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Bethany United Methodist Church
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Bethany Banner
October 2015

The Church with Open Hearts,
Minds, and Doors

No matter the season...



PRAYER
changes things

...we pray for you all the time - pray that our God will make you fit for what he's called you to be, pray that he'll fill your good ideas and acts of faith with his own energy so that it all amounts to something. If your life honors the name of Jesus, he will honor you.

II Thessalonians 1:11b-12a, The Message by Eugene Peterson

Dear Friends,

It is easier to be a social activist than a person of prayer. The activist can at least see some immediate results, even though these may be short-term and project-focused rather than long-term and transforming. The person of prayer seldom sees quick results. The social activist is usually praised and thanked for the good work done. The praying person is alone in the struggle of faith and the agony of the heart, where no one sees and no one applauds.

Thus prayer is made all the harder. For though we desire to be socially valued persons, prayer is not a socially valued activity. Its pursuit is hardly encouraged as we have taken it out of our public schools, discouraged opening General Assembly sessions and public meetings with prayer, and when we are allowed to pray publically, we are cautioned about what words we should use as to who, or what we are praying to. Prayer is seldom appreciated, and without public commendation, and sometimes I wonder, when asked to pray, if it is out of courtesy because of my presence.

But prayer is indispensable for the social activist. Prayer not only sustains activism, but can give it new direction and may even be transforming. As we look at the ever changing circumstances in the world around us, where we feel we can do so little, we can pray, and that is no little thing. Pray for the people whose lives have been disrupted by continual acts of weird weather; pray for our ping pong ball economy, those who are losing their homes, retirement investments, and jobs; pray for those who are in need of the basics such as food and clothing, transportation; pray for those elected to public office to serve God's people, pray for discernment during these long months of presidential candidate campaigning, and pray for those who serve this country, here and abroad, protecting our rights and freedoms as individuals and as a nation, while daily putting themselves in harm's way; and let us not forget our community first-responders, our police officers, fire fighters, EMTs, and all who would serve this community.

Prayer can be as powerful as any act we perform, and without it we lose the fundamental undergirding of God, something we cannot afford to be without. I am not one who would normally encourage folks to see a movie, but I highly recommend *War Room*, which speaks
continued on next page...



Join us each **Thursday from 10:00-11:00 a.m.** as we gather in the sanctuary to pray for our friends and loved ones, our community, our nation, and those in need.

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN PRAYER

Bethany Family: Yeardeley Blackwell, Paul Reynolds, Jean Heywood, Lavalley Wilson, Jennie Lipscomb, Carroll Lipscomb, Judy Burner, Jack & Mary Poland, Gene Harrell, Abigail Woodhouse Walker, Pat Hogge (and Wayne Hogge, caregiver), Archie Leigh, Sandra Hollins, Richard Parkes, Debbie Robins, Bessie Conner, Mike Andersen, Cheryl Roane, Duane Cecil, Ted & Peggy Peterman, Bob "JJ" Orth, Kris Kiley, Pat Hasty, Willie Dunston, Bev Kearney (caregiver for brother John & his wife Carol), Michael Harrison, Bob Nardozi, Ray and Alice Doggett, Mary Steele, Iva Belvin, Jack Kaylor, Esther Marie Jordan, Billy Davis

Bethany Friends: Virginia Rose Vandermark, Ginger Sage, Mildred Townsend, Chucky Baughman, Gordon Glass, Christy Talbott, Bill Parks, Wayne Walthall, Gary Duncan, Joan Martin, Bob Bartley, Sadie Updike, Jeff Jackson & family, Jackie Green, Rob Brown & family

Gloucester House: Esther Marie Jordan, Room 306
Jean Heywood, Room 110
Agnes Williams, Room 113
Ray Doggett

Heron Cove: Maxine Churchin, Room 28

Sanders Assisted Living: Mary Fields

Stonebridge N.C.: Gloria Wallace

BUMC'S Military: Michael Brown, Todd Bontrager, Kyle Nichols, Peter Demetriades, Meagan Demetriadis, Chad Dickson, Lamont Johnson, Bernard Johnson, Kevin Jacobs, all members of the military, and their families.

PRAYER LIST AND DIRECTORY ARE NOW ONLINE.

To view the most current list and directory available, go to the [Members Only](#) page on our website and enter the password.

If you don't yet have the password, call or email the church office and we will gladly provide it to you.

NEW MEMBERS – On September 13 our Bethany family welcomed two new members, **John and Debra Farrow**. They reside at 8100 Crab Thicket Rd. in Gloucester. Cell phone is 757-810-8078; email address is farrowfarm@msn.com. Welcome to the family!

BAZAAR COMMITTEE - The bazaar committee asks that you help save the following items for them to make crafts: buttons, old keys, flat pebbles, shells (all sizes), driftwood, used light bulbs, wine corks, Altoid tins, used K-cups, pine cones (pretty ones - hemlock to extra-large size), old nuts (if you forgot to crack some of some nuts and they don't taste good, don't throw out, give to bazaar group), oyster shells, empty shotgun shells, Classico spaghetti sauce jars (or any other neat jars), old thread spools, doilies, mason jars, spindles.

Your "trash" will be transformed into priceless treasures that can be enjoyed by others and raise funds to help the needy in our community.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE – Thank you for your generosity during our Operation Christmas Child campaign. At last count there are roughly 25 shoe boxes that have not been turned in. Your gift to a child in need means more than you can ever know. To ensure your gift is delivered in time for Christmas, please leave your shoe box in the church office at your earliest convenience.

XYZ CLUB — You are invited to join us on **Wednesday, October 21 at 11:30 a.m.** for great food and fellowship followed by an interesting and informative program! Our special guests will be former Virginia Delegate Harvey Morgan and his wife Mary Helen, who will talk about their two years of adventure aboard their trawler, the "LOLLYGAGGER." Their travels took them up the east coast into the many rivers and lakes of New England and into Canada. After crossing over parts of Canada they moved south down the Mississippi (and several other rivers) to the Gulf of Mexico. From the Gulf of Mexico they continued on around Florida and back up the east coast to arrive back home.

They will share with us just a few of the exciting things they encountered over the two years and tell us about some of the many interesting people they met along the way. This promises to be a fun and entertaining program.

For more information on XYZ and our 2015-2016 programs, click [HERE](#) or visit the XYZ Club page under the Ministries tab on Bethany's website.

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH. You will find pink ribbons in the narthex and at the side door entrance. Please pick one of them up and wear it proudly to show your support of the fight against breast cancer. I am a member of the Peninsula chapter of the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation and would love to share with you how you can help with this ongoing fight against a disease that has affected so many. – *Jeannie Harrell*

about seeking God through prayer to fight our battles and then getting out of the way and letting Him do his work.

If in our praying, we touch the heart of God with its passion for justice and mercy and for the weak and poor of the earth, then we cannot but be given a deeper concern, a larger vision, a more radical approach, and a more compassionate heart for any action we would do. Just imagine a world where we prayed ourselves out of conflict, oppression, injustice, poverty, and all the evils that exist, into a world of peace, compassion, tolerance and love. Then maybe all of God's children, all of God's creation would pray.

Something worth thinking about...*Debbie*



ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, THE LORD GOD MADE THEM ALL and gave them to us to love and care for. How many of you have animals, pets, if you will, that you cherish and love as much as your own children, if you have any, or family? If you do, you are invited to bring your pets, large or small, in crates, on a leash, in a trailer, goldfish

bowl, or harness, to a special **Blessing of the Animals**. We will be blessing your pets on Sunday afternoon, **October 18th at 4:00 p.m.** in the church yard, as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint for ecologists, honoring him for his love of animals and nature. Your pets must be kept under control and accompanied by a responsible youth or adult. If you have no pets, come anyway and share in the opportunity to praise God for his gift of creatures to us.

ALTAR FLOWERS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GIVEN BY</u>
10/4	AVAILABLE
10/11	Bethany Children
10/18	Jeannie Meisner
10/25	Martin and Doe Breen



BANNER SUBMISSION DEADLINE — Please submit your announcements for the November issue of **Bethany Banner** by no later than **October 15.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Brothers and Sisters,

Please indulge me for just a moment as I thank the members of the Finance Committee for their commitment and dedication to doing God's work here at Bethany. This is a hard working group of men and women and I am honored to serve God and Bethany Church with each of them. They care deeply for our Lord and it shows in all that they do.

The Finance Committee prayed for and discussed in great detail every budget request that we received for 2016. We spent most of our August and September meetings putting together a proposed budget that we pray will honor God. We continue to pray that we are good stewards of your Faith Promises. We take very seriously this job that you have entrusted us with. In our Proposed Budget for 2016, we were not able to fully fulfill every request. Our net income this year is smaller than what we received last year at this time and we did not want to get into a position of spending more than we are projected to receive. Your Faith Promises could change our Proposed Budget. Please spend time in prayer asking for God's wisdom and guidance on how He wants you to support His church.

We celebrated Consecration Sunday on September 27th. We will celebrate Endowment Sunday on October 25th. We really do have a lot to celebrate here at Bethany church! We do God's work every day! Our ministries and missions are many here at Bethany. It seems like every day something is happening! Our church facility is in use nearly every day as we have Worship, Sunday School, Bible Studies, Book clubs, Scouts, outside organizations using our building for their meetings, Prayer groups, knitting group, children and youth activities, cooking, eating, XYZ, choir, church meetings and folks simply dropping by the office to say hello or look for comfort. Surely we are fulfilling our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

When I walk through our church building I can feel the presence of God! It is an amazing feeling to do God's work. You, the people of Bethany do God's work every day! I am honored and humbled to serve Him with each of you.

Blessings,
Dolores Breen, Finance Chair

THANK YOU NOTES

Words cannot express my appreciation for the beautiful prayer shawl, cards, food, and prayers for my surgery and healing process. Surgery went well and I am improving each day. Thank you for continued prayers as I meet with the oncologist for evaluation and further treatment. Bethany members are loving people and I am blessed to be surrounded by such caring and thoughtful friends. — *Mike Andersen*

Thank you for all the prayers and thoughts for me over the weeks. I appreciate the gesture all the way in PA. Also thank you to Bethany's HUGS for the beautiful crocheted blanket. Thank you again for all the prayers. — *Michael Luce*

Jimmy and I would like to thank you for the food, prayers, visits, phone calls and cards sent to us after his mother passed away on August 13th after a long battle with Alzheimer's. You are, indeed, a loving and caring church. — *Kathleen and Jimmy Greene*

I don't know who your Head Chef is, but I do want to pass on my appreciation for all of the many great meals that I have received – and to the wonderful Bethany cooks for all of them. Of course we've always been aware of the reputation that Bethany cooks enjoy (men included). I can certainly endorse all of the accolades! Again, thank you – it is always tasty, still warm, and plentiful (enough for dinner)! With much love and appreciation – *Katherine Jordan*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the cards, calls and visits during my stay at Heron Cove Rehab. I especially want to thank the group that made a prayer shawl for me and for those who prepared a Homebound meal for us. It was enjoyed. Your thoughts and prayers have meant a great deal to me. It is wonderful to know that people are lifting you up in prayer. Thanks, Pastor Debbie, for your visit. In Christian love – *Sandra Hollins*

Thank you to the HUGS Ministry for the beautiful lap robe. I am touched by your thoughtfulness and appreciate so much the prayers of our Bethany family as I prepare for surgery on the 29th. I believe in the power of prayer and know that your prayers will carry me through. With heartfelt gratitude – *Michael Harrison*

Endowment Committee Potato Bar Fundraiser

Don't forget! The third annual Endowment Fund fundraiser will be held on October 25th, following the 11:00 service. As we see the leaves start to show their fall colors and the oppressive heat of summer gives way to the clear cooler days of autumn, what better time to "squirrel away" some savings to meet future needs! And what better harvest treat than a nice big hot baked potato with all the trimmings!

You might be thinking that this isn't the best time to be investing in our Endowment Fund with the markets being so volatile, but the U.S. economy is stable and continues to improve and show growth. However many of our trading partners are still struggling with slowed growth, unemployment and staggering debt, which will continue to affect world markets. Our largest companies are multinational, with offices and factories all over the world and we will always be affected by world events. The markets will always fluctuate, but long term investments have usually been the safest.

Our Endowment Fund went down at the end of June, bounced back up and showed gains at the end of July, then dropped again at the end of August. Our Endowment is invested in a relatively low risk fund with other Virginia United Methodist Churches and continues to show growth on an annual basis. When the market goes down the cost of shares in the fund goes down as well so we are purchasing shares at a lower price. When the market eventually rebounds the value of each share will rise. An endowment is a long term investment and is not intended to fund a church's day to day operations. Money is withdrawn to fund special things; ours is set up to fund extended missions, education and music programs and it would generally be accessed when it is large enough to be earning a substantial amount each year and when share values are high.

So mark **October 25th** on your calendars and plan to join us for a delicious Potato Bar and wonderful dinner company! This will be an opportunity for all of us to participate in the growth of our Endowment Fund no matter how large or small your donation and continue saving for a future that will allow us to enrich our programs and further extend the mission of Bethany.

Church and Society Committee Environmental Tip # 53

I remember as a child in the early 50s, passing through Savannah, Georgia at night on old route US17. As you approached the city it looked like a huge yellowish-orange cloud of smoke, illuminated by the city lights, had descended from the smokestacks to the roadway. As we passed into the smoggy cloud a terrible smell kept getting stronger and stronger and I could see huge factory-like buildings with massive full parking lots and people moving about. "What is that awful smell? It makes my eyes tear!" I asked my dad. He explained that we were passing a big power plant, we were about to pass a huge paper mill, and the smell was sulfur and other chemicals in the smoke. I couldn't believe that people lived there and breathed in that stuff every day!

Well of course people breathed it in day after day. The economy was booming, factories were expanding, and WWII veterans were home, working, getting married, raising families and demanding consumer goods. Sure the air was bad and some people, especially the children and the elderly, had respiratory problems, but if you worked hard and saved enough you could use the GI Bill to buy a place outside of town. And a new pattern started to develop that left the poorer and poorest living in town and most of the others moving out to the suburbs and commuting to work. Those coal burning power plants and factories continued to spew huge amounts of carbon dioxide, particulate and ash, heavy metals and sulfur compounds.

The *Daily Press* ran an editorial stating their position on the President's and EPA's Clean Power Plan on August 11, 2015, titled "The Cost of Clean Air." The article refers to the growing air quality problems of the 50s and 60s and major smog events in the US that had caused hundreds of deaths and left millions of people suffering from respiratory illnesses leading to the passage of the Clean Air Act of 1970. And the editorial goes on to say, "Thanks to the better planning and thoughtful regulation it facilitated, the nation dramatically cut emissions and reversed decades of environmental damage." What the paper does not mention is that the 1970 Clean Air Act faced fierce opposition from power companies, factories and investors who argued that the cost of cutting those emissions and cleaning up some of the environmental damage would be astronomical, cause power prices to rise, factories to cut back

production and jobs and higher energy bills for consumers. None of those things happened. Jobs were added to install “scrubbers” in smokestacks and add new technology to recover sulfur and other elements which the power companies could market and the improvements increased efficiency of power production. Also the cleaner operation of the power production process reduced the corrosion of equipment and clean-up costs. In fact one power company tried unsuccessfully to avoid paying claims to a nearby farmer for contaminating the farm’s water supply by dumping contaminants to cut costs by showing they could have increased their profits by reclaiming the contaminants.

The same arguments are being used to fight the new EPA Clean Power Plan stating that it will cost too much to implement, cause higher energy prices for manufacturers causing them to cut production and jobs, and endanger our economic recovery. The same editorial states “it’s true that fewer particulates and less CO2 in the atmosphere will reduce the number of people afflicted by asthma, bronchitis, heart disease and the like. Like anyone else, we would like to see that dream realized. But the reality is that, despite the President’s contention, consumers are likely to feel a serious pinch, despite the nation’s energy boom in recent years.” According to a *Daily Press* article, “Virginia reacts to EPA’s Clean Power Plan” by Tamara Dietrich, the EPA asserts that the number of people with asthma in the US has doubled in the last 30 years and “In Virginia, nearly 9% of the adult population suffer from asthma.” That alone is a huge health cost for all of us as well as a large loss in productivity.

The Clean Power Plan calls for a 32% decrease in CO2 emissions from the 2005 levels by 2030. The EPA states that Virginia already has decreased emissions by 16% since 2008. We accomplished that in 7 years and we have 15 years to decrease them another 16%. Dominion Power has stated it is “cautiously optimistic” that they can reach that goal since they are planning to retire two coal burning power plants during the time frame and refit or replace them with natural gas plants. That alone would accomplish the goal but they also plan to work on efficiency and plan to try some wind turbines. For Virginia, second only to New Orleans in rising tide levels, the most critical reason to cut CO2 emissions worldwide is to slow global warming and try to limit rising sea levels. That will be in the next *Banner*.

— Judy Vaughan

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NEWS

Please join us for a special annual celebration at Bethany, **Children's Sabbath on Sunday, October 11 at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.** Our children will share beautiful music, artistic moments, scripture readings and plenty of smiles. You will be so blessed!

Our Family Fun Fall Festival has been postponed in order to offer another **Wonderful Winter Carnival!** Mark your calendar for **Saturday, January 30, 2016 from 5pm to 7pm!**

With Christmas just a couple of months away, rehearsals and planning for our young people's Christmas program, ***Scrooge in Bethlehem***, has gotten off to a great start! If you are interested in joining us, please let us know. It is certainly not too late! Mark your calendars for the dates below and come join the fun!

Sunday Rehearsals 12:15pm to 1:30pm

Oct 4, 18

Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Dec 6

Weeknight Rehearsals 6:30pm to 7:45pm

12/7 thru 12/11

Dress Rehearsal 9:30am til 12:30pm

Saturday, 12/12

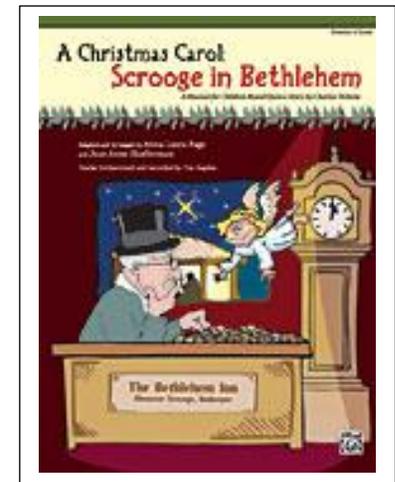
Presentation Date

Sunday, 12/13 during the 11:00am Worship Service.

Our annual “Happy Birthday, Jesus!” party will follow the program.

Thank you to all involved!

Susannah Hogge and Kris Kent



BUMC EVENTS

October 2015

October 2015							November 2015						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 27 - Oct 3	Sep 27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
					10:00am House of Prayer		
Oct 4 - 10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	COMMUNION SUNDAY 12:15pm Children's Choir 12:15pm UMYF	11:00am AWC Board 12:30pm Knitters 2:30pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Troop 75 7:00pm Adult Bible Study	10:00am Kings Daughters & Sons 7:00pm Joy Circle	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am House of Prayer 10:00am York River Garden Club		
Oct 11 - 17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	CHILDREN'S SABBATH 9:30am Sunday School Breakfast	12:30pm Knitters 2:30pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Troop 75 7:00pm Adult Bible Study	7:00pm AWC Group 7:00pm Finance Committee	6:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am House of Prayer 10:30am Naomi Circle 5:00pm Samaritan Board	1:00pm 4:00pm AWC Yard Sale Set Up	7:00am 2:00pm AWC Yard Sale 9:00am 12:00pm District Conference @ Chestnut Mem. UMC
Oct 18 - 24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI 12:15pm Acolyte Training 12:15pm Children's Choir 12:15pm UMYF 4:00pm Blessing of the Animals Service	12:30pm Knitters 2:30pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Troop 75 7:00pm Adult Bible Study	10:30am Sanders Communion 2:30pm Rockin' Readers 7:00pm Program Ministries	11:30am XYZ Lunch Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am House of Prayer		10:00am 4:00pm River Country Quilters
Oct 25 - 31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	12:15pm Endowment Committee Potato Bar	12:30pm Knitters 2:30pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Troop 75 7:00pm Adult Bible Study	6:30pm UMM Meeting	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am House of Prayer		10:00am 12:00pm District UMYF Fall Retreat Planning



October 2015



BIRTHDAYS

10/1	Molly Vaughan, Colin Michael Tilley
10/2	Archie Leigh, Julia Perkins
10/3	Decatur Hogge, Barbara Blais, Barbara Summerford, Isaac Joseph West
10/4	David Chapin, Richard Tillage, Carol Harder
10/5	Kyle Nichols
10/6	Alicia Naples, Jane Sterling, Norma Taylor
10/8	Austin Kent, Karrie Cooper
10/9	Jordan Roane, Dalia Suarez, Mary Knox
10/10	Ashley Gayle, Lisa Hasty, Carroll Lipscomb, Sarah Beaudoin
10/11	Teresa Kelley, Jim Stevens, Chelsea Leigh
10/12	Shaun Day, John Hasty, Wendy Hogge
10/13	Gilbert Walker
10/14	Lisa Gayle, Camron Hasty, Sandra Harvey
10/15	Jackson Goetz
10/16	Katie Jeffers
10/17	Carson Brooks, Robert Miller
10/20	Vicki Williams, Hannah Perkins
10/21	Chris Jenkins, Scott Stilianos
10/22	Justin Breaud, Jason Roane
10/24	Cynthia Hornsby, Lisa Knowlton
10/26	Ashlyn Brooke Anderson, Paul Kendall
10/27	Carolyn Broadwell
10/29	Bill Pruitt, William F. Hogge
10/30	Ryan Tilley, Connor Kent, Robert Morris
10/31	Andrea Williams Reed, Kelly McFarland Cooper

ANNIVERSARIES

10/1	Bob & Sandy Wharen	38
10/3	Ed & Bain Schultz	23
10/4	M.E. & Brenda Thomas	40
10/7	Don & Carol Schultz	
10/8	Ray & Alice Doggett	66
10/8	Brian & Christina Mahoney	21
10/12	Neal & Nancy White	
10/12	Charles & Linda Enroughty	52
10/20	Robert & Margie Morris	46
10/23	Carroll & Jennie Lipscomb	33

TRUSTEE CONTACTS

WEEK OF	NAME
10/4-10/10	Milton Hudgins
10/11-10/17	Marion Dixon
10/18-10/24	Donna Andersen
10/25-10/31	M.E. Thomas

LITURGISTS

DATE	8:30	11:00
10/4	Loreen Paiva	Loreen Paiva
10/11	Children's Sabbath	Children's Sabbath
10/18	Sue Morecock	Sue Morecock
10/25	Youth	Youth

COUNTING TEAMS

DATE	COUNTING TEAMS
10/4	Robins
10/11	Burner
10/18	Dixon
10/25	Luther

ACOLYTES

DATE	8:30	11:00
10/4	Molly Vaughan*	Alex Bontrager*
10/11	Tally Vaughan	Samantha Jacobs
10/18	Makayla Floyd	Will Neikirk
10/25	Kate Neikirk	Shelby Jacobs

ALTAR GUILD

Nerine Hickman, Linda Fletcher

*Communion Sunday: Acolyte will assist Pastor Debbie with communion.