

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES – CHRISMON TREE DECORATING

✿ Join Us for a Joyful Day of Decorating and Celebration!

📅 Date: Saturday, December 2nd

🕒 Time: 3:00 PM

✿ Event: Chrismon Tree Decoration

📍 Location: Bethany UMC

Bring your holiday spirit and join us as we come together to decorate the Chrismon tree, marking the beginning of the Advent season. We extend a warm invitation to our youth, children, and their families to participate in this festive occasion. Following the joyful decoration of our church, we will gather for a delicious meal to share laughter and celebrate the start of the holiday season.

Let's make this a day filled with warmth, community, and the joy of coming together. We can't wait to see you there!

✿ Calling All Volunteers for Bethany United Methodist Youth Fellowship!

📅 When: Sunday, December 3rd

🕒 Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

We're excited to kick off our Bethany United Methodist Youth Fellowship, a space where students connect, share, and grow together. Our youth group meets on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, and we're on the lookout for dedicated volunteers to join our journey.

🤝 Volunteer Responsibilities:

As a volunteer, you'll have the unique opportunity to actively participate in our youth activities, engage in meaningful Bible study sessions, and foster fellowship with the awesome students of our church. When you volunteer you have the opportunity to make a positive impact on young lives, foster a sense of community and togetherness and join in the joy of sharing and learning in a supportive environment. We are seeking 1-2 volunteers for each meeting. Your commitment will help shape the experience for our youth, creating lasting memories and meaningful connections.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Brad Thomas (youth@bethanyumc-gp.org, 304-483-3403). Thank you for being the spark that ignites the flame of fellowship and growth!

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, November 26, 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.

The Harvest Table is a visible reminder of God's bountiful blessings!

Thank you to Nancy Wilburn for generously providing our beautiful Thanksgiving decorations again this year. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

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
Tuesday, November 28	5:00 p.m.	Hand Bells Rehearsal (Lacey Martin)
	6:30 p.m.	United Methodist Men (Nick's, Gloucester Point)
Wednesday, November 29	5:30 p.m.	The Points HOA (WBFH)
	6:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, November 30	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study/BBS (Lacey Martin)
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Mary Lotsey)
Friday, December 1	8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	HMAG Make-up Day
Saturday, December 2	11:00 a.m.	Celebration of Life Service for Charlotte Cecil (<i>Reception afterwards</i>)
	3:00 p.m.	Chrismon Tree Decorating (Sanctuary)
Sunday, December 3	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



DEADLINE IS TODAY. Please complete the order form in today's bulletin and place in the offering plate with your payment. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOSHUA SPIRITUAL FORMATION GROUP 2023 will meet **TODAY at 2 p.m.** in the Lacey Martin classroom to discuss Chapters 7-9 of *Pursuing God's Will Together* by Ruth Haley Barton.

UNITED METHODIST MEN will meet **Tuesday, November 28 at 6:30 p.m.** at Nick's Spaghetti & Steakhouse, Gloucester Point. Our speaker will be Daniel Knott. Dan is a retired Army Aviator Officer who has started an organization in Gloucester called Knott Alone-HOLD FAST. The main emphasis of his efforts is to provide support to veterans facing PTSD, who may be suicidal. Suicide among returning military personnel is at an all-time high. Dan is a waterman, mainly crabbing, and has his own business known as Knott Normal Crabs. He has held very impressive positions during his 22+ years in the Army. If you look at the web site "[Knott Alone-HOLD FAST](https://holdfast.vet/)" and watch the video I think you will want to meet him and hear what he has to say. (<https://holdfast.vet/>)

HOUSE OF PRAYER resumes this **Thursday at 6:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary.

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY (BBS) will resume **Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** in the Lacey Martin classroom. We will begin a study of 2 Corinthians. All are invited.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE for Charlotte Cecil, **Saturday, December 2 at 11:00 a.m.**

A finger-food reception will follow the service; donations of finger-foods are needed. Please drop off food beginning at 9:30 a.m. on December 2. Volunteers are also needed to help with set up, serving, and clean up afterwards. Please contact Nina Whitmore or Judy Burner for more information.

CHRISMON TREE DECORATING, Saturday, December 3, 2:00 p.m. Please see back of announcements for details. This is a family event – all are invited.

S/PPRC will meet **Wednesday, December 6 at 5:30 p.m.** in the WBFH.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE —The Finance Committee is preparing the contribution envelopes for 2024. If you give online and/or no longer use envelopes to make your contributions, please contact Financial Secretary Cheryl Roane (804-815-8311 or cherylroane11@gmail.com), or Finance Committee Chair Jack Whitmore, so we can update our records accordingly and make the envelopes available for other donors. Thank you.

REVERSE ADVENT BAGS — In the spirit of giving, BUMC encourages each family to pick up a Reverse Advent bag and fill it for a needy family. Treat it as you would a traditional Advent calendar but instead of receiving something each day, add an item to your bag each day until Christmas. Suggested items include non-perishable food and pantry items, paper products, household cleaning, & personal hygiene items. **Bags are available this morning and should be returned to church by December 24.** Bags will be dedicated in our worship service and items collected will be taken to Salvation Army, the G.U.E.S.T. Day Shelter, Union Baptist Church Food Pantry & Bread for Life Food Pantry for distribution. Together we can make a difference for needy families this Christmas!

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

Birthdays:

11/26 Iva Belvin
11/27 Ray Jordan
11/28 Jill Daniel
11/29 Jackie Hampton
11/30 Barbara Holtry

Anniversaries

11/27 David & Jill Daniel (24)
12/3 Kevin & Crystal Thompson (16)



ADVENT BIBLE SCHOOL: CHILDREN K — 5TH GRADE

Learn the true meaning of Christmas!

Music – Story – Snack – Crafts

Monday evenings: December 4, 11 and 18

Time: 6:00-7:30

Bethany United Methodist Church
1860 Hayes Rd., Gloucester Point

OPEN HOUSE

Please join us for

Mistletoe and Munchies

SAT., DECEMBER 9, 2023

10 am to 4 pm



Creative Reuse Center
3261 George Wash. Mem. HWY
Hayes, VA 23072

BETHANY TO SERVE AS HOMELESS SHELTER JANUARY 1 THROUGH JANUARY 8

This winter Bethany will serve as a week-long overnight homeless shelter offering overnight accommodations and meals each night in our Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall. Thanks to the many Bethany volunteers and those from outside our church that make this ministry possible as part of the GUEST (Gloucester United Emergency Shelter Team) program. GUEST is a coalition of churches and community organizations that strive to love, help, and reduce our homeless population. Since January of this year the GUEST program has helped 99 individuals (68 adults, 31 children) receive shelter through motel vouchers. Note that with assistance from the GUEST program 86 of the shelter participants have moved into permanent housing. Bethany's week of service is Jan 1 to Jan 8. Signup sheets at church as well as online signups will be available soon. Please consider being the hands and feet of Christ serving our brothers and sisters in need. Please call Al (804-413-4444) or Judy (804-413-8888) Burner if any questions or to find out how you might participate.