Volume 16 Number 10
November 2026
Editor: Chylene Daub
Graphics Editor: Ginger Doherty

Heard through...

Bethel
WILDWOOD CHURCH
Come Home to Bethel - Since 1858

The OPEN DOOR

17500 Manchester Road, Wildwood, Missouri 63038
www.bethelwildwood.org Phone: (636) 458-2255

SO MANY REASONS TO BE THANKFUL

What are you thankful for? Many families begin their Thanksgiving Dinner with a blessing and then pose this question to each person at the table. This always brings smiles as the young and old express their "thanksgiving" for the blessings in their lives.

The first "thank-you," of course, goes to God and to His son, our Lord Jesus Christ for being present in our lives. Then, everyone can describe the limitless blessings we have to be living in America, for our family and friends, and for our church.

The word "thanksgiving" appears often in the Bible. Psalm 107:8-9 states: "Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind." Psalm 100:4-5: "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise, give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations." Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God." There are many more verses that remind us to be thankful to Our Lord. Each one is as beautiful as the one before.

When was Thanksgiving made to be an American holiday? We can thank President Abraham Lincoln for that. In the midst of the Civil War, President Lincoln issued a proclamation on October 3, 1863, declaring Thanksgiving Day as a national holiday. Hoping to unite a divided country, Lincoln set the date to be the last Thursday in November.



As Americans, we are familiar with the story of the First Thanksgiving. Or, at least we think we know the story. The "Pilgrims" who came to America on the May flower in 1620 landed at a site near where Cape Cod, Massachusetts, is today. There were 101 men, women and children who crossed the Atlantic Ocean in 66 days to arrive on the American shore.

SO MANY REASONS TO BE THANKFUL (continued)



These Englishmen did not call themselves "Pilgrims." Instead, they were Puritans who had left England to break away from the Church of England. They were met by the Indian tribe Wampanoag whose ancestors had lived there for more than 12,000 years. These tribesmen had been visited by other European settlers and because of these encounters, a Wampanoag leader called "Squanto" visited the Plymouth Colony. He interacted with the early settlers and could speak and understand English.

Squanto befriended them, taught them how to grow corn which helped lead to a harvest they could celebrate. After surviving a harsh winter in 1620, the Plymouth Colony was ready to share their harvest with their Native Indian friends. It is estimated that about 50 Pilgrims and 90 Indians participated in a 3-day long celebration. This was the First Thanksgiving in America, in the fall of 1621.



The menu was not our typical Thanksgiving table we set today. They had deer, wildfowl including ducks, geese, swans and pigeons, and seafood including cod, bass, eels, clams, mussels and even lobster. There may have been some wild turkey, but it was not the main dish. They also had local vegetables like corn, beans and peas as well as garden carrots, onions, cabbage and turnips. And, one more item we recognize was pumpkins and squash, most likely stewed or roasted.

This Thanksgiving, take a few moments to remember those brave settlers who took that perilous journey across the ocean to begin a new life in America, and remember the Native Indians who met them and befriended them there. God was present with them, just as He is with us today at our family Thanksgiving table.

BOOK OF PSALMS ENCOURAGES CHRISTIANS TO WORSHIP WITH GLADNESS AND JOY



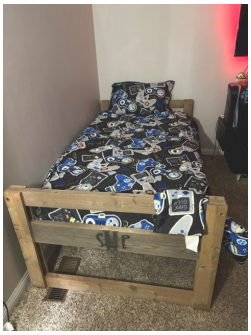
Pastor Mitchell Kirby, our guest preacher on October 11, spoke of the beautiful songs that we find in the Book of Psalms. He says there are 150 poems that make up the Book of Psalms, each one written to be sung. It is believed that David wrote most of them and they cover a wide range of emotions. "There is a psalm that speaks to you and whatever you are experiencing." Citing Psalm 100, Pastor Mitchell says that David implores you "to enter His gates with Thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise." Worship is meant to be joyful, he said. This is why churches have used music for thousands of years. "Songs are a powerful expression of praise."

BETHEL—PAYING IT FORWARD

Luke 14:12–14 mentions: ***"When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."***

Bethel Wildwood Church has always been very generous when it comes to giving back to the community. Circle of Concern is our main ministry throughout the year. We have contributed birthday kits, personal care items, summer kids' bags, fruits/veggies from our garden, thanksgiving food, baking items, and gift cards for Christmas to Circle of Concern for many years. Another of our popular missions is the Equine Assisted Therapy, where we have sponsored a therapy horse for the past few years. We have also served our community in the past by building beds for Sleep In Heavenly Peace, hosting blood drives, and collecting donations for our local first responders, Pink Ribbon Good, Mercy Ships, US Military Cares Boxes, Epworth, Dirk's Fund, New Life Evangelistic Center, Samaritan's Purse, Newborns in Need, Ronald McDonald House, Mission Gate Christmas Angel Mission and many more.





Thanks to the Bed Build hosted at Bethel, we've delivered two beds, and have three more deliveries scheduled. That means within one week's time, 5 children will have a bed of their own and NO LONGER SLEEP ON THE FLOOR.

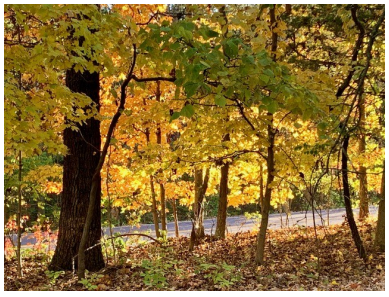


Here's our recent donations to Circle of Concern for Thanksgiving!

In 2027, we will continue serving God with some of our current missions, but we are also open to suggestions for other options. If you have another mission you would like us to help with, please call or email the office with your suggestion. Thanks!

MISSOURI GOLD

The people of Missouri are rewarded each autumn with the glowing colors of yellow and gold in our trees. When the sunlight peaks through and casts rays on the leaves, the beauty is even more intense. The Bible reminds us that it was God's hand that made the earth and all who dwell upon it. We are promised in the Book of Genesis that: **"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Genesis 8:22**



LADIES, START YOUR OVENS!
WE WILL NEED LOTS OF COOKIES FOR ANNUAL COOKIE WALK DEC. 5

Just a reminder: the Annual Bethel Cookie Walk and Craft Boutique is set for Saturday, Dec. 5. So anyone who loves to bake can begin to gather your favorite recipes for cookies, cakes and candy.



The Cookie Walk is a favorite event for the Bethel community. It always brings folks from our neighborhood to shop for baked goodies and the beautiful hand crafted Christmas decorations. It will be open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Bethel Crafters Cottage will be open for shoppers who want to get a head start on Christmas gifts and decorations.

More information will follow about how to package the cookies. Just remember to mark your calendars now for Dec. 5.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES—BAKERS NEEDED

If you'd like to bake cookies or prepare confections for the Cookie Walk, please contact Suzi Hladky. Donated cookies should be delivered to Bethel on Friday, Dec. 4 from 9-1pm.

If you'd like to help with the cookie walk on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9-1pm

contact: Suzi (314-458-6487)

"MERRY CHRISTMAS" BINGO

Awaken your Christmas Spirit with a fun-filled day of "Merry Christmas Bingo" at Bethel Wildwood Church on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Join your Bethel friends for the potluck luncheon and an afternoon of fellowship. Festivities begin at 11 a.m. Everyone is invited, so bring your friends and neighbors. To make the game special, Bingo players are asked to shout out "Merry Christmas!" rather than "Bingo" when their card matches the numbers called for a traditional bingo winner.



Everyone will be a winner, taking home a Christmas themed prize. There is no cost to participate, but you are asked to bring an item for the Potluck Luncheon. The Bingo lunch is planned instead of a Juliet's Luncheon for the month of December. Sheila Olive, chairman for the event, says that Christmas Bingo was popular each Christmas season until it was interrupted by the Covid Pandemic. This will be a chance to rekindle the fun and open the 2026 Christmas Season with a smile.

PEARLS OF WISDOM FROM REV KEV

Rev Kev has been guiding us through the Gospel of Luke which he says tells the story of Jesus and His ministry in chronological order. From His birth in the manger, to His crucifixion and resurrection, we have learned how He led His disciples and taught them to go out and spread His word.

How did he become known as "Jesus Christ?" The title "Christ" comes from a Greek word "Christos" which means "anointed one." In the Old Testament, the Jewish people were looking for a king that they believed would be sent by God to rule the world. They referred to this king as the "Messiah" or "anointed one." In the New Testament the Hebrew word "Messiah" was translated into the Greek word "Christos."

In English we call Him "Jesus Christ." He is our Messiah, "the chosen one." Jesus is the only way that we can enter the gates of heaven. "Heaven is exclusive," Rev Kev says. "Good people don't go to Heaven, Holy people do."

MISSION SUNDAY

Our mission for November is a collection of baking items for Circle of Concern clients.

Many of their clients request ingredients needed to bake for their families throughout the holidays. Let's help them meet their goals to provide these items for the approximately 700 families that they serve. Please place donated items in the shopping cart or on the side table in fellowship hall. Thanks!

Our goal is to provide them 40 of each of the following ingredients:

flour, sugar, vegetable oil, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, vanilla/almond/mint extract, chocolate chips, and baking mixes

The deadline for the donations is Nov. 29!

If you wish to make a monetary donation, note your contribution with: **Circle of Concern**

Thank you!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Rick G	**11/1**
Tom K	**11/14**
Chylene	**11/16**

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARYS

Carolyn/Dale R	**11/16**
Becky/Jeff R	**11/29**

If your anniversary or birthday is missing from this listing and you would like it included in the future, please email the information to secretary@bethelwildwood.org. Thanks!



Mike S,

Thanks for painting the fellowship door, checking the furnace filters, putting up a shelf and fixing the basement window in the crafters' cottage. I appreciate all you do!—**Ginger**

Bethel Wildwood Church,

Thank you again for your partnership with SHP.—**Dan Rogers**



Christmas Poinsettia Fundraiser - For Boy Scout Troop 456

The boy scouts are selling red or white poinsettias this year in 6 inch plastic pots with gold foil. If you are interested, fill out this form with your order or call the office at 636-458-2255 before Nov. 15. **Make checks payable: Troop 456.**

Color	Quantity	Price	Total
Red		$16 Each	
White		$16 Each	

Name:_____ Phone#: _____

In memory of: _____ In honor of: _____

On The Calendar @ Bethel

Bethel Fitness—Mondays & Thursdays @ 9am
Music Ministry Practice—Tuesdays @ 10am
Crafters & Prayer Shawl Warriors—Thursdays @ 9:30am
Communion—Sunday, Nov. 1 @ 10am
Board Meeting—Tuesday, Nov. 3 @ 7pm
Women's Bible Study—Thursday, Nov. 5 @ 10:30am
Juliets' Luncheon—Tuesday, Nov. 10 @ 11:30am
Bible Study @Roberts' Home—Wednesday, Nov. 11 @ 6:30pm
Women's Bible Study—Thursday, Nov. 12 @ 10:30am
Women's Bible Study—Thursday, Nov. 19 @ 10:30am
Bible Study @Roberts' Home—Wednesday, Nov. 25 @ 6:30pm

Fellowship Time

Join us for coffee in fellowship hall after worship every Sunday. All are welcome.

Nursery — Childcare provided during Sunday service.

GIVING

In an effort to make you aware of our ongoing income and expenses Greg, our treasurer, has calculated our monthly expenses and we have provided a total of our offerings for the given month as follows:

Total estimated monthly expenses:	$14,000
Total offerings received as of 10/25/26:	$10,886

We are blessed to have a good number of gifted lay leaders willing to help make our Zoom service a success.

Our schedule for November is as follows…

Date	Devotion	Music	Lead	Prayer	ZOOM	PPT
11/1	PKevn	PKevn	Patti	PKevn	TBD	TBD
11/8	PKevn	PKevn	Katie	PKevn	TBD	TBD
11/15	PKevn	PKevn	Patti	PKevn	TBD	TBD
11/22	PKevn	PKevn	Suzi	PKevn	TBD	TBD
11/29	PKevn	PKevn	Suzi	PKevn	TBD	TBD

The ZOOM & PPT Teams arrange their own schedules.

Contribution Recordkeeping Schedule

	Sheila	Greg	Greg	Greg	Greg
Nov.	1	8	15	22	29

Counters Schedule

	Dale/Sheila	RuthAnne/Greg	RuthAnne/Jan	Greg/Suzi	Greg
Nov.	1	8	15	22	29

Bethel Wildwood Church
17500 Manchester Road
Wildwood, MO 63038-1907

November 2026 News!



Bethel Wildwood Church

Love God,
Love Others,
Serve All!

Please Join Us Sunday For Service

Service will be **LIVE** in the sanctuary **@ 10 a.m.**
or you can use one of the following:

Church webpage: www.bethelwildwood.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BethelWildwoodChurch/ "Like Us" on Facebook
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@BethelWildwoodChurch
Zoom: Please contact the church office at 636-458-2255 to receive the link.