

CAMP MEETING 2025

Our theme: "Unity at the Table"

August 2-10, 2025

"On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine – the best of meats and the finest of wines. In that day they will say, 'Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.'" - Isaiah 25: 6, 9

Program Committee: John Wolcott (Chair), Martha Babcock, Connie Schenenga, Joe Vile, Andrew Apy, Sue Donnelly, Scott DeGuilo, Jessica James **Advisory:** Dr. Jonathan Malone

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:45 Breakfast
9:00 **Registration** begins - Hospitality Table, the Preachers' Stand
10:00 Annual Meeting, presided by Association President, David Apy – Live and via ZOOM
12:30 Lunch
1:00-2:00 Historical Center open
1:00-2:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
4:00-5:30 Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
6:00 Dinner
7:00 "Jonah and the Whale" by Molly's Puppet Cottage, followed by tent fellowship

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 - HERITAGE DAY

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:45 Breakfast
9:00 Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
10:00 Worship Service – Rev. Dan Whitney – "The Fruit of the Spirit is: Unity"
12:30 Dinner
1:00-2:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
1:00-3:00 Archive presentation – Preachers' Stand followed by visits to cottages on the North grounds
3:00-4:00 Historical Center open, including Preachers' Stand exhibit
5:00 Vespers Service, Fairview Park – Rev. Dan Whitney
6:00 Supper

MONDAY, AUGUST 4

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:00 Yoga with Cory Kern – Large VBS cottage
7:45 Breakfast

8:30 Morning prayer, Fairview Park
9:00 Bible Study with Rev. Jonathan Malone – Preachers' Stand.
Monday's focus: Abundance
10:15-ish Announcements & coffee break
10:45 **"Bringing It Home"** Discussion
Facilitator: Scott DeGuilo
9:00-11:30 Vacation Bible School - VBS (Ages 4-10)
9:00-3:00 Camp Bethel Youth - CBY (ages 10-18)
12 noon Lunch
2:00-3:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
2:00-4:00 Historical Center open
2:00 Board of Trustees Meeting, Lounge
3:30 EC24: Steve Gephard (see on page 2)
4:00-5:00 Chat with the President
5:00 Vespers, Fairview Park – Rev. Dan Whitney
6:00 Dinner
7:00 Family movie night: "UP"

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5 - MISSIONS DAY

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:00 Yoga with Cory
7:45 Breakfast
8:30 Morning prayer, Fairview Park
9:00 Bible Study
Tuesday's Focus: Hospitality and Inclusion
10:15-ish Announcements & coffee break
10:45 Discussion facilitator: Barbara Whiting
9:00-11:30 Vacation Bible School - VBS (Ages 4-10)
9:00-3:00 Camp Bethel Youth - CBY (ages 10-18)
12 noon Lunch
2:15 Members in Mission: David James and Bryce Whiting
3:30 Scrapbooking
3:00-4:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
3:00-4:00 Historical Center open
5:00 Vespers, Fairview Park – Rev. Dan Whitney
6:00 Dinner

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:00 Yoga with Cory
7:45 Breakfast
8:30 Morning prayer, Fairview Park
9:00 Bible Study
Wednesday Focus: Purity and Boundaries
10:15-ish Announcements & coffee break
10:45 Discussion facilitator: Bill White
9:00-11:30 Vacation Bible School - VBS (Ages 4-10)
9:00-3:00 Camp Bethel Youth - CBY (ages 10-18)
12 noon Lunch
1:00 Cottage Owners meeting, Lounge
3:00 EC24: Christine Becker (see below)
3:00-4:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
6:00 Dinner
7:30 "Ice Cream Social"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:00 Yoga with Cory
7:45 Breakfast
8:30 Morning prayer, Fairview Park
9:00 Bible Study
Thursday's Focus: Memory and Ritual
10:15-ish Announcements & coffee break
10:45 Discussion facilitator: Rabbi Marci Bellows
9:00-11:30 Vacation Bible School - VBS (Ages 4-10)
9:00-3:00 Camp Bethel Youth - CBY (ages 10-18)
12 noon Lunch
2:00-3:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
2:15 EC24: Leslie Kane (see below)
4:00-5:00 Chat with the President
5:00 Vespers, Fairview – Rev. Adrian Shepard
6:00 Dinner
7:30 Historic Camp Meeting Celebration - Chapel

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:00 Yoga with Cory
7:45 Breakfast
8:30 Morning prayer, Fairview Park
9:00 Bible Study
Friday Focus: Recognizing God's Presence
10:15-ish Announcements & coffee break
10:45 Discussion facilitator: Josh James
9:00-11:30 Vacation Bible School - VBS (Ages 4-10)
9:00-3:00 Camp Bethel Youth - CBY (ages 10-18)
12 noon Lunch
1:30 Golf tournament
2:00 Choir rehearsal, Chapel
2:00-3:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
3:00 Helping Hand Society Annual Meeting
5:00 Vespers, Fairview – Rev. Adrian Shepard
6:00 Dinner
7:00 "Camp Bethel's Got Talent"

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:00 Yoga with Cory
7:45 Breakfast
8:30 Morning prayer, Fairview Park
9:00 Bible Study: Reflections and Wrap-up
12 noon Lunch
1:00-2:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
1:00-2:00 Historical Center open
5:00 Vespers, Fairview – Rev. Bryce Whiting
6:00 Dinner
7:00 Olde Time hymn Sing

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:45 Breakfast
9:00 Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
10:00 Farewell and Communion Service – Rev. Tim Haut, assisted by Camp's clergy team
12:30 Dinner
1:00-2:00 Helping Hand Country Store open
2:00-4:00 Country Store clean-up
2:00 Program Committee Meeting, Lounge

CHAT WITH THE PRESIDENT

You will note two opportunities (Monday and Thursday at 4:00) to "Chat with the President." This is your chance to sit with the President of the Association to ask questions, share concerns, and make suggestions for our future. Location to be announced.

"Inviting to YOUR table"

Members of the Camp Bethel community have been asked to answer, "Whom would you invite to your table, and why?" Hear their stories at Vespers:

Sun. Bill White: Peter
Mon. Joe Vile: Jonah
Tues. Robin Garner: Woman at the Well
Thurs. Jennifer Apy: Mom
Fri. David Gephard: Dorothy Lockward
Sat. Surprise:

EC24: Topics from Eldercare School 2024

Monday: Steve Gephard - "The Connecticut River- an Overview".
Wednesday: Christine Becker – "A Comparison of Connecticut and Southwestern Native American Tribes."
Thursday: Leslie Kane – "The Land Around Us"

Camp Bethel's Got Talent

Friday, 7 PM

We've got five acts booked for this fun event, and have plenty of room for more. Sing? Play an instrument? Family group or solo? Dance? Juggle? Skit? Recite a poem you wrote? See any member of the Program Committee to sign up...no auditions required!

CAMP BETHEL YOUTH

We're so excited that CBY is happening again this year! It's an opportunity for the youth of camp (ages 10-18) to start making fond memories, as many of us did when we first started coming to camp. We'll be meeting Monday through Friday at 9 am at the fireplace in front of Memorial Hall. Some exciting activities to look forward to include continued work on Camp's trail maintenance, creating additional trails, fitness, swimming, crafts, and outdoor games. We will start each day in Scripture, with a mid-day reflection/journaling time, and wrapping up with music around 3 pm. Our schedule will be posted on the bulletin board during Camp Meeting; be sure to stop by and check it out!

Camp Bethel Choir

Come meet the McInerneys – They invite each of you to join the choir and fill the campground with joyful music!

COTTAGE TOURS

The Archive Presentation this year will involve cottage tours on the North grounds! Meet under the Preachers' Stand at 1:00 on Sunday, August 2. The self-tours will last until 3:00. The Historical Center will then be opened until 4:00 to view the exhibit on the 25th year anniversary of the construction of the wood roof over the Preachers' Stand. Some history of the years of the Preachers' Stand tents will be presented.

HISTORICAL CENTER

To arrange to visit the Historical Center at other than scheduled times (listed in this bulletin and posted on the bulletin board across from the Dining Hall), please contact David Gephard, 860-304-8574, cottage 35. Though quite small as museums go, the Historical Center contains a wealth of historical information including photos, memorabilia and artifacts. Make time for a visit this year.

HOSPITALITY TABLE

Don't forget to visit the Hospitality Table at the Preachers' Stand to sign in for Camp Meeting 2025, register for events, and receive your name badge, bookmark, and Camp Meeting Bulletin.

The Hospitality Table will be staffed:

Saturday, August 2: 9:00-10:00 AM, and following the Annual Meeting for ½ hour.

Monday and Tuesday: During coffee break.

POOL HOURS

Pool hours will be posted on the bulletin board across from the Dining Hall. 3-4 pm will be "Adult Swim Hour". Swimming after 9 pm should be quiet and respectful of people in the Lodges and RV park. Pool closed during Sunday and Vesper services. **Please abide by the posted rules.**

WHO'S WHO AT CAMP MEETING 2025

Program Director.....John Wolcott
Bible Study teacher Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone
Music Directors Pam and Dan McInerney
Food Service Manager Ellen Miller
Chef..... Bill McKay
Sous Chef..... Ivan Petroka
Association President.....David Apy
Camp Bethel Youth (CBY).....Josh, Jess, Lea and friends
Youth ActivitiesAndrew Apy
Vacation Bible School (VBS) Mackenzie Smith
Preacher's Stand Fellowship Babcock cousins
Audio/VisualAndrew Apy

DINING HALL MEAL RESERVATIONS

	Adult	Child (under 12)
Breakfast	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.00
Lunch	\$ 9.00	\$ 5.00
Supper	\$11.00	\$ 6.00
Sunday Dinner	\$15.00	\$ 8.00
All Breakfasts (9)	\$ 54.00	\$ 36.00
All Lunches (7)	\$ 63.00	\$ 35.00
All Suppers (8)	\$ 88.00	\$ 48.00
All Sun. Dinners (2)	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>\$ 16.00</u>
	\$235.00	\$135.00
All Meals (26)	\$175.00	\$ 90.00

For planning purposes, it helps if you reserve your meal tickets in advance. Please contact Ellen Miller (campbethelsecretary@gmail.com or text 413-775-3109) for reservations. Tickets may be purchased at the door, but are on a first-come, first-served basis.

CARETAKER/CAMP MANAGER

Caretakers Michelle and Thom can be reached at 860-845-7410, Cottage #44.

LODGING

Lodging rates for Bethel Hall and Helping Hand are \$40 per night, including linens, etc. (\$35 for members and immediate family).

Rates in the RV Camping Park are \$30 per night, including water and electric hookups (\$25 for members and immediate family). Tent sites are \$15 per night (\$10 for members and immediate family).

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Contact Liz Van Guilder at rentals@campbethelct.org. Last minute reservations, please call or text 617-966-5444.

Guest Preachers / Presenters at Camp this year

In order to get to know our presenters better, each was asked to reflect on the following: *“Describe a time when you experienced a profound sense of community, and how did it impact your ministry?”*

Rev. Dan Whitney

First Sunday morning and evening services, Monday and Tuesday Vespers



Dan and Nancy Whitney met singing in a college choir on the south shore of Boston. Since then, they have served churches in Michigan, Virginia, Missouri, New York, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Connecticut. Dan retired from full-time pastoral service this past November. They have recently relocated to North Carolina to be near family members. The Whitneys love music, reading, game playing (all sorts!) and enjoying the abundant life that Jesus brings! They are wildly extroverted, so don't hesitate to start up a conversation.

Regarding the question about community, Dan wrote: “Around 2007, Nancy and I, along with some neighbors, started Community Christian Fellowship in the community center of a small New Hampshire town that was underserved

by the Church. This was a Sunday night gathering of Christians and non-Christians, that included worship, prayer, preaching and discussion. Around 30 folks, on average, came out week after week for these very casual and informal services. The group did community outreach work and various other projects together. We went Christmas caroling together, had craft days, jam making tutorials, all kinds of social events. In good weather, there was a whiffle ball game on the front lawn before service. It was sometimes hard to get the worship band members in to start the service, especially if one of them was on third base. After service, most of us walked across the street to the local pizza parlor and had dinner together. Lots of folks came through our doors, especially in summer. This group was the warmest community I can remember. There was no pretending, no special wardrobe, no foolish questions when it came time to discuss the sermon. People from all over the ecclesiastical map joined right in. All of my family loved it.

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone

Bible Study Leader Monday – Saturday

Jonathan Malone continues his outdoor/wilderness ministry, leading individuals and groups on hikes and backpacking excursions so that they can experience God in nature in various ways. For more information, visit *Wilderness Journeys* (www.wildernessjourneys.org). Jonathan has been the Bible Study leader for Camp Bethel for the past number of years and is excited to be back again this summer.

Regarding community, he wrote: “Every time I take a group into the wilderness I encounter a deep sense of community, not only with the people in the group, but with all of creation that is around us. The sense of awe that people bring into the wilderness reminds me that we are never alone, but surrounded by woodland creatures, trees, and so much life. And grounding all of that life (including ours) is God. It continues to be a wonderful community experience!”

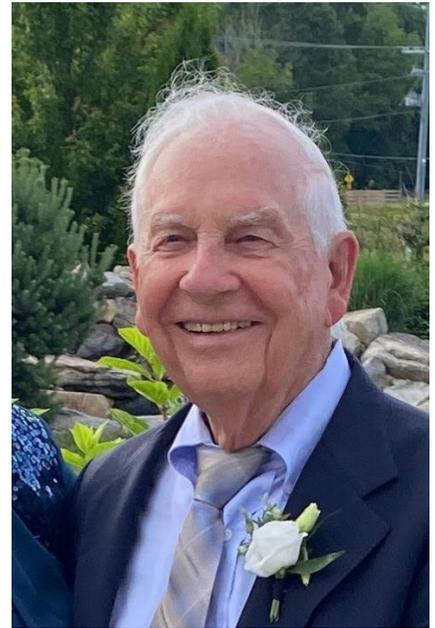


Rev. Adrian Shepard

Vespers Thursday and Friday

Adrian's journey has included decades of pastoral ministry and denominational duties. Now in retirement, numbers of calls have come to do short time pastoring. Also, there are always friends, neighbors, relatives, and even strangers who reach out for ministry. "Beautiful places such as Camp Bethel have reached out and God has blessed me by those ministries."

Regarding a "sense of community", Adrian says, "Beginning the last year of college and the three years of Seminary I was blessed with a part-time job with a Presbyterian Church in Aurora. The job was basically with teens and the educational area. During those years there were two pastors, Bob the first two years and Cal the last two. They were quite a bit older than I, but they treated me almost as an equal. I have never since that time found a better senior person treat me better than they did. I believe those four years trained me and patterned my ministry significantly. The people of that church seem to have the same kind friendship and spirit of family. My wife and I were many miles away from our homes when we had to plan our wedding. The people of that church worked with us like we were family."



Rev. Bryce Whiting

Vespers Saturday, August 9

Bryce Whiting spent 8 years with "Youth with a Mission" in Europe and Africa, and has pastored churches in New England throughout his career, having just retired from pastoral duties. He remains Area Director of Advent Christian Ministries in Africa and Europe.

Bryce wrote about his experience of community: "We served in Youth with a Mission for 8 years here in America, Europe and Africa. The non-formal educational ideology includes the teachers/staff and the students working together, worshipping together, and doing evangelism and community service together. It gives to the staff the opportunity to watch their disciples in action and thus to speak into their lives when

required. More than a classroom experience, this method of disciple-making addressed the whole person and shaped my ministry accordingly."

Rabbi Marci N. Bellows

Bible study Thursday

An Illinois native, Rabbi Bellows' journey has taken her to New York, Florida, New Jersey, New York again, and now Chester, Connecticut, where she serves the Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek. A scholar, columnist, writer, teacher, and musician, we have invited her to share Jewish traditions of "gathering at the table", specifically the elements and meaning of the traditional Seder meal.





Rev. Tim Haut

Sunday morning, August 10

A long-time friend of Camp Bethel, we all love his “letters from Blue Grass”, wherein he shares his Iowa roots. He was called to the Deep River Congregational Church 45 years ago, and he says, “So far it has been working out pretty well!” He will be retiring, at last, this fall. He has written one book--"A Deep River Year"--and has two more in the works.

Tim’s response to the question about community was: “I have found a home in the Connecticut River Valley and felt God's presence in my life in numerous ways. I find him next to me as I walk through the woods or look over our beautiful river, reminded of the spirit that carries us through all the seasons of our lives. I feel him in the joy of my family--a wonderful wife, four sons and two granddaughters--and he even appears in the wagging of my dog's tail when I walk into the house at the end of the day. I feel God in the community of a congregation that has grown and thrived through these years. I especially sensed God's presence in that community in the aftermath of our son's unexpected death several years ago. Adam was a

bright, shining light in the world, a heart aflame with joy, a sweet soul who suddenly was gone from us. But we were held up, lifted up, by the love of our community of faith, our family, and our friends, who were the grace and strength of God for us.”

Pam and Dan McInerney

Music directors for the week



The McInerneys are long-time friends of the DeGuilos. Pam recently retired from a 32-year career as a music teacher at the Rochester (NY) School for the Deaf, and has worked in church music ministry for almost the same amount of time. She is currently the music director at St. Catherine’s Catholic Church in Mendon, NY.

Dan is a Choir Section Leader at Asbury First United Methodist Church in Rochester, and has sung in various choruses (large, small, community, and professional) in the Rochester area for over 30 years. He also has a background in arts management and works for UPS.

Regarding community, Pam responded: “Each time a large number of my choir members are able to come together for Sunday Mass, I always feel a profound sense of community, and more importantly, family! This past Sunday was a perfect example of this: we had 2 singers per voice part, plus a drummer, 2 guitarists, a flautist (and me at the piano). The sheer joy at singing and playing together to lead our parish family in sung prayer, worship, and praise is so powerful...and doggone FUN! These moments of shared purpose and mission always make me want to look ahead to the next Mass to envision what our group might look and sound like, and is definitely self-seeding, to borrow a plant term. These "big music Sundays" certainly makes all of the choir folks want to come

back the next week for another glorious booster shot of music, purpose, and joy in sharing the musical gifts we have been given. It's extremely addictive, and I love our time together!"

Dan wrote: "During the pandemic, I was fortunate to be able to keep singing each Sunday at Asbury for our live-streamed service. It was 18 months before the full choir gathered again, and when we gathered for our first rehearsal the sense of community was profoundly moving. And then to see the faces of the congregation on that first Sunday when the choir sang - wow! It was a moment that reminded me that sharing my musical gifts adds to the worship experience of everyone. It's not always perfect, and the songs aren't always my favorite, but being mindful of what music brings to the church community is something I try to think about every Sunday."

Cory Kern

Yoga Monday through Saturday

Retired middle school teacher Cory teaches yoga and dance throughout the Hartford area. Last year she recorded six half-hour sessions for us, and Bill and Sue will be presenting them in the VBS cottage each morning during camp.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE

In order to make Camp Meeting a positive experience for all, we need the cooperation of all Camp Bethelites, young and old, in following guidelines developed for Camp Meeting in response to safety concerns expressed to the Program Committee:

- I. Bikes left outside Association buildings (such as the Chapel and Dining Hall) should be stored on the side of those buildings (or out of the way).
- II. People riding bikes on the grass and in between cottages need to be careful of the oldest and youngest Camp Bethelites.
- III. By 10:00 p.m. children not accompanied by a parent should be in their cottages.
- IV. During chapel services we ask that children be at their cottage or with a parent or guardian. Playing around the chapel and frequent going in and out of the chapel during a service can be distracting to those in worship. Please be respectful of those in worship services.
- V. Recreational facilities (pool, basketball court, miniature golf, etc.) are closed during Sunday and Vesper services.
- VI. Please refrain from using strong fragrances in consideration of those with respiratory difficulties.

Thank you for adhering to these guidelines, and enjoy Camp Meeting!

BETHEL CAFÉ MENU – SAT., AUG. 2 – SUN., AUG 10, 2025



Chef Bill McKay – Sous Chef Ivan Petroka



Day	Breakfast*	Lunch/Sunday Dinner**	Supper**
Sat Aug 2	French Toast, Sausage, Home Fries	Philly Cheesesteak Bar, Assorted Cold Cuts, Chips Brownies	Meat or Veggie Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Italian Veggies Cookies
Sun Aug 3	Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon	Roast Turkey, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Roasted Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce Apple Crisp w/Ice Cream	Noodle Bowls w/Chicken or Beef, Egg, Veggies Ice Cream Sundae Bar (myo)
Mon Aug 4	Breakfast Burrito Bar	Tacos...build your own! Mexi-Rice, Fiesta Corn Cranberry Oatmeal Cookies	Rosemary Lemon Chicken Thighs, Orzo, Veg, Cranberry Sauce, Chocolate Fondue Assortment
Tue Aug 5	Veggie Omelets, Sausage, Home Fries	Chicken Salad, Tuna Salad, Egg Salad, Potato Salad` Chocolate Pudding, Cookies	Swedish Meatballs, Buttered Parsley Noodles, Peas Raspberry Cream Pie
Wed Aug 6	Scrambled eggs, bacon, home fries	Chicken BLT Wrap with spicy aioli, chips Peach Crisp	Mac 'n Cheese Bar, grilled chicken, bacon, ham, veggies, etc. 7:30pm: Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundae Bar
Thu Aug 7	Ham & Cheese Omelets, Home Fries	Meatballs w/pasta or Meatball Grinder, Ricotta, Mozzarella Biscotti	Chicken & Mashed Potato Bowl, Veggies, Cranberry Sauce Banana Pudding
Fri Aug 8	French toast, Sausage, Home Fries	Pizza, Chips Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Cookies	Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Watermelon Assorted Desserts
Sat Aug 9	Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries	Chicken or Sweet Potato/Black Bean Enchiladas, Mexi-Rice Flan	BBQ Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Coleslaw Watermelon
Sun Aug 10	Breakfast Burrito Bar	Chicken Marsala w/Mushrooms, Garlic Butter Pasta, Roasted Italian Veggies Tiramisu	Thank you for dining with us. It has been our blessing to serve you.

*Daily Breakfast meals include bagels & cream cheese, fresh fruit, granola, yogurt, hard-boiled eggs, fruit toppings, maple syrup.

** Daily Lunch/Dinner/Supper meals include fruit & salad bar with fruits, greens, veggies, grilled chicken, tofu, nuts, cheeses. Dressings: Bleu Cheese, Caesar, Italian and Ranch. Vinaigrettes: Olive Oil Balsamic, Raspberry.

(myo = make your own)

Indiv. Meal Prices Adult/Child (under 12): Breakfast \$6/\$4, Lunch \$9/\$5, Supper \$11/\$6; Sunday Dinner \$15/\$8

Daily Rates Adult/Child (under 12): Monday-Saturday \$26/\$15, 1st Sunday \$32/\$18, 2nd Sunday \$21/\$12

Weekly Rates Adult/Child (under 12): \$175/\$90

Questions: Call/text Ellen Miller - 413-775-3109