

Bethany UMC Prayer List	BETHANY FAMILY	1.7.24
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CANCER/CHEMO: Darlene Bauschatz, Krista Chase, Carol Johnson, Sue Leed, Fred Niethamer, Linwood Rowe, Gwen Wesson, Larry Whitfield  
 GRIEVING: Families of Lonnie Byrd, Sid Dixon, Kira Fox, Gerlinde Stevens  
 HEALTH ISSUES: Chuck Ashe, Cliff Beach, David Cecil, Billy Davis, Jim Durette, Debra Farrow, Estelle Harris, David Hoover, Milton Hudgins, Kathy Jacobs, Bonnie Lewis, Joy Long, Dennis Mitchell, Patsy Morales, Alice Northam, Richard Parkes, Peggy Peterman (NC), Rosemarie Tong, Judy Vaughan  
 HOMEBOUND: Linda Booth, Ruth Wallace, Lavalie Wilson  
 HOSPITALIZED: Richard Parkes  
 PARKINSON’S: Mike Andersen, David Chapin, Kathleen Greene, Yvonne White  
 RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Dylan Chapin, Billy Davis, Paul Kendall

<b>BETHANY FRIENDS</b>
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CANCER/CHEMO: Clint Alexander, Peyton Arthur, Fran Bonnaville, Kendell Walthall Caton, Jack Cawthorn, Kyle Cooper, Barbara Crim, Wanda Dowell, Dallas “Butch” Folk (ME), Traci Greene, Zachary Hoover, Connie Hutchinson (MI), Sissi Mise, Chauntea Shield, Mason Staley, Kent Stevens, Jeff Suntken, Shalini Upadhyaya, Jill Ward, Bob Wharen, Tim Williford (TN)  
 GRIEVING: Families of Pastor John Dooley, Sarah Jacobs, Capt. Christopher W. P. Naquin, Josh Wilson  
 HEALTH/OTHER ISSUES: Connie Bowler, Kathryn Bjers, Dewayne Haywood, Laura Hodges, Val Hopkins, Adie Kurth, Lewis Marion, Sylvia Motley, Alicia Lynn Williams Naples, Ken Pierkowski, Phillip Presson, Mary Ann Shackelford, Dixie Sharp, Mary Jo Smith, Tim Sullivan, Mildred Townsend, Sandie Wharen, Sabrina Wickle, Marian Williford (TN), Randy Wilson  
 HOSPICE: Selma  
 HOSPITAL/REHAB:  
 PARKINSON’S: Janet Burch (KY)  
 RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Luke Burner, Terry Corbin, Jaunita Goins, Pat Hall, Silvia Howerton, Natalie Long, Howard Moore  
 UPCOMING SURGERY: Eric Bunch  
 OTHER PRAYERS: War-torn areas around the world, victims of natural disasters

<b>BUMC’S ACTIVE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES</b> <i>(italics—Bethany friends)</i>
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*Michael Brown, Peter Demetriades, Meagan Demetriades, Kevin Jacobs, Cory Long (Okinawa), Will Neikirk, Bowdy Schrader, Jim Minor, all members of the military.*

<b>ASSISTED LIVING</b> <i>(italics-Bethany friends)</i>
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Gloucester House, 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061	Lorraine Brown, Rm 107 Kathleen Greene, Rm 106 Jean Heywood, Rm 110
Heron Cove, 7409 Heron Cove Way, Gloucester 23061 (Marion Dixon’s mailing address: PO Box 36, Gloucester Point, VA 23062)	Marion Dixon, Bldg 2, Rm 33 Judy Hudgins, Bldg 2, Rm 29 Bonnie Lewis, Rm 13
Sanders Assisted Living, 7407 Walker Ave., Gloucester 23061	Carolyn Scott, Rm 206A
Sunrise Senior Living, 2015 Cranbeck Rd., Richmond 23235	Pauline Harris, Apt. 130
Riverside Rehab, 672 Gloucester Rd., Saluda, VA, 23149	Jennie Lipscomb

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, January 7, 2024

**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.

<b>THIS WEEK AT BETHANY</b>		
<b>Monday, January 1-Monday, January 8</b>	G.U.E.S.T. Shelter Week at Bethany	
<b>TODAY</b>	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 for all ages
	12:15 p.m.	Administrative Council Meeting (Lacey Martin)
	6:00 p.m.	UMYF (Youth Room, grades 6-12)
<b>Monday, January 8</b>	5:30 p.m.	York River Villas (Lacey Martin)
<b>Tuesday, January 9</b>	5:00 p.m.	Hand Bell Choir (Lacey Martin)
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee (WBFH)
	7:00 p.m.	JOY Circle (Mary Lotsey)
<b>Wednesday, January 10</b>	9:00 a.m.	Trustees (WBFH)
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Program Development Team (WBFH)
<b>Thursday, January 11</b>	9:00 a.m.-noon	Bazaar Workshop (Lacey Martin)
	10:00 a.m.	York River Garden Club (WBFH)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary) Eighteen weeks of special prayer 1/4– 5/2/24
	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study/BBS (Lacey Martin)
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal
<b>Friday, January 12</b>		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (Holiday)
	8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.	Homeschool Music Academy of Gloucester <i>(HMAG spring semester begins.)</i>
	5:30 p.m.	Family Game Night (WBFH)
<b>Saturday, January 13</b>	2:00 p.m.	Memorial Service for Lonnie Byrd (Sanctuary)
<b>Sunday, January 14</b>	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal; 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	<b>SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK BREAKFAST</b> (WBFH)
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	12:15 p.m.	CYM Volunteer Meeting (Youth Room)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Special Call for Congregational Weekly Prayer Meeting.

January 4, to May 2, 2024, each Thursday at 6:30PM in the sanctuary.

You are encouraged to join us as we pray and seek God's will for General Conference (4/23-5/3/24) and lift up prayer requests for the life, mission and ministry of Bethany church, our community, our families, and our personal needs. *"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need"* (Hebrews 4:16).

JOY CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, January 9 at 7 pm in the Mary Lotsey classroom.



### FAMILY & COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT Friday, January 12, 5:30—8 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.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

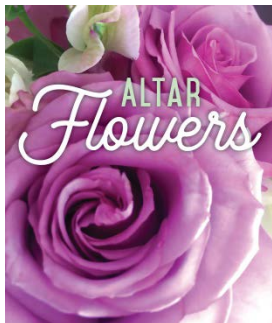
Confirmation Sunday – January 28, 11:00 a.m.

Senior Advocate Panel Forum on Aging – Wednesday, February 21, 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the families of:

**Gerlinde Stevens**, who passed on January 1. Gerlinde is the wife of James "Jim" Stevens. Arrangements are incomplete at this time; a Celebration of Life will be held at the Ruritan Club sometime in April. Jim's address is 1609 Browns Ln., Hayes, 23072.

**Sarah Jacobs**, mother of Kevin Jacobs, passed on December 27. Kevin and Kathy's address is 7331 Wilson Cir., Gloucester, 23061.



**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given for the glory of God by Dawne Sawyer in honor of her son Aaron Cothorn's birthday on January 6.

The 2024 Altar Flowers chart is posted in the main hallway. The following dates are open before Lent: 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11 (no flowers during Lent). To donate flowers, please sign your name on the chart in the hallway or contact the church office at 804-642-2110. Cost is \$50 for two arrangements. Thank you for participating in this worship ministry at Bethany!

"I BELIEVE" is a new sermon series for three Sunday in January.

Jan 14— "I believe in God the Father" Exodus 3:1-12

Jan 21— "I believe in Jesus Christ his Son" Matthew 16:13-20

Jan 28— "I believe in the Holy Spirit" John 20:19-23



## CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

### Birthdays:

1/9 Wes Stilley

1/12 Tom Smith, Matthew Hornsby

1/13 Clair Hillard

### Anniversaries

No anniversaries this week



# New Offering Envelopes

Pick up your envelopes in the rear foyer near the church office today.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the **537** pounds of boxed food that you gave to the **Food Ministry of Union Baptist Church**. The Food Ministry touches the lives of many families in our area who are less fortunate. We can never know how many lives are touched or changed by a helping hand, a smile, or a kind word.

-- A. B. Fulcher, Jr., Director, Food Ministry

## NOTE ON MUSIC FOR EPIPHANY

Epiphany, the festival commemorating Christ's manifestation to the gentiles in the persons of the Magi – or three wise men – is celebrated annually on January 6th.

One of the finest chorales (or hymns) for Epiphany was penned by Philipp Nicolai, a Lutheran theologian, poet, and composer. *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* (UMH No. 247) first appeared in 1599 as part of a volume of meditations on death and eternal life, Nicolai's response to the Black Plague which had devastated his home in Westphalia (northwest Germany). This chorale is somewhat of a departure from the bold, confident, objective hymns of Martin Luther and introduces the sentiment of the soul's love for the Heavenly Bridegroom. Nicolai's text is alive with references to the light which Christ brings into the world, such as "Morning Star," "Light Divine," and "Heavenly Brightness."

These visual metaphors are translated into musical motifs by the God-given genius of Dietrich Buxtehude. In Protestant church music history, Buxtehude ranks as the most important predecessor of Johann Sebastian Bach, who at age twenty walked over 200 miles to study with him. Buxtehude's sublime *Chorale Fantasy on "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"* dances into the light with the rhythm of the jig, borrowed from popular music of the 17th century. Listen with open hearts and open minds and be enlightened!

— Rudy Shackelford