

# COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MT. BETHEL AND PORTLAND

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Rev. John H. Heinsohn  
Minister of Visitation

February 2025  
Volume 12, Issue 2

We had a good annual congregational meeting on Sunday, 1/26/25. Thanks to the deacons for provided the refreshments.

The Book of Order mandates that every congregation have a board of Elder-Trustees which make up the ruling body, called the session. Our by-laws call for six elders to serve on the board. The nominating committee could not find the third elder to present to the congregation for a three- year term. Lillian Williams volunteered to take that position at the meeting. The elders will be installed during the worship service on Sunday, 2/9.

We were not so fortunate with the Deacon board. The Book of Order does not mandate a deacon board for congregations but most churches do have a board of Deacons. Our By-laws call for the board to have six officially elected deacons serving tree- year terms. Some churches, recognizing the importance of this ministry of care and compassion, have decided to have additional helpers beyond the formally elected ones. They are often seen as playing a very important part of the deacon's ministry.

We have four formally elected deacons currently serving on the board and I am suggesting that we welcome some volunteers to assist the deacons this year. A congregation cannot be a caring fellowship without a concerted effort to care for all members and to extend compassion to the members of the surrounding community. A couple of 'helping angels' would be most encouraging to the deacons and a blessing to the church. And, they are not committed to a three- year term.

Lent begins in March and for the Lenten Wednesday lunches, I am planning to offer several sessions on Dietrich Bonhoeffer who was martyred by the Nazi at the end of WW2. *The Cost of Discipleship* is his most well-known book but he wrote a number of others as well.

Our Sunday morning Bible study has started studying the Gospel of Luke. Join us for any of the sessions at 9:15 every Sunday in the meeting room. You can also stay at home and participate on Zoom.

Blessings on all of you.



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**Worship Service:** 10:30 a.m.

**Bible Study:** 9:15 am

**Holy Communion:**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month

**Session Members:**

Deb Llewellyn

Laura Bocko

DaraSue Braun

Mike Feeney

Jonathan Rush—Clerk of Session



Below is the link for our Zoom Worship each Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8336293018?pwd=TmJoNnF1Zy8ranRjT3RMc0I5c3RiZz09>

Meeting ID: 833 629 3018

Passcode: 074935

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,81916811413#,,,,\*743486# US (New York)

+13017158592,,81916811413#,,,,

\*743486# US (Washington D.C)



Prayer requests are to be made to Laura Bocko, Prayer Chain leader. If you would like to participate in the prayer chain, please contact Laura.

Laura's contact info is: (610) 452-2620 or [laurabocko24@gmail.com](mailto:laurabocko24@gmail.com)

Remembering Congregation Members in prayer: Henry Deibel, Betty Meixsell (Warren Haven Nursing Home, Oxford, NJ), Marcia Pensack, Jane and David Horn, Michelle Dinnen, Sandy DePuy, Phyllis Boisselle, Carol Farleigh and Joan Correll.

Our Per Capita Commitment for 2025 to the Lehigh Presbytery is \$50.00 per member or a total of \$2,050.



February 3—Nancy Seas

February 6—Sonya Thiel

Allysse Kavanaugh

February 11—Ashley Kelton

February 13—Laura Bocko

February 21—Joshua Seas

February 22—Karen Kennedy



Sunday morning Bible study will continue on Sunday, at 9:15 am., studying the gospel of Luke.

I have been alternating between Old Testament and New Testament books for the bible study.

The zoom account will also be used so that others who are unable to come to Mt. Bethel can join in. The study will be zoomed each week by Rev. John.



This year's Sweetheart Luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 9th after worship, in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Worship Committee. All are invited to attend and join in wonderful fellowship and comradery.

Session will meet on Wednesday, February 12th at 7:00 p.m.



Will be held on Saturday, February 22nd at 8:30 am. All men are invited to attend.

Sunday, February 23rd, after worship. All are invited for fellowship and camaraderie.



## *Flowers Will be Blooming Soon*

### Our Church Flower Bed

We not only have many outreach programs that our church does throughout the community, but we also have a silent outreach program for the Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) that are migrating through our area and stop to feed on the milkweed flowers in our church garden. Milkweed is the only thing at a Monarch butterfly can eat.

Since 1990, the population of the Monarch butterfly has decreased 80% due to habitat loss. Everyone should plant milkweed in their flower gardens. It makes for a healthy habitat for Monarchs and all kinds of other pollinators to enjoy. The picture of the handicapped parking signs is perfectly placed for the milkweed plants on one and the cars for the handicapped on the other side.

Many people are involved with our church flower garden, and we thank everyone for their help in maintaining it. It has been such a source of beauty for so many people who stop by sometimes just to see the beautiful flowers. We are especially thankful to Bonnie Pearce who has spent many hours dividing plants and replanting and doing all kinds of other garden activities.



Chrysalis



Caterpillar



To Butterfly



# Our Family Photo Album



January 26, 2025

Rev. John H. Heinsohn  
Minister of Visitation



Jonathan Rush  
Clerk of Session



← The Attendees during  
the meeting. ↓



The Worship Committee

(seated l-r) Lillian Williams, Laura Bocko, Melanie Thiel  
(standing l-r) Suzy Armstrong, Joan Correll, Sharon Potter

# February 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
<p>2</p>  <p>Groundhog Day</p> <p>9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:15 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:15 Bible Study 10:30—Worship Rev. Heinsohn 11:30 Sweetheart Luncheon 2:00 Writers Grp.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 Session</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 Presbytery Zoom meeting</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:15 Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>★ Presidents' Day ★</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:15 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>23</p> <p>No Bible Study Rev. Nichols 10:30—Worship 11:30 Coffee Hr.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>AA 8:00 pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	