



Double Issue
JULY/AUGUST 2026



New Bethel Church
135 New Bethel Church Road
Kempton, PA 19529

Office and church: 610-756-6589
Email: NBCKempton@gmail.com
Newsletter: bondart@ptd.net

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00am **SUNDAY SCHOOL** 10:15am

Summer Means....



**New
Bethel
Church**



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.

VBS NEED: For VBS this summer the Sunday School is in need of small weaving looms (pot holder size) to borrow. If you would like to lend one to them please make sure to put your name on the loom. After VBS they will be returned to you. If possible, they would like to have between 12 and 24 looms. See Barb Dieter if you have one to lend.

...More Details on Page 2

JOIN US FOR
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

JOSEPH *and*
THE COAT OF MANY COLORS



DATES: JULY 20-22
TIME: 6:30 PM - 8:15 PM DAILY

LOCATION
NEW BETHEL CHURCH
135 NEW BETHEL CHURCH RD, KEMPTON, PA

JOIN US FOR A FUN TIME WITH MUSIC, CRAFTS, FOOD AND STORY TIME

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!
(Toddlers under 2 years old must
have a parent or guardian stay.)

RSVP TO BARB DIETER
CALL OR TEXT: 484-335-3166



Light in the Darkness

Do not be mismatched with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and lawlessness have in common? Or what partnership is there between light and darkness? - 2 Corinthians 6:14 (NRSV)

Of all the verses I struggle with in the Bible, this one ranks near the top. The utter audacity of creating a false binary between righteousness and lawlessness, light and darkness, believer and unbeliever! Please.

As if faith is so easily sorted. As if “believers” are always safe, loving, humble, or just. As if an “unbeliever” cannot be compassionate, honest, generous, or wise. Many of us have been wounded by “Bible-believing Christians” and healed by people who couldn’t quote a single verse of Scripture.

Jesus wasn’t especially worried about contamination. He ate with the wrong people, touched the untouchables, praised outsiders, and let strangers reveal God’s grace. The gospel keeps undoing our tidy categories of saints and sinners.

So let’s not read this verse as permission to shrink our circle, fear difference, or mistake purity for love. Let’s read it as a warning against partnerships that ask us to abandon our souls. Some yokes connect us; some break us. Some relationships and systems heal; others ask us to call cruelty practical, silence holy, greed responsible, and domination peace.

The true “mismatch” is not between Christian and non-Christian, but between love and harm; between the liberating Spirit of Christ and anything that demands we become less empathetic, less truthful, less free.

Let’s separate ourselves from the very idea of “them” and from whatever in us, not to mention around us, keeps partnering with darkness while calling it light.

Prayer May I stay open to love and wisdom wherever they appear, gracious God, and reject whatever binds me to harm. Amen.

Welcome to our first edition of Recurring Announcements. These announcements rarely change and may get overlooked. Please keep this copy for informational purposes. If you can't find your copy during the month a copy will be available at the bulletin board. New editions with an updated calendar will be available every month.



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 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

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>

REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS

Dick Albright, Michael Aulenbach, Carla Bartholomew, Sandra Bauscher, Tina Billig, Pastor Dave Blich, 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.



Come join us for Bible study on Wednesday mornings from 10 - 11:30, for learning, laughs, light refreshments, and lasting friendships. We will break for the month of July, and resume on August 5, with our in depth study of the 4 Gospels, featuring the book FOLLOW. We are currently in the book of Luke. We'll save you a seat!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

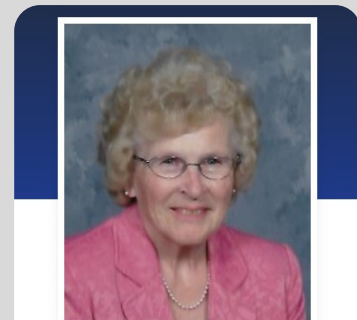
JULY 2 David Schucker
JULY 6 Jeffrey Sunday
JULY 10 Irwin Hamm
JULY 10 Mark Miller
JULY 10 Vernetta Meyers
JULY 13 Linda Schroeder
JULY 19 Ted Stump
JULY 22 Evan Donkus
JULY 24 Kayla Quales
JULY 25 Ronald Wessner
JULY 29 Peter Zettlemoyer
JULY 31 Tanya Lang



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 1 Julia Derstine
AUGUST 1 Willis Henry
AUGUST 5 Kevin Sunday
AUGUST 6 Arlan Christ
AUGUST 8 Joseph Barry
AUGUST 27 Kay Brendlinger
AUGUST 28 Ruthann Lutz
AUGUST 29 Brenda Loch
AUGUST 31 Pat Graff

IN MEMORY



Lillie E. Henninger

New Bethel and Our Community



RESCUE FIREFIGHTERS DEMONSTRATE AT BIBLE STUDY



On June 10th, firefighters Irwin Hamm, Otto Cole, Jack Lumsden, and Hayden King came to Bible study to show us hydraulic equipment, battery operated equipment, and show us demonstrations with the air bags, and rope and basket. They answered all of our questions, and made everything very interesting. We learned that our volunteer firefighters need extensive knowledge, skills, and training to act quickly and safely in extremely difficult and stressful situations. Each volunteer is a blessing to this community.

REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS

Ray Bilger
Maidencreek Place
105 Dries Road #56
Reading PA 19605

Lila Kramer
420 Krocks Road,
Apt. 236
Wescosville, PA 18106

Pat Graff
601 St John St
Rm 211B
Allentown, PA 18103

Myrna Kamp
Lutheran Home at Topton,
Rm 17
1 S Home Ave
Topton, PA 19562

George and Judy Megerle
Fellowship Community
The Villa Room 323
3000 Fellowship Drive
Whitehall, PA 18052



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR

CHURCH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
TRUNK OR TREAT
BLUE CHRISTMAS

OCTOBER 3
OCTOBER 17 & 18
DECEMBER 19