

**August 5, 2018**

## **Welcome New Members**

Today, it is our privilege to welcome new members to our congregation.



### **How Can I Join New Bethel UMC?**

You may become a part of the New Bethel United Methodist family of God in one of the following ways:

If you have never joined a church before, you may become a member by profession of faith in Jesus Christ and by being baptized.

If you have already been baptized (as a child or as an adult) in any Christian church, your baptism is recognized by New Bethel UMC. We will transfer your membership and you will be asked to uphold NBUMC with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

If your membership in a church has become "inactive" for any reason, you may reactivate it by a re-affirmation of faith.

If you have any questions about United Methodism or NBUMC in particular, please contact us in the church office at 618-288-5700 or make an appointment to speak with Pastor Penny.

### **The Duty of Constant Communion**

The following is an excerpt from an article written by John Wesley in 1788 and used for his students at Oxford. He was talking about the duty of every Christian to receive the Lord's Supper as often as possible. He wrote:

The First reason why it is the duty of every Christian so to do is, because it is a plain command of Christ. That this is his command, appears from the words of the text, "Do this in remembrance of me:"

A second reason why every Christian should do this as often as they can, is, because the benefits of doing it are so great to all that do it in obedience to him; viz., the forgiveness of our past sins, the present strengthening and refreshing of our souls.

The grace of God given herein, confirms to us the pardon of our sins, and enables us to leave them.

Let everyone therefore, who has either any desire to please God, or any love of their own soul, obey God, and consult the good of their own soul, by communicating every time they can..

In order to understand the nature of the Lord's Supper, it would be useful carefully to read over those passages in the Gospel, and in 1 Corinthians, which speak of the institution of it.

It is highly expedient for those who purpose to receive this, whenever their time will permit, to prepare themselves for this solemn ordinance by self-examination and prayer.

