

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

We are glad you chose to worship with us today! If you need to meet with one of pastors or have a special prayer request, please complete one of the cards under the chair in front of you or at the Information Center and drop it in the offering plate.

TODAY

NEXT SUNDAY

Communion and potluck -- join us next Sunday, March 4, as we share communion and a potluck after Sunday School hour.

UPDATE

Missionary Information --thank you for the outpouring of generosity for the Seth Mallay family, the missionaries who returned from South Africa so their 10-year old daughter, Arwan, can receive treatment at U of M for Stage 4 Neuroblastoma. She is going through her second treatment currently. Please continue to pray for the Mallay family.

PLEASE NOTE

Weather Cancellations -- If church is to be cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be decided and announced on WTVB radio or posted on the church website, www.bethelgilead.org. by 8:00 a.m.

Church website -- if you miss a Sunday, remember to check the website for the message, which will be posted by Sunday night. The weekly bulletin, Spiritual Disciplines, and Small Group Outline are also posted there each week.

Check out the **small group resources** on the book rack in the lobby. And don't forget to check out the books, tapes and DVD's in the church library, up the stairs at the end of the hall.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Branch County Right to Life Annual Benefit Banquet -- Tuesday, March 27 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Gym in Bronson. Special guest speaker will be Rebecca Kiessling. See Jennie deAraujo with questions.

Women's Fellowship - Tuesday, March 13 at 1:00 p.m. at the church.

The current **Adult Ed classes** will finish on March 4. New classes will begin on March 11. Watch for information on new men's and women's classes led by Kim and Jim Erwin.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

[Pastor Jim Erwin](#)
517.756.8001

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517.756.8000

[Church Office](#)
517.369.1588

FEBRUARY 25, 2018

SERVICE: 9:30 AM

JUNIOR CHURCH: 10:10 AM

CHRISTIAN ED: 11:15 AM



MISSION STATEMENT

"WE HONOR GOD THROUGH REGULARLY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER TO WORSHIP HIM AS LORD, STUDY AND OBEY 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."

876 BLOCK RD

• BRONSON MI. 49028 •
VISIT US AT WWW.BETHELGILEAD.ORG

(517) 369-1588

FEBRUARY 25, 2018

NURSERY..... Shanda Carpenter and Sally Davis
SOUND ROOM..... Kenny Bennett
GREETERS..... Tim and Julie McKinley

ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... David Minard
OPENING WORSHIP..... Tim Butters
 Jesus Loves Me Hymn 579
 We Are So Blessed Hymn 564
 Count Your Blessings (verses 1,2,4)..... Hymn 563
 It Took a Miracle (no chorus on verse 2)..... Hymn 524
 I'll Fly Away (no chorus on verse 2)..... Hymn 554
OFFERING Paul Alger
SPECIAL MUSIC..... Donna Green
MESSAGE..... Jim Erwin
 Seek Ye First (verse 1)..... Hymn 42

*Altar flowers are provided by Tim and Melissa Houtz
in memory of their grandparents.*

CHRISTIAN ED CLASSES

TODDLERS..... Marcia Albright
GRADES 1-5 (Room B)..... Kim Erwin
JUNIOR HIGH (Room D) Sharon McMeen
YOUNG ADULTS (Library) Ronda Falknor and Dawn Bennett
THE TRUTH PROJECT (Blanketmakers Room downstairs)..... Paul Alger
FOUNDATIONS (Fellowship Hall)David Minard

MESSAGE

GOD TO THE RESCUE *(Mark 4)*

INTRODUCTION:

Sharing Secrets

Parables: The Secrets of the Kingdom *(Mark 4:11,34)*

I. THE KINGDOM IS SEED-LIKE

It has power within. *(Mark 4:26-29)*

It has great potential *(Mark 4:30-32)*

It's a selective process of growth *(Mark 4:3-8)*

II. THE KINGDOM WILL BE REVEALED *(Mark 4:21-25)*

....whatever is hidden will be disclosed *(Mark 4:22)*

III. INTERPRETING THE PARABLES *(Mark 4:10-20)*

The seed = the word of God. The soil = hearts of men.

4 soils = 4 kinds of hearts

Path	=	hard-hearted
Rocks	=	shallow-hearted
Weeds	=	overcrowded hearts
Good soil	=	a receptive heart

The point = to grow to maturity and produce fruit!

Growth in four areas

1. Knowledge of God and his truth.
2. Faith -- trust and obedience
3. Character and works
4. Influence on others

APPLICATION

1. Is the seed of the kingdom planted in you?
2. Which kind of soil best represents your heart?
3. How is the kingdom growing in and through you?

**Next week: Mark 5 -- "Dealing with Demons"*



A Call to Prayer

Recent additions

- *Bob Debolt* -- hospitalized with upper GI bleeding
- *Kathy Will's sister-in-law, Janet* -- blood clots on lungs and bone spurs.
- *Family of Ernie Gibson* -- Ron Will's niece's husband.
- *Suette Burnside* - declining health (vision, confusion and other concerns)
- *Kaysie Burnside* - surgery on March 1 to remove rods from back
- *Danielle Howe's father-in-law, Tom* -- health issues
- *Mike McMeen* -- Mark's dad, health issues
- *Mason Pritchett* -- stage 3 acute GVHD
- *Jean LaClair* - being treated for leukemia
- *Norita Skinner* -- back pain
- *Jennie Williamson* -- final stages of ALS

Continue to remember those in need

- *Morgan Albright* -- death of grandmother
- *Shanda Carpenter's father* -- recuperating at home, receiving rehabilitation.
- *Flo Cabrera's mother* -- health issues
- *Gary Ratkowski* -- undergoing 12 rounds of chemotherapy at U of M.
- Brandon Carpenter's brother-in-law, *Eric Algrim and family*, heart issues.
- *Carmel Roberts* -- ongoing need for wound healing
- *Rick Wilcox* -- Alzheimer's; failing health

Praises

- *Mary Stall* -- Dale Davis' cousin--being tested to see if further treatment is needed; back to work parttime.
- *Lee Bidwell* -- some healing in leg; back to work.



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