



THE SPIRIT OF BETHEL

Bethel United Methodist Church



- 2nd All Saints Sunday
- 4th Glory Group at noon in fellowship hall
Bethel UMM 6:00PM at Fat Jack's
- 6th Charge Conference 6:00PM in fellowship hall
- 10th Sally Starr Circle 2:00PM in library
Missy Ackerman Circle 6:00PM in library
- 13th Food Pantry
- 19th Shut-in meals delivered
- 20th Food Pantry
- 30th First Sunday of Advent



- Sundays at 3:00PM—Ladies Bible Study in Wesley Bible Class
- Sundays at 5:30 PM—UMYF
- Wednesdays at 10:30AM or 6:00PM—Pastor's Bible Study in fellowship hall
(No Bible study November 26)
- Wednesdays at 6:00PM—Christmas choir practice (5:00PM extra practice)
(No choir practice Nov. 26)



“BALD SPOTS”

A few more years and the developers will have Western North Carolina as flat as Florida. Any observer cannot help but notice the bulldozers searing some of the mountains and leaving them bald.

Strong winds now blow sand into the valleys below, whereas the topsoil was always held in place before by the foliage that covered it, the bald mountains are now robbed of their beauty. At one time, some of these spots had been a haven for birds, wild animals, and Sunday afternoon picnics, or as a backdrop for tourists' pictures when the fall colors are so brilliant in the mountains. But not now.

ADVENT is soon approaching and it is the announcement that God intends to cover our bald spots - - the loneliness, the confusion, the emptiness, the guilt - - with a mantle of love. He is in the business of restoring values and meaning to those circumstances in life that have been left bare by our coldness and indifference.

So, we herald His coming. We don't like barren landscapes and empty lives. When you support Bethel United Methodist Church you are helping provide for that mantle of love to fall across the empty spots in our lives and in this community.

I cannot imagine what Walterboro would look like without our church in its place. If we fail to support it, we are suggesting that a very significant force in the life of this community be sheared away.

Without our newly installed roofing, recently purchased at a tremendous cost, we could have been left with a physically damaged sanctuary. However, the emptiness and coldness without Bethel United Methodist Church would leave us, and this community, bald and spiritually numb.

In the few remaining weeks of 2025, I hope you will search your conscience to determine how much of a bald spot your part will cover.

Tresco Shannon





*In Memory of **Wanda Carter** given by Bill & Gail Howell*

*In Memory of **Kitty Howell** given by Perry & Janet Buckner, Tony & DeLoris Hamilton*



NURSING HOMES/SHUT-INS/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, Tristan Ray



“All Saints Sunday: a time to remember our loved ones who entered glory this past year and to rejoice that their stories continue in God’s care.”

<i>Lee Dean Cox</i>	October 30, 2024
<i>Rev. David Cox</i>	December 2, 2024
<i>Michael Padgett</i>	December 3, 2024
<i>Eunice Howard</i>	December 31, 2024
<i>Carol Simmons</i>	January 17, 2025
<i>Doris Bone</i>	February 7, 2025
<i>Becky Kinard</i>	March 13, 2025
<i>Gene Rhodes</i>	March 17, 2025
<i>Lucille Culpepper</i>	June 26, 2025
<i>June Dyches</i>	July 13, 2025
<i>Kathy Stieglitz</i>	August 23, 2025
<i>Wanda Carter</i>	September 11, 2025



Honor a loved one and beautify our altar.

Sign up is available for all Sundays in November and December after November 2.



In November, we will be sponsoring the Free Laundry Day for In His Name Colleton, so bring your quarters, and we will certainly welcome bills as well. This will be our second year of sponsoring The Free Laundry Day, and we are thankful to Bethel for the generosity in supporting this important mission.

On November 17, we will begin collecting coats for In His Name Colleton's Christmas dinner. Children's, women's, and men's coats are needed. We will also continue to accept donations of warm clothing for the cold months ahead. Please drop off your donations to the church office. Thank you!

- Carol



Bethel's United Methodist Men had a busy and successful September and October. We fed and provided devotions to 150 young men through the FCA programs at CPA and CCHS varsity and junior varsity football teams. Thanks to all the men who helped! We were blessed by the Missions Committee, the Sally Starr Circle, and the Missy Ackerman Circle by their providing desserts for the dinners. Believe me when I say the kids loved the cookies, brownies, chewies, and cup cakes. A very special THANK YOU goes out to **Walterboro Food Lion** for their donation of the drinks (Gatorade and water). This donation represent 1/4 of the cost for the support of our Fellowship of Christian Athletes program.

BUMM was also able to make donations to Epworth and In His Name Colleton (who provided a guest speaker for our October meeting). A Few Good Men will have their next regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 4 at 6:00 at Fat Jack's.

- Mike K



The South Carolina United Methodist Church promotes the inclusion of the Native American community, builds awareness and appreciation for the Native American presence, history, traditions and spirituality, implements assistance to the Native American Community leading to self-sufficiency in all areas of life, and dispenses funding to Native American ministries and community. development in the SCUMC.

November is designated Native American Indian month. Support from church members is encouraged to contribute to the Elder Basket Project. Baskets of staple foods and household necessities are delivered to American Indian tribes and communities all over South Carolina.

- Jo Anne B



The Sally Starr Circle is selling pecans again this year. One pound bags of halves or pieces will be \$13 each. Pecans may be purchased through the church office and will be available the week before Thanksgiving.



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

This year the Youth chose Keep Walterboro Beautiful as a mission project. Our group was assigned Carn Street by the city committee. We did our first trash pickup on Sunday, October 7. There were 8 youth and 2 adults. We collected approximately 12 pounds of trash!

- Sharon C



PreSchool News

Tuesday mornings are Chapel time for our preschoolers! Pastor Shannon leads a kid-friendly message that helps them learn about God’s love.

Some of Bethel’s preschool classes visited the Community Garden at the Artisan Center in October and have even purchased their own garden bin where they have been planting veggies!

In November, they will visit the Colleton Civic Center on the 20th to see “Tommy, the Thankful Turkey”, and they will have their Thanksgiving program on the 21st.

- Jewel B



Girl Scouts

Welcoming Our Girl Scouts!

Bethel is delighted to provide a meeting space for a local **Girl Scouts Troop**! The girls are excited and grateful to finally have a place to call their own. They’ve been enjoying the use of our **youth room** for their meetings and activities. In October, they worked on earning a first aid badge.

- Jennifer S



We’re thankful to support these young leaders as they learn, grow, and serve together.

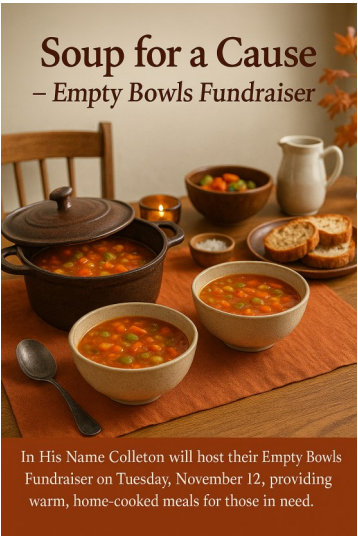




Soup for a Cause — Empty Bowls Fundraiser

In His Name Colleton will host their **Empty Bowls Fundraiser** on **Tuesday, November 12**, providing warm, home-cooked meals for those in need. They are asking for donations of **homemade soup** to help fill empty bowls and hearts throughout our community. Every bowl shared helps spread comfort and compassion in Christ’s name.

Lunch is 11-2. Dinner is 5-8. IHN Colleton is located at 100 S. Jefferies Blvd.



Supporting Our Food Pantry This Holiday Season

As we enter this season of gratitude and giving, we are reminded of the great need that exists right here in our own community. Bethel’s **Food Pantry** continues to serve families who depend on it for nourishment and hope.

With the holidays approaching, we invite you to prayerfully consider supporting this ministry through **financial gifts or donations**. Your generosity ensures that shelves remain stocked and hearts are lifted through the love of Christ. Together, we can help fill not just plates—but lives—with compassion and care.

“Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” – Luke 3:11



Supporting Our International Teachers

Our community has been blessed with a group of international teachers who have traveled great distances to share their gifts in our schools. Because they can only bring a limited amount of belongings—no more than 50 pounds—they often arrive with little more than the essentials.

We want to help these teachers feel at home as they settle into their new surroundings. Donations of **professional attire, furniture, kitchen wares, and linens** are greatly appreciated. Your generosity will help provide comfort, stability, and a sense of belonging to those who are giving so much of themselves to our students and schools. First Baptist’s congregation and the school district employees have been a big help, but more is needed.

If you have items to donate or would like more information, please contact the church office. Together, we can help make their new houses feel like homes. We’d like to make this happen by Thanksgiving, if possible. - **Catherine F**

Hebrews 13:2 (NRSV)
“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.”



Thank You to Our Volunteers!

We are so very grateful for the many hands and hearts that serve at Bethel. From those who serve on committees, help with our food pantry, prepare meals for grieving families, prepare and deliver meals to our shut-ins, direct our missions, lead Bible study and other groups, guide our youth and children, lead Sunday School classes, count money and make deposits, and so much more—you are the heartbeat of our church family.

We are especially thankful for those who make our Sunday services possible—our choir members, ushers, acolytes, sound technician, the one who faithfully takes attendance, those who prepare for Communion Sundays and holidays, and those who keep our pews supplied with giving envelopes and visitor cards. Your time, talents, and love make a difference each and every week.

If we have left anyone out, please know that you are deeply appreciated. Thank you to all who faithfully serve the Lord and bless our congregation in countless ways.



A Season of Thankfulness

November invites us to slow down and take stock of the blessings that fill our lives. Between the falling leaves and the gatherings around our tables, we’re reminded that gratitude isn’t just a feeling—it’s a posture of the heart.

The Apostle Paul writes, **“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”** (1 Thessalonians 5:18). True thankfulness does not depend on perfect conditions but springs from the awareness that God is with us in every season—joyful or difficult.

As we enter this month of reflection and gratitude, may we look beyond the things we lack and celebrate the countless ways God’s goodness surrounds us. Let every prayer, every smile, every shared meal become an offering of thanks to the One who provides more abundantly than we could ask or imagine.

