

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter 2023 Vol 6

“I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart.” - Philippians 1:3-7

My mom would sing Michael W. Smith “Friends are Friends Forever” on our last Sunday growing up. It was cheesy but it expressed exactly what this scripture passage is getting at. “I thank my God for every remembrance of you...because I hold you in my heart.” Y’all are definitely in our hearts and will have a lasting imprint on our lives. You have seen our kids grow up from children to teenagers and they were both confirmed here at Bethany. You have invited me into the most beautiful, vulnerable moments of your lives and I will carry with me your stories. Of course, I will change the names to protect the innocent!

I’ve shared this story many times, but I think it’s more important than ever now. Robert Louis Stevenson, author of *Treasure Island* and other classics, grew up in Edinburgh, Scotland in the 19th century. At the end of each day, as darkness spread over the city, Robert would watch with fascination as the lamplighters came down the street, lighting the gas street lamps.

One evening, seeing their son with his face pressed against the window, Robert’s parents asked him what he was looking at. Robert replied excitedly, “Look at that man! He’s punching holes in the darkness!” That’s the Great Commission. You might think it’s a pinprick of light but like drops in a bucket, eventually the bucket will overflow. Don’t stop doing the little things that no one notices. You don’t do them for acclamation and you don’t do them in order to earn your salvation, in other words “works righteousness.” The good we do will flow from the love of God and then will flow onto the people God puts on our paths.

Continued

I'm glad Bethany was on the Jeter family's path. We are all better for being here. My United Methodist Discipline professor, Bishop Bevel Jones said inevitably in every class, "Love your people, love your people, love your people!" I would give that same advice to you. As you love God, you must love your people, and not only your people, but all people. Holy Spirit give us eyes to see, give us words to speak, give us the path in which we are to go. I'll close the same way I started, with words Paul wrote to the people of Philippi in Philippians 4:8. "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

All our love,

Narcie

Aldersgate/Holy City Missions Soup Kitchen

Bethany gets to cook at the Aldersgate/Holy City Soup Kitchen the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. We start cooking at 8 am and we start serving at 9:30. We are finished at the latest at 12 noon.

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!



Haley Jobe

Dear Bethany Members:

I am pleased to announce that Bethany will host an intern from Duke Theological Seminary this summer for 10 weeks beginning June 1st. We have hosted interns in the past but not over that past several years. Field education is central to Duke Divinity School’s M.Div. program. Through contextual learning in churches and organizations across the country and world, students practice the skills of ministry, continue to discern God’s call on their life and vocation, and reflect theologically with an experienced supervisor. Field Education is a required part of the M.Div. degree program at Duke.

Our intern this summer is Haley Jobe (pronounced like the Job in the Bible). Haley is a graduate of Davidson College and is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity Degree from Duke Divinity School. While at Davidson, she heard a call to ordained ministry while serving as the youth and college ministry intern at Davidson United Methodist Church and the student leader of the Wesley Campus Ministry. She is currently the pastoral intern at Edenton Street UMC in Raleigh, NC (a church larger than Bethany). Haley is seeking ordination as an elder in the North Carolina Conference.

She is originally from Midlothian, Virginia, enjoys cooking, listening to podcasts while on walks, and reading New York Times bestsellers. She knows and enjoys the SC low country and has been visiting her grandparents on Pawleys Island, SC since she was a baby! She has recently become engaged and plans a January 2024 wedding. Please join me in welcoming Haley to Bethany this Summer.

Dave Braddon
Lay Leader

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Prayer from Thomas Walker

This is the day you have made, oh God, our creator. May we rejoice and be glad in it. We know that each day is a gift from you. A gift filled with new possibilities and opportunities as well as new grace. We are grateful for your unconditional love and for your faithfulness. It is comforting to know that all things will work together for our good, that good works are being prepared for us and we will have abundant grace and strength to walk in the light.

We confess our sins and transgressions before you, God. We ask that you forgive us when we stray from the proper path in our lives. Give us the strength to forgive others as needed. Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. Keep us mindful of your glory, the beauty of holiness and the wonder of your grace. Help us to seek you each new day with our heart, soul, mind and Lord, it is easy to look around in these times and feel discouraged. We ask that you be with us and let us not forget that in all things your will be done. Bless us as we gather together this day in your presence here at Bethany. We ask that your strength be with those who lead this church, guiding them to make thoughtful, prayerful decisions about the continued work of Bethany and for guidance as the United Methodist Church moves on with work in your name.

For those here with us today who are hurting may they feel your uplifting presence and strength. May those loved ones and friends who are on our minds be comforted today especially.

Lord, you know the issues, the feelings of division that exist today in our nation. May we all, both leaders and general citizens, remember to show your love in all our dealings with one another. Civility and a kind word do work wonders at times. Guide us and help us to recognize that differing positions when reviewed in thoughtful, prayerful ways can often lead to growth with new compromised positions.

Be with those first responders and healthcare providers within the community who serve unselfishly to keep our community and us safe and healthy. Bless those who are caregivers to others, keep them mindful to allow for personal rest and care. Above all may we as a country strive to always bless you!

We give thanks today and always for personal blessings, for joyous occasions, for celebrations and opportunities to show your love. We are thankful to have your love show through us to others as we go through this world.

In Jesus name we ask. Amen.

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.



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.



Facility Usage Forms

It's that time of the year to renew your facility usage for Bible Study groups and meetings. Please go online and renew your facility usage request for the Fall and Winter months 2023-2024 year. If you are meeting June-August please let me know so I can keep you on the calendar.



Katie's Krops Desserts

We are in need of **600** individually wrapped homemade desserts for **May 18th & June 8th** to be paired with Katie's Krops 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.



A Stephen Ministry Minute

Let us introduce two more of our dedicated Stephen Leaders. Denis Tsukalas and Rick Reule have served this ministry for many years. Denis currently is a referrals coordinator along with Pastor Mark to match care receivers with a personal Stephen Minister. Rick spearheaded and co-leads a Grief Support group that meets regularly. Please speak to Rick, Jan Walker or Pastor Mark if you would like to join this group.



Denis Tsukalas - married father and grandfather, caring relationship with 5 men, retired Naval Officer, Commander of two ships and a battle group, elementary school teacher

“Being a Stephen Minister means being there for an individual when he is in spiritual need of a companion on his walk. The walk is between him, me, and the Lord in strict confidence. We are here for you when you are in need or ready to train you to become a Stephen Minister. “

Rick Reule – married, grandfather of 3, loves to golf and build (things AND lives)

“ As the child of a King, my heritage is that I mirror the Father. So I strive every day to accomplish that task of being a Stephen Minister. There are so many hurting people out there that just absolutely need to "offload" their burdens. So my question to you is, "When would YOU like to talk ? I WILL LISTEN!!" ”



Start today. Accept the gift of a personal and confidential Stephen Minister.

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

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.

Local & Global Missions

The Local Missions Team created these 30 bags to show Bethany's appreciation for The Villages at Summerville's Staff.



Volunteering with Habitat

We continue to build at 700, 704, and 708 North Hickory Street. We have plenty of volunteer opportunities at the construction site on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Of course, Bethany's Faithful Few always welcomes new volunteers on Thursday from 8 am-Noon. The ReStore welcomes volunteers Monday through Saturday from 9 am-6 pm. If you would like more information, please contact Barney Duncan at bduncan1008@gmail.com or call 843-224-1898.

Prayer Breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast was a Spirit-filled morning of powerful worship and amazing, delicious food! From the prelude to the songs to the prayers to the Spirit-inspired speaker, Dr. Dondi Costin, it was awesome to see God at work. We pray for the Triune God to set a fire within us, everyone in that room, and everyone watching from home to spark God's fervent fresh wind of prayer for this community, this nation, and the world. We were all refreshed hearing Dr. Costin's lively presentation of Psalm 46 – I know, I'm taking it to heart! Thank you, thank you, thank you for making this day so special and for sharing your gifts and graces with us! From the programs to the prayer plants to showing people where to park to serving – THANK YOU!!! The entire worship service is on YouTube, our website, and on Facebook with subtitles.



Prayer Breakfast Continued



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.

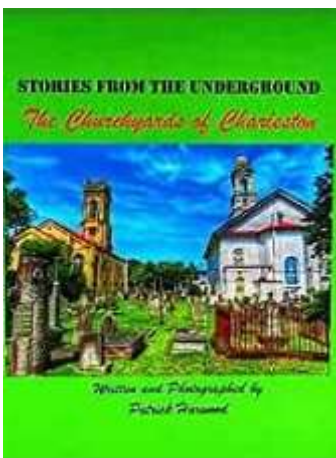
Happy Hearts - June 23

NOTE: Meal Reservations due by June 18

The June meeting of Happy Hearts features author and College of Charleston professor, Patrick J. Harwood. Mr. Harwood has published several books, two of which are: "The Birds of Magnolia Cemetery- Charleston's Secret Bird Sanctuary" and "In the Arms of Angels: Magnolia Cemetery- Charleston's Treasure of History, Mystery and Artistry." Mr. Harwood is a longtime Dorchester County resident who currently lives in Coosaw Creek with his wife.

A meal of ham, potato salad, green beans, rolls, carrot cake, and drink will be served at 12:00 noon for \$8. Please call Dot by June 18 at 843-343-5450 or email her at dmpevatte@yahoo.com to make your meal reservation.

ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.



Children's Ministry

Children's Church

Children's Church will end on Sunday, June 11th to take a break for the summer. It will resume on Sunday, August 20 at 8:45.

Sunday School

Summer Sunday School will look a little different for our Elementary kids. 1st through 5th graders will stay in large group the entire hour beginning Sunday, June 4. Kindergarten will stay in their room, and preschool will follow their usual schedule.

PLEASE NOTE – THERE IS NO CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SUNDAY, JUNE 11. Join us at worship at 10am and in the Fellowship Hall at 11 to wish the Jeter family well on their journey.

Get ready for Hero Hotline



Soon the halls will be filled with Heroes as they answer the call to serve God. We cannot wait for the fun-filled week to be here. If you would like to help, we need the following:

Decorating

We are already decorating the halls and common areas. Come during any business hours and we can put you to work. We have the decorations, the instructions and everything you need. We just need lots of help getting it all put up. Even if you only have an hour here or there – we can use you!

Set-Up

Set-up Day is Sunday, June 11 – we need lots of help to move tables and chair to classrooms, decorate and more. We will start at 11am!

Snacks

The over 200 volunteers who will be working during VBS would love some yummy treats. Each day we have a table with donated goodies. Breakfast items, dips, fruits & veggies, desserts – anything and everything is welcome. They especially love hearty savory items! We need 2-liter drinks also. These can be dropped off any day during VBS.

Children's Ministry...continued



Prayers

Prayers – we want the week, the volunteers and the children covered in prayers for a safe and fun time.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on helping out contact Emily, Stephanie or Janice in Children's Ministries.

VBS Volunteers

There will be a Kick-off dinner on Tuesday, June 6 at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall. All class leaders will get their rosters and nametags. If you are helping with VBS in any way, please plan to come that day to get last minute announcements, ask questions about how this year will work, and find out any information that you need to know. We are asking all attendees to bring a 2-liter drink.

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.

We are also in the process of securing teachers for our children's Sunday School classes for 2023-24. As a teacher, you will fill our young people with the joy and love that Jesus has for them. It is as much a blessing for you, as for the children. Please prayerfully consider helping out in this most important ministry. There are two teams of teachers per grade level, and they teach on a rotating schedule. All lessons and materials are provided, so preparation time is minimal. Please contact Emily Vick (evick@bethany-umc.com) or Stephanie Mitchum





WHAT WE'RE TEACHING



TO FIND OUT MORE,
SCAN THIS CODE!

Whether it's with LEGO bricks, Minecraft, or Roblox, kids (and adults!) love to make things — and sometimes break them. In this four-week series from the very beginning of the Bible, we'll compare God's ability to make good things with our tendency to break them. Through the stories of creation, the fall, Cain and Abel, and the Tower of Babel, we'll see that **God makes good things, unbreaks what's been broken, and made us different on purpose**, so we should honor God with the things we make.



Recreation



Our Summer Camps are right around the corner. We will be hosting three weeks of basketball and two weeks of Volleyball with great instructors from Porter Gaud, Summerville High School, Bishop England and Ashley Ridge. Please visit our website If you are interested in learning more and signing up.

We held our annual Bethany Golf Classic on Saturday May 6th at the Summerville Country Club. We had great weather and a great turnout for fun and fellowship. This year the team of Steve Wilson, Barry Connor, and Jimmy Harrell took the overall championship with an impressive score of 56 (-15). Your last two Senior Pastors Michael Ritter and Mitch Houston teamed up with Hank Sieling and the Recreation Ministries Director Kyle Boczkowski to finish one shot off the pace in the overall division, however they were able to take down the Net title. Thank you to everyone who played or donated to the event, the members had a great day.

Some additional award winners are below.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Long Drive for Men: | Edsel Taylor |
| Long Drive for Women: | Clarie Thompson |
| Closest to the Pin #6: | Gary Hartman |
| Closest to the Pin #13 | Jim Banks |

We wrapped up another extremely successful Spring Volleyball Season here at Bethany. We had 65 youth players this spring, and 14 adult teams participated in our recreation and power divisions. Special thanks to Paul Beachy and Freddie Lipata for all they do to make our adult program very successful here at Bethany, without their continued leadership this important program could not exist. On our youth side I wanted to congratulate both of our lead volleyball instructors Abby Whitworth and Jill Orndorff on their graduation from Charleston Southern. These two young ladies have brought incredible energy and passion to the program over the past two seasons, and we can't possibly thank them enough for all they bring to Bethany!



KidsCare

What an exciting time for KidsCare!! The 2022-2023 school year has ended, and Summer Camp 2023 is beginning! We are looking forward to busy days of creating, games, daily devotionals, team building exercises, field trips, and weekly chapel time. It is quite a blessing to be able to serve God's kingdom by helping our little ones come to know His love and His will for their lives! Our program thrives on conveying to our children that they are valued and respected. In a world that has so many distractions; we want to give them a safe space teaching Christian values in a fun and challenging atmosphere.

Contact KidsCare today if you are interested in registering for the 2023-2024 School Year as we still have a few spots available.

Director: Makala Boczkowski

Assistant Director: Debra Trimeloni

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



Hands of Christ School Supply Drive

Monetary donations are being collected to provide much-needed school supplies for the 2023-2024 school year to DD2 schools and Williams Elementary, a DD4 school. Our goal is to collect **200** book bags which can be dropped off in the Business Office. The book bags that we donate will have our Bethany backpack tags. Donations may be made online, placed in the offering plate on Sunday, or dropped off at the Business Office. Please put in the memo line "Hands of Christ."



Holy City Missions Clothing Closet

Men's Pants Waist size 30, 32, 34
Men's Tennis Shoes size 10 and up
Bookbags

**(When the kids get out of school, it's the perfect time
donate their old bookbags!)**

Put them in the bin outside of the Business Office.

"I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." Then the righteous will answer him, saying, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you? And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." - Matthew 25:36-40



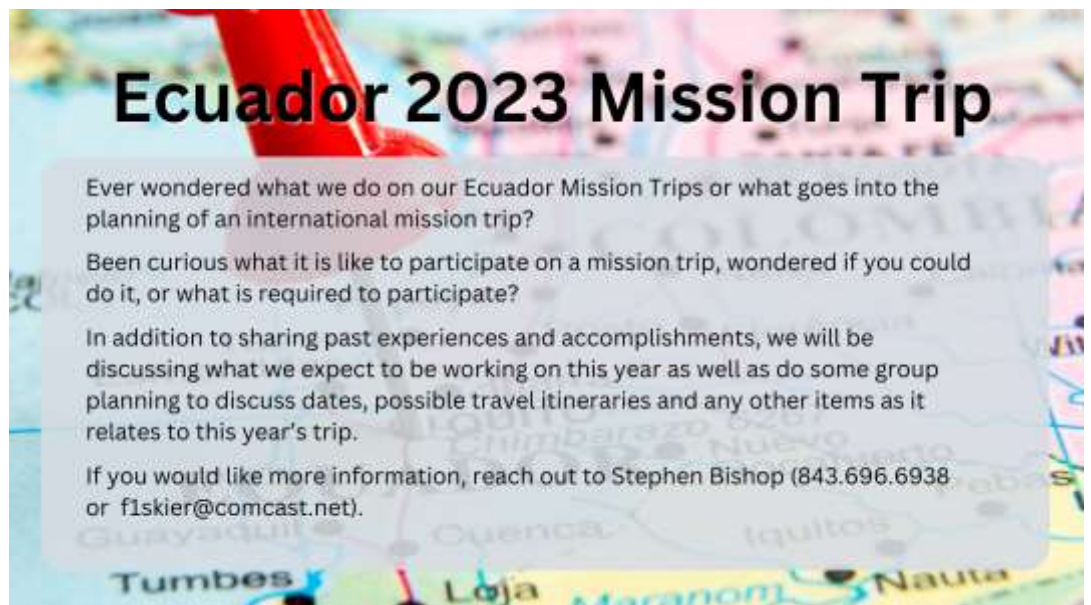
Ecuador 2023 Mission Trip

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).



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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

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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.