

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't Forget Your Mothers or Epworth Children's Home Next Sunday!

Most of the children served by Epworth Children's Home will not be celebrating Mother's Day with their birth mothers this year. Instead, they will be surrounded by loving staff, and foster parents who walk with them daily to provide spiritual, educational, emotional, and physical support. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

Time and Talent Form

The 2025 Time and Talent form is now available. We are asking everyone to please take the time to complete one. Hard copies can be found after service in the Narthex, in the Business Office, Sunday school classrooms, and around the church. **Please turn completed forms into the Business Office at your earliest convenience!** Forms can also be completed by scanning the QR code or by visiting www.bethany-umc.com. The gift of your time and talent is vital to the success of our church and its ministries!



Dealing with the Homeless & Panhandlers

There have been several Sundays recently when the Safety and Assistance personnel have encountered both homeless people and people asking for money (panhandlers). The homeless have been using Bethany property for shelter, which can create problems for the church and its members. Panhandlers were recently cited at the foot of the main Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall portico as the service ended asking church members for money.

It is church policy not to give out cash and that should apply to all church members while on church property. To do so will encourage return visits and possibly increase instances beyond our control.

There are organizations that can help those in need, and we should direct those individuals to the help that is available to them. Trident United Way covers the Tri-County area and dialing 211 or texting "help" to 211 is the easiest way to contact help. Help of Summerville is another organization that can help. Their number is 843.695.4261. Thank you, Bethany Safety and Assistance Team

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:



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 and 1st 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.

THIS WEEK...

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

Sunday, May 5

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
4 PM Confirmation Class, 128
5:30 PM Youth Ascend, FH

Monday, May 6

10 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
10 AM Upcycling/Plarning, 122
12:30 PM Men's Book Buddies, YH
2 PM Prayer Shawl Meeting, 118
3 PM Bethany Golf League, Miler
5:30 PM CDC Board Mtg., Conf. Rm.
6 PM KidsCare Board Mtg., 215
6:30 PM Worship Committee, 127
7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous, 115

Tuesday, May 7

8:30 AM Yoga, Gym
10 AM Quilters, Blue House
10:30 AM Grief Support, Parlor
5:30 PM Stephen Ministries Leaders Mtg., Conf. Room
7 PM Columbarium Committee Mtg., Conf. Room

Wednesday, May 8

5:30 AM Men's Prayer Group, 215
9 AM Bridge Group, Friendship Circle
4 PM Safety & Assist., Conf. Room
6:15 PM Creative Sewing, Blue House
6:30 PM Church Council Society Mtg., 128
7 PM Chancel Choir, 234

Thursday, May 9

7 AM Men's Prayer Group, YH
8:30 AM Yoga, Gym
9:30 AM Faithful Friends Ladies Bible Study, 239
6 PM Handbells, 234
10 AM Adult Pickleball, Gym
6:30 PM Trustees, Conf. Room
7 PM Gamblers Anon., 124

Friday, May 10

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

Saturday, May 11

No Church Activities 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

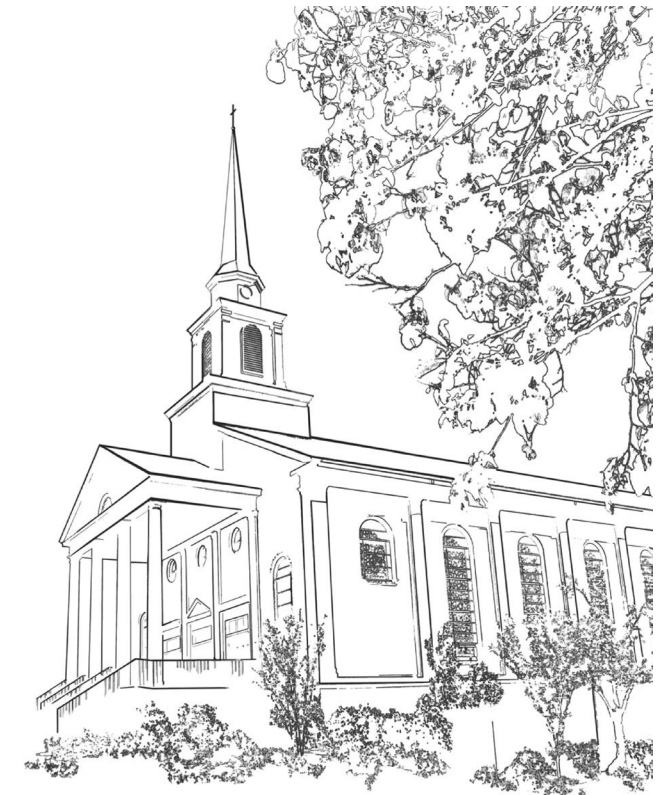
A minister is on call for pastoral emergencies after normal business hours during the week, as well as on weekends and holidays. If you have an emergency for which you need pastoral care, call the church emergency number, **843.425.1069**.

Safety and Assistance Emergency number available on Sunday mornings from 7:30am-12:30pm 854.429.1848.

May 5, 2024
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
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

6th 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

* **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** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing **No. 400**

* **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**

Anthem The Majesty and Glory of Your Name T. Fettke
Chancel Choir

First Lesson Acts 10: 44-48 **NT Pg. 130**

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 If Ye Love Me Thomas Tallis
Chamber Singers

* **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: 9-17 **NT Pg. 109**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon What's Love Got To Do With It? Rev. Michael Ritter

The Sacrament of Holy Communion **No. 12**

Gluten-free option available upon request.

(No Children's Church on Communion Sunday)

* **Hymn of Dedication** Blessed Assurance **No. 369**

* 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 Sehr, Membership Director, at jsehr@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: Narvie Bilbray, Jr.; Tom Thurman, Matt Lazzaro, Bobby Long, Al Lyman, Matt Bates, Allen Dobbs

11:15 ~ Team Leader- Roger McCants; Al Jackson, Barbara Jackson, Gillis McAllister, Mark Phillips, Joyce Stone, Chad Urban, Bill & Kathy Wire

Liturgist

8:45 & 11:15 am – Allison Edens

Communion Servers

8:45- JC and Peggy Ridgeway

11:15 – David and Becky Powell

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 28, 2024. These figures are unverified.)

*Operating Contributions Last Week.....	38,850.00
*Operating Contributions Year to Date.....	536,011.14
*Operating Expense Funding YTD – Deficit (-)/ Surplus (+).....	-49,987.86 -8.53%

Capital Campaign (Figures for April 28, 2024)

*Building Contributions Last Week.....	1,718.00
*Building Contributions Year to Date	51,428.88
*Campaign Goal YTD – Deficit (-)/ Surplus (+)	1,612.88 3%

Designated Mission and Ministry Gifts – YTD (Non-Budgeted)... 61,767.28

Presence (April 28, 2024)

8 am Spell – 89; Word & Table Worship - 90; Sanctuary Worship- 439
Online Worship – 918; Sunday School - 372

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 60th Wedding Anniversary of Gerald and Elizabeth Cutshall.