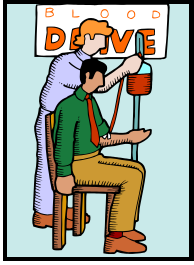


Bethany United Methodist Church

American Red Cross Bloodmobile



The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will visit Bethany on Tuesday, July 26 between 1:00-7:00 p. m. The Bethany congregation has a long track record in being generous in giving the “Gift that keeps on giving” In addition to those who donate blood, volunteers are needed to bring food and to man the registration tables. Please get in touch with Sandy Riggan (642-9481) and let her know what you can do to help.

Sunday School Literature

In an effort to reduce adult literature costs, adult Sunday School classes can now choose to recycle literature. Any reusable books should be left in the Friendship Sunday school class, in the WBFH, or turned in to Ann Hogge. Classes interested in available recycled literature or having questions, please contact Ann at 642-9408.

America's Gospel

Our country has a gospel of her own

To preach and practice before all the world

The freedom and divinity of man,

The glorious claims of human brotherhood,

And the soul's fealty to none but God.

James Russell Lowell

The Flag Goes By

Hats off!

Along the street there comes

A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,

A flash of color beneath the sky:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!

Blue and crimson and white it shines,

Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hats off!

The colors before us fly;

But more than the flag is passing by:

Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,

Fought to make and to save the State;

Weary marches and sinking ships;

Cheers of victory on dying lips;

Days of plenty and years of peace;

March of a strong land's swift increase;

Equal justice, right and law,

Stately honor and reverend awe;

Sign of a nation great and strong

To ward her people from foreign wrong;

Pride and glory and honor—all

Live in the colors to stand or fall.

Hats off!

Along the street there comes

A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;

And loyal hearts are beating high;

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!

- Henry Holcomb Bennett





“The Way of Forgiveness”

I have been asked to teach the adult Christian education classes in August. This would be a great time for our regular teachers to catch their breath and join in the class discussions. Several people have inquired about the subject of forgiveness. How about this series of discussion based on the Upper Room book, Companions in Christ, the Way of Forgiveness. Stephen D. Bryant and Marjorie J. Thompson are co-authors and give tremendous insights to understanding forgiveness and how to live a forgiven and forgiving life. If you have any suggestions or comments, please advise me at arthur.wolz@cox.net. Looking forward to a great time together!



Please note the schedule each Sunday morning at 9:45 in the sanctuary:

August 7 *Living in God's Blessing*

August 14 *Shame, Guilt, and Anger*

August 21 *Receiving God's Forgiveness and Using It*

August 28 *Cultivating Fruitfulness*



Soul Cafe

Next Soul Café will be Friday, August 12, 2011 at 6:30 PM. We shall gather outside and be renewed again. Come and join

your Bethany family.

STEWARDSHIP



We have defined stewardship this year in terms of what we all promised to bring to the United Methodist Church when we first became part of its fellowship; *our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service*. Here are a few thoughts about the importance of our being good stewards and fully

participating in the life of Bethany.

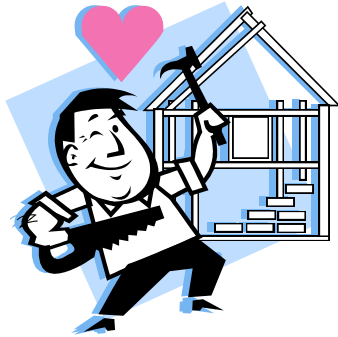
Think of a cross-word puzzle. It takes every piece of that puzzle to create the perfect picture. Each piece is intertwined with every other piece. Just like the puzzle, we at Bethany are an intertwined community that can only function at its best when all participate. We are influenced by each other and much of the time we don't even realize we influence others. If we are absent, does that affect those we would have had contact with at Methodist Men, at a bazaar work session, in Sunday School? Does it mean that Bethany cannot perform its role in God's plan as well without a committed membership presence?

There is no perfect church. Bethany is not perfect. If you did find a perfect church, you should not join it. You would only mess it up! Despite the imperfections, there is much we can learn from our fellow church members. If we look, we see faith demonstrated, we see fellowship enhanced, and we see the love of God displayed in Bethany members. It is said that the only way to improve in any sport is to consistently play with people who are better than you. Is it possible that the same applies to our Christian lives? Think about it!

In Psalms 116:12, the psalmist asks, “What can I offer the Lord for all he has done for me?” We find the answer in Deuteronomy 16:17. “All must give as they are able, according to the blessings given to them by the Lord your God.” In order to do that we must be good stewards of what we have. Good stewards use wisdom and discernment rather than frivolous, haphazard actions in money matters and how they give of their time. Have you counted your blessings lately?

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers Needed for Helping Hands Mission Camp, July 17 - 22, 2011 - This summer, we expect a record youth turnout for our local, Gloucester based, Helping Hands Mission Camp for middle and high school youth. Helping Hands may have up to 20 project teams, each comprised of 5 youth and two adult volunteers - one adult to manage the project, the other to manage the youth. This model has worked out very well in the past and promotes participation, safety, and coordination. As you can see, we need up to 100 adult volunteers. The time commitment can be from a day or two, to the full 6 day mission camp. We usually arrive at the project site at 9 am and leave before 3 pm. Lunch and drinks are provided. No prior knowledge of construction work is needed for at least half the jobs - youth management.



And just a general, home handyman or handy woman knowledge is needed for project management. The youth are great to work with and really enjoy helping and getting to know the families they help. Our adult volunteers quickly bond with the mission teams as they provide guidance, advice, problem solving skills, and support that make the Mission

Camp a rewarding experience for all. Please listen to that little voice in your head, that's saying "Go ahead, I can spare a day or so. God is urging me to help these youth and our community." Please contact Kevin Kiley (642-6047), Sondra Colbert, or Dawn Cluts if you would like to volunteer or if you have questions about the camp. For more information, go to the Helping Hands Mission Camp web site: <http://www.hh-missioncamp.org> or the Bethany UMC web site: <http://www.hh-missioncamp.org> under Youth Ministry. - Kevin Kiley

EXTRA YEARS OF ZEST XYZ Club begins its 24th year in September with the following officers and committee chairs:



- President: *Marcia Hargis*
- Vice President: *Sandra Harvey*
- Corresponding Sec. *Jean Heywood*
- Treasurer: *Dawn Cluts*
- Program Committee: *Harvey Williams, Sandy Riggins, Marion Dixon*
- Calling Committee: *Alice McGee, Lavalie Wilson, Charlotte Cecil*

~ ~ ~

LOOKING AHEAD!

Celebration of Frances Brown's 25 years of Service to Bethany Church.

Join us on Sunday, September 11 for a covered-dish meal after the 11:00 a.m. worship service



HOME BOUND MINISTRIES—We'll be cooking for our shut-ins on Thursday, July 14 and Wednesday, August 17 if you can help please meet at the church at 9:30 a. m.

Second Tuesday Morning Visitation—July 12 and August 9th.

Join us as we visit shut-ins, those recovering from surgery, or those wanting to see a friendly face. We'll meet at church at 9:30 a.m. to go out in groups of two.



HIKING—Join us at the front of the church at 7:30 a.m. to beat the heat on the following dates:



- Monday, June 27-Wahrani Nature Trail, West Point
- Monday, July 11—Yorktown, Surrender Field
- Monday, July 25—New Quarter Park, Williamsburg. Call Judy or Al Burner at 642-6016 for more information.



On behalf of the Morales family, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for all of the love, support, the cards and e-mails and the wonderful food sent to us during this very difficult and stressful time by our friends and our wonderful Bethany family.

Thank You Patsy, Dito
and Maria Morales

~ ~ ~

ON SUNDAY, June 12th, I had the great privilege of introducing our Grandson, C.R. Doggett, III back safely from a year serving in Afghanistan! Your response was overwhelming! Your sustained applause was so gratifying and showed so well your appreciation for all that our service people sacrifice for liberty!

Later C.R. told me that he was deeply touched, and that your response "made it all worthwhile"! Alice and I are so proud of our Bethany family.

- Alice and Ray Doggett

~ ~ ~

On behalf of the entire Poland family I'd like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks for all the love and support that so many Bethany members have given freely to Norman over the past few years. Being a "Poland" is another one of the many blessings bestowed our way. Our parents/grandparents instilled the importance of family to every

generation of our family, and we lean heavily on that tradition during stressful times like these; however, our "Bethany Family" made the most difficult days a little less painful. Again, thank you for your loving support.

Sincerely, Jack & Mary Poland
and Peggy & David Lewis

~ ~ ~

HAPPY WANDERERS - July Progressive Luncheon

Since the weather will probably be hot in July we thought we would have a Progressive Luncheon locally on Thursday, July 7. We will begin at the church parsonage hosted by Vicki at 11a.m. and enjoy appetizers. Then we'll head to Marcia Hargis' home for salads and finally to Ann Byrd's for dessert. We'll also have a few other fun things to do as well. Call Judy Burner at 642-6016 or e-mail her if you'd like to attend. If you haven't been on outings with us before we hope you will join us for this luncheon. We had 30 ladies go to Maymont in Richmond recently and we had lunch at the Tobacco Company. We had a fun day ~ Check your calendar and let Judy know and she'll let you know what to bring.

Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet during the summer months except on July 4th

Men's last Bible Study will be on July 11. We will resume or study on September 12th at 7:30 p.m.

TEA PARTY for ladies of all ages—Saturday, August 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Bring your mom, aunt, friend, granddaughter, etc and join us for an



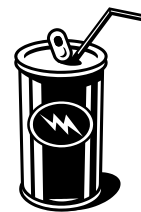
afternoon tea filled with fun, food and fellowship. We hope you will wear your finery accessorizing with gloves and a hat. We'll have some extra hats and gloves if you'd like to borrow ours. This is sponsored by the JOY Circle.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!

Please e-mail or call Judy Burner if you can attend. There will also be a tear-off sheet in the bulletin later for you to respond.

We Are Collecting

TABS from canned drinks. That's correct! We will need them for a project for our next Bazaar. If you care to help out you may give your TABS to Judy Burner (642-6016) or Nina Whitmore (642-2364).



We are also collecting old license plates. Call Judy or bring plates to the church office.



Bible Buddies is taking a bit of a break until the end of August when we will have a **Super Fun Summer Family**



Get Together for all new and present Bible Buddies (that's all rising Third through Fifth Graders!) Watch your bulletins for more details!! Ms. Kris and Ms. Jane

A big huge hug of thanks on behalf of all of the **Children Ministry Kids** to everyone that purchased snacks at their "Big Hearts, Little Hands" Lemonade and Snack Sale on May 22nd. With your help and their courteous salesmanship, the children **raised \$92.00 for the American Red Cross Gloucester County Chapter**. Way to go Bethany! And way to go kids! Proudly, Kris Kent, Children's Ministry Dir.



S u n d a y School Teachers are needed for preschoolers through fifth graders. Rotating

schedules are available, materials are provided, smiles and love are required. Please contact Kris Kent for more information! Thank you!

Children's Church Helpers Needed! Please see the sign-up sheet on the large Bulletin Board in the Educational Wing to volunteer less than an hour of time to our Bethany children during the 11:00 AM Worship Service.

As you know, two people are required in order to hold Children's Church so please help out when you can! Thank you, Kris Kent

BEAT THE HEAT GAME N I G H T :

Come to the WB Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm, Friday August 19th for dinner and fun with your church friends! A few relay races, board games, an art contest, a story teller and ice cream--how super cool is that?? We'll wrap it all up at 9:00 pm. Kids **4 years old through Seniors in High School** are invited!! Bring a buddy for us to meet, too! See you then! Kris Kent



Rappahannock District Youth Choir

Mark your calendar now for a most enjoyable evening of music, dance, and visuals. RDYC will be in concert at Bethany Church **July 6, 7:30 p.m.**

This is not just a choir singing a program of sacred music. They are UM Youth from the Rappahannock District engaging in hands on mission work and then sharing the importance of mission in our lives as Christians.

We are looking for families to house two or more youth following the concert on July 6th.

Please contact Sondra Colbert 642-0467 or Dawn Cluts 684-5340 if you are interested in housing these wonderful

~ ~ ~

MYF Schedule

July 3 Jr. & Sr. Lunch/Movie 12:00-3:00

July 6 Rappahannock Youth Choir Performs 7:30 p.m.

July 10 Helping Hands Potato Bar/Fundraiser

following the 11 am worship service All proceeds will benefit Helping Hands Mission Camp. Dessert donations are appreciated.



July 17-22nd Helping Hands Mission Camp

July 24 District Youth gathering at York Beach. Please bring a side dish to share. Time TBA

August 12 6:30- Soul Café

August 14 Youth Family Pool Party

Please join us from 1:00-4:00 for fun, food, and fellowship please bring a side dish, drinks, and dessert to share Chicken will be provided

August 21 Youth Family Beach Party 1:00-4:00 p.m. Please bring a side dish, drinks, or dessert to share. Hamburgers and Hot dogs provided.

August 28 End of Summer Social - TBA

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1860 Hayes Road
P O Box 527
Gloucester Point, VA 23062
Office: 804-642-2110
Rev. Arthur L. Wolz, Jr., Pastor

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Hayes, VA 23072
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Return Service Requested



The Bethany Banner

July/August, 2011

Thanks for the Many Blessings from God

Each moment is a blessing from God. The Almighty makes all things beautiful and special. When the people of our church come together for worship, fellowship and special occasions, great things happen. I am so thankful for the kindness and love you shared during my birthday celebration. The cards and presents were so immense. All of you gave so much to make this happen, and I will not forget the feeling of unity and support.

“First of all, the church is a gathering of people to be infused with the Holy Spirit. We gather in worship and we gather in small groups. We gather in choirs and classes and work crews. We gather to eat, to pray, to play. We congregate to study the Bible, to discuss ethical decisions, to explore heritages and doctrines of faith. We assemble to plan, to be trained, to become open to new visions for the church. We gather with children, we gather with youth, we gather with senior citizens. We gather at noon, we gather in the evenings, we sometimes gather at outrageously early hours in the morning for breakfast. The beginning of the Christian Church was the gathering of the disciples in Jerusalem. The renewal of the church in our own day begins with our gatherings. Renewal of the church does not revolve around the pastor of the church. The church is renewed when the people gather to be infused by the Holy Spirit. We can’t gather “in theory.” We have to actually gather in time and space. It is only when we devote ourselves to sharing time and space together that the church has any chance of the liveliness described in the Bible. A living, growing, spiritual, joyful church doesn’t come cheap. The price is always a commitment of the people: that they will share time and space together” (J. Michael Smith).



Bethany has made this commitment and it shows in the evidence of the fruits we produce. Our church is making a difference, and I encourage you to continue to pray for God’s will to be done. As we deliver meals, visit, teach, work and worship collectively we do this because of God. Everything that is said and the decisions made make a difference. I am thankful for all of you who serve our Lord Jesus. We are called to be a light to the world. “You are the light of the world” (Math. 5:14). Go and shine in the darkness and give someone hope.

Live in Christ’s Peace, Pastor Art