

EARTHQUAKES IN SOUTHERN TURKEY AND NORTHWEST SYRIA

UMCOR has released an initial solidarity grant to a longstanding humanitarian partner, International Blue Crescent (IBC), which has offices in Turkey. The grant will provide tents, heaters, blankets, warm clothes, ready to eat meals and basic first aid kits.

Please continue to remember these countries in your prayers as they deal with the aftermath of Monday's catastrophic earthquakes, as well as for the rescue, recovery, and humanitarian efforts underway.

ANNUAL AUDIT -- If you are treasurer for any of our Bethany groups or Sunday school classes, please turn in a copy of your group's check register, as well as bank statements and all invoices/receipts for 2022 to Treasurer Cathy Raines as soon as possible. (You may leave these in the church office, if you prefer.) We need to submit these items to our accountants for our annual audit. Any questions, please contact Cathy at cathraines@gmail.com or 410-599-6493. Thank you for your help and cooperation in making this year's audit go smoothly.

THANK YOU NOTES

We thank our Bethany family for your prayers, cards, calls, and meals. Your support has given us strength and love during my illness. We thank HUGS prayer team for prayer shawl for me and Kim. I lay it on my lap during my prayer time at home. God bless our Bethany family.

— *Kim and Paul Song*

Thank you all for the beautiful cards and your prayer during this time of our life. Thank you, Pastor Paul, for your part in Fred's service. The service was very comforting. Rudy, thank you – the music was beautiful and enjoyed by all. Very comforting!

— *Dean Townsend and family*

Thank you for the cards, calls, e-mails, soups, and prayers during my recent encounter with COVID. And, thanks to the HUGS Ministry for the handsome lap robe. Each time I use it I will be reminded of Bethany as a warm, comforting, and embracing church family. I missed being with you and am glad to be back. — *Don Thomas*

Thank you to the congregation for your continued love and concern these past many weeks. We are especially grateful to those who have donated to the church in Jack's honor. — *Ruth Wallace*

Thank you to our Bethany family and friends for the food, Christmas cards and gifts, and the beautiful plant we received. We are blessed and appreciate you all. — *Jimmy and Kathleen Greene*

NEW ARRIVAL!

Congratulations to the Hasty family on the birth of **Colton John Hasty** on January 28. He is the son of Josh & Jessica Hasty, grandson of Blair & Lisa Hasty, and great-grandson of Pat Hasty.



ALTAR FLOWERS are dedicated in thanks to God for the many blessings and love He has showered on us since we said our "I dos" on Feb 14, 1960, and for the love and support of family and friends as we celebrate our 63rd anniversary.

NURSERY is available for infants to 3-year-olds during the Sunday school hour and 11:00 service.

The nursery is located in the main hallway between the office and fellowship hall.

Nursery volunteers are needed. WILL YOU HELP?

To sign-up, write your name/phone on the list outside the nursery door. Thanks!

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY		
TODAY	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 informal; 11:00 traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Fellowship & Celebrations (WBFH)
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday school for all ages; Confirmation Class
Wednesday, February 15		MARCH BANNER ARTICLES DUE TODAY
	10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	AARP Tax-Aide (appt. only, Education Wing)
	5:30 p.m.	GNMCS Committee (Mary Lotsey)
	6:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir & Cantata Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, February 16	10:30 a.m.	Naomi Circle (Mary Lotsey)
	10:30 a.m.	Music Camp (WBFH)
	5:00 p.m.	Media Upgrade Team (Mary Lotsey)
Friday, February 17 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Parents Night Out (WBFH)
Next Sunday, February 19 Bethany Mission Day	9:30 a.m.	Weekly Fellowship Time (WBFH)
No 8:30 service.	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School & Confirmation Class
Weekly Fellowship time & Sunday School as usual.	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship & Celebration of Giving
Bring a friend & join us!	12:15 p.m.	Church-wide Covered-Dish Luncheon honoring our 2022 Bazaar Proceeds Recipients

Confirmation Class 2023 meets weekly during the Sunday school hour, from 9:45-10:45 a.m., in the classroom between the nursery and Children & Youth Ministries office.

The class schedule has been posted on our website (www.bethanyumc-gp.org).

Questions? Contact Pastor Paul at 804-642-2110 or email pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org.

HOUSE OF PRAYER – Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., beginning February 23, in the sanctuary

“House of Prayer” is Bethany’s new prayer ministry. This is a weekly time of intercessory prayer open to all. Join us in the sanctuary as we pray freely for God’s will to be done for General Conference 2024, for Bethany church, and in the lives of others and ourselves. Let us be a strong body of prayer at Bethany.

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY, 2023

BBS will kick off a study of the book of *Romans* on **Thursday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Lacey Martin classroom. Bring your Bible and a friend and join us on **Thursday nights** as we grow together in God’s Word! A Zoom link will be made available for those unable to attend in-person.



CELEBRATION OF GIVING — SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 11:00 A.M.

Mark your calendar and join us for our "Celebration of Giving" during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on February 19. We will disperse the Bethany Bazaar 2022 funds to local and other deserving missions! We hope to have representatives from these organizations here with us to accept the donations. **The special service will be followed by a church-wide covered-dish luncheon in the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall to honor the recipients. Hope to see you there!**

LENT AT BETHANY begins Ash Wednesday, February 22, with Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday, February 21, bring your family and join us as we enjoy a **Pancake Dinner at 6:00 p.m.** in the fellowship hall.

On **Maundy Thursday,** the chancel choir will perform Joseph Martin’s cantata, *The Lenten Sketches*, at 7:00 p.m. Singers are needed for all voice parts. No audition required. If you want to be a part of this special service, please come to our cantata rehearsal on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. For more information, contact Sandy Fox at 757-329-6128.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Parents, need a night off to go on a date or just stay at home and relax? On **Friday, February 17 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.,** take advantage of our Children and Youth Ministries Parents Night Out and leave your kids with us! Dinner will be served and there will be fun games to play as a group. We will also hold Youth Council elections. Pick up time is 8:00. **Volunteers are needed to help with dinner.** Please contact Carter Roane (youth@bethanyumc-gp.org, 804-815-5722) if you are willing to help make this a fun evening for our youth and children!

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Join us in the fellowship hall at 9:30 for coffee and sweet treats as we celebrate these folks:

Birthdays:

2/12 Sandra Byrd
2/13 Rev. Paul Song
2/14 Estelle Harris; Patsy Morales
2/15 Evan Lane; Alyssa Hall
2/17 Lori Rhodes Phillips; William Schultz
2/18 Yvonne White

Anniversaries:

2/14 Ed & Susan Conner (63)
2/15 Randy & Pamela Campbell (21)

SECURITY RECOMMENDATION — The Board of Trustees, Pastor, and Church Office Administrator met on Wednesday, February 8, to discuss building security and the safety of staff, Bethany groups, and outside organizations using our facilities. While it was agreed that every effort should be made to ensure Bethany is a welcoming place for all, the Trustees recommended the following security measures be implemented immediately, during the work week only, for the protection of staff, our Bethany family, and visitors.

1. All outside doors, including the church office entrance, will remain locked during office hours (8am-4pm, Tuesday-Friday), for the protection of staff and volunteers. Signs will be posted advising visitors to call the church office if the door is locked upon arrival.
2. Individuals with church keys should use them to access the building as needed, but should relock the door after entering. It is not necessary to call the office first if you have a key.
3. Individuals without church keys are welcome during office hours but should call the church office upon arrival or before coming to the church, so staff can be on the lookout for you.
4. Bethany groups and civic organizations, particularly those meeting after hours, are encouraged to lock the outside doors once their meetings are in progress.

We feel these security measures will provide a safe and secure environment for our ministry staff, with minimal inconvenience to our Bethany family. These recommendations will not impact our regular Sunday morning worship and activities; outside doors will be unlocked on Sunday mornings. We appreciate your cooperation as we implement these new security measures. – *Bethany Trustees*