

Silver Servants Ministry

2016

Pastor Jerry Davis

Any ministry is dependent upon others! So it is with this ministry, conceived many years ago with the leadership of Margaret Tomlinson who had a vision for senior citizens here at Bethel. The challenge of developing monthly programs for seniors that would be edifying and entertaining has always been a challenge.

I was asked to begin directing the program several years ago, and have utilized the talents of my wife, Susan, Bob & Linda Schendler, Mary Margaret Riley, Jim & Sandy Henneman and others. It was decided that we would begin in April and end in December. We also decided to include the program offered at Grace Church for the monthly entertainment and devotion. Each month I sent flyers to eight other churches announcing the program details, which yielded additional attendees from 4 or 5 of these churches.

Our first Silver Servants program convened Thursday, April 14, with a presentation by the Bethel Christian School and their Spring Concert followed by lunch. We had 31 in attendance, many from other churches. We started our trips on May 12 to the Erie Planetarium followed by trips to Hornby School, Erie Railroad Museum, Erie Art Museum, Erie Fire Museum, Watson-Curtze Mansion, and Lucille Ball Museum in Jamestown, New York. The trips also included lunches at various restaurants. Our year ended December 8, with a musical Christmas program presented by the students of Bethel Christian School followed by a delicious meal, and a unique Christmas gift exchange.

I want to thank all the helpers; especially Sandy Henneman who provided delicious meals at several events, along with the rest of the team who made it happen. I also want to thank all the senior citizens who supported this ministry during this past year. I'm not sure what the future holds for us; but if we should continue, I am looking for suggestions as to how we might build the program. I thank the Lord for directing us through the year, as I know this has been His work for others.

Traditional Sunday Evening Church Service 2016

After a year of Sunday evening services, I was asked by Pastor Dave to continue this ministry in 2016. Frankly, I was delighted to think we could have a Sunday evening service, emphasizing traditional music and Bible preaching. The plan was to make the worship service available to everyone who would like to join. As a result of this decision, we held our first service on April 17, with 22 in attendance. Nearly every Sunday at 6:00pm, we sang, prayed, talked about current events, preached sermons, and fellowshiped together here at Bethel. We also enjoyed special music by several willing servants and ministered not only to the Bethel family but to several who attended from outside our church. We spent a great amount of time preaching through the book of I Thessalonians and offered everyone study guides.

If the interest is still there, I am willing to begin a new year in 2017 with the same or modified program. As always, I am always listening to suggestions and ideas as to how we might reach others with this service. It must be understood that what we are doing is to evangelize and build Christians. We had a high of 32 in attendance, and I would like to see this as a normal attendance if we continue. Again, I thank everyone who faithfully supported the evening service by their attendance and participation.

Please watch your "Bethel Organizer" for plans regarding our program. You will find information about the service schedule there. I continue to remind everyone that this service, as part of the Bethel ministry, is for those who wish to worship at a traditional Sunday evening church service. I thank the Lord for this wonderful opportunity to interact and worship with so many wonderful Christians. I pray that the Lord's plan will be revealed for 2017. Thanks to all who worshipped together on Sunday evenings this past year.

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