

# Bethesda Beacon

A publication of Bethesda United Methodist Church

www.Bethesdaum.com

## SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



Dear Family,

Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus the Christ. As we continue to grow together in God's grace we need to celebrate all of the good things we see going on. We are daily and weekly working at getting back to normal with some changes. I am excited to share with you the new Mission, Vision, and Values of Bethesda United Methodist Church. These were approved and adopted at our Administrative council meeting on August 17, 2020. Habakkuk 2:2 says, "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it." We have written it down, now we must run with it. It is my prayer that the Lord lead us and guide us as we push through this trying time and begin to Rise Together! Bethesda, I love each and every one of you and look forward to seeing you.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Paul

### Mission, Vision and Values of Bethesda United Methodist Church. Guyton GA.

Pastor Paul D. Broussard

#### MISSION

Leading people to become devoted followers of Christ

#### VISION

Changing the surrounding community through a Christ-centered church that is open to all, a safe place to grow, and built to serve others

#### VALUES

##### We are Christ-Centered

- We love and follow Jesus and His teachings
- We strive to find our Christian voice as we share Jesus' message
- We explore what it looks like to live Jesus' love daily
- Through the workings of the Holy Spirit we seek to become more like Jesus
- We are uncompromisingly conservative in our beliefs
- We believe the Holy Bible contains all of life's answers

##### We are Open to All

- We believe in unconditional love, which leads us to worship with others from all walks of life as we show compassion and love for our neighbor.
- We endeavor to build a community with diverse backgrounds and perspectives that are focused on becoming all that Jesus Christ has called them to be and live as His Holy Word teaches them to live.
- We are open to all and loving to all, but will always teach the truth of God's Word that inspires repentance and change in our lives

##### We are a Safe Place

- We acknowledge that we all have unanswered questions and God welcomes our search as we lead them to the truth
- We believe asking tough questions is foundational to our spiritual development
- We provide a safe environment where people share their doubts, convictions and struggles without fear of judgment or repercussion
- We are a Safe church, safe people, and your safe place

##### We are a Church with a passion to serve

- We are called to serve as Jesus served and to give as Jesus gave
- We will use our spiritual gifts to serve everyone, inside and outside the church
- We serve God and the world with thankfulness and joy, without expectations of getting something in return.
- Our motives are pure, simple, and contain the heart of Jesus to help our brother/sister who may be in need.

#### Prayer list:

Our Pastor  
All Ministries at  
Bethesda UMC  
Military  
Leaders of America  
Woody Brewster  
Chuck Brown  
Earline Burke  
Justin Cox  
Palmer D.  
Irma Davis  
Lula Dixon  
Kem & Linda Dugger  
Harry & Reba  
Edwards  
Ethan Ferguson  
Aimee Hickman  
Delanie Hickman  
Tony Hickman  
LouDean & Betty  
Hinely  
Diane Hodges  
Cindy Howard  
Geraldine Jenkins  
TJ Kessler  
Barbara Mast  
Kevin McDaniel  
Andrew Miles  
Carol Morgan  
Clay Morgan  
Clayton Morgan  
Scott Morgan  
Caroline Morton  
Richard Nyborg  
Shirley Palmer  
Robbie Pierce  
Brian Scott  
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  
Bernard L. Zipperer  
Dwight Zipperer

**Thoughts for September 2020: What Is the Church?**

**When I was a child, we used to play this game in Sunday School: turning our hands around we tucked our fingers inside our closed hands and said:**

**“Here is the church, here is the steeple  
(at which point our pointer fingers went up}  
Open the door and see all the people  
(we then turned our hands around to see the fingers)**

**Sadly, right now, we see the church building, the steeple, but when we open the door, there are very few people. But the church is still there, because the church is the people, even when they cannot meet together inside the church.**

**I Peter 2:4-6 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.” (NKJV)**

**As I watched the South Georgia Annual Conference, I was impressed by the zeal of our delegation to the General Conference in August 2021.... yes, a year from now... August 29 - September 7, 2021, at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They are already studying, preparing and praying for this Conference. All Conferences are important, but this one rightly so as it will probably mean that a new denomination will be formed --- a denomination that will be Methodist, but separate from the UMC. This new denomination will most probably be the members, the people, who follow the more traditional, more conservative, more literal interpretation of the Bible.**

**Please begin praying now for the General Conference 2021. Pray for our delegates, see <https://www.sgaumc.org/2020-delegation> for names and photos. Pray for a peaceful resolution to the differences within the UMC.**

**No. the church is not a building, with a steeple, but the people, the living stones with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone. Pray for the church to be the church as we go forth into 2021.**

**Pray for Bethesda and the Coastal District as we prepare for Charge Conference and for 2021.**

**Pray for our pastor and secretary as they prepare annual reports**

**Pray again for our schools, the students, faculty, staff, asking God’s protection on them as they study during this pandemic.**

**Pray for health care personnel who struggle day by day to care for the sick.**

**Pray for the lost.... God still has the door open to any and all who will receive Jesus as Savior.**

**Pray for each other, we are the local church, the living stones, in our community.**



**Diane Wilhelm, Lay Leader and Prayer Ministry Coordinator**

Welcome our newest members to Bethesda!  
We are glad you are here;  
Monte & Susannah Dixon  
Cathy Eldridge and Diane Eldridge

**Happy September Birthdays**

- 2nd Kem Dugger
- 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 Deb Williams
- 14th Virginia Strickland
- 15th Samantha Billeiter
- 20th Kesley Keener
- 21st Kassie Heinen
- 24th Linda Dugger
- 24th Martina Purvis
- 25th Grace Deen
- 26th Tina Keener
- 26th Gracie Kessler
- 29th Ray Kessler
- 29th Eileen Olson
- 29th Jordyn Fraser
- 30th Katie Cott

**Happy September Anniversaries Wishes to**

- 27th Jeff & Karen Waters  
 Married 45 years
- 30th Scott & Shannon Kessler  
 Married 25 years

**Starting on September 1st the office hours at BUMC will change to:**

**Tuesday - Friday  
9:00am - 1:00pm**

Online giving is available through easyTithe on our website

**[www.Bethesdaum.com](http://www.Bethesdaum.com)**  
Click the online giving tab & follow prompts

**Thank you for your faithfulness!**



