

# King's Light May 2021



I encourage you to participate in an Outdoor Rummage Sale to benefit the Nyadire Connection Home of Hope.

**Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 9AM – 2PM**

**Christ United Methodist Church**

**44 Highland Road, Bethel Park**

The **Nyadire Connection** is renting out parking spots at Christ UMC in Bethel Park for you to sell your unwanted treasures at their first ever Outdoor Rummage Sale. Bring your own table and chair, sell out of your trunk or truck, whatever works for you. Area opens at 8AM for setup, your display area must fit in a parking spot, and every other parking spot will be empty.

Each parking spot costs \$25 which will go directly to the Home of Hope, the orphanage in Zimbabwe. You may keep your profit or donate a portion (or all) of your profits to the Home of Hope. You handle the setup, sales, and tear down. No items may be left onsite or in church dumpsters.

**Registration Deadline is Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**, and payment must be via check. Forms are available online at [Outdoor Rummage Sale for Home of Hope Rules and Registration](#), in the First Bethel narthex, or call the First Bethel church office.

For more information see [www.nyadire.org](http://www.nyadire.org) or contact Mary Beth Zollars at [mbzollars@aol.com](mailto:mbzollars@aol.com) or cell: 412-498-2281.

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE HOME OF HOPE ORPHANAGE**

**Thank you! Tatenda!**

Love in Christ Jesus,

*Pastor Judy*

# First Bethel Sundays

First Bethel is OPEN for in person worship  
in the sanctuary!

Services are streamed LIVE from the sanctuary

The link is available on Facebook, YouTube, and the church website  
Watch LIVE or at a later time



**Sunday Worship**  
**April 11 – September 5**  
**10AM** in the sanctuary  
Live stream on YouTube  
[First Bethel YouTube Channel](#)

*Please call to reserve your spot and continue to follow CDC guidelines  
for social distancing and mask wearing*

## Mark your calendars!

**Church Cleanup Day (note date change)**

**Saturday, May 22 from 9AM - 11AM**

The Trustees need our help!

**Please sign up** to lend a hand to  
“red-up” our church grounds.  
All ages welcome!



**Sign up**

# IN MEMORY

**Reverend Roger G. Rulong, Sr.,**

October 13, 1930 - April 8, 2021



**Reverend Roger G. Rulong, Sr., age 90, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on April 8, 2021.**

**A Memorial Service will be held at the Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church on Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 11AM.** The family will welcome guests prior to the service commencing at 10AM.

Roger was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 68 years, Jane K. Rulong. Loving father of Roger (Kathy) Rulong, Jr., David (Susan) Rulong, John (Lisa) Rulong of Bethel Park, and Mary Jane (Michael) Novak.

He was a graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, served several United Methodist congregations including First Bethel and also served as superintendent in the Johnstown District. His unconditional love and devotion will be forever cherished.

Memorial Donations may be made to The United Methodist Foundation of Western PA. Donations may be noted for addition to the Jane Kunkle Rulong Campership Fund which provides assistance for children attending summer camp at the Jumonville United Methodist Camp and Retreat Center in Fayette County, PA.

<https://www.davidhenneyfuneralhome.com/obituary/Roger-Rulong>



**Florence Fritsch, age 98, of Baldwin, passed away surrounded by her loving family on April 16, 2021**

Florence is the mother of Charlene Phillips and Florence will be remembered as a loving grandmother and great-grandmother who took great joy in all children. Over the years she may have lost the ability to remember faces and events, but she was Mum and Grandma Flo until the last. Visitation was Wednesday April 21 10:30AM to Noon at Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home followed by a private service.

Memorial contributions may be made to SHIM South Hills Interfaith Movement at

<http://www.shimcares.org>

<https://www.jeffersonmemorial.biz/obituaries/Florence--Fritsch?obId=20818469#/obituaryInfo>



**Phyllis Jayne Simmerman passed peacefully into God’s Kingdom on March 26, 2021 in Florida.**

A Service of Celebration was held on Thursday, April 15 at 3PM at the Cypress Lake United Methodist Church in Ft. Myers.

**Phyllis Jayne Simmerman** was born in Fleming-Neon, Kentucky, on July 9, 1937. She is survived by her husband, Gerald Simmerman, son Todd(Melissa), and four grandchildren.

Phyllis was a person of faith. She was an active member at both First Bethel UMC and Cypress Lake UMC Ft. Myers, FL. She served on various committees as well as playing in the handbell choir. One of her greatest joys was being a church usher. She loved being a Greeter because it gave her the opportunity to hug any and all people, it didn’t make any difference who you were, she never met a stranger. She was an active person until she became wheelchair bound some five years ago.

At the family’s request, in lieu of flowers, tell someone how much you love them and if possible, give a gift to Hope Hospice or Cypress Lake U.M. Church. Call the church office for addresses.



Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Edward E. “Fred” Palmer**, age 59 who passed away on Saturday, April 17, 2021 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Ed is the beloved son of Ida May Palmer and the late Eugene Palmer. Funeral service will be held on Friday, April 23 at the Paul Henney Funeral Home, 5570 Library Road in Bethel Park.





Thaddeaus Smith 5/1	Stephanie Alstadt 5/15
Erin Doman 5/2	Shauna Bowser 5/16
Jim Finlay 5/2	Cindy Cingel 5/17
Sarah Kobylinski 5/2	Julie Krzywiecki 5/18
Caden Powell 5/3	Jeff Leonhardt 5/18
Gloria Stephan 5/3	Brenda Sullivan 5/18
Woody Eicker 5/4	Jim Walter 5/23
Rex Martin Sr 5/8	Michael Doman 5/24
Jacob Guzek 5/9	Angela Carney 5/25
Lucas Guzek 5/9	Patty Krause 5/27
Haleigh Finale 5/10	Joshua Zahniser 5/27
Sally Irick 5/11	Olivia Barrett 5/31
Lea Cook 5/13	Marianne Wade 5/31
Karen Krzywiecki 5/14	

Don't see your birthday? Please give us a call so we can update our records!



I want to thank my church family for their thoughts and prayers for my daughter Kelly. I would also like to thank you for all the delicious meals you have sent to her family. You are all caring and loving people who help others in their time of need. God bless.

***Geraldine Velmer and Kelly Velmer's family***

Thank you so very much for all the calls, cards and especially the prayers following my stroke. I appreciate all the support I have received from my First Bethel Family.

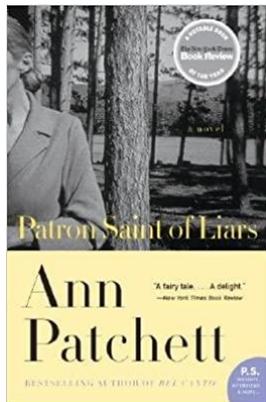
***Paul Bischoff***

## LIBRARY NEWS - Choices



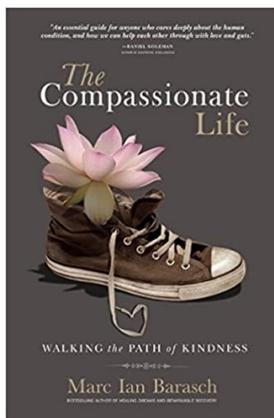
### THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY

Deeply troubled Nora Seed takes an overdose of antidepressants and wakes up in a library “between life and death.” It’s a vast place with books about “all the choices that go into a life well lived.” Nora begins reading. What will she do now? Can she be happy again? This 288-page fantasy is the latest bestseller by British author *Matt Haig*. The *Sunday Times* in London said Haig, who also writes children’s books, is “adept at digging into the human heart.” (Midnight Library was adapted for radio and broadcast in 10 *BBC* episodes in December.)



### THE PATRON SAINT OF LIARS

Pregnant Rose Clinton has abandoned her married life and driven from California to St. Elizabeth’s, a Catholic home for unwed mothers in Kentucky. Rose has been living a life of lies. She fears being a poor mother and plans to give up her baby for adoption. But in the care of nuns, and surrounded by troubled teenage girls, her daughter Cecelia is born -- and everything changes. The story is called “A fairy tale. A delight” by the *New York Times*. It was the first of several books by acclaimed novelist *Ann Patchett*. 391 pages. We also have *The Dutch House* by Patchett.



### THE COMPASSIONATE LIFE: WALKING IN THE PATH OF KINDNESS

A church member donated this book, described as “good medicine for our time,” in memory of former First Bethel *Pastor Roger Rulong*. The author, *Marc Barasch*, tells us how compassion and kindness have the power to build “the society we might become.” Readers are asked many questions, including “How do we open our hearts to those who do us harm?” 302 pages.

Once again, we offer our sincere thanks to First Bethel members who give books to our Library.

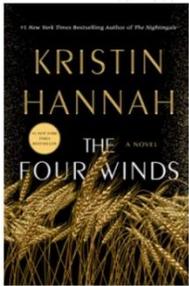
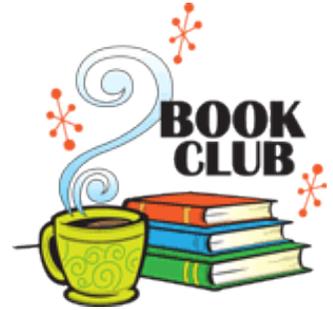
Call Lea if you wish to check out books and we will get them to you  
- YOUR LIBRARY STAFF -

## Book Club

Book Club will continue to meet via ZOOM until we can return to Panera in South Park Shops.

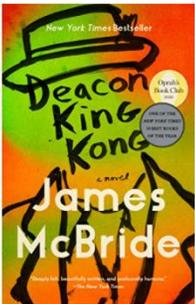
Here is the ZOOM link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89582084675>

**We're changing the schedule slightly for summer.** Meetings will be 7:30PM on the **fourth** Friday of May, June, July and August, and will move back to the **third** Friday of the month in September.



May 28 ***The Four Winds*** by Kristen Hannah

"*The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah is a captivating, heartbreaking tale of a family who will do anything for each other — and everything to survive. The strength of Hannah's prose brings the characters to life in a way that will make you unable to tear yourself away from them. You will celebrate their triumphs, mourn their tragedies, and commend their bravery. Through it all, it is easy to feel Hannah's desire to honor those who lived and fought through this devastating time in history. *The Four Winds* is also an ode to the strength and ferocity of mothers, and a declaration that sometimes, love is the only thing that holds us together. Above all else, *The Four Winds* is merely a really good story, one that hits you in all the right places and will keep surprising you until the end."—*Associated Press*



June 25 ***Deacon King Kong*** by James McBride

James McBride, author of the National Book Award winning *The Good Lord Bird* and the beloved memoir *The Color of Water*, has written a propulsive and comic neighborhood epic set in the 1960s with a cast of characters that are beguiling, boozed-filled, and larger than life. When a young drug lord is shot in broad daylight by a bumbling drunk known to everyone as Sportcoat, the Brooklyn neighborhood they live in is upended. As Sportcoat comically and unknowingly dodges the police, his actions ricochet around him, igniting a web of drug wars, backdoor dealings with mobsters, and church brawls that demonstrate just how vital, yet fragile communities can be. *Deacon King Kong* tells the fictional story of one Brooklyn project, but in so doing tells a broader story of race and religion, getting by and getting out, and how grudges and alliances become embedded in the foundations of our neighborhoods. An incredibly satisfying read. —*Al Woodworth, Amazon Book Review*

## Outreach News



What a wonderful response we had for our personal care kits! FBUMC delivered 50 kits to Global Links for distribution in western Pennsylvania. They will make someone's life little easier. A heartfelt thank you to all who contributed to this project.

Keith Swan, Lee Cook, Ken Williams, and Sally Irick served about 90 meals at Daily Bread on Pittsburgh's North Side on April 11. The need is still great and FBUMC is trying to do our part.



We may not be able to change the world, but we sure do our part in helping a few hundred people when we can. Thank you for your support in all we do. Peace be with you.

Sally Irick



## Ministry Scheduler Pro

Effective Ministry Scheduling

Liturgist, Lead Counter and Sanctuary Cleaning Team volunteer schedules will be published soon for May 2 through September 5. Please contact the Church Office if you are interested in being added as a Liturgist, Lead Counter or a Sanctuary Cleaning Team member.

Ministry Scheduler Pro lets you enter dates when you'll be unavailable to serve, and you'll only be in the rotation every 4-5 weeks.

Thank you for your service!

**Nourish Every Body, Stimulate Every Spirit,  
Satisfy Every Soul, for the Glory of God**

# ONWARD



by Gloria Stephan

*"Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up."*

**Galatians 6:9**



Our ASP ministry team is planning our "**ASP@Home**" hometown volunteer experience that will keep us connected to the work of ASP in Appalachia the week of **June 21-25**. Our base will be the upper parking lot of the church and Founders Hall as we complete community service projects during the day, and end with fun activities in the evenings.

- ◆ SHIM Food Drive all week
- ◆ Monday – Learning about Appalachian culture and ASP mission
- ◆ Tuesday & Wednesday we will be working at the United Methodist Mission Barn to assemble UMCOR Cleaning Buckets and Hygiene Kits and building Handicap Ramp Modules for installation in the local area
- ◆ **Thursday night June 24 will be an ASP Cookout and All-Church Picnic at Peterswood Park from 5-8PM. Families encouraged to attend!**
- ◆ Other evening activities – Movie Night, Ice-Cream Social, Culture Night

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS!**

Please contact Gloria or the church office with ideas for ASP@Home projects

For more information, contact Gloria or see ASP's website at <https://www.ASPHome.org>



## ASP Bistro

The next ASP Bistro is

**Sunday, May 23**

**PENTECOST BRUNCH**

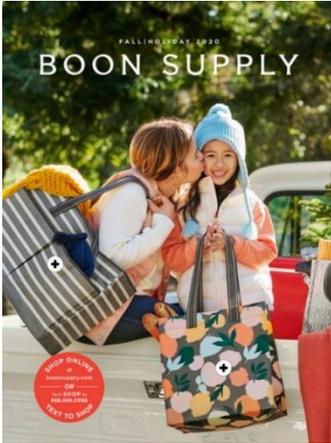
**11:30AM – 1PM**

Menu will be Quiche, Fruit, Breakfast Breads and More!

**Pre-Order and Take-Out**

**All proceeds benefit our ASP ministry fund**





**Boon Supply** has a great mix of *eco-conscious* products, seasonally designed and *sustainably sourced*.

With every purchase, we will get 40% back towards

**First Bethel's ASP ministry fund**

Help us by shopping the **Boon Supply** online store using this link:

<https://www.boonsupply.com/collections/611525-first-bethel-asp>



All products ship direct to you! Fundraiser runs through **June 2021**

### Special Offerings for Ministries



Church Council highlights a special ministry area each month for extra mile giving. These important ministry areas are highlighted here for your consideration.

Simply indicate your gift in the Other area of your offering envelope or online giving form

**MAY FOCUS MINISTRY IS:**

**Vacation Bible School**



**Funds will go to our next VBS experience, whenever that may be!**

### Pittsburgh District Event



**Love in Action: Practical Ways to be Affirming and Inclusive**

Western PA's Reconciling Network invites you to a three-hour online training event with worship, teaching, and conversation, Saturday, May 1, 9 am – Noon.

How can I be more inclusive? Where do I start?

**REGISTER TODAY!** <https://forms.gle/z8HTe1R4DLYqPASf9>



# First Bethel United Methodist Church

Bethel Park, Pennsylvania

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5901 Library Road  
Bethel Park, PA 15102

<http://www.firstbethelumc.org>

Church Office: 412-835-0700

[FBUMC@Verizon.net](mailto:FBUMC@Verizon.net)



King School Kids: 412-835-6141

[KSK10@Verizon.net](mailto:KSK10@Verizon.net)

**We are here to serve!**

**Pastor:** Rev. Judy Winston Thomas

Home: 412-833-1986 Mobile: 412-609-8003

[PastorJudy@FirstBethelumc.org](mailto:PastorJudy@FirstBethelumc.org)

**Office Manager:** Patty Willmott

[OfficeManager@FirstBethelumc.org](mailto:OfficeManager@FirstBethelumc.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 10AM–3PM

**Music Director:** Sam Campbell

**Organist:** Phil Himmler

**Director of Maintenance:** Jim Howells

**Director of KSK and Children's Fellowship:** Lynda Pore

**KSK Office Administrator:** Charlene Phillips



<https://www.facebook.com/FirstBethelUMC/>



<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1102686>



**KINGS LIGHT DEADLINE:** The deadline for the June issue of the Kings Light is **Noon on May 20, 2021.** Please have your article in on time to avoid the disappointment of not having it appear in the next edition. Mail it to us, or send via email to [FBUMC@Verizon.net](mailto:FBUMC@Verizon.net)