



Bethel United Methodist Church

# The Messenger

KNOWING, LOVING, SERVING...SO THE WORLD WILL EXPERIENCE CHRIST'S LOVE

May 2019

[www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com](http://www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com)

*"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another." 1 John 4:7 &11*

*"The greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return."  
-Moulin Rouge the movie*

*"What the world needs now, is love, sweet love. It's the only thing that there's just too little of."  
-song by Jackie DeShannon*

The truth, the way, the path, the meaning of life... something that lifelong learners seek and often to turn to religion to answer. As Christians we believe God is a source of truth.

One thing that I know to be true is love... true love, if you will. In a world that is constantly changing, where things are sometimes uncertain and life's challenges can seem daunting, true love is a constant in our lives. True love is a gift that we can share with everyone that we encounter. We can claim that love is Godly not just on Valentine's Day but every day. We can claim that love is powerful not just on Easter but every day. We can claim that love is sacred not just on Christmas, but everyday! **And our capacity to love is a reflection of the One who first loved us.**

While it often feels as if we live in a world that is experiencing a scarcity of love, can we recognize love in all of its abundance and abundantly share it with those who least expect it? Can we receive it from those who may surprise us with their grace? I certainly hope so!

My friends, what is true for you? Where do you find it and how do you recognize that it is in fact true? I pray that with God's guidance, we will each experience something in our Bethel community this Easter season that guides our discernment, reminds of us our infinite capacity to love and receive love and that in the midst of it all, that God shows up for each of us in exciting and unexpected ways.

**Your partner on the journey,**

**Pastor Julie**

# Preschool News



Preschool is winding down the school year! Our Spring Performance will be on May 16th in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am and the 4 year old graduation will follow. We will then dismiss at 12:00 that day for the summer. You are cordially invited to come watch this very special day!

On May 3rd, our 4 year old class will have its annual Mother's Tea in the PAB at 11:00am. This is a very special morning for our Mom's. The children end their Preschool years and proceed to "Big School". The children are certainly enjoying their new playground!

Following the Blessing of the playground, two girls from our 4 year old class hugged my leg and said "Thank you, Mrs. Burger"! Of course, this made my heart melt. We are in the process now of obtaining quotes for new fencing around our playground.



**Blessings,**

**Carol Burger**



# Special Gifts

## **Bethel's Youth**

Honoring The Barrs Family

By Velma Neely

## **Todd Lutz Scholarship Fund**

Honoring Ken Burger & Paulette Price

By Bonnie Lutz

## **Scout Hut Flag**

Honoring Barbara Harper

By Jean Harper Miller, Mike & Ann Amacher

## **Adult Choir**

In Honor of Margaret Marshall & Karen Stewart

by Mary Davis

## **Cemetery Fund**

In memory of Jim Harper

By Mike & Ann Amacher

## **Church Fund**

In honor of Debbie Carter

By Bill & Gail Lucas

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

Margaret & David Hinze, moved to GA; Nancy Johnson, The Blake; Mary Kirby, Waterford; Claude Murphy, Forest Pines; Betty Onley, Carman Pool, Rice Estates; Harold Nally; Harry & Sarah Parker; Irene Boyd; Connie Fowke, NHC; Martie Funderburk, Herman Berry, Joe Kendall, Gloria Pruett, home; Kay Fraiser, Clara Hunsucker.

***Please continue to keep these people in your hearts. 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

**John Hopkins**—Abbie Bowman

**Lander University**—McKenzie Furr

**Midlands Tech**—Dana Garnto

**USC Columbia**—Jennie Joe Wiltshire, Andrew Garnto, & Dylan Garnto

**USC Sumter**—Alan Farmer

**Basic Training**—Russell Isaacs Jr.

# The BUMS are traveling to Town Theatre!



Don't forget to mark your calendar! The BUMS are going to the Town Theatre to see "Mamma Mia" for a 3pm matinee on Sunday, May 19th. This musical features one of our very own youth, Isabelle Wood! After the show we will go to California Dreaming for dinner. We will meet in the back church parking lot at 2:15 to leave by 2:30. Please let Cheryl Johnson (738-2611, [dojoscaol.com](mailto:dojoscaol.com)) or Mary Ott (787-3103, [ott@sc.rr.com](mailto:ott@sc.rr.com)) if you have any questions!

## **“And the two shall become one.” Ephesians 5:31**

The History Committee would like wedding pictures from the congregation for display in the Narthex over the summer. Anyone who has a wedding picture they would like to share, please submit the picture to one of the History Committee members. You will need to include the bride and groom names, the date, and the place. Please be sure to include the name of the person submitting the picture so that we can return pictures to their rightful owners!

Committee members include Tom Elliott, Lucy Gordon, Arnette Jordan, Laura Wood, Bruce Cotner, Nell and Diane Porter, Bonnie Lutz, Barbara Harper/Nellie, and Dale Eaddy.



# Serving Others in our Community



**Our dedicated team continues to serve each month!**

## Epworth's Annual Mother's Day Offering on Sunday, May 12th.



Epworth Children's Home has been a ministry of our church for more than 123 years. They are not an apportioned item by the SC Conference, which means they receive no funding from the conference other than our offerings. They rely heavily on the donations received from our Mother's Day offering to provide direct care for the children residing at Epworth.

When a child arrives at Epworth they have experienced a great deal of loss. For Epworth, it isn't enough to answer God's call to care for the least of these by simply providing room and board. They go above and beyond offering the children tutoring to get them caught up at school; counseling to help them heal emotionally; quality medical care, knowing that many of the children have never seen a doctor or dentist. Epworth also offers spiritual formation and guidance that encourages true healing through Christ. Epworth Children's Home ensures the children are surrounded by loving Christian adults so they can break the cycle of abuse, neglect, and shame and replace it with a life of self-respect, responsibility, and productivity.

We have a large part in making all this possible for the children. These children come from communities in South Carolina just like ours. They are our neighbors and we are called to provide for them. I ask you to give generously today and stand with Epworth as they work to break the cycle. Be part of something that lasts – a child's future.

*Video stories are available at [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org).*

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.

**Fireflies Baseball Game Outing Friday May 3:**

Cost is \$15, includes a \$5 voucher for food and each person will get a Fireflies hat. See Jason to sign-up. Our goal is to have at least 20 to attend.

**Lunch Outing May 5:** In honor of Cinco De Mayo, we will go out to lunch to San Jose. Be sure to bring \$\$ for food.

**Graduate Sunday May 26:** We will recognize our graduates in both worship services. A luncheon will be after church in honor of each of our graduates. All grads and their families are invited to.

**CLASS OF  
2019**

AC Flora High School

Wilhelm Elliott

Christopher Walker

Isabelle Wood

Spring Valley High School

Turner Prewitt

MAY

3	Fireflies Game
5	Lunch Outing (San Jose)
12	Mother's Day (No Youth)
19	Youth (4:30-6)
26	Graduate Sunday

**Mark Your Calendars**

**VBS: June 20-23**

**Lake Murray Salkehatchie: July 20-27**

**Mountain Retreat: August 4-7**

**BE STRONG *and*  
COURAGEOUS!**

DO NOT *be* AFRAID  
OR DISCOURAGED.

FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD  
IS WITH YOU  
WHEREVER YOU GO.

▶▶▶▶▶ *Joshua 1:9*

***Join us for Vacation Bible Study this June!***



Registration for VBS here at Bethel  
this summer will be up on our website soon!

**Dates: June 20-22**

**Times: 5:30-8:00 Dinner will be served each night!**

**Celebration on Sunday, June 23rd at 11:00 service.**

If you have any questions please email Jason Barrs  
([bjasonbarrs@gmail.com](mailto:bjasonbarrs@gmail.com)) or Jenny Curran ([curranjen@yahoo.com](mailto:curranjen@yahoo.com))

# May 2019 Calendar of Events

## Wednesday, May 1

- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 REACH Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 By Signs & Wonder Study (NJ)

## Thursday, May 2

- 10:30 UMW Executvie Meeting (CR)
- 5:30 Cystic Fibrosis Pizza Fundraiser (PB)

## Friday, May 3

- 11:00 Preschool Mother's Tea
- 7:00 Fireflies Baseball Game

## Saturday, May 4

- 10:00 PEEPS (PB)

## Sunday, May 5

- 9:00 REACH (PB)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (S)
- 4:15 Handbell Rehearsal (CR)

## Monday, May 6

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)
- 10:00 Staff Meeting (CR)
- 1:30 BUMS Committee Meeting (NJ)

## Tuesday, May 7

- 11:30 Transitions
- 6:45 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

## Wednesday, May 8

- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 Fellowship Dinner (PB)

## Saturday, May 11

- 8:30 UMM Breakfast (PB)

## Sunday, May 12

### Mother's Day

- 9:00 REACH (PB)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (S)
- 4:15 Handbell Rehearsal (CR)

## Monday, May 13

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)

## Tuesday, May 14

- 10:30 Belle Dent Circle
- 6:00 Finance Meeting (NJ)
- 6:45 Choir Rehearsal (CR)
- 7:00 Sylvia Hulseley Circle (PB)

## Wednesday, May 15

- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:00 Lina Ott Circle (Offsite)
- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 REACH Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 By Signs & Wonder Study (NJ)

## Thursday, May 16

- 9:30 Preschool Spring Program (S)
- 12:00 Preschool Out
- 2:30 Kitchen Committee Meeting (PB)

## Friday, May 17

### Preschool Closed—Summer Break

## Sunday, May 19

- 9:00 REACH (PB)
- 9:00 Handbell Rehearsal (S)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (S)

## Monday, May 20

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)
- 6:00 Church Council Meeting (PB)

## Tuesday, May 21

- 6:45 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

## Wednesday, May 22

- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 REACH Band Rehearsal (PB)
- 7:00 By Signs & Wonder Study (NJ)

## Sunday, May 26

### Graduate Sunday

- 9:00 REACH (PB)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (S)
- 12:00 Church Wide Graduate Lunch (PB)

## Monday, May 27

### Memorial Day—Office Closed

## Tuesday, May 28

- 6:45 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

## Wednesday, May 29

- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 REACH Band Rehearsal (PB)
- 7:00 By Signs & Wonder Study (NJ)

**CR—Conference Room**

**EB—Education Building**

**NJ—New Journey**

**PB—Pool Act. Building**

**S—Sanctuary**





## May Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

1 Rosa Moon  
2 Anne White  
5 Frank Hafner  
7 Linda Howell  
8 Adelyn Price  
9 Betty Shuler  
Bill Webb  
15 Alan Farmer  
20 Ronald Gordon  
18 Tom Landrum  
19 Sarah Parker  
25 Kimberly Wilson  
27 Kaye Landrum  
31 Cheryl Johnson  
Marian Scullion

### Anniversaries

14 Michael & Kristen Burnett

### Church Attendance For April

4/7 Worship: 140 SS: 62  
4/14 Worship: 105 SS: 43  
4/21 Worship: 168 SS: 40  
4/28 Worship: 125 SS: 57

### Total Offering for April:

\$21,986.47

## Serving the Congregation in May

### Greeters

May 5: John & Anne Mathis, Bonnie Speas  
May 12: Cathy Crumpler, Sharon Bonniville, Jack Bonniville  
May 19: Janis Lawther, Sara Derrick, Mike Hellams  
May 26: Ken Wood, Brenda Shealy, Diane Roddey

### Ushers

May 5: Tom Elliott, Lee Wilson, Furman Porter, Bill Lucas  
May 12: Chuck Ward, Mike Hellams, Bonnie Speas, Dianna Elliott  
May 19: Larry Cope, Ken May, David Barnes, Kimberly Wilson  
May 26: Janel Bell, Arnette Jordan, Sid George, Frank Hafner

### Sound System Operator

May 5: Jack Bonniville  
May 12: David Walker  
May 19: Jack Bonniville  
May 26: David Walker

### Acolyte/Crucifer

May 5: Emily Rose Walker/Hannah Curran  
May 12: Foster Barrs  
May 19: Jordan Davis  
May 26: Skyy Morgan

### Children's Moment

May 5: No Children's Moment  
May 12: Jason Barrs  
May 19: Julie Belman  
May 26: Louise Davis

### Offering Counters

May 5: Ken May & Marcie Marshall  
May 12: Cathy Crumpler & Debbie Carter  
May 19: Sharon Bonniville & Cappy George  
May 26: Mike Hellams & Brenda Shealy

**Sanctuary Preparers:** Linda Howell and Debbie Carter

**Sanctuary Lock Up:** Ken Wood & Frank Hafner

**Communion Servers:** Anne Mathis, Chuck & Sue Ward