
DECEMBER 2024

Bethel Beacon

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Living our faith, sharing God's love.



Message from the Pastor

Dear Bethel Family,

As we welcome Advent into our lives, let us embrace this season of preparation for the coming of Christ. Advent comes from the Latin word "adventus," which means coming or arrival.

I encourage you to take the time to gather around the nativity scene or Christmas tree in your home. Read and reflect on the birth narrative of Jesus in the Gospels and invite Him into your hearts and lives.

Advent is also a time to celebrate hope, love, joy, and peace. Let us show extra love and joy to those around us—family, co-workers, clerks at the grocery store, and neighbors. Let our actions reflect the presence of Christ in our lives more than our words.

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Additionally, I invite you to prioritize the Christmas Eve service this year, which will be held on December 24 at 5:00 p.m. Remember, we are celebrating Jesus' birthday, and this is an important opportunity to worship Him. This may be a chance for someone in your family to come to know Jesus. Please remember that December 24 is about celebrating JESUS' BIRTHDAY, not your own or anyone else's in the family. I hope and pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire you to plan your family events **AFTER** 6:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Join us in worshipping the one who came into the world for our sake first at 5:00 p.m.

Thank you, and please let me know if I can assist you in any way.

Rev. Nadeem

December Sermons

December 1:	A Different Kind of Wish List	Isaiah 61:1-4
December 8:	A Different Kind of Love	Hosea 1:2 and Hosea 3:1-3
December 15:	Lessons and Carols	
December 22:	A Different Kind of Favor	Luke 1:26-38

ANGEL TREE GIFTS

Thank you to Rachel Gibson for connecting with FQ County Dept of Social Services and sharing 5 children in our community with our congregation. It's an annual tradition of kindness and generosity. Wish lists were short and sweet and others hopeful for the magic of Christmas. Thank you for being someone's special Santa Claus.



Advent Worship and Events

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship

Advent Devotional distribution (online, email, and mail)

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship

Christmas Sing & Ring at 2 p.m. in the Social Hall

Bring your families and friends. We'll sing some carols and hear holiday music favorites offered by the handbells, the choir, pianists, vocalists, and strings. We'll also enjoy some delicious Christmas cookies, coffee and tea. Come celebrate the Christmas season with us.



Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Lessons & Carols Worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Bethel will celebrate worship with lessons from scripture followed by favorite hymns. This interactive worship service is an annual favorite. Please join us in person or online. Communion, a sermon and young disciple message will not be offered this Sunday



Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Family Worship at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Bethel will celebrate Christmas Eve with a traditional candlelight worship service.



Wednesday, December 25 Merry Christmas!



Lay Leadership:

Lay Leader: Brett Hahne

Council Chair: Nancy Pinson

Vice Chair: vacant

Staff-Parish Relations:

Rosanne Williamson

Finance Chair: Lewis Lee

Finance Vice Chair:

Travis Taylor

Trustees Chair: Ava Lee

Church Treasurer:

Donna Broadbent

Finance Secretary

TBD

Recording Secretary:

Gary Pinson

Worship Committee Chair:

Nancy Pinson

Funeral Care Committee Chair:

Cathy Carayas

Sunday School Superintendent:

Crystal Taylor

Nurture/Fellowship Committee

Chair: Charlene Hahne

Mission & Outreach Chairs:

Sandra Colvin,

Karla Yocum

United Women in Faith

President: Dolores Goff

United Methodist Men

President: Joe Florence

Lay Member to Annual

Conference: Brett Hahne

District Conference

Representative & Steward:

Murray Edwards

Youth Representative:

Grant Taylor

Young Adult Representative:

TBD

Blockbuster Bazaar 2024

Blockbuster is the only term Bethel United Women in Faith (BUWF) could think of to describe the 2024 Bethel Holiday Bazaar and Cookie Walk! All glory goes to God who certainly was watching over us! What a very blessed fundraiser/friendraiser! We always say that this event is a whole congregation event and that certainly was the case more than ever this year! Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who baked, made fabulous jam, donated your beautiful handiwork, packaged cookies, cooked up the ham and sausage biscuits, manned the tables, provided beautiful Christmas music and cashed folks out. And thank you to all of you who went home with boxes of cookies, baked goods and beautiful handcrafted gifts!

We measure success, not by just the money raised, but by the camaraderie of friends, old and new, gathering together! Thank you for inviting your friends and neighbors who attended! We witnessed many handshakes and hugs!

?Are you ready for it? We raised \$9417 (net profit) to support church and local community needs. We'll have a follow-up article after the UWF makes prayerful decisions about where the money will be donated. Thank you again from the Bethel United Women in Faith.

Ava Lee

UWF Treasurer



Merry Christmas

Holiday Bazaar and Cookie Walk 2024

It takes an army of volunteers, a plethora of goods, and two amazing ladies. Good times were had by all as cookies were packaged one Thursday afternoon. The preparation before November 8 was months long and many hours at sewing machines and in kitchens. Thank you all . Thank you Amazing Ladies: Donna Broadbent and Ava Lee >>>>>>





December Birthdays

- 1 Tom Wilson
- 4 Lewis Lee Jr.
- 5 Patricia Stine
- 15 Theodore Zyla
- 18 Rosanne Williamson
- 20 Paul Goff
- 21 Steve Yocum
- 22 Alice Steinmeyer
- 28 Karen Nelson

December Anniversaries

- 14**
- Edward and Donna Stouffer
- 19**
- Steve and Pamela Kalinsky
- 28**
- Tammie and Don Grogan
- 28**
- Dick Johns and Louise Stowe-Johns
- 28**
- Nadeem Khokar and Rupa Nadeem

**Worship
Reminder**

Communion will be served by intinction on the first and third* Sundays of the month. Those who prefer the self-serve elements or the gluten-free elements can ask the server when they come up.

Mission/Outreach Committee

The Mission/Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued support for our missions and outreach projects.

We will continue to collect donations for Motel Ministry. Our next visit will be January 6, 2025. Your donations may be put in the bin on the cart in the Social Hall. We are in need of the following items:

- Canned Food----meats (chicken and tuna), soups, spaghetti, beef stew, chili
- Deodorant (men’s and women’s)
- Can openers
- Small packs of cookies and crackers
- Capri Sun Drink Packets
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Mustard and Mayonnaise
- Shaving Cream, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Lotion

Karla continues to work with the “Kairos Prison Ministry.”

Sara Janickey continues to collect items for the Family Shelter in Warrenton. (paper towels, etc).

We will be participating with the Warrenton Baptist Church to have our “Gift Card Project” for the Motel Ministry residents for Christmas. These will be distributed in December before Christmas. We will be purchasing these from our Mission Fund, to which many of you have made contributions.

Our next project will be our “Love and Appreciation Project” in February. More information will be shared in the January Beacon.

We will have our next committee meeting on Sunday, January 19th, to review upcoming projects. We meet every other month on the 3rd Sunday at 11:45 am. Thanks, Sandra Colvin and Karla Yocum

Bethel United Methodist Youth (BUMY)

BUMY continues participating in the “Motel Ministry”. At our recent meeting the youth under Joice’s direction learned to play the bells. We have very talented youth!

Our December projected schedule:

- Sunday, December 1st Motel Ministry**
 - Sunday, December 8th Parent meeting** following the Christmas Carols Sing and Ring at 2 p.m. to discuss ideas.
 - Sunday, December 15th “Bull Run Festival of Lights” and Christmas party.** Gift exchange with items priced at \$10.00. Gather at Bethel for carpooling in the Bethel van. See leaders for details.
 - Sunday, December 22nd and 29th No BUMY meeting**
- Thank you, Joice Fredenburgh, Sandra Colvin, Karla Yocum, Karen Nelson and Debbie Mroczek

Church Staff:

Pastor: Nadeem Khokhar
 NKhokhar@bethelumc.com
 434/480-1063

Music Director:
 Pat Martin
 pat88piano@gmail.com

Accompanist:

Director of Hymndingers
 Joice Fredenburgh
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Administrative Assistant:
 Christine Winters
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 Monday—Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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 P.O. Box 5606
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Events and Meetings

Wednesdays	Prayer Gathering, 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary
Wednesdays	1st and 2nd Peter Bible Study 10 a.m. and repeat at 7:00 p.m., Pavilion Rm
Thursdays	Women’s Book Study, 10 a.m., Pavilion Room
Thursdays	Hymndingers, Bell Rm 301, 5:30—6:30 pm Choir, Sanctuary, 6:45 - 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 1	Motel Ministry, 11:30 a.m. Social Hall
Tuesday, December 3	Fauquier Cty Quilters, 6:30 p.m. Social Hall
Saturday, December 7	United Women of Faith (UMF) Meeting, Pavilion Room, 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 7	United Methodist Men (UMM) Meeting, Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 8	Trustees, 11:30 a.m., Pavilion Room
Sunday, December 8	Christmas Carol Sing and Ring, 2:00 p.m. Social Hall
Tuesday, December 12	Finance Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Pavilion Room
Sunday, December 15	Lessons and Carols, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Sunday, December 15	BUMYouth Group, Bull Run Lights Festival and Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 17	Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Pavilion Room
Thursday, December 19	Ruritan Dinner, 7:00 p.m., Pavilion Room
Tuesday, December 24	CHRISTMAS EVE Family Candlelight Worship Service, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Wednesday, December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS
Sunday, December 29	Fifth Sunday Worship Service