

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter 2023 Vol 10

Psalm 23 says God is like a shepherd. A shepherd loves and cares for his sheep. He watches them closely, protects them from danger, and makes sure they have enough to eat and drink. To say God is our shepherd means that God watches over us and will show us what is best for us. The key thing for us sheep to do is listen to what the good shepherd has to say. Jesus said about his followers, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me." (John 10:27) Listening to God is something we should be doing all the time.

It is helpful if we are comfortable while we prepare to listen to the Lord. If our bodies are too tense, or we are too cool, or too hot, or our back aches because the chair is uncomfortable, our minds will keep coming back to our physical discomforts, instead of relaxing and thinking of the Lord. It can be a great blessing to sit quietly in God's presence, not thinking about anything in particular, not wanting anything from God, but just to enjoy God's company. That was the testimony of a lady who told how she would often wake up in the middle of the night and spend an hour or so with God. I felt that my own increasing awareness of the Lord was rather small and insignificant beside her powerful testimony.

Some people find that God speaks to them while they are on the move. Another friend shared that she heard the Lord many times while taking her dog for a walk. For myself, I hear God while walking on the beach with the waves roaring in the background. From scripture we have the story of the two disciples walking on the Emmaus road, who said afterwards: "Did not our hearts burn within us while God talked to us on the road?" (Luke 24:32) God is not limited by any conditions that we lay down; so we need to widen our thinking and expect God to speak to us at any time, in any place. We are the sheep, are we listening to the Good Shepherd? - Reverend Michael Ritter

The Thursday morning Bible Study, Faithful Friends,

began our Fall Study with the book "The Gospel of John - Finding Identity and Purpose" by Matt Williams on September 7 at 9:45 - 11:00 in room 239. Books cost \$14 and can be purchased. Please let Joan Naugle know if you will be attending by calling or emailing her at joannaugle3@gmail.com, 843-875-2850 or 843-810-5358.

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Thank you,

To Our Bethany Family

The Buddin Family thanks you for embracing all of us with your love and support. Your thoughts and prayers have not gone unnoticed. We appreciate all you have done to make this journey a loving tribute to Cecil's life. God has sent us many blessings through each of you.

Love, Gay Buddin and Family

Care Team Spotlight

The Care Team Ministry of Bethany United Methodist Church encompasses many ministry groups who rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn, and serve those who need encouragement and support. Through this ministry, we seek to follow Christ's command to love one another as He loves us, showing His love through prayer, care, and support. If you or someone in your life is experiencing one of life's battles or sorrows, or if you would like to be part of the Care Team, please contact us. Whatever your gift or talent, the Lord can use you.

Rev. Mark Barnes

United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith had our annual workday on Sunday afternoon, September 10, in the fellowship hall and what a turnout. Thank you to over 70 energetic women in attendance and for the completed 100 blankets that they made to donate to Epworth Children's Home. We also finished 100+ personal item bags that the children will cherish as their own. Bethany women really are mission driven and are committed to those in need and to the community. In addition, we gathered a whole car full of shampoo, detergent, soaps, deodorant, body wash, and hygiene products to contribute to the wellbeing and safety of the students in Dorchester District 2. October is our month to collect items for the Doors to Freedom Group Home. We appreciate all of the support and efforts to give to our charitable causes.



Blessing of the Animals

**October 8th
at 3:00PM**

**In Azalea
Park**



Child Development Center



Fall is such an exciting time, and it is even more exciting when seen through the eyes of a child! The trees may not have their fall foliage just yet, but our sweet students are doing a variety of fall activities that delight the senses... carving pumpkins, making applesauce, painting with warm fall colors, visiting the pumpkin patch and corn maze, and much more. It is all so new and exciting for the children, and it reminds us to look ahead with joy and anticipation because God has wonderful plans for each new season of our lives.

***For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1***

Bethany CDC is always looking for substitute teachers who love working with children and want to work in a warm, friendly Christian environment. For more information, please contact the CDC director Toni Pinkard at 843-821-1946 or tpinkard@bethany-umc.com.



Kids Care

October begins a season of joy for our students. We may not get to experience as much of the falling leaves and changing colors in Summerville as some places do in our great nation, however, that doesn't mean our kids are not as excited for all that lies ahead for the month of October. Our children are in their second full month of school and a steady rhythm has been set for daily homework, daily devotions, and learning our weekly bible verses. We also see that our families are busy with athletics and artistic programs, running from one practice to the next! The KidsCare staff enjoys hearing and encouraging our students on their accomplishments, whether they are academic, athletic, or artistic. It is important to praise children and show them how to talk and think positively about themselves and others. We are helping them learn how to recognize when they do well and feel proud of themselves and encourage others in the same light. As we continue to focus on how we are God's masterpiece we remind our students to shine their light for those around them so they can see Jesus in them!

Kids Care continued

Please take time to head to Hutchinson Square and see the KidsCare Squarecrow on the Square starting October 22nd. Our theme is: Hooked on Jesus; I will make you Fishers of Men! Last year we received 2nd place and our children have made the goal to get 1st place this year! The only way we can get that is through your votes. So please go out and vote!

If you would love to learn more about KidsCare please contact Makala Boczkowski or Debra Trimeloni in the office at 854-429-1842, mboczkowski@bethany-umc.com or dtrimeloni@bethany-umc.com

Happy Hearts - October 20 **Special Day - Special Program**

THE PLANTATION SINGERS

Gullah and Spiritual A cappella Group

The Plantation Singers will be our guest performers at Happy Hearts on Friday, October 20. Please note that this is the third Friday instead of the normal fourth Friday, because of the Bethany Gift & Gourmet Market that starts the following week.

The Plantation Singers of Charleston, SC are a professional a cappella singing group renowned locally, nationally and internationally for their singing of the music of the Lowcountry. This group of talented singers is special in that each has a lifetime of musical experience that began with the music of the southern church. The Plantation Singers were first created in June 1996.

A fried chicken lunch for \$8 will be served at 12:00 noon. To make your meal reservation, call Dot by October 15 at 843.343.5450 or email her at dmprevatte@yahoo.com.

ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

ASCEND

WWW.ASCENDSTUDENTMINISTRIES.ORG

Bethany United Methodist Church

ASCEND SUNDAYS

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

ASCEND is the youth ministries of Bethany United Methodist Church. All middle and high school students are invited to join us in an evening of fellowship, games, youth led praise and worship, a message geared towards teenagers, and then age appropriate small groups.

ASCEND also has several retreats, events, and mission opportunities throughout the year! To learn more about what ASCEND has to offer visit www.ascendstudentministries.org.

Fridays with
Flynn



Friday morning breakfast before school @8am in th Youth House



ascendstudentministries.org

ASCEND GAME NIGHT



Wednesday Nights

6:15PM - 7:30PM

www.ascendstudentministries.org



Bethany Global Missions

is looking to pack 323 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Some suggestions are small balls, Slinkys, play cars or trucks, plastic animals and figures, yo-yos, marbles, etc. Some “WOW” items that can be included are small stuffed animals, clothing items, small musical instruments, etc.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can make a check out to Bethany UMC and in memo line please write Global Missions. Please drop off any checks in the Business office.

Individual boxes to fill will be available October 1st and October 8th at all services. Filled boxes will be due November 13th, and there will be a table by the downstairs welcome center with a sign to drop filled boxes off.

If you should have any questions, please contact Shawn Kahn at 609-319-6271.





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 Sue Malphrus 843-345-9116



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Men: Denis Tsukalas 843-729-5348 or

Mark Barnes 843-873-2130

FALL BNOW September 6th—December 13th

Fellowship+ Faith+ Food Wednesday Nights this Fall

Beginning September 6, Bethany NOW provides incredible opportunities for discipleship for the entire family. It is all about relationships and your church family. Every week adults, students and kids gather to eat, learn and grow in their faith. Join us for a meal in the Fellowship Hall so you don't have to worry about dinner plans, and stay for a class.

Not interested in dinner? No problem, just join us for classes.

After dinner, we offer several programs and ministries on Wednesday nights. The highlights are our classes, which give you time to connect with others and the church. Adults have the options of taking a bible study-type class, learning how to use their faith in their daily life, or simply doing a fun activity. Let's don't forget about the kids and youth! We have programs that will teach important lessons as well as providing an opportunity for them to build lasting Christian bonds with others. Bring the whole family!

Bethany NOW Schedule

5— 6pm Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

6— 7:30pm Kids Activities

6:15— 7:30 Youth and Adult Activities

Bethany NOW Dinner Costs

\$9 Adults

\$7 Seniors 65 & Older

\$5 Kids 12 & under

\$25 Family Max (immediate family)

Reservations are not needed.

Adult Activities

Creative Sewing – Led by Penny Limehouse

Disciple 1 – led by Marc Jacques

Methodism – Led by Tom Thurman and David Powell

Planning Mat Ministry - led by Clara Stonner

Trivia and Games – led by Michael Ritter

Undistracted & Dream Big by Bob Goff – led by Mary Lynn Harlow

Safety and Assistance Training—led by Mike Mercer

We are also planning to have some special speakers come in periodically from 6:15 – 7:30 on a variety of topics. Worship services will start on November 29 with Hanging of the Greens and Advent worship December 6 & 13. Kids activities will continue as usual during Advent.

New Children’s BNOW Class

This Fall we started a new BNOW class for kids who don’t go to choir. Bible Adventures will focus on Bible skills (learning the books of the bible, finding verses, knowing how the Bible is organized, etc.) and will have a couple of lessons on the different parts of worship. The class started Wednesday, Sept. 6. From 6:00 – 6:45pm 1st & 2nd graders will have the option of attending either Melody choir practice OR Bible Adventures. 6:45 – 7:30pm 3rd – 5th graders can choose either Wesley Choir OR Bible Adventures. Please see the BNOW article for all information about BNOW including the schedule, adult classes, and meals.

Youth (6th – 12th grades) Activities

Crusaders Youth Choir Practice

Game Night

Kids (ages 3 by Sept. 1, 2023 – 5th grade) Activities

6:00 – 6:45	3 year olds, 4 year olds, Kindergarteners	Cherub Choir Practice
	1st – 2nd Graders	Melody Choir Practice or Bible Adventures
	3rd – 5th Graders	Crafting Faith
6:45 – 7:30	3 & 4 year olds	Sprouts Bible Story Time
	Kindergarten - 2nd Graders	Crafting Faith
	3rd – 5th Graders	Wesley Choir Practice or Bible Adventures

Check the Bethany website and Bethany NOW brochure for full class descriptions.



SAVE THE DATE

**November 30th,
December 1 & 2, 2023**

A drive-through reenactment of The Christmas Story

Grief Support Group

How do you understand grief when your heart is broken by the death of a loved one? To survive and live forward, those who grieve must find answers. We are offering a support group for those who are grieving the death of a loved one and are in need of a community to share the loneliness of grief of all types. Scriptural wisdom will be used to explore the issues of grief and offer spiritual encouragement for a life of renewed hope and joy. The group will also offer some specific coping strategies to guide the way back to fullness of life. If you are grieving the death of a loved one, please join us on the journey through grief.

Meeting Dates: October 3rd & 17th, 2023

Time: 10:30

Location: Church Parlor

For more information contact Jan Walker, 843-259-8342

or Pastor Mark Barnes, 843-873-1230

October 25-29 & November 1-5

Fellowship Hall

The Bethany Market will feature handmade crafts, homemade desserts and casseroles and more. This will be a great time to shop for gift items, holiday ornaments and decorations and lots more.



The gift shop will include all the amazing crafts that are made and donated to Bethany. Also included will be homemade desserts, either whole or by the slice, and homemade casseroles available for purchase. Available each day will be June's Chicken Salad, chicken salad for sandwiches, and pimento cheese – all homemade and in 1 or 2 cup portions.

There will be a Social Room available for patrons to enjoy their dessert and a complimentary coffee or tea. This will be a self-serve area, and we hope that you and your friends will come enjoy some fellowship along with an amazing dessert.

As in the past, the Market will help fund Bethany's support of mission organizations in our community. This is an amazing way to help those in our area who need a helping hand.

This year's Market will support:

Camp Nathanael

Charleston Wesley Foundation

China Outreach Ministries

DCCO – Home of Hope & Hope's House

Doors to Freedom

Dorchester Children's Advocacy Center

Dorchester Habitat for Humanity

Bethany's Ecuador Mission Trip

Epworth Children's Home

Florence Crittenton Programs

Hearts for Summerville

HELP of Summerville
Holy City Missions
Katie's Krops
Lowcountry Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Lowcountry Food Bank
Magdalene House of Charleston
Meals on Wheels
My Sister's House
United Methodist Committee on Relief

How can you support the Bethany Gift & Gourmet Market?

Pray – we need lots of prayers for a successful event

Craft – make handmade crafts to sell

Bake – we need lots of homemade delicacies each day

Cook – prepare a casserole for sale

Volunteer – we will need volunteers in the kitchen, gift shop, sitting area, set-up, and break-down.

Set-Up will be Sunday, Oct 22 at 11:00am

Merchandise will be put out Oct. 23 & 24 beginning at 9:00 am each day.

Break Down will be Monday, Nov. 6 at 10:00am

Shop – come shop with us!

Sign up with the link below, through the Bethany website, on sign-up sheets in the Sunday School classrooms, or on the sign-up boards at the foot of the stairs.

<https://bethanyumc.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/37/public>

If you would like more information about the Bethany Market, contact Emily Vick at evick@bethany-umc.com or 843-343-2506.

Children's Ministry

Third Graders Receive Bibles

Our third graders were presented bibles on September 10 in 8:45 traditional. The bibles were wrapped in four layers of paper, each layer explained as the kids unwrapped them. This was a special and meaningful presentation for the kids. A special Sunday School class was held for the third graders, where they had a lesson and games using their new bibles. Congratulations to everyone who received a bible.



Children's Sabbath

Children's Sabbath will be Sunday, October 29 at both the 8:45 and 11:15 traditional services. Our children will be serving in every part of the worship service. Come celebrate these most precious ones as they serve and worship. If you would like for your child (1st – 5th grade) to participate in the service, please contact Emily Vick at evick@bethany-umc.com. Our theme this year is We are God's Masterpiece! Be sure to come worship with us.

Fall Festival -- Fun for the whole Family! Sunday October 29th 2:00- 4:00pm

We are looking for lots of groups to help make this an exciting event. Sunday school classes, ministry groups, families, neighbors, businesses, etc. can be part of this fun afternoon. Sponsoring a trunk or treat spot or a game is a great way to let the community know about your ministry too. Let us know if you plan to do a trunk by emailing Children's Ministry at smitchum@bethany-umc.com or evick@bethany-umc.com. Please consider being a part of this exciting afternoon.

You can use the link below or fill out the insert in your bulletin to participate.

<https://bethanyumc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/358/responses/new>

A promotional poster for the Bethany UMC Fall Festival. The central graphic features a large pumpkin with a banner that says "annual FALL FESTIVAL". To the left, text reads: "SODA DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE DRINK TOSS GAME ANY FLAVOR, ANY SIZE. DROP OFF IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OFFICE". To the right, text reads: "THERE WILL BE GAMES, INFLATABLES, A CAKE WALK, TRUNK OR TREAT, AND MORE!". At the bottom, a red ribbon banner says "Sunday, October 29th". Below that, it says "FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY! SUNDAY OCTOBER 29TH FROM 2:00- 4:00PM IN THE PARKING LOT". At the very bottom, it says "WE ARE LOOKING FOR LOTS OF GROUPS TO HELP MAKE THIS AN EXCITING EVENT. LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO DO A TRUNK BY EMAILING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT SMITCHUM@BETHANY-UMC.COM OR EVICK@BETHANY-UMC.COM." The Bethany UMC logo is in the top corners.

Thanksgiving Food Bags

Local Missions

Monetary Donations are now being collected to provide turkeys/bags of food to Dorchester County families in need. 415 families were recipients in 2022!

DONATE by Nov. 12th through the offering plate, online, or by mail. Please give generously, as costs continue to increase.



Katie's Krops Desserts

We are in need of **600** individually wrapped homemade desserts 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.

The dates from September-February are as follows:

October 5th, November 2nd, & December 14th
2024 - January 18th & February 22nd

Acolyte and Cross-Bearer Training **Sunday, October 8th 10-11am in the Sanctuary** **Kids 3rd grade & up**

Join us for Acolyte training on the Oct. 8th! You will learn the procedures for this important part of worship and be able to sign-up for dates.

Any kids (3rd – 5th grades) that are in Sunday School will be participating in the training. Anyone up through 12th grade is welcome to attend also. Parents – if you would like to attend, we would love to have you.

A sign-up will be available at the training. Questions, email Stephanie Mitchum at smitchum@bethany-umc.com or Emily Vick at evick@bethany-umc.com.



Children's Sabbath

Sunday, Oct. 29 at 8:45 & 11:15 Traditional Services
The Cherub, Melody & Wesley chairs will all sing.

The kids will be leading worship on Sunday, Oct. 29. They will conduct nearly every aspect of worship, including ushering, reading scripture, and leading prayers. If you would like for your child (Kindergarten – 5th grade) to participate, please contact

Emily Vick evick@bethany-umc.com or
Stephanie Mitchum smitchum@bethany-umc.com.

God's Masterpiece

Calling all Crafters

Pick up your scissors, find your glue gun and get crafting! Start working now on making crafts for the Bethany Gift & Gourmet Market. We are looking for handmade items that anyone would love to have in their home. Some popular items are Christmas ornaments, 18" doll clothes, Christmas decorations, and small purses. There are lots of easy crafts that anyone can do – just look online or see Emily Vick for an idea. On Wednesdays this Fall, we will be offering a class to make items for the Market. All supplies will be provided, and anyone can do these! Come join us then or get working at home!

Bethany United Methodist Church
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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.