

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, August 20, 2023

**NOTE ON THE MEDITATION
CLAUDE DEBUSSY’S “VELVET REVOLUTION IN MUSIC”**



Having reached the midpoint in our traversal of Bach’s epic “Goldberg” *Variations*, we pause to pay homage to another great mason of music’s cathedral. Claude Debussy was born 161 years ago on 22 August 1862 in St.-Germain-en-Laye, just outside of Paris. Although he was a contemporary of the Impressionist painters Monet, Renoir, and Cézanne, Debussy disliked the term “impressionism” as a description of his musical style. He was less drawn to the visual arts than to literature, and some of his most important works were inspired by the French Symbolist writers. A poem by Mallarmé suggested the *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*, with which Debussy launched his “velvet revolution” of orchestral composition in 1894.

Just as the Impressionist painters developed new theories of color and light, so Debussy experimented with “color” and “light” in music. Like the Impressionists and the Symbolists, he tried to capture a fleeting impression or mood, attempted to pin down the exact essence of a thought as economically as possible. “To a Frenchman,” Debussy remarked, “nuance and finesse are the daughters of intelligence.” Of course, the subtleties of his tonal palette are heard in the groundbreaking masterpieces for orchestra — *Nocturnes*, *Images*, and *La Mer* (“The Sea”) — but even more amazingly in the music for piano, a “black and white” medium.

In terms of pure sonority, *La Cathédrale engloutie* (“The Engulfed Cathedral”) is one of the greatest piano pieces ever created. It conjures up the very precise image of the ancient Cathedral of Ys drowned by flood waters, as related in Breton legend. The way that Debussy makes the piano depict cathedral bells sounding through water is magic of the highest order! In our transcription for organ and piano duet, we have attempted to enhance the majesty and mystery of the composer’s marvelous vision.

— Rudy Shackelford

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 today are given to the glory of God by the Parkes family in memory of Bertrand Henry Parkes, Sr., who was born on August 26, 1889.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY		
TODAY	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 and Confirmation Class
Monday, August 21	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal (Mary Lotsey)
Wednesday, August 23	6:00 p.m.	GNMCS Committee (Mary Lotsey)
	6:00 p.m.	S/PPRC (WBFH)
Thursday, August 24	6:30 p.m.	Waterview Neighborhood Assn. (WBFH)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study (BBS) (Lacey Martin)
Friday, August 25	8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Homeschool Music Academy (Fall session begins)
	5:30 p.m.	Family Game Night & Cookout (WBFH)
Sunday, August 27	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 and Confirmation Class
	4:00 p.m.	Joshua Spiritual Formation Group (Mary Lotsey)

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

(If you missed a week, you can view past services on the Worship Online page of our website.)

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.

S/PPRC ANNOUNCEMENT — Carter Roane will be recognized during our weekly fellowship time on **Sunday, September 3.** Please stop by the fellowship hall between services that day to wish him well.

THURSDAYS AT BUMC

House of Prayer – 6:30 p.m. – Sanctuary is open from 6:30-7:00 for all who wish to come pray.
Bethany Bible Study (BBS) – 7:00 p.m. in Lacey Martin classroom. Studying 1 Corinthians. All welcome.

notes

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

Birthdays:

Anniversaries – None this Week

- 8/20 Nancy White, Summer Bayly,
Ted Hoover, K.D. Cooper, Carter Thompson
- 8/21 Britton Hogge, Alec Daniel, Steve McDade
- 8/22 Meredith Hogge
- 8/23 Jordan Cluts
- 8/24 Whitney Hodges

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