

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, April 28, 2024

THOUGHTS ON MUSICAL CONNECTIVITY

Long before the internet came into being, music provided a “world-wide web” of cultural connections spanning continents and centuries

It still does. Last Sunday, for example, our “time machine” (the organ) transported us to the England of Queen Elizabeth I where we encountered the era’s greatest composer, William Byrd, and writer, William Shakespeare – a journey of several thousand miles and almost 500 years without leaving the comfort and safety of our pews!

Today’s excursion takes us even farther afield. In our Meditation we travel to Lübeck, a city in northern Germany made famous in 17th-century musical circles by Dietrich Buxtehude. Born in Denmark, he became the leading organist and composer of church music before Johann Sebastian Bach, who walked over 200 miles to study with Buxtehude. No doubt the 20-year-old Bach was awestruck on hearing the old master’s *Chaconne in E Minor*, which he emulated – and far surpassed – in his own *Passacaglia in C Minor*. The structure of both works, continuous variations over a bass motif, derived from a late 16th-century dance imported into Italy and Spain from Latin America. How fascinating that 20th-century Mexican composer Carlos Chavez transcribed Buxtehude’s *Chaconne* for the modern symphony orchestra. Talk about a world-wide web of musical connectivity!

Paris is our final destination this morning courtesy of the Offertory, Fryderyk Chopin’s poignant *Prelude in E Minor*. Just as Bach was inspired by the music of Buxtehude, so was Poland’s greatest composer moved to write a collection of piano Preludes continuing the legacy of Bach’s “48” – the monumental compendium of preludes and fugues in every key known as *The Well-Tempered Clavier*.

Stay connected with music at Bethany. You never know what surprising cross-cultural discoveries you will make

— Rudy Shackelford

****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 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)
Monday, April 29	5:30 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal (Mary Lotsey)
	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Arts Committee (WBFH)
Tuesday, April 30	6:30 p.m.	United Methodist Men (Nick’s, Gloucester Point)
Wednesday, May 1	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	New Office Hours Begin Today, Monday-Friday (Closed 12-1pm for lunch)
	6:00 p.m.	S/PPRC (WBFH)
Thursday, May 2	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bazaar Workshop (WBFH)
	6:30 p.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
Friday, May 3	7:00 p.m.	Bethany Bible Study (Friendship)
	8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	River Country Quilters (WBFH)
Sunday, May 5 Communion Sunday	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
	6:00 p.m.	Common Thread (WBFH)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Media Team whose faithful participation enhances our church ministry, by Laura Glaze and Bev Kearney.

“Solitude and Silence” is the spiritual practice of Joshua Spiritual Formation Group. The group will meet **TODAY at 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.

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.

Graduation Sunday *(June 9, During 11AM Worship)*

If you have a family member graduating from high school, college, or graduate school, please email your information to admin@bethanyumc-gp.org or drop off in the church office as soon as possible. Information on younger students (middle school and below) who are transitioning to the next level is welcome also.

Join us on June 9th in celebrating and praying for these graduates who are transitioning to new careers and schools.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the families of long-time Bethany members,

Iva T. Belvin, widow of Warren Belvin, who passed on 4/18/24, and

Judy Gray Hudgins, wife of Milton Hudgins, who passed on 4/19/24.

Please remember the families of these dear saints in your prayers.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

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

Birthdays

4/28 Bayleigh Andersen; Irene Hogge

4/30 Katie Hoover

5/1 Betty Neikirk; Susan Young; Ben Breen; Hannah Campbell

5/2 Brenda Ashe; Paul McFarland

5/3 Joni Neal; Jonathan Loase

5/4 Nan Evans

Anniversaries

None this week

MOTHER’S DAY TRIBUTE FUNDRAISER – It’s time to kick off the annual United Methodist Women Mother’s Day Tribute fundraiser. The order form in today’s bulletin gives you all the details. Please note: **The deadline for participating in this year’s Mother’s Day fundraiser is next Sunday, May 12**, so don’t delay completing and returning your order form. As always, thanks for supporting the missions of our United Methodist Women!

DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE — Higher Education has always been a hallmark of the United Methodist Church. The value of resources for continued learning and higher education is fundamental to United Methodism. In keeping with our tradition of supporting higher learning, the Mission Rivers District (MRD) of the United Methodist Church has created a Student Scholarship Program. The program is maintained and administered by the MRD and is not connected with any other United Methodist board, agency, or entity. Scholarships will be awarded to applicants who meet the program criteria as funding allows. Persons eligible to apply are those who are attending or who plan to attend a college or trade school, persons who are members of a United Methodist Church on the Mission Rivers District, and persons who are enrolled in a program that presents a degree or certification.

Click Links below for Guidelines and Application.

Scholarship Guidelines -- <https://www.missionriversdistrict.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Mission-Rivers-District-Scholarship-Guidelines-2024-1.pdf>

Scholarship Application -- <https://www.missionriversdistrict.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Mission-Rivers-District-Scholarship-Application-2024-1.docx>

Applications may be emailed to Missionriversdistrict@vaumc.org with the subject line, “MRD Scholarship Workgroup” or may be mailed to MRD Scholarship Workgroup, PO BOX 400, Montpelier, VA 23192.