
OCTOBER 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,

I am saddened to begin with the news of the recent catastrophes caused by Hurricane Helene in six states. I extend my heartfelt thoughts and prayers to our fellow American brothers and sisters who have been affected. The recovery and rebuilding process will take years, and for some, the loss of a loved one will leave a permanent impact. Events like this serve as a reminder that there are things beyond our control, such as the path of a storm. I urge you to join me in prayer for those impacted by this disaster. Moreover, I encourage each of you to reach out to someone you know who has been affected by the hurricane. Even a simple phone call or a thoughtful note can make a significant difference to those going through difficult times.

As a church family, our support can also be extended through financial contributions. Whether big or small, I ask you to consider donating to the relief efforts by writing a check to Bethel with UMCOR/Hurricane Helene in the memo line. 100% of your donations for this cause will go towards supporting relief efforts. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions regarding this.

Message from the Pastor—continued

Additionally, I am excited to share the various new discipleship opportunities available at Bethel to help you grow in your knowledge and love of God. You can find more information about these opportunities on the church's website and choose the one that best suits your needs.

Starting Sunday, October 13th, I will be preaching a three-week sermon series titled "Gratitude Check." This series aims to encourage self-reflection on how grateful we are and how we can express our gratitude towards God and others. During each Sunday's worship, you will hear a member of Bethel family share their personal story about gratitude and its impact on their lives.

One way we, as Christians, can express our gratitude is through giving our time and money. I do not agree with the view that "the church doesn't need your money." On the contrary, the church does rely on your financial support to run children and youth ministries, as well as to provide assistance to those in need within the community and beyond. Furthermore, the church needs financial support to continue making disciples of Jesus Christ. The early church's story illustrates how the believers supported the work of making disciples undertaken by the apostles.

This month, you will receive a letter from Bethel's finance chair along with an estimate of giving card. I ask you to prayerfully consider your giving for the year 2025. My family does this every year, and I invite you to continue supporting Bethel with your financial gifts. If you have not taken this step in your faith and are unsure about how to do so, please feel free to reach out to me, and I will be happy to talk to you. I also extend an invitation to you to participate in the upcoming events at Bethel. More information about these events can be found in this newsletter.

In Christ,

Rev. Nadeem



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

MEET AND GREET

Get to Know Your Pastor



Meet Pastor Nadeem around coffee and refreshments to get to know him better as he will share his faith story and talk about his journey as a Christian in Pakistan, persecution and life-threatening circumstances that led him to flee to the United States. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about his ministry plans for Bethel UMC.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26TH AT 5 P.M.
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
6903 Blantyre Rd, Warrenton VA 20187

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 October 6th. 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

October Birthdays

- October 01 Margaret Gill
- October 02 Pamela Kalinsky
- October 02 Martha Jo Payne
- October 03 Joan Bacot
- October 06 Kenneth Adams
- October 09 Sandra Colvin
- October 09 Kassif Nadeem
David Fredenburgh
- October 10 Steven Church
- October 14 Barbara Craig
- October 15 Donna Stouffer
- October 21 Kim Aguilar
- October 22 Oliver Taylor
- October 23 Kevin Lee
- October 30 Kadisha Nadeem
- October 31 Diane Shofkom

October Anniversaries

- 6 David and Joice Fredenburgh
- 18 Rick and Karen Putnam
- 19 Duane and Rosanne Williamson
- 21 Dave and Kim Childers
- 21 Brett and Charlene Hahne
- 25 Steve and Karla Yocum

**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.

- Capri Sun Drink Packets
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Mustard and Mayonnaise
- Shaving Cream



Karla continues to work with the “Kairos Prison Ministry.” She is currently asking our congregation to sign up to make cookies for her next visit. For details and to sign up, see her display in the Social Hall. She is also collecting greeting cards to take to the Kairos Ministry.

We had our committee meeting on Sunday, September 15th, to review our projects for the upcoming months. More information will follow as soon as the project plans are finalized. We meet every other month on the 3rd Sunday at 11:45 am. Our next meeting will be November 17th.

Our Bethel family is always so generous with their support of our projects. It helps us “Live Our Faith and Share God’s Love”.

Thanks, Sandra Colvin and Karla Yocum
Co-Chairs of Mission/Outreach Committee



Advent and Christmas Devotional Booklet

Bethel Church will continue our tradition of writing our own Advent and Christmas Devotional Booklet this year. Daily devotions, in the style of *The Upper Room* or *My Daily Bread*, written by our church family and friends, make the preparation for the season personal and meaningful. Our theme this year is "A Different Path".

The Magi, or Wise Men as they are more commonly called, are a familiar part of the Christmas story. According to tradition, these astronomers had been waiting for years, watching the heavens, for a sign of the coming Messiah. When they saw the special star, they immediately set out to find the promised Savior. The Wise Men undertook a journey to encounter God. Isn't that what every Christian life is, in its essence, a journey to the definitive encounter with God? As we wait through the weeks of Advent for Christmas to come, what lessons can we learn from these seekers of the promised one? After finding and worshipping the baby, God instructed them to go home by a different path. What different path might God be calling you to follow in 2025?



A devotion is a sharing from the heart with a connection to a scripture passage. It is written for the purpose of inspiring us to have hope and joy each day through the experience of Christ who has come in our lives. It begins with a scripture passage of one or two verses. Next there is a short story that relates to the passage and ends with the point you are wishing to make. A short prayer related to the story comes at the end. Be yourself in writing a devotional. Keep it short and to the point. You don't need to use theological or intellectual language, unless that is your style. Think about others reading this and how they might benefit. Our booklet will be published electronically and as a traditional paper booklet.

What are your stories of waiting and/or preparation that are part of your Advent/Christmas experience? What are your experiences of discovering hope, peace, joy or love amid traveling the unique path on your personal journey? Please write one of these as a short devotion to share with your Bethel Church family. Or if you are uncomfortable writing the devotion, share it orally, and we'll write it for you! You can even submit a drawing or photograph that portrays an Advent/Christmas experience.

As you consider your story, reflect on the following questions, the suggested scriptures, and/or your favorite Bible verses.

- God had placed in the Magi's hearts a yearning to meet the Savior. What yearnings has God placed in your heart recently?
- How are you following the star God has put before us? In what form does God's star appear in your life?
- How are you lighting a light that others might see and find their way to the Messiah?
- What stories will you tell? What examples will you live out?
- How will you make your heart, your family and your space ready to receive the one who comes?
- What gifts are you preparing to give the Christ Child in the coming year?

Church Staff:

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

Music Director:
 Pat Martin
 pat88piano@gmail.com

Director of Hymndingers
 Joice Fredenburgh
 dfredenburgh@verizon.net

Administrative Assistant:
 Christine Winters
 bumcofficeassistant@comcast.net
 540/347-4874

Office Hours:
 Monday—Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Virginia Conference Bishop:
 Sue Hauptert-Johnson
 P.O. Box 5606
 Glen Allen, VA 23058-5606
 804/521-1102

Northern Virginia District Superintendent:
 Rev. Kirk Nave
 3600 Chain Bridge Rd
 Fairfax, VA 22030-3236
 703/820-7200

Bethel United
 Methodist Church
 6903 Blantyre Rd.
 Warrenton, VA 20187
 (540) 347-4874

Website www.bethelumc.com

Facebook
 @bethel.umc.warrenton

Devotional Booklet (cont.)

1st week – Hope: The Star
 Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 60:1-6, Luke 1:68-79

2nd week – Peace: The Journey
 Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 9:1-6, Psalm 37:3-7

3rd week – Joy: The Adoration
 Matthew 2:1-12, Luke 2:8-20, Psalm 145

Christmas Week – Love: The Gifts
 Matthew 2:1-12, I Corinthians 12, James 1:17

New Year’s Week and Epiphany
 A Different Path-- Matthew 2:1-12, Acts 1:1-11, Luke 24:13-35

Please sign up to write a devotion at the Welcome Center or by contacting Rosanne at rosannewilliamson@comcast.net or 540-272-8957. All devotions are due to Rosanne by November 3rd. Thank you for sharing your Advent/Christmas stories with your Bethel Church family!

Attendance & Giving

Date	Views	In-Person Adults/Kids	Average	Giving
September 1	38	63	105.53	\$6,581.00
September 8	33	83	105.81	\$3,190.00
September 15	25	80	105.79	\$5,435.00
September 22	28	68	105.54	\$2,305.00
September 29	64	73	106.33	\$4,147.00

Income and Expenses*

**Because the Beacon is published monthly, finances for the prior month will be reported*

September Income:	\$21,658.00	September Expenses	\$23,957.05
YTD 2024 Income:	\$199,088.00	YTD 2024 Expenses:	\$232,894.48

Church Staff:

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

Music Director:
 Pat Martin
 pat88piano@gmail.com

Director of Hymndingers
 Joice Fredenburgh
 dfredenburgh@verizon.net

Administrative Assistant:
 Christine Winters
 bumcofficeassistant@comcast.net
 540/347-4874

Office Hours:
 Monday—Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Virginia Conference Bishop:
 Sue Hauptert-Johnson
 P.O. Box 5606
 Glen Allen, VA 23058-5606
 804/521-1102

Northern Virginia District Superintendent:
 Rev. Kirk Nave
 3600 Chain Bridge Rd
 Fairfax, VA 22030-3236
 703/820-7200

Bethel United
 Methodist Church
 6903 Blantyre Rd.
 Warrenton, VA 20187
 (540) 347-4874

Website www.bethelumc.com

Facebook
 @bethel.umc.warrenton

Events and Meetings

Mondays	Women’s Bible Study, 10 a.m. Pavilion Room
Wednesdays	Book of James, 10 a.m. OR 7 p.m. Pavilion Rm
Wednesdays	Prayer Gathering, 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary
Thursdays	Women’s Bible Study, 10 a.m. Pavilion Room
Thursdays	Hymndingers, 5:30 p.m. Bell Room 301
Thursdays	Choir Practice, 6:45 p.m, Sanctuary
Tuesday, October 1	Fauquier Cty Quilters, 6:00 p.m. Social Hall
Saturday, October 5	United Women of Faith, 9:30 a.m. Pavilion Rm
Saturday, October 5	United Methodist of Men, 9:30 a.m. Upper Rm
Sunday, October 6	Motel Ministry, 11:30 a.m. Social Hall
October 9– 13	KAIROS Prison Ministry Weekend
Sunday, October 13	Trustees, 11:30 a.m., Pavilion Room
October 17– 20	EMMAUS Men’s Walk
Sunday, October 20	BUMY, 11:30 a.m., Tom Davis Youth Room
Sunday, October 20	SPRC, 11:30 a.m. Upper Room
Tuesday, October 22	Council, 7:00 p.m., Pavilion Room
October 24-27	EMMAUS Women’s Walk
Saturday, October 26	Meet and Greet the Pastor, 5 p.m., Social Hall
Wednesday, October 30	Bethel (Fauquier) Charge Conference, 7 p.m. Springfield UMC