



Bellevue Methodist Church

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

MAY / JUNE

There is no cure for VBS...

Or so my former pastor says. Once you have caught the bug, it's impossible to shake it. So look out, because Vacation Bible School is coming to Bellevue Methodist Church this summer. From 6-8 PM on June 23-27, we will be sharing the good news that in a wild world, Jesus is our *True North* with school-age children from our community. So, in addition to the registration information contained elsewhere in the Newsletter, I want to take a moment and share with you 4 qualities that make Vacation Bible School a truly viral event.

1) **VBS Activates Evangelism.** Maybe you don't consider yourself an evangelist. You might feel like you don't even know where to begin when it comes to talking to others about Jesus. Thankfully, Vacation Bible School activates evangelism by empowering everyone involved to take part in sharing the gospel. Whether you are inviting your neighbors or grandkids, showing Christian hospitality at the check-in station, leading an activity, or having spiritual conversations with kids, Vacation Bible School provides anyone who wants grow in the gift of evangelism an opportunity to do so.

2) **VBS Brings the Bible to Life.** In the first VBS I worked as an adult, I had the opportunity to play the character of Daniel in the Bible skits. As I prepared for each group to visit my station, I found that Daniel's experiences recorded in the Bible were speaking to me in new and deeper ways. Vacation Bible School is built on the premise that the Bible isn't merely a book we read but is the living word of God through which he speaks truth to us today. It is a word to be experienced as well as interpreted and applied.

3) **VBS Kindles Connections.** According to a study conducted by the Fuller Youth Institute, young people are significantly more likely to remain connected to the Christian faith if they have meaningful relationships with unrelated adults who love Jesus. But where do those relationships happen? They happen in settings like VBS. I still remember being introduced to two of my very first VBS leaders as a child. Ms. Bonnie and Grandma Rosie had been nearly strangers to me, but after being in their VBS group they became not only familiar faces but frequent encouragers on my spiritual journey.

4) **VBS Builds Bridges.** What is the price tag on a person coming to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior? The truth is that there is nothing more valuable, yet we often wonder how we can present the good news to people in an inviting and compelling way. A dear friend of mine received saving faith as a result of her 9-year old daughter attending Vacation Bible School and bringing what she learned home. Through the ministry of Vacation Bible School, God reached a whole family that had not set foot in a church in decades. And every year we hold VBS, we give him the opportunity to do it again.

So, I hope you will join me in praying for, helping with, and inviting your friends, family, and neighbors to this event. ***Because there is no cure for VBS.***

Yours In Christ, Pastor Ben

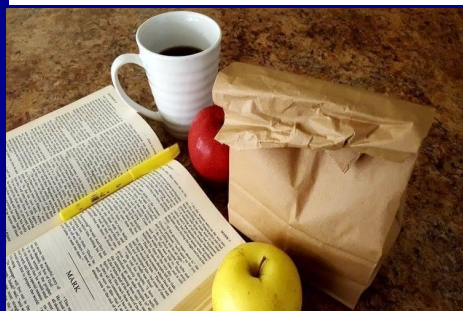
*Our Daily Bread
Devotionals*



*Booklets are available at the
church parking lot entrance.
Pick up your copy today
and reflect daily in
HIS WORD!*

**Lunch Break
Bible Study**

Grab your lunch
and join Pastor Ben
on Tuesdays at Noon
for a Lunch Break
Bible Study



Baptism

Joel Christopher Palmer
25 May 2025

BELLEVUE METHODIST CHURCH

Good Samaritan Food Pantry

May / June Collection



Canned Peas
Canned Corn
Canned Tomatoes

Good Samaritan Food Pantry are really in
need of the above food items!

Donations accepted all month long
and can be dropped off at the church
(Shopping Cart in Fellowship Hall)
or the Bellevue Good Samaritan Building,
205 N. Main St. on Wednesdays
between 3 pm—6 pm.

**New Good Samaritan Food Pantry
Hours: Wednesdays 3 pm—6 pm**

Come together in fellowship as
Pastor Ben and Cassie celebrate Joel's baptism!
Join us for an "All Church BBQ"!

Please bring a dish to share.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

**ALL-CHURCH
BBQ
PICNIC**

25 May 2025
At the Parsonage
Following Services





Memorial Day Parade



26 May 2025—10 am

Bellevue Methodist Church will be participating in the Memorial Day Parade. We need a volunteer with a vehicle and trailer, volunteers to decorate the trailer and volunteers to either walk beside and/or ride in the trailer. We will be handing out pencils, kindness coins and VBS invitations.

Line up at 9:30 am at Jefferson Park. Parade will begin at the intersection of N. Main St. and Ellsworth St. and travel south on Main St. to Jackson St., Jackson St. to West St., West St. to the cemetery.

There will be stops along the route for memorials with Pastor Ben giving the Keynote Address at the ceremony held in Bellevue Riverside Cemetery. Volunteers please contact the church office.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Vacation Bible School

Join us for a week of Summer Fun following Jesus as we learn that Jesus is our "True North".

VBS will run from June 23-27
from 6-8 pm.

Registration is available on our website or follow this link to sign your child up today!



SCAN ME

Movie Night at the Church!

All are welcome to join us on the following Saturdays:

31 May 2025 & 28 June 2025

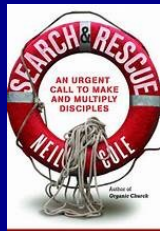
Supper will be provided at 5 pm & the movie will begin at 6 pm. Bring a friend or two or more!

Contact Steve Hill at 269-719-0850 for details.

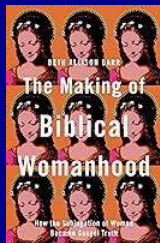


Pastor's Library

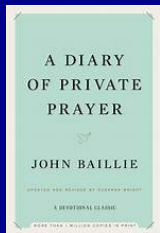
What I am Reading...



Search and Rescue,
Neil Cole: A vision for transformational discipleship from a church planter and former lifeguard.

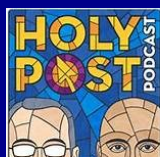


The Making of Biblical Womanhood,
Beth Allison Barr: Part-Memoir, Part-Biblical Historical Survey, Barr examines our misconceptions about women in Christianity,



A Diary of Private Prayer,
John Baillie: An all-time classic, first recommended to me by my grandmother. Contains short prayers for morning and evening.

What I am Listening to...



The Holy Post Podcast:
Funny and Theological Commentary on News and Culture and interviews with thoughtful Christian leaders.



Milk and Honey,
Crowder: Southern Rock and Roll with a Gospel Message.



Gospel in Life,
Rev. Dr. Timothy Keller: Wise, Compassionate, Biblical. Despite our theological differences, the late Dr. Keller is one of my all-time favorite preachers and pastors.

4U Free Store

Temporary Relocation:

The 4U Free Store has *temporarily* moved into the basement of the Bellevue Methodist Church.

Hours of Operation:

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 3 pm-6 pm

Building Upon a New Location

(vacant lots at 217 N. Main) :

Please contact Steve Hill if you can offer your time, craftsmanship, and hospitality!

Prayer Room @ 4U Free Store:

Looking for a place to connect with God during the week?

Need prayer for yourself or a loved one?

Want to get involved in praying for our community?

Visit us at the Free Store

Prayer Room on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30.



Parsonage Spring Clean-up

17 May 2025 at 2 pm

523 Sherwood Road, Bellevue

Need volunteers to help out with exterior cleaning, small projects like setting up a new basketball hoop & breaking down boxes for recycling, tree trimming, grounds/flower beds maintenance and removal of brush piles.

Refreshments will be available.

Contact Jessica Baker at 269-763-9421 for additional details.



Contact Information

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 9am—1pm

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesdays 9am—3pm & Fridays 9-11am

Additional hours available by appointment

Phone Numbers:

Church Office—Jessica Baker

Phone—269-763-9421

Email—office@bellevuemethodist.org

Pastor Ben Palmer

Church Office—269-763-9421

Cell—269-303-4457

Email—pastorbenpalmer@gmail.com



Bellevue Methodist Church Mission Statement:

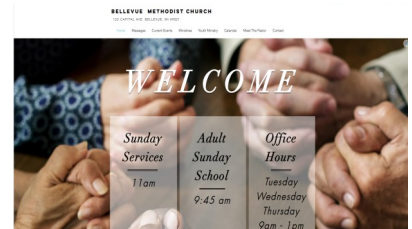
**“Ignite God’s Love In Our Lives
As We Reach Out To The World.”**

Website:

www.bellevuemethodist.org

Check out our website:

- Listen to our Sunday Messages
- See our Current Events and Happenings at the Church
- See what our Ministry Groups are up to
- Read our latest Newsletter and Calendars
- And find out any other information



Facebook:

www.facebook.com/BellevueMethodistChurch

Instagram:

www.instagram.com/bellevuemethodist

Check out our photo galleries to see all the fun, food and fellowship we partake in each year!

www.bellevuemethodist.org/family-camping

Contact
Paul Haist at
517-983-2146
for details.



Reserve your
campsite/cabin
today!

Bellevue Family Camping

3-8 August 2025

Winding Creek Camp, Hastings, MI

Good Housekeeping is Everyone's Job...

- * Pick up tissues, wrappers, & bulletins in the pews
 - * Turn off lights
- * Shutting off sink facets
- * Turning off AC Units & ceiling fans
 - * DO NOT OVERRIDE the thermostats...they are preset
- * Clean up after use of the church (meetings, committees, groups, fellowship, activities, etc.)
 - see checklist in Kitchen
- * Lock all doors

Just a reminder...

...and it promotes safety!

