



Bethel United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

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

February 2019

www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com

Love the LORD Your God with all you heart!

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

—Deuteronomy 6:5-9



I recently heard a joke about kindergarten children sharing their faith at "Show and Tell" time. One child said, "I am Muslim and I brought the prayer rug because I use it every day in prayer." Another child said, "I am Jewish and I brought a copy of

the Torah because it is our Holy Book." The last child said, "I'm Methodist and I brought a casserole because we like to eat at my church!"

At first this is a funny story. But then, as I begin to focus on it more, it becomes less funny and a bit disconcerting. Of all the things we talk about at church, preach about from the pulpit, teach about in Sunday School classes, read about from the Bible, and sing about in our hymns, how could a child think the most important part of being a part of Christ's church would be eating together?

What kinds of examples are we setting for our children in this church? What would they say is the most important? Would they believe that kindness is one of our virtues? Maybe, if they saw us doing good for one another. That certainly exists. Maybe they would think

we "love" one another because we always gather on Sunday mornings for fellowship, and we enjoy visiting with one another before and after worship. Maybe they would remember some joy because of the laughter heard in the hallways of the church each week. And maybe they would come to see Jesus as The One whom you and I seek to follow.

I pray that our children "see Jesus" in us. That, indeed, is our responsibility. We have promised to nurture the children (and each other!) through this church family. We have promised to be responsible for funding the programs of ministry and mission. We have placed our membership here, and some of us were baptized here, but all have promised to live our baptismal promises by working for the well-being of others through Christ's church.

Are each and every one of us living up to those expectations? Are we all contributing to the church from our personal finances, the work of our hands, our presence, our good words, and our prayers? Only you and God can answer those questions.

Remember the praise song, "In this very room, there's quite enough love for all the world." Let's live out our love of Jesus Christ in such a way that it becomes the most important aspect of church and life!

Peace,
Pastor Julie

Bethel's PRESCHOOL Winter Fun and Playground UPDATE

The Preschool is getting back into its groove after our Christmas Break! We have begun to register our currently enrolled families for the 2019-2020 school year. On February 1, we will open enrollment to new families. The Preschool Board has voted to offer a discount for tuition for active church members in the preschool of 10% monthly. Please pass the word!

Our three and four-year-old children have been working with the letter "I". They even chiseled blocks of ice to remove bugs! It was a very cold experience, but they LOVED IT!

Remember that you are always welcome to come visit! We love to have people come be a guest reader (we will even give you the book) or maybe you would like to do an art project with our children or come talk about your profession or bring an instrument! Please let me know if you are interested, and we will set it up!



We would like to update the congregation on the playground situation. The Preschool Board has decided that it is best to do this in phases. The first phase is to have all the old equipment, except for the spring riders, tunnel and big playhouse, removed. We will have the grounds graded to help with erosion and install a border around the perimeter of the playground to keep the sand inside the fence. Next, we will relocate the spring riders, tunnel and place a NEW large play structure in the middle of the playground. The final piece is to



refurbish the sand. We will need approximately 60 TONS to bring the sand to a regulation level. We have all the funds necessary except for \$2500 to complete this phase! The cost of this first phase is the most expensive and will cost around \$20,000. At this point we have \$17,500. Phase 2 will be to install a new fence around the playground. Phase 3 will be to install a couple of other pieces of equipment including a spring seesaw, balance steps and shade structure.

This playground is not solely for the use of the preschool. This playground is for Bethel Church members, our children, grandchildren and great-grands as well as the surrounding community. Improving the playground will show the community and visitors that we care about children and that they are important to us! I am asking that the congregation prayerfully consider a donation to complete this phase so that the project can get started in the next month or two!

Blessings, Carol Burger



**Attention: Members of
the Lay Visitation Ministry
Team (Visiting Buddies)**

**don't forget your friends at
Valentines Day (Feb. 14) and their
birthdays with cards,
calls and or special visits.**

**Great job and huge thank you for
all the gift bags and visits made
to many "treasured" Bethel
members during the
Christmas holidays.**

**If you would like to join the
Visiting Buddy Team please contact
the church office.**

In the same way, the Spirit helps us
in our weakness. We do not know what we ought
to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes
for us through wordless groans.

Romans 8:26



**PRAY Daily for Bethel,
Bethel friends & family!**

Please Pray for the up coming
UMC General Conference.

Rosa Moon; Sarah Califf; Sarah
Parker back at Still Hopes;
Margaret and David Hinze;
Herman Berry; Myra Jackson;
Leo Foster; Vicky Hill; Claude
Murphy and Nancy Johnson at
The Blake; Connie Fowke at
Palmettos; Betty Onley and
Carmen Pool at Rice Estates;
Gloria Pruitt at home; Mary Kirby
at Waterford; Gwen Barrs; Irene
Boyd; Kay Fraiser; Please con-
tinue to keep these people in your
hearts during your daily prayer
time. Also please continue to pray
for Bethel, her leaders and her
ministry.



**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—Congratulations!
She just recieved her white coat!

Midlands Tech—Dana Garnto

News From the Kitchen

The Kitchen is now ready for the 2019 church events. The Committee spent an afternoon cleaning cabinets, drawers, inventorying supplies and etc.. We clean and check supplies every two weeks and have noticed that there is little to do in the cleaning area. We are thankful that those that use the kitchen leave it in such good shape.

If you are missing a dish or platter, check the kitchen. We found several items that have been left from previous events.

BUMS' take a ride on the WILD side!

On Friday, February 15th, the BUMS are going to FREE Friday at the Zoo. Come join us roam around watching the animals, feed the giraffes, and watch the big silver gorilla strut his stuff. We will meet in the church back parking lot at 9:45 am and leave at 10 am. We will be eating there at the Zoo in the Tusker's Restaurant. Afterwards we can roam around some more and leave by 2 pm or so. Please contact Mary Ott at 787-3103 or Cheryl Johnson at 783-2611 to sign up or ask any questions.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019

MT HOREB UMC, LEXINGTON, SC

1205 Old Cherokee Road Lexington, SC 29072

Registration: 8:00 – 9:15 am

Event: 9:30 am – 5:00 pm (pre-registration Lunch provided)

THIS IS AN ALL MEN'S EVENT

**Preaching, testimonies, comedian, workshops,
fellowship and music will fill the day.**



Lunch will be served for those who pre-register (not day of).

Men only event. Great speakers, programs, music and fellowship.

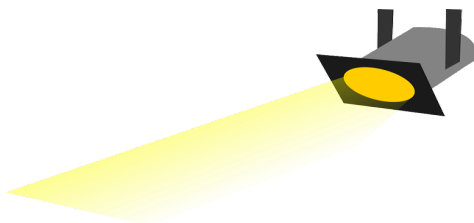
Register and get info at menministriy.org/.



**Memorial Garden
plots are available.**

Our Memorial Garden (phase II) plots are available for purchase. You can choose from a single plot to a multi-family area. The total cost per plot is \$1,000.00. The cost includes the vault, urn and granite marker. Please see Chuck Ward, Memorial Garden chairperson or contact him at 803-315-7904.

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



Youth Spotlight

Lindsay Conrath & Isabelle Wood on their roles in AC Flora's School Production of Foot Loose Feb 21-24
Isabelle Wood in her up-coming role in Town Theatre's Production of Mama Mia later this year in May
Wilhelm Elliott and the basketball team at Shandon UMC, in winning the Christian Youth Basketball League Championship

Sun, Feb 17th @ 5:00pm

\$6 for Adults

\$3 for Children



Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, Bread & Dessert

<u>FEBRUARY DATES</u>	
3	Souper Bowl of Caring
9	Hands & Feet (10-12)
10	Youth (4:30-6)
24	Youth (4:30-6)

UP COMING EVENTS

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING—FEB 3

Lunch will be provided for all youth and families following worship in the PAB



SHROVE TUES PANCAKE SUPPER—MAR 5



LAKE MURRAY CAMP—JULY 20-27

Cost: \$150 Deadline to Register: Feb 17

YOUTH 2019 YOUTH GATHERING—JULY 10-14 KANSAS CITY, MO

See Jason if you are interested by *Sun Feb 24*



HONDURAS MISSION TRIP—JUNE 21-29

See Jason if you are interested by *Sun Mar 3*



Pray Our Way Forward

Join the Prayer Community for the United Methodist Church

This prayer movement is a response to the Council of Bishops initiative called Praying Our Way Forward. We are called to a posture of prayer, praying for God's leadership to guide us effectively in fulfilling the mission of the church. We invite you – clergy and laity, conferences and congregations – across the denomination to pray for God's guidance.

In prayer, we can be one in Christ.

Since General Conference 2016, our church has experienced conflict as we navigate rough waters. How can we show God's great love and mercy to one another as we make decisions? As we move closer to the special-called session of General Conference, we invite all UMC members, across the denomination to pray and ask for God's guidance.

Bishops Debra Wallace-Padgett of North Alabama Conference and Bishop Al Gwinn serve as co-chairs of the Praying Our Way Forward movement. Bishop Wallace-Padgett says, "Our prayer focus is two-fold: We are praying that God will help us to fulfill the mission of the church, and we are praying to be one in Christ."

If there is ever a place where we can be one, it's in the space where we meet God.



4-Minutes Of Daily Prayer

The Council of Bishops is encouraging intentional engagement by United Methodists worldwide by asking everyone to pause and pray each day for the special-called General Conference from 2:23 through 2:26 a.m. or p.m.

If this time is not convenient for you, choose to pray at another time, but the council felt praying specifically at 2:23-2:26 p.m. which represent the dates of the special session of General Conference would be a helpful, effective, and unifying discipline for all United Methodists.

Prayer Guide

Invitation: We will begin with a moment of holy silence to allow for centering, settling, and focusing.

Minute #1 Prayer of Adoration

Good and great God, we recognize and celebrate that you are loving, kind, and faithful. You are everywhere in this world and beyond. You are also as close as our next breath. With John Wesley we rejoice knowing, "Best of all, you are with us."

Silence, concluding with unison prayer: "Hear our prayer, O God."

Minute #2 Prayer of Thanks

God of grace, we thank you that you hear us when we pray and are ever ready and able to act in ways beyond anything we could ask or imagine. Thank you for our brothers and sisters around the world, and especially

for those who have offered to serve by attending the special-called General Conference. Thank you for ordering our steps and for preparing a way.

Silence, concluding with unison prayer: "Hear our prayer, O God."

Minute #3: Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we confess that we have allowed fear and distrust to place distance between us and our brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ. Forgive us for making idols of our own thoughts, voices, and opinions. Thank you for forgiving us and for your perfect love that casts out all fear.

Silence, concluding with unison prayer: "Hear our prayer, O God."

Minute #4 Prayer of Asking

God of peace and wisdom, from this time forward, may we walk with you in trust and peace, and with our brothers and sisters in the love and unity you desire. May we truly sing together in harmony a song of praise that draws all to you. Even now, may you bless those who will attend the special-called General Conference, assuring them of your love, filling them with your wisdom, preparing them with your peace. May they and we become more sensitive to the voice of your Holy Spirit, so that all we do will please you and bring you glory.

Silence, concluding with unison prayer: "Hear our prayer, O God."

All of these prayers we offer in the name of the Risen Christ. Amen

February 2019 Calendar of Events

Friday, February 1

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Church Women United
Brunch (PAB)
- 4:30 Private Event (S)

Saturday, February 2

- 8:00 Upper Room Prayer Line (CR)
- 8:00 James Belman Bday Party
(PAB)

Sunday, February 3

Souper Bowl of Caring

- 9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)
- 9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)
- 11:00 Worship (S)
- 12:30 Safe Sanctuary Meeting (S)
- 4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, February 4

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)
- 10:00 Staff Meeting
- 1:30 BUMS Committee Meet
(NJC)
- 5:30 Homeowners Assoc. Meet
(PAB)
- 6:00 Holy Yoga (S)
- 6:00 Trustees Meeting (CR)

Tuesday, February 5

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 11:30 Transitions (off-site)
- 2:00 Good News Club (Satchel
Ford)
- 6:45 Choir (CR)

Wednesday, February 6

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 Worship Committee (CR)
- 6:00 Reach Practice (PAB)

Thursday, February 7

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 10:30 UMW Exective Board

Friday, February 8

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)

Saturday, February 9

- 8:00 UMM Breakfast (PAB)
- 10:00 UMW Call to Prayer and
Self Denial (Mt. Hebron)

Sunday, February 10

- 9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)
- 9:00 Handbells (S)
- 9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)
- 11:00 Worship (S)
- 4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, February 11

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Holy Yoga
- 2:00 Lina Ott (CR)
- 6:00 Holy Yoga (S)
- 6:45 Choir (CR)

Tuesday, February 12

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 10:30 Belle Dent Circle (NJC)
- 2:00 Good News Club (Satchel
Ford)
- 6:00 Reach Team Meeting (NJC)
- 7:00 Sylvia Hulseley Circle (PAB)

Wednesday, February 13

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

Thursday, February 14

Valentine's Day (Remember your visiting buddy/friend with a card)

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)

Friday, February 15

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:45 BUMS Free Friday at Zoo
(Bethels back parking lot)

Saturday, February 16

- 9:30 UMM Spiritual Retreat (Mt.
Horeb UMC)

Sunday, February 17

Scout Sunday

- 9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)
- 9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)
- 11:00 Worship (S)
- 4:15 Handbells (CR)
- 5:00 Youth Spaghetti Supper
Fundraiser (PAB)

Monday, February 18

Presidents Day

No Preschool

Tuesday, February 19

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 2:00 Good News Club (Satchel
Ford)
- 6:45 Choir (CR)

Wednesday, February 20

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

Thursday, February 21

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 2:30 Kitchen Committee (PAB)

Friday, February 22

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 7:00 Emmaus of the Midlands
Gathering (Lexington UMC)

Saturday, February 23

UMC General Conference prayers

Sunday, February 24

UMC General Conference prayers

- 9:00 Reach! Service (PAB)
- 9:45 SS/Bible Study (EB)
- 11:00 Worship (S)
- 12:00 Holroyd SS Class Luncheon
(PAB)
- 3:00 A Way Forward Sermon
Series Discussion (PAB)
- 4:15 Handbells (CR)

Monday, February 25

UMC General Conference prayers

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)
- 6:00 Holy Yoga (S)

Tuesday, February 26

UMC General Conference prayers

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 2:30 Good News Club (Satchel
Ford)
- 6:45 Choir (CR)

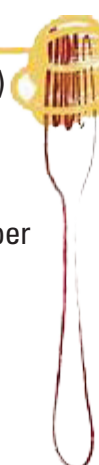
Wednesday, February 27

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 2:00 Good News Club (Satchel
Ford)
- 1:30 Pray for Bethel (S)

Thursday, February 28

- 8:30 Preschool (EB)
- 10:15 LRP (CR)

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



February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 2 Coy White
James Belman
- 3 Sarita Toma
- 7 Debbie Carter
- 8 Kristen Burnett
- 11 Sid George
Bill Hulbert
- 15 Connie Fowke
- 21 Wilhelm Elliott
- 26 Heyward Burnett

Anniversaries

- 2 Al and Debbie Carter
- 14 Bill and Sylvia Hulbert

Our Prayers, Presence, Service & Witness Our Presence

Church Attendance For January

- 1/6 Worship: 130 SS: 74
- 1/13 Worship: 119 SS 44
- 1/20 Worship: 132 SS: 73
- 1/27 Worship: 95 SS: 44

Serving the Congregation in February

Greeters

- February 3 Frances and Ken May, Nell Porter
- February 10 Suzette and Lee Wilson, Arnette Jordan
- February 17 Charles Byrn, Kimberly Wilson, Dianne Roddey
- February 24 Bill and Gail Lucas, Dale Eaddy

Ushers

- February 3 Tom Elliott, Furman Porter, Jim Wilson, Lee Wilson
- February 10 Chuck Ward, Mike Hellams, Bonnie Speas, Dianna Elliott
- February 17 Larry Cope, Ken May, Bill Lucas, Frank Hafner
- February 24 Ken Wood, Charles Byrn, Jack Bonnville, Sid Georg

Sound System Operator

- February 3 David Walker
- February 10 David Walker
- February 17 David Walker
- February 24 David Walker

Acolyte/Crucifer

- February 3 Emily Rose Walker/Hannah Curran
- February 10 Christopher Walker
- February 17 Foster Barrs
- February 24 Sterling Davis

Children's Moment

- February 3 Janel Bell
- February 10 Bonnie Lutz and friends
- February 17 Boy Scouts
- February 24 Julie Belman

Offering Counters

- February 3 Ken May and Ken Wood
- February 10 Sharon Bonnville and Cappy George
- February 17 Cathy Crumpler and John Mathis
- February 24 Frank Hafner and Chuck Ward

Sanctuary Preparation

Janel Bell and Brenda Harper

Sanctuary Lock up after Service

John Mathis and Charles Byrn

Communion Servers

Janel Bell, Kimberly Wilson, Bill Hulbert