# 03.19.2023

Special Music: We welcome Joe Renshaw who will be leading our worship today. Joe has sung in various gospel groups over the years. He currently lives in Coldwater with his wife, Dawn.

Soup Cook-Off -- Today 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Join us after worship to enjoy some awarding winning soups, stews and chilis and vote for your favorites.

**Church Council** is looking for volunteers to be on a *Safety Committee*. Please see Marcia Goheen or contact the church office if you are interested. office@bethelgilead.org

A way to serve -- Royal Family Kid's Camp -- July 30-August 4; a livein camping opportunity for foster children in Branch County. Volunteers are needed for all sorts of activities up to counselors who would be with the children 24/7. A kick-off/planning luncheon will be on today at 12:30 at Hope Church in Coldwater. See Marcia Wilcox for more information.

Connect -- Please make sure we know the best way to contact you. There are "Connect" cards under the sanctuary seats or in the lobby that can be placed in the offering plate.

In Case of Inclement Weather -- Worship service will be available on Facebook or YouTube at 9:30 a.m. Pastors Jim and Dave will normally be at church for those who want to brave the weather and venture out.

For the parents of our little ones: There is a room behind the sanctuary for parents of restless toddlers. The nursery (up the stairs, first door on the left) is also open and the service is available to be viewed and listened to there. Kids through fifth grade will be dismissed for **Children's Church** during worship if they wish to participate.



Ways to Give: Offering plates are in the lobby. Donations can be made online by going to bethelgilead.org (Donate tab), or by scanning the QR code to the left and using PayPal. You can authorize a monthly debit from your bank account by completing a form (on the information desk in the lobby or contact the office).

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PASTOR IIM ERWIN ASSOCIATE PASTOR DAVID MINARD

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#### Announcements and Opening Prayer

# Opening Worship:

Joe Renshaw

### Contend for the Faith

Conclusion

Review: "The Faith" = Historic Christianity

"The Contenders" = The World, the Flesh and the Devil
"Classic Contentions" = Challenging your belief in God,
the Bible and Jesus

# BUILD YOURSELVES UP IN YOUR MOST HOLY FAITH (lude 20)

## I. The Reality of Spiritual Attrition

- \*Faith Busters: Distractions -- Isolation -- Starvation
- \*A Personal Enemy (John 10:10)

### II. Body Building: "NERDS"

- \*Nutrition (Romans 10:9)
- \*Exercise (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)
- \*Rest (Matthew 11:28-30, Galatians 6:2)
- \*Discipline (1 Timothy 4:7-8)
- \*Service (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

### III. The Keeping Power of God

- ....Now unto him who is able to keep you from falling.....(<u>lude 24-25</u>)
- ....He will keep you strong to the end.....(1 Corinthians 1:8)
- ....The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:24)
- ....But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

#### **APPLICATION**

CONTEND FOR THE FAITH! (<u>Jude 3</u>)

Closing Song: Joe Renshaw

### **Our Mission**

"WE HONOR GOD THROUGH REGULARLY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER TO WORSHIP HIM AS LORD, STUDY HIS WORD, AND ATTEND TO THE NEEDS OF HIS PEOPLE. WHEN WE LEAVE, WE GO OUT COMMISSIONED AS CHRIST'S REPRESENTATIVES TO A NEEDY WORLD"

# **Prayer Concerns**

#### Recent additions

Bill Bryan -- in Parkview Hospital on life support

Bob Mayer -- kidney stones

Billman family -- special needs daughter, baby Kay

The family of Al Miller

Donna Green -- recovering from hip surgery

Steve Crooks -- congestive heart failure

de Araujo family -- special needs grandson, Luke

Kim Paul -- stage 4 cancer

#### Continue to Remember Those in Need

Jonas Rigg -- home and recovering strength

Lynn Mayer -- dealing with double vision, balance issues

Dawn Lane -- breast cancer

Don Rubley -- bladder cancer

The Carpenter Family

Dale Davis -- dialysis and gall bladder issues

Lisa Franks -- pain management

#### Remember Our Homebound/Shut In Members

Betty Carpenter -- Laurels Norita Skinner -- Maple Lawn Neil Hannah -- At home on hospice

Pray for our nation and the world during these uncertain days