

# BETHANY BEACON

June 2024 | Volume 6

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## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

John 20:29 “Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.”

Well summer is now in full swing. We find ourselves going to the beach, resting beside a mountain stream, cooling off at the pool or gathering together for a nice picnic. I love this time of the year. People are gathering and doing all sorts of things. Just the other day, I watched someone rowing when I was crossing over the Ashley River. Ever since I was in college and one of my friends was on the crew team, I have enjoyed the sport. There is so much team work involved with the sport. But there is also a lot of faith in your leader as well if you are on the team or faith in yourself if you are by yourself.

Faith is kind of like navigating a rowboat. In a row boat the rower faces the opposite way he is heading. He rows with his back toward the destination. So it is with our faith in spiritual matters. We do not see or touch forgiveness as we might see or touch an object. Rather, we trust that forgiveness is real and that the God who has shown himself to be loving toward us, is in fact a God of love.

The real test of faith, believing without seeing, is in our actions. It is easy to say that we believe this or that, but it is harder to live like we do. It is sort of like getting on a plane. Saying we believe the plane will get us from point “A” to point “B” is a lot less convincing than actually getting on the plane and taking the trip.

This plane illustration works in another way also. The plane, while sitting on the ground may look flight worthy. But the real test of whether it is flight worth takes place when it is the air. So it is with faith. We all have faith in something. We all put our trust somewhere. The question is if the object we are putting our trust in is worthy of our trust.

There is one object that I am sure is worthy of our trust. It takes believing without seeing, but Christ shows Himself true to those who follow Him. A lot of people fall into the trap of placing their trust in lesser things. To trust in our possessions is easy, because we can see them. They are right there before our eyes. But to trust Christ takes faith and faith in Christ requires believing without seeing.

If you struggle with believing without seeing there are some tangible helps that God has graciously given to us to aid us in our faith. The Bible is a great help to us. Prayer, hearing God’s Word preached, enjoying the fellowship of other believers are all great advantages to us. These make believing without seeing easier. They have been given to us by God for our benefit and He is wise in all He does.

So as we prepare for what is sure to be an eventful summer, filled with all kinds of activities, let us remain faithful as the rower who is rowing, believing without seeing and rowing towards the prize.—Rev. Michael Ritter

## WORSHIP WITH US

*Spell Chapel (Traditional)*  
8AM

*Word & Table (Contemporary)*  
8:45AM

*Sanctuary (Traditional)*  
8:45AM & 11:15AM

# **Town Hall Meeting #2**

## **Sunday, June 23rd at 4PM**

### ***Purpose, Ground Rules & Agenda***

**OPENING PRAYER** - Senior Pastor Michael Ritter

**PURPOSE:** Open, honest conversation to allow church council to hear the thoughts of the congregation on the issues facing Bethany UMC.

We now have a clear picture of the future of the UMC following the 2024 General Conference vote to revise the 2016 BOD and endorse potential regionalization.

This meeting is for you, the congregation, to speak directly to Church Council before their vote on June 26. This June Church Council vote is on whether to end Holy Discernment and Bethany remain a UM congregation or whether we, as a congregation, move forward to a church wide vote to decide to remain in or to separate from the UMC. Once the June Church Council vote occurs, there will be ample time for questions specifically related to those issues moving forward with a church wide vote and are not a part of the purpose of tonight's meeting.

Church Council members are seated up front in order to hear your concerns and opinions clearly.

We intend to have time for some submitted questions that may arise during this meeting concerning the current status of the UMC. Please write down your questions on notecards found in your pew rack - to be addressed at the end of the meeting if time permits.

-Of utmost importance are these 3 attitudes:

Participate with intention. Listen carefully to information and other speakers.

When it is your turn to speak, do so in a constructive manner. Speak from your heart.

Appreciate the diversity of perspectives. All perspectives are valid. When someone says something that challenges your thinking, listen to understand why they think as they do.

Maintain a respect for this sacred space. That means we all need to treat each other with kindness and respect. It also means that we all need to avoid distractions.

## **GROUND RULES:**

-The moderator will ensure that all ground rules are enforced.

-Meeting will last 1.5 hours.

Please silence all cell phones/ mobile devices. Please, no recording, texting, etc. during the meeting.

Two microphones are provided up front. Use the microphone of your choice.

There is a 3-minute time limit for each speaker.

A timekeeper will announce when time is up, as well as a 30 second warning.

Speakers must be Professing Members of Bethany UMC.

Speakers must be recognized by the moderator prior to speaking. No one should interrupt or speak unless recognized by the Moderator.

The moderator will allow 10 speakers in favor of remaining with the UMC and 10 speakers in favor of leaving the UMC. We'll alternate speakers for balance.

No one may speak a second time until/unless there are no additional speakers wishing to speak and there is allocated meeting time remaining.

The moderator has the authority to call out anyone that ignores the ground rules.

Negative personal comments and/or profanity will not be tolerated.

Verbal outbursts and/or applause is not allowed.

The moderator can terminate the meeting, if deemed necessary.

Regarding questions

Index cards are available to submit questions. Pass them to the outside end of the aisle so they can be collected. Note that questions are not to challenge or disagree with a person who is speaking to Church Council. Questions can be for clarification of something that was said.

*\* Ground rules are subject to change based on experience from the first Town Hall.*



**BETHANY UMC. CAMP MEETING**

A time of relaxed worship featuring familiar hymns

**JULY 14TH, 21ST, & 28TH @ 8:00AM IN SPELL, 8:45AM & 11:15AM IN SANCTUARY**

**JULY 28TH WILL BE @ 8:00AM IN SPELL AND 10:00AM COMBINED WORSHIP IN SANCTUARY**

A COVERED DISH LUNCH WILL FOLLOW THE 10:00 SERVICE ON JULY 28TH. PLEASE BRING A COVERED DISH WITH ENOUGH TO SERVE YOUR FAMILY PLUS 5 MORE.

## Bethany Summer Pickleball Hours

Pickleball will not be available during normal hours. If interested, we can establish some evening hours during those weeks.

*June 10-14*

*June 17-21*

*June 24-28*

*July 8-12*

*July 22-26*

Normal morning hours on Monday and Thursday will continue to be available during the weeks of

*July 1-5*

*July 15-19*

*July 29-August 2*

Starting August 5th we return to our normal schedule



# ***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.

***Next date is June 13th***

***The upcoming 2024 dates are as follows:***

July 18th, August 22nd,  
September 19th, October 17th, November 14th, &  
December 12th

## **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 8th from 6:00-6:50pm and will continue every Wednesday through May 29th. 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.

Emily Vick, Director of Christian Education. This group will play in Spell Chapel in June. They will pick back up with practice during the Fall Bethany NOW schedule. Contact Barbara Bassett at 843-810-3590 if you are interested in joining or if you have any questions.

# Happy Hearts

## June 28 AT HAPPY HEARTS

*Meal Reservations due by June 23*

Local, talented, and very gifted musician, Mr. Jesse Cockcroft, the strolling accordion player, will be performing for the Happy Hearts meeting on June 28.

A meal of BBQ, hash and rice, baked beans, cornbread, dessert, and tea will be served at 12:00 noon for \$8..

Please contact Helen by June 23rd at 843-771-3979 (leave message) or email her at [rooneyjrclan@mac.com](mailto:rooneyjrclan@mac.com) to make your meal reservation

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME.**

## Calling all crafters!

Are you a crafter at heart? It's time to dust off your scissors and find your glue gun! We are searching for handmade items that would be perfect for the Market. Some popular items include wooden crafts, small purses, 18" doll clothes, Christmas ornaments, and decorations.

Don't worry if you're not sure what to make, just ask Emily Vick for inspiration or search online for easy craft ideas. Let's get creative!

*Gift & Gourmet Market*  
*Save the Date: October 20-27, 2024*





# Recreation Ministry cont'd

## Calvin Davis Lady Green Wave Basketball Camp

Date: July 22-26th

Time: 8:30 - 12:30

Cost: \$150

Coach Calvin Davis his staff and players will once again lead our young ladies in a week long GIRLS only camp.

Calvin Davis is in his 8th season as the head man of the Lady Wave, coach Davis has lead Summerville to the State Final, won a lower state championship and won 4 region titles while turning out numerous all region and all state performers. Before taking the reigns of the GreenWave program Coach Davis was the Head Coach at Cross High school where the Lady Trojans claimed 3 region titles and an assistant for legendary Goose Creek head coach Tim Baldwin.



## Battling Bishops Volleyball Camp

Date: June 24-28

Cost: \$125

Junior Division (6th Grade and Below) 9:00 - 12:00

Senior Division (7th Grade and Above) 1:00 - 4:00

Bishop England High School Cindy Baggott will again be leading our camp. Coach Baggott has guided the Battling Bishops to an unbelievable 11 state championships, including being part of 18 consecutive state championship teams from 1999-2018! Coach Baggott will be joined by several of her players from Bishop England as well as our terrific Bethany Volleyball Staff.



## Ashley Ridge Swamp Fox Volleyball Camp

*This camp is for 7th Grade and Above*

Date: July 8-12th

Time: 1:30 - 4:30

Cost: \$125

For the third summer we are excited that Ashley Ridge Varsity Volleyball Coach Leigh-Ann Carter will be leading our 2nd week of Volleyball Camp. Coach Carter, her husband Kevin and their children are members of Bethany and have been strong advocates of our programs for years. Coach Carter has raised the profile of the Swamp Fox program, winning region titles and last year advancing to the Lower State Championship Game. Campers attending the camp should expect a full week, of exciting instruction, learning and fun!



# Recreation Ministry

## SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION

### **Kurt James Basketball Academy**

June 10th - June 14th 9:00 - 1:00

Cost \$150

Former Bard College Coach & AAU COACH KURT JAMES will conduct basketball skills for both boys & girls. Kurt played college basketball at Michigan State University, he has mentored young basketball players in the Charleston Area for years. Both of Kurt's sons played basketball at Porter Gaud High School and went onto play college basketball. His youngest son Josiah Jordan James, finished up his career at the University of Tennessee, his oldest son KJ continues his professional career in Europe.



### **Greg Elliott and David Long Basketball Camp**

Monday July 8th - Friday July 12th 9:00 - 1:00

Cost \$150

Coaches Greg Elliot, who spent 30 years coaching and teaching basketball at the high school and college levels. Coach Elliot worked as an assistant coach at Virginia Tech and Southern Mississippi before beginning his storied high school head coaching career. Coach Elliot is a member of the Hilton Head Island Sports Hall of Fame and was the highly successful coach of the Greenwave from 2009-2016.



Coach David Long just completed his 7th full and most successful season as the head man of the Summerville Boys Basketball Program. Coach Long served as an assistant coach with the Green Wave for 5 years before ascending to his current position after the retirement of Coach Elliot. Coach Long came to Summerville with extensive experience in Georgia and North Carolina.

Both Coaches will lead the Boys & Girls in this instructional camp with great contests and scrimmages. These successful veteran coaches always have great prizes to go along with their knowledge of the game.



# KidsCare



Director Makala Boczkowski and  
Assistant Director Debra Trimeloni  
[KidsCare@bethany-umc.com](mailto:KidsCare@bethany-umc.com)

Phone Number: 854-429-1856/854-429-1842

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is an important ministry at Bethany. The shawls are prayed for as they are made, the pastors bless them, and they are given out to support people in Christian love and support.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets quarterly; the first Monday of the quarter - January, April, July, and September in room 118 at 2 pm.

If you have any questions about being a part of this meaningful ministry or if you would like to give one of the prayer shawls to a person in need, please contact Marge Veneziano at 843-607-4519.



# Bethany Quilters

Bethany Quilters have continued to be busy completing numerous quilts this year helping us to contribute \$1,200 to local missions and activities at Bethany UMC.

We are now ready to add quilts to our list in 2024. Should you or someone you know be interested in having a quilt top hand quilted, contact Betsy Grubb at 843-875-1690 for information.

We welcome hand quilters to join us on Tuesdays 10-2 in the blue house across from Bethany's welcome center. Bring your sewing bag and a lunch and enjoy some quilter's fellowship while making tiny stitches!



## 5 Reasons to Become a Stephen Minister

**Do you have the gifts of caring or compassion or empathy?  
Is God calling you to become a Stephen Minister?**

Consider the following list and let these reasons help with your answer. Please prayerfully consider whether Stephen Ministry is the right place for you to serve. If so, find an application in one of the tabletop kiosks around the church or ask for one. Fill it in and return to Pastor Mark Barnes by early September. The training class starts mid-January '25.

### 5 REASONS:

- ① Make a real difference in the lives of people who are hurting.
- ② Help our congregation ensure that no one suffers alone
- ③ Learn what to say and do – and what NOT to say and do – to care effectively for people who are suffering.
- ④ Be involved in a meaningful ministry that uses your spiritual gifts.
- ⑤ Deepen your faith as you see God at work through your ministry.

For any questions, call or text these Stephen Leaders:  
Brenda Byrd (912-674-8314) or Michelle Helton (843-709-1679)





## Blessing Box Donations Needed

You can drop off donations in front of the  
Business Office door during  
the week or on Sundays. The following are  
needed:

Canned Meats                      Macaroni and Cheese boxes  
Spaghetti/Pasta jarred or canned sauces  
Peanut Butter                      Jelly  
Canned/ready to eat Ravioli, Stew, Chili  
Fruit (large cans and individual serving cups)  
Individual Grits packets              Granola bars  
Snack Pack Pudding  
Sandwich Crackers (Cheese/Peanutbutter)  
Rice/Pasta/Potato in envelopes or boxes  
*Canned items pull top cans preferred*



# Bethany

## CARE TEAM

Serving and caring for our Church Family

### Mission Statement

*1 Peter 5:2-3 God Calls us to care for his people. The Care Team of Bethany United Methodist Church will respond to the joys and concerns of its members in such a way that members will feel God's presence.*

### Care Team Ministries

The following Ministry groups are within the Care Team. Please review the brief descriptions of each as provided below and let us know which team you want to become an active member of, we are looking forward to you joining us.

### Care Team Steering Committee

The mission of this committee is to seek out needs in the church and community, by opening all lines of communications, while also providing support and guidance, to the Care Team Member Leaders.

### Visitation Ministry

Personal visitations to individuals while homebound or in a care facility.

### Flower Ministry

Teams rearrange altar flowers into individual arrangements for members in care facilities and those who are homebound.

### Card Ministry

Team members send cards to Bethany members in need of encouragement and support.  
Phyllis Laferte  
843-810-9957  
laferte001@msn.com

### Baby Welcoming Ministry

A Celebration gift is delivered to the new parents, to welcome the newest member to their family.  
Sandy Mills 843-425-0622  
sjem2007@gmail.com

### Home Communion Ministry

This Team delivers the Blessed communion elements once a month, to church members and friends in health care facilities and to those who are homebound.  
JC & Peggy Ridgeway  
240-538-4457  
peggyridgeway@yahoo.com  
joridgeway@gmail.com

### Grief Support Ministry and Bereavement Ministry

Bereavement information is sent monthly to members following the death of a loved one. Team members help to prepare and serve food for Bethany families after a funeral service.  
Stephanie Parker  
843-442-4236  
sparker01@comcast.net

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

This Team Makes hand knitted and crocheted shawls, to comfort those who are experiencing difficult times. If you like to knit or crochet, please join us. (Lessons are also provided)  
Marge Veneziano  
843-607-4519  
mveneziano50@gmail.com

### Planning Ministry

Teams crochet plastic grocery bags into sleeping bags for homeless veterans, and others need. Help is needed for crocheting and preparing plastics bags for us.  
Clara Stonner  
843-821-8910  
clarastonner@att.net

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  
Congregational Care Pastor  
Bethany United Methodist Church

*Please note: Contact information for each Care Team Leader is located on the back of this brochure.*

[www.bethany-umc.com](http://www.bethany-umc.com), (843) 873-1230



# Children's Ministry

## Camp Firelight



Camp Firelight is almost here! The halls will soon be filled with Campers who will learn that they can trust God in all things. We are super excited for the fun-filled week ahead! If you would like to help us out, here is what we need:

1. **Decorating:** We are already decorating the halls and common areas, but we need more hands to help us out. Come in during any business hours, and we will put you to work. We have all the decorations, instructions, and anything else you will need. So even if you only have an hour or two to spare, we would love your help!
2. **Set-up:** Sunday, June 16 is the set-up day, and we need tons of help to move tables and chairs to classrooms, decorate, and more. We will start at 11 am!
3. **Snacks:** Our over 200 volunteers who will be working at VBS would love some yummy treats. Each day, we have a table with donated goodies, such as breakfast items, dips, fruits & veggies, desserts - anything and everything is welcome. We especially love hearty savory items! We also need 2-liter drinks. You can drop these off any day during VBS.
4. **Prayers:** We want the week, the volunteers, and the children to be covered in prayers for a safe and fun time.

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

**PROMOTION**  
Sunday

And



Blessing of the Backpacks  
Sunday, August 11th

## Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School will be different for Elementary kids (grades 1-5). Instead of rotating between small groups and large group, kids will remain in large group for the entire hour starting from Sunday, June 2. Kindergarteners will stay in their room, and preschoolers will follow their usual schedule.

We are also looking for teachers for our children's Sunday School classes for the upcoming year (2024-25). As a teacher, you will have the opportunity to fill the hearts of our young ones with the joy and love that Jesus has for them. This is as much a blessing for you as it is for the children. Each grade level has two teams of teachers who teach on a rotating schedule. All lessons and materials are provided, so preparation time is minimal. If you are interested in helping beginning this Fall, please contact Emily Vick ([evick@bethany-umc.com](mailto:evick@bethany-umc.com)) or Stephanie Mitchum ([smitchum@bethany-umc.com](mailto:smitchum@bethany-umc.com)).





# 2024 CONGRATULATIONS Graduates and Confirmands

[ascendstudentministries.org](http://ascendstudentministries.org)



# MEMORIALS

These are memorials from March 16<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## In Memory of Bill Odle (Memorials)

By Mary Ann & Howard Bridgman

By Mona Gilbert

By Jennifer Bailey

By Will & Cathy Wilber

By Linda & David Huffman

By The Mirick Family

## In Memory of Katrina Patton

By Mona Gilbert (**Missions Possible**)

By Searchers Sunday School Class

(**Epworth Baskets**)

By Ann Gill (**Epworth**)

By Casey & Cheryl Canonge (**Epworth**)

By Karl & Joan Naugle (**Missions Possible**)

By Tony & Brenda Frye (**Epworth**)

By the Global Missions Committee

(**Missions Possible**)

By William R. Lomax, MD (**Missions Possible**)

By Robert & Shea Stamper & Family

(**Missions Possible**)

By Bob Johnson (**Epworth**)

By Ollie Lesch (**Epworth**)

By Jim & Jeanne Griffin (**Epworth**)

By Lelan & Karen Fleischauer

(**Missions Possible**)

By Jim & Elise Muscott (**Epworth**)

By Margie & Ed Muckenfuss (**Epworth**)

By Richard & Elizabeth Hogue (**Epworth**)

By Stan & Barbara Petrohovich (**Epworth**)

By Billy & Beth Phillips (**Missions Possible**)

## Memory of Emma Glaze (Memorials)

By Gil & Sandy Hager

## In Memory of Barbara Koester (Memorials)

By Kim Skodack

## In Memory of George Stall (Memorials)

By Margie & Ed Muckenfuss

## In Memory Jeff Lindenmeyer (Memorials)

By Jack & Karen Sehrt

By Billy & Beth Phillips (**Missions Possible**)

## In Memory of Harry Lee Locklair (Holy City Missions)

By Bill Jones

## In Memory of Catherine McDougal Moore (Memorials)

By Helen "Betsy" Moore

## HONORARIUMS

### In Honor of our grandchildren Lilly, Lucy & Lainey Shabeldeen (VBS)

By Laurence & Donna Clair

### In Honor of our grandchildren Grayson, Cooper & Quinn Clair (VBS)

By Laurence & Donna Clair



**Bethany United Methodist Church**  
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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](mailto: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

[www.bethany-umc.com](http://www.bethany-umc.com)

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[Instagram/@umcbethany](https://instagram.com/umcbethany)

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.