

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		
TODAY	8:30 am	Informal Worship (Communion)
	9:30 am	Celebration & Fellowship
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship (Communion)
Monday, October 5	2:00 pm	JOY Circle
	5:00 pm	York River Villas
	6:30 pm	Praise Team
Wednesday, October 7	5:30 pm	Youth Group
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 8	9:00 am	York River Garden Club
	11:00 am	Marie Reynolds Funeral and Reception
	7:00 pm	York River Concert Band
Friday, October 9	9:00 am	HMAG
Sunday, October 11	8:30 am	Informal Worship
	9:30 am	2 nd Sunday Breakfast
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship

Birthdays

- 10/4 Carol Harder
- 10/5 Kyle Nichols
- 10/6 Jane Sterling, Norma Sage
- 10/7 Rob Raines
- 10/8 Austin Kent, Karrie Cooper
- 10/9 Jordan Roane, Kim Song
- 10/10 Lisa Hasty, Cathy Raines, Shawn Chase

Anniversaries

- 10/4 M.E. & Brenda Thomas, 51
- 10/8 Brian & Christina Mahoney, 32



BETHANY NEWS – October 4, 2026

*Altar Flowers are given today by by Susannah Kogge for
Jason’s birthday, September 28th and Decatur’s birthday October 3rd.*

JOY Circle – Our speaker, tomorrow, October 5th, at 2:00 pm, is Wendy Roundy, CEO of Helping the Homeless Ministries. Wendy will be talking about her experiences and how we can support the ministry. All are welcome to attend in the Friendship Class. Our service project for October will be focused on this ministry. We are asking the congregation to donate large cans of vegetables that will be used for preparing meals for the food bus. Our goal is to collect 30, #10 cans during the month. Monetary donations may be also given to Judy Burner or Gwen Wesson. Thank you for helping.



Drop-in Blessing of the Pets - Saturday, October 10th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Susanna Wesley UMC. All animals are welcome provided they are under their owner's control. Sponsored by Bellamy, Susanna Wesley and Bethany United Methodist Churches.

Faith Promise Campaign - As we prepare for 2027, we ask each member and family to prayerfully consider their **General Fund Faith Promise for 2027**. The **2027 Faith Promise Campaign will begin on the first Sunday in September and conclude at the end of October**. Thank you for your continued faithfulness, generosity, and commitment to the ministries of Bethany United Methodist Church.

The next **Shut-In Visitation** is Tuesday, October 13th. Please join us and meet in the Mary Lotsey Classroom at 10:00 am.



Saturday, October 24th, 5:30 – 7:30 pm.
Sign-up information is on the poster in the main hallway.

Volunteers Needed! Potato Drop – Saturday, October 17th, 8:00 am – 12:00 noon

Abingdon Volunteer Fire & Rescue, Bena (bagging)

Bethlehem United Methodist, Bena (distribution)

Please contact the Church Office for sign up information to sign up!



or scan this QR code

Note on Music for St. Francis of Assisi

Today, on World Communion Sunday, we celebrate the life and ministry of St. Francis, who was born in the central Italian town of Assisi circa 1182 A,D, and died there on 4 October 1226. Born into wealth, he spent a frivolous youth until a serious illness caused him to dedicate himself to the imitation of Christ's life in poverty, prayer, and service to mankind.

St. Francis considered all of nature as the mirror of God, and his *Canticle of the Creatures*-set to music in our Intrada(UMH 62)-refers to “brother Sun” and "sister Moon” to wind and water and fire, and even to "sister Death." With his heightened awareness of the environment and animal welfare, St. Francis is still very relevant and compelling in the 21st century!

Birds are among God’s most magical creations. One of many charming episodes in the Franciscan legend is his "'Sermon to the Birds," depicted in Giotto's frescoes at Assisi and recounted in the *Fioretti* (or *Little Flowers of St. Francis*), a treasure of 13th-century Italian literature. Taking a little poetic license, we have chosen the swan to represent the avian kingdom, portrayed in music by a different saint Camille Saint-Saëns - in his delightful *Carnival of the Animals*.

Our Music during Communion is a *Lauda Spirituale*, an anonymous 13th- century Italian praise song, The genre originated in connection with the Franciscans and lay organizations engaged in religious or devotional activities, such as the guild of *Laudesi della Beata Vergine* in Florence. In a simple style suitable for performance by persons without musical training, the *Lauda Spirituale* was vigorously cultivated during the period of penitential fervor in the last half of the 13th century. My organ transcription of the Lauda “*Ogne Homo*” expands the monophonic texture of the original to embrace added counterpoint and harmonies redolent of the 20th century.

- Rudy Shackelford

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Marie Reynolds who passed away on September 26th. Marie’s funeral service is at Bethany on Thursday, October 8th at 11:00 am, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Visitation will be from 10:00 -10:45 am. (The congregation is asked to please bring finger foods for the reception to the church by 9:30 am Thursday. Help with cleanup is always appreciated.)

Also, to the family of Nile Cecil, who passed away on September 30th. Niles funeral service was held at Bethany on Saturday, October 3rd.

Prayer Requests:

- + Please keep Barb Holtry in your prayers as she continues to recover.
- + Please pray, also, for Alice Northam who is recovering from surgery for a broken femur in her right leg.
- + Please keep Shirley Lewis in your prayers as she prepares for surgery on October 5th.

Bethany UMC Prayer List	
BETHANY FAMILY	
CANCER/CHEMO: Darlene Bauschatz, Krista Chase, Carol Johnson, Sue Leed, Larry Whitfield	
GRIEVING: Families of Mike Andersen, Gary Loveland, Marie Reynolds, Sandy Riggins, Lee Wood	
HEALTH ISSUES: Linda Booth, David Cecil, Nile Cecil, Dawn Cluts, Billy Davis, Sandy Fox, Estelle Harris, Pat Hasty, Milton Hudgins, Kathy Jacobs, Paul Kendall, Bonnie Lewis, Dennis Mitchell, Josh Morris, Peggy Peterman, Ruth Wallace, Yvonne White, Gretchen Wood	
RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Alice Northam, Cathy Raines, Cheryl Roane	
BETHANY FRIENDS	
HEALTH ISSUES: Jimmy Belvin, Opal Brown, Joshua Childers, Jimmy Diggs, Marcia Haywood, Shirley Hudgins, Jordan Hunter, Shirley Lewis, Alex Martin, Earlene Miller, David Morris, Pam Mullins, Terrie Oliver, Kendall Pratt, Wendy Roundy, Rupert Thomas, Ricky West, Gerri Wilson, Art Wolz, Vicki Wolz	
GRIEVING: Families of Jan Maynard Gray, Peter Hogge, Thomas Hogge, Sr.	
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
Gloucester House, 7657 Meredith Dr., Gloucester 23061	Patsy Morales, Rm 118
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, 2105 Cranbeck Rd., Richmond, VA 23235	Pauline Harris
Walter Reed Convalescent Ctr, PO Box 887, Gloucester 23061	Lavalle Wilson, Rm Botetourt 6

