

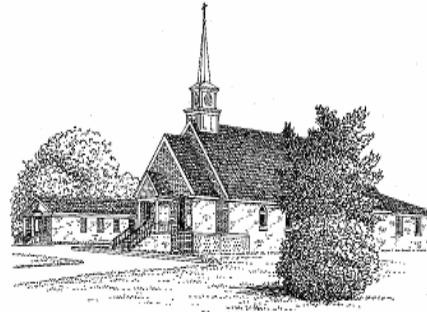
Bethany United Methodist Church

1860 Hayes Road – P.O. Box 527 Gloucester Point, VA 23062

Office: (804) 642-2110 Parsonage: (804) 642-4082

Church email address bethanyumc3@verizon.net

Church Web site: www.bethanygloucesterpoint.net



Worship Service: 10:00 A.M.

December 21, 2008

Fourth Sunday of Advent

LARGE PRINT Hymnals and Bulletins are available for your use – request one from an usher
Listening devices are available from the ushers for the hearing impaired.

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to use this time to welcome and visit with others in the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Let the chiming of the hour be a call to silent prayer and meditation.

PRELUDE

*There's a Song in the Air
I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Harrington
Calkin
Redner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

the Schultz family

*CHRISTMAS CAROL

Joy to the World

UMH, No. 246

*OPENING PRAYER

O Lord God, you have chosen to dwell in the hearts of the lowly. We give you thanks that you revealed yourself in the holy child Jesus. We ask you to make us humble in faith and love, so that we may know the joy of the gospel that is hidden from the wise but revealed to babes. This we ask in his name, who, wearing our mortal flesh, grew in wisdom and in favor with God and humankind. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH, No. 895

CHRISTMAS CAROL

The First Noel

UMH, No. 245

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Away in a Manger

Mueller

*Doxology

UMH, No. 234

O come, let us adore him!

O come, let us adore him!

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CHRISTMAS CAROL

We Three Kings

UMH, No. 254

A CHRISTMAS CAROL - SCROOGE IN BETHLEHEM

by

Anna Laura Page and Jean Anne Shafferman

A Christmas Carol: Scrooge in Bethlehem is an adaptation of the Charles Dickens' 19th century English story, *A Christmas Carol*, where Ebenezer Scrooge, a shrewd and hard-working businessman becomes so obsessed with money that he has no room in his heart for humanity.

In this story, *Scrooge in Bethlehem*, the Bethlehem innkeeper (Scrooge) refuses shelter to Mary and Joseph on that first Christmas night. His front desk clerk, Bob Cratchit, comes to their aid while Scrooge sleeps alone in his dark room in the inn. When God sends angels with the Light of Salvation to Scrooge, the wretched man is forced to search his soul. Gradually he realizes that he has traded his soul for money. His final redemption reflects the promise of salvation for all, both poor and rich, in the birth of Emmanuel, God with us.

*O Little Town of Bethlehem
On the First Night of Christmas
Good Clerk Cratchit
Lully, Lullay
Bells Toll First Hour
God Rest You Merry, Mister Scrooge
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Bells Toll Second Hour
Once in Royal David's City
What Can I Give Him?
Bells Toll Third Hour
Past Three O'Clock
Finale: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Cast and characters

William Schultz – Narrator	C.J. Thompson - Reader
Will Neikirk – Scrooge	Kate Neikirk – Tiny Tina
Nathan Schultz – Mr. Cratchit	Hunter Martin – Mrs. Cratchit
Steven Stilianos – Angel of the Past	Kayla McDade – Angel of the Present
Austin Kent – Angel of the Future	Cailey Eiseman - Mary
Alec Daniel – Joseph	Ellanah Daniel – Angel for the Baby Jesus
Michael Thompson – Shepherd	

To the Congregation: We would love it if you would join us after the play for our “Happy Birthday Jesus” which will be held in the WB fellowship hall. We have a live Nativity scene beside the church and would encourage you to visit the Nativity before coming to the fellowship hall. We hope you enjoy our special Christmas program.

Special thanks to Bain Schultz in designing and building the Nativity and providing the animals, Loreen Paiva making the costumes, Merle Luther setting up the sound, Kris Kent organizing and supporting everything else (particularly my weird ideas) and moms and dads in providing the children and supporting this endeavor. Sandy Fox

WELCOME, VISITORS! We are delighted to have you in our congregation today. We invite you to participate as fully in our worship service as you feel comfortable. Bethany Church offers a full range of study and fellowship opportunities for children, youth, young adults, and older adults. Sunday School, in session from 9:45-10:45 a.m. each Sunday morning, features nine different classes for adults, one class for youth, three classes for children, and a nursery. We invite you to come back to Bethany and get to know us better!

Our Nursery

For the convenience of parents of small children a nursery is provided during both worship services and also during the Sunday School hour. The maximum suggested age for the nursery is four years old. Please ask an usher or greeter for directions to the nursery.

2009 Offering Envelopes are Now Available

Envelopes for 2009 may be picked up in the narthex. Please make certain that you pick up the box with your name on it. If you were not assigned numbered envelopes for 2009, you may request them by contacting the Financial Secretary (Bernard Robins - 642-6412). Non-members who regularly attend Bethany may also request numbered envelopes.

Please do not use '08 envelopes after Sunday, December 28, 2008, and do not use '09 envelopes before Sunday, January 4, 2009.

Donations are recorded by the Financial Secretary according to the date of the Sunday received; therefore, donations must be received no later than Sunday, December 28, 2008, in order to be credited for 2008.

Using your numbered envelopes is a great way to help the counting committees and the Financial Secretary. Thank you!

Bishop:		Reverend Charlene Payne Kammerer
District Superintendent:		Reverend Joseph D. Carson
Minister:		Reverend Stephen E. Young
Pastor in Residence:		Chaplain L. Lawson Byrd
Pastor in Residence:		Reverend Bob Justis
Pastor in Residence:		Chaplain Carol Johnson
Lay Leader:		Archie Leigh
Associate Lay Leader:		Roy Bauschatz
Youth Leader:		Sondra Colbert
Children's Ministry:		Kris Kent
Director of Music:		Sandra Fox
Organist:		Rudy Shackelford
Acolytes:	10:00	William Schultz
Altar Guild for December:		Charlotte Cecil and Diana Simmons
Greeters:	10:00	Narthex: Kevin Kiley Side: Patrick Kiley

Stewardship for December 14, 2008

Attendance:

Worship:		257
8:30	51	
11:00	206	
Sunday School		82
Adults	62	
Youth	12	
Children	8	
Nursery: 8:30	6	
11:00	2	
Children's Church	10	

Counting Teams Schedule

December 21 Jackie Hampton, Charlotte Cecil, Jane Niethamer
 December 28 Sid Dixon, Katherine Jordan, Kathleen Mattox

This Week at Bethany

Today	9:00	Breakfast in the WBFH
	10:00	Children's Program "A Christmas Carol-Scrooge in Bethlehem" "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party after program
Monday	5:00	Weight Watchers
	7:00	Men's/Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	7:30	Family Christmas Eve Service
	11:00	A Service of Lesson and Carols/ Holy Communion
Thursday		Christmas Day – Office closed
Friday		Office closed
Next Sunday	5:00-6:00	Middle School/High School Bible Study
	6:00-7:30	Supper/MYF

HELP THE CHILDREN IN CAMBODIA

We will be accepting contributions through December 21, 2008. You can make a gift donation in honor or memory of someone or just a donation. You can learn more about this Global Mission opportunity by visiting our display table on November 30, 2008, December 7, 14 & 21 at the completion of both church services or see Mike Andersen.

Just pick up a gift card from the North Annex. Please fill out the gift card and make your checks payable to BUMC and put Cambodian Children in the memo line.

Clara Biswas, our missionary in Cambodia, works with other UMC missionaries to rescue impoverished children and youth by transforming hopelessness into hope. They do this through programs that combat hunger, illness, and illiteracy, while providing Christian education, vocational training, and improved sanitation

Our contributions can greatly enhance the opportunities for these young people to survive, find hope, and become productive citizens in their country as well as evangelists for Christ.

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Help is desperately needed to support the following ongoing programs:

From: _____

A gift of _____ has been made to the following program/programs.

A gift of _____ has been made to the following program/programs

in honor of: _____.

A gift of _____ has been made to the following program/programs

in memory of: _____.

Help is desperately needed to support the following ongoing programs:

PROGRAM:	AMOUNT:
Share of Rice	\$ 25.00 _____
1 Ton of Rice	\$250.00 _____
Sunday School materials	\$ 5.00 _____
Water filters to combat waterborne diseases	\$ 5.00 _____
Share of Vegetable Garden plot	\$ 25.00 _____
Share of a Cow	\$ 25.00 _____
Schooling for Orphan for 1 year	\$100.00 _____
Schooling for Orphan for 1 month	\$ 10.00 _____
Engine Repair scholarship	\$100.00 _____
Share of engine repair scholarship	\$ 25.00 _____
Weaving and sewing scholarship	\$350.00 _____
Share of weaving/sewing scholarship	\$ 25.00 _____

Christmas Card Mailbox

Bethany's mailbox for you to put your Christmas cards to Bethany families is now located in the WBFH. What a great way to remember friends, and no postage required. Just remember to check the slot with the initial of your last name on it for incoming mail.

Stamps for Mission

Bethany United Methodist Women still collect cancelled stamps. These need to be trimmed off the envelope with a space of approximately 1/4" around the stamp - we will trim them for you if you prefer. Please save and turn in to church office or put in UMW mailbox slot located outside the Church office.

Attention: Bethany needs \$19,885.70 between now and December 31 to meet its budget!

Pastor Away

Pastor Steve and Susan will be on vacation from Christmas until New Year's Day. In their absence pastoral services will be available from Rev. Bob Justis (757-880-0015), Chaplain Carol Johnson (757-273-1482). If Pastor Steve needs to be reached, please contact Associate Lay Leader Roy Bauschatz (642-6340).

*Glenn Winters - January 11, 2009
4:00 P.M.
Operation Opera*



Glenn Winters received the Doctor of Music from Northwestern University; he also holds the B.M. and M.M. in piano performance from Indiana University. His background includes teaching college-level piano, arts administration at two universities (including VCU, where he directed the Community School of the Performing Arts from 1991-2002), and extensive performing experience as pianist, operatic baritone, and published composer. His two original operas for children, *History Alive!* and *Tales From the Brothers Grimm*, were commissioned by Virginia Opera's education department and have enjoyed successful state-wide tours. Mr. Winters joined Virginia Opera in 2004 as Community Outreach Musical Director.

Reception to follow in the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall.

Poinsettias have been given in loving memory of . . .

Louise G. and Alexis Byrd, parents of Lawson Byrd, by Lawson and Ann Byrd

William L. Adams, father of Ann Byrd, by Lawson and Ann Byrd

William J. Hargis, Jr. by Marcia Hargis

Ella Grey and David Burke by Roger and Nancy Heflin

Our parents by Al and Judy Burner

Gene Albert Leigh by Ellen Leigh and Rebecca Teagle and family

Robert M. Belvin by his sister Reathia Williams

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Shackelford, Mr. & Mrs. James R. Shackelford, and Margaret Shackelford,
by Joan Fecondo and Carlton Shackelford

Our parents, Christine and Herman Harris, by Nan Leigh and Jimmy Harris

Gene Leigh, his brother, by Bobby and Nan Leigh

Mr. & Mrs. James E. Jordan, her grandparents, by Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Fletcher

Mr. & Mrs. John I. Huff, her parents, by Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Fletcher

Our son Roger by Deannie & Jerry McKendree

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Smith by Deannie & Jerry McKendree

William and Grace Lee Rowe, by V.C. and Melissa Sutton

Walter J. Sullivan and Hilda P. Kemp by Ken and Teresa Sullivan and Suzanne Sterling

Mr. & Mrs. Noah C. Thomas, their parents, and Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Jenkins their grandparents,
by M.E., Brenda and Don Thomas

Mr. & Mrs. Williams Irving Lewis by Agnes, Andrea, and Alicia

James Robert Williams by Agnes, Andrea, and Alicia

Williams F. and Ida May Cameron, and George F. Cameron by Judith C. Vaughan

William F. Cameron, Jr. and Barbara C. Downey by Judith C. Vaughan

Theresa Day and Butch Davis by Janice and Howard Day and family

Chuck Powers by Janice and Howard Day and family

Mr. & Mrs. Claud Hickman by Nerine Hickman

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Foster by Nerine Hickman

Poinsettias (continued)

In Loving Memory of . . .

Our parents by Alan and Sandra Harvey

Harry S. Lewis by JoAnne O. Lewis

Donald G. Broadwell by Carolyn and children

Evelyn and Leslie Lewis by Marshall, Carolyn, Melissa and families

John G. and Myrtle Lewis by their grandchildren, great grandchildren and families

Mrs. Aileen Brillhart Hagood, her mother, by Nancy and J.J. Orth

Dr. William J. Hagood, her father, by Nancy and J.J. Orth

Mr. & Mrs. William C. Orth, his parents, by J. J. and Nancy Orth

Richard Johnson, Bobby Carpenter and Boyce Lee Carpenter, our brothers,
by Larry and Judy Johnson

Russell and Marilyn Chapin, his parents, and Richard Townsend, her father,
by David and Janet Chapin

Cara Chapin, our daughter, by David and Janet Chapin

Ervy "Mike" and Josephine Hudgins, and Willie Brooks, Sr., our parents,
by Willie and Mary Linda Brooks

Fred and Julia Niethamer, and Jesse and Daisy Dickerson, our parents,
by Fred and Jane Niethamer

Bob Cluts by Dawn L. Cluts

Lillian Galaska my mother, by Joni Diamond-Silvers

Mr. Winford Armstrong, her father, and Mr. & Mrs. W.T. Lipscomb, his parents,
by Carol and Jennie Lipscomb

James A. Harder by Bob Harder

In honor of . . .

Gladys P. Davis, mother of Ann Byrd, by Lawson and Ann Byrd

Our children Jennifer and John Dooley and Kim Lewis by David and Peggy Lewis

Mrs. Jean A. Young, his mother, by Steve and Susan Young

Brandon Koelliker, US Army, Afghanistan, by Robert and Yeardeley Blackwell

Warren and Iva Belvin by his sister Reathia Williams

Mrs. Frances Brown, Bethany's secretary, by Steve and Susan Young

In appreciation to the Sunday School teachers and their gifts of time and talents by Marion Dixon

Carol Sue, the angel in my life. by "D.W."

Our sons, Hunter Leigh and Christian Reece, by Paul and Stacie Martin

Gavin David West, our grandson, by Nancy and J. J. Orth

Afton and Nataleigh Thayer, our granddaughters, by Larry and Judy Johnson

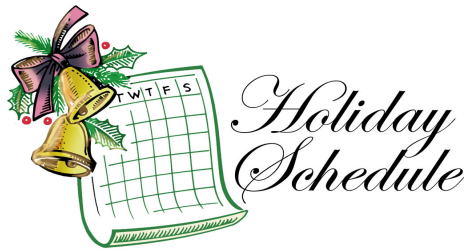
By the Polk Family

Aaron, Dylan, and Alex, our sons, by David and Janet Chapin

Carson and Connor Brooks, and Keagan Chase, our grandsons, by Willie and Mary Linda Brooks

John, Andrea, Brian, Madelyn, Judson, Paul, Stacie, Hunter and Christian by Kitty Martin

Kris Kent and Sondra Colbert by Mr. & Mrs. Wiley Cross, Jr.



December 21 – Children's Christmas Program

At 9 a.m., breakfast will be served this morning by our United Methodist Men in the WBFH

At 10 a.m. our children will present their Christmas program entitled "*A Christmas Carol — Scrooge in Bethlehem*" arranged by Anna L. Page and Jean A. Shafferman, (only one service today!)

At 11 AM. The children will participate in a Living Nativity tableau in front of the church, followed by a "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party in the WBFH

December 24 – 7:30 and 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Services

At 7:30 p.m. there will be a family Christmas Eve service with the participation of the children and the lighting of the congregation's candles. The children will sing "*Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, Jingle Bells, and Silent Night*". A nursery will be offered.

At 11:00 p.m. there will be a formal service of Lesson and Carols, culminating in Holy Communion.

December 31 – 11:30 p.m. Watch Night Service