

## Road to Growth Update:

Are we there yet? How much further? Have you ever been driving down the road and heard that coming from the back seat? Have you ever been riding down the road and asked/yelled that from the back seat? In the spring of 2017, we set off down this road. We gathered together and discussed what we believed God was calling us to be as a church, what we felt passionate about, and how we could grow in our ministries. We developed our "Road to Growth", three ministry areas that we would expand, while maintaining our current awesome ministries. So here is an update on the trip!

**Discipleship :** Our Stephen Ministry class has started this month with eight new ministers-in-training. Once they graduate, they will provide a supportive one-on-one spiritual care ministry to our members who are facing difficult or challenging situations. Please lift our trainees and leaders in prayer as they prepare themselves to reach out to others.

We have also nominated and approved a new leadership position in the church. In January, Teresa Pierce will take on the role of Events and Senior Adult Coordinator. Teresa will be organizing many of our church-wide, family and senior activities. She will also be calling on all of us to use our gifts and resources to make these events happen. Please pray for Teresa and this new ministry.

**Children's Ministry :** Our new Sprouts Children's Ministry is growing as we hoped! We have a great group of children on Sunday afternoons from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Johnna Stringer and her helpers are nurturing our children's faith through programs, crafts, music, and of snacks (of course!) The good news is that the group has grown large enough that we need to spilt into two age groups. You know what that means! We need helpers! If you can help out even once a month, that would be a big help in getting our group ready to welcome more children. Being a helper doesn't require any preparation or special skills, just a willing heart. Please pray that our Children's Ministry will find the helpers we need to grow!

**Ministry Spaces :** In the last year we have taken on a dilapidated tent at the Effingham Methodist Campground and transformed into an amazing new space for our ministries. We are so very grateful to the many people who poured their time, energy and resources into making it happen. Now we are moving into the fall season, so it's a great time for your Sunday School class or other group to plan an outing to our tent!

Our Building Committee is working with two companies to develop alternate visions for a new social hall and classrooms. We hope to have a proposal to present to the congregation soon. With these new ministries, in addition to our vibrant youth and adult ministries that are already going on, we will be needing new spaces. This will require a passionate commitment from the whole congregation. Please pray that we will find the right path

forward in meeting these ministry needs.

So yes, we are there! Our new ministries are taking shape and are happening. And yes, we still are moving down our Road to Growth. While have met some goals on that road, and some are in sight, this is a road that we will hopefully be on for a long time. When our initial goals are met, we will be in a position to welcome even more new members to our Bethesda family. Please continue to keep our Road to Growth in your prayers every day!

## Prayer Thoughts for September 2018

*This Is My Father's World*

Rev. Maltbie Davenport Babcock 1856 – 1901

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

The autumn season is here again, time to be outdoors once again, to enjoy the sights and sounds of nature. My mother used to say that cicadas singing meant the end of summer. Who doesn't love the brightly colored leaves and the cooler evenings!

We know that God is God by His works of nature. Paul tells us in Romans 1:19 - 20 *They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.* The works of nature give comfort because we see the hand of God at work.

Rev. Babcock ended his hymn with these words:

This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let the earth be glad!

We can also take comfort in knowing that the same God who made the world is still the King of the world. *"This is the day the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."* Psalm 118:24

During September, take time to thank God for His creation. As you see the changing colors on the trees, thank God that He made everything beautiful in its own time. When you feel the cool evening breeze thank Him for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Praise Him for His never changing love and care for us.

Pray for our up-coming charge conference and for those who have accepted leadership positions for 2019. Begin praying for the coming events of fall and winter, asking God to use Bethesda in a mighty way to reach the community for Him.

Diane Wilhelm,  
Prayer Ministry Coordinator


*NO UMW Hope Landry  
Circle during  
September & October  
Our next meeting is  
November 6th*

**Have a Happy and Safe Labor Day!**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SPROUT SEPTEMBER  
SCHEDULE  
(K - 5TH GRADE)



SEPT. 2ND @ 4:30PM  
SEPT. 9TH @ 4:30PM  
SEPT. 16TH @ 4:30PM  
SEPT. 23RD @ 4:30PM  
SEPT. 30TH @ 4:30PM

<p><b>Happy September Birthday Wishes to:</b></p> <p>3rd Neill Zipperer  4th Brian Kasabian  5th Lyna Morgan  7th Natalie Stephens  7th Samantha LeNeave  8th Joyce Kessler  9th Karen Waters  9th Len Morgan  9th Jeffrey Waters  10th Perry Dasher  13th David Kasabian  13th Carol Pointer  14th Deborah Williams  14th Virginia Strickland  15th Samantha Billeiter  20th Kelsey Keener  21st Kassie Heinen  24th Martina Purvis  25th Grace Deen  26th Tina Keener  26th Gracie Kessler  29th Ray Kessler  29th Eileen Olsen  30th Katie Cott</p>	<p><b>Wednesday Bible Study!</b></p> <p><b>Every Wednesday</b>  <b>Morning Bible study @ 10am</b>  <b>Evening Bible study @ 7pm</b></p> <p><b>Come Join Us!</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>September Stephen Ministries Meetings</b></p> <p>Each Sunday at 11:15am  Or  Each Monday at 6:00pm</p> <hr/> <p><b>October 2018 Newsletter</b>  Deadline is <u>9/18/18</u></p> <p>Please turn in all announcements, articles, or other information by this date. T.Y.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Administrative Council Meeting</b>  <b>Monday, Sept. 24th at 7:00pm</b></p> <hr/> <p><i>Bethesda Women's Association</i>  <i>Sept. 18th at 7:00pm</i>  <i>Hostess: Jan Flowers</i>  <i>Program: Tara Shaufelberger</i>  <i>Place: Tara's house</i></p>	<p><b>Prayer list:</b></p> <p>Our Pastor  All Ministries at Bethesda UMC  Stephen Ministries  Military  Leaders of America  Jack Adams  Carolyn Bannister  Samantha Billeiter  Woody Brewster  Diana Cato  Justin Cox  Irma Davis  Al Deleeuw  Lula Dixon  Jason Duboise  Harry &amp; Reba Edwards  Emmory Ely  Macen Evans  Ethan Ferguson  JD Fulcher  Tony Hickman  Betty Hinely  LouDean Hinely  Ashley Helme  Pam Jernigan  TJ Kessler  Ginger Kieffer  Mike Lance  Samantha LeNeave  Jake Long  Kevin McDaniel  Clayton Morgan  Scott Morgan  Caroline Morton  Royce Nease  Eileen Olsen  Allen Perry  Edra Pierce  Martina Purvis  Connie Shuman  Alice Smith  Stan Standefer  Irene Stanford  Bobby Wadsworth  Joyce Wadsworth  Jaymie Wilson  Alma Zettler  Bernard L. Zipperer  Dwight Zipperer  Neill Zipperer  George Zittrauer</p>
<p><b>SEPTEMBER NURSERY SCHEDULE</b></p> <p><i>2nd Wanda Evans and Izzy Granat</i>  <i>9th Dencie Edgy and Jana Fox</i>  <i>16th Vickie Oliver and Nichole Hadden</i>  <i>23rd Peggy Kessler and Joyce Wadsworth</i>  <i>30th Martha Heinen and Jennifer Granat</i></p> 		
<p><i>Happy September Anniversary Wishes:</i></p> <p><i>Ronald &amp; June Allen      9/6      Married 59 years</i>  <i>Jeff &amp; Karen Waters      9/27      Married 43 years</i>  <i>Scott &amp; Shannon Nease      9/30      Married 23 years</i></p>		
<p>Bethesda's Charge  Conference is  Sunday, Sept. 16th, 2018  @ Trinity UMC  in Pooler GA</p>	<p><b>Children's Church Workers</b></p> <p>1st Sunday      Tina Keener  2nd Sunday      Lyna Morgan  3rd Sunday      Lyna Morgan  4th Sunday      Vickie Oliver  5th Sunday      Kathy Morgan</p>	<p><i>If you have someone you want to <u>add</u> or <u>remove</u> from the prayer list please send me an email, call the office or leave a note on my desk.</i>  <i>Thank you, Linda</i></p>

**Bethesda United Methodist Church**

3608 Midland Rd.  
Guyton, GA 31312

*Developing Totally  
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winning  
fellowshipping,  
disciplining  
and serving*

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## Bethesda UMC Youth

### September 2018

Sunday, September 2	No UMYF- Happy Labor Day!
Wednesday, September 5	Bible study 6:30-7:30pm (Youth camp part 3)
Sunday, September 9	UMYF-(Youth camp part 4) 4:30-6:00pm
Wednesday, September 12	Bible study 6:30-7:30pm (Youth camp part 5)
Sunday, September 16	Worship 10am/Lunch/People helping People (Bring \$ for lunch and ice cream)
Wednesday, September 19	Bible study 4:30-6:00pm (Youth camp part 6)
Sunday, September 23	UMYF-(Youth camp part 7) 4:30-6:00pm
Wednesday, September 26	Bible study (Pack PHP bags) 6:30-7:30pm
Sunday, September 30	UMYF—TBA—Remember to turn in your ideas for activities during SS and Bible Study!

**“May the Lord bless you and keep you!”**

Questions??? Tammy Saxon or Jennifer Granat

#### Stephen Ministry Training Begins

**This week marks the beginning of 50 hours of training for 8 people who have committed themselves to learning the skills of caring ministry.**

**This first week’s training concerns “The Person of the Caregiver,” and trainees will consider five foundational characteristics of a caregiver.**

**These people are a blessing to Bethesda UMC,  
and we wish God’s blessings upon them.**

**Keep them in your prayers.**



Christ Caring • For People • Through People

Bethesda is collecting household items for our families at **People Helping People**.  
Our goal is to supply 15 bags per month. We will be packing people helping people bags on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

We appreciate your donations and pray these bags will bless these families.

The list of items include:  
(full size—not travel size)

Detergent	Soap	Toothpaste	Toothbrushes	Paper towels	
Lip Balm	All purpose cleaner	Lotion	Dryer Sheets	Toilet paper	