



Gordon Binkerd – A Remembrance

The eminent American composer Gordon Ware Binkerd was born 22 May 1916 on the Ponca Indian Reservation in Lynch, Nebraska. His parents lived in various small towns in the state before moving to South Dakota, settling on the Rose Bud Sioux Indian Reservation at Gregory. Here Gordon finished high school and left home to attend college at South Dakota Wesleyan, already having won distinction at a national competition as one of the five best young pianists in America.

While precocious as a performer, Binkerd matured late as a composer. Though advanced studies began at the Eastman School of Music in 1940, it was not until he entered Harvard College in 1946, following naval service in World War II, that his talent began to ripen. There, as a student of Walter Piston and a classmate of Leonard Bernstein, he refined his compositional technique and gained a solid foundation in music history. Binkerd left Harvard in 1949 to accept an appointment as professor of composition and theory at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Academic duties gave him uninterrupted time for creative work only during the summers, which he spent as artist-in-residence at the MacDowell Colony (Peterborough, NH) and Yaddo (Saratoga Springs, NY). There, throughout the 1950s and 1960s, he composed prolifically for symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles, vocal and instrumental soloists, and above all choirs.

In 1971 Binkerd retired from teaching to devote himself exclusively to writing music. During the next quarter century he composed prodigiously, until the onset of Alzheimer’s disease in 1996 brought his creative activity to an end. He died on 5 September 2003 at his home in Urbana, IL at age 87. His wife, Patricia Walker of St. Louis, MO, whom he married there in 1942, passed away in 2017 at age 103.

— Rudy Shackelford, student
and friend of Gordon Binkerd

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? Sign-up sheet is outside the nursery.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given for the glory of God by Dean Townsend in memory of our 71st wedding anniversary on May 25th.

To donate altar flowers in honor or memory of loved ones, please write your name on the flower chart in the main hallway or contact the church office. Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY		
TODAY	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal, 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrations and Fellowship (WBFH)
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School & Confirmation Class
	4:00 p.m.	Joshua Spiritual Formation Group (Mary Lotsey)
Monday, May 22	7:00 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting (WBFH)
Tuesday, May 23	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Arts Committee (WBFH)
Wednesday, May 24	1:00 p.m.	Abingdon Woman’s Club (WBFH)
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
Thursday, May 25	10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	End of Watch Blood Drive (WBFH)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study (Lacey Martin)
Friday, May 26		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (Memorial Day observance)
NEXT SUNDAY, May 28	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal, 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrations & Fellowship (WBFH)
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School & Confirmation Class

UNITED METHODIST MEN will meet on **Tuesday, May 30 at 6:30 p.m.** at Nick’s Spaghetti & Steak House, Gloucester Point. A representative from Beaver Dam Park will present an overview of the park’s history, programs, and facilities. All are welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOUSE OF PRAYER, Thursday at 6:30 PM. — God's will be done through the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, April 23-27, 2024.

BBS (Bethany Bible Study), Thursday at 7 PM. We will continue our study of the book of Romans. Zoom Link -- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85962217161?pwd=ajhjV1I5aXF3WIRHZWpKalpoU3BGUT09>
Meeting ID: 859 6221 7161
Passcode: 191759

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES will be cooking for our shut-ins on **Wednesday, May 31 at 9:30 am.** Come join the fun!

JOY CIRCLE will meet at church at **6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6** to carpool to have supper together at Fiorello's in White Marsh Shopping Center. Please let Judy Burner know if you can attend and if you'll be meeting at church or the restaurant so reservations can be made.

GRADUATION SUNDAY — We will recognize graduates of Bethany church members and families, on **June 11** during worship.

Rocky Railway VBS — June 18th-22nd, 6-8 p.m.

For 4-year-olds thru rising 5th graders

We hope everybody is ready for a great time on the Rocky Railway! Invite your grandkids, children, and friends for an awesome week of great Christian fun!

WE NEED HELPERS! Please plan to attend our **VBS Planning Meeting on Monday, May 22 at 7 p.m.** to learn how you can be a part of VBS 2023! Contact Carter Roane via email (youth@bethanyumc-gp.org) or text/call (804) 815-5722 for more info. or to volunteer. Can't wait for this week of fun and sharing the word of God!



BETHANY AWARDED 2 GRANTS

Bethany has been awarded 2 grants from the Mission Rivers District Board of Mission. A \$5000 grant was awarded to cover a large portion of the cost of refurbishing our steeple. The second grant was also for \$5000 and will be used by the Media upgrade team to complete the major portion of our media upgrade.

LOST – BETHANY SCRAPBOOK

A scrapbook was compiled for the 135th anniversary and placed afterward in the Mary Lotsey Class for future reference; however, the scrapbook is either misplaced or missing. If you know its whereabouts, please contact Don Thomas (email: hoeforkhall@cox.net; phone: 804-642-2223) or the church office. Thanks.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Join us in the fellowship hall at 9:30 for cake, coffee, and celebration!

Birthdays:

5/21 Sid Dixon; Mark LeMay; Karen Ambrose Demyanovich
5/22 Kayla McDade
5/23 Kris Baker; Sharon Smith
5/24 Alexander Kendall
5/25 Laura Vaughan
5/27 Wendell Fletcher; Linda Ambrose Fletcher

Anniversaries:

5/22 Wilford & Kelly Kale (30)
5/27 Donald & Debbie Rhodes (45)
5/27 Gwendolyn & Ben Szulgit (1)

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW FOR "FEEL THE NOISE" MUSIC CAMP, July 17-21
Register online at <https://vbspro.events/p/a2df6a> OR pick up a registration brochure at one of the entrances. Space limited to 50 middle schoolers. Questions? Pick up brochure or visit www.bethanyumc-gp.org for more info. **Volunteers still needed. Contact Sandy Byrd at 757-570-0858 if you need details or can help in any way.**



FEEL THE NOISE

MUSIC CAMP



JULY 17-21, 2023
9 A.M.-1 P.M.



Bethany United Methodist Church
1860 Hayes Rd., Gloucester Point, VA 23062

