



Bethel United Methodist Church

The Messenger

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

September 2019

www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com

“Methodists believe faith is a clear-headed decision to be a disciple, to love mercy and justice, and to work for the greater good.” Rev. Mary Cartledgehayes

Each of us is called by God to love, serve, and enjoy one another. I realize I was called by God, not at any one grand moment, but rather in what I see as God's grace — the seemingly ordinary moments in life that make us feel alive, and teach us how to love more fully. In John Wesley's discussion of justification, he describes little moments of grace in our lives when we truly feel God's presence and know that our faith is working through us. Though numerous events have influenced my faith during my past 38 years, the seemingly smaller moments have often had the greatest impact. In all of these moments, I stand on, under, and in the midst of God's grace.

In her book, *Grace*, Rev. Cartledgehayes makes the point “to live into the gift of Jesus means living into the gifts God gave us.” In the tradition of Jacob, who struggled all night with the angel of the Lord, Cartledgehayes struggles with her call and her God, seeking to find meaning in her life, as we all do. Her story inspires me to intertwine my femininity with my call to ordained ministry.

I admire how Cartledgehayes wrestles with the intersection between life, faith and scripture. She reminded me that discernment is a life-long process.

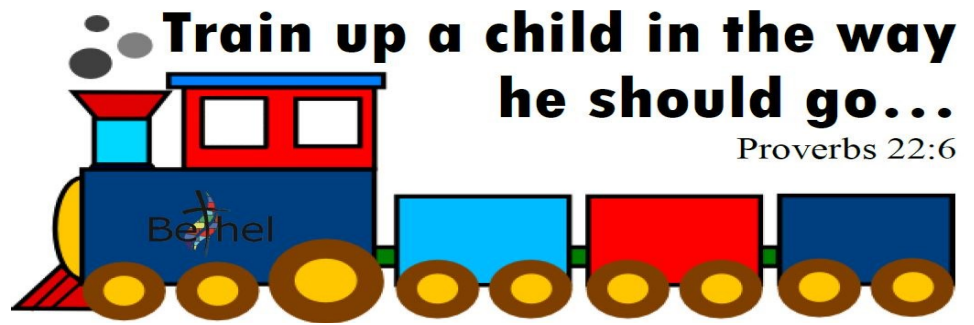
This summer marked twelve years in ordained ministry for me, and I am still praying for guidance and actively searching for answers for how I am best called to serve, and my friends, I hope you are too! Because I believe that God calls us ALL! No matter what, I am confident that God is always with us.

So, how is God calling you? As Saint Paul writes to the Corinthians, some are called to be teachers, some doctors, some builders, some bankers, and some ministers. The last Sunday in August is known as “Call Sunday” in the United Methodist Church, when church members are invited to prayerfully consider God's calling on their lives. ***If you believe God is calling you to ordained ministry, Pastor Reggie Rowell or I would be happy to speak with you, and help you in your discernment process.***

Love in Christ,

Julie Belman

Preschool News



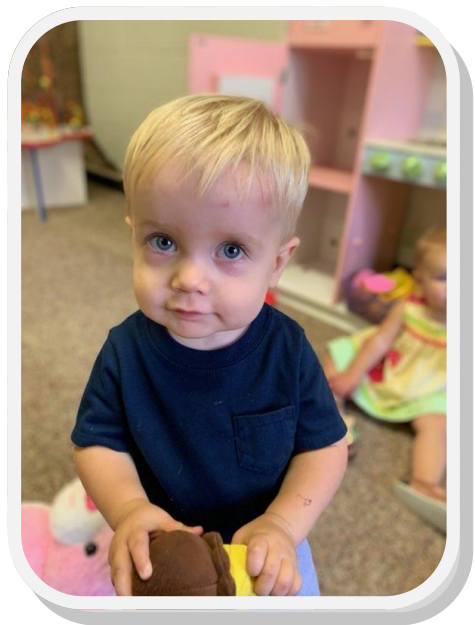
Preschool is gearing up for another wonderful year! There are still spaces available in the four-year old class. We hope you will continue to support us through another year! We have 38 children registered so far. We will be announcing the date of our Baked Potato and Salad Supper soon!

This year, because of the increased traffic on Daniel Dr., we are moving our carpool pick-up line to the back-parking lot. If everyone would try to refrain from parking near the ramp by the PAB between 11:45-1PM, it would be greatly appreciated.

On August 21, the Preschool staff got their recertification in CPR. That is one thing we are prepared for, but hope to never use!



Please stop by and say hello to our little ones! They love to have visitors!



Volunteer with the Visiting Buddies

The Visiting Buddies Ministry at Bethel was formed in order to reach out to those members who are homebound or unable to be as active as they once were. Volunteers from our church family are asked to visit, phone and send cards on a regular basis, as well as remember birthdays and special holidays. This is an important ministry and we would love to have you join us! Let's ensure that all faithful folks know they are cared about and not forgotten!

If you would like more information about our Visiting Buddies Ministry or are ready to join us, please contact:

Lucy Gordon, Carolyn Bowers, Rev. Julie Belman, or Rev. Reggie Rowell.

Growing God's Kingdom Evangelism Training Opportunity

On September 18th at 6 pm, please join us in the PAB for a training seminar conducted by DS Cathy Jamison on the subject of Growing God's Kingdom. Refreshments will be served!

Wedding Pictures in the Narthex

We thank everyone who shared their memories for this display. The congregation has immensely enjoyed viewing these photos. The History Committee will change out the display September 8 after church. If you have a wedding picture on display, please make plans to stay a few minutes after church to collect your picture, or have someone collect it for you. Thank you!

PRAY Daily for Bethel friends & family!

Margaret & David Hinze, GA; Nancy Johnson, Wildewood Downs; Mary Kirby, Waterford; Claude Murphy, Forest Pines; Betty Onley, Carman Pool, Rice Estates; Harold Nally; Harry & Sarah Parker; Irene Boyd; Connie Fowke, NHC; Gloria & Bobby Pruett, Fran Love, Jean Tolbert, Sibyl Staples, home; Kay Fraiser, Clara Hunsucker, Larry Cope, Diane Roddey, Jim & Marion Wilson, The Family of Herman Berry, Karen Furr, Pam Ledbetter.

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—Mary Sydney George, Turner Prewitt.

Coastal Carolina—Christopher Walker

Johns Hopkins—Abbie Bowman

Lander University—McKenzie Furr

Midlands Tech—Dana Garnto

USC Columbia—Andrew & Dylan Garnto, Wilhelm Elliott.

USC Sumter—Alan Farmer

Basic Training—Russell Isaacs Jr.

2019 UMW Woman of the Year

This year the United Methodist Women celebrated 150 years of Service. We are women with a Purpose! We are a community whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Congratulations to Marcie Marshall, our 2019 Woman of the Year! She has been active in all aspects of our church's life and continually puts her faith into action. She embroiders a decorative band on blankets for Birth Right giving them that personal touch. She makes designer bed rolls out of plastic bags that are given to homeless men and women throughout the Midlands. Her work is beautiful and unique. She also enjoys painting and has donated art work to the Mission U craft sale.

Marcie is a member of the Holroyd Sunday School Class, chair of the Lina Ott Circle and participates in the UMW Reading program.

She was an active member of St. James UMC before they closed and continued working in the church office after joining Bethel. She is involved with Jubilee Academy helping impact the lives of minority children in our community, has worked with meals on wheels and helps serve at Transitions. She and her husband Mac have been married 50 years and we are happy that they have made Bethel their home. She is an amazing women who has a servants heart.



The BUMS will have their first outing since the summer this month!

Be sure to check weekly bulletins for updated information!



**PALMETTO
BIOTECH**

PROSTHETICS & ORTHOTICS LLC

Join us in September for an outing to Palmetto Biotech Prosthetics in downtown Columbia. We will have lunch after our tour at Al Amir on Main Street. If you have any questions, call Paulette Price 803-528-0220.

5TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Join us September 29th for blended worship service at 10:00 in the sanctuary. There will be music from both our fabulous choir and rocking REACH band as well as words of witness from some of our members!



In addition to our regular 5th Sunday traditions, we will also have our very first “Blessing of the Tailgates”. **We encourage you to dress casually, wear your favorite team colors, and of course, bring a friend!** Following worship, we will have a “tailgate style” lunch on the lawn. Bring your pop up tents and camping chairs. The church will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. We ask you all to bring your favorite tailgate side to share!

We are excited for this fellowship-filled Sunday!

Sunday, October 6th at 3:00



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We will hold our Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 6th at 3:00 in the parking lot behind the Pool Activities Building.

All pets are welcome—furry, feathered, slimy, or scaly! We ask that all animals be brought on a leash or in a cage of some sort to protect them from other animals or small children who may be easily startled.

Family Promise Host Week—9/22 through 9/29



Bethel will be hosting Family Promise the week of September 22th-29th! We are thankful for all our faithful volunteers with this ministry and invite others to volunteer as well. If you have any questions about Family Promise and ways to get involved during our host week please contact one of our coordinators listed below.

Brenda Harper—Dinner Coordinator (803-603-5932)

Martie Walker—Overnight Host Coordinator (803-212-8256)

Bonnie Speas—Host Coordinator (803-727-8515)

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION SUNDAY

On October 13th, we will recognize ALL our teachers in both worship services and thank them for their commitment for what they do each week.



Trunk or Treat



Sunday, Oct 27th

5:00-7:00

*Food, Games, Bouncy House,
Crafts & Balloon Art!*

We are asking everyone to sign-up to sponsor a “trunk”. We will use our back parking lot for our Trunk or Treat area. Be on the look out for an opportunity to sign-up for a trunk and to volunteer to help. **Contact Jenny Curran, Markie Walker or Jason Barrs for more info!**

YOUTH ZONE

Lunch Outing

We will meet after worship in the back parking lot and car pool to Rush's. Be sure to bring \$\$\$ for food.

5th Sunday Outing

We will meet at Royal Z Bowling Alley (8512 Two Notch Rd) for an afternoon of fun. You will be picked up and dropped off at the bowling alley. Just bring \$5 to help with the cost and be sure to bring a friend.

Tailgate Sunday - Sept 29

Be sure to wear your school colors to worship. We will have a cook-out luncheon after worship. Bring a friend for a great day of worship and tailgate food!

SEPTEMBER

- 1 No Youth
- 8 Lunch Outing
- 15 Youth (4:30-6)
- 22 Youth (4:30-6)
- 29 5th Sun. Worship/Outing

Just a few photos from our retreat to Lake Junaluska & Youth Sunday....



Pastor Julies Prayer Series—Month #2

Praying with the Sick

“Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:14

Why do we pray for the sick? When we pray for those who are sick we often want God to just fix it, in the way that we understand fixing things: return the person to their former state of good health. And there are times when that is exactly what happens! Miraculous healings continue to take place in the lives of people living with illness. **But, a lot of the time healing looks different from fixing it.**

Healing might look like some relief from pain; it might look like enough energy to sit with someone during a visit; clarity to recognize, by name or by presence, a loved one in the room; or even, a peaceful transition into the mystery of death. Healing can come through restoration of relationships, letting go of grudges and anger. Healing can come through determination and energy or thorough submission and surrender. I have seen parishioners turn radiant with joy in the final hours of their life as they receive their healing and head into love’s embrace. I have seen people wake up who were not expected to wake up. The truth is that, even when we don’t know how, prayer does matter.

Research backs this up! **Study after study shows that prayer makes a difference in our health.** The work of the Duke Center for Spirituality, Theology, and Health has produced ground-breaking research on this area. Prayer has been associated with stronger immune system, lowered blood pressure, and improved cardio-vascular health according to the center’s director, Dr. Koenig. Research at San Francisco General Hospital looked at the effect of prayer on 393 cardiac patients. Half were prayed for by strangers who had only the patients’ names. Those patients had fewer complications, fewer cases of pneumonia, and needed less drug treatment. They also got better quicker and left the hospital earlier.

So, how do we pray for those who are sick?

Ask. In twelve years of pastoral ministry, I’ve made hundreds of visits and, whenever someone accepts my offer of prayer, I always ask the same question: What shall we pray for? The answers are often surprising: someone who was facing terminal illness would ask to pray for the hungry children in the world; someone dealing with extraordinary pain would request prayer for family and friends and not themselves; someone who had lived a long full life would pray for death. God receives all of our prayers. God transforms our lives and our circumstances through our shared prayers.

Familiarity. Many people find comfort in the words of familiar prayers. If you don’t feel comfortable praying on the spot, share in the Lord’s Prayer together.

Touch. Reach out and touch someone! Touch can be an important part of prayer, especially with someone who is ill. You can hold a hand, you can place your hand on someone’s hand, even an arm or foot will do! It helps us to remember that our bodies are not just sites of illness but also of connection and relationship. It helps us to remember that we can feel loving touch along with the pain.

Teamwork. Pray for the staff who are part of the patient’s care- the nurses, the CNAs, the janitorial staff, the cooks, the doctors, the surgeons, the floor secretary, the volunteers, cover everyone with the presence and love of God.

Psalms. The Psalms are the ultimate prayer book! There are Psalms that speak to our suffering and pain. There are Psalms that rejoice in healing. There are songs of comfort and of despair. Read them together in an attitude of prayer.

Continuity. Keep up the prayers! After your visit with the person, keep them on your prayer list. Let them know that you are continuing to pray for them.

If your friend or loved one has theological questions that you don’t feel prepared to discuss, you can help connect them with a pastor or the chaplain at the facility. We don’t all need to be experts to pray with someone who is sick. Sometimes the best gift we can offer is simply our presence: even when it’s scary or we don’t know what to say; even when it’s sad or we are angry at the illness. God can still use us.

Let the presence of God bring healing and comfort into every situation. May we all be instruments of God’s healing in the lives of those we love and in the world.

If you would like more information on praying with or for the sick, feel free to reach out to Pastor Julie or Pastor Reggie. We’d be glad to connect you with further resources.

September 2019 Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 1

- 9:00 Reach Service (PAB)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Service (S)

Monday, September 2

No Holy Yoga

Labor Day—Preschool & Office Closed

Tuesday, September 3

- 8:30 Extended Preschool Hours Begin
- 11:30 Transitions
- 6:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Wednesday, September 4

- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 REACH Band Rehearsal (PAB)

Thursday, September 5

- 10:30 UMW Executive Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 Thinking & Praying Group (NJ)

Saturday, September 7

- 10:00 Boy Scout Orientation (PAB)

Sunday, September 8

Epworth Work Day Offering

- 9:00 Reach Service (PAB)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Service (S)
- 3:00 Lay Leadership (PAB)
- 4:15 Handbell Rehearsal (CR)

Monday, September 9

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)
- 10:00 Staff Meeting (CR)
- 1:30 BUMS Meeting (NJ)
- 2:00 Lina Ott Circle (CR)
- 6:00 Preschool Board Meeting (CR)

Tuesday, September 10

- 10:30 Bell Dent Circle (NJ)
- 6:00 SPRC Meeting (NJ)
- 6:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)
- 7:00 Sylvia Hulseley Circle (PAB)

Wednesday, September 11

- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 Reach Band Rehearsal (PB)
- 6:00 Evangelism Meeting (CR)

Thursday, September 12

- 7:00 Thinking & Praying Group (NJ)

Saturday, September 14

- 8:30 UMM Breakfast (PAB)

Sunday, September 15

- 9:00 Reach Service (PAB)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Service (S)
- 12:00 UMW Salad Luncheon (PAB)
- 4:15 Handbell Rehearsal (S)

Monday, September 16

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)

Tuesday, September 17

- 6:00 Finance Meeting (NJ)
- 6:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Wednesday, September 18

- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 Growing God's Kingdom (PAB)

Thursday, September 19

- 2:30 Kitchen Committee (PAB)
- 7:00 Thinking & Praying Group (NJ)

Sunday, September 22

Family Promise Host Week

- 9:00 Reach Service (PAB)
- 9:00 Handbell Rehearsal (S)
- 9:45 Sunday School (EB)
- 11:00 Traditional Service (S)
- 12:00 Holroyd SS Luncheon (PAB)
- 4:15 Handbell Rehearsal (S)
- 6:00 Lois McNair Group (Offsite)

Monday, September 23

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)
- 6:00 Church Council (CR)
- 7:00 Scouts Court of Honor (S)

Tuesday, September 24

- 6:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Wednesday, September 25

- 9:30 Preschool Chapel (S)
- 1:30 Prayer for Bethel (S)
- 6:00 Reach Band Rehearsal (PB)

Thursday, September 26

- 7:00 Thinking & Praying Group (NJ)

Sunday, September 29

Blessing of the Tailgates

Bring a Friend to Church Sunday

- 10:00 Blended Worship (S)
- 11:00 Lunch on the Lawn
- 4:15 Handbell Rehearsal (CR)

Monday, September 30

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (S)



Serving the Congregation in September

Church Attendance For August

8/4 Worship: 138 SS: 51

8/11 Worship: 114 SS: 55

8/18 Worship: 114 SS: 25

8/25 Worship: 121 SS: 52

Total Offering for August:

\$23,664.62

September Birthdays

10 Pat Wood

13 Dan Toma

14 Betty McCune

16 Sharon Bonnville

21 Verlon Stone

24 Margie Jackson

25 Ron Jordan

Roy Canty

Joyce Varn

26 Sandra Wayson

Margaret Hinze

28 Betty Moore

Maggie Giametta

September Anniversaries

8 Eugene & Joyce Appleman

14 Tom & Kaye Harper

28 Lem & Brenda Harper

Honorariums

In honor of **David Walker and his family**

to the youth fund.

by Velma Neely

Memorials

In memory of **Herman Berry**

to the playground fund

by William and Gayle Belvin

Greeters

9/1: Eugene Appleman, Paulette Price, Sandra Wayson

9/8: Anne & John Mathis, Iva Dell Griffin

9/15: Mart Ott, Lucinda Miller, Tom Elliott

9/22: Sally & Frank Hafner, Janel Bell

9/29: Cathy Crumpler, Sharon Bonnville, Jack Bonnville

Ushers

9/1: Tom Elliott, Furman Porter, Bill Lucas, Lee Wilson

9/8: Chuck Ward, Janel Bell, Brenda Shealy, Ken May

9/15: Ken Wood, David Barnes, Sid George, Mike Hellams

9/22: Frank Hafner, Sally Hafner, Dan Toma, Bonnie Speas

9/29: Debbie Carter, Diane Roddey, Arnette Jordan, Dianna Elliott

Sound System Operator

9/1: Jack Bonnville

9/8: Marian Scullion

9/15: Jack Bonnville

9/22: Jack Bonnville

9/29: Marian Scullion

Acolyte/Crucifer

9/1: Emily Rose Walker/Hannah Curran

9/8: Skyy Morgan

9/15: Sterling Davis

9/22: Will Barrs

9/29: Jordan Davis

Children's Moment

9/1: No Children's Moment

9/8: Louise Davis

9/15: Kate Brown

9/22: Debbie Carter

9/29: Rev. Julie Belman

Offering Counters

9/1: Cathy Crumpler & John Mathis

9/8: Frank Hafner & Chuck Ward

9/15: Dianna Elliott & Janis Lawther

9/22: Charles Byrn & Arnette Jordan

9/29: Kimberly Wilson & Sara Derrick

Sanctuary Preparers: Bonnie Speas & Sandra Wayson

Sanctuary Lock Up: Bill Lucas & Ken Wood

Communion Servers: Kate Brown, Debbie Carter, Dianna Elliott