June 2022

864-585-4801
bethelmethodist.org
Child Enrichment Program: 864-585-8356

I recently was talking with a friend of mine of about 10 years. We were catching up after a hiatus in our communication. After some time, he referred to the fact that his "anxiety had flared up to an all-time high". He talked about some trauma that he had experienced as a young person and how he had bouts and spells with it throughout his life. Because of some significant life changes and the overall state of the world today, he said that he was really struggling right now. I was a bit shocked because this individual was not someone who I would ever have considered an 'anxious person'. I have also come to learn that we never really get rid of our anxiety, we learn to manage it. Some are better equipped to do this than others. Even when we are good at managing, it still can sneak up on us and take control when we do not expect it. My gut feeling is that my friend had always been good at dealing with his anxiety, it is just the season of life has left him feeling a bit lost. I encouraged him to focus on what he can control and all the things worth celebrating in his life at the moment.

As I have reflected on this encounter, I am reminded of how often we make assumptions about other people. Many of us work hard to put on a good face in front of others and cover up the pain that we feel under the surface. Being vulnerable with others is one of the hardest things to do. And if it is hard for us, it means that it is hard for others as well. Naming the hurt, especially with other people, serves to disarm it. If we can name it, speak it out loud, it means that we can begin to heal, even in some small way. We can begin to live authentically into who God made us to be, anxiety and all.

The last offering I made to my friend was to share a prayer that I have recently added to my morning prayer liturgy. I use it to open myself up to God's movement in my life. In spite the chaos that rages all around us, by being fully present with God we are better equipped to face whatever comes our way. The prayer was written by John Wesley. Maybe it can help you too.

"Lord, I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, rank me with whom You will. Let me be employed by You or laid aside for You, exalted for You or brought low by You. Let me have all things, let me have nothing, I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You are mine and I am Yours. So be it. Amen"

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Brad

The Blood Connection will be at Bethel on Sunday, June 12 from 8:30 – 11:30 am. To make an appointment, please go to thebloodconnection.org
Our sponsor code is 9CCP.
All donors will receive a $20 eGift card.

	Sunday Date	In-Person	Gifts to Budget	Other Gifts
18	May 1	Worship: 223 Children: n/a	$14,879	$375
19	May 8	Worship: 205 Children: n/a	$14,697	$1,715
20	May 15	Worship: 169 Children: 10	$9,838	$446
21	May 22	Worship: 179 Children: n/a	$10,133	$1,525

2022 Annual Budget:	***$1,093,673***
Goal per week:	*$21,032*
Year-to-date Budget Goal:	*$441,676*
Year-to-date Gifts Received:	***$333,132***
Remaining 2022 Goal:	***$760,541***

In Christian Sympathy

...from the ministers and congregation to the family and friends who recently passed:
Francine Costner, previous member

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Bob Parrott
Operating Fund:
John & Dot Robuck

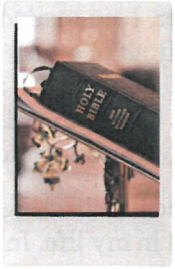
In Memory of Francine Costner
Trustee Fund:
UMW Circle 7

In Memory of Gail Allen
Trustee Fund:
Pamela King

In Honor of David & Toni Holder
Operating Fund:
Carol L. Charles

Prayer REQUESTS

Eric Robertson	Art Hartzog
Marion Robertson	Nancy White
Don O'Dell	Mike White
Carolyn O'Dell	Betty Cannon
Arthur Cummings	Rick Gray
Mary Cummings	Cathy Hanks
Curtis Anderson	David Holder
Richard Strawhorn	Richard White
Jack Peterson, Jr.	Dale Fischer



WE HAVE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO SERVE IN WORSHIP THIS SUMMER!

Would you like to run a camera?
Read scripture?
Usher or acolyte?

This summer would be a great time to dip your toes in the water!
Contact Pastor Megan to find out how you engage in new ways at Bethel.

United Women in Faith

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

Ministries with women and ministries with children are an integral part of United Women in Faith. There are approximately ninety national mission institutions located around the country that are caring for children, educating youth, empowering women, and ministering to older women which have become an increasing need. We have a national institution in our backyard, the Bethlehem Center. As we have for over a century already, we continually support national mission institutions through our direct, firsthand volunteer work, through service on boards (members in our unit), and generous contributions. This is our love in action.

This summer Maureen and I have asked each circle to keep on top of their monthly mission work. This means coordinating with your group to assist with one agency or more throughout the summer. Two circles have chosen one group to help over the entire summer. Last week we delivered our mission items to Angel's Charge Ministry. The mission of Angels Charge is to offer a transitional housing program, case management, and advocacy to deter recidivism and facilitate a successful reentry into our community for women during and after incarceration. We delivered almost forty sets of sheets, twenty blankets (some from Comfort and Joy), mattress pads, and pillows to be divided among housing for three homes. Thank you to our entire unit for coming through for this immediate need in our community.

If you are feeling inspired and wondering, what can you do, you can become a part of a bold sisterhood-- taking care of one another, our community, and changing the world for the better.

UMW FYI: Mission u 2022 will be July 21-23. Contact Jan or Maureen for more information and how to sign-up.

JUNE
6/6: Board Mtg. @ noon 6/8: Circle 4 meets @ 10

Blessings,
Jan and Maureen

June 1, July 6 & 13: Chad Chat, 12:00 – 3:00 pm
Bring your lunch and join us for a time of discussion and questions. We will eat lunch and learn about the Bible asking some deep questions. Then, we will have time to play games and hang out.

June 5 & 26, July 10 & 24, August 7, 14, 21 & 28: Sunday Night Live, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
Join us for fun Sunday Night activities - games, music and a lesson to help us grow.

June 6 & July 11: Mission Monday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
We will get together and work on some mission activities for Bethel. These activities will be decided as needs arise. Come ready to work in clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

June 1, 8, 29 & July 6 & 13: Mission Trip Training, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
If you are going on the mission trip you need to attend these trainings. During training, we will be learning to build and run VBS. Come in clothes you don't mind getting messy.

June 12 - 15: VBS at Unity UMC, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
Join us as we give a dry run VBS for a small church in need in Union. We will do an evening VBS exactly like what we will present on the mission trip. Students going on the mission trip will need to attend for training. You can meet us at Bethel at 5 pm to ride the bus or meet us at Unity UMC at 5:30. We will be done with VBS at 7:30 and be back at Bethel by 8 pm.

June 20 – 24: Beach Retreat
Join us for our awesome summer beach trip. We will be heading to Garden City Chapel in Garden City Beach. We will have devotional times, games, the beach and so much more. We will meet Monday, June 20 at the church at 10 am and return Friday afternoon at 4 pm. The cost of the trip is $285. You can reserve your spot with a $50 deposit.

June 28, 29 & 30: VBS for Day Care, 8:30 – 11:00 am
We will put on a VBS for the day care. Be here at 8:30 am to prep. We will have kids from 9 am until 10:30 am. Great training for the mission trip.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Summer God Squad begins on Wednesday, June 8 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Dinner is included ($3/child).
God Squad will meet: June 8, 15, 22 & 29, July 13 & 20, and August 10.

June 7: Big Air, 10:30 - 1:30 pm, Cost: $17/child
Bring your official Big Air jump socks or buy a pair for $3 – they are required. Drop off at the church at 10:30 and pick up at 1:30. We'll have a pizza lunch at Big Air (our treat). Kids are welcome to bring extra money for the snack bar.

June 14: Cooking with Chris! 11:00 – 1:00 pm, Cost: FREE
Chef Chris Moore (Hayley and Madilyn's dad) will instruct us in preparing a yummy lunch. So bring your apron and get in touch with your inner chef!

June 28: Indoor Laser Tag at the church, 11:30 – 1:30 pm, Cost: $5
Ages 6 and up. Bring a bag lunch.

July 12: Hearts of Clay, 11 – 1:30 pm, Cost: $8
Bring a bag lunch to eat when we return to the church.

July 19: Movie & Lunch at Fuddruckers, 10 – 1:30 pm, Cost: TBD
We'll either see a movie at the church or the theater (depending on what's playing) and then head over to Fuddruckers for lunch!

July 26 – 28: SonRise National Park VBS, Daytime Week 1, 11:00 – 1:30 pm, Cost: FREE!
Lunch is included! Enjoy Bible stories, games, music, crafts and a kid friendly lunch! ***Registration begins in June.***

August 1 -3: SonRise National Park VBS, Nighttime Week 2, 5:30 dinner, 6:00 – 8:30 pm VBS

Executive Pastor
Rev. Brad Gray
Pastor of Discipleship & Belonging
Rev. Megan Gray
Director of Youth
Chad Deetz
Adam Rollins, Assistant
Director of Children's Ministry
Jana Mathis
Jennifer Bartless, Assistant
Nursery Director
Courtney Hammet
Director of Music
Dale Fischer
Organist
Dr. Kristine Lee
Business Manager
Colette Duncan
Church Secretary
Shannon Evans
Church Hostess
Lisa Donald
Building Superintendent
Bob Werner
Custodians
Jacob Sawyer
Carlos Cobo (every other Sunday)
Child Enrichment Program
Chella Hamrick, Center Director

Bethel United Methodist Church
245 S Church St
Spartanburg, SC 29306-3489

Electronic Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 80
Spartanburg, SC

• **Office Hours:** Mon – Thurs 8:30 am – 4 pm, Fri 8:30 am – 2 pm •

Sundays

Worship Services

Sunday School
8:45 am

Contemporary Worship
9:30 am, Gym

Traditional Worship
10:00 am, Sanctuary

Youth Group: 6 p.m.
for studies & activities
Fellowship Hall

Please check bethelmethodist.org for more information.

Wednesdays

God Squad
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Youth Mission Training
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Weekday Studies

Tuesday Morning Bible Study
Facilitator: Megan Gray
Fellowship Hall, Tuesdays at 10:15 am

Dates to Remember

June 6
Women in Faith Board Meeting
12:00 pm, Library

June 13
Finance Meeting
5:00 pm, Zoom

June 20 - 24
Youth Beach Trip

July 4
Independence Day
Church office closed

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Kay Roper Steve Smith Donna Adams	3 Lee Ranson Alanis Jane Perez	4 Conley Snead Katherine Wilson Catherine Wise
5 Scott Smith Hunter Burns Camilla Perez Bobbie Simmons	6 Chanthanom Kingsada Phil Nichols Deborah Edwards Rob Wall	7 Phillip Stone, II Tracy Smith Beth Scholz Christopher Moore Beth Byrne	8 Ed Whitt	9 Mamie McGaha Megan Al-Khalil	10 Jana Mathis Mike Trisler Juanita Hannah	11 Don Hendrix
12	13 Ava McNeill Lisa Ellsworth	14 Martha Barnett Jonathan Hancock Mary Kellam Caroline Beach Lucas Summer	15	16 Sheila Conder Jennifer Payne Bob Boyle Curtis Anderson Adam Armstrong William Mack Dean Edwards	17 David Dyson Travis Wilson	18 Taylor Nichols Angela Padgett Devon Reitzel Christian Wood Nancy Wilson
19 Peggy Taylor JP Connolly	20 Ned Gee Ronald Raines Ashley Kemp	21 Seth Mathis Nancy Burrill Bert Ryan J.P. Hartell	22 Breanne Beeler Mandy Connolly	23 Debby Dawsey Courtney Smith Jeff Brady	24 Becky Griffith Taylor Moss	25 Daryl Gibbs Rick Jolley
26 Rita Petoskey Drew Watson	27 John Schwartz Raul Ceballos Michael McDonald	28 Janie Trnavsky Steve Scranton	29 Rick Gray Michael Scholz Aubrey O'Brien	30 W. Ashley Long Scott Haulbrook Susan Raines Saralyn McNeill Jordan Shurburtt Jake Platfoot		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Marcus Elliott Kent Edward Dori Helms	2 Holly Hartell Craig Manuel
3 Jason Coggins Gregory Thalassenos Cory Rodgers	4 Lisa Dodd	5 Mark Mahaffey Ian Weaver	6 Jim Splawn Hunter Pickren	7 Shelley Winkler Sheila Worley Greg Force Reece Dawson David Bartholomew Mark McMahan	8 Katherine Horner Susan Hood Lee Goodenough Justin Gibson	9 Susan Hendrix Allison Lawrence Kay Melba Morgan Burns Darby Dill
10 Mike Bonner Marilyn Culverhouse	11 Jamie Kennington Becky Hogue	12 Hollis Robuck Thorpe Jacob	13 Libbi Smith Missy Powell Jerry Bernard Jared Rice	14 John Lambert Nate Helms Judy Parham	15 Bill Horner	16 Robert Glenn John Melba Morgan Burns Darby Dill
17 	18 Bill West Judy Martin John Stathakis	19 Christopher Gibbs	20 Dan Bargar Connie Long Catherine Mack John Allison	21 Mary Grace Reitzel Robbie Cooper	22 Dewey Armstrong	23 Bryan Hoffman Joy Johnson Ella Nichols Judy Collins Brad Gray
24	25 Marshall Robinson	26 Brockman Johnson Anna Mahaffey Keith Kulas	27 Elizabeth Blumer Daniel Strait Tracy Mahaffey Nikki Snow	28 Marie O'Dell	29 Tim Calvert Eme Hart Cody Rollins Olivia Summer	30 Eric Smith Lauren Koch
31 Lacon Ryan Jessica Edwards						