



BETHANY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PANEL FORUM ON AGING
Wednesday, February 21, 10AM – 12:00PM
Bethany United Methodist Church
1860 Hayes Rd., Gloucester Point

Join us to learn about a variety of senior services. This Forum is open to older adults and healthcare professionals seeking Certificates of Attendance for Educational Credits. Boxed lunches will be handed out after the Forum. Cost: FREE.

Panel Topics:

“Avoiding Common Healthcare Scams” presented by Shawn Smith, State Director, Virginia Senior Medicare Patrol

“Aging in Place” presented by Gada Saunders, Owner, Upgrade Remodeling

“What Seniors Need to Know about Estate Planning?” presented by Angela Manz, Attorney and Owner, The Law Office of Angela Manz

“Senior Safety” presented by Captain Bill Adams, Crime Prevention Specialist, Project Lifesaver Coordinator, Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office

“What You Need to Know about Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease” presented by Doug Panto, Community Programs Manager, Alzheimer’s Association Southeastern Virginia Chapter

To register, RSVP to www.SeniorAdvocate.Live or call 757-724-7001.

Presented by: **SeniorAdvocate™**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FELIX!



Second only to Mozart as a musical prodigy was Felix Mendelssohn, born in Hamburg, Germany, 215 years ago. In early childhood he astonished everyone with his talent as a pianist, and whilst a mere teenager he composed works that are still performed and enjoyed today, such as the *Octet* for string instruments and the incidental music for Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

Although of Jewish heritage, Mendelssohn was baptized as a Protestant and remained throughout his career a devoutly practicing Lutheran. His choral masterpiece *Elijah* remains one of the most popular Christian oratorios, and no organist’s repertoire would be complete without the *Six Sonatas* and other works he created for what Mozart called “The King of Instruments.”

As a conductor Mendelssohn was also very important for reviving in 1829, one century after its first performance, Johann Sebastian Bach’s *Saint Matthew Passion*, the greatest musical setting of the crucifixion narrative as recorded in the Gospels. Since his aunt Sarah Levy had studied with Bach’s eldest son Wilhelm Friedemann, it is not surprising that Felix would be profoundly influenced by Sebastian Bach when composing for the organ.

Sonata No. 6 in D Minor is generally considered Mendelssohn’s organ masterwork. It is based on the German chorale (or hymn) *Vater unser im Himmelreich*, Martin Luther’s version of “The Lord’s Prayer,” set to an anonymous melody of circa 1539. *Vater unser* was a favorite of John Wesley and served as a model for many of Charles Wesley’s original hymns. In the current United Methodist Hymnal it appears with a different text, “Thou Hidden Love of God” (No. 414).

— Rudy Shackelford

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, February 11, 2024

****WELCOME, VISITORS! We are happy to have you join us in worship today.****
Please be sure to sign the Welcome card found in the pew pocket. Thank you!

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.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY		
TODAY	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal; 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrations and Fellowship (WBFH)
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	12:15 p.m.	Souper Bowl of Caring (WBFH)
Tuesday, February 13	10:00 a.m.	Music Camp Leadership (WBFH)
	6:00 p.m.	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (WBFH)
	7:30 p.m.*	Finance Committee (WBFH, *note time change)
Wednesday, February 14	10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	AARP Tax-Aide (appointments must be scheduled in-person with AARP)
	5:30 p.m.	Praise Team (Mary Lotsey)
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)
	8:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, February 15 MARCH BANNER ARTICLES DUE TODAY	9:00 a.m.-noon	Bazaar Workshop (Lacey Martin)
	10:30 a.m.	Naomi Circle (Mary Lotsey)
	5:00 p.m.	Media Upgrade Team (Mary Lotsey)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer / Special Congregational Prayer Meeting thru 5/2 (Sanctuary)
Friday, February 16	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study/BBS (Lacey Martin)
	All Day	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (Presidents’ Day)
	8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Homeschool Music Academy of Gloucester
Sunday, February 18	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal; 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrations and Fellowship (WBFH)
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	6:00 p.m.	UMYF

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY at 12:15 p.m., join us in the fellowship hall for SOUPER BOWL OF CARING.

Enjoy fellowship, an outstanding array of homemade soups, and the chance to vote for your favorite soup! All money and canned food donations collected will be given to local food pantries to help needy families in our community. Thanks for participating in this “fun”draiser to help end hunger!

MUSIC CAMP LEADERSHIP TEAM will meet on **Tuesday, February 13 at 10:00 a.m.** in the fellowship hall. If you are interested in helping out with Music Camp this year, please attend the meeting or contact Sandy Byrd at 757-570-0858.



Join us for our annual **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER** as we prepare ourselves for the season of Lent. We will meet to feast on **Tuesday, February 13 at 6:00 p.m.** in the WBFH.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be on **February 14 at 7:00 p.m.**

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS – A limited number of printed Lenten devotional booklets from Society of St. Andrew are available at the sanctuary entrances. To read or download a copy, visit our website or click https://bethanyumc-gp.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-Lenten_Devotions_Booklet.pdf.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY -- **Robin Coker**, husband of Kelly Coker, passed away on February 6. Kelly is the sister of Kirk Bell and Theresa Childre.

DIRECTORY CHANGES – Please note the following changes to the church directory:
Greg Freeman – 3964 Shelly Rd., Hayes, VA 23072
Deborah Tilley – 113 Sinclair Street SW, Port Charlotte, FL, 33952
David & Janet Chapin – Landline removed; cell numbers are 804-832-0108 (David) & 804-832-2576 (Janet).

LAST CHANCE! There are several Christmas cards that did not get picked up during the holidays. Did you forget to pick up yours? Leftover Christmas cards have been sorted alphabetically and placed in the front of the box containing the 2024 offering envelopes. Please make sure to check for any Christmas cards or offering envelopes with your name on them. **Please note: Any unclaimed Christmas cards will be removed from the box and tossed after 2/15, so don't delay!** Thanks.

ANNUAL AUDIT -- If you are treasurer for any of our Bethany groups or Sunday school classes, please turn in a copy of your group's check register, as well as bank statements and all invoices/receipts for 2023 to Cathy Raines as soon as possible. (You may leave these in the church office, if you prefer.) We need to submit these items to our accountants for our annual audit. Any questions, please email Cathy at cathraines@gmail.com or 410-599-6493. Thank you for your help and cooperation in making this year's audit go smoothly.

MISSION RIVERS DISTRICT NEWS—Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson, the residential bishop at the Virginia Annual Conference, is going to come to Mission Rivers District this week to lead Laity session on Sunday, February 11 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Crooks Memorial UMC, Yorktown, and Clergy session on Monday, February 12 at Williamsburg UMC. For more information, contact Pastor Paul.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given by Anthony and Barb Holtry in loving memory of his parents, Clyde and Martha Holtry.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

Birthdays

2/11 Peggy Burton; Shannon Minor
2/12 Sandra Byrd, Cristie Thomas
2/13 Rev. Paul Song
2/14 Estelle Harris; Patsy Morales
2/15 Evan Lane; Alyssa Hall
2/17 Lori Rhodes Phillips; William Schultz

Anniversaries

2/11 Rev. Paul & Kim Song (34)
2/11 Paul & Barbara Blais (24)
2/14 Ed & Susan Conner (64)
2/15 Randy & Pamela Campbell (22)

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM S/PPRC: Dee Dee has decided to take early retirement. Her letter of resignation effective May 31, 2024, was accepted by the S/PPRC on February 7, 2024. Included with this announcement is Dee Dee's letter to the S/PPRC. We wish her the very best as she begins the next chapter of what God is leading her to do, and we appreciate the years of dedicated service she has provided to Bethany. – Bernard Robins, Chairperson

Dear Bethany Friends,

After much prayer and discussion with Steve, I have decided to take early retirement and will be stepping down as Church Office Administrator in late spring. My plan, unless the S/PPRC determines otherwise, is to work through May 31.

This decision has not been made lightly. Although I love our church family and have enjoyed the ministry God has given me at Bethany, it is my heart's desire to be able to spend more time with my family, who are scattered across the country, and to better able to manage the affairs and needs of my own household, while I have the good health to do so.

It has been a joy serving the Lord with you, and I will continue in prayer for each of you and for the one whom God will send to fill the position of Church Office Administrator. I know you will support that person the way you have me and that he/she will be as blessed as I have been by your love and friendship.

This is a new season for me, a chance to listen closely to God's leading as He and I walk a new path together one day at a time. To that end, I covet your prayers for His direction and grace.

*With much affection and gratitude,
Dee Dee*