

Litany of Faith Promise Dedication

Pastor: In God, we celebrate the supreme example of giving. In creation, God has given us the resources of life; in each day, God gives us the joy of participating in the ongoing creation; but in Jesus, God has given us new life.

We have been given the opportunity to participate in creation and new life through our commitments. As we sing, let us bring those commitments of life and Faith Promise pledge to be dedicated to God.

“Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.” (UMH 402, v.1)

Pastor: We are grateful, O God, for your many and continuing gifts to us. Bless these gifts, which we commit to you this day and make them a symbol and seal of commitment of our whole lives to you and to loving service to your world.

Congregation: Lord, we commit to you our intention to give part of our funds and time this next year. We give gratefully, knowing that you have given us life itself and that everything which sustains our life is your good gift. We commit our money, but we commit our lives as well. Accept, O Lord, these gifts, we pray. Amen.

Pastor: The Lord who knows the thoughts of our hearts receives our gifts as we offer them. In Jesus, our lives are made whole and our offerings pure. God gives us our present and our future and calls us to live full.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, September 17, 2023

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 by Loreen, Mary, and Kim Paiva in celebration of Ron’s birthday on September 24.

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
	4:00 p.m.	Rappahannock Crossing Bluegrass Band (George Nelson Memorial Concert Series)
Monday, September 18	12:00 p.m.	Five Rivers Woman’s Club (WBFH)
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal (Mary Lotsey)
Tuesday, September 19	6:00 p.m.	York River Villas (Lacey Martin)
	7:00 p.m.	Administrative Council (WBFH)
Wednesday, September 20	6:00 p.m.	GNMCS Committee (Mary Lotsey)
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, September 21	10:30 a.m.	Naomi Circle (Mary Lotsey)
	5:00 p.m.	Media Upgrade Team (Mary Lotsey)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study (BBS) (Lacey Martin)
Friday, September 22	8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Homeschool Music Academy of Gloucester
Sunday, September 24	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 2023/24 Orientation (Mary Lotsey)
	4:00 p.m.	Joshua Spiritual Formation Group 2022/23 Discussion Group (WBFH classroom)

We welcome Rev. Tommy Herndon, guest preacher for our dedication Sunday. Since retiring from pastoral ministry, Rev. Herndon has served the Virginia United Methodist Foundation as Vice President of Legacy Planning & Stewardship Development.

GEORGE NELSON MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES – TODAY AT 4 PM

Rappahannock Crossing Bluegrass Band will be performing at Bethany this afternoon at 4 PM. This is a concert we know you will enjoy, so invite your friends and join us for great music by these outstanding local artists! Concert is free and open to the public.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL will meet on **Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m.** All council members are asked to attend this important meeting. Meeting will be in the fellowship hall.

GNMCS COMMITTEE will meet **Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m.** in Mary Lotsey.

JOSHUA SPIRITUAL FORMATION GROUP ORIENTATION—Sunday, September 24 at 4:00 p.m., Mary Lotsey classroom. **See insert for details and pray about joining us!** Questions? Contact Pastor Paul at 804-642-2110 / 703-625-8025.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES - Join us on **Monday, September 25 at 9:30 a.m.** to prepare meals for our shut-ins. We need folks to deliver too!



CHRISTMAS CANTATA SINGERS NEEDED —The choir will be doing the Christmas cantata, "I Hear the Prophet Callin'" by Pepper Choplin for the Christmas season. **We will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 27 at 6:30 p.m.** The rehearsals will run about 45-60 minutes. We will perform this on December 17 at the 11:00 service. We need singers of all voices! Please come out and help us make this an exceptional Christmas performance to our Lord and Savior. Contact Sandy Fox for more info.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

Birthdays:

9/17 M.E. Thomas, Sue McDaniel,
Samantha Hornsby
9/18 Beth Dixon
9/20 Bryan Stille, Sandie Wharen
9/21 Randy Campbell, Ed Schultz
9/22 Glen Kaylor, Frances B. Woods
9/23 Christian Martin

Anniversaries

9/18 Jason Waters & Traci Andersen (13)
9/20 Bob & Lynda Blubaugh (53)



OCTOBER 31 — 5:00-7:00 PM

Save the date and make plans to join us for this fun annual outreach! More details coming soon.

Faith Promise

Today is our celebration of God's generosity to each of us and all He has in store for Bethany in 2024. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can financially support the missions and ministries of Bethany UMC.

Our budget process is nearly complete. Your Faith Promise giving to the General Fund helps us not only cover general expenses, such as salaries, utilities, supplies, and advertising, but also enables us to provide effective ministry to our church and community. The need for ministry and outreach is more important than ever.

If you have not already turned in your Faith Promise, we encourage you to do it today so that we can submit the budget for approval by the Finance Committee and the Administrative Council prior to our Charge Conference in November.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

—Jack Whitmore, Finance Chairman