

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SERVICES & MEETINGS

Bible Study – Wednesday – 10:00 to 11:30 AM
Craft Night - Wednesday – 7:00 PM
Sunday Morning Worship Service – May 24 – 9:00 AM
Sunday School Session – May 24 – following worship
BethelFest 6 – June 5 – 5:00 PM - 9:

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### **WORSHIP STATISTICS**

**5/10/2026**

In Person Attendance – 49  
Virtual Attendance (YouTube Views) – 27

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THANK YOU TO THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Greeter: Rick & Linda Foulke
Acolyte: Jameson Kleibscheidel
Lector: Lynette Daniels
Ushers: Lynette Daniels & Madison Warmkessel
Cantor: Rick Foulke

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LeAnne Zettlemoyer  
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# 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

9:00 AM



*Thank you for worshipping with us. Our songs of praise  
were more meaningful because your voice joined with  
ours!*

*Please, come again!*

### Good Morning.

We would like to welcome you to New Bethel to worship with our church family. Visitors know that it is our privilege to have you with us this morning. Please come back again soon. Upon exiting the church, take a moment to sign our Guest Register at the front doors.

### SILENT MEDITATION PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**PRAYER NOTES:** In your conversation with GOD this morning, give thanks to Him for the healing that He has brought to so many lives.

*"Don't ask God to do what you want. Ask God to do what is right."*



## † ORDER OF WORSHIP †

### THE PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

(^ = PLEASE STAND, AS YOU ARE ABLE)

Worship Reminder: Congregational responses are to be read slowly and expressively. Thank you.

**^OPENING HYMN – No. 92** "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

**^CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 68: 1-10, 32-35**

*Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)*

<sup>1</sup> Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup> **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at  
the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup> But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup> **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who  
rides the clouds;**

**I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup> In your holy habitation, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup> **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into  
freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup> O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup> **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the  
presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup> You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup> **Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the  
poor.**

<sup>32</sup> Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup> **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup> Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

<sup>35</sup> **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

### ^PRAISE HYMNS

#### "O Come to the Altar"

Are you hurting and broken within, overwhelmed by the weight of your  
sin? Jesus is calling.

Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the  
well? Jesus is calling.

O Come to the Altar. the Father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today, there's no reason  
to wait. Jesus is calling.

Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes a new life is  
born. Jesus is calling.

O Come to the Altar. the Father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Oh what a Savior. Isn't He wonderful? Sing Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
Bow down before Him, for He is Lord of all. Sing Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Oh what a Savior. Isn't He wonderful? Sing Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
Bow down before Him, for He is Lord of all. Sing Alleluia! Christ is risen!

O Come to the Altar. the Father's arms are open wide.  
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

O Come to the Altar. the Father's arms are open wide.  
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

**\*\*Bear your cross as you wait for the Crown.**

Tell the world of the treasure you found!!!

### **"In Christ Alone"**

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light, my strength, my song

This Cornerstone, this solid ground

Firm through the fiercest drought and storm

What heights of love, what depths of peace

When fears are stilled, when strivings cease

My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh. Fullness of God in helpless babe

This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save

'Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied

For every sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground, His body lay, light of the world, by darkness slain

Then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave, He rose again

And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me

For I am His and He is mine bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me

From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand

'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand

'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**PASTOR:** Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You

lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that

nourish us,

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our

journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down

barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

**PASTOR:** Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and

for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you

honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **TODAY'S LESSONS (HEARING GOD'S WORD):**

*In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in*

*the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world.*

*In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name.*

*Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had*

*with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world,*

*eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.*

### **FIRST READING: ACTS 1:6-14**

*Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the*

*Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his*

*disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive*

*the power of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>6</sup>When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this

the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is

not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own

authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon

you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria,

and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were

watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While

he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men

in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you

stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from

you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which

is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered

the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter,

and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and

Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of

James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together

with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his

brothers.

## RESPONSE: "Psalm 27: The Lord Is My Light"

The Lord is my light,  
The Lord is my light,  
The Lord is my light and my salvation.

## SECOND READING: 1 PETER 4:12-14; 5:6-11

*Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.*

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>5:6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

## ^ GLORIA PATRI:

***"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." Amen.***

## ^ GOSPEL: JOHN 17:1-11

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup> "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

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## ^ THE APOSTLES' CREED:

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## HOMILY (SHARING GOD'S WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN)

### SERMON (SHARING GOD'S WORD)

Rev. Robert Peiffer

"One"

### ^ HYMN – No. 643

"I Know Not Where the Road Will Lead"

## PASSING OF PEACE

## MORNING OFFERING: (RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD)

## SPECIAL MUSIC

## ^ PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

**^THE DOXOLOGY:**

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

*All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen*

**^BENEDICTION:**

*May the strength of God pilot us; May the wisdom of God instruct us; May the hand of God protect us; May the word of God direct us. Be always ours this day and forevermore. Amen.*

**^CLOSING HYMN – No. 558** "Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

**^WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

**^POSTLUDE**



**DURING THE WEEK PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

**THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS:**

Dick Albright, Michael Aulenbach, Carla Bartholomew, Sandra Bauscher, Tina Billig, Pastor Dave Blitch, Amy Bottazzi, Brenda Derr, Darryl Dieter, Jay Drey, Trista Fulmer-Smith, Donna Greenawalt, Sharon (Henry) Griffiths, Tim Haring, Felicity Herring, Tiffany Hoch, Casey Hoffman, Ernie Kanas, Bethany Keck, Emily Keck, Zoie Keck, Blair Keim, Cindy Keiser, Deb Kenney, Davis Knauer, Emma Laigaie, Judy Lenhart, Peggy Light, George Megerle, Mary Beth Mogus, Andy Miller, Diane Miller, Bonnie Moll, Heather Munsey, Lloyd Pettit, Steve Schwoyer, Kevin Smith, Margaret Snyder, Melanie Wessner, Cassie Wolfe, Joanne Zawada-Paskoff, Reuben Zettlemoyer, Susan Zettlemoyer, and Ben Ziehmer.

**THOSE WHO ARE SHUT INS:**

Forrest Graff, Pat Graff, Lillie Henninger, Myrna Kamp, Michael Kirkhoff, Nancy Kleinsmith, Sandy Long, Lester Lutz, Christie Ryan, Delano and Sandra Schucker.

**THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY:**

Cooper Dunn, Amanda Kertsmar and Trista Fulmer-Smith.



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This morning the altar flowers are presented by Irwin and Marge Hamm in honor of their 41st wedding anniversary. Congratulations Irwin and Marge!

**PASTOR AVAILABILITY THIS WEEK:** On Tuesday and Wednesday the Pastor will be attending a continuing education event in Salisbury, Maryland. Responses to phone calls and email messages may not be as timely as usual. Your patience will be appreciated.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES:** Some dates to remember. Today is the last day of classes for Sunday School and the Confirmation Class. It is also the last Coffee Fellowship Social time until fall. Confirmation this year is May 24, Pentecost Sunday, This year Jameson Kleibschedel will be confirmed. We will also be celebrating Holy Communion on that Sunday. Following worship on May 24 there will be a Donut Social to celebrate Jameson's confirmation with everyone invited.

**HELPING OUR NEIGHBOR:** We have a chance to help one of our neighbors and also a member of our extended church family. The Virginville Grange is running their Annual Benefit Chicken BBQ Dinner on June 7 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This year the funds raised are going to the Mummolo Family, who are going through an incredibly tough time since Brian's passing. The cost for the Chicken BBQ is \$13.00 and to order call 484-866-5304. You can also order tickets with Ruthann or at Dietrich Meats. Please purchase your tickets by June 1. Also available the day of the dinner – PA Farm Show milkshakes and homemade desserts. Please help ease the financial burden for Emily and her daughters and get a delicious dinner to enjoy at home.

**OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONALS:** The new regular print Our Daily Bread Devotionals are now available down at the bulletin board. Pick up your copy today.

**RURAL MINDS:** May is ***Mental Health Awareness Month***, a national observance that dates to 1949. Throughout the month, New Bethel will feature the groundbreaking work of ***Rural Minds***, an innovative nonprofit that is aiming "to end the suffering, silence, and stigma surrounding mental illness in rural America." On Thursday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m., New Bethel will become a participation site for ***Removing Stigma and Building Mental Wellness in Farm Communities***, a national webinar sponsored by ***Rural Minds***, ***The National Grange***, and ***Rural Mental Health Connections***.

**BETHEL FEST 6:** This year Bethel Fest 6 will be held on Friday, June 5, from 5-9pm. Dave Kline and his musical guests will perform a variety of folk, gospel and bluegrass music. **Please consider volunteering your time or donating Baked Goods or drinks to make our annual event a success.** Sell refreshments, donate baked goods, set up and tear down tables and awnings, sell and collect tickets, place posters and yard signs, grill hot dogs and burgers...you name it-we'll take your help! **Sign-up sheets with additional information on the table in the Sunday School area. Please contact Steve Brendlinger (484-225-3366) if you have any questions.** All profits benefit the New Bethel Local Missions Fund for those in need. A portion of last year's profit was given to the Walnuttown Fire Company to help the families of the firefighters who were tragically killed this past month.

## **SAVE THE DATE!!**

**JUNE 30** – Vince's Cheesesteaks will be at the Kempton Fire Co. on Tuesday June 30 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. For every sandwich sold, \$1.00 will be donated back to New Bethel to support our Local Mission Fund. This is a take-out only event. Buy sandwiches and support this worthy cause!!

**VBS 2026:** July 20, 21, and 22 are the dates for our summer VBS session. The time each evening is 6:30 to 8:15. This year the theme is "Joseph's Coat of Many Colors. Join in the fun as Joseph and his colorful life is explored with dinner, story time, crafts, songs and of course, games – some of the games may involve water!! Bring your children and grandchildren and have them join in the fun.

**BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY BY & FOR LAY PEOPLE:** Our Bible Study sessions are every Wednesday morning at the same time – 10:00 to 11:30 AM. Coffee and snacks are available. Anyone is welcome to join even if you have not attended any in the past.

Here are dates to remember for some future Bible Study sessions.

June 3 – Bible Study – 9:30 to 10:30 instead of the regular time

June 10 – Irwin Hamm Presentation

July – NO BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS IN JULY

August 5 – Bible Study sessions resume.

**2026 FLOWER CHART:** The 2026 Flower Chart is now hanging down on the bulletin board with many dates available for you to place flowers on the altar. Pick your dates today!

**TINY DEVOTIONAL LIBRARY:** Looking for a new devotional? Take a moment and check out our tiny devotional library in the corner of the vestibule by the chair lift. There are many choices for you to use to enhance your devotional time.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:** We are always looking for people to serve as worship assistants. So if you are looking for a way to offer your time the Worship Committee is looking for more worship assistants – greeters, ushers, lectors and communion assistants. The time involved is minimal and time is something that anyone can donate! If you are interested, contact Ruthann.

**CRAFT NIGHT:** Join the crafters Wednesday evenings as we gather to craft and enjoy fellowship time in the comfort of the Sunday School area. Craft Nights are held 2 hours, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. It doesn't matter what the craft is, come and enjoy! Even if you do not have a craft that you are working on you are invited to join us for the fellowship.

**WEIS GIFT CARDS:** Since we have been offering Weis Gift Cards we have raised an average of \$500 a year for our local mission Community Outreach. So if you are looking for a gift card for a gift? Why not purchase a Weis gift card Everyone has to shop for food and by purchasing a gift card you can benefit our Community Outreach. That's two pluses in one! Our Weis program benefits New Bethel's Community Outreach, so every card sold is a gift twice over! Please see Vicki or Shirley Wessner after church or contact Vicki at 484-357-6371 or [wessner@verizon.net](mailto:wessner@verizon.net) to purchase a card. The cards may be used in the Kutztown, Hamburg or Fogelsville Weis stores. Thank you to anyone who has purchased one or more of these gift cards over the years.

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS:** If you are a Thrivent member and receive Thrivent Choice Dollars did you know you could designate them to New Bethel Church? It's easy to do but if you need the information on how to designate them there is a flyer down at the bulletin board or talk to your Thrivent representative.

**TITHE.LY:** If you would like to contribute or make your weekly offering to New Bethel and can't make it to church try TITHE.LY! By donating this way you are able to make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations. Tithe.ly deposits the funds directly to the Church's bank account at the same time tracking your donations on a yearly basis. Their website is <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1308566>

**NEW BETHEL ENDOWMENT FUND:** As you plan your financial legacy please consider New Bethel Church in your plan. Our endowment fund will accept monetary gifts including stock that would be deposited into our brokerage account. Having a strong endowment fund will help to keep New Bethel going strong for future generations.

**ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE:** Thank you! Recent financial donations have been earmarked for our church endowment fund. The fund balance as of mid-April is now \$122,462.00. Your donations to this ongoing fund help to ensure a financially healthy church for generations to come. Heartfelt thanks to all who support our endowment!

**ON-LINE SERVICE INFORMATION:** Can't get to church on Sunday morning? If you would like to view the service just go to [nbchurchkempton.org](http://nbchurchkempton.org) and click on the Youtube link on our home page. There you will find videos of our recent services that are available for viewing.

**PASTORAL CARE:** When you are in need of pastoral care, please have a family member contact Pastor Peiffer at 570.778.1245 or call the church at 610.756.6589. If you are in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, please let admissions know your church code is #457.

**2026 NEW BETHEL CHURCH BOARD**

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jon Bond – President         | Linda Foulke – Vice President    |
| Barb Dieter – Secretary      | Lynette Daniels                  |
| Marge Hamm                   | Penny Rhodes                     |
| Janelle Stump                | Sherry Stump                     |
| Luisa Follweiler – Treasurer | Tanya Lang – Financial Secretary |





### **ALBANY TOWNSHIP PANTRY**

**First Tuesday of each month - 2:00 to 4:00 PM**  
Kempton Community Center

Food pantry and social services are open to Albany Township residents and families in need. Resources are also available for those who are struggling with financial challenges (ex. Utility bills) or need help applying for food or medical assistance. If you have any questions about your options, contact Friend, Inc. at 610-683-9011.

### **FRIEND, INC. Food Pantry**

During these times let us not forget those less fortunate than we are. If you are able, please consider donating any nonperishable items. For the month of May we will be collecting cereal and breakfast items.

In addition to food items, please consider donating personal items such as shampoo, soap, etc. and household items (laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, etc.). These last items are things that we often overlook.

Friend, Inc. also collects pet food to help families in need provide for their pets. These items will be distributed by Friend, Inc.

***Thank You All For Your Generosity!***