

The Mission of Bethesda United Methodist Church By God's grace, to make disciples of Jesus Christ through a loving community of faith and service.

Love. Love. Listen. Serve.



9:00am Connection Service is an informal service which includes a Bible-based message. The casual atmosphere and contemporary praise and worship music will broaden your definition of worship.

10:00am Sunday School classes are available for all ages. Deepen your relationship with Christ & influence in the world by knowing Scripture and giving it authority in your life.

11:00am Traditional Service includes choir anthems, hymns, and a traditional sermon.

Livestream Services are available through Facebook for the 11am service. To worship with us through livestream, go to https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaumcpowdersville/ and wait for the livestream to start. You do not need a Facebook account to watch.

Past Sermons are available on our website.







Sunday Worship Services

Sep 3 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion

Sep 10 - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sep 17 - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sep 24 - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost





As you know, the last several months have been incredibly difficult as we have dealt with an unprecedented struggle. Our church has voted to stay with the United Methodist Church, and we know through this process, some of our church family has decided to move in a different direction. Though we may no longer be worshiping together, we still love them and care for them as our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we wish them well. We grieve this loss, and we know that in the midst of our grief, God is there to be with us and bring us healing.

We continue to look forward to the ministries that are ahead of us and how Bethesda UMC can continue to be a blessing to the community around us. Bethesda UMC will remain the same church it has been since its beginning in 1834. Over those many years, we have weathered other storms and disagreements, and we have always kept our focus on building God's kingdom as our main priority.

Every Sunday, I say, "Welcome to Bethesda UMC - this is God's Church" and I want us to remember this IS God's church, and God will continue to bless God's church. As Romans 12 tells us, in God's church, there are many members with varying gifts and talents. We aren't all the same, think the same, or do the same, but we are called to come together as different individuals and be joined as one in Christ's body.

As we move forward, there will be challenges ahead, as well as many opportunities to reach people outside of the church who may not have a relationship with Christ. Our call and mission as the church is always to make disciples of Christ, and this will continue to be our focus. Bethesda's mission is to "Love. Love. Listen. Serve". We are called to Love God by loving others, called to listen to God for guidance and to listen to our neighbors. We will serve God by serving our neighbors in the world around us.

In this time of transition, we will need people to step up in leadership roles in the church to make sure the ministries of the church continue. Bethesda also needs our members to help support the ministries of our church through their financial support. Since April 2023, our overall giving has declined, and yet our need has remained the same. As we move forward, we know we will have to tighten our spending, and we will also need everyone to continue to be generous givers, so that we can provide effective ministries and continue to grow God's kingdom. Your support for Bethesda's ministry has always been unwavering, and I am grateful for all that you are already giving and will continue to give to make sure that we can continue living out our call.

We have had some darker days, but the joy is coming! Though this time is challenging, God has always blessed Bethesda, and I know that God will continue to bless our church as we do God's work. I believe this is Bethesda's opportunity to be a bright shining light to a hurting world, and I am excited and blessed to be working alongside you in this next chapter of Bethesda's journey!

Together in Christ, Judson



Meetings & Room Reservations

Committee & Team Meetings

Sep. 11 - Staff Meeting 10am - Parlor

Room Reservations

PLAY Youth Volleyball - Gym 5:30-9pm -Sep. 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28

Scouts 6:30-9pm Mondays - Gym/Ed bld

CPR & AED Class

Sep. 9 @ 10am - 12pm -Dining Room \$25 payable to Betsy Zaglin

Memorials

In Memory of Randy Calhoun

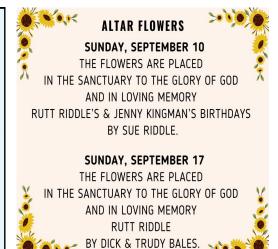
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Baker Ms. Deborah Reed Mrs. Sue Riddle Theresa & Sandy Solis

In Memory of Houston & Bernice Roper

Mrs. Linda Roper Thompson

In Memory of Marie Elrod

Fellowship Sunday School Class Irene Sunday School Class Mr. & Mrs. Perry Holcombe Mrs. Sue Riddle



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As we enter fall, we pray that your summer has been restful and all the "back to school" routines are off to a great start! We are excited about getting back to more routine in our children's ministry, after a summer of fun events. It was a blessing to have so many join, and we can't wait for upcoming events.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:1

Sunday Afternoon Schedule- Begins Sunday, September 10!

Every Sunday, children of all ages will meet for a time of learning about Jesus and fellowship with one another. This is open to children of all ages, from nursery age- 5th grade. Children may be signed in and dropped off, or families can stay together. The schedule is as follows: 3-3:30 pm- Children's Choir: Our children did a wonderful job last year singing at church services occasionally and leading us in musical programs at both Christmas and in the spring.

3:30-4:00 pm- Snack & Story: We will gather in the dining room for snacks, a Bible story, & a related Bible story activity.

4-5:00 pm- Open Gym: Every week you will find toys, crafts, basketballs and more available! This time is just about having fun!

Wonderful Wednesday Family Nights:

One Wednesday night each month (usually the first Wednesday), we will have a special activity, and all (ages) from our Bethesda family are invited! The programs will be at 7 pm. All programs will meet at/around the Bethesda Family Life Center. Eat dinner before you arrive, but snacks and desserts will be provided. The schedule is below.

God's Knights Second Sunday Dinners: Our God's Knights program is available for older children aged 2nd -5th grade, so that they can focus more on Bible reading and study. We wanted to try a new approach with this school year with this group meeting once a month for dinner and Bible study. This group will meet from 5-6pm the Second Sunday of each month. The schedule is below.

Save the Dates - October is such a fun month at Bethesda!

- 1. We will host our 3rd annual Bethesda Pumpkin Patch! Many volunteers will be needed throughout the month to join the fun! I will pass along details on the delivery and start date as soon as we get them.
- 2. Friday, October 20, starting at 7 pm, we will hold our 2nd annual Movie in the Pumpkin Patch. Bring a chair or a blanket at enjoy popcorn, hot chocolate, and fellowship while we watch a fall movie.
- 3. Wednesday, October 25, 5:30-7:30 pm is Trunk or Treat! Be on the lookout for more information soon!

I would love to talk to you about any of these events, anything about our church, or any ways that I can serve your family. You are all a blessing to me and always in my prayers.

<u>Erin Hiller</u> Director of Children's Ministry







THRIVE Thrive Youth Group



As we enter the fall season, we begin to focus on the idea of Gather. What does it mean to gather? All summer youth have been vacationing, meeting off campus, working, swimming, hanging out with friends, and going on adventures. Its time for us to start meeting together again regularly. I want to extend a personal invite for all parents to encourage their youth to participate in youth on Sunday nights. It will be a great time of fellowship and learning. This fall starting on September 10th, we will have open youth time from 4 to 5pm, and from 5 to 6pm we will have our regular youth time. You do not have to come to open youth time to attend regular youth and you cam arrive anytime you want during open youth time. Its just an open time for youth to come hang out and have fun in fellowship before regular youth begins. I am really looking forward to getting together this fall. I know God is ready to move and I am excited to join Him. One last thing, on October 1st, we will be going apple picking. We will meet in the youth room after the 11am service, have lunch, and then head to the Apple Orchard. If you plan to attend, please let me know so that I can begin planning for seats and food. Every year this is a highlight event where we always seem to come back with more apple doughnuts than people we brought.

Seth Wright

Director of Youth Ministries
(864) 624-2175 / sethwright@bethesdaumc.org









Finance Committee Letter to the Congregation

Bethesda Needs YOU!

We, being many, are one body in Christ and everyone members one of another. (Romans 12:15).

Our church has experienced a time of challenge and change. Our offerings have trended downward since April 2023. The finance committee has been watching this carefully and has already taken some protective measures. As we move forward, the Finance Committee is focused on essential expenses: salaries, utilities and mortgage. If you are aware of any expenditures our church has been making that can be stopped temporarily without hurting our Church mission and ministries, please let Marie Mitchell, Paula Raymond (Treasurer), or Rev. King know.

For those who may have withheld offerings during this recent time of confusion, we ask that you continue to give faithfully and pray for God to provide for the needs of Bethesda UMC. Thank you for your prayers and giving as we go forward together.

Romans 8: 28: We know that all things work together for good to them who love God, to them who are called according to His purpose.

There are many ways to give to Bethesda.

- 1. The Offering Plate on Sunday: Please use an offering envelope and include your name.
- 2. Bill pay with your banking provider: A bill pay service may be included as part of a checking account's features.
- 3. Electronically via Realm: Online giving can be made by bank account debit (ACH) or via credit card.
- 4. Mail in your donation: Bethesda UMC, 516 Piedmont Rd, Easley, SC 29642.
- 5. Donating appreciated securities (such as stocks and bonds) to Bethesda UMC.
- 6. Give from your IRA: Qualified Charitable Distribution.
- 7. Planned Giving: Remembering to include the church in your will.

Let us be joyous givers to the work of the Lord!

Monthly requirement to meet 2023 budget: \$62,547

Monthly requirement to meet bare minimum expenses \$38,674 (Salaries, utilities, and mortgage payments only)

Actual Offerings Received Toward the Operating Budget

Monthly Received \$36,373 May June \$33,237 July \$36.839 August \$35,093

Did You Know?

Honorarium/Memorial donations honor those who serve and who have faithfully served Bethesda during their lifetime. As you honor our special servants, you can also support God's work at Bethesda by marking your envelope or check memo. "General Fund in honor/memory of" and name of the person to be honored/remembered. Donating to the general fund allows Bethesda UMC flexibility in using your donation to support day-to-day church activities and obligations as needed. Undesignated/unmarked Honorarium/Memorials will be assigned to the Building Fund.

Realm is a cloud-based church management software solution that we use for our accounting & membership needs. You can manage your giving and print your giving statement at anytime.

Ways to join:

- 1. Contact the office
- 2 Text bethesdaume to 73256.
 - 3. Scan the QR Code
 - 4. Click the link

https://onrealm.org/bethesdaumcsc

Let's get connected.

Download our Connect app today.

- E Update your personal information
- a Communicate with groups & teams
- Follow church announcements
- Q Look up members
- Create and join events

Let's be the church... together.







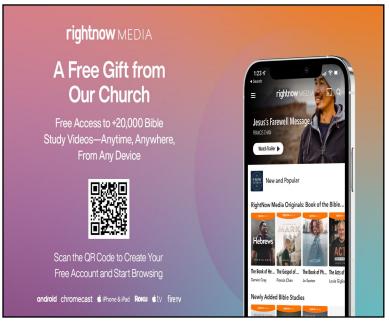














Your Community Blood Center

Wed., Sep. 13th 3 - 7pm at Bethesda UMC

All blood donors will receive a \$60 eGift card



https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/218859





The United Methodist Women invite all ladies to join them!
The purpose of the UMW is to help women develop
spiritually, to experience supportive fellowship with other
women and to engage in mission to women, children and
youth around the world.

The Mary-Martha Evening Circle meets in the parlor at 7pm on the third Monday of each month.





SAM - Super Adult Ministry sponsors exercise every Tuesday & Thursday morning at 9am in Class Rm 207/208.

We offer strength, aerobic, stretch & Tai chi exercise classes. We now have an elliptical & stationary bike for use by anyone. Keeping active is the key to good health!

Please feel free to attend & participate as you are able. Exercise promotes brain & body health.

Contact Betsy Zaglin (864-363-2843) or betsyzaglin@yahoo.com

All are invited to join the Powdersville Garden Club

We meet 9-11am on the first Tuesday of the month in the dining room.



Leisure Group

The Leisure Group invites all to join them on the last Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the dining room for a potluck meal (chicken will be provided).

Relaxed fellowship and food with an overabundance of laughter and love are our priorities.

No reservations required & drop-ins are welcome.

For more information, contact Jan Bryant (864-313-1713) or bryantjandave@icloud.com.





We will participate in the annual Work Day Offering on Sun., Sep. 10, to benefit the children who are served by Epworth. Please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable & life changing ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit www.epworthchildrenshome.org

PERC

Piedmont Emergency Relief is in need of the following items: canned green beans, canned corn, mac & cheese, grits, oatmeal, cereals, spaghetti noodles & canned spaghetti sauce. Items can be placed in the plastic storage container outside the office door.

Thank you for your support!

Pull Tabs

The UMW collects the pull tabs off aluminum soda cans for missions.

A collection box is in the entrance way to the Family Life Center.

Thank you for your support!

UMCOR - Hawaii

Wind-driven wildfires on Maui have prompted evacuations and caused significant loss of life and widespread damage.

UMCOR is coordinating with the California-Pacific Annual Conference to process an initial grant for emergency supplies such as shelf-stable food, water, hygiene items and tools to help survivors recover belongings. As first responders continue to provide initial aid in the area, please join UMCOR in prayer for those affected. Gifts can be made in the following ways:

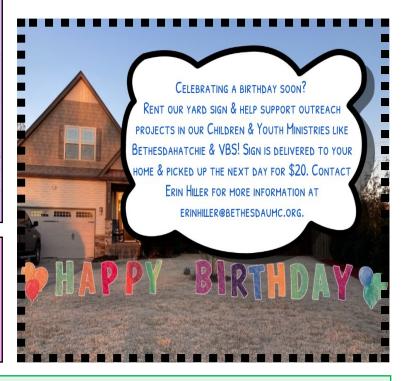
Payment to Bethesda UMC (online / in person)
Include "UMCOR-Hawaii" memo with your payment

Payment to UMCOR

- 1. https://umcmission.org/advance-project/901670
- 2. By toll-free telephone call: 1-888-252-6174
- 3. By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #901670-Hawaii" written on the memo line and mailed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068

By giving through the Advance, 100% of your donation reaches your chosen mission project or ministry.





Benevolence Endowment

Since 1998 Bethesda United Methodist Church has supported an Endowment Benevolence Fund. The purpose of the fund is to assist members within the Bethesda United Methodist Congregation who need financial assistance due to hardship. These hardships may include situations following illness, accident, loss of employment and other situations that merit consideration. Each year the available dispersed funds are used to meet needs similar to those described here. The Endowment Benevolent Fund began with a seed money donation, and over the years, under the management of the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation, has grown significantly. Interest earned on this account supports the needs outlined above as well as building principal of the Endowment itself.

If anyone is aware of a member of our church in need, please contact the pastor or a member of the Benevolence Committee:

Rev. Judson King, Jan Bryant, or JoBeth Manley.

Sunday School at Bethesda

Sunday School is great time for sharing and learning for all age groups! We have classes open every Sunday morning. Classes meet in the Education Building. Adult classes meet on the top floor, while Preschool to High School meet on the bottom floor.

Nursery is provided for children age 2 and under.

We are excited to offer the following classes:

Preschool K3 & K4 / K - 2nd Grade / 3rd - 5th Grade / Middle & High School (Rm 107)

Adventures In Faith Class is a Bible-based and issues-oriented class with focused discussion and application of the Word to everyday living. Service and prayer are central to this group. Class members are at or near retirement age. (Room 213)

Common Ground College & Career Class The Common Ground College & Career Sunday School Class meets during college semester breaks. We would like to invite the young adults who have graduated high school or are of equivalent age, those currently in college and those just working on life to join us! (Room 210).

Crosstalk Class is discussion-based with focus on current issues using biblical guidance. Members range from the age of 30+ to the "Finish Line" and work together in many different activities in the church. (Room 216)

Irene Cely Class studies the Bible, actively supports the ministries of Bethesda, reaches out to meet the needs of the community, has an active prayer ministry and enjoys fellowship with one another so much that the class president has to ring a goat bell to call the class to order, then this class is the one for you! Class members are all ages. (Room 207/208)

New Life Christian Class focuses on spiritual growth and life application of Biblical principles, with additional periods of study geared towards developing a deeper understanding of the Bible. The class strives to provide a strong foundation for an active Christian life. Class members range from 30's to 50's and are involved in many areas of the church. (Room 206)



Our Family Skate Party was so much fun! Thank you to Roller Time for a great afternoon!!









Bethesda UMC,
Thank you so much or providing
meals on Piedmont Salkhatchie. Your
Rejibity-adapting-when we had to
some campers home—the sprophetti was
amazing-we used it for Thursday
Jinner and Friday lunch - Delicions
Thanks!
Piedmont Salkeholding



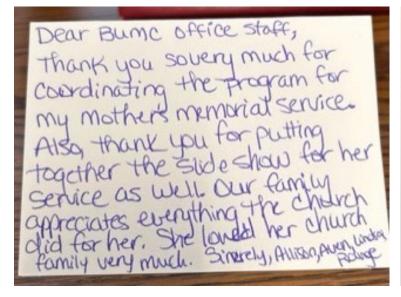
Bethesda United Methodist Church,

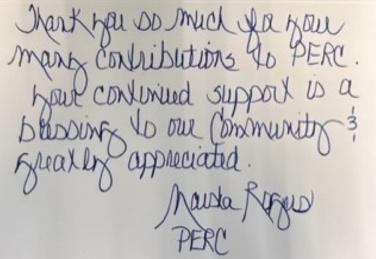
Thank you all for making the Celebration of Life for Randy Calhoun so beautiful. Everything was perfect.

Thank you, Sandy & Theresa Solis (Charlotte Calhoun's sisters) Bethesda United Methodist Church,

Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

Thank you, Family of Marie Elrod







This year at VBS, our mission focus was to collect supplies for the local Christian nonprofit, Joy Comes, as they prepared to give out Student Blessing Bags at events this summer. Because of your donations, we were able to assemble 37 bags!! In addition, from our Boys vs Girls "penny wars competition", we donated \$110 to Joy Comes for them to use for their ministry. Hannah, from Joy Comes, allowed us to share these pictures of some friends getting their blessing bags, and we love to see these smiles!

September Birthday Blessings

- 1- Tommy Griffin
- 3- Teresa Painter, Natalie Johnson
- 4- Bill Baker
- 5- Richie Coleman, Randall Kingman, Hollie Walls
- 6- Mick Lockaby, Colton Edge
- 7- Preslee Neel, Mike Seffrin
- 8- Willis Holcombe
- 9– Wanda Evans, Lisa Wood, Brianne, Aultman, Don Tomlins, Harper Nealy
- 11- Dana Jones, Hayes Binnicker
- 14- Perry Holcombe, Karen Henderson, Vickie West
- 15- John Hendrix, David Raad

- 18– Jim Dowis, Hudson Nealy
- 19- Christy Aultman
- 20- Joe Creel, Morgan Wood, Roger Seymore
- 21- David Ebert, Don Hughes
- 22- Doris Pruitt, Judson King
- 23- Brenda Cox, Jennifer Smart
- 24- Charla Bloomer, Wesley Hood
- 27- Kelly Johnson, Jesse Burdett, Casey Clarey
- 28- Hazel Holder
- 29- Kay Elrod, Jason Hood, Maddie Golden
- 30- Carolyn Hughes, Mike Johnson, Kristen Wilson, Luke Hiller



Welcome Robin Gann! Joined May 28, 2023

Welcome Suzanne Hughes - Joined July 16, 2023

Zachary & Silas Smith - Joined August 13, 2023



Welcome Charlie Blackmon!!
Daniel, Alyssa and Evie Blackmon are
excited to introduce the newest member of
their family - Charles David Noah Blackmon.
Charlie was born January 23, 2023. He was
baptized here at Bethesda on August 20th.



Welcome Thomas Jaques! Joined July 23, 2023

Prayer Request

Members: Bill Andersen, Jim Carroll, Ken Cook, Peggy Dulaney, Libby Elrod, Tommy Farmer, John Harrison, Sue Haynie, Jimmy McGarity, Mary Mixon, Richard Nix, Noel Pettit, Carol Smith, John Terry

Extended Family and Friends of Bethesda Members: Betty(Floree Pettit's sister), Amy Carlisle(Jan Bryant's family), Cathy and Amy (Stephanie Smith's family), Frank Cox(Floree Pettit's brother), Jimmy Cox(Floree Pettit's brother), Donna Elrod(Jan Bryant's cousin), Michael Hawks(Don Tomlins' nephew), Roger Jaudon(Vera Stanfield's brother), Corey McDowell, Ashley Mitchell (Carolyn Tomlins' great-niece), John Mitchell(Carolyn Tomlins' brother), Greg Shiflett(Mike & Mary Rogers' son-in-law), Emily Stansell, Kelly Stover, Susan(Floree Pettit's sister), John Terry, Jr.(John & Betty Terry's son), Steve Tomlins(Don & Carolyn Tomlins' son), Linda Trantham(Libby Elrod's sister), Luz Alba Vanegas(Julian Areiza's aunt), Elaine Weaver(Don Tomlins' sister), Gary White (Marlene Price's family)

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Members: Dennis Cook, Ivah Jo Elrod, Russ Elrod, Danny Evans, Sandy Faulkner, George Goforth, Diane Hogan, Luther Hunt, Randall Kingman, Gary Manley, Carol Miller, Sam Raines, Fredna Scott, Ann Simmons, Tim Slicker, Carolyn Tomlins, Don Tomlins, Penny Wesley

Extended Family and Friends of Bethesda Members: Tonya Farmer(Tommy & Gloria Farmer's daughter), CR Horton(Ma Jean's brother), Caroline Shelton (Cy & Lou Rogers' granddaughter), Bethesda UMC & United Methodist Church; Our Nation, Our President, & Our Military; Jessica Davis serving in Kenya Africa

**The Prayer Request ministry is a vital part of our Bethesda family. If you would like to add or update a prayer request, please contact Charla Bloomer or the office.

Congregational Sympathy is expressed to

David, Lori, Elias and Wilton Raad and their family upon the passing of David's stepfather, Kenny Hausman.

Mike & Kelly Faulkner and their family upon the passing of Mike's brother-in-law, Tom Mallwitz.

Lester, Cindy and Andrew Farmer and family upon the passing of their son, Brad.

Family of Marie Elrod upon her passing.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



EFTHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH







CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Ph: 864-269-1139





CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Judson King: Pastor, aiking@umcsc.org

Charla Bloomer: Communications & Youth, charlab@bethesdaumc.org

Marc Bloomer: AV Team Leader, M.Bloomer@polydeck.com

Neal Evans: Facilities Manager

Judy Grant: Choir Director, jcegrant131@gmail.com

Erin Hiller: Director of Children's Ministries, erinhiller@bethesdaumc.org

Marie Mitchell: Administrative Secretary, mariem@bethesdaumc.org

Jean Raines: FLC Hostess, <u>Majean1120@gmail.com</u> Vera Stanfield: Organist, <u>verasmusic31@gmail.com</u>

Seth Wright: Director of Youth Ministries, sethwright@bethesdaumc.org

CHURCH LEADERS

Lay Leader: Bradley Gantt, blgantt@charter.net

Staff Parish Relations: Judy Caldwell, jpcaldwell@charter.net

SAM Senior Adult Ministry Leader: Betsy Zaglin, Betsyzaglin@yahoo.com

Rev. Mike Cox, Retired Minister Rev. Murray Snow, Retired Minister