



As you know, Mission Rivers District is hosting Annual Conference 2024 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton from June 20 -22. That gives us just over two months to prepare to welcome the Virginia Conference to our district.

We want to put our very best face forward in June! That will require many lay volunteers from throughout the district to help welcome everyone to Hampton.

There are several areas where volunteers will be needed. We are asking you to prayerfully consider participation. Remember these ministry opportunities are for everyone, not just members to Annual Conference. Members are required to attend the business sessions which means that we have a great need for other laity to be involved as well.

We have created Volunteer Sign Up forms on SignUp Genius.

Golf Carts: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-48914211-2024#/>
 Registration: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-48913646-annual#/>
 Ushers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CAFA923A5F94-48914918-2024#/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, April 21, 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 and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. 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		
Sunday, April 21	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal; 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrations & Fellowship
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday school for all ages
	12:15 p.m.	Youth Missions Planning Meeting (Youth Room)
	6:00 p.m.	Common Thread
Monday, April 22	5:30 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal (Mary Lotsey)
	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Arts Committee (WBFH)
Wednesday, April 24	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, April 25	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bazaar Workshop (WBFH)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study (Friendship)
Sunday, April 28	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship (8:30 Informal; 11:00 Traditional)
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrations & Fellowship
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday school for all ages
	4:00 p.m.	Joshua Spiritual Formation Group (Mary Lotsey)

“Solitude and Silence” is the spiritual practice of Joshua Spiritual Formation Group. They meet next **Sunday, April 28, 4:00PM** at Mary Lotsey room by the church office. For all who want to join this group, please read the chapter one of the book, *An Invitation to Solitude and Silence*, written by Ruth Haley Barton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

General Conference is the top policy-making body of the United Methodist Church. The Conference meets every four years to consider revisions to church law and to adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy, and economic issues. The body of GC consists of an equal number of lay and clergy delegates from around the world, elected from each Annual Conference.

This year the General Conference is held from April 23-May 3 in Charlotte, NC.

You can watch each session via livestreaming at umc.org, vaumc.org, or <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>.

Let us please pray for God's will be done through this General Conference.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given for the glory of God by Bethany UMC.

Altar flowers beautify our sanctuary during Sunday worship. If you would like to donate the flowers next Sunday, April 28, please sign your name on the Flower Chart in the main hallway or contact church office at 804-642-2110. Thank you for being part of this worship ministry!



PRIME TIMERS met on April 14, with 6 in attendance. Our May 12 meeting at the church is canceled. On **Wednesday, May 22, at 10:00 a.m.**, we are planning a trip to the Custom House in Yorktown for a tour. Watch for more information if you would like to join us. Contact Dawn Cluts (804-684-5340, 757-690-3874) for more information about Prime Timers.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

Birthdays

4/23 Diane White
4/25 Shirley Lewis; Debra Farrow, Regina Berry
4/27 Austin White, Emily White

Anniversaries

None this week

THANK YOU

Members and Friends of Bethany Church,
The handmade Prayer Shawl given to me by the HUGS Ministry was much appreciated, and especially thank you for your Love & Prayers. – *Janice R. Drexler*

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Gentle Reminder – Bulletin submissions are due each Wednesday at noon. Please check the calendar and make sure to send announcements and alert the office of special events, fundraisers, etc. in advance so that they can be handled in a timely manner. The church office is here to assist you in promoting your events, but it is the responsibility of each committee or group to contact the office to schedule events and write any announcements to be published in the bulletin, email blast, etc.

The incoming Church Office Administrator will be unfamiliar with the flow of regular and seasonal activities, so **DON'T ASSUME ANYTHING** and **PLEASE BE PROACTIVE** in communicating with the office, especially with regard to things that may be out of the ordinary. Thank you for your help!

OFFICE HOURS ARE CHANGING

Beginning Wednesday, May 1, the church office will return to a five-day schedule. The new hours will be Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., closed from 12-1 p.m. for lunch and church errands. **The new schedule will take effect in May** and will be published in the bulletin, on our website and Facebook pages, and in signage at our entrances.