life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus' teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all. Jesus' words are easily distorted and sanitized in our modern world. Following Jesus leads to a richer, more expansive life, but it's not necessarily comfortable. Jesus' ministry can be described as "radical" which comes from the Latin word "radicalis," meaning "root" or "ground." Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be "good news" people in a world too often burdened by bad news? This Lent, let us remember that the good news really is good news. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tastes like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. The good news is alive in the world. We hope this series will provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, let the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. May the good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good."

Let's celebrate and tell each other something good!

*Peggy*

Yes, it's late, but finally happening. We are so glad!

Our new preacher, Peggy Terhune, will be installed at our March 15th service by Wendy Roberts from the Synod office. **Come that Sunday, support our pastor, and bring a covered dish to celebrate after worship!**

# Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Council Minutes for February 8, 2025

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church Council met at noon on February 8, 2026. Attending today's meeting were: Todd Corriher, Butch Williams, Todd Smith, Todd Lingle, Monica Raney, Judy Hoffman, Mike Raney and Peggy Terhune. Aaron Thurston and Mike Spry were absent. Thank you to Bob Terhune for cooking the delicious lunch for the Council today.

Todd Corriher, Council Chair, called the meeting to order. Devotions were given by Todd Lingle entitled, "Resting in God's Care" from Psalm 27.

Todd Lingle made a motion to approve the minutes from January 17, 2026 Council meeting. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Raney and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike Raney provided a handout of the Treasurers Report. Receipts for January 2026 were \$13,485 with no church on January 25 due to ice and snow. Expenses for January 2026 were \$13,136.

**Pastor Peggy's Report:** Pastor Peggy has met with 60 Bethel church members so far, home visits, and she has had some decline a meeting. She has 36 more members that she is calling for an in-home visit appointment. Visits slowed down due to bad weather. Bible study started. Music and Worship Committee met after church on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Mission and Outreach Committee will meet on February 15<sup>th</sup> to begin planning activities. We have scheduled Matthew Weaver for March 14. Emmaus weekends are March 12-15 and March 19-22. I will be working on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Bonnie Faust will be filling in for me. Met with Lora Owen on February 7<sup>th</sup> to show her how to manage the church website.

### Old Business:

Cleaning Service Update: Current service provider was terminated. We reviewed a request from Julio A. Gomez De Leon. They began their contract on January 17<sup>th</sup> doing their one-time initial cleaning at \$800 and a weekly charge of \$300. No cleaning was done during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of inclement weather.

The grounds service contract expires on March 31, 2026. Anyone interested or if you know anyone who would be interested in doing this work for us. Please contact the church property committee, Bob Kennerly, Todd Lingle, Todd Corriher, Mike Spry or Mike Raney. Mike Raney will draw up the contract with details on what is expected from the church grounds service. It will be available to anyone interested in applying for the service.

Mike Raney, Bethel Church Treasurer, gave each council member a copy of "Facility Use Policy: Insurance Requirements" and a copy of "Background Check & Safety Policy". Each of these are specific for Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 355 East Ridge Road, Salisbury NC, 28144. The Council reviewed these two documents and Todd Lingle made a motion to approve. This was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Monica Raney and passed unanimously. Thank you to Mike for his work on these two documents.

Bethel Church Council will now meet immediately after church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month.

We will not have Lenten Services but we will have Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The tubing trip was delayed by the ice/snow storm and has been rescheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Church web site is up and running and we have a high speed router from Spectrum.

We are still looking a new church pictorial directory. Pictures will be taken in-house and sent out to be published. Shelia Lingle and Kara Thurston are our contacts for this project.

Our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be celebrated on September 13<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Emily Hartner as our guest Pastor. Our committee members for this celebration are Monica Raney, Kathy Pifferetti and Vickie Grubb.

Continue.....

## Church Council Minutes — continued

The portable screen issue is still under review by Todd Corriher.

Pastor Peggy will be installed as a SAM (Synodical Authorized Minister) by a N. C. Lutheran Synod Pastor. A motion was made by Monica Raney to pay for this Pastor if one could not be obtained at no cost. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judy Hoffman and passed unanimously.

### New Business:

Bethel's new Children's Closet will be named, "Laura's Children's Closet" in loving memory of Laura Shuping Hincemon. We will hold a dedication service on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can help by donating new and/or gently used children's clothing or cash donations. Please contact Mike or Monica Raney.

The church water heater has a leak and will be replaced.

**Bethel Committees** (BOLD is the Council Representative)

**Worship and Music:** Cathy Williams, Kara Thurston, Krista Monroe, Kelly Smith, **Todd Smith** and Pastor Peggy.

**Educational Ministry:** Pastor Peggy Terhune, **Mike Spry**

**Social Ministry:** Shelia Lingle, **Judy Hoffman**

**Stewardship:** Perry VonCanon, **Butch Williams**, Aaron Thurston

**Church Property:** Todd Smith, **Todd Lingle**, Winfred Kluttz, Todd Corriher, Mike Raney, Bob Kennerly, Dave Hibbard, and Mike Spry

**Scholarship:** Perry VonCanon, **Butch Williams**, Mike Raney and Dave Hincemon

**Evangelism:** All Council Members, **Pastor Peggy**

**Finance:** **Mike Raney**, Al Brandon, Butch Williams and Aaron Thurston

**Youth:** Jennifer Spry, **Mike Spry**

**Mission & Outreach:** **Monica Raney**, Brenda Holbrook, Linda Trier and Danny Hass

**Executive:** **Todd Corriher**, Todd Lingle, Mike Raney and Butch Williams

### Dates to Remember for February, March and April 2026:

Council Host for February 2026 is Todd Lingle

Council Hosts for March will be Mike and Monica Raney

Council Host for April will be Todd Smith

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 till 7:00 PM.

Ash Wednesday service will be on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

Laura's Children's Closet OPEN on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. Time TBD.

Bethel Blood drive will be on March 1, 2026 from 1:00-5:30 PM

On Saturday, March 14, 2026 Matthew Weaver will be here. Time TBD.

Emmaus weekends are March 12-15 and March 19-22. Contact Pastor Peggy if you are interested.

Our next Council meeting will be on Sunday March 8, 2026 immediately after church.

There being no further business, the Council meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted, *Butch Williams*, Bethel Church Council Secretary

## What's Happening in March!

**Saturday, March 14th Matthew Weaver with Clay Lunsford in concert, performing traditional Appalachian Mtn. Gospel and old-time country gospel music.** There will be fellowship following the performance; bring a finger food to share. Canned and cupboard foods will be collected at this event and all donations will be given to Rowan Helping Ministries to help their depleting family assist food pantry.

Thanks to Jerry Trier for donating a new Blessing Box! It is much larger than our current box. We will paint it and get it up in March. You can bring items to the church office, or put directly in the blessing box. We will be turning our former blessing box into a lending library. Books will be appreciated!

**Cemetery Cleanup** will take place in the 3rd week of March. If you have grave flowers you want to save please take them up before this week as all old flowers will be taken off of the graves.

**Thank you to everyone that brought food for our Super Bowl of Caring Food Collection!** 57 pounds of needed food (89 items) were collected and delivered to our neighbors in need. Even after missing the last two Sundays because of severe winter weather, the motto "God's Work, Our Hands" was on full display at Bethel on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026. We hosted Bethel's Super Bowl of Caring, collecting food for Rowan Helping Ministries Food Pantry.

**"Laura's Children's Closet" was dedicated on Sunday, February 22.** We are excited as a congregation to be able to provide this valuable outreach and be a blessing to the families with children in our community. Opening day was Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 10 until 2pm. Thank everyone for your dedication to this much needed community outreach. *Genesis 2: 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.* (NRSVUE).

We are continuing our bible study on what the Bible has to say about anxiety on Wednesday afternoons from 1-2:30 and Wednesday evenings via zoom from 7-8:30. If you are interested in starting now, you are welcome! See Peggy for the zoom invite, or email her at [peggy.terhune@gmail.com](mailto:peggy.terhune@gmail.com)

Three of our members, Judy Hoffman, Monica Raney, and Brenda Holbrook are going to be attending an **Emmaus retreat from March 19-22**. Peggy will also be on the weekend as a spiritual director. Please keep these ladies in your prayers during this time.

**Bethel's 175th Anniversary – We Need Your Ideas!** As we celebrate Bethel's 175th year of faith, service, and community, we're inviting our entire congregation to help us choose the perfect phrase, slogan, or short verse to serve as our anniversary theme. This theme will also appear on a t-shirt, so please keep submissions brief, memorable, and faith-centered. For example, our theme for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary was "God's Work is Our Great Heritage". A verse would also work very well. A submission box will be available in the narthex on **Sundays March 1, 8 & 15**. Simply drop your idea into the box — no artwork is needed. *Please keep your submission anonymous.*

The top suggestions will be shared with the congregation on **Sunday, March 22nd**, and everyone will **vote** on their favorite. The winning theme will be revealed on Palm Sunday, March 29th.

Thank you for helping us celebrate 175 years of God's blessings at Bethel. Stay tuned for more exciting events and news as we continue this special year together! Vickie Grubb, Chair,

Committee members Kathy Pifferetti / Lora Owen / Monica Raney, Council Rep., Pastor Peggy



This is a QR code created for easy access to the Bethel Website. Thank you Mike Raney, for its creation!

**Remember...please keep your church office informed of any activities, family news, change of address, etc. Your church family cares about you and wants to stay in touch!**

## LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION (LMIM) FEBRUARY 10, 2026

The Lutheran Men in Mission met on February 10, 2026 at Bethel Lutheran Church. There were 9 men in attendance. Perry opened the meeting and gave our blessing before supper. We enjoyed pizza and salad. Al Brandon gave our devotions entitled, "What's Wrong with This Picture?" from Psalm 37. The January 6, 2026 minutes were read. Perry made a motion to accept the minutes with the following changes; meeting date changed from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather and the location was changed from Pastor Carroll's Shop to Bethel Lutheran Church. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd Lingle and unanimously approved. Perry reported that we have \$2,006 in our LMIM account after donating \$200 to the Children's Clothing Closet. Our thoughts and prayers are with Wayne Chaffin and to Dave Hincemon. We will prepare and serve our Shrove's pancake supper on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Our next LMIM meeting will be on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026 at 6:30 PM at Pastor Carroll Robinson's shop. Dave Hibbard will give our devotions. Jerry Trier will prepare our meal so come out and enjoy it. At our next meeting we will discuss the Easter sunrise breakfast on April 5<sup>th</sup>. There being no further business, the meeting was closed with everyone reciting Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ: it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me: and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me".

Respectfully Submitted,

*Butch Williams*, Secretary LMIM



## WELCA, Minnie Williams Circle



Due to inclement weather the women's group cancelled the February meeting. They did gather after worship on Sunday, February 8th to work on the outreach program with NH, Rowan Medical Center, surgical waiting areas; supplying snacks for families. Their next meeting is planned for Monday, March 2 at 6:00 p.m., fellowship hall with Linda Trier hostess. All adult women of the church are welcome to attend.



Betty Shuping  
Katrina Kurfees  
Linda Plummer  
Peggy Swicegood  
Brenda Dwiggin  
Carolyn Hicks  
Marcia Miller  
Elaine Stiller  
Eric & Dawn Leach  
Danny Norman  
Robert & Gathel Meachem  
Cody McDowell  
Wayne Chaffin

Home of Daughter, 336-513-4035  
Home of Daughter,  
Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab., Memory Unit  
Continue prayers  
Continue prayers  
Continue prayers  
Continue prayers  
Recovering at her residence  
Continue prayers  
Continue prayers (brother of Ellen Webb)  
Brookdale, Room 34, 2201 Statesville Blvd.  
Continue prayers  
Recovering at his home

## A tidbit of Bethel's history.....

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1851 – 2016 Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold homecoming services on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate its 165th anniversary. The Rev. Carroll Robinson, pastor, will lead the service, and The Rev. Clarence Sifford, a member of the congregation, will deliver the sermon. The congregation will observe a traditional homecoming lunch after the service in the church fellowship hall. During the meal participants will be able to view memorabilia from previous years of the church's history. One hundred sixty-five years ago the Rev. Jacob Crim organized Bethel Lutheran Church. Our church family began its life in March, 1851 with 21 members. They worshiped at the Franklin Presbyterian Church. This building was located in the present Franklin Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Synodical records first contain the name Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1854. The first members of the church were descendants of German families who had come to America to escape religious persecution they had endured in their homeland. Many of the families traveled to Pennsylvania. They then came to North Carolina and settled in the eastern parts of Rowan, Davidson and Cabarrus counties. As the need for more farmland increased, these families moved to the western part of the county and settled in this area. Some of the early family names were Shuping, Cauble, Hoffman, Cruse, Miller, Zimmerman and Kennerly. The name Bethel refers to Jacob's vision in Genesis of a ladder set on earth reaching to heaven with angels ascending and descending on it and the Lord standing above it. When Jacob awoke from his dream, he set up an altar and called the place Beth-el, meaning "House of God." The early founders established Bethel Church as a "House of God" reflecting on God's presence and power. The first church building which was constructed in 1854 was a small frame structure located at the site of the present cemetery. Wooden shutters covered the windows and a stone wall surrounded both the church and the cemetery. This wall was replaced with a wire fence, which was also later removed. As a small village known as "Zeb" grew west of the church, Bethel's growing congregation necessitated a larger structure. A new house of worship was proposed to be built in the village; but this site met with opposition. A compromise was reached to build the new church midway between the old site and the village. This second building, started in 1880 and built by Samuel S. Carter, was a frame structure, 40 x 60 feet, painted white, and heated by a wood stove on each side of the building. This church was completed in 1883 and dedicated, free of debt, on April 29, 1883. In 1928 transepts were added, giving it more of the appearance of a cruciform church.

Watch for more to come in the April newsletter

Please plan to visit during our celebration year. There will be old friendships renewed and remembered as well as new ones created.



# March Celebrations



## Birthdays

|                 |      |                |      |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Peggy Terhune   | 4th  | Anna Bullock   | 16th |
| Joey Bullock    | 7th  | Jacob Thurston | 18th |
| Melissa Bullock | 9th  | Perry VonCanon | 19th |
| Jennifer Spry   | 12th | Carolyn Hicks  | 19th |
| Greg Hicks      | 14th | Tanner Kincaid | 20th |
| Bob Terhune     | 14th | Aaron Thurston | 21st |
| Lora Owen       | 16th | Shelia Lingle  | 25th |
| Allison Hartung | 16th | Todd Stiller   | 29th |
|                 |      | Judy Kennerly  | 30th |

## Baptisms

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Michael Spry    | March 17th |
| Carly Stiller   | March 24th |
| Jamie Zimmerman | March 26th |
| Krista Monroe   | March 26th |

Happy Anniversary

## Anniversaries

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Spry | March 1st  |
| Mr. & Mrs. Lee VonCanon | March 12th |

# Welcome to Our Church

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

355 East Ridge Road Salisbury, North Carolina 28144-9404 Phone 704 636-0331

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Email - [parishadmin@bethellutheranofsalisbury.com](mailto:parishadmin@bethellutheranofsalisbury.com) Website - [Bethelsalisbury.org](http://Bethelsalisbury.org)  
Like Us on Facebook

Peggy Terhune, S.A.M., Minister

Cell Phone 704 305-0752 Email—[Peggy.terhune@gmail.com](mailto:Peggy.terhune@gmail.com)

Organist Cathy Williams

Choir Director Kara Thurston

Parish Administrator Martha Graham

*All Are Welcome!*

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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Salisbury, NC 28144-9404

