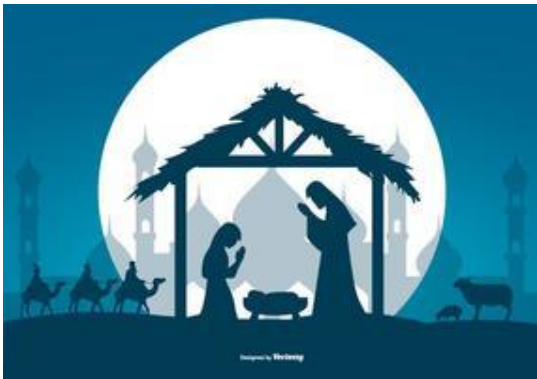


Bethany United Methodist Church  
1509 Todds Lane  
Hampton, VA 23666  
(757) 826-2493  
E-mail: [BethanyUMC.hampton@gmail.com](mailto:BethanyUMC.hampton@gmail.com)

December 2018 Newsletter



## ***Looking Ahead ...***

---

December 8 – Cookies, Crafts & Chili

December 12 – Christmas Family Covered Dish Dinner –Bethany Bells will be playing!  
Everyone is invited!

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at **6:00 p.m.**

December 25 – *Merry Christmas!*



## **Pastor's Desk**

*“O COME LET US ADORE HIM”  
UMH # 234*

We are in the season of Advent. By God's grace and infinite mercy, the joyous season of Christmas is with us. A season of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus' entrance into human history is an occasion of great remembrance and jubilation. His birth is the greatest news ever that God visited our planet. God came in human flesh when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Luke 2:11 indicates that this priceless gift of the savior was announced by the angels to shepherds watching over their flocks by night.

The single most important truth that ought to inform everything we stand for as Christians and as a church is the fact that in Jesus Christ, God became a human being to bring salvation to the world. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:19 that “God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself.” Salvation must not be restricted to eternity with God in heaven. That is the ultimate end that we aspire to achieve, but before then, what God does in Christ must first have relevance for what we believe, and how

we live for God in this world. Christ came that we might have abundant life in this world.

The joy of Christmas is, therefore, first and foremost, is the joy of knowing that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son and that all who believe in him would have eternal life” (John 3:16). This is the message that must constitute our fundamental understanding of our Christian faith and practice. We must believe it and live. God came down on earth, was born of a virgin's womb for our sake. God is therefore on our side. If God did not abhor the virgin's womb to become part of his own creation and did not resist a humiliating death on the cross, then, we must know that we are dealing with a God of ultimate love. I want to encourage you in this Advent season to take time to read and reflect on the Christmas Story. You can read the story from Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-2 or Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20. Recounting the story will connect you with other Christians and to God's purpose for Christmas. Also, take a moment to thank God for all he has done this past year. God has filled us this past year with an abundance of blessings. Count your blessings, and come, let us adore him, for he is Christ the Lord.

*Merry Christmas,  
Pastor Esther N. Agbosu*

## Senior Spotlight

As we close out this December's Senior Spotlight, we'd like to recognize some of our Homebound Members.



Willie Bage now resides on Toppings Lane in Northampton and is pleased to be there. He says he enjoys dining with other residents, Bingo games, and other entertainment that is provided in that facility.

Everette White (Whitey) also seems to feel very much at home where he resides at the Huntington. He, too, enjoys having his meals with other folks in their dining room. He also busies himself doing crafts, such as building birdhouses. Whitey attends our worship services each Sunday and is a faithful participant with the Bethany Happy Hearts.

Jim and Doris Morse are pleased when our members stop by and visit their home, as well. She makes beautiful jewelry and other crafts which she donates to Bethany for the upcoming Cookies and Craft Day, on December 8.

Thomas Collinworth seems pleased with his situation at Virginia Beach Healthcare & Rehab Center. He enjoys making new friends there, and sometimes enables him to help others.

We encourage you to stop by the Tyler Hall Bulletin Board where our Homebound Members' addresses are posted and send them a Christmas card. They will appreciate your thinking of them.

Pat Smith  
Membership Care Committee



## Wesley Class

We will have our Christmas celebration on **Saturday, December 29th** - check with Jean Lucy, Carol Wilson or Kathryn Freeman for the details.

Our lessons for Advent will be another DVD series by Adam Hamilton regarding the birth of Jesus - We meet at 9:15 every Sunday in Wesley Hall. Please come and join us.

Once again, this year we are providing Christmas gifts for the residents of the Hilton Adult Home. See Carolyn Widener if you want more information about this mission project.

## Craft News

Hi Crafters,  
hope everyone  
had a wonderful  
Thanksgiving.



We have so much to be thankful for because our Lord, Jesus Christ has blessed us so abundantly.

Our sweet Jean Emond has donated bags and bags of beautiful yarn for our Crafters and Knitters. We thank Jean for Blessing us with her donations as well as all those that have donated to our mission.

Just a reminder, our Cookies, Crafts, and Chili is on **Saturday, December 8th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** and our set up for the Big Day will be **Friday, December 7th from 9a.m. to finish.** Hope to see you there. Bring or tell a friend or family to come on Saturday for some wonderful Christmas cheer and shopping.

I pray that everyone has a blessed Christmas and the Happiest New Years.

Happy crafting and happy baking.  
~Rita Honeycutt

## Knitters and Crocheters

Knitting and Crocheting  
is meeting weekly:



Learn to knit, crochet, or both! Knitting needles, crochet hooks and yarn are provided. Written, pictorial instructions and YouTube videos (including special help for lefties) will be provided.

Once you have the basics down, you can help with our Mission Projects: hats for Kraft Elementary School, and slippers and lapghans for Hampton VA non-ambulatory domiciliary patients.

Donations of worsted weight synthetic yarn are welcome.

Everyone is invited! There are no age restrictions. Come to relax away holiday stress by knitting or crocheting! We meet Tuesday from 6:30-8 p.m. in Happy Hands Room 12. For additional information, please contact Alvia Lewis.

## Narthex Flowers for 2018



Reservations for **Narthex** flowers are available for these dates:

- December 9, 16 and 30

Our florist is Jeff's Flowers and the cost is **\$20.00 each.** Please call the church office for more information and to reserve your request.

**All Altar flower dates have been taken!**

## Member News



(John & Carol Wilson's son)

John "Mike" Wilson '89  
Distinguished Alumni Award

Mike Wilson is a Grammy Award winning audio engineer and the co-owner of Patchwerk Recording Studios in Atlanta, GA. Mr. Wilson graduated from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor of Science in business administration and Music Business Institute with a degree in music entertainment management.

He has engineered multiple Billboard Chart topping songs, major television and film projects and worked with hundreds of artists including TLC, Beyoncé, Sting, Stevie Wonder, John Legend and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Mike has received 13 Grammy nominations and two Grammy wins, including Album of the Year (2003) and Record of the Year (2010). He has received two Visionary Awards and a

GMA Dove Award nomination and is an active member of The Recording Academy. He was a music stage manager for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games closing ceremonies. He has engineered over 80 Gold and Platinum records throughout his career.

He is an accomplished guitarist, having played guitar in several rock bands and as a session guitarist on major label albums. He continues to perform with *A Theory of Now* with whom he released the album "Peace in Time." He co-wrote and performed the theme song for the "Joe Ray Bonding Show," a CBS television series.

He is actively involved in humanitarian and community improvement efforts including "Holiday Lights of Hope" for the benefit of abused children and "I Do Music" for up-and-coming artists who might not otherwise have an opportunity to follow their dreams.

## Happy Hearts

Happy Hearts will be joining with the UMW for their annual Christmas dinner on Wednesday evening, **December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM in Tyler Hall**. Please come, bring a friend and a covered dish to share as we celebrate the joyous Christmas Season together. We will be returning to our regular meeting time in **January**, the fourth Thursday of the month. Stay tuned for more information regarding this first meeting of the New Year.



# Elizabeth Green's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration



## **2018 Advent-Christmas Offering Goals**

*The following has been suggested as the offering goal for this Advent-Christmas season. Please help us accomplish our goals this Christmas. Thank you for helping our community!*

Bethany Youth Camp/Conf. Fund.....	\$500
Christian Education Sunday .....	\$150
World Communion Sunday .....	\$250
United Methodist Student Day .....	\$250
UM Family Services .....	\$1,000
H.E.L.P. ....	\$400
Teen Challenge .....	\$150
Society of St. Andrew.....	\$150
Bethany Scholarships .....	\$400
<b>TOTAL GOAL:</b>	<b>\$3,300</b>

### **Christmas Family Dinner**

Our UMW is sponsoring a churchwide Christmas Covered Dish Dinner on **Wednesday December 12th at 6 p.m.**

You will enjoy the music of our Bethany Bells plus a Christmas story from our Chief Story Teller Elizabeth Greene.

You won't want to miss this opportunity to enjoy fellowship plus music and Elizabeth's Christmas Story. Be sure to mark your calendars so you don't miss this annual event.

### **Thank you**

Elizabeth Green will never forget what you all did for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was a wonderful day to have all her family and so many friends gathered around. The food and fellowship will always remain as a most wonderful memory. Thanks to all Bethany Church members and all her family and friends in helping her celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> year. God Bless to all.



Thank you,  
Melvin

With grateful thanks and appreciation to the Bethany Men's Club for our monogrammed Bethany Bells polo shirts which we wore on Sunday as we enjoyed playing the anthem and offering.

The Bethany Bell Players

I appreciated the many phone calls, cards, visits and food I received following my November 10th accident. I know that GOD was indeed on my shoulder.

Kathryn Freeman

## December Birthdays



- 1 Ed Westerman,  
Tabitha Chaffin
- 2 Jo Anne Robbins
- 3 Betty Marshall
- 4 Carla Westerman
- 7 Brianna Parks
- 8 Larry Worrell
- 9 Judy Woodard, Jody Linthicum
- 10 Brenda Cannon
- 12 Carol Cheatham
- 13 Ellie Worrell
- 14 Gabriella Miller
- 20 Rosemary Magness
- 23 Ryan Honeycutt
- 24 Sonny Epps
- 28 Mary Faulk, Don Frederick
- 30 Tonya Ellingsworth



## December Anniversaries

- 6 George & Glenda Adamowski
- 17 Daphne & Urell Tennant
- 24 John & Delores Garrison

If you have a December birthday or anniversary and are not on the list, please contact the church office. Thank you!



## December 2018 Calendar

### No Finance, Church Council or Trustees meeting this month!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1 York River District Men Meeting—<br/>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>2 First Sunday of Advent</p> <p>3 Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.<br/>Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>4 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.<br/>Lions Club – 12:30 p.m.<br/>Youth – 6:00 p.m.<br/>Knitting &amp; Crochet – 6:30 p.m.<br/>AA – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>6 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.<br/>Handbells – 6:15 p.m.<br/>Chancel Choir –7:00 p.m.<br/>Scouts – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>7 Set-up for Cookies, Crafts &amp; Chili<br/>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>8 <b>Cookies, Crafts &amp; Chili –<br/>10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.</b></p> <p>9 Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p>10 Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.<br/>Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>11 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.<br/>Youth – 6:00 p.m.<br/>Knitting &amp; Crochet – 6:30 p.m.<br/>AA – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>12 Alz. Support Group – 6:00 p.m.<br/><b>Christmas Family Dinner –<br/>6:00 p.m.-</b> Bethany Bells will be<br/>playing! Everyone is invited!<br/>Bring a covered dish ☺</p> <p>13 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.<br/>Handbells – 6:15 p.m.<br/>Chancel Choir –7:00 p.m.<br/>Scouts – 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>14 Poinsettias delivered –11:30 a.m.</p> <p>16 Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p>17 Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.<br/>Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>18 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.<br/>Youth – 6:00 p.m.<br/>Knitting &amp; Crochet – 6:30 p.m.<br/>AA – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>20 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.<br/>Handbells – 6:15 p.m.<br/>Chancel Choir –7:00 p.m.<br/>Scouts – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>23 Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>24 <b>Christmas Eve Service-6:00 p.m.</b></p> <p>25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i><br/>Office Closed</p> <p>27 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.<br/>Handbells – 6:15 p.m.<br/>Chancel Choir –7:00 p.m.<br/>Scouts – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>29 Wesley Class Christmas<br/>Celebration</p> <p>30 First Sunday after Christmas<br/>Curtis Davis preaching</p> <p>31 New Year's Eve</p> |
|---|---|