



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



December 11, 2022 **11:00 a.m.**

Third Sunday of Advent

WELCOME, GUESTS! We’re glad you are worshiping with us today!

CELL PHONES: Please remember to silence your phones before the service.
HEARING DEVICES AVAILABLE: Please see an usher if you need a hearing device.
**Please stand as you are able.*

— As the music begins, please quiet your hearts in preparation for worship. —

VOLUNTEERS SERVING TODAY

Acolyte(s): Aidan Dumbrocyo (11:00)
Media: Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Cathy Raines, Kirk Bell, Kim Song
Altar Guild this month: Nina Whitmore, Sharon Cheek, Mary Linda Brooks
Liturgist: Shannon Minor (11:00)
Trustee Contact this week: Donna Andersen
Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Jon Kent, Rick Wilson (11:00)
Greeters: Nancy Cooper, David Ayers (11:00)

| 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 |

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

| 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 |

BUMC STAFF DIRECTORY

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Rev. Moonsup “Paul” Song, Pastor | call/text 703.625.8025, office: 804.642.2110 email: pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org | Tues. thru 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. thru Fri., 8am-4pm (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 |

Intrada *Once in Royal David’s City* **UMH No. 250**

Welcome and Announcements, Sharing Joys, Concerns and Updates **Pastor Paul Song**

***Call to Worship** **Shannon Minor**

Leader: See! The ruler of earth shall come,
Congregation: the Lord who will take from us the heavy burden of our exile.
Leader: Tell the timid to take heart.
Congregation: The Lord our God will come!
Leader: We wait for the Word of the Lord as we wait for the rains,
Congregation: and our God shall come down upon us like gentle dew.
Leader: The hills and the mountain will be singing praise to God.
Congregation: Every tree in the forest will be clapping its hands.
All: The Lord will come and rule for ever. Alleluia.

***Hymn** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* **UMH No. 224**
***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional Version)* **UMH No. 881**

Lighting of Advent Candle **Ken and Ruth Ann Freeman**
We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. *(Light the two purple candles, then the pink candle.)*
May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.
“The ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.” (Isaiah 35:10)
O come, O come Emmanuel.

Opening Prayer **Shannon Minor**
Eternal God: In this holy season, when we celebrate the intuition of prophets who foresaw and foretold the coming of your Son. We thank you for your Word. We thank you for the men and women who, called and enabled by you, did the deeds that became the substance of your Word. We praise you for those among them who, inspired by your Spirit, wrote and preserved your Word for us. We glorify you for the wisdom of those who, with your help, determined the exact scope of your Word: the Old and the

New Testament. We thank you also for many witnesses, both known and unknown, who fought and sometimes died for responsible freedom in interpreting your Word. Above all, we glorify you for him who never wrote a word but spent himself in loving deeds, because he was your Deed for us, your Word made flesh for our redemption. In chorus with all the saints in heaven and all our fellow Christians on earth, we magnify his gracious name. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Anthem *The Light Still Shines* Natalie Sleeth

Concerns and Prayer of Intercession, Petition “Lord, hear our prayer.” Pastor Paul Song
The Lord’s Prayer UMH No. 895
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Meditation *Pastorale* César Franck (1822-1890)
Celebrating Franck’s 200th birthday, December 10th
“And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said until them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”
– Luke 2: 8-11

Offering and Offertory Prayer Pastor Paul Song
Offertory Music *Pastorale: The Shepherds at the Manger, from “The Christmas Tree”* Franz Liszt
Based on the carol *In Dulci Jubilo* (UMH No. 224) (1811-1886)
*Doxology UMH No. 95
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 35:1-10 Shannon Minor
*Gospel Reading Luke 1:46-55
The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Joy to the World ” Pastor Paul Song

*Hymn *Angels We Have Heard on High* UMH No. 238

*Benediction Pastor Paul Song

*Closing Chorus *Joy to the World* (v. 1) UMH No. 246
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Exodus *Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella!* Ancient French Carol

| Bethany UMC Prayer List | BETHANY FAMILY | 12.11.22 |
|--|---|----------|
| CANCER/CHEMO: Darlene Bauschatz, Krista Chase, Carol Johnson, Linwood Rowe, Bob Wharen GRIEVING: Family of Marshall Lewis, Diane McFarland HEALTH ISSUES: Chuck Ashe, Cliff Beach, Charlotte Cecil, Billy Davis, Jimmy Greene, Sandra Hollins, Jon Kent, Bonnie Lewis, Patsy Morales, Sue Morecock, Kim Paiva, Richard Parkes, Peggy Peterman (NC), Rosemarie Tong, Judy Vaughan, Sandie Wharen HOMEBOUND: Linda Booth, Sid Dixon, Jack & Ruth Wallace HOSPICE: Alice McGee PARKINSON’S: Mike Andersen, David Chapin, Doris Courtney, Kathleen Greene, Fred Townsend, Yvonne White RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Nan Leigh, Joy Long, Rev. Debbie Marion, Paul McFarland, Alice Northam, Richard Parkes | | |
| BETHANY FRIENDS | | |
| CANCER/CHEMO: Clint Alexander, Fran Bonniville, Kendell Walthall Caton, Jack Cawthorn, Kyle Cooper, Barbara Crim, Wanda Dowell, Dallas “Butch” Folk (ME), Jackie Gibbs, Nell Goldstein, Traci Greene, Zachary Hoover, Jeff Leiffer, Sissi Mise, Randy Riffe, Laine Seely, Chauntea Shields, Jill Ward, Susan Williams GRIEVING: Families of Jean Bassett (NC), Joe Downes, Frederick Ekdahl, James Nickels, Angie Williams HEALTH/OTHER ISSUES: Charles & Mary Black, Connie Bowler, Cathie Brown, Esther Dawson, Dewayne Haywood, Matt Iddings (PA) Norah Ivesson, Scott Leiffer, Donna Messersmith, Glen Null, Tucker Sharp, Tim Sullivan, Evie Sutton, Mildred Townsend, Sabrina Wikle, Tim Williford (TN), Terry Wilson HOSPICE: William Ervi, Selma PARKINSON’S: Janet Burch (KY) RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Joe Byrne, Jim Flansberg, Donna Hogge, Norman Spaleny OTHER PRAYERS: Randy Wilson, Kwame & Juliet Annorbah-Sarpei, Alli Razzaghi, Kasie Hall, Hurricane Victims and Relief Workers; Ukraine | | |
| BUMC’S ACTIVE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES (<i>italics—Bethany friends</i>) | | |
| <i>Michael Brown, Peter Demetriades, Meagan Demetriades, Kevin Jacobs, Cory Long</i> (Okinawa), Will Neikirk, <i>Bowdy Schrader</i> , Jim Minor, all members of the military. | | |
| ASSISTED LIVING (<i>italics-Bethany friends</i>) | | |
| Gloucester House, 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061 | Lorraine Brown, Rm 107 Doris Courtney, Rm 305 Jean Heywood, Rm 110 Bessie Conner, Rm 102 | |
| Heron Cove, 7409 Heron Cove Way, Gloucester 23061 | Bonnie Lewis, Rm 13 Judy Hudgins, Bldg 2, Rm 29 | |
| 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 | |
| The Hamilton Assisted Living, 113 Battle Rd., Yorktown, VA 23692 | Sue Morecock, Rm 214 | |

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. | Abingdon Woman’s Club (WBFH) |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) |
| Thursday, December 15 BANNER ARTICLES DUE | 9:30 a.m. | Homebound Ministries (WBFH) |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Naomi Circle (Mary Lotsey) |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Media Upgrade (Mary Lotsey) |
| Saturday, December 17 | 9:00 a.m.-noon | Cantata Dress Rehearsal (Sanctuary) |
| Sunday, December 18 | 9:00 a.m. | Churchwide Potluck Breakfast (WBFH) |
| | 10:00 a.m. | 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 | 12/13 | 12/14 | 12/15 | 12/16 | 12/17 |
| Lk 11-12 | Lk 13-14 | Lk 15-16 | Lk 17-18 | Lk 19-20 | 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.

CELEBRATING CÉSAR FRANCK AT 200!

“Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s;
and unto God the things that are God’s.”
—Matthew 22:21

Today in morning worship (11 A.M.) and afternoon concert (4 P.M.), Bethany UMC joins a global chorus to render unto César Franck the praise he so richly deserves for his splendidly spiritual music and unto God our profound thanks for this creation.

Born 200 years ago on 10 December 1822 in Liège, Belgium, César Franck soon revealed himself as a child prodigy whose talent was compared to Mozart’s. His family moved to France when he was fourteen so that César could enter the prestigious Paris Conservatory of Music, where he won every academic honor. Prepared to conquer the world’s concert halls as a piano virtuoso, Franck’s humble and introverted personality inclined him instead to the career of a church musician. In 1857 he was fortunate to be appointed organist of the new Basilica of Sainte-Clotilde, a post he held until his death 33 years later. The magnificent pipe organ Aristide Cavaillé-Coll created for this church inspired Franck’s revolutionary music. When asked about it, the composer exclaimed: “My new organ? It is an orchestra!” In addition to his twelve masterworks for organ, César Franck wrote music for chamber ensembles and symphony orchestra and a choral setting of Christ’s “Sermon on the Mount.”

This morning’s Meditation is Franck’s *Pastorale*, a charming genre piece depicting rural life and landscapes in the *Gospel according to St. Luke*. It will be performed once again in the afternoon program of the George Nelson Memorial Concert Series, together with the *Heroic Piece*, a hymn of spiritual triumph; *Prelude, Fugue and Variation* in Franck’s own transcription for organ-piano duet; and *Three Chorals*, the last great testament of a composer who has been called “the French Bach.”

The afternoon concert also features our organ-piano duet transcription of the finale from Beethoven’s *String Quartet No. 16*, Opus 135, first performed on September 18th to celebrate Bethany’s 135th anniversary.

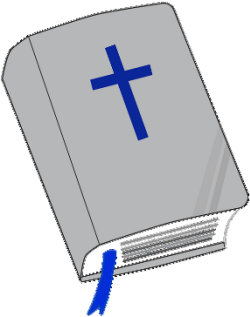
Rudy Shackelford

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