

**WELCOME, VISITORS! We are happy to have you join us in worship today.**

*Please sign the Welcome Card found in the pew pocket  
and place in the offering plate or hand to an usher. Thank you!*

NURSERY is available for infants to 3-year-olds during the Sunday School hour and 11:00 service.

| THIS WEEK AT BETHANY     |          |  |
|--------------------------|----------|--|
| <b>TODAY</b>             | 8:30 am  | Informal Worship Service                   |
|                          | 9:30 am  | Celebration & Fellowship                   |
|                          | 9:45 am  | Sunday School                              |
|                          | 9:45 am  | Youth Sunday School Breakfast at the Beach |
|                          | 11:00 am | Traditional Worship Service                |
| <b>Monday, May 18</b>    | 11:00 am | Five Rivers Woman's Club                   |
|                          | 2:00 pm  | Upsy Daisy                                 |
|                          | 6:00 pm  | Praise Team                                |
| <b>Tuesday, May 19</b>   | 7:00 pm  | Administrative Council                     |
| <b>Wednesday, May 20</b> | 7:00 pm  | Choir Rehearsal                            |
| <b>Thursday, May 21</b>  | 9:00 am  | Bazaar Workshop                            |
|                          | 10:00 am | Church & Society                           |
|                          | 7:00 pm  | VBS Planning Meeting                       |
| <b>Sunday, May 24</b>    | 8:30 am  | Informal Worship Service                   |
|                          | 9:30 am  | Celebration & Fellowship                   |
|                          | 9:45 am  | Sunday School                              |
|                          | 11:00 am | Traditional Worship Service                |

### Birthdays

- 5/17 Philip Ransone
- 5/18 Evan Reams
- 5/19 Shanah Ann Kendall Bair
- 5/20 Bob Blubaugh
- 5/22 Kayla McDade
- 5/23 Kris Baker, Sharon Smith

### Anniversaries

- 5/20 Ron Ervi & Loreen Paiva, 26
- 5/20 Mike & Bunny Ekdahl, 12



**BETHANY NEWS – May 17, 2026**

*Aller Flowers are given today by Loreen Paiva and Ron Ervi  
in honor of our 26<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to the family of Fred Niethamer who passed away on Friday. Please keep Jane and family in your prayers.

**Prayer Request:** Prayers are asked for Darlene Bauschatz as she recovers from hip surgery.

**Graduate Recognition Sunday** is **May 31<sup>st</sup>** (this is a change of dates.) Please contact the Church office with the names of those graduating from elementary, middle and high schools and from colleges, at your earliest convenience.

**The Salvation Army needs our help!** Canned goods and non-perishable items are needed for the Salvation Army food pantry. Bins for donations are located outside the Church office. Their pantry is open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Thank you for your assistance!

**Homebound Meal Ministry** is back in action. We will be cooking for our shut-ins or those recovering from surgery on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. We will need folks to cook, clean-up and help deliver the meals. Come join us! For more information, please contact Judy Burner.

**HAPPY WANDERERS - June 5<sup>th</sup>.** We are leaving the front parking lot of church at promptly 10:00 am - Let's go to the Deltaville Maritime Museum, which preserves the Maritime heritage of the boat building capital of the Chesapeake. Cost of admission is \$5. Set on 36 acres, the Museum features indoor and outdoor exhibits on boat building. We will enjoy lunch after the museum tour. Please let Judy Burner know if you will be able to attend and if you can drive. Hope you can join us!

**Jubilee Churches Update - In April,** Jubilee Churches assisted 6 households with **\$3,922.40** in rent, Dominion Power assistance and move-in costs. The balance of the Jubilee Fund at the end of April was \$4,266. Donations may be made to Jubilee Churches by contributing to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

**Vintage is Back!** We will have a Vintage room at this year's Bazaar, November 14<sup>th</sup>. When you are doing your spring cleaning, please save anything you don't need for the Vintage Room. Your give-away may be someone's treasure! Please put all donations in the closet in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



## BETHANY HAPPENINGS

**Fifth Sunday Event, May 31<sup>st</sup>** – The Bryan Forrest Band from Newport News will be joining us for our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday gathering, providing special music during our fellowship lunch. The band is known for their engaging style and love of music, bringing a mix of '60's, '70's and '80's songs in acoustic classic rock style. The band will play immediately following our ONE SERVICE at 10:00 am.

**Please join us (and bring you favorite covered dish)** for the blessing of these talented performers, as well as, delicious food and lighthearted fellowship.

### Note on Music for Ascension Sunday



Olivier Messiaen  
collecting birdsongs

“I was born a believer. A number of my works are dedicated to shedding light on the theological truths of the Catholic faith. That is the most important aspect of my music — perhaps the only one I shall not be ashamed of in the hour of death.”

Thus spoke Olivier Messiaen, the leading French composer in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. During a tenure of more than sixty years as organist of Trinity Church in Paris, Messiaen created some of the most significant music ever composed for the organ.

Today, as our Meditation for Ascension Sunday, we shall enjoy an early work by Messiaen, *Serene Alleluias of a Soul Longing for Heaven*, part two of the four-movement “*Ascension*” suite composed in 1932-34. Subtitled *Four Symphonic Meditations*, the work was conceived first for large symphony orchestra, then transcribed for organ solo.

The influence of Gregorian chant is quite evident in *Serene Alleluias*, where Messiaen expresses the quiet joy of a soul anticipating its union with Christ in heaven. There is also a subtle Oriental flavor in this music, owing to the composer’s study of ancient Greek and Hindu scales and rhythms. Exotic and voluptuous, yet spiritually focused, the music of Olivier Messiaen richly rewards attentive and open-minded listeners. They will discover “music which touches everything without ceasing to touch God.” —Rudy Shackelford

### Bethany UMC Prayer List

#### BETHANY FAMILY

**CANCER/CHEMO:** Darlene Bauschatz, Krista Chase, Carol Johnson, Sue Leed, Larry Whitfield

**GRIEVING:** Families of Jennie Lipscomb, Fred Niethamer

**HEALTH ISSUES:** Linda Booth, David Cecil, Dawn Cluts, Billy Davis, Sandy Fox, Estelle Harris, Milton Hudgins, Kathy Jacobs, Paul Kendall, Dennis Mitchell, Patsy Morales, Peggy Peterman, Ruth Wallace, Lee & Gretchen Wood

**PARKINSON’S:** Mike Andersen, Yvonne White

**RECOVERING FROM SURGERY:** Mike Andersen, Darlene Bauschatz, Robert Blackwell, Nile Cecil, Jeff Lane, Patsy Morales, Terrie Oliver, Cathy Raines, Cheryl Roane, Bernard Robins,

#### BETHANY FRIENDS

**HEALTH ISSUES:** Peyton Arthur, David Blackburn, Opal Brown, Michelle Burton, Kendall Walthall Caton, Joshua Childers, Charlene Diggs, Wanda Dowell, Bill Edwards, John Gordon, Traci Greene, Mary Elizabeth Hogge, Jordan Hunter, Shirley Lewis, David Morris, Pam Mullins, Rick Nichols, Terrie Oliver, Phillip Presson, Wendy Roundy, Mason Staley, Ricky West, Gerri Wilson, Sue Young

**GRIEVING:** Families of Larry Jones, David Trotter

#### ACTIVE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Kevin Jacobs, Will Neikirk, Jim Minor, Jennifer Arnold Blackburn, All members of the military.

#### OTHER PRAYERS

United States of America; Ukraine; Israel and the Middle East; United Methodist Church

#### ASSISTED LIVING

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Gloucester House, 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061                        | Sarah Hillard, Rm 113          |
| Gloucester House, 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061                        | Sharon Cheek, Rm 107           |
| Heron Cove, 7409 Heron Cove Way, Gloucester 23061                            | Bonnie Lewis, Rm 13            |
| Riverside Mathews, 603 Main St., Mathews, VA 23109                           | David Cecil, Rm 33B            |
| Sanders Assisted Living, 7407 Walker Ave., Gloucester 23061                  | Carolyn Scott, Rm 208          |
| Sunrise Senior Living, 2015 Cranbeck Rd., Richmond, VA 23235                 | Pauline Harris, Apt. 130       |
| Walter Reed Convalescent Ctr, 6702 Meredith Dr, PO Box 887, Gloucester 23061 | Lavalle Wilson, Rm Botetourt 6 |

Please note that unless otherwise notified, names will remain on the prayer list for 2 months.

Please notify the Church Office of changes to the prayer list at any time.

