

BETHEL UCC beacon

worship

FEBRUARY 1

Forgive and Forgiven
Colossians 3:8-17
Rev. Kristen Curlee

FEBRUARY 8

Gifts and Service
Luke 16:1-8
Rev. Carolyn Richar

FEBRUARY 15

Legacy of Faith
*Jeremiah 35:18-19 &
II Timothy 1:1-5*
Rev. Kristen Curlee

FEBRUARY 18

Ash Wednesday - 7 pm worship

FEBRUARY 22

The Wilderness
Mark 1:9-13
Rev. Kristen Curlee

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10 a.m. Worship
& Sunday School

The Original Itinerant Preacher

BY PASTOR KRISTEN CURLEE

Jesus was the original itinerant preacher. He walked the hills, the valleys and the mountains of Palestine preaching, teaching and revealing to the face of God those gathered and to us. As he walked, he called to all who would listen, come follow me and know God. Just as he called to them, so too, he calls to us. We are called to follow in the ways that Jesus teaches. This Lent we will seek to understand Jesus' way more deeply by following the path he walked in his ministry from the River Jordan across Judea and into Jerusalem.



Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18th—Ash Wednesday—and continues for 40 days until Easter Sunday. This is a time for reflection, to consider one's own life and the ways we stray for the path to which Jesus calls. It is a time to seek reconciliation and deepen our faith.

Jesus' ministry started at the Jordan River where he met his cousin John and was baptized with the sinners and misfits from all over Judea. Then he went into the wilderness. After Jesus faced his temptation he went to Capernaum. After Jerusalem, this is the most important place in the Gospels, in part because seven disciples came from Capernaum. It is also where Jesus taught in the temple and performed twelve miracles there, more than anywhere else. Like Abraham, Moses, David and Elijah before him, Jesus was drawn out of the city and up to the mountain. It is there that Jesus' taught his followers to be disciples. But one cannot stay on the mountain top forever, descending from the mountain Jesus went to the sea—the Sea of Galilee. On the sea he calmed the storm and walked

(continued on page 2)

BETHEL UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

4347 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22203

EMAIL BethelUCCVa@verizon.net

WEB www.bethelucc-va.org

vision & mission

Our vision is:

To receive and share Jesus' message of extravagant love through compassionate care for our community and the world.

This vision inspires us to be a church of mission where we seek to:

- 1 Know God and one another and open ourselves to be known.**
- 2 Be a church where people are comforted, encouraged, and challenged by God's Word.**
- 3 Serve as God's hands of mercy, affirming justice and peace in the world.**
- 4 Welcome and celebrate the diversity of people and thought, encouraging each individual's relationship with Christ.**

From the Pastor *(continued from page 1)*

on water. Then Jesus crossed over to the other side and went to a land that was unfamiliar, that was foreign. He went to Samaria and there he broke bread with sinners, outcasts and the poor. Then riding on the back of a donkey Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Join us this Lent as we follow the way of Jesus from the Jordan to Jerusalem. Encounter Jesus' ministry in worship with music, prayer and the Word. Go deeper by joining one or both of our two small groups this Lent:

- Wednesday evening "Soup and Study" with a light soup dinner at 6 pm followed by adult Bible Study at 7 pm where we will use *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton
- Intergenerational community worship and acts of service on Sunday nights from 5 to 7 pm.

May whatever path your Lenten journey takes be richly blessed with deeper meaning and divine encounters.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

Lent begins on Feb 18 with Ash Wednesday. Join us for worship at 7 pm, with a light supper beforehand at 6 pm. Thereafter, on Wednesday during Lent our regular evening Bible Study (at 7 pm) will also be preceded by a light supper. Childcare is provided for these Lenten events.

In addition, we will join with Arlington Forest United Methodist and Arlington Church of the Brethren (at Arlington Forest) each Sunday evening during Lent for a 5 pm service followed by a meal. The service will be casual but worshipful, intergenerational, mission-focused, and enlivened with a spirit of generosity. Themes include: Who is Jesus?; Caring for the Homeless; Practice of Prayer; Visiting the Prisoners; and Music as Worship.



Every member of Bethel are the ministers



staff & leadership

Senior Pastor
Rev. Kristen Curlee
pastorkristencurlee@gmail.com

Associate Pastor
Rev. Carolyn Richar
crichar@capitalhospice.org

Church President
Whit Wheeler

Director of Music
Angie Stevens
angielatte@gmail.com

Interim Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Dr. H. Donald Smith

A DIFFERENT SORT OF AFAC CONTRIBUTION!

Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) recently featured volunteer Gina Jagim in the organization's newsletter...and we at Bethel not only salute her, too, but take a bit of the credit!



Gina Jagim, AFAC volunteer

Gina was first introduced to AFAC after viewing our September 2013 screening of *A Place at the Table*, a documentary about hunger.

Since then, Gina has racked up over 250 volunteer hours. She is frequently at AFAC's Friday morning food distributions and helps out in other ways, including leading a team of volunteers who turn our empty bean and rice bags into tote bags (as shown in the photo at left).

"*A Place at the Table* is a moving film and I made a commitment to do what I can about food insecurities in the community," says Gina.



Our January donation drive to collect socks for homeless individuals was a great success. 46 pairs of warm socks were delivered to A-SPAN (Arlington Street Peoples Assistance Network). Thank you for your donations.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND POTLUCK FEB. 8

We will gather to elect our leadership for the coming year after Worship on Sun., Feb. 8th. Please indicate what you will bring to eat on the sign-up sheet outside the church office.

Thank you to everyone who has accepted a nomination for 2015. We are still looking for one or two Consistory members at large and a chair of the Property Committee. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to leadership at Bethel.

Help us meet our 2015 goal:



BOXES OF CEREAL



for Arlington Food Assistance Center

Low-sugar cereals, please!

To reach our 2015 goal of 600 boxes of cereal by year's end means 50 boxes each month. Thank you all for a great start with January's donation of **47 boxes!**

It's All Downhill from Here...Yet Looking Up!

Bethel member Tricia Hines is the subject of the cover feature article, titled "Have Prosthetic, Will Patrol," in the current issue of National Ski Patrol's magazine. One of the photos is reprinted at right; the magazine can be accessed at www.nsp.org/members/oms/SPM/SPM_W15.pdf (page 5 includes another photo and the article starts on page 44).

Tricia injured her ankle in high school and faced multiple surgeries over the next many years to try and repair it—without success. Finally, in 2013 Tricia's lower leg was amputated. Now Tricia is back on the slopes where she finds deep joy as a dedicated member of the ski patrol.

“This advanced technology was made available because of the losses sustained by veterans; I am very thankful for their sacrifices.”



Photo of Tricia Hines, along with an excerpt, from a national ski magazine in which she is featured.

Tricia is also active in Two Top Mountain Adaptive Sports Foundation, whose fundraiser is coming up

Feb. 9th. If you're able to donate, please go to www.twotop100k.org. Scroll down to the Grass-Grove-Hines-Romanoff team. They would love any support you can give!

Tricia, your dedication and courage are admirable. Blessings on a great ski season!

**Valentine's
Game
Night**

**Arts & crafts, puzzles, games and fun for all ages!
PLUS hot dogs, mac'n'cheese and munchies!!**

Saturday, February 14th | 5:00-7:30 pm

WELCOME BABY NICK PALERMO

Laura, Mike and Jud welcome Dominic Michael Palermo, born Jan. 30th. Baby Nick was 8 pounds 12 ounces and 21 1/2 inches. All are well.



February 2015 at Bethel UCC

| sunday | monday | tuesday | wednesday | thursday | friday | saturday |
|---|--|------------------|---|--|---|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>10 a.m. Worship & Communion / Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Fellowship</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Outreach & Evangelism Committee meeting (Library)</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> <p>7 p.m. Bible Study (Library)</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> <p>7 p.m. Bagging at AFAC, 2708 S. Nelson St. <i>Optional:</i> meet for dinner at 6 p.m. (Boston Market on Columbia Pike)</p> | <p>7</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>10 a.m. Worship / Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Congregational Meeting & Potluck Lunch</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> <p>7 p.m. Bible Study (Library)</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> <p>5-7:30 p.m. Valentine's Day Game Night</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>10 a.m. Worship / Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Fellowship</p> | <p>16</p> <p>PRESIDENTS DAY</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>6 p.m. Light soup dinner</p> <p>7 p.m. Worship</p> | <p>19</p> <p>12 noon Third Thursday Lunch (Library)</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>10 a.m. Worship / Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Fellowship</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Christian Education Committee meeting (Library)</p> <p>5 p.m. Lenten Service at Arlington Forest UMC (dinner following)</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> <p>6 p.m. Light soup dinner</p> <p>7 p.m. Bible Study (Library)</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> |
| <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Fellowship Hosts needed for Feb. 15 & 22!</p> <p>Please sign up on the board in Fellowship Hall if you can host and break snacks on either of these dates. Thank you, Judy Lipman, for volunteering for Feb. 1! (No Fellowship Hour on Feb. 8 as we will hold our Congregational Meeting/Potluck.)</p> </div> | | | | | | |