

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter 2023 Vol 5

PKs, Light bulbs, and Believing – Devotional Bethany 2023

The disciple Thomas did not believe the other disciples when they said that Jesus had appeared to them. Thomas said that he had to see the nail prints in the hands and a hole in the side of Jesus to believe in the Resurrection. What kind of faith is that? Everyone knows the old saying, “seeing is believing”. So Jesus did appear to Thomas and said these words, “Do you believe because you see me? Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.”

There was a dirty PK (preacher’s kid) who was called by his mother to dinner one night. The mother told him that he should wash his hands because there were germs living in all that dirt. He refused and complained: “Germs and Jesus! Germs and Jesus! That’s all I ever hear around this house, and I’ve never seen either one.” Why is it so hard to have faith in that we cannot see?

“What the mind of people can conceive and believe, it can achieve,” wrote Napoleon Hill. Let me put it another way. How much will you accomplish by convincing yourself that it cannot be done? Defeatism never accomplished anything lasting or worthwhile, but optimism born of faith has accomplished tremendous feats. Surprising as it is to some, creativity born of faith has its roots in the Bible. “As he thinks within himself, so he is” (Prov. 23:7); “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Phil. 4:13); “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men” (Col. 3:23).

Scores of people have been challenged with concepts or goals others have said were impossible or unattainable. With God’s help they reached them. Thomas Edison attempted more than 10,000 experiments to create the light bulb and they all failed. “Edison quit,” said his co-workers “It just cannot be done.” Instead, Edison said, “I have found 10,000 ways it cannot be done; now I will find one way it can be done.” What others considered impossible became his goal, which he eventually accomplished.

The difference between the gospel of Jesus Christ and the force of human motivation is the upward dimension – through Christ. There is a limit to what you can do in the natural, but there is absolutely no limit to what can be accomplished in faith through God’s power.

Don’t listen to the voice of pessimism that says, “You are trapped – you cannot do it. You might as well quit for it cannot be done.” Quietly resolve in your heart, “With God’s help, I’ll do it,” and you will discover what the mind of man can conceive and believe.

See Ya Sunday!

Michael

Word & Table

Have you listened to the Word & Table Playlist on Spotify? This month you can also find 10 songs chosen by Michael Brown. Use the QR code to find Bethany UMC on Spotify.



IN THIS ISSUE

- Announcements.....2,3,6,14
- Cover.....1
- CDC.....7
- Children’s Ministries.....8 & 9
- Happy Hearts13
- Kids Care.....12
- Last Supper.....3
- Local & Global Missions.....9-11
- Music.....14
- Recreation.....2
- Student Ministries.....15
- VBS.....8 & 9
- Word & Table2

Care Team Spotlight

Have you ever been confined at home or elsewhere and had someone lift your spirits by bringing you a flower arrangement? That’s just what the Flower Team does each Monday! We take the arrangements from the Sanctuary and Spell Chapel, rearrange them into smaller ones, attach a small note, and deliver them to our members at home, in residential facilities, hospitals or rehab. We have five teams that rotate according to the Sunday of the month.

If you interested in learning more about this ministry, please call or leave a message for Pastor Mark Barnes at 843 873-1230.

Calling all healthcare professionals

Bethany in conjunction with our new Safety and Assistance Committee, is setting up an emergency response team that will be available during worship and Sunday school times (8 am-12:30 pm). As part of the emergency response team, we are asking any healthcare-trained individuals that are interested and willing to consider being part of the team. We would like to have 1 or 2 healthcare-trained individuals who are willing to be on standby for each service and during the Sunday school hour.

Our definition of a healthcare-trained individual is a Physician, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Nurse, EMT, and Paramedic. If you are willing to share as part of this team, please reach out to Roanna Payne at roanna1958@bellsouth.net.

Bethany United Methodist Church

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Summerville Country Club

DATE: MAY 6TH
TIME: 8:00AM
FORMAT: FOUR PERSON CAPTAIN'S CHOICE
COST: \$75
CONTACT KYLE AT 843-469-5917

Bethany CDC

We are wrapping up another wonderful school year at Bethany CDC. In May we will celebrate our students, and all they have accomplished this school year. Our 2 and 3-year-olds will have closing picnics on our playground, our 4-year-olds will have an art & music program, and our kindergarten class will have a graduation.



Saying goodbye is always bittersweet, but we know that our students, families, and staff will have a wonderful summer. We think of 1 Thessalonians 5:15 and we are thankful for every part of this school year.

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:15

Thank you to our sweet **students**. Your curiosity, enthusiasm and joy have filled our hearts this year!

Thank you to all the **parents** who have trusted us to care for their children and help them grow & learn this year. It has been an honor being part of your child's life.

Thank you to our amazing **staff**. Your dedication and hard work have made this year successful and fun. You love the students, and it shows in everything you do!

Thank you to the **staff and community of Bethany United Methodist Church**. We appreciate your support and feel honored to be a ministry of BUMC.

And most of all... thank you to **God** for allowing us to be part of our student's lives and to serve others through the CDC.

Our new school year will begin in August, and we cannot wait to see what God has in store for the CDC! Have a blessed summer!

May Happy Hearts

Our guest speaker for the May Happy Hearts meeting is Racena Bowen from Middleton Place Plantation. Located along the Ashley River in Charleston, Middleton Place is a rare survivor of the American Revolution, Civil War, economic upheavals, and natural disasters. First granted in 1675, this National Historic Landmark connects to the very fabric of our nation's complex history focusing on the contributions of the Middleton family as well as the enslaved Africans and African Americans who lived and worked here. The stories are a microcosm of United States history. Middleton Place is a National Historic Landmark, home to the oldest landscaped gardens in America and an enduring, vibrant, and essential part of the Charleston and American experience.

The luncheon menu is smoked chicken, macaroni and cheese, mixed vegetables, dessert and beverage for \$8. For meal reservations, contact Dot at 843-343-5450 or email her at dmprevatte@yahoo.com by May 21, 2023.

MEMORIALS

These are memorials from February 15th to April 17th

In Memory of Janet Kaminski (Flowers)

By Spiritual Growth SS Class

In Memory of Gene Malphrus (Memorials)

By Ann Gill

By Mona Gilbert

By Berlin & Betsy Myers

By Gil & Sandy Hager

In Memory of Joe Stasiukaitis (Global Missions)

By Paul & Carol Williams

In Memory of Maggie Louise Taylor (Childrens Ministry)

By Mona Gilbert

By Ann Gill

By Jack & Karen Sehrt

In Memory of Charlie L. Fowler (Memorials)

By Bill & Lois Fowler

In Memory of Sarah Glenn (Memorial)

By Mona Gilbert

In Memory of Hazel Melia (Memorials)

By Franklin Weathers

In Memory of Thomas Corbett (Memorials)

By Carol Resch & Leo Skaggs

In Memory of Rev. Bill Caldwell (Memorials)

By Juliana Caldwell

In Memory of John W.Riley, JR. (Global Missions)

By Claire Palmer

By Mr. & Mrs. W.K. Windham Jr.

By William & Laura Crowther

By Mac & Rossie McLaurin

By Berlin & Betsy Myers

By Ann Walker

By Clair & Cindy Orvin

By Mary Walker

By Teresa, Robert, Clint & Jeff Walker

By Sandra & Hosel Rourk

By Jane & George Tupper

By Jan Waring Woods

HONORARIUMS

In Honor of Linda Hudson & Stan Murraray

By Claire Palmer (Spell Chapel)

Local & Global Missions



Katie's Kropps Desserts

We are in need of **600** individually wrapped homemade desserts for **May 18th & June 8th** to be paired with Katie's Kropps meals. Please deliver to the business office by Thursday no later than 11:00 am. Thank you for your help with this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Narcie at njeter@bethany-umc.com or 854-429-1848.

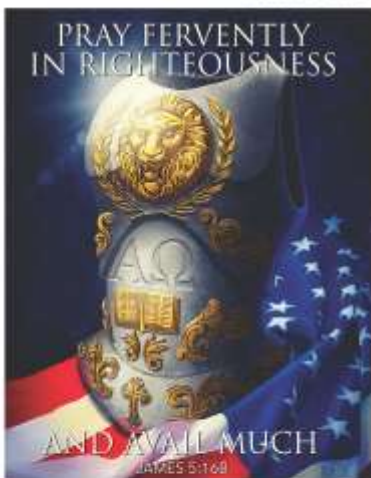
National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Breakfast - 6:30 am - 7 am

Program - 7 am - 8:15 am

Tickets - \$20



To register, please scan the QR code above, or visit www.summervilleymca.org

Bethany United Methodist Church

Dr. Robert J. Howell, Jr. Fellowship Hall
118 West Third Street South
Summerville, SC 29483



Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

I send greetings from the children and staff at Epworth Children's Home and send this letter as a reminder that Mother's Day this year is Sunday, May 14th. Our Annual Conference has designated this day as a time to promote children's ministry through Epworth, and to take a special offering for God's work through Epworth. Epworth is not an apportioned item, and it relies heavily on the offerings received on Mother's Day and Work Day to provide quality care to the 100 plus individuals who are in Epworth's care at any given moment.

I am asking that you request materials for your church by using this link: [Mother's Day Order Form](#).

Please allow your members to participate in this ministry to children and families by not only ordering and using the promotional materials, but also by telling your congregation about the work taking place at Epworth, and by praying for the work to be strengthened and multiplied. As the pastor of your congregation, your visible passion and intentional voice in support of the ministry and the offering play a direct role in the success of the offering. In other words, if you make a sincere appeal, your people will respond. What better way is there to support the conference initiatives to combat poverty and illiteracy than to support children who have tasted both?

As you actively participate in promoting the annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering, please remember all gifts received from your congregation will be counted towards your church's minimum goal of \$6.00 per member. Together we can surpass this goal and advance the ministry provided to children by your church and our conference.

If you have any questions, please contact Sherri Mims at smims@epworthsc.org.

Ecuador 2023 Mission Trip

Ever wondered what we do on our Ecuador Mission Trips or what goes into the planning of an international mission trip?

Been curious what it is like to participate on a mission trip, wondered if you could do it, or what is required to participate?

In addition to sharing past experiences and accomplishments, we will be discussing what we expect to be working on this year as well as do some group planning to discuss dates, possible travel itineraries and any other items as it relates to this year's trip.

If you would like more information, reach out to Stephen Bishop (843.696.6938 or f1skier@comcast.net).

Join Bethany and China Outreach Ministries (COM) in Christian Hospitality May 5-7

As part of their ministry, COM staff at UGA will bring a group of Chinese students to visit our area May 5-7. Bethany is glad to partner again with COM by sharing and showing the gospel to these students in many ways, particularly by offering room in our homes for two nights. The group will arrive Friday at 9:30 pm, tour the Charleston area on Saturday, join their hosts at Bethany for a potluck dinner on Saturday night, and worship with us during Sunday School and church service—from there, they return to UGA.

If the Lord has given you a heart to give hospitality to strangers who need to hear and see the gospel in action, we need you! For more details and to explore ways you can serve, contact Laura Knotts. Email: lknotts.laura@gmail.com Text: 843-870-6263



**CHINA
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES**

Safety & Assistance

You may have noticed our Safety & Assistance team on Sunday mornings. The team is sporting bright red armbands. Using golf carts they are available to help you find parking, give you a lift in a golf cart, assist visitors with directions, and any other issues that may arise on Sunday mornings. We have also started staffing the Traditional Services with personnel ready to react in the event of a medical emergency. Over the next few months, we will put more volunteers in place to enhance these offerings and provide the congregation with a safe and welcoming environment on Sunday mornings.

Please see the graphic below if you are interested in becoming a volunteer with this beneficial addition to our ministries.



Bethany has started a Safety and Assistance program that will require a large number of volunteers to be successful. You may have already seen some of our core members providing assistance on Sundays last month.

Our initial plan is to have two shifts on Sunday mornings that will need 2 outside and 2 inside people for each shift. This is open to men and women and is ideal for couples.

To find out more, visit one of our drop-in info sessions that will be held the month of April. Sessions will be on Wednesdays at 5PM in the Welcome Center, Conference Room before BNOW, and on Sundays at 11:15am in the Serchers SS classroom (Rm 118) or contact Gus Holladay at ghollall48@att.net.

SAFETY

BNOW May Menu

5/3 — Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad bar & dessert

5/10 — Lasagna, garlic bread, and salad bar & dessert

Flowertown Festival



Thanks to all who parked, directed traffic, cooked spaghetti, flipped pancakes, wiped tables, collected money, served cold water, handed out crosses, cleaned up trash, and paid to park - it was a GREAT, FULL Flowertown Weekend and Bethany really SHINED!

SPELL CHAPEL WILL BE OPEN
FROM 6:30 TO 9:30A.M.
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.

PRAYER
PRAYER
PRAYER
PRAYER

May 7th New Members Join Date

+
NEW
Members Sunday

Contact Jack Sehrt with any questions or interest.
At 843-873-1230 or jsehrt@bethany-umc.com



A Stephen Ministry Minute

Let us introduce Gillis and Marti, two of our most dedicated Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Minister for 16 years, Gillis serves as the chairperson of the Leader group. Marti also has served for many years and, as a Leader, coordinates the on-going training of all Stephen Ministers. The Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers meet monthly for planning, training and peer group support. We hope their words might encourage you.



Marti Johnson - grandmother, , retired elementary school
"road-runner" on the interstates (to visit
family), National Park lover

"Many years ago, I was excited to learn about Stephen Ministry and looked forward to the training. I love working in one-on-one relationships, helping and discussing God's great love for us! This is a wonderful place for me to serve. I am so blessed by all of my Care Receivers as the "Christ in them touches the Christ in me. Such a joy! "

Gillis McAllister – grandfather , retired Westvaco exec (still
consults), SS teacher, Rotarian, Kiwanian,
seasoned traveler

"Rev. Mark Fentress and Annett Goins introduced Stephen Ministry to Bethany in 2007. I greatly respect these two "saints" but with no experience of this type, I was reluctant to join in. When they explained, "We give the care, but God gives the cure", I was in! It's a decision I've never regretted. I can show up, I can listen, and I can provide Christ-centered care and support. I believe that is what God wants me to do."



Start the process of accepting the gift of a personal and confidential Stephen Minister.

Use the Stephen Ministry Mailboxes to leave a request or call one of the leaders below:

Women: Leah Martin 404-408-5457 or Marti Johnson 843-442-1675

Men: Denis Tsukalas 843-729-5348 or Mark Barnes 843-873-2130

A new Stephen Minister training class will start in January, 2024.

If you are encouraged to learn the helping skills that Stephen Ministry teaches, please apply.
Applications are in one of the church tabletop kiosks. Please return to Rev. Barnes.
For questions, please contact Rev. Mark Barnes or any Stephen Minister or Leader.

Aldersgate/Holy City Missions

Soup Kitchen

Bethany has been agreed to cook at the soup kitchen the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month.

May 11 - 1st shift begins at 6:30 am (cooking), 2nd shift begins at 9:30 am (serving), Done by 12:30 pm.

May 25 - 1st shift begins at 6:30 am (cooking), 2nd shift begins at 9:30 am (serving), Done by 12:30 pm.

Please let Von Thurman (843-696-6828) or John Lyons (843-708-9837) know if you would like to be involved during any of these dates or times. Thanks for your support of this ministry!



Children's Ministry

Children's Church

Children's Church will take a break over the summer to give our volunteers a break. The last day will be June 11. We will have no Children's Church June 18- August 13.

Summer Fun

Look for some exciting kid's activities coming during the summer. Ideas are movie night, picnic, a day at the park, and more. Details will be coming soon!

Get ready for Hero Hotline

Our Hero adventure will soon be here where we are Called Together to Serve God ! Many of our classes are full so register quickly if you haven't already. There are several ways you can be part of this amazing week.



Decorations Help

We always need help prepping decorations for the building. You can cut out paper buildings, make tissue paper balls, string star garland, and a variety of other projects. Stop by the table by the elevator on the 3rd floor or the Children's Ministries office and we can give you something to work on! We would also love to have you help with decorating the building. We will begin May 22 during the day to decorate certain areas of the church. Decorating will continue daily until we are finished! Please let Children's Ministries team know if you can help decorate. This is a fun way to help out!!

Children's Ministry...continued



Teen Helpers

Any Youth (7th grade and above) that would like to assist during VBS, let us know now! We need help in all grade levels; special areas are full. If you would like to be a helper, contact Stephanie Mitchum at smitchum@bethany-umc.com and let her know what age you would like to work with. Teens do not need to attend the training on April 29.

Item Donations

We need help in collecting a few items to make VBS spectacular. If you are out and about, please consider picking up any of these items for us. All items can be dropped off at the VBS display at the bottom of the staircase or by the Kid's Welcome Desk upstairs. Needed items are:

- Plastic tablecloths in lime, teal, hot pink, orange, purple and yellow
- Streamers in lime, teal, hot pink, orange, purple and yellow
- Blank CD's
- Foil Curtains in lime, teal, hot pink, orange, purple and yellow

You can also visit our Amazon Wishlist at <https://a.co/0yTJYhF> or scan the QR code below to make a purchase. It will be shipped straight to us!



Some Other Ways You Can Help

- Pray – Your prayer for our Heroes, Sidekicks, missions and program help us to have a fantastic week.
- Teacher Snacks – each day we provide a snack table for our volunteers. We need two-liter drinks, breakfast items, finger foods, chips and dips, hot dips, anything you think our volunteers would like.
- Set-up and Break-down – we need lots of help moving tables, setting up rooms, decorating and many other things. Set up will be Sunday June 11 from 12:30 – 4:00 and break down will be June 16 from 10:00-3:00. Just come by ready to help!

If you would like to help in any way, or have any questions about VBS, please call Emily or Stephanie at 843-873-1230 or email evick@bethany-umc.com or smitchum@bethany-umc.com.

KidsCare

May is the month of new life! Allowing us to let the sights, sounds, and smells of a new season bring life to something new within us. To live in the freedom of God! Spring reminds us to find peace around us and to “cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you” 1 Peter 5:7

May is also a month that reminds us the hustle bustle of another glorious school year is ending soon. SUMMER CAMP IS COMING! We are still taking registrations for summer camp, so reach out to us today if you want to be a part of all the fun activities we have planned! ***Act fast! We already have some weeks closed as we have reached camp capacity.***

It is quite a blessing to be able to serve God’s kingdom by helping the little ones come to know His will for their lives!

Contact us for more information!

Makala Boczkowski Director

Debra Trimeloni Assistant Director

854-429-1842 or KidsCare@bethany-umc.com



The Last Supper

Many thanks to all who helped in any way with the Last Supper Dramatic Presentation. What a beautiful and moving event it was. With over 500 in attendance each night, we touched many hearts. Special thanks to the cast and crew:

Cast

Kyle Boxzkowski
Roland Fulcher
Chris Glaze
Barry Gordon
Michael Knotts
Gillis McAllister
Hoa Pham
JC Ridgeway
Cameron Rowe
Jack Sehrt
Hank Sieling
Chad Urban
Charlie Watson

Director: Ted Varner

Stage Manager: Peggy Ridgeway

Narrator: Laura Knotts

Bethany Technology Committee

Bethany Chamber Singers

Costumes & Makeup: Debby Humbert,
Marlene Coleman, Karen Sehrt, Deb Luce-Richardson,
Kim Tornabene, Sandi Emery, Alice Perry

Table Setting: Faye Campbell, Cathy Handzo, Laura Wilson



CONFIRMATION



Congratulations to Bethany's 2023 Confirmands

*Elena Bilton
Wyatt Carter
Olivia Dantzler
Chloe DeLong
Kaelyn Ellis
Susie Horres
William Jenkins
Stella Kemp
William Lopez*

*Jacob Mendoza
Braedon Patterson
Jack Phillips
Harrison Reynolds
Maysie Runyon
Elizabeth White
Grant Wimberly
Elise Woolwine*

ASCEND

May

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

● ASCEND, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (FH) ● GRADUATE SUNDAY & ASCEND END OF YEAR CELEBRATION
● YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL, 10:00 AM (YH) ● NYC MISSION TRIP MEETINGS
● BNOW SMALL GROUPS, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (YH)
● NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST ● DD2 GRADUATION




5·21·23

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Mark your calendars!

ASCEND STUDENT MINISTRIES

Graduation Celebration

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR GRADUATES AND A GREAT YEAR OF ASCEND!

STEAK NIGHT!

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES AND RECOGNIZING OUR AWESOME VOLUNTEERS!

PLEASE RSVP FOR THIS FREE EVENT AT WWW.ASCENDSTUDENTMINISTRIES.ORG | ASCEND 5.21.23
6:30 PM

21 MAY 23 | FAMILIES ARE INVITED!



ASCEND STUDENT MINISTRIES

Resurrection Sightings

AN EASTER SERIES

Sundays • 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Fellowship • Games • Praise & Worship
Message • Small Groups

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.

Bethany United Methodist Church
118 West 3rd South Street
Summerville, SC
29483 - 5997

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Summerville
29483



Room Request

If you have a standing room reservation, please submit your request by visiting our website at:

www.bethany-umc.com or contact Ann Gill at
agill@bethany-umc.com

Bethany Beacon is published monthly by Bethany United Methodist Church. Articles, story ideas, questions, comments, news or photos may be sent to the Communications Team at ***ddominianni@bethany-umc.com***
Please email your address changes or if you would like to be removed from the Bethany Beacon Newsletter mailing list.

Upcoming deadlines: ***Submissions are due the 15th*** of each month

www.bethany-umc.com

www.bethanygym.com

bethanygym.com [facebook.com/BethanySummerville, SC](https://facebook.com/BethanySummerville,SC)

twitter.com/BethanyUMC

[Instagram/@umcbethany](https://instagram.com/umcbethany)

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM. to 5 P.M.,

Friday 8:30 A.M. to Noon,

Church Office: 843.873.1230

Office Fax: 843.873.1937

Gym Office: 843.873.7261

Child Dev. Center: 843.821.1946

Emergency Number: If you have an emergency for which you need pastoral care at night, on weekends, or holidays, call 843.425.1069.