



January 2023

Tower Notes

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY AND OTISVILLE UMC
Clio, Michigan 48420

From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year! New Year, New Me—this is the mantra many of us say as we turn the page to a new year. For the most recent years of my life in ministry, I have spent my week of vacation following Christmas reflecting on the year and looking forward to the year ahead. I've noted the places that I've grown—where I've not quite hit the expectations of people, where I have opportunities for growth, how God has been present in it all and what God is calling to me next. This past week I spent time doing that and thinking about how those categories align with the first six months we have had together as a Cooperative Parish. There have been moments where our time together has been easy and full of laughter and joy. There have been moments where tensions may have been high. God is in all—challenging us each to grow personally and as faithful disciples. How are these moments calling you into deeper relationship with God, the church, your pastor and one another? Are you feeling led to have a conversation with me? I'd love to hear from you and make an appointment with you as time permits!

I suspect many of you have done some of that work throughout the course of your life and maybe not just at the end of the year, maybe you do it once a quarter or midway through the year to reset and align your goals, hopes and dreams. As New Years Resolutions have become a part of our culture, it's all a part of the process of thinking back to remember forward and lean into a life that leads to life abundant. We do not do this work in silos, in fact, the work is best done when we engage with the Holy Spirit to guide us in the reflection, letting God speak to us about the ways which we can be more faithful people.

Our first Sunday in the new year, we did something NEW for our ministry together. We worshipped together at Otisville. It was a



Please join the Bridge Team and every member of Otisville and Bethany churches in praying the following prayer, either at 8:30a.m. or 8:30p.m.—or Both!—as we send a communal prayer to our Lord and Savior to be with all of us as we dream a Jesus sized dream for our Cooperative Parish. Please be in prayer for us as we continue on this journey for both churches.

“Resurrecting God, Guide us to discern YOUR Jesus sized dream for our Cooperative Parish. Amen”

wonderful blessing to begin a new in a new space! The sermon was a reflection about star words. Star words?? What are those?!

Star words are words of intention that we can use to help guide our year. I challenged those in worship to draw at random. There is something about not having any control over the word you receive for a year—and it's amazing, from my own experience how God can use simple words to help us grow throughout a year. It's a lens that we might view the world and our growth uniquely through. It can be used during our prayer time with God to open our eyes to the ways in which we might need to experience this word—it might even call you to take a step of faith and lean into a new ministry. There are some guiding questions I asked that you can find below. It is a practice I have thoroughly enjoyed, it has helped me grow, and I pray it is a blessing to you as well! My word by the way—is Align! It's relevant in many ways personally, spiritually and as your pastor—you can expect you will be hearing about alignment throughout the year!

Together we serve—*Pastor Kayla*

Communications Update!

Bethany and Otisville have agreed to participate in a One Call Tell All communications system. This is a calling program that will allow us to place calls for reminders, announcements and prayer chain calls so there is one, clear and consistent message. Should you not be able to answer your home (land line OR cell phone) it will leave you a voice message. The message will come from someone from church (initially Pastor Kayla, but she'll be looking for helpers). We would like to ask that one number per household signs up for this—but we need your help to sign-up! There will be a sign-up sheet available, please designate your name and the home number you would like us to include so we can begin implementing in the weeks ahead!



Start with what you know – how do you define the word? How do you already experience this word – is it negative, is it positive? What emotion does it evoke in you as you have received the word?

What do you need to know? How is the word defined? What does scripture say? What do current and historic leaders have to say about this word? What is inspiring or challenging about this word to you?

How might God be calling you to stretch and grow through the lens of this word in 2023? Personal: family, friends, finances, spiritually, health and mental well-being, maybe God is calling you to something new in this season through the randomness of the draw.



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|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Matt. 1 | 11. Matt. 8:18-34 | 21. Matt. 14:1-21 | 31. Matt. 20:17-34 |
| 2. Matt. 2 | 12. Matt. 9:1-17 | 22. Matt. 14:22-36 | |
| 3. Matt. 3 | 13. Matt. 9:18-38 | 23. Matt. 15: 1-20 | |
| 4. Matt. 4 | 14. Matt. 10:1-20 | 24. Matt. 15:21-39 | |
| 5. Matt. 5:1-26 | 15. Matt. 10:21-42 | 25. Matt. 16 | |
| 6. Matt. 5:27-48 | 16. Matt. 11 | 26. Matt. 17 | |
| 7. Matt. 6:1-18 | 17. Matt. 12:1-23 | 27. Matt. 18:1-20 | |
| 8. Matt. 6:19-34 | 18. Matt. 12 24-50 | 28. Matt. 18:21-35 | |
| 9. Matt. 7 | 19. Matt. 13:1-30 | 29. Matt. 19 | |
| 10. Matt. 8:1-17 | 20. Matt. 13:31-58 | 30. Matt. 20:1-16 | |

Bethany Happenings

COMMUNITY DINNERS

Bethany UMC Community Dinners are every Wednesday at 5:30 PM. These meals are free to anyone that wishes to come and enjoy some good food and fellowship. You do not need to be affiliated with the church in any way to attend. **HELP NEEDED!** We need people willing to prepare a meal for this ministry. If you are able to help in any capacity, but especially in preparing a meal, please let Les Randall or the church office know.

WORSHIP DESIGN WORKSHOP

A workshop, for anyone interested in helping to design our Sunday Worship Service, has been set for February 4 from 10 AM to 2:00 PM. Join our Worship Design Team as we plan our season of Lent.



GAME NIGHT The Merry Methodists Group is hosting a game and dessert night on January 21, at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the fun. They would love to have you. You are welcome to bring a dessert to share if you like.

MEDITATE & PAINT Our Committee On Education is hosting an event, along with the company, Healthy Self Wellness. This will be a relaxing evening of light stretching and painting. Tea and refreshments will be provided. If you are interested in some light chair yoga along with doing a canvas painting that you can take home, please let the church office know. The date is set for January 26 from 6-8:00 PM and the cost is \$20.00.

ALL CHURCH BIRTHDAY PARTY will take place on January 29 after the church service. A pot-luck is planned along with a cake to celebrate everyone's birthday. We will have 12 tables to represent the 12 months

of the year. Each table will be decorated according to that month. If you are interested in decorating a table, please see the sign up sheet at the information desk in the gathering room.

SUNDAY MORNING ACTIVITIES Choir practice is at 9:30 AM and anyone that enjoys singing is welcome to come and practice, then join us during the service as we sing for the congregation. *Sunday School* is for all ages and we start classes at 10:00 AM. Our *Worship Service* begins at 11:15 AM with a fellowship time following the service. Our service can also be found on Facebook.

ROLLER SKATING is held every Tuesday at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome. \$1.00 donation a person which includes skate rental.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE is back. Join us at 4:30 for an hour of fun learning the Bible and participating in activities set for children and youth.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY will be taking a break until Lent. The bible study will be called "John, The Gospel of Light and Life". If you are interested in attending, please let the office know so we can reserve your book.



Shut-in Outreach

Madelon Sipler
Brookdale Grand Blanc
5080 E. Baldwin Rd.
Holly, MI 48442
810-687-0248

Ron Lemmon
1126 Pinehurst
Mt. Morris, MI 48458
810-686-5739

Ruth Ackerman
11364 Runnels Dr.
Clio, MI 48420
810-686-9406

Norma Gillette
3056 Wilman Dr.
Clio, MI 48420

Emma Wagner
Cranberry Park
1354 E. Vienna Rd
Clio, MI 48420

Wilma Thoms
513 Elm St.
Clio, MI 48420
810-686-6285

Jack and Mary Edwards
4480 W. Lake Rd.
Clio, MI 48420
810-686-0364

Dorothy Isbell
12063 Sara
Montrose, MI 48457
810-639-1055

Juanita Woolworth
3221 E. Baldwin
Rm. 221
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
810-730-7670

John & Pat Corder
4029 W. Dodge Rd.
Clio, MI 48420
810-730-7670

Margaret Gray
4165 Willard Rd.
Birch Run, MI 48415
810-686-9143

Darlene Morgridge
P.O. Box 446
Clio, MI 48420

Pat and Chris Longueil
9170 Maplewood Dr.
Clio, MI 48420

Bob and Carol Wilson
11365 Runnels Dr.
Clio, MI 48420
810-686-8737

Don Cain
461 Selkirk Dr,
Mt. Morris, MI 48458
810-265-6162

Please remember these wonderful members of Bethany's congregation. Give them a call or send them a card letting them know that we are thinking of them and sending them our love! Cards are available in the Gathering Room or ask Kory, if there aren't any on the table next to the coat room!

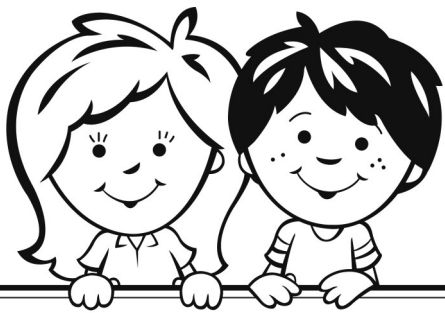
If you know of someone who is not a church member, but would just like to receive a card or a message, please get them to Diane Weaver and she will add them to the list. Everyone is welcome and needs a kind word.

Hope-Filled Hearts

When Bowen Hammitt was born with essentially half a heart, the odds were stacked against him. But after three surgeries and numerous setbacks, Bowen is now an active 11-year-old who raises awareness about congenital heart disease. He's also a budding Christian musician, following in the footsteps of his dad, Matt (formerly with Sanctus Real). The Hammitts use Bowen's story to offer hope amid adversity — "a message the world really needs right now." The documentary *Bowen's Heart* features this tagline: "Is it worth giving your heart to something that can break it?" Absolutely, say his loved ones, who describe Bowen and his life as incredible blessings from God.

For Matt Hammitt, Proverbs 13:12 is now a favorite Bible verse. "Hope deferred makes the heart sick," it reads, "but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life" (NIV).





KIDS PAGE



Some popcorn plus a little heat makes a big change.

What you need:

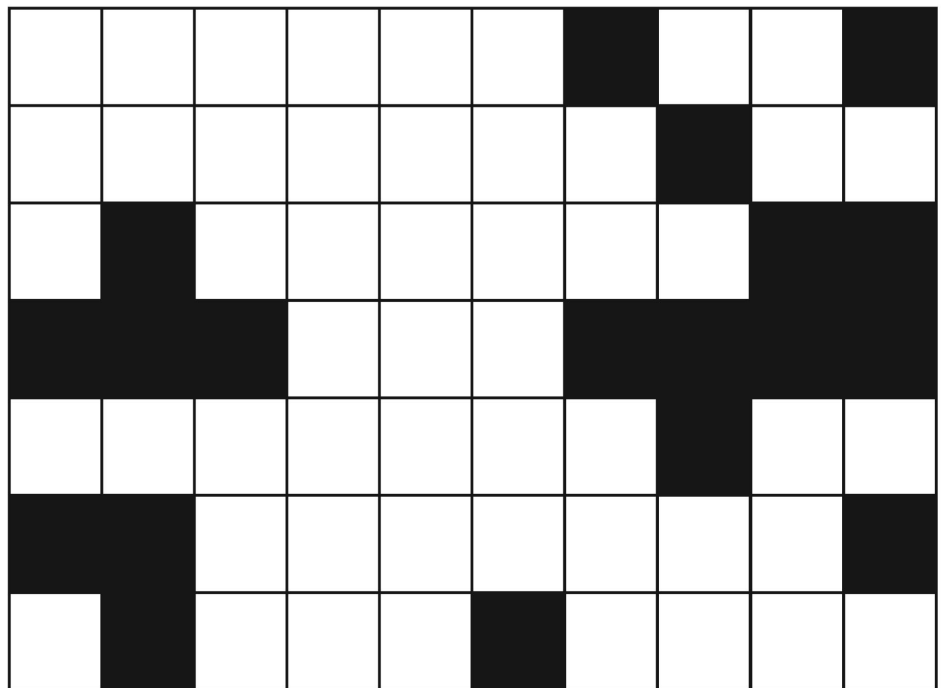
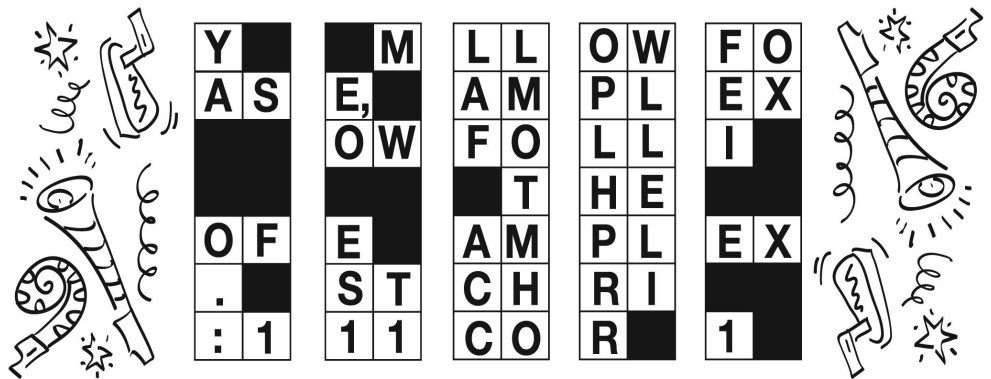
- 2 Tbsp. popcorn kernels
- 2 tsp. oil
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- Brown paper lunch bag

What you do:

1. Add popcorn kernels, oil and sugar to the bag.
2. Fold the bag's top down about half an inch. Repeat two more times. Gently shake to mix ingredients.
3. Microwave for 1½ or 2 minutes (or use the Popcorn setting). Allow bag to cool before removing and opening it.
4. As you share popcorn with family and friends, discuss the change in the kernels. Read Acts 2 together. What changes did the disciples experience? What was the source of their power?

Puzzle!

Match the blocks of spaces and letters to complete an NIV Bible verse about an important commitment.



Answer: Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.
1 Cor. 11:1



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship at Otisville 11:15a.m. with Pot- luck to follow	2 Design team 4:30p.m. Trustees 7:00p.m.	3 Men's Night Out 6:00p.m. Rollerskating 6:30p.m. SPRC 5:00p.m.	4 VIBE 3:00 pm WNL 4:30 PM Bible Study 4:30p.m. Community Dinner 5:30p.m.	5 Noon Backpack- ing Knitting 1:00p.m. AA 6:30p.m. Choir/Band/Bells 1:30p.m.-:30p.m.	6	7 Take down Christmas 10:00a.m.
8 Choir 9:30a.m. Sunday School 10:00a.m. Worship 11:15a.m.	9 Bridge Team 5:00p.m. Otisville	10 Men's Night Out 6:00p.m. Rollerskating 6:30p.m.	11 . VIBE 3:00 pm WNL 4:30 PM Bible Study 4:30p.m. Community Dinner 5:30p.m.	12 Noon Back- packing Knitting 1:00p.m. AA 6:30p.m. Choir/Band/Bells 1:30-3:30p.m.	13	14
15 Choir 9:30a.m. Sunday School 10:00a.m. Worship 11:15a.m.	16 Design 4:30a.m.	17 SPRC 5:00p.m. Men's Night Out 6:00p.m. Rollerskating 6:30p.m.	18 Nominations 11:00a.m. VIBE 3:00 pm WNL 4:30 PM Bible Study 4:30p.m. Community Dinner 5:30p.m.	19 COE 10:00a.m. Noon Backpack- ing Knitting 1:00p.m. Choir/Band/Bells 1:30-3:30p.m. AA 6:30p.m.	20	21M&M's Game Night 7:00p.m. Bring a snack and beverage
22 Choir 9:30a.m. Sunday School 10:00a.m. Worship 11:15a.m.	23 Design 4:30p.m. AD Board 7:00 pm	24 Men's Night Out 6:00p.m. Rollerskating 6:30p.m.	25 VIBE 3:00 pm WNL 4:30 PM Bible Study 4:30p.m. Community Dinner 5:30p.m.	26 Noon Backpack- ing Knitting 1:00p.m. Choir/Band/Bells 1:30-3:30p.m. Soft Yoga and Paint 6-8p.m	27	28
29 Choir 9:30a.m. Sunday School 10:00a.m. Worship 11:15a.m.	30 Design 4:30p.m. .	31 Men's Night Out 6:00p.m. Rollerskating 6:30p.m.				

Tower Notes

Bethany United Methodist Church
353 E. Vienna St.
Clio, MI 48420-0327
810-686-5151

Otisville United Methodist Church

“There are no strangers among us, only friends we have not yet met.”

OTISVILLE UMC WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 am

BETHANY UMC WORSHIP SERVICE
11:15 am

Pastor Kayla is at Bethany Monday,
Wednesday, and Thursday.
She is at Otisville on Tuesday.

Please call to schedule an appointment with
her if you wish to talk with her.

**Our goal is to motivate and equip all
people to:**

- **Accept Jesus as the Son of God and choose Him as their personal Savior**
- **Engage in a lifelong relationship with Jesus**
- **Use all means to share the love of God with others**



Bethany UMC
Church office hours
Mon.—Thurs. 9 a.m.—4 p.m.
Fri.—Closed

(810)686-5151

STAFF MEMBERS
PASTOR: Kayla Roosa
Director of Children and Youth
Ministries: Marc Middleton
Secretary: Kory Sanger