



August 2025



THE SPIRIT OF BETHEL

Bethel United Methodist Church

- August 5 District Set-Up Meeting 6:00 PM Fellowship Hall
- August 12 Bethel UM Men Meeting 6:00 PM Fellowship Hall
- 1st Day of Preschool
- August 14 Food Pantry 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- August 17 Back to Bethel Pot-luck Luncheon Fellowship Hall
- August 18 Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 PM
- Trustees Meeting 6:30 PM
- August 19 Worship Committee Meeting 6:00 PM
- August 23/24 District Lay Servant Classes Fellowship Hall
- August 25 Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM
- August 27 Shut-in meals delivered
- August 28 Food Pantry 2:00 PM—4:00 PM



REMEMBERING NAMES

These past three and one-half weeks I have been busy learning new names and putting names and faces together. You have been wonderful, understanding and patient.

All of us like the sound of our own name, and all of us know the pain we feel when we desperately try to call the name of another person, and it won't come to us. When I was growing up, my father would occasionally call one of us children by the wrong name, and since we knew who he really meant, we simply overlooked his mistakes and responded to him anyway.

While mistakes with names are common among us, the Lord never forgets our name. The Gospel of John tells us that the "Shepherd calls his own sheep by name." Knowing your name is high on God's priorities, as it is on mine.

The God of creation, of all the universe, not only knows our names but our deepest thoughts as well. He knows us best and loves us most.

It is refreshing to know we serve a God who takes a personal interest in us. I feel safe and secure in His care, confident that He knows our names and loves us.

And while I'm learning yours, it has been thrilling, especially at the end of July, to see and feel your great support from Bethel, as we serve and worship together each week. That means more names and more faces, and I like that challenge!

Tresco E. Shannon



New Bible Study Led by Pastor Shannon Begins September 3!

Join us for an ongoing study of the New Testament, beginning with the Gospel of Mark. Two sessions are available to fit your schedule: Wednesdays at **10:30AM** and **6:00PM**. Come grow in faith and fellowship as we explore God's Word together. All are welcome!

Women' Bible Study

The Ladies Bible Study will start back on September 21 for 7 weeks. We are doing First Corinthians by Melissa Spoelstra. We started this one last fall but did not finish it, so some of you already have the book. If so, you do not need to pay. If you're joining us new, the cost of the book is \$20. Please sign up in the church office by the end of August.—Sharon



Our Back to Bethel luncheon is Sunday, August 17 and will be our formal "welcome" to Pastor Shannon. The church will provide fried chicken and ham.

Come and bring your favorite dish and join in wonderful fellowship.



We lift up our heartfelt prayers and condolences for the entire family of Mrs. June Dyches. Mrs. June received her eternal reward Sunday, July 13, 2025.

July Memorials



In Memory of Lucille Culpepper

Carl & Patsy Avant; Tony & DeLoris Hamilton; Bonnie & Leon Langley; Delores Crosby; Will Goodwin Class; Wendy, Joe, Bradley & Lucas Clark; Robert, Jenny, Patrick & Daniel Hogan; Joey & Melanie Ritter; Annette Meachum; Carolyn Leitner; Michael & Patsy Rose; Mr. & Mrs. BT Weathers; Paul & Fran Pye; Kim Beeson, Bill & Judy Underwood; Paul & Ann Hooker; Perry & Janet Buckner; David & Debbie Collins and family; Riddick & Deborah Ackerman; Bobbie & Tommy Pelham; Norman Davis & Tina Lee; Cottageville Methodist Men's Group; Carl & Grace Ann Brown; Ellison & Marie Young; Bill & Gail Howell; Jo Dufford; Tom & Pam Whitacre; Carol Slocum; The Lowcountry Scootin' Boots; Terry Kokenes; Nancy L. Thomas; Herman & Joy Hoffman; Duncan & Cindy Hunt; Charles & Faye Rister; Whit & Nancy Spell; Chris & Mary Wynn Chamblin; Tracy & Sharon Courtney; Charlie & Darlene Mangum; Lynn McElmurray; Dr. Joe Flowers; Tommy & Amanda Fulton; Jeffrey & Joanne Herndon

In Memory of June Dyches

Riddick & Deborah Ackerman; Tony & DeLoris Hamilton; Bill & Gail Howell; Tom & Pam Whitacre; Victoria L. Stiles; Tracy & Sharon Courtney; Buddy & Marilyn Creech; Carl & Patsy Avant; Ellison & Marie Young; Charlie & Darlene Mangum; Carol Slocum; Patrick Rodgers; Herman & Joy Hoffman; Arlene Harris; Jeffrey & Joanne Herndon; Duncan & Cindy Hunt; Charles & Faye Rister; David & Debbie Collins & family; Whit & Nancy Spell; Chris & Mary Wynn Chamblin; Lynn McElmurray

In Memory of Stephen Padgett

Duncan & Cindy Hunt



Ellison Young, Joey McLaine, Hayes Harris, Allie Utsey, Devin Crosby, Vera Newington, Gertha Stackley, Bill Howell, Lad Howell, Ed Newington, Carrie Fender, Mike Fanchette, Bobbie McLaine, Debra Smith

NURSING HOMES/SHUT-INS/DISTANT MEMBERS

Jane Brown, Nina Crosby, Sarah Anne Dean, Lynn Harrison, Joy Lawson, Jeanine Price, Rusty Riddle, Kay Speaks, Miriam Westbury

MILITARY SERVICE

Cody Keeney, Elijah and Kaeleigh Forni, Matthew Mangum, Jordan Ray, Tristan Ray

**We want to share our praises, so please keep us updated on those who are on our prayer list.*

CHURCH NEWS



Help Make the 2025–2026 School Year Great!

Our Bethel Preschool is growing—and we need your help! As we celebrate the blessing of a new classroom, we're in need of a few items to help our little learners thrive. If you'd like to support our preschool, please consider donating any of the following:

- Play-Doh toys and rollers
- Uncoated paper plates
- Coffee filters
- Glue sticks
- Play kitchen food
- Dress-up clothes
- Baby dolls

Every donation, big or small, makes a difference. If you'd prefer to give a financial gift, monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and will go directly toward supporting our expanding program.

Thank you for helping us nurture and guide the next generation with love and joy!



Bethel United Methodist Men will meet Tuesday, August 12, at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. This is an important meeting as the fate of the men's fellowship and the Taste of Bethel will be decided. Due to lack of support from the church's membership, it is hard to function with only 5 active participants. We have also been contacted by Coach Riley regarding our support of FCA dinners for the Colleton County High School varsity and junior varsity football teams along with the CPA football team. Will we support these youth in their quest for a closer relationship with God???

In order for the Men's Fellowship to continue serving our church and community, we need your support in both your presence and your willingness to serve. All men, to include youth, of the church are invited to join our **FEW GOOD MEN**. Please give your prayerful consideration to attending this upcoming meeting. It will include dinner, devotion, and a short business meeting along with good Christian fellowship.

Praying that we will see you on the 12th of August.

Yours in Christ,

Mike K



The chancel choir is looking for new members! If you enjoy singing and feel led to share your talent, please contact Tom Whitacre at 843-542-4260. We'd love to have you join us!



PRTC President and CEO Jason Dandridge presents the \$1,000 Roger Cox Scholarship to Anne Hatcher White.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Anne Hatcher White was awarded the Foundation for Rural Service Roger Cox Scholarship, sponsored by NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association. She is a graduate of Walterboro's Colleton Preparatory Academy and plans to attend Clemson University.

The FRS annually awards scholarships to an exceptional group of students for their first year of college or vocational school. All applicants require sponsorship by an eligible NTCA member company, such as PRTC.

The Roger Cox Scholarship is made possible by the generosity of Herman & Whiteaker LLC and does not require any additional contribution from PRTC. Roger served in the telecommunications industry for 27 years, and he was dedicated to improving the lives of those who live in rural America.

The FRS awarded \$160,500 in scholarships to 50 students from rural communities served by members of NTCA. Since the foundation was started in 1994 as the philanthropic arm of NTCA, FRS has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships to more than 900 students.

member
spotlight

Puzzle!

Who made the following statements in the Bible?

1. "Am I my brother's keeper?"
Samuel, John, Cain, Andrew
2. "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you."
Peter, James, John, Paul
3. "What is truth?"
Herod, Pilate, Simon Magus, Cornelius
4. "Choose you this day whom you will serve ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD!"
Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Joshua
5. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
Nathaniel, John, Peter, Paul
6. "In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?"
Herod Agrippa, Pilate, Caiaphas, Annas
7. "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go."
Rebekah, Rachel, Ruth, Rahab
8. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
Paul, Peter, James, Barnabas

Answers: 1. Cain (Genesis 4:9); 2. Peter (Matthew 4:9); 3. Pilate (Acts 3:6); 4. Joshua (Joshua 24:15); 5. Peter (Matthew 16:16); 6. Herod Agrippa (Acts 26:28); 7. Ruth (Ruth 1:16); 8. Paul (2 Timothy 4:7).



Please submit information for the September newsletter by August 22.