

Bethesda Beacon

A publication of Bethesda United Methodist Church

www.Bethesdaum.com

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



Dear Bethesda Family,

Grace and Peace be with you all today and every day. As we move further into the Fall, Thanksgiving and Advent are right around the corner. As with everything else in 2020, I am sure that we will spend the holidays a little different than what we are used to. I am so honored to be with all of you here at Bethesda and I am thankful for the patience and grace you have shown as we have all realized this pandemic turned into more than what we first thought. I know we are looking forward to getting back into the sanctuary and back to some sort of what we consider normalcy as it pertains to Sunday Morning worship. I would like to speak about what is happening under this current plan we have in place. Every pastor I speak with that is leading through this pandemic has said they are working harder now than ever before, and I would have to agree with them. This is certainly a very tough and strenuous time to lead and I am grateful for all of you that have shown understanding and patience through this time.

In the midst of this we do have much to celebrate. Sunday mornings even with the social distancing has really been good. I have received a lot of positive feedback on the service as a whole and am thankful for all the support team in making this happen every Sunday. We are seeing many decide to return to Sunday worship as well as many new faces and in that we should celebrate. We have much better live streaming capabilities as we invested in some new equipment and I sincerely thank those who are working tirelessly to make our services impactful for a wider range of audience. We have opened back up the youth ministry and meeting every other week and that is going well. We have a new children's church beginning soon, trunk or treat was a blessing and huge success as we meet many new friends, and of course our awesome cotton tops had an amazing time together at the low country boil this past weekend. So, we are in the beginning stages, resuming some of our activities and ministries and for that I am thankful for His grace and love that never fails. We are so grateful for all who are working so hard to make these things happen, may He continue to give us strength and keep us well. I am believing God is going to truly bless all of our efforts and move Bethesda vigorously into 2021, and yes with some momentum. The biggest thing I would like to celebrate is the cause of Christ and all of you. I thank God daily for each of you and am grateful that we are all persevering through this time together and keeping our health and most important, our faith. And it is my sincere prayer we will stay healthy and be back together soon. Finally, be strong in the Lord and the power of His might (Ephesians 6:10). Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers (3 John 1:2). I love each and every one of you and look forward to the heights God will take us as we soar together, serving Him and His people. Mark your calendars for November 8 Charge Conference which will be virtual this year. I will be giving you more information on that soon. Hope to see you all soon.

In all Christ's Love,

Pastor Paul

Prayer list:

Our Pastor
All Ministries at
Bethesda UMC
Military
Leaders of America
Billy Boyles
Woody Brewster
Chuck Brown
Earline Burke
Michael Coffey
Irma Davis
Lula Dixon
Kem & Linda Dugger
Harry & Reba
Edwards
Ethan Ferguson
Peggy Haupt
Delanie Hickman
Tony Hickman
LouDean & Betty
Hinley
Diane Hodges
Cindy Howard
Anita Kessler
Ray Kessler, Sr.
TJ Kessler
Paul Lafferty
Kay Lisicia
Barbara Mast
Kevin McDaniel
Andrew Miles
Carl Mingledorf
Carol Morgan
Clayton Morgan
Scott Morgan
Caroline Morton
Shirley Palmer
Robbie Pierce
Brian Scott
Kelby Shearouse
Connie Shuman
Abby Smith
Alice Smith
Janet Smith
Patty Wise Smith
Irene Stanford
Laurie Stregles
Greg Stephens
Virginia Strickland
Joyce Wadsworth
Susan Waller
Alma Zettler
Dwight Zipperer

Thoughts for November 2020 Thanksgiving

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
For His mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

Let the house of Aaron now say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

Let those who fear the Lord now say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

Psalm 118:1-4 (NKJV)

I like the progression shown in the first four verses of Psalm 118.... all peoples, God’s people, then priests, finally those who believe. God shows mercy to all, but in different ways. Jesus said: “for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust”. However, His most important mercy is the forgiveness of sin that comes to those who believe in Jesus and trust Him as Lord and Savior. Praise Him for that wonderful mercy!

It is once again November and our thoughts return to Thanksgiving, then to Advent and Christmas. But for now, let us think about Thanksgiving. 2020 has been a very unusual year, a very difficult year, a year most of us would not care to repeat. We must remember that in Ephesians 5:20 Paul tells us: “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”. We do not understand all that happens, but we can always be thankful. God is always there, He is always good, and His mercy and love endure through all.

Continue to pray for one another this month. Pray for our nation, for all elected and appointed officials. Pray for the church universal, for the United Methodist Church, for Bethesda, as we go into the seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. Remember the sick and the bereaved as the holiday season will be difficult. But, most important, always pray for the lost, for those who do not know Jesus Christ and His mercy.

Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord;
for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

Psalm 106:1

Diane Wilhelm, Pray Ministry Coordinator

To All Veterans



November 2020 Flower List

- 1st Sarah Pierce
- 8th Marilyn Zittrauer
- 15th Kay Peacock
- 22nd Janice Nease
- 29th open



Welcome back our newest members to Bethesda!
Summer Dean
Melissa Arocho

Happy November Birthdays

- 1st Blake Strickland
- 3rd Brenda Saxon
- 4th Anna Helme
- 6th Jackson Cato
- 7th Shelby Zeigler
- 10th Luke Wadsworth
- 14th Grant Kessler
- 24th Bradford Saxon
- 25th Jennifer Granat
- 26th Joyce Wadsworth
- 26th John Schoonover
- 27th Brett Edgy
- 28th Lee Morgan
- 30th Wayne Granat
- 30th Mark Jones

Happy Thanksgiving



**COUNT YOUR
BLESSINGS.**
NAME THEM **ONE BY ONE.**
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT **GOD** HAS DONE.

Combined Newsletter

Deadline is 11/17/20

Please turn in all
announcements, articles,
or other information
by this date for the
December 2020
And
January 2021
Newsletter

Thank you so much!!



TIS THE SEASON!!!!

Just a reminder that Christmas is near and it is our privilege to help the Effingham Country DFACS give those children under their care a happy Christmas. We should be getting the names soon, so if you are interested in sponsoring a child please let me or Teresa Pierce know.

We will only have a short time to get everything done so please if you are interested please contact us. Due to the COVID -19 pandemic we will not be doing a meal or party inside. Instead we will have a SANTA drive by so that the children can see Santa and we will be able to give them their presents with little or no contact.

It is sad that it has come to this but for everyone's safety it is the best possible way to make sure these special children have a very Merry Christmas.

If you are interested but do not know how we do this just call me. If you would like to sponsor a child but don't shop you can give a monetary donation and someone will go shopping for you.

It is an honor and blessing to help children who for whatever reason are in foster care. Thank you all so much in advance for all you do.

May God bless each of you!



Brenda Saxon (728-3163) Call leave your name and phone number on my answering machine and I will call you back.

	Happy November Anniversaries Wishes to	
Nov. 5th	Gary & Teresa Pierce	Married 37 years
Nov. 9th	Derrick & Nichole Jenkins	Married 7 Years
Nov. 20th	George & Marilyn Zittrouer	Married 51 years

<p><i>Bethesda's Youth</i></p> <p><i>Sunday, Nov. 1st</i> <i>4:30-6:00pm Wear Your favorite costume</i></p> <p><i>Sunday, Nov. 15th</i> <i>NO UMYF</i></p> <p><i>Sunday, Nov. 29th</i> <i>UMYF 4:30-6:00pm</i></p>	<p>If you would like to donate to "People Helping People" there will be a collection container by the social hall doors.</p> <p>It will be available on Wednesday and Sundays.</p> <p>Thank You!</p> <p><u>November- most needed items:</u> Laundry detergent, lotion, Shampoo, Body Wash, Paper towels</p>	
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<p><i>Manna House Food Pantry</i> <i><u>Thanksgiving boxes of Hope</u></i> <i>September - November</i> <i>Register Online for Assistance, Donate,</i> <i>or Volunteer</i> <i>to Serve 1,500 Families</i> <i>** your \$10.00 gift will sponsor not 1 but 2 boxes **</i> <i>www.mannahouseincon.org</i> <i>P.O. Box 633 Rincon, GA. 912-826-2037</i></p>	<p>Online giving is available through easyTithe on our website www.Bethesdaum.com Click the online giving tab & follow prompts</p> <p>Thank you for your faithfulness!</p>
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No Calendar this month, since all activities are listed in the newsletter.

