

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bethany Family: Hospitals-** No one that we are aware of. Please call the church office if you know of a Bethany member that is in the hospital.

### Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Worship Services

- Christmas Eve Sunday Morning Services will be at 8 a.m. in Spell, 8:45 a.m. Word and Table, and one traditional service in the Sanctuary at 10 a.m. There will be no Sunday school, nursery, or Children's Church.
- New Year's Eve Sunday Morning Services will be at 8 a.m. in Spell, 8:45 a.m. Word and Table, and one traditional service in the Sanctuary at 10 a.m. There will be no Sunday school, nursery, or Children's Church.

### Christmas Healing Service

Bethany's Christmas Healing Service is for the broken-hearted and the grief-stricken. It is for those whose souls are weary and in need of a word of hope. Join us on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. in Spell Chapel. The Christmas season can be a difficult time for someone experiencing grief and loneliness. Added stress of unemployment or an illness can take away from the joy many feel this time of year. The Christmas Healing Service will minister to those in our community who may be dealing with these feelings. Our pastors and Stephen Ministers will be available to support you. Join us and rediscover the Light that helps us endure the difficult times. A nursery will be provided.

### Bethany NOW Advent Worship Services and Activities

*Each Wednesday during Advent a worship service will be held at 6:15 p.m. in Spell Chapel.* For a current schedule of children's activities during Advent, please contact Emily Vick or Stephanie Mitchum at 843.873.1230.

**On Dec. 6:** there is no meal and this is the *LCS dress rehearsal night*. A separate meal is being arranged for the cast. NOW Wednesday night classes and activities for children and youth will be held.

**Dec. 13:** dinner will be offered at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall prior to worship. Christian Family & Sue Knight Sunday School classes are hosting. The meal menu is Chicken Marsala on a bed of roasted potatoes and salad with rolls. NOW Wednesday night classes and activities for children and youth will be held. This will be the last night of NOW classes until Jan. 10.

On Dec. 13, the Melody and Wesley choirs will have their Christmas party at Mrs. Robyn's house from 5-7:30 p.m.

Bethany NOW will resume after the Holidays on Jan. 10 with new children's and adult classes. Full information will be in the December Beacon.

### New Member Class- Dec. 5

New Member Class is coming up on Dec. 5. "Bethany Basics" will be held from 6-7 p.m. If you are interested or know someone who may want to join Bethany UMC, please email [jsehr@bethany-umc.com](mailto:jsehr@bethany-umc.com).

### Angel Tree

Local Missions has placed the Angel Tree on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. Please share your generosity with a needy child by choosing an "Angel."

Be sure to sign the log book (located near the tree) beside your angel's number with your name and contact information. Gifts with the angel tag securely attached need to be returned to the stage no later than Sunday, Dec. 10. Thank you for opening your hearts to help a child have a Merry Christmas.

### Last Chance: Make up Day for Pictures!

If you missed having your membership photo taken for the church directory schedule your photo now for: **Thursday, Dec. 21. Noon to 7pm.** Register through your Bethany Links email or call the church office.

## THIS WEEK...

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

### Sunday, Dec. 3

#### *First Sunday of Advent*

8 AM **WORSHIP**, Spell Chapel  
8:45 AM **WORSHIP**, Sanctuary  
8:45 AM **WORD & TABLE**, FH  
9 AM LCS Orientation, Spell  
10 AM Sunday School  
11:15 AM **WORSHIP**, Sanctuary  
5 PM Ascend Youth

### Monday, Dec. 4

9 AM Upcycling, 239  
6:30 PM Singers of Summerville  
7 PM Charge Conference  
7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous, Friendship Circle

### Tuesday, Dec. 5

8:30 AM \$5 Yoga Class  
10 AM Quilters, Blue House  
5:30 PM Boy Scouts Troop 787  
6 PM Bethany Basics  
7 PM Alpha Omega, 236  
7 PM Narcotics Anonymous, Cottage

### Wednesday, Dec. 6

5:30 PM LCS Dress Rehearsal  
6:15 PM **ADVENT WORSHIP**, Spell Chapel  
6 PM Bethany NOW Children's Activities

### Thursday, Dec. 7

8:30 AM \$5 Yoga Class  
6:30 PM Stewardship Committee, Conf. Room  
7 PM Global Missions, 237, 127

### Friday, Dec. 8

*No Activities Scheduled*

### Saturday, Dec. 9

*No Activities Scheduled*

### Stephen Ministry

If you are hurting, in need of a hand to hold on to or talk thru an issue or problem we are a Stephen Ministry Church and have Stephen Ministers ready to be with you. Contact Denis Tsukalas 843.871.0381, Annette Goins 843.761.1866 or Mary Kay Wrenn 843.323.2130.

### Recording/Photography

Portions of Worship services are recorded and made available for viewing on our web site. 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 Eileyn Sobeck-Bador (843.873.1230, [ebador@bethany-umc.com](mailto:ebador@bethany-umc.com)), 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**.

### Charge Conference

The annual Charge Conference will be held on Monday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend.

### Festival of Carols Dec. 17

Our second annual Festival of Carols on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. will feature all of the Bethany music ensembles joining together to celebrate Christ's birth. All of the selections will be interspersed with scripture read by members of the Bethany Music Ministry and members of the Bethany staff and clergy. In addition, selected hymns will be sung by everyone. We hope you will join us for this wonderfully festive concert.

### Thanksgiving at Bethany

Nov. 15th was the Community Thanksgiving at Bethany and it was truly the very embodiment of Thankfulness and Giving. 483 people served this year, on time, every meal was hot and homemade. Each member of this church that volunteered to make this event happen is a true treasure and I am forever grateful for having the opportunity to work beside each and every one of you. What I do as your chef cannot happen as smoothly without your assistance, smiles, laughs, and giving hearts. THANK YOU to each and every volunteer!  
Much love and gratitude,  
Cindy Zukowski

December 3, 2017  
8:45 & 11:15 Worship Services

# BETHANY

United Methodist Church



Rev. Mitch Houston, Senior Pastor

Rev. Scott Adams, Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. James Alewine, Pastor Emeritus

Mr. Will Thompson, Pastor of Student Ministry

Dr. Valerie Bullock, Director of Music Ministries

Mr. Michael López, Organist

118 West Third South Street, Summerville, SC 29483

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

873-1230

*We are a Stephen Ministry Church, a Safe Sanctuaries  
Congregation and a Welcoming Church.*

CALLED TO CARE

December 3, 2017  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
*First Sunday of Advent*

**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 unawares."*

**Prelude**

*As the prelude begins, let us turn our thoughts and hearts to God in prayer and prepare for worship.*

*When Morning Guilds the Skies* arr. V. Labenske  
Michael López, piano

**Welcome and Parish Concerns**

- \* **Hymn in Procession, No. 196** *Hyfrydol*  
*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

**Special music during the Living Christmas Story presentation**

*Coventry Carol* from the *Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors*  
Trio - Shelby Krallman, Jim Paxton and Matt Pedelty

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath – HOPE**

(8:45) – Joe and Tiffany Miller and Family  
(11:15) – Kent and Donna Brasher and Family

Christ is our Hope. We live in a world of pain, injustice, darkness and sin. The world longs for hope. Through God's gift of Jesus we have Hope. Hope for healing, justice and new life. Christ is our Hope. Amen.

**Congregational Response**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. *Sing twice.*

**Call to Prayer**

**Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

- \* **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**
- \* **Offertory** *O Come, O Come Emanuel* Steven C. Chapman  
Matt Pedelty, solo

**Doxology, No. 94** *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

- \* **Hymn of Assurance, No. 626** *Picardy*  
*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*  
(2<sup>nd</sup> verse-men only, 3<sup>rd</sup> verse-women only)

At the beginning of this hymn, children may leave for Children's Church ~ ages K5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade ~ **in room 214 of the Youth Wing.** (lease remember to attach a Children's Church sticker to your child and pick them up ASAP.

**The Lesson** Isaiah 53 OT Pg. 683

Minister: The word of God for the people of God.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** *Arise, Your Light Has Come* (excerpt) David Danner  
Chancel Choir

**Sermon** *Bloodstained Royalty* Rev. Scott Adams

**Invitation to Communion**

**Prayer of General Confession** (to be prayed in unison)

Almighty God, we confess that we are often swept up in the tide of our generation. We have failed in our calling to be your holy people, a people set apart for your divine purpose. We live more in apathy born of

fatalism than in passion born of hope. We are moved more by private ambition than by moral righteousness. We dream more of privilege and benefits than of service and sacrifice. We try to speak in your name without relinquishing our glories, without nourishing our souls, without relying wholly on your grace. Help us to make room in our hearts and lives for you. Forgive us, revive us, and reshape us in your image. Amen.

**Pardon**

Minister: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*The Lord be with you.*

**AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE HIM THANKS AND PRAISE.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You ... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Please join in singing:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory! Glory be to thee, O Lord most high! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! Amen.*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering ... When the Lord Jesus ascended he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Please join in singing:

*Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.*

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread and Taking of the Cup**

**The Giving** (The ushers will direct the congregation to the table.)

**Prayer after Receiving**

- \* **Hymn of Dedication, No. 98** *To God Be the Glory*  
*To God Be the Glory*
- \* **Blessing of the People**

- \* **Postlude** *Sinfonia from Christmas Cantata* J. S. Bach

\* Congregation standing

**WELCOME**

*We welcome all guests to our service today. If you are visiting with us, please allow us to further acknowledge your presence 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 Sehrt, Membership Director, at [jsehrt@bethany-umc.com](mailto:jsehrt@bethany-umc.com) or 873-1230, ext.30.*

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

**ALTAR GREENS**

The altar greens are given to the glory of God and in honor of our 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Tom and Marge Veneziano.

**SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

**Greeters**

8:45 – Fenn and Janet Stallsmith

11:15 – Sunny and Linda Grant

**Ushers**

8:45 - Team Leader - Rett Fowler; Jerry Bateman, Kevin Carter, William DeLong, Rick Farthing, Gene Smith, David Zollner, Webb Charpia

11:15 – Team Leader – Roger Swick; Ben Brown, Henry Thompson, Tim Shepherd, Mary K. Shepherd, Gil Hager

**Liturgist**

8:45 – Mr. Dave Braddon

11:15 – Mr. Dave Braddon

**Communion Servers**

8:45 – Rich and Cindylee Thorington

11:15 – Trish Burton and Liz Williams

**Audio/Video Support**

Technical Ministries Team

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

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

**Gifts** (\*Figures for November 26, 2017. These figures are unverified.)

\*Budget Contributions for .....24,028.81

\*Budget Funds Contributed to Date.....1,664,313.57

\*Non-Budgeted Mission and Ministry Gifts to Date.....177,412.83

**Capital Campaign** (Figures for November 26, 2017)

\*Capital Campaign Contributions .....3,108.00

\*Total Campaign Gifts Year to Date..... 162,445.64

**Presence** (November 26, 2017)

8 am Worship – 33; Word & Table Worship – 180; Sanctuary Worship – 651;  
Sunday School – 431