Nov. 16, 2023 What's Happeni Page 1 INC at Bethany Sunday, November 19@7pm **Bethany United Methodist Church** Thanks givin

**Bountiful Living** 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Love Offering to go to **Backpack Pals** 



All men are invited to attend "Donuts & Devotions" on the third Saturday of each month. This will be a time of donut eating, coffee drinking, fellowshipping, devotion sharing and praying! Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. It's a great way to kick off fall with something new. There's no commitment. Come when you can. The November gathering will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18 at

8 am in the fellowship hall. Questions? Contact Chuck McCarty.

If you picked up an "apple" from Kingsway Ministries a couple Sundays ago, please remember to bring your PROJECT unwrapped gifts, along with the "apple" to the church by Sunday, Nov. 19. And please include a few dollars in the envelope to help with the cost of shipping. Thank you for helping to make a child's Christmas a little brighter! Please place gifts on the table in the foyer. Please put your name on the back of the envelope.



The fellowship hall is reserved on Sunday, Nov. 19 from 11 am - 3 pm. Again, please be considerate and make plans to use the kitchen or fellowship hall before or after this time. Thank you!

## Hanging of the Greens Sunday, Nov. 26 at 5 pm

Come be a part of this wonderful evening for all ages. We begin with a pizza dinner provided for all at 5 pm. Afterwards, we will sing some carols and decorate our Chrismon tree. This is **ALWAYS** a heart-warming event that kicks off our Advent/Christmas season. Start "growing your heart" and attend this simple and fun event!

How much of our Christmas memories include Christmas classics, such as "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas?" Join your Bethany family for a fun, yet thoughtful, Advent Study as we work through the book "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes" by Matt Rawle. This four-week study will begin Nov. 29 and go through Dec. 20. We will meet every Wednesday at 10 am and 6:30 pm. This book will also be used in Pastor Blaine's sermons, so even if you can't join us for the study, get a book. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the books, each book cost the church \$10. You are under no pressure to do so! Book are available for pick up at the Welcome Center. Please place a checkmark by your name as you pick up a book. We do have a few extras ... talk to Pastor Blaine if you would like one. You can also order a book from Amazon.

Join us Sundays in December for our "Grinch" themed sermons. And don't miss the book study that will go along with the theme on Wednesdays at 10 am and 6:30 pm. Our hearts can grow this Christmas season just like the Grinch's did. And here's how: Our Hearts Grow When ... We Serve (Dec. 3), We Worship (Dec. 10), We Remember the Story (Dec. 17) and When We Celebrate His Birth (Dec. 24). You won't want to miss all the excitement and lighthearted fun.

You can help decorate the church this Christmas season by purchasing a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one. The cost is \$10 each. By purchasing a poinsettia, you are helping us make the sanctuary festive and beautiful during the Advent season. Forms will be available at the Welcome Center Sunday. Please fill them out and return to the church, with payment, no later than Sunday, Nov. 26.



Bethany will be "ringing the bell" for the Salvation Army on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 am - 6 pm at Shenandoah Valley Heritage Market on Route 11. Times will be in one hour increments. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center for you to sign up to help this year. Get the entire family involved!

The tree in the foyer is a fundraiser for the Gideons. A gift of \$5 will help them purchase bibles. There are paper ornaments under the tree. Make a donation of \$5 (place in the Christmas box under the tree) and write your name on the back of the ornament and then hang it on the tree. Help us cover the tree in purple ornaments! 🕹

Been involved at Bethany UMC for a while now, but never been asked to join the church? Pastor Blaine will be leading a New Member Class directly after worship on Jan. 21, and wants all who are interested in membership at Bethany to attend. If you have any questions about membership, please let Pastor Blaine know.

If you have articles and/or pictures for the December newsletter, please email them to Cindy at office.bethany@gmail.com by Sunday, Nov. 26. If anyone has pictures of apple dumpling making, please send those. If you have pictures of any event at church, please send them to Cindy so others can see them in the newsletter. Thank you! Anytime you would like to write the "member article" for the newsletter, let Cindy know.



It's coffee time!! If you would like to talk with Pastor Blane outside of the church, he is having "coffee hours" on Thursday, Nov. 30 from 3-4:30 pm at Valley Pike's Rumor Mill.

Come chat with him and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. This is a great opportunity to get to know him a little better and he you. FYI ... he loves talking college football!!



The BUMS, Bethany's youth, will be making desserts for "Hanging of the Greens' immediately after the service on Sunday, Nov. 26. All youth and parents are invited to come help

with the desserts. Questions? Contact Bridgett Crawford.



# Mission Sunday Sunday, Dec. 3 immediately after the worship service

On Sunday, Dec. 3, we are having a "Mission Sunday." We have lots going on that day. If you can't stay around after church, we ask you to donate some needed items for that day. We are collecting diapers (size 5 or 6), baby wipes and laundry detergent for our food pantry.

We are also asking for donations of 3 crockpots of soup, bags/plates of cookies and 18 mason jars with lids. We will be making sandwiches, putting soup in mason jars and making cookie plates to deliver to our local fire departments ... Verona, Weyers Cave and Grottoes. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

If you can stay around after church that day, we will be making a craft project with butterflies that will go into cards for cancer patients (sponsored by Spirit FM).

We will also be making Christmas cards to attach to the diapers, wipes and detergent for our food pantry neighbors. We will make Christmas cards to send to soldiers who need a word of encouragement and love during the holidays.

Refreshments will be provided for those who stay to help with these projects. If you have questions, please talk with Lori Mooney.



## Upcoming Events you don 4 want to miss !

Sunday, Nov. 19 @ 7 pm Community Thanksgiving Service Hosted by Bethany

Sunday, Nov. 26 @ 5 pm Hanging of the Greens & Pizza Dinner Desserts provided by the youth.

#### Sunday, Dec. 3 @ 9:30 am

Our Hearts Grow When We Serve Following the service & refreshments, there will be opportunities to participate in several mini-mission projects.



Sunday, Dec. 10 @ 9:30 am Our Hearts Grow When We Worship Wear your favorite Christmas sweaters ... UGLY OR NOT!

Sunday, Dec. 17 @ 9:30 am Our Hearts Grow When We Remember the Story Our Bethany Family Christmas Program

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 @ 9:30 am Our Hearts Grow When We Celebrate His Birth A worship service with a visit from the Bethany Barnyard Pals for the kids.

Sunday, Dec. 24 @ 8 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service



### Please be in Prayer for ...

Members: Hazel & Don Truslow, Peggy Lucas, Jan Gorden, Pam Lynn, Laura Lucas, Jackie Dunsmore, Leslie Wagoner

**Extended Family:** Lisa McCormick - friend of Rosemary Wagoner, Alma & Neese Spitzer - aunt & uncle of Barbara Long, Sandie Donald - daughter of Carolyn Swartz & sister of Cindy Kite, Clem Smiley, Jr. - brother of Carolyn Swartz **We extend Christian sympathy** to Cheryl & Pete Richards and family upon the death of Cheryl's mother, Mary Simmons. We also extend those thoughts and prayers to Lindsey & Chris Kite (Lindsey's grandmother). If you would like to send a card to Cheryl & Pete, their address is 3194 Lee Highway, Weyers Cave, VA 24486. If you would like to send a card to Lindsey & Chris, their address is 4005 Gypsum Hill Road, Haymarket, VA 20169.

#### Happy Birthday to ...

17th - Lorna Frizzelle 21st - Carla Whitecotton 24th - Mike Huffer & Madelyn Shifflett



25th - Cindy Kite 27th - Kathleen Stump & Susan Frease 28th - Jenn McLaughlin