



## June Calendar of Events

**Sunday, June 7**

Annual Conference

**Monday, June 8**

Annual Conference

**Tuesday, June 9**

Annual Conference

**Wednesday, June 10**

Annual Conference

**Thursday, June 11**

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM - Food Pantry

**Sunday, June 21**

Father's Day

**Wednesday, June 24**

Shut-in meals delivered

**Thursday, June 25**

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM - Food Pantry

## Ongoing Events

**Sundays**

9:00 AM - Sunday School

Choir practice

10:00 AM - Worship Service



## From the Pastor...

### Happy Father's Day!

As I think of my Dad, on this Father's Day, a hundred boyhood memories play in my head. When I learned to ride a bike, he was there. When I began driving a car, he encouraged me. When I went to work in the family business, he showed me the ropes.

From him I learned to seine for shrimp - how to gig flounder and catch trout - how to open oyster shells and fix crab gumbo. I was continually amazed at his ability to do things like keeping a fire going in the rain, playing the harmonica with his hands behind his back, and keeping a strong-willed boy from tearing the house down.

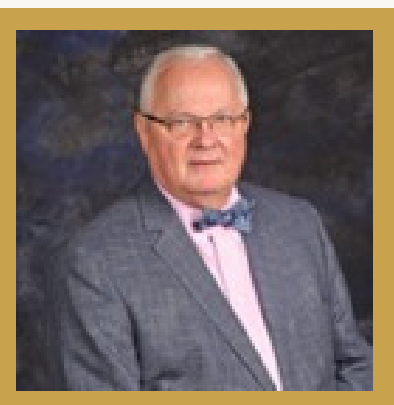
I realize I have him to thank for my deep love for God's creation, for loving my own children, for laughing at impossibilities, for some of the habits that I have picked up like staying at a task until it is finished, taking good care of my personal belongings, keeping my shoes shined, speaking up rather than mumbling, respecting authority, and standing alone (if necessary) in support of my personal convictions rather than giving in to popular opinions. For these things, I am deeply indebted to the man who helped to raise me.

Because a father impacts his family so permanently, I think I understand better than ever what the Scripture means when Paul wrote:

"Having thus a fond affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us... Just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into his own Kingdom and glory" (1 Thessalonians 2:8, 11-12)

I await heaven's gate opening in the distant future. So do other Christians. Most of them anticipate hearing the soft strum of a harp or the sharp blast of a trumpet. Not me. I will hear the nostalgic whine of a harmonica ...held in the hands of the man who died many years ago....*or did he?* The memories are as fresh as this morning's sunrise.

- Tresco E. Shannon



Reverend Tresco E. Shannon

# In Our Prayers

## Shut-ins/ Nursing Home/Distant Members

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

## Military Service

Cody Keeney, Elijah and Kaeleigh Forni,  
Jackson Long, Matthew Mangum, Jordan Ray



*In memory of John Hiott*  
given by Tony & DeLoris Hamilton

*In honor of Vera Newington*  
given by the Will Goodwin Class



Each Sunday, the flowers on our altar are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory or honor of those who have shaped our lives and our faith. These beautiful arrangements are more than decoration — they are reminders of gratitude, remembrance, and hope.

If you would like to provide altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact the church office to reserve a date.

## Growing in the Light

June brings longer days, warmer sunshine, and the beauty of God's creation in full bloom.

As gardens flourish and summer begins, we are reminded that spiritual growth often happens much the same way. Through prayer, worship, acts of kindness, and time spent in God's presence, our faith is nurtured and strengthened.

The season invites us to slow down and notice the blessings around us—the laughter of family, the fellowship of friends, the beauty of nature, and the opportunities we have to serve others in Christ's name. Even the smallest acts of love can bear fruit in ways we may never fully see.

As we enter the summer season, may we continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, trusting that God is at work in every season of life.

*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."*

— 2 Peter 3:18



May this page be a reminder that, through every season, we are a people of hope—caring for one another, lifting one another in prayer, and sharing in the promise of new life.

# Preschool News

## Celebrating Our Preschool Graduates

One of Bethel's greatest blessings is our preschool ministry. Each week, young children fill our halls with laughter, learning, curiosity, and joy. Through caring teachers and a nurturing environment, they are introduced not only to letters, numbers, and new experiences, but also to God's love.

On May 22, we celebrated a special milestone as our four-year-old class graduated from Bethel Preschool. While their time with us may seem brief, the foundation being built in these early years is lasting and important. We are proud of all they have accomplished and excited for the adventures that await them in kindergarten.

As a church family, we give thanks for our preschool staff, the families who entrust their children to our care, and the young lives that continue to be shaped within these walls. Our preschool is more than a program—it is a ministry, and one of the ways Bethel continues to plant seeds of faith for future generations.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."  
— Proverbs 22:6



## The Gift of Longer Days

June arrives with an abundance of sunlight. The days stretch a little longer, evenings linger a little later, and the world around us seems full of life and possibility.

In the midst of busy schedules and summer activities, these longer days offer an invitation—to slow down, to notice God's creation, and to spend time with those we love. A quiet walk, a conversation on the porch, the song of birds in the morning, or the beauty of a summer sunset can all become moments of gratitude.

God often speaks to us not only in grand events, but also in simple blessings that surround us each day. As we enjoy the gifts of this season, may we remember to pause, give thanks, and delight in the goodness of God.

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."  
— Psalm 118:24



June 1	Seth Harris
June 2	Will Crook, Scott Walters
June 6	Myra Barwick
June 7	Michelle Bell, Kyle Strickland
June 9	Jane Moore
June 10	Charlotte Johnston
June 12	Brooke Hudson, Sandy Katchuk Sally Moore
June 13	Nikki Beasley
June 14	David Crosby, Charlie Mangum
June 15	Marie Howell, Moya Pierce
June 17	Carol Winn
June 18	Baylor Pierce, Jack Sims
June 19	Tommy Fulton
June 21	Mike Fanchette, Vicky VonLehe Mundell
June 22	Vera Newington
June 25	Meredith Hipp, Joe Ritter
June 27	Carl Avant, Jamie Gahagan



June 1	Jerry & Beth Smoak
June 2	Chase & Tindall McRae
June 5	Jamie & Jenny Bunton
June 9	PA & Terry Pournelle
June 12	Chris & Brandy Rowe Clayton & Mary Hunter Stoddard
June 14	Theron & Frankie Smith
June 16	Brannon & Janna Davis
June 20	Ben & Laura Barnett Herman & Joy Hoffman
June 21	Rick & Deborah Ackerman
June 24	Troy & Emily Edwards Scott & Donna Rizer
June 25	Jeffrey & Joanne Herndon
June 27	Mark & Sheri Stone

## A Father's Influence

Father's Day gives us an opportunity to honor the fathers, grandfathers, and father figures who have guided us through life. Their influence is often seen not only in the lessons they teach, but also in the example they set through faith, integrity, kindness, and perseverance.

We also remember those fathers who are no longer with us, grateful for the love and wisdom they shared. Their legacy continues in the lives they touched and the values they passed on.

As we celebrate Father's Day, may we give thanks for all those who have encouraged, protected, taught, and loved us along life's journey.

**"The righteous who walks in his integrity—blessed are his children after him!"  
— Proverbs 20:7**



## Walking in the Light

On June 21, we welcome the first day of summer and the longest day of the year. The abundance of sunlight reminds us of God's presence, which shines into every season of our lives.

Just as sunlight nourishes gardens and helps them grow, God's love nurtures our hearts and strengthens our faith. Even when life brings challenges, Christ calls us to walk in His light, trusting that He guides our steps and illuminates our path.

As summer begins, may we take time to enjoy God's creation, cherish time with family and friends, and remember that His light is always with us.

**"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."  
— John 8:12**

