

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethany Family

Sympathies: We would like to extend our Christian sympathies to Susan Dawson on the death of her husband, Fred Dawson.

Give Blood. Help Save Lives

The Red Cross will be in the Parking Lot today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please prayerfully consider giving the gift of life.

Bethany NOW Begins Jan. 10

The winter session of Bethany NOW will begin on Jan. 10. The evening begins with dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 5pm, where you can share a time of fellowship with family and friends. Dinner is followed by a selection of classes for adults as well as activities for youth and children of all ages. Come join us and make Wednesday night a time of fun for you all.

Altar Flowers Needed

Altar flowers are a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one. Flowers are needed for 2018. Please contact Donna Crowe at dcrowe@bethany-umc.com or 843.873.1230 ext.14 to reserve a date.

End of Year Offerings

The last day the church office will be open to receive your year-end offerings to be credited in 2017 is Friday, Dec. 29. The office will be open until 12 p.m. If you prefer to mail your year-end offering, please make certain that your letter is postmarked no later than Dec. 31. For further information about giving, offering envelopes or automatic drafts, contact Ann Gill at 843.873.1230

2018 Confirmation

Confirmation 2018 will begin in February 18. Confirmation is traditionally for current 7th graders and other students that desire to participate and have not previously been confirmed. Confirmation is a special time for students as they engage in deeper knowledge of their relationship with Jesus Christ. Confirmation consists of lecture, small group, activities, mission, and a retreat. More information will come out soon. For now, please sign up if your student will be participating in Confirmation. Important dates: Confirmation Retreat: May 4-6 at Lake Junaluska (very important part of Confirmation, cost TBD.) Confirmation Sunday: May 20, 2018. 11:15 Traditional Service.

To sign up, please visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d44adad2fa1ff2-confirmation3>. Contact Will Thompson at wthompson@bethany-umc.com or Emily Vick at evick@bethany-umc.com.

The New Hope Circle

The New Hope Circle of United Methodist Women will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, at the home of Pam Jeffries, 101 Barrington Ct., Summerville. In recognition of January being Human Trafficking Awareness Month, there will be a speaker from Doors to Freedom, a non-profit organization which has opened a home in North Charleston to provide free housing, counselling, and academic education for girls who are victims of sex trafficking. For more information, contact Donna Waite at 843.879.3395 or at donnabwaite@aol.com.

Church Office Closed January 1&2

The church office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1 and Tuesday, Jan. 2, in observance of the New Year holiday. The office will reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at 8:30 a.m.

THIS WEEK...

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

Sunday, Dec. 31

8 am Blood Drive
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

Monday, Jan. 1

Happy New Year!
Church Office Closed
6:30 pm Singers of Summerville,
Music Room
7:30 pm AA, Open Discussion, FC

Tuesday, Jan. 2

Church Office Closed
8:30 am \$5 Yoga class, Gym
10 am Quilters, Blue House
12 pm Stephen Ministries Leader
Meeting, 235
6:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 787, 125,
126, FC
7 pm Narcotics Anonymous,
Cottage

Wednesday, Jan. 3

No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, Jan. 4

9:30 am Covenant Bible Study, 118

Friday, Jan. 5

No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, Jan. 6

No Activities Scheduled

Sunday, Jan. 7

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

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), 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**.

Wi-Fi Access

If you would like to connect to Wi-Fi while on church property, please use the guest connection and password [guest2015](#).

2018 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are ready for pick up in the hallway near the Welcome Center. Please help us be a good steward of our finances by picking your envelopes up today.

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.

December 31, 2017
10:00 a.m. Worship Services

BETHANY

United Methodist Church



Rev. Mitch Houston, Senior Pastor

Rev. Scott Adams, Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. James Alewine, Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Valerie Bullock, Director of Music Ministries

Mr. Michael López, 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.*

CALLED TO CARE

December 31, 2017
ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday after Christmas

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."

Prelude

Michael López

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

Welcome and Parish Concerns

Time of Friendship

***Hymn in Procession, No. 219**

Greensleeves

What Child Is This

Collect

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

OT Pg. 683

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Call to Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People 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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology, No. 94**

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

***Hymn of Assurance, No 249**

Christmas Song

There's a Song in the Air

The Gospel Lesson

John 1:1-10

NT Pg. 91

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Sermon

In Living Color

Rev. Mitch Houston

***Affirmation of Faith**

Hymnal Pg. 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**

Meineke

***Hymn of Dedication, No. 251**

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

***Blessing of the People**

***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 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 Sehr, Membership Director, at jsehr@bethany-umc.com or 873-1230, ext.31.

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 FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my Grandmother, Bea Murray Mackey by Maria and Michael Agustin.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Greeters

Tim & Mary Kay Shepherd

Liturgist

Mrs. Linda Huffman

Audio/Video Support

Technical Ministries Team

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

Gifts (*Figures for December 24, 2017.. These figures are unverified.)

*Budget Contributions.....73,991.28

*Budget Funds Contributed to Date.....1,881,162.25

*Non-Budgeted Mission and Ministry Gifts to Date188,974.83

Capital Campaign (Figures for December 24, 2017)

*Capital Campaign Contributions 6,179.25

*Total Campaign Gifts Year to Date.....176,183.92

Presence (December 24, 2017)

Morning Worship:

8am Worship – 51; Word & Table Worship – 205; Sanctuary Worship – 376;

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 pm – 756; 7:30 pm Word & Table – 225; 7:30 pm Traditional – 756;

11pm Traditional - 305