



The Bethany Buzz  
 Bethany United Methodist Church  
 1853 Maybank Hwy.  
 Charleston, SC 29412

[www.bethanyji.org](http://www.bethanyji.org)



MERRY CHRISTMAS



**From the Desk of the  
 Pastor**

**“ADVENT”**

Advent is a time of waiting with anticipation. Don't miss out on the opportunity to take a break, a well-timed timeout, a moment away from the fray!

As the Christmas season begins there will be lots of buying and selling and not quite so much prayer. The sales may provide a momentary retail “fix” for our “wants” and “must have’s”, but they will never touch our deepest desire of all- the desire for God, for spiritual intimacy through prayer.

It is in the intimacy of prayer that we know God as Emmanuel, “God with us”. God is not a distant Judge taking notes of wrongs nor is God a disconnected Watchmaker creating, winding up, and setting us loose to finish our days alone.

God came down and put on skin, became a babe, was born in a smelly manger, to two confused but trusting young people. God came to be with us where we are, as we are. He entered the mess of human life on the same terms as we do, weak, frail, and at the mercy of people and forces outside Himself.

God comes to be with us. Not to gain fame, not to awe or overpower us but to be with us. Into our messy, frail lives, into our poverty and pain, into our weariness and sin, God comes, the abiding Presence, the Redeemer of all things, the Healer of every hurt, the Gentle One, the Humble King, the Child, our Brother, our Lord.

So this Advent, take time to pray, then wait, because Emmanuel comes!

Peace of Christ,  
 Pastor Cindy Muncie

**Blue Christmas**

“Blue Christmas: A Service of Hope for the Holidays”

December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm Bethany UMC will host a Service of Hope for those who may be feeling “blue” this holiday season.

In the midst of festivities, shouts, and bright lights, some of us feel loss and sadness. In the midst of gatherings, some of us feel alone. In the midst of celebration, our hearts cry out for God’s perfect comfort.

During the thirty-minute service there will be readings, and lighting of candles with an opportunity to light a candle for a loved one lost. Pastor Cindy's mother, Ruth Wolfe, will be sharing a short devotional thought on God's love and our losses.

Please feel free to invite and accompany anyone you may know who is experiencing loss or sadness during the holidays.

## Did You Miss a Sunday or a Sermon?

Visit our Bethany website to catch up on the spiritual food you missed. You can also find our latest newsletter, information on our staff, church history, and update on our latest events. Bookmark our site for quick access at [www.bethanyji.org](http://www.bethanyji.org)



## New Member Class

If you have been visiting and would like to join Bethany UMC, please contact our Pastor, Cindy Muncie, through the church office, 843-795-3527. An introduction to membership in the UMC is offered every first Sunday for those interested between the two services, 10:00 am-11:00 am.

If you have questions about Christian marriage, baptism, Christian discipleship, or salvation, please contact pastor Cindy and she will find a time to share our faith and practice.



## Christmas Cantata

Please join us on Sunday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 as the choir presents "The Glory of Christmas".

## Please Remember to Keep the Following People In Your Prayers:



- Jane Farmer
- Bryan Riggs
- Henrietta and Woody Killingsworth
- Chuck & Edith Oshinsky
- Sarah Margaret and Jacqueline Woods (Tina Atwater's granddaughters)
- Brittany Crosby Howard
- Jill Rush Provost
- Ronnie Donaldson

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## Bethany "Shut-In" Members

Sweetgrass Village

-Paul Lewis

The Palms

-Janie Thomas

Summerville

-Betty Carmichael

- Dero Irwin

Family

-Elizabeth Harley

Please see office for contact info

Home-

-Tess Penninger

-Harriet Fosbery

-Alvis and Helen Hancock

-Sulie Patterson

Franke at Seaside

-Woody and Henrietta Killingsworth

Veterans Victory House

-Chuck Oshinsky

Chuck Oshinsky C/O

Veterans Victory House

2461 Sidney's R



- 12/01 Dorothea Dinius
- 12/03 Henrietta Killingsworth
- 12/04 Brenda Staley
- 12/05 Paul Lewis
- 12/06 Woodie Killingsworth  
Kelsie Richardson
- 12/10 Patricia Mylin
- 12/12 Bill Smith
- 12/18 James Glover
- 12/19 Elizabeth Hilliard
- 12/20 Chuck Oshinsky
- 12/21 Jane Farmer
- 12/25 Ali Mylin Otherson  
Andy Mylin
- 12/26 Julie Mylin
- 12/27 Gary Davis
- 12/28 Pam Bingham
- 12/29 Sarah Skipper Burks  
Wanda Meyer
- 12/31 Elaine Kizer



- 12/03 Tom and Melissa Ledford
- 12/14 Ronnie and Cynthia Donaldson
- 12/20 Philip and Rosemary Odom

## Memorials

Bill and Karen Buerkle for Mary Tayloe  
Rhoda LaRoque for Mary Lou Wise



## Poinsettia Orders

It's time to order your Poinsettia's. They are \$10.00 for a 6" plant. Look for the insert in the Sunday bulletin. The cutoff date to order is Dec. 16.

## UMW News

In lieu of a December meeting the UMW will have dinner at Athens on Tuesday, Dec. 4 at 6:30. Please contact Carol Killingsworth or sign up outside the office before Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> so reservations may be made.

Our next meeting will be January 8<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 with desserts served at 6:45. Hope to see you there.

*Carol Killingsworth, UMW President*



## Soup Sales

The UMW will prepare vegetable and potato soup to sell on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> before and after each service. A quart of soup is \$8 or 2 for \$15.

## Men's Club

The Men's Club Christmas dinner will be Sunday, Dec. 16 at 6:00 pm at the Tomato Shed on John's Island. There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office. Ladies of Bethany are free. The last day to sign-up is Dec. 9.



## Happy Birthday Jesus

Sunday, Dec. 2 from 10:15-12:15. Please join us as we celebrate Jesus' birthday. Ages 3-12. Games and a movie. Lunch will be served, and what's a party without Cake and Ice Cream! We would like each child to bring juice or canned goods for the James Island Outreach.

## Automated Calling System

As most of you know, Bethany uses an automated calling system, One Call Now, to provide notification of various topics to our membership using the telephone numbers on file. The system uses "calling groups" comprised of church committees and other organizations of the church to distribute information in support of Bethany's mission, goals, and priorities. The groups include:

- Choir
- Handbell Choir
- UMM
- Prayer Quilt
- Sunday School Classes
- Church Council Committees
- Blessings & Stretches (prayer requests and praise reports)
- Praise Band
- UMW
- MYF
- Altar Guild
- Weekly Pastry Delivery Notices

If you are not receiving telephone notices for any of the groups for which you would like to receive notices, please contact Joey Weed, the Bethany Communication Chair. Alternatively, if you are receiving calls you do not wish to receive, please contact Joey as well.

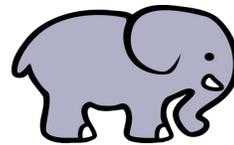


## Live Nativity

Everyone get ready for the Bethany Live Nativity coming on the evenings of December 22, 23 and 24. We need to fill thirty-minute shifts (a two-shift commitment if possible) from 6-8 pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. The children will fill in as part of the Christmas Eve service on the 24<sup>th</sup>. We have costumes for all Nativity roles. All we need is YOU! Make it a family event and bring joy to your Christmas season.

The Live Nativity has been a tradition since 1950, and we are the only church on James and John's Island that provides this community service.

Please contact James Glover or Julie Weed, of the Evangelism Committee, if you are willing to participate or need further information.



## White Elephant Bingo

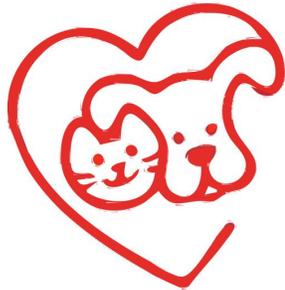
Now collecting items for BINGO PRIZES!! Planning a FUN FAMILY event at Bethany United Methodist Church on January 26, 2019. This is a great opportunity to de-clutter! Send your old treasures to a new home! We will store items (our bingo prizes) in the old fellowship hall. Examples: knick-knacks, jewelry, ornaments, games, movies, books, trinkets, purses, children's items, scarfs, holiday decorations, place mats, vases, sweets and goodies.

Any questions: Gloria @ 843-762-0470 or Sharon @ 843-559-3357

Food will be served. And as always we can use help. More details later. Thanks!

## Corrections!

If you have corrections to be made to the new pictorial directory, please notify Theresa Dinius. Updates are due no later than Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.



## Charleston Humane Society

This year the nursery will be collecting items for the Charleston Humane Society. We will collect items from Nov. 4 - Jan. 6. Items can be dropped off at the tree by the water fountain near the nursery. Any questions you can see anyone in the nursery.

### Acceptable Items:

Dry dog food, dry cat food, kitten food (Friskies canned food, especially turkey and giblets pate), non clumping cat litter, Kong toys (and soft treats for training and enrichment), rice socks (men's white socks filled with rice-these are vital for fostering), leashes, towels, blankets, carriers, crates, peanut butter (NO XYLITOL).

Order from AMAZONSMILE (same as Amazon but for charities)

**Unacceptable Items:** cans for recycling, window coverings, baby formula/adult formula (Ensure), SPO2 sensors, electrodes. Pillows, large rolled carpets, used cardboard food boxes, rusted or broken crates, furniture cushions.

## Advent Preaching Schedule

12/2	“Stand”	Luke 21:25-36
12/9	“Receive”	Luke 3:1-6
12/16	“Ignite”	Luke 3:7-18
9:00 am	“Paper Bag Christmas Pageant”	
11:15 am	“Christmas Cantata”	
12/23	“Sing”	Luke 1:39-45
12/24	Christmas Eve	
5:00 pm	“Lessons and Carols”	
12/30	“Treasure”	Luke 2:41-52

## Charge Conference

This year's Charge Conference was completed November 17<sup>th</sup>. For minutes and reports please contact the office to receive by email.

We want to thank many faithful workers rotating out of positions this year:

Conrad Hodges - Chairman of Admin Council  
Jane Farmer  
Ginny Hodges  
Ridge Johnson

We have some new additions for 2019 and are excited to be developing more leaders and creating more ministry:

John Swisher-Chairman of Administrative Council  
Kristin Beeker  
Samantha Eubanks  
Elizabeth Hilliard  
Amber Jones  
Mindy Richardson

## Future Plans

The Children's department is undergoing a makeover. Wanda Meyer, Children's Coordinator, is revamping the small group hour for children and families. In 2019 a new rotation model will begin every Sunday from 10:15 am to 11:00 am. Please be in prayer as the families and leaders create new opportunities.

## Leadership 101 & 102

We want our leaders and participants to be equipped for God's calling on their lives. To prepare our leaders with job descriptions, Safe Sanctuary training, spiritual formation, and a picture of our missional DNA for 2019, we will offer several times these two courses. Both components are necessary for every committee member, leader, small group leader, staff person, or unpaid staff person and every member or regular attender who volunteers.



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Of James Island  
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843-795-3527*

*DECEMBER 2018*

						1
2 Casual Service @9 am Sunday School @ 10:00 am Traditional Service @ 11:15 am Happy Birthday Jesus 10:15-12:15	3	4 Riverland Terrace Garden Club UMW Christmas Dinner @ 6:30 @ Athens Restaurant	5 Praise Band @ 5:30 pm AA Meeting @ 7:30 pm	6 Choir @ 7pm AA Meeting @ 8pm	7	8
9 Casual Service @ 9am Sunday School @ 10:00am Traditional Service @ 11:15am UMW Soup Sale	10	11 Blue Christmas Service @6:00 pm	12 Praise Band @5:30pm AA Meeting @7:30pm	13 Choir @ 7pm AA Meeting @ 8pm	14	15 Fellowship Hall reserved  Cantata practice @10:00 am
16 Casual Service @ 9am Sunday School @ 10:00am Traditional Service @ 11:15am Christmas Cantata UMM Christmas 6:00	17	18	19 Praise Band @5:30pm AA Meeting @7:30pm	20 Choir @ 7pm AA Meeting @ 8pm	21	22  Live Manger Scene @ 6:00 pm
23 Casual Service @ 9am Sunday School @ 10:00am Traditional Service @ 11:15am Live Manger 6:00	24 Christmas Eve Communion @ 5:00 pm Live Manger 6:00	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 Praise Band @5:30pm AA Meeting @7:30pm	27 NO CHOIR AA Meeting @ 8 pm	28	29
30 Casual Service @ 9am Sunday School @ 10:00am Traditional Service @ 11:15am	31					