

Bethany United Methodist Church  
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November 2018 Newsletter

## *Looking Ahead ...*

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**November 3 – BUMM Brunswick Stew – 12:00-2:00 p.m.**

**November 4 – All Saints Sunday**

**November 15 – Happy Hearts at Rick & Libby's**

**November 18 – Fruit Sunday**

**November 22 – Happy Thanksgiving!**





## **Pastor's Desk**

### **THE GRACE OF GRATITUDE**

*"It is good to give thanks to the Lord"*  
*Psalm 92:1*

We are in November, and November reminds us of Thanksgiving Day. A day when we pause as a nation and as a family to give thanks to God for his manifold blessings in our lives. Repeatedly, the Bible commands us to give thanks. The Psalmist says in Psalm 107:1, "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! For his mercy endures forever." In Matthew 15:36, Jesus gave thanks to God the father before miraculously multiplying bread to feed more than five thousand people. In Luke 22:17, Jesus gave thanks at his last supper with his disciples, before facing the horror of the cross. Paul, the apostle was unjustly accused, brutally treated and thrown into a harsh Roman prison. But instead of complaints, his lips rang with words of praise and thanksgiving. Paul learned the meaning of true thanksgiving even in the midst of great adversity. From prison he wrote, "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks

to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Think about it! "Always give thanks...for everything" no matter the circumstances. It is easy to be thankful when God blesses us with something good, for example---swift recovery from an illness, or promotion at work. But the bible says we should "give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for us in Christ Jesus." Thanksgiving should not be a once a year celebration, but a daily reality, a part of our daily lives because of all the bounty we receive from God.

History may remind us that the Pilgrim Fathers who landed at the Plymouth in America in 1620 knew nothing of the bountiful prosperity that so many enjoy today. During that first long winter, seven times as many graves were made for the dead as homes were built for the living. Seed, imported from England, failed to grow, and the ship that was to bring food and relief, brought thirty-five more mouths to feed, but not an ounce of provisions. Yet their lives were marked by a spirit of constant thankfulness. According to today's standards, they had little, but they possessed a sense of great gratitude. Gratitude is one of the greatest Christian graces. Let us live as thankful people.

Grace to you,  
*Pastor Esther N. Agbosu*

## Senior Spotlight Mazie Williams



Mary S. Duell was born in Newport News, Virginia on July 12, 1929 to Jessie and Cora Duell. At just three years old, she was adopted by Ernest and Hurley Benthall who belonged to Phoebus Methodist Church. She lived in Phoebus until she was high school age and graduated from Hampton High School. Mazie began working a temporary job at Fort Monroe where she dealt with mustering out pay for service personnel. She later transferred to NASA at Langley Field and worked in the steam plant where she met her husband, Robert Earl Williams, from Poquoson. They were married on January 3, 1948.

Mazie continued working at the steam plant until they were expecting their first child. Robert Earl, Jr. was born on April 23, 1949. She began working at Fort Eustis in clothing sales until their second child, Brenda Lee, was born on September 16, 1952. At that time, they lived on Mercury Blvd. They later moved to Todds Lane where their third child, Ernest Ray, was born on March 30, 1954.

Their family continued to grow. William Eric was born on November 17, 1955, Shawn Elliott was born on July 26, 1960, and their youngest son, Ben Eldridge, was born on August 17, 1962

Robert Earl, Jr. graduated from Hampton High School, and all of the other children graduated from Bethel High School. Mazie says that somewhere along the way, they moved from 1001 Todds Lane, to another home on Todds Lane near Warner Road. She is blessed that all of her children live in this area, except Ernest Ray, who lives in Virginia Beach, and William Eric, who lives in Studman, North Carolina.

The family joined Bethany in the mid 50's. She remembers that her husband helped with building projects, like selling Christmas trees, and they always helped with the fund raisers, including selling homemade Easter eggs. In the 70's they moved to Isle of Wight where they lived for 35 years. While living there, Mazie attended Southside Community Church. Her husband loved cars and they enjoyed racing mini coopers in parking lots. He also began restoring Model A Fords and they belonged to two clubs in Virginia and two in Florida, where they spent winters. She remembers that she enjoyed participating in flea markets too. Robert joined the Masons, Scottish Rite and Shriners. Mazie belongs to the Eastern Star, Scottish Rite and Ladies Shriners. She has served as Worthy Matron in two chapters, Smithfield #127, and Warwick #43.

She and her husband were married nearly 64 years. After his passing, Mazie moved back here, and still resides on Todds Lane next door to her oldest son, Robert and his wife, Linda. She has 24 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren and is blessed to still have three sisters and two brothers, also in the area. They enjoy going on outings together, as well as, getting together for birthday dinners. She busies herself these days by knitting and crocheting blankets for her newest great-grandbabies! You may sometimes see her near the back pew with her grandson who brings her to church.

## Wesley Class

Thanks to all who contributed in any way to the Wesley Class Spaghetti Dinner and Auction and special thanks to Anne and Roy Tucker for their leadership in making this event happen. We realized a net profit of \$925 from the dinner, auction and \$1 sales. \$500 is being donated to the church to go towards our World Service Apportionments.

The class study of Moses continues using our excellent teachers and the Moses DVD series. Please join us at **9:15** on Sunday mornings in Wesley Hall.

## Craft News

Soon the smells and sights of Christmas will fill Tyler Hall once again on **December 8th** for The Cookies, Crafts, and Chili's big day. And once again we will need lots of help. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help with the Crafts and with the Cookies. You can find the sign-up sheet in Tyler Hall. Without our volunteers this event would not be possible, so we are most thankful for all you do.



Crafters, we will meet **November 7th and 28th at 10 a.m.**, so that we can finish up anything we want to include in the sale and make sure everything is tagged. We will set up on Friday, **December 7th from 9 a.m.** to finish.

To show our appreciation to all of our volunteers, on Friday, **December 7th**, we will break for lunch. The Chicken Salad, Rolls, Crackers, and Drinks will be provided. If you wish to bring a side dish to go along with the Chicken Salad, that will be wonderful. We will have a great day working in fellowship together. Everything we do, we do for the Glory of our Lord and Savior.

For all of our Cookie Bakers, I found another recipe to try:

**ALMOND JOY COOKIES:** (servings: 3 dozen)

Ingredients:

- . 1 (14oz.) bag sweetened coconut flakes
- . 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- . 2/3 cups chopped, lightly salted almonds (recommended, Blue Diamond Low Sodium, lightly salted)
- . 1 (14oz.) can sweetened condensed milk, regular or fat free works.

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 325F degrees
  2. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.
  3. In large bowl combine coconut, chocolate chips, almonds, and sweetened condensed Milk.
  4. Stir until combined.
  5. Scoop out dough with a cookie scoop onto prepared baking sheet.
  6. Moisten the tips of your fingers with water and shape into disks. Pat the top flat.
  7. Bake cookies for 12 to 14 minutes or until tips of coconut are just starting to turn golden brown.
  8. Let cool on baking sheet.
  9. Store cookies in an airtight container.
- NOTE: use only parchment paper for these cookies to turn out just right.

Happy Crafting and Happy Baking.

~Rita Honeycutt

## UMM News

The upcoming **BUMM's Brunswick Stew** is on **Saturday, November 3**. You can place an order online at [www.bethanyunitedmethodist.org](http://www.bethanyunitedmethodist.org) or sign up in church!



## Youth

The Youth had fun decorating Halloween treat bags for Hilton House.



## Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor Esther was surprised and delighted that we remembered her! We appreciate all that she does here at Bethany. Thank you, Pastor Esther!



## Children's Sabbath

On Sunday, October 14, we enjoyed the ministry of our children and teens. We thank everyone who helped plan and participate in this service!



## Narthex Flowers for 2018

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

- November 4, 11 and 25
- 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!**



## Happy Hearts

We will be meeting on **Thursday, November 15** at **Rick & Libby's** on 11006 Warwick Blvd. in Newport News. If anyone needs a ride, you can meet us at the church.

## Thank you

My family and I would like to thank the church members for all of your prayers, hugs, cards, food, and words of sympathy after the death of my brother, Karl. Your signs of love have been greatly appreciated.  
Sincerely,  
Erika Burkholder and the Arndt family



To my wonderful Bethany Family:

Thank you so much for the prayers, cards, food, calls, visits during my recent illness. I have seen others listed here through the years thanking members for their support, never thinking I would be among them. Your many kindnesses are greatly appreciated. With heartfelt thanks I will see you soon!

Love,  
Parri

A special thanks to everyone who helped with Laity Sunday!

## November Birthdays

- 3 Everett White
- 10 John Garrison
- 20 Megan Atkinson
- 21 Anne Tucker, Carl Settle
- 22 Daphne Tennant
- 23 Ray Robbins
- 24 Kellie Adamowski
- 25 Lane Green
- 26 Roland Bugg Jr., Wayne Marshall
- 27 Beverly Belvin, Robyn Honeycutt, Parri James
- 30 Betty Tawes



## November Anniversaries

- 16 Edward & Donna Greenside
- 27 Danny & Carolyn Taylor



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

**FRUIT SUNDAY**  
**November 18, 2018**

We need a variety of fruit for Fruit Sunday. Baskets will be filled with our Altar Fruit and taken to our homebound members and to patients at the Veterans Hospital.

**Your help is needed:**

- Bring Fruit for the Altar by Saturday, **November 17 by 9:30 a.m.**
- Volunteer to help fill the baskets
- Volunteer to deliver the baskets on Sunday, November 18, to our shut-ins. (Our Boy Scout troop delivers the baskets to the Veterans Hospital.)
- Please provide the Church Office with any names and addresses of shut-ins and others that you are aware of that would appreciate baskets of fruit, no later than Sunday, November 11. We need lots of people to volunteer in this project to be able to serve our church and our community. Thank you!

## November 2018 Calendar

- 1 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Handbells – 6:15 p.m.  
Chancel Choir – 7:00 p.m.  
Scouts – 7:00 p.m.
- 3 Scouts-7:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
BUMM Brunswick Stew – 12:00-2:00 p.m.
- 4 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
All Saints Sunday  
**Daylight Savings Time ends!**
- 5 Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.  
Lions Club – 12:30 p.m.
- 6 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Youth – 6:00 p.m.  
Knitting & Crochet – 6:30 p.m.  
A.A. – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Craft Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- 8 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Handbells – 6:15 p.m.  
Chancel Choir – 7:00 p.m.  
Scouts – 7:00 p.m.
- 10 A.A. Dinner –5:00-9:00 p.m.
- 11 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Veterans Day
- 12 **Trustees – 9:30 a.m.**  
Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.
- 13 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Youth – 6:00 p.m.  
**Finance – 6:00 p.m.**  
Knitting & Crochet – 6:30 p.m.  
**Church Council – 7:00 p.m.**  
A.A. – 7:00 p.m.
- 14 UMW – 10:00 a.m.  
Alz Support Group –6:00 p.m.

- 15 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Happy Hearts – 11:30 a.m.  
Handbells – 6:15 p.m.  
Chancel Choir – 7:00 p.m.  
Scouts – 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Scouts – Wesley Hall
- 17 Scouts – Wesley Hall  
Wedding – 2:00 p.m.
- 18 Fruit Sunday
- 19 Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.
- 20 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Knitting & Crochet – 6:30 p.m.  
A.A. – 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Thanksgiving Day  
Church Office Closed



- 23 Church Office Closed
- 25 Last Sunday after Pentecost
- 26 Prayer Time – 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.
- 27 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Youth – 6:00 p.m.  
Knitting & Crochet – 6:30 p.m.  
A.A. – 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Craft Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- 29 Yoga – 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.  
Handbells – 6:15 p.m.  
Chancel Choir – 7:00 p.m.  
Scouts – 7:00 p.m.