

# Bethel

Sunday, May 14, 2017

## WELCOME TO BETHEL

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

*"The Lord is exalted over all the nations,  
His glory above the heavens ... He  
settles the barren woman in her home as  
a happy mother of children. Praise the  
Lord." (Psalm 113:4,9)*

Mother's Day. It's a mixed bag of emotions depending on your personal life experiences.

Some people will think of their own mother and her precious role in their lives; others will grieve the mother that is no longer here on earth; and some will think of the mother they still have here on earth but who never fulfilled the role of "mom" in the way they hoped for.

Many women will get precious handmade gifts from their little ones; others will sit alone and wait for a phone call from their child that never comes.

And still, some women will grieve extra hard this day that they are not celebrating being a mom. Perhaps they have not conceived or they have lost a child. Some will suffer even more silently as they grieve the abortion they had years ago and imagine how old that child would now be. Others will grieve over a wayward child that is not serving the Lord.

Mother's Day. It's a mixed bag of emotions. Not everyone celebrates it in exactly the same way.

God loves us more than we can even imagine. Ephesians 1:5 says, "He

predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ." Psalm 27:10 says, "When (even if) my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." Whatever you are feeling today, be it joy or sorrow, you can rejoice today in knowing that you have been adopted by God.

God loves you in a way that you cannot even begin to fathom. His love is intense, extraordinary, possessive, wondrous and eternal. You are His. You have done nothing so wrong that God will not lovingly claim you as His child.

Today, each of us should honor our mother. Whether we had a wonderful mother or a less-than-wonderful mother, honoring our mother is still a biblical command. We obey and honor God when we honor our parents.

If we have any unpleasant emotions about Mother's Day, we place those in the hands of our wise and merciful God. We choose to remember all the good things about motherhood today and all the wonderful women who have blessed us in our lives.

Rejoice that God has your life in His hands. Rejoice in the countless blessings that He has given you. Rejoice in the promises of God that await you in the future. Rejoice that He is working all things together for your good. Rejoice that God does all things well. This is the day the Lord has made; choose to rejoice and be glad in it.

Happy Mother's Day!

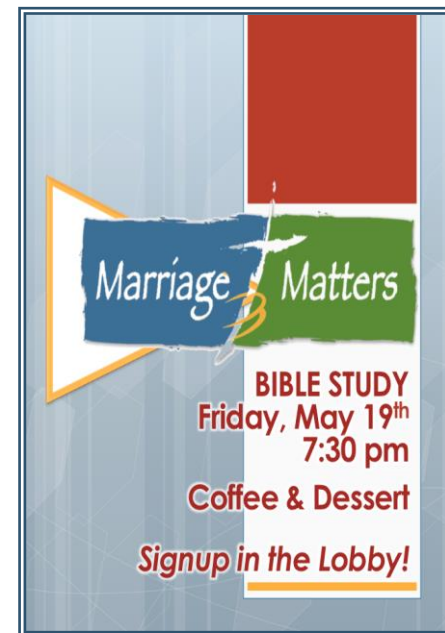
*Happy Mother's Day*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY**  
This Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:45 PM
- **STARTING POINT**  
This Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:45 PM  
(For those who are new to Bethel)
- **MARRIAGE MATTERS**  
Married Couples Bible Study  
This Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 PM  
Signup in the Lobby
- **CUSTODIAL MINISTRY SIGN-UP**  
Next Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – after service
- **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 8 PM
- **BETHEL TEEN SCENE (BTS)**  
Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 PM
- **BETHEL PLANT SALE**  
Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – 8 AM – 2 PM
- **CONNECT POINT**  
HS Grads & Young Adults  
Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – after service
- **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY LUNCHEON IN ANNEX**  
Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12 noon  
KidsChurch and TGThursday Staff  
See box at right for details
- **THROUGH THE BIBLE CLASS**  
Sundays – 10 AM
- **CARE GROUPS**  
Meet at various locations  
Check with Church Office for locations

**Church bulletin and events  
are listed at [www.BethelUPC.org](http://www.BethelUPC.org)**

*Her children wise and  
call her blessed;  
her husband also, and  
HE PRAISES HER:  
"Many women do  
noble things, but  
YOU SURPASS THEM ALL."  
Proverbs 31:30*



**Marriage Matters**

**BIBLE STUDY**  
Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 pm  
Coffee & Dessert  
Signup in the Lobby!



**children's**  
ministry  
luncheon

KidsChurch and  
TGThursday Staff

*Giving Glory  
Giving Thanks*

Saturday, June 3  
12:00 – 2:00 PM  
BETHEL ANNEX  
catered by  
Famous Dave's BBQ  
Signup in Lobby

Guest Speaker  
**DONNA LINVILLE**