

Christian sympathies go out to Rev. Michael Ritter and the family of Beverly Kinsey Ritter who joined the church triumphant on Sept. 16, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Day of Prayer Breakfast- Planning Meeting

If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please join us for a planning meeting on **Thursday, September 28 at 6:30pm** in the Conference Room.

Habitat Workday

The congregation is invited to participate in a Habitat Mission workday on **Saturday, Sept. 30 from 8am-12pm**. The house is located at 704 N. Hickory Str. in Summerville. No skills are necessary and everyone ages 16 and over is invited to participate. We have also set up a Habitat for Humanity account enabling church members to donate funds to help buy supplies. If you need more information contact Barney Duncan at bduncan1008@gmail.com or call 843.224.1898.

Preschool Help

Children's Ministry is looking for one more addition to our Preschool Sunday school rotation. We have a team so that your commitment is not every week. We provide you with the lesson and all activities, everything is ready and prepped for you each week. This truly is such a sweet class - you will be blessed by spending a little time with them each week. If you would like more information, please email Stephanie Mitchum at smitchum@bethany-umc.com.

Acolyte and Cross-Bearer Training

Join us for Acolyte training on **Sunday, October 8 during the Sunday school hour (10 am)**. You will learn the procedures for this important part of worship and be able to sign-up for dates. Any kids 3rd-5th that are in Sunday school will be participating in the training. Anyone up through grade 12 is welcome to attend as well. Parents, if you would like to attend, we would love to have you! A sign-up will be available at the training. Any questions, email Stephanie Mitchum at smitchum@bethany-umc.com.

Bethany's Blessing of the Animals

Bring your pet for a special worship service and blessing on **Sunday, Oct. 8 at 3pm** in Azalea Park. Bring a chair and please remember to clean up after your pet!

New Member Sunday

Are you interested in joining our church family? Our next New Member Sunday will be **Sunday, October 8** at the 11:15 service. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jack Sehrt- jsehr@bethany-umc.com or 843.873.1230.

Thanksgiving Food Bags

Local Missions is now accepting monetary donations to provide turkeys/bags of food to Dorchester County families in need. 415 families were recipients in 2022! DONATE by Nov. 12 through the offering plate, online, or by mail. Please note that the funds are for Thanksgiving bags. Please give generously, as costs continue to increase.

Time to LIVE- Time to GIVE- Time to Renew Your Purpose!

Lighten your burdens. Open up and talk out your worries, so you can find joy in each day. **Call** for your personal Stephen Minister.

Combine your caring and empathy with active listening skills to help a hurting person. **Apply** for the Stephen Ministry Training - next class starts in January. For info, contact: Women: Leah Martin 404.408.5457 or Marti Johnson 843.442.1675 Men: Denis Tsukalas 843.729.5348 or Mark Barnes 843.873.2130

THIS WEEK...

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

Sunday, September 24

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
5:30 PM Youth Ascend, Fell. Hall

Monday, September 25

9 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
10 AM Upcycling/Plarning, 122
12:30 PM Men's Book Buddies, Youth House
3 PM Bethany Golf League, Miler
6 PM Mary & Martha Circle, 125
6:30 PM Local Missions, Conf. Room
7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous, 115

Tuesday, September 26

8:30 AM Yoga, Gym
10 AM Quilters, Blue House

Wednesday, September 27

Wednesday Night BNOW

5:30 AM Men's Prayer Group, 215
9 AM Bridge Club, 118
4 PM Safety & Asst., Conf. Room
5-6 PM BNOW Meal, Fellowship Hall
6 PM BNOW Children's Programs
6:15 PM BNOW Youth Programs
6:15 PM BNOW Adult Classes
7 PM Chancel Choir, 234

Thursday, September 28

7 AM Men's Prayer Group, Youth House
8:30 AM Yoga, Gym
9 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
9:30 AM Faithful Friends Ladies Bible Study, 239
6 PM Handbells, 234
6:30 PM Nat'l Day of Prayer Planning Mtg., Conf. Room

Friday, September 29

6:30 AM Men's Devotion Study, 127
9 AM Ladies Bible Study, 118
10 AM Market Planning Mtg., Conf. Room
5 PM Respite, Bridges Room

Saturday, September 30

No Activities Scheduled

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one. The following dates are available for 2023: November 19 and December 31. Please contact Mandy Killiri at mkilliri@bethany-umc.com or 843.873.1230 to reserve a date.

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 website. 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**.

Safety and Assistance Emergency number available on Sunday mornings from 7:30am-12:30pm 854.429.1839.

September 24, 2023
8:45 and 11:15 am Worship Services

BETHANY

United Methodist Church



Rev. Michael Ritter, Senior Pastor
Rev. Mark Barnes, Minister of Congregational Care
Rev. James Alewine, Pastor Emeritus
Mrs. Emily Vick, Director of Christian Education
Mrs. Stephanie Mitchum, Children's Program Director
Mr. Kyle Boczkowski, Leisure Ministries and Youth Director
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

17th Sunday after Pentecost

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** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah **No. 127**

* **Affirmation of Faith** THE APOSTLES' CREED **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** **No. 70**

Children's Moment

see insert (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 (8:45) Your Grace Andy Wilson
Cherub, Melody, and Wesley Choirs
(11:15) How Great Thou Art Dan Forrest
Chancel Choir

First Lesson **Psalm 118: 14-29** **UMH Pg. 839**
Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

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 (8:45) I Am His Child Moses Hogan
Bethany Crusaders
(11:15) If God Be With Us Joseph Martin
Men's Ensemble

* **Doxology** **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** **2 Samuel 9: 1-13** **OT Pg. 283**
Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Grace, Grace, God's Grace" Rev. Mark Barnes

* **Hymn of Dedication** Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing **No. 671**

* 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 Sehart, Membership Director, at jsehart@bethany-umc.com.

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 worshippers, please **turn off** cell phones and other electronic devices before the worship service begins. Thank you.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 ~ Team Leader: Bill Phillips; Ron Clayton, Brian Collier, Bob Iannace, Tim McConnell, Ed Muckenfuss, Scott Muckenfuss, Marion Thompson, LeLon Fleischauer

11:15 ~ Team Leader: David Morris; Bart Burford, Greg Elliott, Jimmy Jackson, Gerry Purvis, Bob Minus, Steve Wilson, Justin Goethe, Pete Knight

Liturgist

8:45 & 11:15 am – Mrs. Mary Lynn Harlow

Audio/Video Support Technical Ministries Team

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

Gifts (*Figures for September 17, 2023. These figures are unverified.)

*Operating Contributions Last Week.....	23,844.20
*Operating Contributions Year to Date.....	1,324,317.52
*Operating Expense Funding YTD – Deficit (-)/ Surplus (+)....	-145,545.48 -9.90%

Capital Campaign (Figures for September 17, 2023)

*Building Contributions Last Week.....	2,333.00
*Building Contributions Year to Date	94,430.42
*Campaign Goal YTD – Deficit (-)/ Surplus (+)	-32,070.58 -25%

Designated Mission and Ministry Gifts – YTD (Non-Budgeted)... 301,056.92

Presence (September 17, 2023)

8 am Spell – 51; Word & Table Worship - 132; Sanctuary Worship- 380
Online Worship – 0 (technical difficulties); Sunday School - 364

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!

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Kent and Carol Lee.