

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transform a Child's Future

Each year, Epworth Children's Home provides care to children in our own communities who have experienced abuse, neglect, and loss. Epworth's care breaks the destructive cycle and encourages children to aim higher in life. The physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual care they receive transforms their lives. On Sunday, May 14th, 2023, our congregation will support Epworth by collecting the Annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering. We invite you to give generously to the children impacted by Epworth's care and programs. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the United Methodist Conference. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information, please visit Epworth online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

Wednesday Night BNOW

Join us on Wednesday nights for activities and classes for everyone. BNOW begins with a meal in the Fellowship Hall at 5 pm. The meal for this week (**May 3**) will be fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, biscuits and salad bar. The Sunday School class that will be hosting is Searchers. Meals are \$8 for Adults, \$6 for Seniors (over 65) and \$4 for Children (12 and under) with a family maximum of \$20 (2 parents and children under 12 that live in the same household). Meal reservations are no longer required.

Graduation Sunday

Graduation Sunday will be May 21 in the 11:15 worship service. If you have a graduating senior and would like for them to be recognized, please visit www.ascendstudentministries.org and click the "Bethany Graduate Celebration 2023" button. There will also be a celebratory dinner that night during Youth Ascend. To RSVP, please visit ascendstudentministries.org.

Spell Chapel Open for Prayer

Spell Chapel will be open from 6:30-9:30 am each Wednesday for prayer. We know you don't have to be in church to pray, but this provides an opportunity for all of us to pray intentionally as a congregation as we seek God's wisdom and guidance for individual needs, for our church, and for the leaders of our denomination.

Hero Hotline- VBS!

We still need help with VBS. Make sure to check the project table on the 3rd floor by the elevator – it is constantly being updated with projects. There are also some items we need: plastic tablecloths and streamers in lime green, hot pink, orange, purple, teal, and yellow; blank CD's (will be used for decorating), 9' foil curtains in lime, teal, hot pink, orange, purple and yellow. You can also purchase from our Amazon Wishlist which can be found online at www.bethany-umc.com.

Teen helpers are needed! If your teen, 7th grade and older, would like to help out at VBS this year, let Stephanie Mitchum know. We need teens in each classroom and in special areas. Please let us know which age group you would like to work with. These helpers are vital members of the VBS team, and we couldn't do it without them.

Scan to Give Option

It's easier than ever to give now! Simply scan this QR Code and you will be directed to PushPay, our online giving platform. You can also text 833.245.8417 and give right from your phone!



Prayer Chain

Bethany is putting together a Prayer Chain Group. If you are interested in being a part of it, please email Debbie at ddominianni@bethany-umc.com.

THIS WEEK...

Not all activities are included here. Look for the most up-to-date calendar posted throughout the church.

Sunday, April 30

8 AM WORSHIP, Spell Chapel
8:45 AM WORSHIP, Sanctuary
8:45 AM WORD & TABLE, FH
10 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM WORSHIP, Sanctuary
6:30 PM Youth ASCEND

Monday, May 1

10 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
10 AM Plarning/Upcycling, 122
12:30 PM Men's Book Buddies, Youth House
2 PM Prayer Shawl Meeting, 118
3 PM Bethany Golf League, Miler
5:30 PM CDC Board Mtg., 127
7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous, Friendship Circle
7 PM Worship Committee, 237

Tuesday, May 2

8:30 AM YOGA, Gym
10 AM Quilters, Blue House
10:30 AM Grief Support, Parlor
5:30 PM Stephen Ministry, Conf. Rm.

Wednesday, May 3

Wednesday Night BNOW

5:30 AM Men's Prayer Group, 215
6:30 AM Prayer Time, Spell Chapel
9 AM Bridge Group, F.C.
5-6 PM BNOW Meal
6 PM BNOW Children's Programs
6:15 PM BNOW Youth Programs
6:15 PM BNOW Adult Classes
6:30 PM Tech. Ministries, Conf. Rm.

Thursday, May 4

National Day of Prayer

6:30 AM Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
7 AM Men's Prayer Group, Youth House
8:30 AM YOGA, Gym
9:30 AM Bible Study, 239
10 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
6 PM Handbells, 234

Friday, May 5

6:30 AM Men's Devotional Group
9 AM Women's Bible Study, 215

Saturday, May 6

5 PM China Outreach, 115

Directory Photos

February directory photos can be picked up in the Business Office during business hours, Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm and Sundays, April 30 & May 7 from 8:30-11:30am. Photos that were taken in March or April will be available later. Please make sure to come by and pick up your items.

Bethany Kids!

8:45 Children's Church is geared for kids Kindergarten to 2nd grade. However, all kids Kindergarten and up are welcome to come. Kids come into worship with parents and will be escorted to Room 213 where parents can pick up after service, or they can stay for Sunday school. Please make sure you fill out a Children's Church sticker located in the pew. Preschoolers can be signed into Room 115B at the beginning of 8:45 and 11:15 services. Sunday school for all age kids is 10-11 am. It is an hour of fun, faith development and fellowship.

If you have questions, you can email, call or text us! Emily Vick 843.343.2506 evick@bethany-umc.com
Stephanie Mitchum 843.343.8494 smitchum@bethany-umc.com
Janice Harp 843.607.3493 jharp@bethany-umc.com.

Recording/Photography

Portions of Worship services are recorded and made available for viewing on our web site. As a worshiper, you will not be identified in the recording/photos unless you are a speaker using our public address system. No close-up shots will be used of the congregation, allowing you privacy in your worship experience. If you wish to not have your image or voice used in our worship video, please notify the church office (843.873.1230), otherwise attendance implies consent.

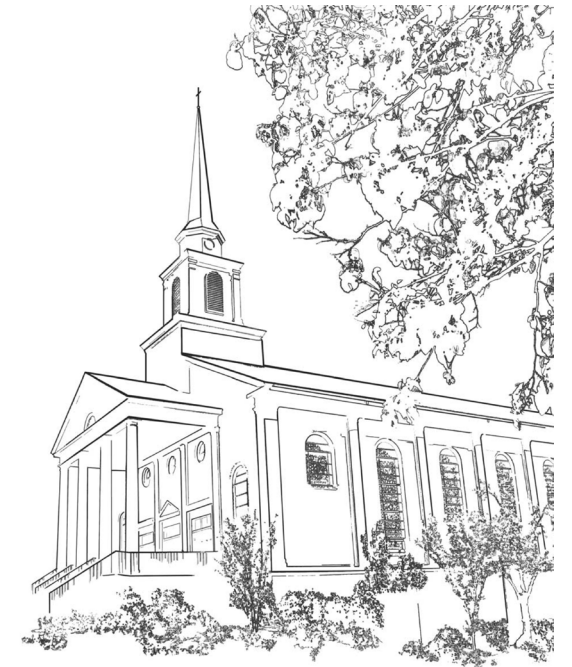
Emergency Phone

A minister is on call for pastoral emergencies after normal business hours during the week, as well as on weekends and holidays. If you have an emergency for which you need pastoral care, call the church emergency number, **843.425.1069**.

April 30, 2023
8:45 a.m. Worship Service

BETHANY

United Methodist Church



Rev. Michael Ritter, Senior Pastor
Rev. Narcie Jeter, Associate Pastor
Rev. Mark Barnes, Minister of Congregational Care
Rev. James Alewine, Pastor Emeritus
Mrs. Emily Vick, Director of Children's Ministries
Mrs. Stephanie Mitchum, Children's Program Director
Mr. Mike Jeter, Director of Student Ministries
Dr. Robert Taylor, Director of Music Ministries
Mr. Michael Lopez, Organist

118 West Third South Street, Summerville, SC 29483

www.bethany-umc.com

843.873.1230

**We are a Stephen Ministry Church, a Safe Sanctuaries
Congregation and a Welcoming Church.**

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Love and follow Jesus, invite others on the journey,
joyfully serve in Jesus' name.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

4th Sunday after Easter

Gathering

As the congregation gathers, please take a moment to speak to people sitting around you whom you may not know. Hebrews 13:2 (KJV) says, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unaware."

Chiming of the Trinity

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

* **Call to Worship** Sanctuary J. Thompson and R. Scruggs
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true; with Thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

* **Opening Hymn** Christ Is Alive UMH No. 318

* **Affirmation of Faith** THE APOSTLES' CREED UMH No. 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* **Gloria Patri** UMH No. 70
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Children's Moment

(8:45 am - At the end of the Children's Moment, children may leave for Children's Church ~ ages K5 thru 2nd grade in **room 214 of the Youth Wing**. Please remember to attach a Children's Church sticker to your child and pick them up ASAP.)

Anthem Come My Way My Truth My Life Eugene Butler
Ken Meyers, organist; Chancel Choir

First Lesson Act 2: 42-47 NT Pg. 120

Call to Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*

Congregational Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory Were You There/Crown Him With Many Crowns arr. M. Ham
Anne Poole, piano

* **Hymn of Assurance** UMH No. 138
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

* **Doxology** UMH No. 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* **Second Lesson** John 10: 1-10 NT Pg. 103
Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.
People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon Cool as a Cucumber Rev. Michael Ritter

* **Hymn of Dedication** UMH No. 157
Jesus Shall Reign

* Benediction

* **Benediction Response** Irish Blessing L. Turner
May the road rise to meet you, May the wind blow at your back, May the sun shine warmly on your face, May the rain fall softly on your field; And until we meet again, until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.

* Chiming of the Trinity

* Postlude

* For those who are able, please stand.

WELCOME

We welcome all guests to our service today. If you are visiting with us, please allow us to further greet you by signing the attendance registration pad when it is passed to you. A nursery is available for infants and toddlers in our Child Development Center on the first floor. An usher will be happy to give you directions. Also, please ask about our Sunday School hour at 10 a.m. with classes for all ages. Join us for complimentary coffee from 8:45 to 10:00 a.m. every Sunday outside the Fellowship Hall, near the kitchen. If you would like more information about Bethany or becoming a member of our church, please contact Jack Sehrt, Membership Director, at jsehrt@bethany-umc.com or 843.873.1230.

HEARING DEVICES AND CELL PHONES

Hearing devices are available for our members and guests who are hearing impaired. If you need help hearing the worship service, please ask an usher for a hearing device.

In order to not distract your fellow worshipers, please **turn off** cell phones and other electronic devices before the worship service begins. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Bethany's Music Ministries team by Casey and Cheryl Conage.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 ~ Team Leader: Billy Hay; Laurence Clair, Stuart Courtney, Steve Davis, Jim McElheny, Jonathan Patterson, Ce Buddin, Marion Watson, Arthur Dehay

11:15 ~ Team Leader: David Huffman; Marty Eubanks, Rick Yochim, Martha Proctor, Charlotte Wasmund, Jillian Weatherford, Bill McIntosh, Chad Edens, Sarah Warren

Acolytes

8:45 - Campbell Kersting

11:15 - Parker Ham

Crucifers

8:45 - Wyatt Carter

11:15 -

Liturgist 8:45 - Justin Goethe

Audio/Video Support

Technical Ministries Team

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Stewardship is being loyal to your commitment through presence, prayers, service and gifts.

Gifts (*Figures for April 23, 2023. These figures are unverified.)

*Operating Contributions.....	\$ 25,004.00
*Operating Funds Contributed to Date.....	609,304.52
*Operating Needs Year to Date.....	657,570.00
*Non-Budgeted Mission and Ministry Gifts to Date.....	170,262.14

Capital Campaign (Figures for April 23, 2023)

*Capital Campaign Contributions	1,331.50
*Total Campaign Gifts Year to Date	43,832.39
*Capital Campaign Needs Year to Date.....	56,593.00

Presence (April 23, 2023)

8 am Spell - 58; Word & Table - 75; Sanctuary - 538; Sunday School - 358