



Bethany Banner

July 2022

The Church with Open Hearts, Minds, and Doors

Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Church Office: 804-642-2110

www.bethanyumc-gp.org



July 18-22 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Register online at:

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/145b3d>

Deadline to register is July 8. Space limited to 50.

Pastor: Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song

Director of Music: Sandra Fox Organist: Dr. Rudy Shackelford

Director of Children & Youth Ministries: Kris Kent

Church Office Administrator: Dee Dee Wike

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Churches in liminal time.

On Saturday, June 18, on my way back home from the 240th session of the Virginia Annual Conference in Hampton, I was pondering what new ideas I wanted to bring back with me to the Bethany congregation.

Of the many things I experienced at Annual Conference, I thought the Bible study on Saturday morning was the best for me in that it gave me a fresh insight about where we are as United Methodists, where we are called to go.

The Rev. Lisa Greenwood, from the North Texas Annual Conference, taught the Bible study based on Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Rev. Greenwood diagnosed the current life of the United Methodist Church. Along with the global issue of the COVID-19 pandemic, our denomination has been dealing with many issues and agendas from theological, cultural and political viewpoints – a divisive issue regarding human sexuality, ordination of LGBTQ+ individuals, the postponed General Conference now scheduled for 2024, the beginning of the Global Methodist Church, and new systems to make us proactive to change occurring inside and outside of our denomination. Rev. Greenwood named it a liminal time, not knowing where we are going while dealing with changes. And I agreed with her. A liminal time is for us to reflect on things happening around us, and to discern our call from God.

Rev. Greenwood opened the Bible to find our hope from God, teaching what had happened in the first century church in Jerusalem, which was also in a time of uncertainty and change, and how they responded to God's leading, to the work of the Holy Spirit. God was doing a new thing. That is what we learn today during our liminal time.

Rev. Greenwood likened our changing landscape in the church to an ecosystem, a complex interconnected community in which organisms emerge, grow, and mutate, and for a time the old and new co-exist. Gradually, the original organism struggles to survive in the new ecosystem. Our United Methodist boards and systems are designed around an old ecosystem. We are struggling, but we can adapt and embrace biodiversity, in the form of fresh expressions and ways of reaching out to people, which is important for healthy ecosystems.

What does it look like for the church to be witnesses in this emerging landscape, for this season? Rev. Greenwood described five "adaptive muscles" that are necessary for churches to exercise in order to remain effective in witness:

1. Grieving well—Name the grief that comes with change. Until we do, we can't see the new thing that God is doing and can't be used by God.
2. Discerning Purpose—What is God doing among us? Where is the Holy Spirit at work?
3. Walking Alongside—What is God already doing in our neighborhood? How is God calling us to join in?
4. Distributing Power—De-centralize power and distribute it. Old power is like "currency" that is accumulated and held by a few; new power is like electric "current" which reaches all. We are all given the power of the Holy Spirit, to use in ministry.
5. Expanding Imagination—Take what we already know and use it to learn something new. We become stuck on a treadmill of trying the same things that used to work, trying harder and harder. God is pointing us to innovation and imagination, to trying new ways of reaching others.

Since John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist faith movement in 18th century England, we have kept four theological criteria that have made us to stand firm against issues:

Scripture — the primary source and criterion for Christian doctrine.

Tradition — the shared history of Christianity with Scripture as the focal expression of the tradition.

Experience — the examining experience, both individual and corporate, confirming God's grace and love attested in Scripture. Our experience interacts with Scripture.

Reason — By reason, we read and interpret Scripture, determine if our witness is clear, ask questions of faith, and seek to understand.

Our Bishop and Cabinet reappointed me back to Bethany for the coming year, and I am glad that I get to continue serving Bethany church, building up the church together with you, growing in faith with you, and working together with you for the work of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

"It is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose" (Philippians 2:13, NIV).

Love in Christ,

Pastor Paul

Pastor Paul will be away July 5-17. Please remember him and his family in your prayers. Pastor Art Wolz will be handling pastoral emergencies and can be reached through the church office or by calling 804-824-4978.

The following individuals will be preaching in Pastor Paul's absence:

July 10 – Doe Breen, Lay Servant

July 17 – Rev. Hugh Harris, former Bethany minister

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“FEEL THE NOISE” MUSIC CAMP — July 18-22, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Music Camp starts soon! Registration has been extended to July 8th and space is still available. The camp is FREE and open to rising 6th-12th graders. **For more information or to register online:** www.bethanyumc-gp.org, or pick up a form from the entrance tables next time you are at church.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to make Music Camp a successful and fun experience! We are looking for ingress and egress monitors, classroom attendants, help with making nametags, and general supervision of students. **QUESTIONS?** Please contact Sandy Byrd at 757-570-0858 (call/text) or email 2byrdsbythebay@cox.net if you can help or have questions.

Our next Music Camp meeting, for all leaders, teachers, and volunteers, is scheduled for July 12th at 6:30 p.m. in the Lacey Martin classroom. Please make plans to attend. Thanks!

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES will be preparing meals for our homebound on **Wednesday, July 27 at 9:30 a.m.** Come and help and enjoy the fellowship!

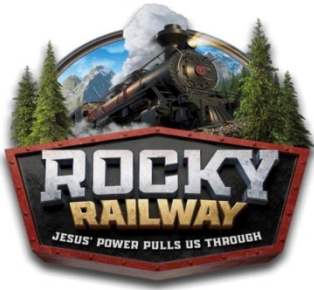
JULY BAZAAR NEWS: It may be hot out there, but it is cool in here! Come join the Bazaar Bunch as we get ready for the 2022 Bazaar!

We meet every Thursday from 9 am – 12 noon in the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall. We always have food, fellowship, and lots of fun! You'll be glad you came!

Don't forget to save items for the Vintage and Collectibles Shop! Call Nancy Wilburn at 804-642-5820 with any questions. See you on Thursday!

MEDIA UPGRADE PROGRESS REPORT -- Facebook Live is now up and running for our Sunday morning services and will be made available for funerals only if requested by the family. The Media Upgrade Team is moving forward with installation preparations so that the projection screen can be removed from the front of the sanctuary. The desk is scheduled for delivery in late June and carpet has been installed on the media platform along with access panels for routing of cables. Theatrical isolation ropes and hooks have been installed. The sound mixer board is operational, but two sequencers are on back order. We ask for patience and understanding from the congregation as additional construction proceeds at the rear of the sanctuary.

ROCKY RAILWAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



All aboaaaaard the 2022 Vacation Bible School Train!! It's time to start packing our bags and get ready for a new adventure!

Bethany's VBS is August 8-11 from 5:30 to 8:00 pm.

Come to our VBS planning meetings at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 6th and Wednesday July 27th.

It's going to take a mighty congregation to pull this together! So don't say "I think I can!" Say, "I KNOW I can!"

For more information contact Conductor Kris at 804-815-4246.

SUMMER SCRIPTURES AND FUN

All rising 3rd thru 12th graders are invited to join us on **Thursday nights from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** for **Summer Scriptures and Fun**, our summertime Sunday school alternative. We will meet each Thursday through August 25th (except for 8/11, VBS week) for dinner, games, mission projects, Bible lessons and fellowship. Our kick-off meeting was held June 23 in the fellowship hall, and we hope to have some meetings in homes. Stay tuned for location! ****Seeking Host Families and Happy Helpers!**** Please contact Ms. Kris at 804-815-4246.



The chancel choir will be on hiatus during the month of July. Our last choir rehearsal before the break will be June 29. We will resume choir rehearsals on August 3. Please join me in letting the choir know how much we appreciate them. They work tirelessly on the music that they produce. (That includes Rudy, of course).

Thank you, choir, for all that you do. — *Sandy Fox*, Music Director

LAY DELEGATE REPORT FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Last month I saw God and people working together at the 240th Session of the Virginia United Methodist Conference in Hampton, Virginia. The Annual Conference brings together clergy delegates from 1200 churches and an equal number of laity elected by their congregations and districts. The purpose is to worship together and feel God's nearness and desires, to learn what various ministries are doing and accomplishing, to vote on motions, and to hear the state of the church.

In the laity session Martha Stokes, the conference lay leader, briefly listed duties of lay delegates, then introduced a speaker with a message. She reminded us that Methodism began as a laity movement and grew rapidly. Then she urged us to change our methods to meet people in the communities where they are. There are two reasons why that is a necessity: it is a mission given to us by God – to make disciples for transformation of the world, and, secondly, for the survival of our churches.

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis called the session to order Thursday afternoon, June 16th. This was followed by welcoming, Martha Stokes' laity address to the assembled delegates, and reports. Friday morning began with lively singing and Bible study. Rev. Lisa Greenwood focused on Acts, Chapter 1, when the apostles faced an uncertain time and they needed to make decisions about what to do next; then she said we also are in a time that requires decision-making.

At present there are in the Virginia Conference eight district superintendents for sixteen districts; each DS became responsible for two districts. This year a proposal to organize into eight districts was presented and debated. Debate consisted of several delegates speaking for or against the proposal to the whole body assembled; when the body voted, the proposal passed. This action envisions adding personnel to district staffs to provide additional assistance to congregations. This action also will allow two district committees to be combined into one, making use of committee members' knowledge of communities the committee serves. Costs to the districts for added personnel will be supplemented by grants from the Virginia Conference for three years.

The presence of God showed in presentations of different ministries meeting a host of needs in our communities and in our world. In service to others, 18,560 kits and around 12,000 pounds of food were donated. A mission worship service reminded us that mission requires relationship-building as demonstrated in Mark 2:1-12 where a paralytic man needed four or more friends to carry him to the house where Jesus was, break through the roof, and lower him to Jesus. Annual Conference is a learning experience, a worshipful experience, a time to greet old friends and make new ones. Thank you for letting me represent you. Many parts of this conference were recorded and can be viewed at the Conference website, vaumc.org. Next year Annual Conference will be in Roanoke, followed by Hampton in 2024.

Paul Kendall, your Lay Delegate

Bethany UMC Prayer List	BETHANY FAMILY	6.26.22
CANCER/CHEMO: Darlene Bauschatz, Krista Chase, Carol Johnson, Linwood Rowe, Bob Wharen		
GRIEVING: Families of Matt Shackelford, Isabella Wheat		
HEALTH ISSUES: Cliff Beach, Charlotte Cecil, David Chapin, Bessie Conner, Billy Davis, Jimmy Greene, Sandra Hollins, Bonnie Lewis, Marshall Lewis, Sue Morecock, Peggy Peterman (NC), Debbie Robins, Rosemarie Tong, Sandie Wharen		
HOMEBOUND: Linda Booth, Sid Dixon, Alice McGee, Jack Wallace		
PARKINSON'S: Mike Andersen, Chuck Ashe, Doris Courtney, Kathleen Greene, Fred Townsend, Yvonne White		
RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Darlene Bauschatz, Joy Long, Jim Stevens		
RECUPERATING AT HOME: Judy Vaughan, Ruth Wallace		
UPCOMING SURGERY: Jeannie Meisner (TBD)		
BETHANY FRIENDS		
CANCER/CHEMO: Soren Andrews, Kyle Cooper, Barbara Crim, Wanda Dowell, Roger Ferguson, Traci Greene, Naomi Hogge, Zachary Hoover, Sissi Mise, John Rhoades, Randy Riffe, Margie Turbyfill, Angie Williams (NY), Susan Williams, Sabrina Wikle		
GRIEVING: Family of Mike Harrison		
HEALTH/OTHER ISSUES: Charles & Mary Black, Connie Bowler, Cathie Brown, Timothy & Christina Brown & children (NC), Bob Clay, Jr., Bobby Clay, Esther Dawson, Herbert Paul Edwards (FL), Lynne Freeman, Dewayne Haywood, Matt Iddings (PA), Mathew Reviere, Tim Sullivan, Mildred Townsend, Tene West, Betty Wilson		
HOSPICE: William Ervi		
PARKINSON'S: Janet Burch (KY)		
RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Boone Kohen, Sue McCloy (WV), Dottie Myers (PA), Sandy Taylor, Larry Wilkinson		
PRAYERS: Randy Wilson, Kwame & Juliet Annorbah-Sarpei, Alli Razzaghi, Kasie Hall		
BUMC'S ACTIVE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES (<i>italics—Bethany friends</i>)		
<i>Michael Brown, Peter Demetriades, Meagan Demetriades, Kevin Jacobs, Cory Long (Okinawa), Will Neikirk, Bowdy Schrader, Jim Minor, all members of the military.</i>		
ASSISTED LIVING (<i>italics—Bethany friends</i>)		
Gloucester House, 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061	Lorraine Brown, Rm 107 Doris Courtney, Rm 105 Jean Heywood, Rm 110 Bessie Conner, Rm 113	
Sanders Assisted Living, 7407 Walker Ave., Gloucester 23061	Carolyn Scott, Rm 206A	
Sunrise Senior Living, 2015 Cranbeck Rd., Richmond 23235	Pauline Harris, Apt. 130	
Riverside Rehab, 672 Gloucester Rd., Saluda, VA, 23149	Jennie Lipscomb	
Heron Cove, 7409 Heron Cove Way, Gloucester 23061	Ellis Hall, Rm 20 Bonnie Lewis, Rm 13	

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Bethany member, **Isabella Wheat**, who passed away on June 4. Please remember Isabella's family in your prayers. Obituary: <https://www.hoggfh.com/obituaries/Isabella-Wheat/>.

THANK YOU NOTES FROM BETHANY FAMILY & FRIENDS

THANKS - When the call goes out all the great helpers and cooks at Bethany get in high gear! What a great outpouring for Isabella Wheat's reception! When we work together we can accomplish anything! Ya'll are the best!
— *Hospitality Committee*

I want to thank Bethany for the Inspiration book, and Ms. Kris for her humorous gifts and for the GHS senior recognition and cake reception. I really appreciate being remembered so nicely. — *Connor Brooks*

Dear 23062-2013, the past few weeks I have been living Murphy's Law, but one day a ray of sunshine was in my mailbox. I wish you could know how very much I appreciate your thoughtfulness and how it comes at just the right time to brighten my life. Fondly, *Jeannie Meisner*

Dear Rev. Song and congregation members,
We want to thank you for the lovely time spent singing praises to our Lord Jesus Christ in your sanctuary for the George Nelson Memorial Concert Series! We thank God for your warm welcome and offering and praise Him for the work you are doing for His Kingdom!
Charles, Steve, Diane & Laura – Streets of Gold Gospel Quartet

NOTES OF APPRECIATION FROM OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS (excerpts)

AARP – The AARP Tax-Aide Program volunteers that staff this site thank you for the use of your facility for the past several months. This tax season has been another one of challenges. In spite of the required inefficiencies this year (*due to COVID-related procedures*) we were able to do 183 returns for 2021, 6 returns for 2020 and 1 return for 2018. Our District 11 was best in the state of Virginia. We hope that by next year things will be closer to normal and look forward to continuing our service to local taxpayers. Thank you again for the use of your facility. — *Jeff Breaks, Local Coordinator*

SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW – Your gift is already helping our hungry brothers and sister! Thank you for your \$100.00 gift of health and hope. Bethany UMC is putting healthy, nourishing food on the tables of individuals and families who are struggling and food insecure. Thank you for this gift and for joining with Society of St. Andrew in our mission of feeding physical and spiritual hunger.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB – Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$400.00 to the Boys & Girls Club! It will be very helpful for our summer programming. We are looking forward to all our exciting activities coming up soon. Our Clubs are looking forward to enriching our members' lives by remaining consistent with our five core programming areas: health and wellness, sports and recreation, leadership and service, the arts, and education. Your gift makes a significant contribution to this effort.

GLOUCESTER HOUSING PARTNERSHIP, INC. – On behalf of Gloucester Housing Partnership (GHP), I wish to thank Bethany United Methodist Church for the donation of \$1,000 made to our organization. Since being founded in 1992, we have continued our mission to provide home repair assistance (at no cost) to qualified elderly, disable and low-income Gloucester County homeowners. We are grateful for your continued support of GHP, and we thank you for being a significant part of making our neighbors' home warm, safe, dry and accessible.

G.U.E.S.T. (GLOUCESTER UNITED EMERGENCY SHELTER TEAM) – G.U.E.S.T. relies on the kindness of donors such as yourself to provide the financial support needed to fulfill our mission to end homelessness in our community. Your generous donation of \$500.00 will enable the continuation of care and outreach to some of the most vulnerable throughout the Middle Peninsula and North Neck. **YOU are making a real difference in so many lives!** GUEST and the people that are being served by this ministry are extremely grateful for your donation.

SAMARITAN GROUP, INC. – Please accept our special thanks for your 2022 of \$1,000 to the Samaritan Group. The funds will be used to assist needy families in Gloucester County. Your continued support and generous contribution make it possible for our organization to provide critical assistance to our neighbors. In 2021, we assisted 85 families and disbursed over \$49,435.00. We are continuing to experience increased requests for assistance as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and your contribution will enable us to help more people.



BIRTHDAYS	
7/1	Ford Silberhorn
7/2	Rev. Debbie Marion
7/3	Kelly Kale, Camille Walthall
7/5	Carolyn Scott
7/7	Mattilyn Anne Busch, Meagan Maples
7/8	Clyde Burton, Lincoln Strickland, Kaitlyn Hearon
7/10	Traci Andersen Waters, Susan Conner
7/11	Roberta Bockrath, Alice Northam, Melissa Brooks
7/12	Shannon Roane, Stan Reams, Cyler Brooks, Tony Conry
7/13	Barbara Daniel
7/14	Diane McFarland, Hunter Martin, Gavin West
7/15	Doug Vaughan, Jr.
7/16	Sally Kendall Gulley, Wade Lewis, Michael Barber
7/18	Ann Dunston, Ashley Reynolds
7/20	Jamie Tilley, Richard Boyette, Sophia Marie Perkins
7/22	Bud Carteret, Kenneth Hogge
7/23	Candy Douglas, Chris Holder, Jeannie Harrell, Anthony Quintero, Bobby Polk, Margie Morris
7/24	Kendra Robins Ervin, Breta Hoover, Gerlinde Booth
7/25	Deborah Bunting
7/26	Megan Schrader, Brent White, Jenny Farkas, Kimberly Lewis
7/27	Duane Cecil, Logan Chase
7/28	Afton Leigh Thayer
7/29	Tim Morris
7/30	Susan Maples
7/31	Bernard Robins, Jessica Proctor, Olivia McDaniel

	ANNIVERSARIES	# yrs
7/2	Lee & Gretchen Wood	56
7/2	Tom & Charla Barnard	56
7/4	Fred & Jane Niethamer	49
7/7	Larry & Judy Johnson	60
7/10	Paul & Nancy Kendall	58
7/10	Mike & Donna Andersen	51
7/14	Kirk & Patsy Bell	43
7/18	Blair & Lisa Hasty	36
7/24	Alex & Lauren Chapin	12
7/25	Nile & Bonnie Cecil	58
7/25	Clyde & Peggy Burton	70
7/26	Greg & Lynne Barnes	47
7/29	Harry & Judy Vaughan	55
7/30	John & Debra Farrow	28
7/31	Kenneth & Irene Hogge	57

COUNTING TEAMS

- 7/3 Team 4: Doris Luther, Debbie Robins, Susan Rollins
- 7/10 Team 5: Jackie Hampton, Don Thomas, Donna Lane
- 7/17 Team 6: Charlotte Cecil, Betty Durette, Clair Hillard
- 7/24 Team 1: Mary Kaylor, Ann Byrd, Pat Hasty
- 7/31 Team 2: Bernard Robins, Fred Niethamer, Sandra Harvey

TRUSTEE CONTACTS

- 6/26-7/2 Donna Andersen
- 7/3-7/9 M.E. Thomas
- 7/10-7/16 Rob Raines
- 7/17-7/23 Diana Simmons
- 7/24-7/30 Don Thomas

ALTAR GUILD

Peggy Lewis, Laura Glaze, Laura Vaughan

LITURGISTS

- 7/3 Lynne Barnes
- 7/10 Nancy Orth
- 7/17 Kevin Kiley
- 7/24 Youth Sunday-Kate Neikirk
- 7/31 Betty Neikirk

ALTAR FLOWERS

- 7/3 Frances Woods
- 7/10 Paul & Nancy Kendall
- 7/17 OPEN
- 7/24 Jean Harrell
- 7/31 OPEN

July 2022

The Red Cross will hold a blood drive at Bethany on Tuesday, July 26 from 1:00-7:00 p.m. Register at redcrossblood.org.



July 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 26 - Jul 2	Jun 26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2
Jul 3 - 9	3 Communion Sunday 9:00am Sunday School (Children/Youth) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School (Adults)	4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 7:00pm Council on Ministries	6 10:00am 135th Anniversary Committee 7:00pm VBS Planning Meeting	7 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 6:00pm Summer Scriptures and Fun	8	9
Jul 10 - 16	10 9:00am Sunday School (Children/Youth) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School (Adults)	11	12 6:30pm Music Camp Meeting 7:00pm Finance Committee	13 9:00am Trustees	14 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 2:00pm UMW Board (ML) 6:00pm Summer Scriptures and Fun	15 Banner Submissions Due	16
Jul 17 - 23	17 9:00am Sunday School (Children/Youth) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School (Adults)	18	19 7:00pm Administrative Council	20	21 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 6:00pm Summer Scriptures and Fun	22	23
Jul 24 - 30	24 Youth Participation Sunday 9:00am Sunday School (Children/Youth) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School (Adults)	25	26 1:00pm 7:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 6:00pm York River Villas	27 9:30am Homebound Ministries 7:00pm VBS Planning	28 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 6:00pm Summer Scriptures and Fun	29	30
Jul 31 - Aug 6	31 9:00am Sunday School (Children/Youth) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School (Adults)	Aug 1	2	3	4	5	6