



Bethany United Methodist Church
The Church with Open Hearts, Minds, and Doors
1860 Hayes Road • PO Box 527 • Gloucester Point VA 23062
Office Hours: Tues.-Fri., 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (closed 12-1pm)
Phone: 804.642.2110 Fax: 804.642.2114
Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org
Website: www.bethanyumc-gp.org



Thank you for worshipping with us today.

To give an offering, you may place your gift in one of the offering plates located at each sanctuary entrance, mail it to the church office, or give online at www.bethanyumc-gp.org. God bless you richly!

STEWARDSHIP	Last Sunday
General Fund Receipts	7106.00
Pastor’s Discretionary Fund	905.00
Capital Improvement	320.00
Altar Flowers	50.00
Poinsettias	210.00
ATTENDANCE	
In-person Worship (Informal 31, Traditional 95)	126
Online Worship (Facebook/YouTube/Drive-In)*	33
Total in Worship	159

COUNTING TEAMS	
12/11	Team 3: Al Burner, Judy Burner, Donna Andersen
12/18	Team 4: Doris Luther, Debbie Robins, Susan Rollins
12/25	Team 5: Jackie Hampton, Don Thomas, Donna Lane
1/1/23	Team 6: Charlotte Cecil, Betty Durette, Clair Hillard

*YouTube information is from two weeks prior to today’s service.

BUMC STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Moonsup “Paul” Song, Pastor	call/text 703.625.8025, office: 804.642.2110 email: pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org	Tues.-Fri., 8am-4pm For pastoral emergencies, call/text 703.625.8025
Dee Dee Wike, Church Office Administrator	office 804.642-2110, cell: 901.831.8534 email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org	Tues.-Fri., 8am-4 pm (closed 12-1pm for lunch)
Sandra Fox, Director of Music	call/text 757.329.6128 email: rfox6@cox.net	Works from home, by appt.
Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist	home 804.642.5938, cell 804.413.0211	By appt.
Carter Roane, Director of Children & Youth Ministries	office 804.642.2110, cell: 804.815.5722 email: youth@bethanyumc-gp.org	Tue./Wed./Thur. 10am-2pm

December 11, 2022

INFORMAL WORSHIP

8:30 a.m.



We welcome you to worship today!

**Please stand as you are able, and remember to silence your mobile device*

Invocation

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Paul

Advent Candle Lighting

Bernard and Debbie Robins

***Praises**

*You are Holy (Prince of Peace)
Goodness of God*

Michael W. Smith
Jenn Johnson Bethel Music

Prayer

Thanksgiving

Scripture

Isaiah 35:1-10
Luke 1:46-55

Message

“Joy to the World”

***Praise**

Joy to the World (unspeakable)

Chris Tomlin

***Blessing**

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

135 YEARS OF BETHANY HISTORY—Did you know that in 1947 the Adult Woman’s Class, which had grown to 80 members, was divided into two classes? The Senior Adult Woman’s Class, organized by Mrs. J. Edward Anderton, was named the Mary Lewis Class; and the Young Adult Woman’s Class was organized by Mrs. Mary Lotsey and named in her honor. Later, in 1963 a class for young married couples and young adults was established with Mrs. Alton Edwards and Mr. Carlton Heywood as teachers. *(Thanks to Don Thomas for all these interesting history snippets!)*

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY — The Bethany Courthouse breakfast group (meeting Tuesday mornings at Olivia's) asks for congregational prayers for Sherri Nickels and her family after the sudden and unexpected death of her husband **James Nickels** (52 years old) on November 26.

Please also remember Mike and Bunny Ekdahl upon the passing of his brother, **Frederick Ekdahl**, on December 2.

CAN YOU USE THESE? — **Carol Johnson** is offering four cases of Kate Farms Nutrition Shakes (chocolate flavor) that she is unable to use and cannot return to the VA. These are similar to Ensure. If you have an interest or know of someone who might be able to use these, please contact Carol Johnson at 804-695-7726.

Jeannie Meisner is trying to re-home two 86-year-old solid maple twin beds in good condition, as well as mattresses, box springs, and bedding. If you know of someone who might need them, please contact Jeannie at 804-642-3855.

CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOXES are located in the fellowship hall. Please check the mailbox for any cards you may have received. If you are leaving cards for shut-ins or members who don’t attend regularly, you may wish to consider mailing them so they can be received in time for Christmas. Christmas cards may be dropped off on Sundays or during office hours.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available and located on the pew in the back parking lot foyer (office entrance). If you don’t need the envelopes, please return them to the church office. If you don't see envelopes with your name on them but would like a set, please let us know. **NOTE: Please do not use 2023 envelopes before the first Sunday in January, or 2022 envelopes after December 25.** Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY		
Sunday, December 11	4:00 p.m.	Rudy Shackelford Concert (GNMCS)
Wednesday, December 14	1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Abingdon Woman’s Club (WBFH) Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, December 15 BANNER ARTICLES DUE	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Homebound Ministries (WBFH) Naomi Circle (Mary Lotsey) Media Upgrade (Mary Lotsey)
Saturday, December 17	9:00 a.m.-noon	Cantata Dress Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sunday, December 18	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Churchwide Potluck Breakfast (WBFH) Advent Worship & Cantata (one service, no Sunday school)

ALTAR FLOWERS—The altar flowers that symbolize the beauty of Heaven are given to God’s glory and in memory of Helen Emily Jenkins Thomas, Bethany’s first female Trustee, on her birthday by sons and daughter-in-law Donnie, M.E. and Brenda.

NURSERY is available for infants to 3-year-olds during the Sunday school hour and 11:00 service. **We need volunteers** in order to be able to offer this ministry to our Bethany family and guests. **WILL YOU HELP?** To sign-up, write your name/phone on the list outside the nursery door. Thanks!

BIBLE READING PLAN					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12/12 Lk 11-12	12/13 Lk 13-14	12/14 Lk 15-16	12/15 Lk 17-18	12/16 Lk 19-20	12/17 Lk 21-22

Celebrating Birthdays this week (no anniversaries):

- 12/11 Martin Breen, Jerry Hickman
- 12/12 Dylan Chapin
- 12/16 Susan Conry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE — GIFTS ARE DUE TODAY. If you did not bring your unwrapped gifts to church today, please contact Paul Kendall at 804-832-4357. He and Kevin Kiley will be delivering the gifts to Salvation Army tomorrow (December 12). Thank you.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED to staff the office **Friday, December 16 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.** while Dee Dee is away. If you can help, please contact the church office. No computer skills required. Thanks to Pauline Reimold and Wendy Hogge for covering the morning shifts!

2023 BIBLE STUDY —As we finish up our Bible reading plan for 2022, please take a minute to let us know which book(s) of the Bible you are most interested in studying in 2023. Please complete the form inserted in today’s bulletin to let us know what you would most like to study!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES will be cooking for our shut-ins on **December 15 at 9:30 a.m.** Cooks and deliverers are welcome.

JOSHUA SPIRITUAL FORMATION GROUP will meet on **Monday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Mary Lotsey classroom.

CONFIRMATION CLASS — Bethany will begin a Confirmation Class 2023, for youth, age 12 and up, meeting weekly at Sunday school time. If your child is a candidate for the class, please give their name to Carter Roane, Director of Children and Youth Ministry. Detailed schedule and plan will be announced.

BETHANY TO SERVE AS HOMELESS SHELTER THROUGH GUEST PROGRAM — Bethany will serve as a week-long overnight homeless shelter starting Monday evening, January 2 and lasting through Monday morning, January 9. Sign-ups are underway now and we really need you!

Sign-up sheets are located in the main hallway and narthex, or you may sign up online at the link below: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/20f0c4daea62fabfe3-jan29>.

Gloucester United Emergency Shelter Team (GUEST) is a coalition of churches and community organizations that strives to love, help, and reduce our homeless population. In February 2020, 15 people on average were given overnight accommodations and meals each night for a week in our Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall. Thanks to the many Bethany volunteers and those from outside our church who make this ministry possible! Please consider being the hands and feet of Christ serving our brothers and sisters in need this winter. Thanks for making a difference!

REVERSE ADVENT BAGS — THERE'S STILL TIME TO PARTICIPATE! Please pick up a bag and join this fun tradition and help us make a difference for our neighbors in need! Suggested items to fill your bag include non-perishable food and pantry items, paper products, household cleaning, & personal hygiene items. **Bags should be returned to church by December 25.** Bags will be dedicated in our worship service and items collected will be taken to Salvation Army, the G.U.E.S.T. Day Shelter, Union Baptist Church Food Pantry & Bread for Life Food Pantry for distribution. Together we can make a difference for needy families this Christmas!

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS — Gifts of Appreciated Stock

This time of year, many United Methodist members choose to make donations of stock as a tax-deductible contribution to their church. All gifts of stock are handled through our (BUMC) brokerage account with Edward Jones. The brokerage handles the transaction, by accepting the stock, liquidating it upon receipt, and issuing a check to BUMC.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT BETHANY

Sunday, December 11

Advent Worship, 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Rudy Shackelford Organ/Piano Concert, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 18

Christmas Fellowship Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.
Advent Worship Service with Choir Cantata, 10:00 a.m.
(One service only; no Sunday school)

Friday, December 23

Church Office Closed (Christmas Holiday)

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Communion Service, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day Service of Lessons & Carols, 10:00 a.m.
(One service only; no Sunday school)

NEXT SUNDAY AT BETHANY

9 a.m. — Churchwide Potluck Breakfast
10:00 a.m. — Worship Service and Cantata
(one service only, no Sunday school)

Appalachian Winter, created by Joseph M. Martin and narrated by Clair Hillard, will be performed by Bethany's Chancel Choir on December 18 at 10:00 a.m.

This cantata celebrates the legacy of early American carols and hymnody. Composed in the spirit of folk music, it combines traditional sounds with more rustic elements creating a blend that is fresh and pleasing. Popular American carols like "Away In A Manger" and "O Little Town Of Bethlehem" dance with traditional spirituals such as "Children, Go Where I Send Thee" and "Go Tell It On The Mountain."

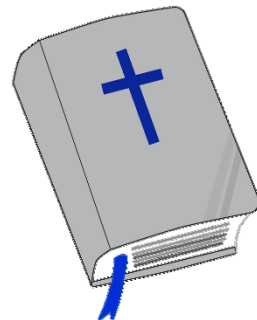
Sacred Harp tunes are re-tooled for Advent and stand alongside new versions of Shaker hymns and Appalachian melodies. Thoughtful narration weaves the movement together in a meaningful tapestry of song and scripture.

Bethany Bible Study, 2023

***In 2023 our church will study 3 books of the Bible,
chosen by our congregation!***

**What books of the Bible would you be most
interested in studying?**

Please list your top 3 choices below and return this form in the offering plate, to the church office, or to Pastor Paul, or email to pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Name: _____

(Returning this form is not a commitment to participate but is an opportunity to express your preference.)



*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105*