

# What's Happening

at Bethany

Dec. 10, 2020



Since most of haven't seen our church family in months ... or been seen by our church family ... the Worship Committee would like to put together a Christmas collage with short videos of members sending a Christmas blessing or message or just a "Merry Christmas" to all. It gives you the opportunity to say Merry Christmas ... almost in person ... to everyone you've been missing! It will be very similar to the one that was put together for Easter. Please send your short video to Dani Martlock by Monday, Dec. 14 via email (danimartlock@gmail.com) or by text message (540-383-3357). We want as many Christmas wishes as we can get ... so please participate. It's really easy to record a video on your smartphone and then send it in a text message ... please take a few minutes to wish your church family a Merry Christmas! Need assistance? Please contact Dani via email or the church office.



**The BUMS Christmas Post Office is officially OPEN!!** Want to spread some old fashioned Christmas cheer? Send Christmas greetings through the BUM Post Office. All "mail" will be quarantined before delivery. Postage is a donation of .25 cents per card or whatever donation you want to make which goes to the BUM Mission Fund. Please have greetings to the church on or before Sunday, Dec. 20 ... or drop them by anytime during office hours. We will assemble teams to deliver mail to our shut-ins before Christmas. If you would like to volunteer for delivery please let Julie Ritchie know and she will put you on the list. If there is someone you would like to deliver to, let her know that as well, otherwise she will be coordinating small delivery routes with folks who sign up to deliver. Julie's contact information ... 540-383-9445 or jaritchie@comcast.net.



**If you haven't already, don't forget to pick up your church directory!** We are asking for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of paper and printing. If you would like a printed copy, please contact Cindy Kite at office.bethany@gmail.com or 540-234-8880. If you need to update your phone number, email address, mailing address, or would like to update your family picture, please email all to Cindy.



All year end giving will need to be in the office or postmarked by December 31 to be posted on your 2020 giving statement. And if you have any receipts that need to be reimbursed by the church, please have them turned into Cindy Kite by Monday, Jan. 11, 2021. After that, they won't be able to be reimbursed. Thank you for observing these deadlines!!

**Sunday's Sermon Title:** Finding Joy in Our Discouragement  
**Scripture:** Luke 1: 39-55

**Happy Birthday to ...**  
16th - Shawn Cook  
19th - Layne Shifflett  
20th - Elizabeth Williams



**Please be in Prayer for ...**

**Members:** Tom & Jan Gorden, Eddie & Pat Lynn, Lloyd Meadows, Judy Faby, Audrey Bradshaw (back surgery postponed due to COVID), Dan & Suzanne Harrell, Gary Ruleman (shoulder surgery/chest pain), Kristen Kile (shoulder surgery)

**Extended Members:** Tom Lee - former pastor at Bethany, Our Food Pantry Neighbors ... Phyllis R., Maxine B., Donna D.

**If you would like to take a meal to Susan & Lloyd Meadows, please go to <https://www.TakeThemAMeal.com/LXLH6159>.**



# DIAPER NEED DEFINED

**1 in 3**  moms struggle with diaper need  
**8 to 10**  diapers needed each day per baby  
**\$100**  a month needed to buy diapers



Diaper Need has adverse health affects on families, including rashes & urinary tract infections for children along with stress, anxiety, & depression for parents.

Without diapers, babies cannot attend childcare or early education programs.  
Without childcare, mothers cannot go to school or work to further provide for their families.



Thank you so much to those who have been donating diapers! Every month a parent spends nearly \$100 on diapers for one child. Parents often try to “stretch” the use of diapers by not changing their baby as often as recommended. This can lead to added medical expenses in the form of severe diaper rash, infections, developmental delays, and behavioral issues.

This “luxury” item is not provided though government assistance.

If you are able to donate diapers to the Food Pantry, please do so. We are in need of all sizes. You can bring them on Sunday mornings or during the week between 9 am - 3 pm.

FINDING  
*Hope*  
IN OUR  
UNCERTAINTIES

FINDING  
*Peace*  
IN OUR  
STRUGGLES

FINDING  
*Joy*  
IN OUR  
DISCOURAGEMENTS

FINDING  
*Love*  
IN OUR  
DIFFERENCES

## Re-Discover Christmas: Good News in Troubling Times

This has been a weird year. People have said this year seems like it will never end but other times it has flown by. And all the while we have lived our lives in the shadow of the pandemic and a hotly contested presidential election. Now seems like the perfect time to settle into Advent and Re-Discover Christmas which happens to be our theme for Advent this year. **Because no matter how troubling the times, and no matter how heavy our hearts, there is good news. The greatest news!**

As the angels proclaimed it on the night of Jesus’s birth long ago:

*“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”*

**The Bethany Family Christmas Special “Away in a Manger” will be broadcast on Facebook on Sunday, Dec. 20 at 7 pm.** You won’t want to miss it! Thank you to all who participated and to those who helped put it together!

### Christmas Eve Service

Thanks for your feedback! The Worship Committee is meeting Thursday evening 12/10 to make a final decision about the Christmas Eve service. We are also taking into consideration the increase in COVID cases in our area. We will get the details of the service out to everyone as soon as possible. Your input has been very much appreciated!

