

April Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 2

6:00 PM - Maundy Thursday service

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday - youth decorate the cross

Tuesday, April 7

Noon - Glory Group

6:00PM Bethel UMM (FH)

Thursday, April 9

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

Monday, April 13

2:00 PM - Sally Starr Circle (L)

6:00 PM - Missy Ackerman Circle
(El Pueblo restaurant)

Monday, April 20

5:30 PM - Finance Committee

6:30 PM - Trustees

Wednesday, April 22

Shut-in meals delivered

Thursday, April 23

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

Tuesday, April 28

6:00 PM - Worship Committee (L)

Ongoing Events

Sundays

9:00 AM - Sunday School

10:00 AM - Worship Service

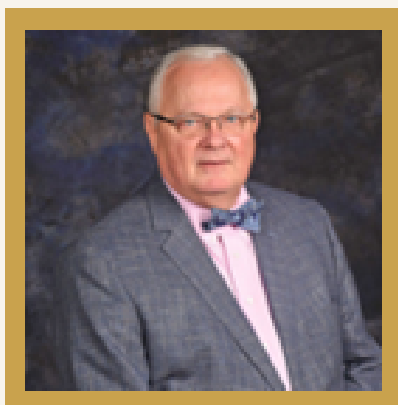
5:30 PM - UMYF



From the Pastor...

Unexpected Glory

At Easter, we celebrate the unexpected glory of Jesus' resurrection. We gather as a community of believers to share this amazing story. Our proclamation is little different today than when Mary proclaimed her story to the disciples. They buried Jesus in a borrowed tomb. Jesus' friends came to the tomb on the first day of the week. The stone was rolled away. It was not rolled away that he might come out but that they might go in. Jesus was not there. Jesus appears to Mary. Mary follows Jesus' calling to tell her story. From that day, Jesus has been calling men and women to share their stories, to preach the good news of the resurrection of Christ. Are you willing to look for God working in the world in surprising ways? How can we on this Easter Sunday experience the Resurrected Christ anew? As the morning sun rises in the east, let us remember that wonderful day when Mary and the disciples arrived at the empty tomb. Jesus called Mary to share in the unexpected glory of that first Easter. Jesus is still calling us today to share in Christ's unexpected glories.



Reverend Tresco E. Shannon

- 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

March Memorials

In memory of Trent Copeland

given by Jane Sams

In memory of Jim Ruud

given by the Will Goodwin Class

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted.

— Psalm 34:18



Altar Flowers



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.

Remembering, Honoring, and Praying Together

As we move through this Easter season, we are reminded that the promise of resurrection speaks into every part of our lives. In moments of joy and in times of sorrow, we continue to walk together as a church family, trusting in the hope we have in Christ.

The names listed on this page represent those who are especially in our thoughts and prayers. Through memorials and honorariums, we give thanks for lives that have touched our own and for the ways God's love has been shared through them. These gifts not only honor cherished memories but also help continue the ministry and mission of our church.

We also lift up those who are facing illness, loss, or difficult circumstances. Our prayers are a meaningful way to surround them with love and encouragement, even when we cannot be physically present.

We remember, too, our shut-ins, who remain a valued and important part of the Bethel family. Though they may not be with us in person, they are always held close in heart and spirit.

As Scripture reminds us:

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

— 1 Peter 1:3

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.

COMMITTEE/CHURCH NEWS



With Gratitude to Tom Whitacre

On Easter Sunday, we will mark a meaningful transition in the life of our church as our director, Tom Whitacre, retires from his role.

We are deeply grateful for Tom's dedication, leadership, and the many ways he has enriched our worship through music. His commitment has blessed our congregation time and again, helping to lead us in praise and draw us closer to God.

While we will miss his leadership in this role, we are thankful that Tom will continue to share his gift of music with us as a member of the choir. His voice will remain a cherished part of our worship life at Bethel.

Please join us in expressing our appreciation and offering prayers of gratitude for Tom and his continued presence among us.



- April 3 Grady Nettles
- April 4 Brandy Rowe
- April 5 Billy Ritter
- April 8 Matthew Creech, Mollie McLeod
- April 9 Lake Boseman, Ellison Ann Frank Lee
- April 10 Emma Rizer
- April 12 Noah Honeycutt, Jane Sams
- April 13 Debra Smith
- April 14 Allen Gustin
- April 16 Jane Brown
- April 18 Joy Dantzler, Mary Jane Little
- April 19 Scott Rizer, Vicki Smith
- April 21 Ann Bickley, Emily Stone
- April 23 Andrew Honeycutt
- April 24 Angie McGuire, Lance Sims
- April 25 Sarah Miller
- April 26 Sharon Molinari
- April 28 Margaret Reed, Kelly Strickland, Ellison Young
- April 30 Addisyn Fee

UMYF NEWS

UMYF Serving Our Community



Our youth group recently took part in their second Keep Walterboro Beautiful outing, spending time picking up litter and helping care for our community. Their efforts are a wonderful example of putting faith into action and being good stewards of God's creation. We are grateful for their servant hearts and the positive impact they are making.



- April 3 Josh & Rebekah White
- April 4 Johnny & Michelle Bell
- April 14 Chris & Ann Bickley
- April 16 Carl & Patsy Avant
- April 18 Tripp & Brandi Boseman
- April 19 Buddy & Marilyn Creech
- April 24 Frank & Anne Biggers
- April 28 Jeff & Sharon Molinari



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool Teacher Position Available

Bethel Preschool is seeking a caring, patient, and enthusiastic teacher who has a heart for working with young children. This position requires someone who can provide a nurturing environment, encourage early learning, and share God's love through kindness, guidance, and daily interaction.

The ideal candidate will be dependable, creative, and able to work well with both children and parents.

If you feel called to this important ministry, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact the church office for more information.

Preschool Registration Now Open

Bethel Preschool is now accepting applications for our 2-, 3-, and 4-year-old classes.

Our program provides a loving, faith-centered environment where children can grow, learn, and develop socially, emotionally, and spiritually.

Space is limited, so we encourage early registration.

For more information or to request an application, please contact the church office.

Music Director Position Available

Bethel United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Music Director to help lead and enrich our worship through music. This individual should have a passion for church music and the ability to work with musicians and the congregation to enhance the worship experience. Salary is negotiable. Applicants should include music education and relevant work history in their resume. For more information or to apply, please contact the church office.

After the Empty Tomb

Easter morning comes with joy, celebration, and the proclamation that Christ is risen. Yet, just as quickly, the days move forward. The flowers remain, the sun rises a little earlier, and life continues in its familiar rhythm.

April reminds us that resurrection is not only something we celebrate—it is something we live. In the quiet unfolding of spring, in the greening of the trees, and in the warmth of longer days, we are surrounded by reminders that God is always bringing new life.

The empty tomb was not the end of the story. It was the beginning.

As we move through this season, may we continue to look for the unexpected ways Christ is present in our lives—and may we carry the hope of Easter into each ordinary day.

*“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?”
— Isaiah 43:19*



BROKEN CHORDS

I was reading a column last week that the Atlanta Journal/Constitution ran about a church member, of another denomination in Texas, who joined the choir.

Though she sang loudly off-key and couldn't match the tempo, she insisted on staying in the choir. Finally, the church obtained a restraining order that barred her from the choir. When the woman failed to appear at a hearing on the order, she was arrested and jailed.

I am so happy we are far from having that problem at Bethel UMC!

This opens a Pandora's Box for all kinds of things, including barring from the pulpit the preacher who can't preach. But what about a court order for those who can sing but won't? Or who can teach or lead but refuse to offer themselves?

It could even lead to the arrest of parents for contributing to the delinquency of a minor when they failed to bring their children to Sunday school and church. It might set the stage for a lien against the assets of those who fail to voluntarily support the church.

All of this is extreme and ridiculously absurd, but it does suggest something about what the atmosphere in the church should be. It also reminds us of the wonderful atmosphere that we enjoy here at Bethel. This continuing season of Easter is a wonderful opportunity to re-examine our own relationship to Christ and to the church.

There should always be a clear connection between what we say we believe and the way we act. Bethel Church needs all of us, and I'd like to think we help each other the best ways we can serve.

The old gospel hymn, “Rescue the Perishing,” says it best in the third stanza:

*“Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,
feelings lie buried that grace can restore:
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness
chords that were broken will vibrate once more.”*

- Tresco E. Shannon



*May Newsletter
Submissions Due
April 21*