



Bethany United Methodist Church

The Church with Open Hearts, Minds, and Doors
 1860 Hayes Road • PO Box 527 • Gloucester Point VA 23062
 Office Hours: M-F, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
 Phone: 804.642.2110 Fax: 804.642.2114
 Email: bethanyumc3@verizon.net
 Website: www.bethanyumc-gp.org

STEWARDSHIP	8/4
General Fund Total	6019.00
Capital Improvement Fund	50.00
Pastor’s Discretionary Fund	185.00
Endowment Fund (B. Tucker)	50.00
Altar Flowers	45.00
Music Choir Fund (B. Nardozzi)	50.00
HUGS Ministry	25.00
Homebound Ministries	50.00
Rise Against Hunger	75.00
COUNTING TEAMS	August
1-Kaylor, Byrd, Hasty	11
2-B. Robins, Harvey, Niethamer	18
3-Burner, Burner, Andersen	25

SUNDAY WORSHIP	8/4
8:30 Sanctuary	43
11:00 Sanctuary	69
11:00 Nursery	1
11:00 Children’s Church (included in Total Worship)	
TOTAL in Worship	113
SUNDAY SCHOOL	
Adults	27
Youth	4
Children	6
TOTAL in SS	37

NURSERY HELPERS		
Interested in serving as a Nursery Helper? <u>We need one helper each hour.</u> Please contact Joy Wike (901-651-0834) if you can help. Thanks!		
Date	Sunday School Hour	10:45 a.m.
August 11	Dee Dee Wike	Rob Raines
August 18	Wendy Hogge	Charla Barnard
August 25	Sue Morecock	Dawn Cluts

Pastor: Mike Derflinger
Church Office Administrator: Dee Dee Wike **Chaplain in Residence:** Carol Johnson
Director of Music: Sandra Fox **Lay Leader:** Judy Burner
Organist: Dr. Rudy Shackelford **Nursery Coordinator:** Joy Wike
Acolytes: 8:30 Alexandria Bontrager 11:00 Baum Hogge
Sound Room: 8:30 Kirk Bell 11:00 Jeremy Nardozzi
August Altar Guild: Jackie Hampton, Patsy Bell, Clare Hall
Trustee Contact for this Week: Marsha Germek

August 11, 2019 BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME, GUESTS! We are delighted to worship with you today and invite you to participate as fully as you feel comfortable.

AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE: Please ask an usher for assistance if you require a large print hymnal, large print bulletin, or hearing aid.

CELL PHONES: Please remember to silence your cell phone before the service begins. Thank you.
 Please greet one another before our worship begins. — ***Please stand as you are able. And it’s okay to sit.**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR *Aurelia (The Church’s One Foundation)* Samuel Sebastian Wesley (UMH No. 545)
WELCOME Pastor Mike

***OPENING HYMN** *Come, Let Us with Our Lord Arise* TFWS 2084

***SCRIPTURE READING** Acts 9:10-15 8:30 Loreen Paiva, 11:00 Nadine Tatum
 The Word of God for the people of God. Pew Bible NT, p. 121
Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF OUR PRAYER CONCERNS Pastor Mike
MORNING PRAYER, ASSURANCE OF PARDON, AND THE LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

VOLUNTARY *Larghetto (Moderately Slow), from “Three Pieces for a Chamber Organ”* Samuel Sebastian Wesley (14 August 1810–1876)
 “I listened, motionless and still; and as I mounted up the hill,
 The music in my heart I bore, long after it was heard no more.” — William Wordsworth

THE ANTHEM *Wayfaring Stranger* Spiritual
 Dawn Bontrager, soloist

CHILDREN’S STORY Pastor Mike

RECEIVING GOD’S TITHES, GIFTS AND MORNING OFFERING OFFERTORY PRAYER Loreen Paiva / Nadine Tatum
 Holy Spirit, we give because we believe you, and we believe in you. You are the Divine Presence in our lives. You keep us in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and it is in you that we find strength and help in every time of need. May our tithes and offerings reflect our prayer and our thankfulness. We pray in your name. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY *Golliwogg’s Cake Walk, from “Children’s Corner”* Claude Debussy (22 August 1862–1918)
 Transcribed for organ by Rudy Shackelford, performed in honor of Kris Kent

***THE DOXOLOGY** UMH 95
 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* UMH 173

***SCRIPTURE** Acts 10:9-16 Loreen Paiva / Nadine Tatum
 The Word of God for the people of God. Pew Bible NT, pg. 122
 Thanks be to God.

THE MESSAGE Vision: A Preferable Future Pastor Mike

1. A _____ image that is _____.
2. A preferable change based on the Spirit's _____ and _____.
3. A _____ focus.
4. _____ by God.
5. A _____ perspective. Vision is not dreaming the impossible dream, but _____.
6. Comprehending _____, knowing _____.
7. Understanding your _____.

***CLOSING SONG** *Sent Forth by God's Blessings* UMH 664
 During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to come forward and pray over the handmade coverings being presented to the following recipients: Prayer Shawls— Janet King, Kris Kent, Amelita Thomas, Lynda Blubaugh; Lap Robes — M. E. Thomas, Fred Leigh, Bob Blubaugh; Child Blanket —Willia

***BENEDICTION** Pastor Mike

ALTAR FLOWERS are given for the glory of God by Dawne Sawyer and children in loving memory of Tom Sawyer, who was born on August 11.

Bethany UMC Prayer List	BETHANY FAMILY
CANCER/CHEMO: Krista Chase, Gene Harrell, Carol Johnson, David Lewis, Ted Peterman (NC), Matt Shackelford GRIEVING: Family of Annette Adams, Bob Nardozzi HEALTH ISSUES: Woody Brown, Judy Burner, Dawn Cluts, Kathleen Greene, Jeannie Harrell, Billy W. Hogge, Archie Leigh, Bonnie Lewis, Jennie Lipscomb, Paige Mitchell, Peggy Peterman (NC), Nancy Smith HOMEBOUND: Linda Booth, Katherine Jordan, Alice McGee, Mary Dale Williams RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Irene Brown, David Chapin, Paul McFarland, Loreen Paiva, Marsha Poland, Gerlinde Stevens, M. E. Thomas, Rosemarie Tong	
BETHANY FRIENDS	
CANCER/CHEMO: Tom Beard, Cleveland Cameron, Pap Connell, Patrick Cooney, Jr., Dave Cooper, Alice Cruz, Elizabeth Flowers (NC), Brenda France, Donna Franklin, Ben Lankford, Ellen McDade, Darla K. Robertson, Rustie Ruiz (GA), George Skinner CHILDREN & YOUTH: Braydyn Hysell, Makenna Jobes (FL), Ian Simmons, Jacob Staley, Judah Swenson, Brooke Taylor, Luke Wilcox, Sawyer, Willa, GHS football team EMPLOYMENT/TRAVEL: Lamont Johnson GRIEVING: Family of Corey Blubaugh, Dorothy Corbin, Ann Dickerson, Joan French, Johann Kulik, Mary Linsenbigler, Sue Miller, Marsha Pohorence, Joan Powers, Donnie Ridinger, Jack Ridinger, Mary Alice Tillotson, Betty Tucker, Pat Whitten (NC), cities of El Paso and Dayton HEALTH/OTHER ISSUES: Bob Baughman (PA), Lee Beach, Joe Blake, Molly Brawley, Jan Breen, Mr. & Mrs. Scott Brittle, Denzil Cook, Allen Derflinger, Jon Erik, Deborah Eriksen, Marsha Gillis & husband, Trudy Grimm, Allen Hines, Wally Iddings (PA), Diana Lee, Fred Leigh, Chris Lombard, Kevin Malone, Connie Mershon, Vance Miller, Jean Morris (FL), Linwood Rowe, Bella Silvus, Sylvia Rowe, Mary Jo Smith (NC), Vicky Whitney HOSPICE: Buck Walton HOSPITALIZED: Buddy Bland, Thom Ligon (VA Beach General), Joan Martin (Riverside Regional CCU) PARKINSON'S: Duane Burnett RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Trudy Grimm (NJ), Tonia Kyker, Bishop Sharma Lewis, Lynn Martin, Thia Martin, Laurie Minor, Duane Smith, Ray Sparrer, Suzanne Trio SURGERY/TESTS: Mark Doyle, Mary Gallimore	
BUMC'S ACTIVE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES (<i>italics—Bethany friends</i>)	
<i>Edward Bailey, Michael Brown, Peter Demetriades, Meagan Demetriades, Laine Fay, Kevin Jacobs (deployed), Jim Minor (deployed), all members of the military.</i>	
ASSISTED LIVING (<i>italics—Bethany friends</i>)	
c/o Bonnie Ballenger , 11228 Church Grove Ct., Henrico, VA 23233	Dorothy "Dot" Critzer
Gloucester House , 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061	Lorraine Brown, Rm 107 Jean Heywood, Rm 110 Esther Marie Jordan, Rm 509
Heron Cove , 7385 Walker Ave., Gloucester 23061	Norma Sage, Bldg. 1 Rm 7
ManorCare , 715 W. Central Rd., Room 253B, Arlington Heights, IL 60005	<i>Mary Margaret Kuivinen</i>
Sanders Assisted Living , 7407 Walker Ave., Gloucester 23061	<i>Ellis Hall</i> , Rm 106
Sunrise Senior Living , 2015 Cranbeck Rd., Richmond 23235	Pauline Harris, Apt. 130
York Convalescent & Rehab Center , 113 Battle Rd., Yorktown, VA 23692	Mary Poland, Rm 27A Alice Doggett, Rm 27B
OUR MISSIONARY – Clara Biswas, Cambodia.	

HUGS Ministry

Thank you for the lovely shawl. I will use it around my shoulders as the halls and dining room at Edgeworth Assisted Living are cold. And I will think of you and pray for your ministry. God bless you everyone. – Dianna Lee

ITEMS CURRENTLY BEING COLLECTED AT BUMC – The following organizations are collecting items to help others and our environment. Please contact the office with corrections or additions.

Salvation Army -- Household cleaners, paper products, over the counter medicines, and personal hygiene items. Collection bins in narthex and outside office. Contact: Nancy Orth, 804-693-4762.

United Methodist Women – Canceled postage stamps, Box Tops for Education, and aluminum can ring-tabs (pop tops). Details and collection containers on table outside Mary Lotsey classroom. Contact: Dawn Cluts, 804-684-5340.

JOY Circle – Empty prescription bottles, cleaned and labels removed. Collection basket on table outside Mary Lotsey classroom. Contact: Jane Niethamer, 757-273-1613.

Abingdon Woman’s Club – Plastic shopping bags in bundles of 10, to be made into park benches. Collection hampers are located beneath right edge of bulletin board. Contact: Bonnie Lewis, 642-4911.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 – 12:15 PM – COME HELP US END HUNGER!



283,824 Meals Packaged This Week • 484,456,312 Total Meals Packaged • 76 Countries Served
794,700 People Served in 2018 • \$33.6 million Gifts in Kind Distributed in 2018

The partitions for class 4 (previously labeled 'Friendship Class') should be left in the folded position (space open) for now, even for Sunday School. That is the set of partitions nearest the front parking lot (partitions to the left if viewed from the kitchen). The Friendship class will move to the middle vacant classroom contained within the partitions nearest the playground. Leaving class 4 partitions in the folded position will reduce wear and tear of moving them for various events held in the WBFH (fellowship hall). Thank you. —Al Burner, Trustees Chair

WE HAVE LOST CONTACT WITH THESE MEMBERS. Information on these members in our pictorial directory is no longer accurate. Michael and Jennifer Barber, Dennisa Booth, Katie Boyette, Lisa Boyette (may still be Lisa Boyette Braswell), Carl Melvin “Chip” Dize, Jr., Karleen Frederick, Jennifer Coates Harbuck, Christopher Holder, Nikki (may go by Dominique) Holder, George and Sara Joyner, Lisa Marie Krukovsky, Jonathan Loase, Tricia Thomas Manning, Stephanie Wood McGowen, Brian Paulino, Dorothy Pillow, Ashley Reynolds, Tristan Reynolds, Jeri Stelson, Michael and Jennifer Stumph, Michelle Ann Ward, Glenn West, Gina White, Johnathan Wood, Stephanie Wood. Please contact Pastor Mike with any information. Thank you!

Our Sunday School meets from 9:45-10:45 each Sunday morning with several different classes for adults, one class for youth, three classes for children, and a nursery for infants & toddlers.

Our Nursery — For the convenience of parents with small children, a nursery is provided for infants through 3-year-olds during our 11:00 service, as well as during the Sunday school hour.

Our Children’s Church is during 11:00 worship only. Children ages 4 and older sit with parents until dismissed to Children’s Church following the Children’s Message.

For more information please visit www.bethanyumc-gp.org.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY		
Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.		
Sunday, August 11	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School Breakfast (WBFH)
Tuesday, August 13	2:00 p.m.	Second Tuesday Visitation (Mary Lotsey)
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee (Lacey Martin)
Wednesday, August 14	9:30 a.m.	C.A.R.E. Ministry (Lacey Martin)
	2:00 p.m.	Book Club (Mary Lotsey)
	6:00-7:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Prospective Candidate Meet & Greet (WBFH) Troop 75 (Education Wing)
Thursday, August 15	9:00 a.m.-Noon	Crazy Crafty Chicks (WBFH)
	10:00 a.m.	House of Prayer (Sanctuary)
	3:00 p.m.	BANNER Articles Due (Sept/Oct issue)

SECOND TUESDAY VISITATION – August 13 at 2 p.m. – Meet in Mary Lotsey classroom.

HOME BOUND MINISTRIES – We will be cooking for our shut-ins on Wednesday, August 21 at 9:30 a.m. Come and join us in this worthwhile ministry.

Each month we cook, prepare and deliver 20-30 meals to our shut-ins. This is not a budgeted item. If you would like to donate to this worthwhile ministry it would be greatly appreciated. Just mark on your check Home Bound Ministries or Meals for shut-ins.

THERE’LL BE A MEET-AND-GREET WITH A PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATE FOR OUR DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES POSITION ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14TH, FROM 6:00-7:15 P.M. IN THE WARREN BELVIN FELLOWSHIP HALL. All are welcome.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH, September 1, JUAN'S, 12:15 p.m.
Leave from church. Sign up on table at back entrance. Join the fun.

A donation was given to the Lacey Martin Fellowship Class by Lorraine Brown in memory of her beloved husband Eugene Brown who passed away on August 11, 2017. He was honored to have the opportunity to serve as a co-teacher for the class.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to:

Family of **Ann Dickerson**, sister-in-law of Jane Niethamer, who passed on Thursday, August 8.
Family of **Janice Day**, whose mother **Joan Powers** of Hampton, who passed on Sunday, August 4.
Family of **Rob Naquin**, whose mother passed unexpectedly on Friday, August 2.

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE OF *BETHANY BANNER* ARE DUE BY 8/15.

When preparing announcements, be mindful that the upcoming issue will include announcements and calendars for both September and October. Thank you for making every effort to submit your information in a timely manner.

SOME CHANGES IN WORSHIP. We'll be trying some different things in both worship services in August and September. The reason is to get our congregation more involved earlier in the service. They are as follows:

- We'll continue having a Children's Story at both services. I'm forming a rotation of people to participate in this ministry that will include the new Children's Director. If you're interested, please speak with me.
- The Voluntary is being moved to another time in the service. Rudy continues to select this piece of music.
- While our choir is taking a break through Labor Day, we'll use a variety of options for a Choral Response to Prayer. It may be an instrumental or vocal solo, duet or trio, Rudy's Voluntary, a time of silence, or a congregational hymn. If you're interested, please speak with Sandy or myself. Beginning September 8th, when our choir returns, our choir will resume the choral response to prayer.
- Singing a few verses of hymns and medleys has been well-received. We'll continue this.
- Our last 5th Sunday Song and Prayer Service was well-received. We'll do so on our next 5th Sunday, September 30th.

Let's try these changes for two months. Your feedback is important to me and to your staff. Our Worship Committee will also meet during this time for input. – *Pastor Mike*

INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY DELEGATE TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN 2020?

The York River District is allowed 32 District At-Large Delegates to attend Annual Conference in Roanoke, Thursday, June 18-Saturday, 20, 2020. At the District Conference on September 29th, 32 at-large delegates and 11 reserve delegates will be elected to attend Annual Conference. Interested? Please pick up a Nominee Profile Form in the church office or contact Dee Dee (804-642-2110, bethanyumc3@verizon.net) to have a form emailed to you.

Nominee forms for District At-Large Delegates must be submitted to the District Office no later than September 3, 2019.

FROM YOUR STAFF/PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHANGE IN OFFICE HOURS

Beginning Monday, August 19, on a trial basis through the end of 2019, the church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., and will be closed on Fridays.

The church office will be closed from 12:00-12:30 for lunch.

Why the change? We believe that the extended Monday through Thursday hours will allow us to better serve our congregation and community, and being closed on Friday will give our staff the equivalent of two days off, since Sundays are generally considered a work day for most.

During this trial period please share thoughts and concerns with me or S/PPRC chairperson Polly Harrison. If it is determined that our current schedule (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.) is the best schedule for Bethany, we will revert to that schedule in January. Thanks. – *Pastor Mike*

SCHOOL KIT SUPPLIES NEEDED – Bethany's United Methodist Women are already collecting supplies for the School Kits that will be delivered to Annual Conference in 2020. Can you help? If so, leave items in basket marked "School Kit Supplies" in the Mary Lotsey classroom. Only the items listed below are needed. Thank you!

Needed for each kit are:

- One-subject (70-count) spiral notebooks
- 8 ½ x 11" wide-ruled paper

DONATIONS OF CLOTHING AND 'USEFUL' HOUSEHOLD ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER IN MCCLURE, VA—The McClure River Community Development Center, Inc., in Dickenson County, Virginia, needs assistance to continue their mission to their community. The center was established in 1974 and has committed to assist with education, health and family care, and educational and recreational opportunities for the citizens of their community. The Center works in partnership with church, college, and community groups from across their region.

The last week in August, Kirk Bell and Ed Conner will be delivering clothing and other 'useful' items collected. The Center accepts donations of clothes, household items, tools, and furniture (much like what we take to CHKD or other service organizations in our community). Financial donations are also greatly appreciated. **It is suggested you make your donation to Bethany UMC as a second mile gift** benefiting McClure River Community Development Center, Inc.

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If you have something you wish to donate, please contact Kirk Bell at 804-824 4160 or Ed Conner at 804-832-3811.

Director of Children's Ministries – Seeking energetic, creative Christian individual who loves Jesus and children to develop and implement ministries for ages 5-11 (K-5th grade). Must be a self-starter, recruit volunteers, and possess strong organizational and communication skills. This is a part-time position. Salary based on experience and proficiency. Send resume to MikeDerflinger@vaumc.org or mail to Bethany UMC, P.O. Box 527, Gloucester Point, VA 23062.

Director of Youth Ministries – Seeking energetic, creative Christian individual who has a passion for Jesus and for youth to develop and implement ministries for ages 12-18 (6th – 12th grade). Must be a self-starter, recruit volunteers, and possess strong organizational and communication skills. This is a part-time position. Salary based on experience and proficiency. Send resume to MikeDerflinger@vaumc.org or mail to Bethany UMC, P.O. Box 527, Gloucester Point, VA 23062.

As of 8/9/19 we have received one resume. Pastor Mike will continue to receive all resumes. He is forming a Spirit Profile and a Skills Profile for each position with input from youth, parents, and the Bethany family. A Spirit Profile is a preferred picture of the values, beliefs, passion, and personal attributes we believe the ideal candidate will embody. The Skills Profile is a preferred picture of the demonstrated skills, experience, education, and capabilities we believe the ideal candidate will embody. Please speak with Mike or email your input to him. Thanks to Marion Dixon, Chairperson of Child Protection Committee, who will handle all background checks, and to Lynda Blubaugh for the postings in the *Gazette-Journal*.

These two positions will be posted in the *Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal* (three weeks) and to the sixty-six United Methodist churches of the York River District which covers nine surrounding counties and the cities of Hampton, Williamsburg, Newport News, and Poquoson. We're posting at William and Mary and the Wesley Foundation, Christopher Newport and the United Campus Ministry, Rappahannock Community College, and various job posting web sites utilizing the free ones first. Continue to pray that God sends the person that Christ would have for Bethany, and for your Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee as we move forward. Please direct any questions you may have to me.

Prayerfully consider how you can help both during this time of transition and after these positions are filled. We're at our best when we lean on the Holy Spirit and help one another.

Thank you. – Pastor Mike Derflinger

(see reverse for additional information)

Q: What if we aren't able to hire someone?

The goal is for ministries with children and youth to continue without interruption. I'll guide our Sunday School Superintendent Nancy Wilburn, parents, and volunteers until a hire is made or another arrangement surfaces. I ask everyone to honor Kris's request to take a break from any scheduled responsibilities for a bit.

We have a Youth Council that needs retooling. Our Book of Discipline provides a structure for a Children's Council which, when organized, is led by the Director of Children's Ministries and will work closely with me and others to vision, plan, and advocate for children, particularly in the areas of faith development, safety, and discipleship.

Q: What about the Nursery and Sunday School classes?

The Nursery Coordinator will schedule second person helpers for all scheduled worship services, special services, and programs and recruit and train nursery volunteers.

Beginning Sunday, August 4, 2019, our Sunday School arrangement is as follows:

Nursery birth to age 4: all volunteers. Please see the back of the bulletin.

Preschool–5th grades: Nancy Wilburn and Dawn Cluts. They will teach a unit on Jesus as Teacher, Preacher, Healer, Friend, and Savior with appropriate age-level activities. There will be class on Labor Day Sunday. Questions? Call Nancy at (c) 804.854.6735 or (h) 804.642.5820.

6th–12th grades: Jeremy Nardozzi and Beth Cook. They will prepare a topic each Sunday. Questions? E-mail Jeremy at hotlyks@aol.com.

Beginning Sunday, September 8, 2019:

Nursery birth to age 4: Nursery Coordinator and second person helpers.

Our intent is to have a Preschool, 1st, and 2nd grades class and a 3rd–5th grade class, with Nancy and Dawn leading one of those classes. Teachers, or a rotation, are needed.

Our intent is to have a Middle School Class (6th–8th grade) and a High School Class (9th–12th) that meets together then breaks into two groups or that meets separately. I hope to have a Confirmation Class beginning September 8th during Sunday School, and am coordinating with Jeremy Nardozzi, Beth Cook, and parents to find the best arrangement.

“GONE FISHING”

THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF SAMUEL SEBASTIAN WESLEY

Born 209 years ago, 1810, on August 14th, Samuel Sebastian Wesley was the foremost English organist and composer of church music in the mid-19th century. Grandson of Charles Wesley, the prolific hymn writer, and great nephew of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, he inherited a full measure of both the genius and the often difficult temperament which ran in that illustrious family.

His father, Samuel Wesley, was a musical prodigy who composed a sacred opera, *Ruth*, at age eight. Like Felix Mendelssohn in Germany, Samuel Wesley later played a pivotal rôle in reviving Johann Sebastian Bach’s music in England. In a letter of 1808 he called Bach “Saint Sebastian” and characterized his works as “a musical Bible, unrivaled and inimitable.”

Small wonder then that Samuel’s son bore the middle name Sebastian and followed in his father’s footsteps as an organist and composer of anthems in the venerable English choral tradition. He had a vision of the worship service as an art form, amalgamating music, liturgy, architecture, and religious ceremony. Unfortunately, together with his dedication to this cause went a knack of falling out with those in a position of authority — a character trait shared with no less than J. S. Bach himself! His first job, as organist of Hereford Cathedral, ended when Sam eloped with the Dean’s sister. Thereafter his career was broken up by a series of restless moves from one post to another: Exeter Cathedral, Leeds Parish Church, Winchester and Gloucester Cathedrals. Once when he failed to appear for a service, a note was found on the organ: “Gone fishing.” Yet everywhere his talent was acclaimed: “The greatest organist now living!” wrote one critic after hearing Samuel Sebastian Wesley perform at the 1843 Birmingham Festival.

Today he is remembered chiefly for the immortal hymntune *Aurelia* (“The Church’s One Foundation”) and a handful of anthems and short organ pieces. Among the latter, his haunting *Larghetto* (the title means “moderately slow”) deserves more frequent hearings. While at first it seems to express an entirely personal sorrow, this sentiment is elevated to the stature of a universal lament through the influence of Beethoven’s nobility and grandeur.

— Rudy Shackelford