



**Bethany Banner**

**April 2024**

**The Church with Open Hearts, Minds, and Doors**  
**Sunday Worship – 8:30 a.m. Informal; 11 a.m. Traditional**

Sunday School for all ages – 9:45 a.m.

Office Hours: Tues.-Fri., 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Church Office: 804-642-2110; [www.bethanyumc-gp.org](http://www.bethanyumc-gp.org)

## **GEORGE NELSON MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – 4 PM**

### **Glen Boswick and Sound of Swing Orchestra**



Since 1977, The Sound of Swing Orchestra has been Hampton Roads' leading premiere big band swing dance orchestra. Specializing in the Big Band sounds of the 40's through today, this fourteen piece swing orchestra performs the exciting memorable sound classics of: Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Jan Savitt, Jimmy Lunsford, Les Brown, Les Elgart, Ray Anthony, Michael Buble, Doris Day, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Rosemary Clooney, Linda Ronstadt, Harry Connick, Jr. and many more.

Bring a friend and come enjoy the music!

**Pastor: Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song**

Director of Music: Sandra Fox

Organist: Dr. Rudy Shackelford

Director of Children & Youth Ministries: Brad Thomas

Church Office Administrator: Dee Dee Wike

## New Communication Tools

*Bethany Banner*, Bethany's monthly newsletter, has served as a primary communication tool for years. It has faithfully delivered news, articles, programs and activities of the church, birthdays and wedding anniversaries, and prayer concerns to members and friends.

On March 19 during our monthly Administrative Council meeting, there was a discussion to evaluate the ministry of the Banner in light of newer technology that has become a part of normal life— new communication tools that work more effectively than hard copy printing, such as our weekly bulletins, bi-weekly congregational email blast, website, and Facebook page.

The Council voted to discontinue monthly publication of the Banner as of April, and to focus on communicating with the congregation electronically. This is the final issue of *Bethany Banner*. We will continue to send bi-weekly email announcements to the congregation, including birthdays and anniversaries, prayer concerns, and other information. Our weekly worship bulletin will continue to include printed announcements. For the time being, we will continue to make available hard copies of the monthly calendar, birthdays, and anniversaries for those who wish to pick them up, as well as to shut-in members who are currently receiving the bulletin by mail.

“The old has gone, the new has come” (Corinthians 5:17) is a phrase that not only applies to our spiritual life but also to our communication tools too. When we are united to be the church together in one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, we are able to make this transition of communication a blessing for the life and mission and ministry of the church.

This is my last Banner column, but I am reminded of Moses' words in Exodus 17:15, “The Lord is my banner.” May the Lord always be our banner at Bethany UMC.

Blessings,

Pastor Paul

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Special Call for Congregational Weekly Prayer Meeting.**

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

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**BETHANY BAZAAR NEWS FLASH!** Time is ticking! November is coming quickly and we have a lot of work to do! Please join us any Thursday morning from 9 a.m.-12 noon in the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall. We need your help and can use new ideas for crafts. Don't forget about the Vintage Room! What you don't need anymore might be someone else's new-found treasure!

— *The Bazaar Bunch*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**—We are waiting for you to join one of our great Sunday School Classes! Friendship Class continues to add new members. They are now meeting in what was the Lacey Martin Classroom. Lacey Martin Fellowship Class is next to the Children's Library and Doe Breen's class remains in the room near the front entrance to the Fellowship Hall. We will have the Second Sunday Pot-Luck Breakfast in April. Won't you join us for Sunday School after Fellowship where we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries? Looking forward to seeing you!

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**NAOMI CIRCLE** – The Naomi Circle met March 21 in the Mary Lotsey room. After a brief meeting discussing some ways to make money, we addressed eleven Easter cards to our shut-ins and wrote a caring message to each.

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**APRIL 7 & 21 - 6-7:30PM**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Media Desk and Surrounding Panels Installed** — The media desk and surrounding panels have been installed at the rear of the sanctuary by Martin Breen with help from Doe Breen, Jeremy Nardozi, Rob Raines, Scott Berry, and Timothy Hart. Many thanks to Martin for offering his expertise in design and construction for this project and for all the support Martin received from his employer, Nicewood Enterprises located in Toano, both in the construction and painting phases as well as delivery. This effort, which is both utilitarian and aesthetically pleasing, was made possible by a grant from the Mission Rivers District.

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### **AVAILABLE ALTAR FLOWERS DATES**

There are plenty of opportunities for you to show Christian love — in the form of flowers! Please consider remembering or honoring a loved one with a beautiful display on our altar.

**Here's how it works:** BUMC has an arrangement with Gloucester Florist to provide two altar arrangements (florist's choice).

- If you'd like to select your own flowers, call the florist by **TUESDAY** (804-642-4555) of the week you've selected. You'll be responsible to pay BUMC your full amount. Please do not make payment to the florist. Please be sure the florist knows the specific date of your custom order altar arrangements.
- Place your \$60 payment (or the amount for any custom order) in the offering plate. Please write **ALTAR FLOWERS** and date in the memo line of the check or on the envelope, if paying by cash.
- Contact Church Office Administrator (804-642-2110 or [admin@bethanyumc-gp.org](mailto:admin@bethanyumc-gp.org)) by noon on Wednesday with the tribute you wish printed in the Sunday bulletin.
- Be sure to take your arrangement with you after the 11:00 service or soon thereafter. Please return your plastic vase inserts to the church to ensure we have an adequate supply on hand at the florist.

Let the love of our Heavenly Father be in full bloom!

Our **Adult Sunday Study Group** (currently meeting in Faith Class in WBFH) would like to offer Bethany's congregation the opportunity to partner with us in supplying the **GHS CARE CLOSET** with items from their most needed list. The CARE CLOSET is available to any student, no questions asked. If you would like to buy items from the list below, please mark them "CARE CLOSET" and leave them in the Faith classroom in the fellowship hall. Thank you for all that you do for our community! God bless you! – *Martin & Doe Breen*

**CARE CLOSET NEEDS:** Canned spaghetti sauce | Canned vegetables  
Canned tuna or chicken Canned fruit | Pudding | Boxed macaroni & cheese  
Breakfast bars/granola bars

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**On March 19th, Bethany Administrative Board approved a recommendation by the Church and Society Committee to join a group called Jubilee of Churches.** Jubilee is a group of 17 churches of all denominations in Gloucester County. The group is working cooperatively to help prevent homelessness.

**Here's how it works:** When a call for help comes into any of these churches, the person needing help will be directed to call GUEST. GUEST has a staff of four to vet callers. When the person is found eligible, the person's need will be delivered by email to all the churches involved. Each church will decide how much of the request they can supply. When the total is confirmed, a check is written by GUEST and given to the vendor (e.g., landlord/mortgage company, utilities provider, etc.). Each participating church puts aside an amount of money for these requests, such as the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Bethany members can add to the fund by making regular contributions, memorials, etc. to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Monies in the Pastor's Discretionary Fund will be used not only to help meet needs through Jubilee, but also give Bethany's pastor the flexibility to personally handle any needs of our church members, or handle more time-sensitive requests as needed.

**Advantages of participating in Jubilee of Churches:** 1) Removes the responsibility of benevolence screening and follow up correspondence from local church staff and places it with GUEST, which has knowledge of and access to a wider array of resources and services to provide help to those in need; 2) Helps ease frustration and stress for the applicants by reducing the number of calls they would typically make in order to receive the help they desperately need; and 3) Fosters a greater sense of community and cooperative ministry between the churches involved, providing greater opportunity for more effective ministry to those in need.

## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ARE CHANGING MAY 1**

**Beginning May 1, the church office will go back to a five-day schedule and will be open from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.**

Currently the office is closed on Mondays. The S/PPRC recommended, and church leadership agreed, that this change would benefit the church and be effectively implemented as a new Church Office Administrator is hired to replace Dee Dee, who is retiring May 31. Additional notices will be published throughout April to remind you of the change.

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**JOB OPENING** — Bethany United Methodist Church (Gloucester Point, VA) is seeking a part-time Church Office Administrator to assist the Pastor, support staff, and church ministry leadership. Responsibilities of this position include but are not limited to receptionist and clerical duties, preparing the weekly worship bulletins, maintaining and updating the Church calendar and website, tracking member and attendee information, maintaining church governance documents and files, responding to inquiries and requests from various channels, ensuring church building facilities and services are being provided, and other duties as required. Applicant must demonstrate strong interpersonal and organizational skills, be team-oriented, and have a record of professional excellence. Applicant must demonstrate the ability to work independently and under the supervision of the Pastor. The applicant must have strong written and verbal communication skills, demonstrate competency in the use of office equipment, and be proficient in the use of computers and office technology. Experience with Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, Publisher) and the ability to maintain a WordPress website are preferred. The position is for thirty (30) hours per week, and the salary is based on previous administrative experience. Applicant should send inquiries, cover letter, and resume to Pastor Moonsup “Paul” Song, Bethany UMC, P.O. Box 527, Gloucester Point, VA 23062 or email to [admin@bethanyumc-gp.org](mailto:admin@bethanyumc-gp.org).

## THANK YOU NOTES

I wanted to pass along a thank you message to the JOY Circle for the Valentine's Day card they sent me and the Chick-fil-a gift card. It means a lot to be reminded that my church family is still thinking of me even when I'm away at school! Thank you — *Kate Neikirk*

Dear JOY Circle, Thank you for remembering me away at JMU with a Chick Fil-A gift card. It's always a favorite! Sincerely — *Shelton Glaze*

Thank you, Bethany family for your gracious response following Nancy's heart attack. We have so much to be thankful for – the list is endless! We truly appreciate your kind acts of love, including food, transportation, phone calls, visits, prayers, and cards. We thank God for all that you have done for us! – Love, *Paul and Nancy Kendall*

## HUGS MINISTRY

I would like to thank all of the Bethany UMC HUGS. I miss the church family and watch on Sundays and follow on Facebook. The Lap Robe is Beautiful. – *Lewis Marion*

“Thank you for the lap robe you made for me. A lot of love and caring goes into each of those you make. What a great group of people we have at Bethany. So glad I've been able to be a part of it for many years. That gift is very special. Again, THANKS. – *Milton Hudgins*

“Dear Bethany HUGS and all the Bethany family: Thank you with a grateful heart for the beautifully made purple & teal prayer shawl that you gave me today. I love it and it will stay on my “left chair” close to me. I appreciated the Psalm which came with it; the card and note are precious to me. Thanks always for your thoughtfulness. Love, *Barbara Holtry*

“Thank you so much for the lovely prayer shawl that you gave me. I will certainly use it. I appreciate so much receiving such a loving gift. Also thanks for all of your prayers. With love and prayers, *Alice Lee Northam*

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**Christian Sympathy** is extended to Janet Chapin's sister, Nancy Scott and family, whose husband, **Gordon**, passed away on March 11 from cancer.

**Jim Durette**, husband of Betty Durette, passed on February 25.

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**The Celebration of Life for Gerlinde Marx Stevens** will be held on **April 13, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.** at Abingdon Ruritan Club, 8784 Guinea Rd., Hayes. Please wear PINK! In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Rosewell Foundation or Gloucester Mathews Care Clinic.

Bethany UMC Prayer List	BETHANY FAMILY	3.24.24
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, Jim Durette, Kira Fox, Gerlinde Stevens		
HEALTH ISSUES: Chuck Ashe, Cliff Beach, David Cecil, Billy Davis, Debra Farrow, Estelle Harris, David Hoover, Milton Hudgins, Kathy Jacobs, Paul & Nancy Kendall, Bonnie Lewis, Joy Long, Dennis Mitchell, Patsy Morales, Alice Northam, Richard Parkes, Peggy Peterman (NC), Rosemarie Tong, Judy Vaughan		
HOMEBOUND: Linda Booth, Ruth Wallace, Lavelle Wilson		
PARKINSON'S: Mike Andersen, David Chapin, Kathleen Greene, Yvonne White		
RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Patsy Bell, Dylan Chapin		
BETHANY FRIENDS		
CANCER/CHEMO: Clint Alexander, Peyton Arthur, Fran Bonnaville, Kendall Walthall Caton, Jack Cawthorn, Kyle Cooper, Barbara Crim, Wanda Dowell, Traci Greene, Dale Handley, Zachary Hoover, Connie Hutchinson (MI), Sissi Mise, Chauntea Shield, Mason Staley, Kent Stevens, Jeff Suntken, Bobby Tucker (TX), Shalini Upadhyaya, Jill Ward, Bob Wharen, Tim Williford		
GRIEVING: Families of Robin Coker, Jacqueline Emerson, Dallas "Butch" Folk (ME), Sarah Jacobs, Gordon Scott, Josh Wilson		
HEALTH/OTHER ISSUES: Connie Bowler, Kathryn Bjers, Juanita Duncan, Dewayne Haywood, Laura Hodges, Val Hopkins, Adie Kurth, Jean Moon, Dylan Moore family, Sylvia Motley, Alicia Lynn Williams Naples, Ken Pierkowski, Phillip Presson, Mary Ann Shackelford, Dixie Sharp, Tim Sullivan, Mildred Townsend, Sandie Wharen, Sabrina Wikle, Marian Williford (TN), Robin Willman, Randy Wilson		
HOSPICE: Selma, Mary Smith		
HOSPITAL/REHAB: Siiri Jonasch		
PARKINSON'S: Janet Burch (KY)		
RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Luke Burner, Terry Corbin, Jaunita Goins, Pat Hall, Silvia Howerton, Natalie Long		
UPCOMING SURGERY: Eric Bunch		
OTHER PRAYERS: General Conference, Ukraine, Israel & Middle East		
BUMC'S ACTIVE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES ( <i>italics—Bethany friends</i> )		
<i>Michael Brown, Peter Demetriades, Meagan Demetriades, Kevin Jacobs, Cory Long (Okinawa), Will Neikirk, Jim Minor, all members of the military.</i>		
ASSISTED LIVING ( <i>italics-Bethany friends</i> )		
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	

## MISSION TRIP TO HIGHER GROUND – May 12-18, 2024

Blue Ridge Christian Ministry has Higher Ground Christian Retreat center located off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Mile Post 190. The Retreat Center is a non-profit organization funded through donations and groups using the facility for camps, retreats and meetings. Higher Ground is situated on 73 acres on the top of a mountain overlooking the valley below. It is an ideal location for those looking to see God through nature and quiet meditation. The nearest town is 20 minutes away. Bethany's team will be working on building and grounds maintenance and construction items on the existing "Bethany Cottage" building.

**A meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Friendship classroom to finalize plans for the mission trip. All are welcome.** Persons wishing to participate in this mission trip should speak with Ken Freeman (682-429-7024) or Grady Wesson (757-508-9003).

Team members will need to bring comfortable work clothes and shoes, personal hygiene items, towels, and wash cloths. Team members will be staying in Fairview Lodge and Inn Agape. Each of these buildings has 6 rooms. Each room has 2 double beds, desk and chair, and a bathroom with shower or tub, toilet, and sink. There is a dining hall/meeting building where meals will be prepared and eaten.

The trip will take approximately 6 hours by car. If you feel led to join the Bethany team on this mission trip, you will enjoy fellowship, nature's beauty, and feel the presence of God on the mountain top.

For more information about Higher Ground visit [www.highergroundretreat.com](http://www.highergroundretreat.com).





# APRIL

*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

## BIRTHDAYS

4/1	Kyle Cooper; John Coleman
4/3	Janet Chapin
4/4	Lucas Hornsby, Brad Thomas, Ken Evans
4/5	Rev. Michael Kendall
4/7	Brandon Sweeney
4/9	Patrick Glaze; Christina Perkins
4/10	Peggy Lewis
4/11	Suzanne Sullivan, Ruth Ann Freeman
4/12	Dylan Andersen; Scott Andersen, Cindy Glacken
4/13	Chris Fowler
4/14	Betty Sue Varner, Genevieve Morris
4/16	Robert Blackwell
4/18	Rudy Shackelford
4/19	Crystal Thompson
4/20	Jon Kent, Stephen Leed
4/23	Diane White
4/25	Shirley Lewis; Debra Farrow, Regina Berry
4/27	Austin White, Emily White
4/28	Bayleigh Andersen; Irene Hogge
4/30	Katie Hoover

## ANNIVERSARIES

		# yrs
4/4	David & Breta Hoover	43
4/5	Shawn & Krista Chase	16
4/6	Rick & Gerri Wilson	28
4/7	Joe & Lisa Gayle	40
4/10	Mike & Tina Silberhorn	31
4/12	Martin & Dolores Breen	16
4/20	Kelvin & Kelly Cooper	28

## TRUSTEE CONTACTS

March 31-April 6:	Don Thomas
April 7-13:	Milton Hudgins
April 14-20:	Donna Lane
April 21-27:	Tom Barnard
April 28-May 04:	Donna Andersen

## COUNTING TEAMS

4/7	Team 6: Dawn Cluts, Betty Durette, Clair Hillard
4/14	Team 1: May Kaylor, Ann Byrd, Pat Hasty
4/21	Team 2: Betty Neikirk, Chip Niekirk, Cheryl Roane
4/28	Team 3: Al Burner, Judy Burner, Donna Andersen

## ALTAR GUILD

Nina Whitmore, Mary Linda Brooks, Sharon Cheek

## ALTAR FLOWERS

SEE ANNOUNCEMENT IN BANNER  
Sign up on Flower Chart in Main Hallway

# April 2024

April 2024							May 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 31	Apr 1 10:00am Bazaar Quilt Group 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	2 5:00pm Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm JOY Circle	3 10:00am AARP Tax Aide 6:00pm S/PPRC 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	4 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 6:30pm House of Prayer 7:00pm Bethany Bible Study (BBS)	5 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (Easter)	6
7 Comunion Sunday 8:30am Informal Worship 9:30am Celebrations & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Common Thread	8 5:30pm York River Villas 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	9 5:00pm Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Finance Committee	10 10:00am AARP Tax Aide	11 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 10:00am York River Garden Club 6:30pm House of Prayer 7:00pm Bethany Bible Study (BBS)	12	13
14 8:30am Informal Worship 9:30am 2ND SUNDAY BREAKFAST 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Worship 12:15pm Prime Timers 12:15pm Youth Missions Meeting 4:00pm GNMCS: The Sound of Swing Orchestra	15 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	16 10:00am Music Camp Planning 5:00pm Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	17 10:00am Missions Committee 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	18 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 10:30am Naomi Circle 5:00pm Media Upgrade Team 6:30pm House of Prayer 7:00pm Bethany Bible Study (BBS)	19	20
21 8:30am Informal Worship 9:30am Celebrations & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Common Thread	22 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00pm Worship & Arts Committee	23 5:00pm Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	24 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	25 9:00am Bazaar Workshop 6:30pm House of Prayer 7:00pm Bethany Bible Study (BBS)	26	27
28 8:30am Informal Worship 9:30am Celebrations & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Worship	29 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	30 5:00pm Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm UMM Meeting @ Nick's	May 1	2	3	4