

Bethel United Methodist Church (07/22)
 355 Hampton Street
 Walterboro, SC 29488

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The Spirit of Bethel

For The People of Bethel

**Making disciples of Jesus Christ
 for the transformation of the world.**

July 2022

**355 Hampton Street
 Walterboro, SC 29488
 (843) 549-7691, office
 (843) 782-4845, Preschool**

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Church Sexton

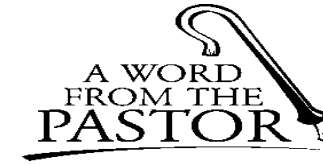
Willie James Lawery

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Rev. Dr. Scott H. Wachter

Dear Bethel Church family:

On Monday our nation will be 246 years old. While that might seem like a long time, our nation is much younger than many of the countries around the globe. While there is way too much meanness and animosity in our United States of America today, it is still (in my humble opinion) the greatest nation in the world today. There is not another place on earth that I know of where people risk everything to reach its soil. As we celebrate our nation's birthday, let me encourage you to thank God for the freedoms we enjoy and seek God's guidance in living a life worthy of His calling. Our nation's earliest leaders recognized the importance of the providence of God in our founding. Read again the beginning words of the Declaration of Independence:

In Congress, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with

certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, -- That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Our nation has recognized the fact that we, as human beings, are created by God and that as God's creation we are born with certain rights. The government does not give us these rights. God has gifted us with them. So, as we celebrate Independence Day, let's remember to give thanks that we are all God's children, and He is the Grantor of our greatest freedoms.

Blessings,

Scott H. Wachter

The Rev. Dr. Scott H. Wachter

JULY SCHEDULE

Date	Event
July 3 rd	Worship 8:45 & 11:00 Communion
July 10 th	Worship 8:45 & 11:00 Worship with Agape Praise Band
July 17 th	Worship 8:45 & 11:00
July 24 th	Worship 8:45 & 11:00
July 31 st	Worship 8:45 & 11:00



UPDATE



Bethel is working on an updated church directory. Photos for the directory will be taken

Tuesday, September 13th
Wednesday, September 14th

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter sc259 in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field.

Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**



Board of Trustees Update:

1) The work on the windows of the education building is complete. There were quite a few broken windows replaced in addition to the sealing and painting. The building now not only looks better, but it is also more secure and energy efficient.

2) Joey McLaine negotiated a very reasonable contract with ISI Welding and Fabrication to do the structural work on our steeple. ISI was the only contractor who followed through with our requests for bids. The Church Council approved the contract for \$16,500 so this work to secure the steeple can be completed asap as the structural problem with the steeple is a safety issue.

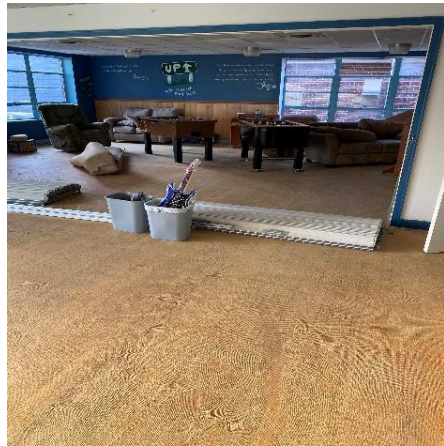
3) The Trustees have also received an estimate from ABC Exteriors to do the necessary work on the exterior of the steeple. The work will involve scaffolding, cleaning all the stone, repointing, caulking, sealing around the stained-glass windows, and sealing the stone. If approved this work will take about one month to complete. The proposal is for \$139,498.00. The Finance Committee and Board of Trustees will have to work together to finalize plans to correct the steeple properly so that it won't leak for the long term so that the next generation of Bethel members won't have to face these expensive repairs again.

4) Members of our congregation have expressed interest in a few other projects that would benefit our church and community but are not currently within our financial means. One is to replace the carillon so we can once again play beautiful music from our steeple. This project will cost just under \$10,000. A second is to replace the fence around our playground with a nicer looking fence. Based on old estimates, this project will likely cost around \$10,000, also. A third is to replace the blinds in the rooms that were not replaced last year for a better and more consistent appearance from Hampton Street. If anyone has an interest in funding one of these projects, please speak to a member of the Board of Trustees.



The Pastor's Bible Study will not meet in the month of July. The study will resume in August

Two of our youth made a presentation to the Church Council in May. They shared the youth group's desire to paint and update the furnishings in our Youth Room for our growing youth ministry. The Church Council responded enthusiastically by designating \$18,750 of unused budgeted expenses (five months of unused Discipleship Director/Minister salary) for use in the upgrading of the youth room.



The youth held two works days in June. On the first day they hauled off all the junk, worn out furniture, and the pool table (after removing dozens of bolts and using a sledgehammer to break up the slate panels). On the second day they ripped up the old carpet, removed the partition, and took

down the remaining old blinds. Thanks to Joey McLaine and Rob Crawford for helping the youth with this work. The next step is to have the carpet glue removed from the hardwood floor and then to have the floor refinished. It should look great once the work is complete. The youth are currently working with an interior decorator (Marina Crawford) to finalize paint colors and scheme. Once this is complete, the youth will purchase new furnishings. If anyone has a nice pool table they are no longer using, the youth room needs a new one.

The youth are thankful to the church for buying a new bus. The High School UMYF used the bus first, going to Carowinds on June 9. The Middle School UMYF used the new bus on June 27, for their trip to Carowinds. The bus rides very smoothly and the air conditioning is more than adequate. More trips will be scheduled during the summer, as well.

The UMYF blessed Pastor Scott and Teresa at their end of the year pool parties by gifting them with several items for their grandbaby. Pastor Scott and Teresa are very thankful for the youth group's thoughtfulness.

Thanks to Sharon Courtney and Grace Ann Brown for their work with the youth over the last school year.



High School UMYF



In Memory of **John and Paige Peurifoy**
By Riddick and Deborah Ackerman



In honor of **Joe and Beverly Ritter**
by Lucille Culpepper



NEW CHURCH BUS

NEW CHURCH BUS

The new church bus has arrived and been pressed into service with ferrying the youth to Carowinds. The cost of these buses has risen recently (like most things). The actual cost of the bus was \$63,840. We still need about \$34,000.00 to cover the purchase cost. Donations to the "Bus" fund are appreciated.



Bible Quiz

In Luke 15 Jesus tells three parables. Which of the following is not one of them?

- A. The Parable of the Lost Sheep
- B. The Parable of the Lost Son
- C. The Parable of the Lost Pearl
- D. The Parable of the Lost Coin

Answer: C (See Luke 15:1-32.)

Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram puzzle, using the clues R=I and M=T, to complete Psalm 111:10, NIV.

M Y L C L O O Z C M Y L
 P Z Q N R V M Y L
 H L D R F F R F D Z C G R V N Z U
 O P P G Y Z C Z P P Z G
 Y R V B Q L T L B M V
 Y O K L D Z Z N
 J F N L Q V M O F N R F D
 M Z Y R U H L P Z F D V
 L M L Q F O P B Q O R V L

PSALM 111:10, NIV

Answer: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. Psalm 111:10, NIV



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Beverly Ritter	1	Janna Davis	17
Jim Hiott		Phyllis Mangum	
Emily Stroble	2	Donald Rizer	
Tristin Beach	4	Chad Spell	18
Ben Barnett		Charles Hoffman	
Tindall McRae	5	Mitchell McRae	19
Beth Boineau		James Austin Williams	
DeLoris Hamilton	6	Robert Eppinette	20
Jena McGuire	7	Dawson Beach	
Ashley Baggett		Julie Hiott	21
Patsy Avant	8	Jill Stephens	
CJ Deloach		Lawson Griffith	22
Blake Spears	9	Charlie Armentrout	24
Beth Smoak	10	Parks Mangum	25
Jim Bunton	11	Jerry Smoak	
Mary Hunter Stoddard	12	Hal Dean	26
Josh White	13	West Brown	27
Fredrice Herring		Shelli Duncan	29
Huiet Rowe	14	Donna Rizer	
Billy Drawdy	15	Bo Hetrick	
Jessica Williams		Penelope Tuten	31
Olivia Burttram	16	Gary Hermann	
Anne Hatcher White	17		



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Becky and Ted Kinard	2
Marie and Ellison Young	9
Lee Dean and David Cox	14
Sylvia and Charles Rowland	15
Lesli and Greg Pryor	16
Becky and James Broderick	28



Bethel Members, their families, and others in the Bethel extended church family who need your prayers:

OUR PRAYERS: Jane Bell, Isobel Bryan, Linda Corbett, Steve Crosby, Terri Crosby, Eric Culpepper, Lucille Culpepper, June Dyches, Frankie Evans, Barbara Hermann, Eunice Howard, Linda Hudson, Billy Jones, Ted Kinard, Noah Lutz, Ed Newington, Tyler Pope, Beverly Ritter, Linda Ritter, Joe Saegh, Michael Saegh, James Skardon, Mark Stone, Terry Walters, Henry Webber (Adkins), Carol Winn

Nursing Homes/Shut-Ins/Distant Members: Mary Lee Armentrout, Frances Beach, Travis Beeson, Jackie Bennett, Doris Bone, Carroll Brown, III, Jane Brown, Mary Esther Crook, Nina Crosby, Sarah Anne Dean, Joyce Gentry, Caroline Johnson, Joy Lawson, Millie Murray, Jeanine Price, Dorothy Reeves, Rusty Riddle, Miriam Westbury, Bill Wilson, Betty Sue Wilson.

Military Service: Christian Beasley, Caleb Blankenship, Elijah and Kaeleigh Forni, Matthew Mangum, Edward Phillips, Jordan Ray, Tristan Ray, Blake Rhodes, Erin P. Walters.

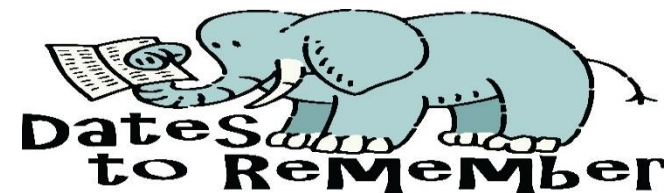


Please call the church office at 843-549-7691 to have a name added to our prayer list. Also please call the church office if you have a spiritual need or concern and wish to speak with Pastor Scott.



New Updated Church Directory

Bethel is working on an updated church directory. If you are interested in helping with this project, there will be a second meeting in the church library on **Thursday, July 14th at 9:30 AM.** Volunteers are needed to help with sign-up for photos and with check in on picture day.



August 14 th	Back to Bethel 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Fellowship Meal to follow
August 14 th	Blood Drive at Bethel
November 4 th - 6 th	Middle School Retreat



2022 SC Conference of the United Methodist Church Annual Conference

The 51st session of the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church was held virtually from Sunday, June 5 – Monday, June 6. Bethel United Methodist was represented by Tom Woodward and Sharon Courtney. The theme of this year's conference was "Seeking a More Excellent Way: Trusting, Believing, Knowing God Is with Us."

The conference began Sunday afternoon at 2:00 with the Clergy Session. The Commissioning Ordination and Retirement Recognition Service was at 7:00 with Bishop Jonathan Holston presiding.

On Monday morning, there was a training session for clergy and laity on the voting platform. That was followed by a presentation of all the video reports.

The formal business session began at 11:00 with a Call to Order and a short opening devotion by Bishop Holston. There were reports from Finance, Nominations, Standing Rules, Connectional Ministries, Ordained Ministry Board, Pension and Health Benefits, Equitable Compensation, The Cabinet, and the Lay Leader. Some of the key points from these reports include the following:

- The 2023 budget is \$115.6 million, a decrease of 2.1%
- Five churches were closed and two others were merged
- Each church's Trustees should review all liability coverages to assure proper protections due to the increase in lawsuits against churches in our conference
- Ken Nelson was voted to be an Episcopal candidate from the conference
- Approval was given for the camps to have a special, non-budgetary fundraising program for three years to raise money for Asbury Hills, similar to the program for Epworth
- The Orangeburg district was recognized for giving 98% of its apportionments, the highest percentage of all the districts
- The next general conference is scheduled for 2024

2022 SC Annual Conference continued:

During these reports, the approximately 850 attendees voted on around 40 different ballots.

The business reports can be found online at [2022 Annual Conference - South Carolina UMC \(umcsc.org\)](https://umcsc.org).

At the end of the meeting, it was announced that the Annual Conference will be held in Greenville for three years beginning in 2024. Next year's conference will again be held at the Florence Convention Center from June 4-8.

The final order of business was the Sending Forth and Fixing of the Appointments by Bishop Holston. Pastor Scott Wachter returns to Bethel for a 5th year. Other appointments of interest include Michael Ritter to Bethany in Summerville (1st year), Justin Ritter to Clinton (1st year), and Ben Barnett to Prosperity (3rd year). The entire list of appointments can be found online (link above).

A service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving was held on Monday evening at 7:00, led by Rev. Dr. Robin Dease.



Donations Being Accepted for Shoeboxes

You may contribute to the Shoebox fund with your offering on Sunday or any of the online giving methods. Just mark it for the "Shoeboxes".

Freedom

Each one of us is born most free
And we alone can choose
To do what God would have us do,
To use what God would use.

Or we are also free to seek
The proud and selfish way —
A life where other gods come first
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ leads,
We find that freedom's place
Is really in God's will for us,
And we have chosen GRACE!

—Peggy Ferrell, *Prayers and Poems*