

Christian sympathies go out to Luke Biggs and the family and friends of Katrina Patton who joined the church triumphant on April 18, 2024. A Celebration of Life for Katrina will be held Monday, April 29 at 11am in the Fellowship Hall.

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 support breaks the destructive cycle and encourages children to aim higher in life. On Sunday, May 12, our congregation will support Epworth by collecting the Annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering. For more information, please visit Epworth online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

Wednesday Night BNOW

Join us on our last session of Wednesday night BNOW. We have activities and classes for everyone. BNOW begins with a meal in the Fellowship Hall at 5 pm. The meal for this week (**May 1**) will be ham, scalloped potatoes, hot vegetable, roll, salad bar and dessert. The Sunday School classes that will be hosting are Sue Knight and PEPR. Meals are \$9 for Adults, \$7 for Seniors (over 65) and \$5 for Children (12 and under) with a family maximum of \$25 (2 parents and children under 12 that live in the same household).

Bethany Bells Beginners Group

If you haven't played bells before or if you haven't played in a while and are looking to play again, we would love to have you join us in the Bethany Bells group. Practices will begin on May 8 from 6-6:50 pm and will continue every Wednesday through May 29. This group will perform at Spell Chapel in June. They will resume practice during the Fall Bethany NOW schedule. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please contact Barbara Bassett at 843.810.3590.

Graduation Sunday

Graduation Sunday will be **May 19 in the 8:45 worship service**. If you have a graduating high school senior and would like for them to be recognized, please register here:



National Day of Prayer Breakfast Help Needed

The National Day of Prayer Breakfast will be Thursday, May 2. Help is needed on Wednesday, May 1st setting up the room and prepping food. Please meet in the Fellowship Hall and kitchen at 6pm if you can help with this ministry.

Vacation Bible School Needs

We are close to filling our volunteer roster. We currently need 1 lead teacher for a 3K class, and assistants in 4K, 1st Grade and 4th Grade. We also need 1 lead teacher for our preschool science cart. All curriculum and supplies are provided. It is a fun and fulfilling way to serve and be a part of an exciting week. If you are interested in filling a spot, please contact Stephanie Mitchum at smitchum@bethany-umc.com.

Praise Band, Message & Small Groups Starts at 6pm

Join us this Sunday at 6 pm for Youth Ascend! Over the next 3 weeks we are dealing with the topic of temptation. Our students face temptation in ways we can't even comprehend. How do we help students recognize, understand, resist, and bounce back from temptation? That's the big question we wrestle with in The Temptations series. Our goal will be to provide the ability to find themselves better equipped to handle temptations that come their way and ultimately choose God's best for their lives, no matter what may be tempting them toward something else.

THIS WEEK...

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

Sunday, April 28

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
3 PM Barbara Koester Celebration of Life, Spell Chapel
4 PM Confirmation Class, 128
5:30 PM Youth Ascend, FH

Monday, April 29

10 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
10 AM Upcycling/Plarning, 122
11 AM Katrina Patton Celebration of Life, Fellowship Hall
12:30 PM Men's Book Buddies, YH
3 PM Bethany Golf League, Miler
7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous, 115

Tuesday, April 30

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

Wednesday, May 1

Wednesday Night BNOW

5:30 AM Men's Prayer Group, 215
9 AM Bridge Group, FC
4 PM Safety & Assist., Conf. Rm
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

Thursday, May 2

National Day of Prayer

6:30 AM Nat'l Day of Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
7 AM Men's Prayer Group, YH
8:30 AM Yoga, Gym
9:30 AM Faithful Friends Ladies Bible Study, 239
10 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
6 PM Handbells, 234
7 PM Gamblers Anon., 124

Friday, May 3

6:30 AM Men's Devotion Study, 118
9 AM Ladies Bible Study, 118

Saturday, May 4

No Church Events Scheduled

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 854.429.1848.

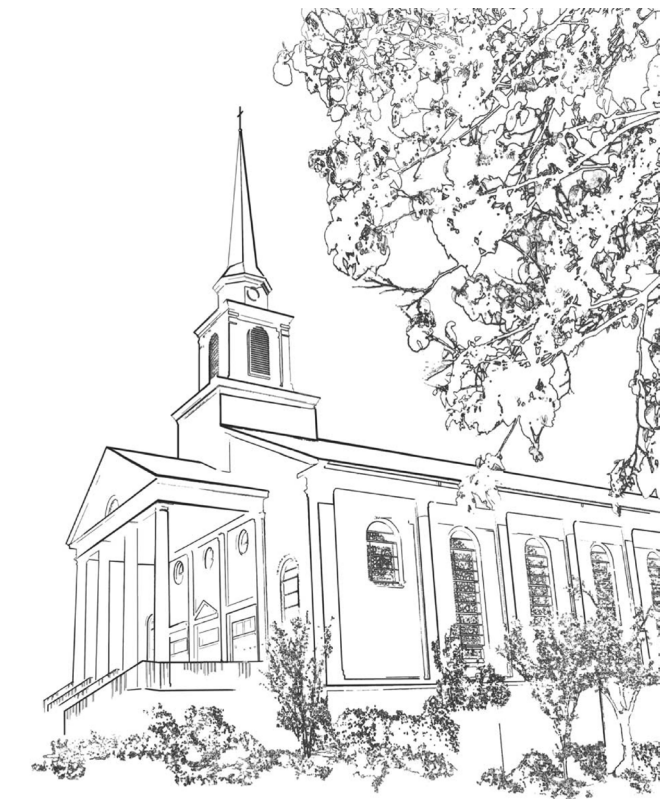
Let the SON Shine In!

Allow HIM and YOUR Stephen Minister to help carry your burdens. It will lighten your life and lift your spirits. Please accept this gift with a note or call to Pastor Mark Barnes at 843.873.2130, or a call or text to Sue D. Malphrus at 843.435.9116 or Leah Martin at 404.408.5457.

April 28, 2024
8:45 Worship Service

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
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

5th Sunday of 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 Meditation on "The Lord's My Shepherd" arr. M. McDonald
David Powell, organ

* **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** To God be the Glory **No. 98**

* **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 Church Dismissal

(8:45 am - 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 Beautiful Savior Tom Fettke
Women's Ensemble

First Lesson Acts 8: 26-40 **NT Pg. 126**

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 Take the Name of Jesus with You arr. J. Alexander
Michael Lopez, piano

* **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** John 15: 1-8 **NT Pg. 109**
Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Kudzu vs The Grapevine Rev. Michael Ritter

* **Hymn of Dedication** Hymn of Promise **No. 707**

* 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the founders of the Care Team Committee-
(Chair) Tim and Kathy McConnell, Dave Mills, Liz Williams, Henry and Judy Hagen, Adele Chellis, Miriam Holladay, and Gayle Courtney.

*A rose has been placed on the altar in honor of the birth of
Declan Orion-Todd James, son of Dixie and Michael James.*

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: Billy Hay; Laurence Clair, Steve Davis, Jim McElheny, 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

Liturgist

8:45 & 11:15 am – Mr. Jack Sehart

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 21, 2023. These figures are unverified.)

*Operating Contributions Last Week.....	25,977.44
*Operating Contributions Year to Date.....	497,161.14
*Operating Expense Funding YTD – Deficit (-)/ Surplus (+)....	-54,366.86 -9.86%

Capital Campaign (Figures for April 21, 2023)

*Building Contributions Last Week.....	4,050.95
*Building Contributions Year to Date	49,710.88
*Campaign Goal YTD – Deficit (-)/ Surplus (+)	46,886.00 6%

Designated Mission and Ministry Gifts – YTD (Non-Budgeted)... 60,245.42

Presence (April 21, 2024)

8 am Spell – 70; Word & Table Worship - 105; Sanctuary Worship- 375
Online Worship – 549; Sunday School - 361

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!