

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GNMCS COMMITTEE will meet on **Wednesday, August 23 at 6:00 p.m.** in Mary Lotsey.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT – Friday, August 25 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. Please join us for dinner and games. Bring your favorite board game and be ready to join the fun! For more information, contact Cathy Raines at 410-599-6493.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – Please join us at the **11:00 a.m.** service on **Sunday, August 27** for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks! Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks to the altar for prayers for a wonderful school year & for a special token from Pastor Paul.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES - We will be cooking for our shut-ins on **Monday, August 28 at 9:30 am.** Hope you can help in this outreach ministry.

HOUSE OF PRAYER – Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. The sanctuary is open weekly for prayer. Please take this opportunity to pray for our church family, the United Methodist Church, our community and country, our world, and any personal prayer requests you may have. We all need prayer! How can we pray for you? *“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (5:16b ESV).*

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY (BBS) – We will continue our study of 1 Corinthians this **Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** in Lacey Martin classroom. All adults are welcome.

AUGUST SERMON SERIES: *“Teach Us How to Pray.”*

August 6 — “Our Father in Heaven.” Isaiah 64:1-8

August 13 — “Your Kingdom Come.” Mark 1:14-15

August 20 — “Your Will Be Done.” Psalm 67:1-7

August 27 — “Deliver Us from Evil.” Romans 7:21-25

LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITY at the Day Shelter and Resource Center for G.U.E.S.T. (Gloucester United Emergency Shelter Team) — The G.U.E.S.T.

Day Shelter and Resource Center is open three days a week for clients to come to take a shower, wash clothes, get food, and get resources to help them find housing and/or jobs. We have planned three work days for painting and repairs. We hope you will consider working one or more days

Monday, August 14 and Wednesday, August 16. We will begin work at 8:30 a.m. Most work will be done inside but we do have some work outside. Men and women of all skill levels are needed. For more information call Kevin Kiley (804-815-5164) or Al Burner (804-413-4444).



CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Join us in the fellowship hall at 9:30 each Sunday for fellowship and celebration!

Birthdays:

8/13 Ashley Hornsby

8/14 Alyson Hoover, Josh Morris

8/15 Kate Neikirk

8/16 "B.J." McDaniel

8/17 Bob Wharen

8/18 Nick LeMay

8/19 Rev. Steve Young

Anniversaries:

8/16 Ken & Ruth Ann Freeman (48)

8/17 Jeff & Donna Lane (49)

8/17 Duane & Julie Bayly (19)

8/17 Mitchell & Barbara Dunston (65)

8/18 Vernon & Sue McDaniel (33)

Faith Promise

The Finance Committee has started planning the 2024 budget. The process began on the 1st of August when the committee sent budget requests to committee chairs and staff members responsible for selected budget categories. Now we need the help of our Bethany family. How? By completing the Faith Promise form in today's bulletin.

Faith Promise giving is a vital part of the budget process because it's one of the tools used to predict income for the coming budget year. Faith Promises are allocated to the General Fund and used for routine operational expenses (water, electricity, general maintenance, insurance, pastor and staff salaries, advertising, supplies, etc.) needed to provide effective ministry to our church and community. Bethany's income and expenses have been impacted in these challenging times, yet the need for ministry and outreach is more important than ever.

Please take a few minutes and prayerfully consider your general fund Faith Promise for 2024, and return your completed form by Sunday, September 10th. (Instructions are on the back of the form.) This will give us time to complete and submit the budget for approval by the Finance Committee and the Administrative Council prior to our Charge Conference.

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” —2 Corinthians 9:7

—Jack Whitmore, Finance Chairman