



Bethel United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

Knowing, Loving, Serving...so the world will experience Christ's love!

January 2018

www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com

One Lord, One God, Father of all!

"I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all."

—Ephesians 4:1-6



Every four years, United Methodists from around the world gather for General Conference. At General Conference 2016, the Bishops arranged for a specially-called General Conference, which will be held this coming February 2019. In preparation for this special conference, a team of Bishops,

clergy, and laity have been

working to create a plan that will give our global church a way to move forward with renewed vitality in ministry as a united, global connection, even with the deep divisions over the issues surrounding Human Sexuality. You can find more information on our conference website: umcsc.org

I offer the below poem by our District Superintendent as a comforting reminder that no decision made by any conference can separate us from God. This is the Good News!

I'm not sure where we're headed
The future is unknown
But why should it be dreaded?
For we are not alone
The God who made the past

Is with us even today
He'll carry us to the last
He always makes a way
He parted the Red Sea
Turned water into wine
Carried you and me
When all was not fine
The church is fed by wine and bread
Held together 2,000 years
The risen Jesus is the head
So let go of all your fears
Remember disciples on Pentecost
Hiding in a room
Thinking all was lost
Full of doom and gloom
The Spirit came in wind and flame
All was changed on that day
Nothing was the same
God had made a way
In the Spirit let us trust
As we face the unknown
From the day He made us from dust
We have never been alone!

Please join me in prayer as we await the decisions of General Conference 2019. My door is always open if you'd like to meet in person to discuss.

In Christ,
Pastor Julie

Columbia District Excellence in Ministry Training

January 13, 2019 at Washington Street UMC Registration deadline Jan. 6

Gathering: 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Opening Session & Workshops: 3:00-5:30pm

Whether you are already serving, interested in serving or just want to know more please sign up and attend one of these upcoming workshops.

They are fun, interesting and led by some great people.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
JANUARY 6. REGISTRATION
LINK: <https://goo.gl/forms/uQ2E0rBVwvYRYWfv2>

"How to Reach New People: Practical Evangelism"

¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always. . ." (Matt. 28:19-20)

We are disciples with a commission to "Go" into the world and spread the "Good News" and yet, far too many of us fear the mere thought of evangelism because we have lost the skills, and need training. Just as Jesus trained his disciples in "The Way", we must also make and train disciples, but we need to train ourselves first. Our commission is to seek the lost sheep and bring them into a personal relationship with Jesus. Are you ready?

Facilitator: Andy Colucci, Lay Servant, Lay Leader, Lebanon UMC

"Taking Care of God's Money"— If you're on the Finance Committee, come hear about clergy payroll, tax related questions, and the new remittance form for apportionments.

We will discuss effective ways to be transparent in sharing financial updates with the church. There will also be open question & answer time. **Facilitator: Beth Westbury, Conference Administrator/Treasurer**

"Finding a Way Forward: General Conference February 2019"— As we move toward the called General Conference, we wonder *"What might happen to our UMC?"* Learn about the 3 plans from the Commission on the Way Forward, and the potential impact to churches and pastors. This workshop is open to all, but especially important for Council Chair, SPRC Chair and Lay Leader. **Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson, Columbia District Superintendent**

"Church Security and Safety"— This program will give an overview of church security procedures, while enabling the church to maintain a welcoming atmosphere. We will also discuss situational awareness with the Rings of Security, which include your immediate location within a facility and the subsequent areas you can escape for shelter. **Facilitator: Jim Ellis, Southern Mutual Church Ins., Shandon member**

"Taking Care of Business"— The Trustees have very important duties to care for the business of God's church. Learn how to effectively take care of property, insurance, bequests, legal issues, deeds, etc. **Facilitator: Kay Crowe, Conference Chancellor**

"Safe Sanctuary Policies in the Age of Social Media"— How do you protect your children, vulnerable adults, volunteers, and staff in this age of Social Media? We live in a time where the threats from the outside can easily find their way inside through our use of social media. Learn how to create and sustain a culture of caution and care that safeguards your congregation and community. **Facilitator: Rev. Millie Nelson Smith, Congregational Specialist for Columbia and Hartsville**

"A Well-Oiled Machine: The Local Church Mission Team"— This session will begin with a bit of introduction to the District Mission Specials (including district wide international mission opportunities), Conference Missions and the UMC Global Ministries. Following that we will delve into the "who, what, when and a bit of how" a Mission/Outreach Committee operates within the church. Next we will move onto how to start with organizing things. All along the way there will be time for conversation and exploration of local situations. This session is not just for the chair of the committee, but for the whole Mission/Outreach team. **Facilitator: Rev. Gary D. Phillips, Salem UMC**

"Lay Delegates"— Annual Conference 2019 will be important, as we will elect lay and clergy delegates to Jurisdictional and General Conference 2020. This session will help Annual Conference Lay Delegates and anyone desiring to

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Bethel United Methodist Church 2019 Usher & Greeter Training

Thank you to all who have offered themselves in service as an usher or greeter at Bethel UMC. **This is an important ministry of hospitality and you have an important role and responsibility.** You will be one of the first people visitors will see. You are the first impression of our church. How you meet them and what you say to them will help set the tone for their worship experience here.

Ushering and greeting calls for patience, courtesy and discernment. Almost like entertaining friends, you are the host or hostess and each person coming to worship is your special guest. Your warm greeting and pleasant smile will help foster a sense of belonging, even for a newcomer.

In addition to greeting people, your service as an usher is essential to the worship of our congregation. People cannot take their seats, follow the order of worship, receive communion, or give their offerings to God without you. Your service, performed in a quiet, reverent and unobtrusive manner, helps create a meaningful atmosphere for sacred worship.

Our Ushering and Greeting ministry is coordinated by our Head Usher Tom Elliott. Please see Tom or Pastor Julie with any questions.

Julie and Jason will be leading a training session for all ushers and greeters on Sunday, January 27th from 3:00pm-4:30pm in the sanctuary. This training is **MANDATORY** for all who serve as ushers and greeters for both our Traditional and Contemporary services. Please confirm your attendance by emailing Pastor Julie at jdsonger@umcsc.org by Sunday, January 20th.



Welcome Nat McMaster to Bethel

Today Bethel welcomes our January Ministry Intern, Nathaniel "Nat"

McMaster! Nat is a native of Winnsboro, and attended high school in the District of Columbia. He is currently a sophomore at Wofford, where he is studying French—perhaps with a double major or minor in accounting. In Spartanburg he has recently taken up playing the carillon at a local Episcopal church. He spends much of the summer working on the family farm, and enjoys doing genealogical research. He has published one article in the journal of the Piedmont Historical Society. His father, Brian, is a real-estate agent, and his mother, Kathleen, is a government contractor. He has a younger brother, Elliott, and is a member of First United Methodist Church in Winnsboro.

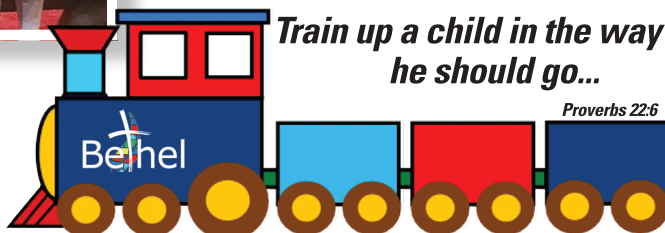
Bethel's PRESCHOOL New Year's NEWS



Preschool celebrated the birth of our Saviour with our Christmas program on December 20. The children were precious as they enacted that First Christmas and sang many Christmas favorites. They had fun making snow while hoping they would see some of the white stuff! Fun was had by all!

Before the end of November we had our first Pancake Supper with Santa! This evening was a huge success! The eyes of the children when Santa walked into our Activities building was priceless! Parents received their photos via email and were able to make prints or gifts from the pictures. The preschool made over \$700.00 for our playground!

Blessings, Carol Burger, Preschool Director



UMW Upcoming Events

UMW Officer training will be held January 12 at AsburyUMC, 1005 Asbury Drive, Columbia, 29209. Welcome and refreshments begin at 8:45 with program at 9:30. Please try to attend, its very informative.

BETHEL UMW CIRCLES WE NEED YOUR HELP AGAIN!

Church Women United will meet for Brunch and Bible Study on Feb 1 at Bethel in the PAB. Last year it was wonderful and the Bible Study are great way to begin a NEW year! Please let Bonnie Speas know what refreshment you can bring and please come to the Bible Study.

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as a delegate to Jurisdictional and General Conference, to understand the process for selection of Bishops, and the importance of our connectional church. All Lay Delegates, Alternate Lay Delegates and anyone desiring to be a delegate to Jurisdictional or General Conf. are encouraged to attend.

Facilitator: Rev. Ken Nelson, Director of Clergy Services Annual Conference Secretary

"Digital Church Communications" — "Digital Church Communications"

This workshop will share best practices in digital church communications, such as web and social media strategies for local churches and ministries, and the continuing management of those strategies. Those with "a little" to "some" familiarity with web and social media ministry would benefit most from this training, but all are welcome. This course also can provide real-world feedback on your church's existing digital communications. For more about that feedback, please email communications@umcsc.org by Dec. 30.

Facilitator: Dan O'Mara, S.C. Conference Communications Coordinator

"Advocacy"—The UMC has a long history of concern for social justice. Wesley and the early Methodists expressed their opposition to slavery, smuggling, prison conditions, alcohol abuse, and child labor. Today, the relationships we form in our communities, through direct service and mercy ministries, lead us to be a voice for justice. We cannot be silent when our neighbors are impacted by broken social, economic and political systems that result in poverty, conflict, and oppression. This workshop will educate you about becoming a voice for social justice and provide information that will connect you to community groups, events, and programs to increase your knowledge and involvement as we build a movement for justice.

Facilitator: Rev. Scott Smoak, Pastor, Virginia Wingard UMC, Rev. Christopher Greene, Pastor, Shiloh UMC

"Epworth Local Church Representative: Be the Face and Voice"—As the Epworth LCR for your congregation you are the face and voice of our children to those in your community. By attending this workshop you will receive practical advice materials, and ideas that will work in aiding you and your congregation to become an increasingly effective change agent in giving children, youth, and families hope and help as they move toward more productive lives. **Facilitator: Sherri Mims, Assoc. Director of Church Relations/Exec. Assistant to the President, Epworth**

PRAY Daily for Bethel, Bethel friends & family!

Brenda Turner, Sarah Califf; Herman Berry; Myra Jackson; Leo Foster; Vicky Hill; Nancy Johnson at The Blake; Connie Fowke, Betty Onley and Carmen Pool at Rice Estates; Gloria Pruitt at home; Claude Murphy at Encompass; Mary Kirby at Waterford; Sarah Parker; Gwen Barrs; Irene Boyd; Sarah Parker; Martie Fun-derburk, Encompass; Kay Fraiser; Please continue to keep these people in your hearts during your daily prayer time. Also please continue to pray for Bethel, her leaders and her ministry. Please pray for safe travels for those who will be traveling over the holidays.



Keep our young adults in your thoughts and prayers as they are away at school. We wish them much success.

Clemson University—Brian Burger, Mary Sydney George
Lander University—McKenzie Furr

USC—Jennie Joe Wiltshire; Andrew Garnto; Dillon Garnto

USC Sumter—Alan Farmer

Johns Hopkins—Abbie Bowman

Auburn University Vet School—Kelly Farmer

Midlands Tech—Dana Garnto

News From the Kitchen

This year the Kitchen Committee is starting with new leadership. Fred Brown has accepted the position of Chairman of the committee. We expect that he will bring a new perspective to our procedures.

The Committee's responsibilities will remain the same. That is to provide a well equipped, well maintained, and well supplied kitchen for the congregation. The kitchen facilities are available to any group within the church. To schedule an event just check the church calendar with the church secretary.

Paper products for a particular event should be supplied by the sponsoring group. The Kitchen Committee will provide cleaning supplies. After an event, the sponsoring group is responsible for leaving the kitchen clean and all leftovers removed. Anything that is to be temporarily stored in the kitchen should be identified with the group's name. Unidentified items will be disposed of by the Kitchen Committee.

Every two weeks the Kitchen Committee members give the counter tops a thorough cleaning so that they are clean for food preparation. For this reason personal items such as coats, pocket books, umbrellas, or other items should not be placed on the counter tops. Please help the Kitchen Committee keep the kitchen clean for the next group that will be using it.

Bill Hulbert

A Christmas Miracle



For the past few months, Family Promise of the Midlands has been searching for a new home for the Day Center, where our guest families take steps toward regaining their independence. This week, we witnessed what can only be described as a **Christmas miracle**:

*In an act of grace-filled generosity,
Barb and Nisha Kubodera gave us the deed to a beautiful and spacious building off Broad River Road, near Dutch Square Mall.*

Longtime, tireless advocates for people experiencing homelessness, the Kuboderas are grateful that their gift provides a permanent home for Family Promise of the Midlands, a ministry that brings hope to families in crisis.

From the bottom of our hearts we thank Barb and Nisha on behalf of the staff, the board of directors, the volunteers in our host and support congregations and in our office, and especially the guest families whose lives are touched by our work together.

*Many blessings to each of our volunteers, donors, and friends this holiday season and heartfelt thanks
for all you do to support Family Promise of the Midlands.*



KNOW ♦ LOVE ♦ SERVE

The Youth Ministry of Bethel UMC exist, to bring youth to **KNOW** Christ personally, to share the **LOVE** of Christ with everyone and **SERVE** Christ in our community.

REVOLUTION

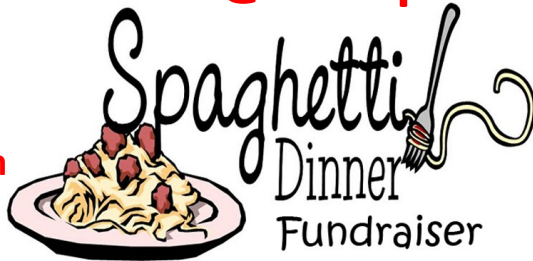
JAN 25-27 2019

Be a part of an incredible week-end of worship, missions, fellowship, and more at Revolution 2019. Coming to the Township Auditorium in Columbia on January 25-27.

Cost is \$25 — See Jason for more info

Sun Feb 17 @ 5:00pm

\$6 for Adults
\$3 for Children



Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, Bread & Dessert

JANUARY DATES

6	Youth 4:30-6:00
13	Youth 4:30-6:00
20	Parent Meeting 4:30
25-27	Revolution

UPCOMING EVENTS



Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
Tues March 5th 6-8 pm



Souper Bowl of Caring
Sun Feb 3rd



Salkehatchie

Lake Murray Camp
July 20-27
Cost: \$130

Deadline to Register: February 3rd

Contact Jason Barrs if you
have any questions about any
upcoming events

803-318-6061

bjasonbarrs@gmail.com



The 2019 UMCSC Adult Spiritual Retreat

January 29-31

Landmark Resort , Myrtle Beach

Rev. Angela Ford Nelson

(keynote speaker)

Bible study, workshops, recreation and fellowship

Cost \$185 (includes four meals and 2 receptions)

1 person/room: \$170 for two nights

2 people/room \$170 for two nights

3 people/room \$201 for two nights

4 people/room \$215 for two nights

Hosted by Adult Ministries of the SC Annual Conference

Deadline for retreat registration/hotel booking at
conference rate: Dec. 30

See Jason to register and for more information



Our great group were blessed and served 293 meals. Gail and Bill Lucas, Dave Barnes, Karen Stewart, Ae and Charles Byrn, Nancy Burkhalter, Suzette Wilson, Tom Elliott, Gloria Berry, Linda Byrum, Arnette Jordan

BUMs' January Tour of TOBY'S PLACE and OLIVER GOSPEL MISSION

BUMs' tour to Toby's Place and then to Oliver Gospel Mission will be on Friday, January 18, at 1:00 pm. We will meet in the back parking lot at 12:15 pm, to leave by 12:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to come. After the tours, the BUMs will go to J. Peters Restaurant for lunch.

For over 129 years, Oliver Gospel Mission has been an integral part of Social Services in Columbia. This christian based ministry was founded by Rev. Robert Oliver in 1888 and has provided a variety of ministries to men. Recently, Oliver Gospel Mission has built and is operating Toby's Place with an emphasis on transforming lives empowered by the gospel of Jesus Christ and equipping women with the skills to maintain stable, secure employment and housing.

Please sign up for this BUMs tour by calling Janel Bell (803) 960-4803, or Mary Ott (803) 787-3103 — or send an email to Janel at clemsonma9@aol.com or to Mary Ott at ott@sc.rr.com.



YOU ARE INVITED

Would you like to go on a trip to sunny Myrtle Beach while enjoying the sights?

Join other Senior Adults for a great time of traditional gospel music,
bible teaching and some great laughs.

A \$75 deposit per person would be due by Sunday, December 30th.

Lodging prices:

4 per room \$139 (per person)

3 per room \$159 (per person)

2 per room \$189 (per person)

If you are interested in this opportunity see Jason Barrs for an information packet.

January 2019 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, January 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

6:00 Reach Practice(PAB)

Thursday, January 3

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK

Friday, January 4

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK

Sunday, January 6

9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)

9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)

11:00 Worship (S)

4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, January 7

8:30 Preschool (EB)

1:30 BUMS Meeting (NJC)

Tuesday, January 8

8:30 Preschool (EB)

10:00 Staff Meeting (CR)

10:30 Belle Dent Circle (CR)

6:00 Finance Committee (NJC)

6:45 Choir (CR)

6:00 Syliva Hulseley Circle (PAB)

Wednesday, January 9

8:30 Preschool (EB)

9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

6:00 Reach Practice (PAB)

Thursday, January 10

8:30 Preschool

Friday, January 11

8:30 Preschool (EB)

Saturday, January 12

8:45 UMW Officer Training

Sunday, January 13

9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)

9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)

11:00 Worship (S)

3:00 District Leadership Training
at Washington Street UMC

4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, January 14

8:30 Preschool (EB)

6:00 Church Council (PAB)

Tuesday, January 15

8:30 Preschool (EB)

6:00 Safe Sanctuary Meeting
(NJC)

6:45 Choir (CR)

Wednesday, January 16

8:30 Preschool (EB)

9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

Thursday, January 17

8:30 Preschool (EB)

2:30 Kitchen Com. (PAB)

Friday, January 18

8:30 Preschool (EB)

12:15 BUMS Tour Toby's Place/
Oliver Gospel Mission
(Back Parking Lot)

Sunday, January 20

9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)

9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)

11:00 Worship (S)

4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, January 21

MARTIN LUTHER B'DAY

Office closed/no preschool

6:00 Church Council (PAB)

Tuesday, January 22

8:30 Preschool (EB)

5:30 Home Assoc. Meet (PAB)

6:45 Choir (CR)

Wednesday, January 23

8:30 Preschool (EB)

9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

Thursday, January 24

8:30 Preschool (EB)

Friday, January 25

Revolution Youth (Township)

8:30 Preschool (EB)

Saturday, January 26

Revolution Youth (Township)

Sunday, January 27

Revolution Youth (Township)

9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)

9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)

11:00 Worship (S)

3:00 Greeter and Usher Train (S)

4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, January 28

8:30 Preschool (EB)

6:00 Reach Team Meeting (PAB)

Tuesday, January 29

8:30 Preschool (EB)

6:00 Long Range Plan (NJC)

6:45 Choir (CR)

Wednesday, January 30

8:30 Preschool (EB)

9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

Thursday, January 31

8:30 Preschool (EB)

CR	Conference Room
EB	Education Building
NLC	New Life Class
NJC	New Journey Class
PAB	Pool Activities Building
S	Sanctuary



Article by Jack Wellman

Proverbs 16:9 tells us that "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps," so why not read more of the Word of God this year because those who are in the Word of God have their steps more firmly established. That's because they see more of the path. I would rather have the Lord establish my steps than the ways that a "man plans." I tried that. It doesn't work well. Anyway, Happy New Year from Christian Crier to all our readers, and may God richly bless you all in 2019.



January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 7 Dale Eaddy
Marion Wilson
- 8 Ken Burger
- 10 Sheryl Jones
- 14 Caroline Barrs
- 15 Debbie Farmer
Mary Ann Weir
- 17 Patricia Coleman
- 18 Gail Lucas
Betty Onley
- 19 Cappy George
Cheryl Martino
- 20 Al Carter
- 24 Mable Canty
Paul White
- 27 Bonnie Lutz
- 30 Anna Cope

Anniversaries

- 3 Travis and Julie Belman
- 22 Harry & Sarah Parker
- 24 David & Margaret Hinze



Bethel, the Good News Club and Satchel Ford are back together in February. **We need your help,** please contact Jason

Barrs or Sally Hafner if you would like to be a part of this important ministry!

Serving the Congregation in October

Greeters

- January 6 Ron and Lucy Gordan, Mary Ott
- January 13 Beth Welch, Chuck and Sue Ward
- January 20 Frances and Ken May, Brenda Shealy
- January 27 Mike Hellams, Marion Wilson, Sandra Wayson

Ushers

- January 6 Tom Elliott, Furman Porter, Jim Wilson, Lee Wilson
- January 13 Jack Bonniville, Frank Hafner, Larry Cope, Chuck Ward
- January 20 Brenda Shealy, Bonnie Speas, Ken May, Bill Lucas
- January 27 Sid George, Kimberly Wilson, Diane Roddey, John Mathis

Sound System Operator

- January 6 David Walker
- January 13 David Walker
- January 20 Christopher Walker
- January 27 David Walker

Acolyte/Crucifer

- January 6 Sterling Davis/Jordan Davis
- January 13 Wilhelm Elliott
- January 20 Will Barrs
- January 27 Skyy Morgan

Children's Moment/Scripture

Sermon Series: A Way Forward

- January 6 Nat McMaster/Exodus 25:1-9 and 1Kings 6:11-13
- January 13 Debbie Carter/Romans 14:4-12
- January 20 Marian Scullion/Nat McMaster and Sally Hafner
- January 27 Louise Davis/Acts 15

Offering Counters

- January 6 Frank Hafner and Janis Lawther
- January 13 Dianna Elliott and Marcie Marshall
- January 20 Kimberly Wilson and Arnette Jordan
- January 27 Mike Hellams and Brenda Shealy

Sanctuary Preparation

Sandra Wayson and Kimberly Wilson

Sanctuary Lock up after Service

Ken Wood and Dianna Elliott

Communion Servers

Frank and Sally Hafner, Cheryl Johnson