



The Bethany Beacon

Suzy Amburn, Managing Editor • Susan Holland, Editor

Pastor Dinah's Message: My Dilemma!



When I found out that I was coming to Bethany UMC as its pastor, I was so excited!

During the three hours it took me to drive to Reedville, I watched as necessities like Wawa and Sheetz vanished from the horizon. I drove down roads with green trees and over water. I lost phone reception.

But when I got here and was in the parking lot and walked over to see the water at the Fishermen's Museum, I knew that if Bethany UMC accepted me, I would be home. (And I was.)

I toured the church and met with the council members. Lindsay Rose took me over for a walk-through of the parsonage.

I couldn't stop smiling . . . Because you know what? I was going to move from a one-bedroom apartment that I shared with my son.

Trust me, I loved that apartment, I was grateful for it, it was in a wonderful neighborhood, and I loved living near the family who rented the place to me. But the fact is, because it was a one-bedroom apartment shared by two adults, moving to a three-bedroom house was an upgrade!

I had found pleasure in filling every space in the one-bedroom with good deals that I bought on sale. (I am a bargain buyer guru.) But now I had a dilemma that made me smile as I drove away from Reedville to Bealeton. I smiled because I realized that I did not have any hangers! I had filled my small closet with so many things that there was no room for hanging any clothes. And *now* I would have at least three closets to fill with my purchases.

Oh my God, *I had no hangers.*

Friends from church would ask what I needed and I would say hangers. I shopped for the best-priced durable hangers; I eventually found a set at Walmart for \$2 . . . so I bought five sets. My friends from Liberty UMC, the church I came from, gave me a huge bag of hangers — 10 sets! I walked into Walmart another day and the hangers were on sale for \$1.50, so I bought five more sets. I thought *that* would be enough.

However, when I moved here and unpacked, *I ran out of hangers.* I found Walmart in Kilmarnock, 30 minutes away, and the hangers were on sale for \$1. The hangers were different colors . . . I bought 10 more. Later, I saw that the price was raised to \$1.50, but I had no need for more.

Now, looking back, *this* is what I learned from this experience with my hangers:

- ♦ All the sets of hangers were of equal value to me when I was hanging out my clothes.
- ♦ I couldn't even tell which hangers were bought first or which were used in what closet.
- ♦ The hangers hung out my clothes.

This reminds me that Jesus told us not to worry about what pace we are living in this life of ours [Matthew 20:1-16]. We should just live life as best as we can in the love of God.

In the eyes of God, we are all the same and what we do is of the same value to God. Human law is for us to be able to live together in harmony. God's law is for us to live our lives in peace.

Happy Birthday!

October

10.01 Barbara Lowry
10.01 Austin Schmidt
10.02 Tommy Barrett
10.03 Charlotte Hayman
10.04 Arthur Crowther
10.04 Susan Holland
10.05 Bayleigh Shearin
10.07 Yvonne Hurt
10.08 Dinah Bondzie
10.09 Courtney Kline
10.11 Gail Pond
10.14 Stephan Kitchen
10.17 Larry Jennings
10.17 Susan Shelton
10.18 Karen Turner
10.24 Valynn Westfall
10.25 Gracey Dameron
10.31 Robert Gwaltney
10.31 Mia Wilde

November

11.02 Carrie Mullins
11.03 Sarah Haynie McCarthy
11.05 Katelyn Haynie
11.05 Sharon Robertson
11.05 Andrew Harrison
11.05 Blake Walker
11.07 Faye Hughes
11.08 Bill Embrey
11.09 Manuel Haynie
11.18 David Haynie
11.23 Kojo Adu-Gyamfi
11.25 Mike Haynie
11.28 Dee Majette
11.29 Dawn Hedgpeth
11.29 Kyle Hall
11.29 Sam Haynie
11.30 Cathy Armes
11.30 Linda Hixon

December

12.01 Joan Haynie
12.02 Wylia Holbrooks
12.03 Nathan Altaffer
12.04 Ann Rice
12.06 Chase Kitchen
12.07 Brant Hays
12.08 Anne Haynie
12.09 Debbie Oder
12.13 Tina Saunders
12.13 Jerry Turner, III
12.16 Beth Altaffer
12.21 Kathy Deihl
12.21 Catesby Rice
12.23 Marlies Derby
12.27 Clara Bray
12.27 Kim Schmidt
12.29 Amy Yarborough
12.31 Shawn Rose

Happy Anniversary!

October

10.10 Alice & Warner Rice
10.15 Margaret & William Gano
10.20 Megan & Tyler Shearin
10.27 Bonita & Robert Wilson

November

11.02 Shay & Glenn Haynie
11.02 Joanie & Pratt Haynie

December

12.03 Susan & John Haynie
12.16 Stacey & Stephan Kitchen
12.17 Suzy & Roy Amburn, Jr.
12.29 Debbie & Robert Gwaltney
12.31 Susan & Mike Owens

Trustees Report

By Bill Embrey, Chairman

We begin by thanking God, our members, friends, and this council for support of Bethany church trustees.

- ♦ We thank church member Tony Wilde for repairing the laminate in the ladies' restroom.
- ♦ It has taken some time, but we have replaced some fluorescent lamps and ballasts in both fellowship halls and the church office. The cost was \$2,060.
- ♦ We replaced the 10- to 12-year-old washing machine at the parsonage for \$600.
- ♦ On September 20, Twin Rivers Roofing of Fredericksburg made some repairs to the roof of the sanctuary, just in time for Tropical Storm Ophelia!
- ♦ Because of installation delays, we have not been able to complete the new flooring at the parsonage.

As in the past, now, and always, please continue to pray for us!

Bethany UMC Minutes (Condensed)

June 11 & July 10, 2023

Treasurer's Report:

- ◆ \$54,942.86 balance as of July 10, 2023

SPPRC:

- ◆ The mission team made some minor repairs and painted the parsonage. It was cleaned and the furniture from the church was moved in. Pastor Dinah moved in on Tuesday, June 27, and her first Sunday was July 2.
- ◆ A motion was approved for the church to pay Pastor Dinah a stipend for her health insurance.

Finance:

- ◆ Pastor Derek turned in his church credit card and a new one has been ordered for Pastor Dinah. The checks for the pastor's discretionary fund have been given to her. Robert will go over the use and rules for using both with her.

Missions:

- ◆ The mission team made \$700 selling hot dogs during the July 4th celebration. They will be going to Fort Myers, Florida, in July.

Old Business:

- ◆ The Mission Statement and Core Values presented by the re-launch team were accepted. The meetings are open to anyone who wants to join them.
- ◆ The High School Graduation Gift requirements were accepted and will be implemented starting in the fall of 2023.
- ◆ The audio-visual system has a broken component and the vendor is coming to fix it. Pastor Dinah, Leigh Westfall, Jay Lightfoot, and Glenn Haynie attended a training meeting and will be able to run the system.
- ◆ The Reedville Fishermen's Museum wants to replace their existing bulkhead with rip rap. This does not touch our property and we agreed to the proposal.
- ◆ The carpet in the parsonage needs to be replaced with laminate flooring.
- ◆ After questions about the options of pulling out of the United Methodist Conference, we discovered that we needed to fill out paperwork and have a church-wide vote with 2/3 approval of leaving and a point person by September 7, 2023. It didn't seem to be enough time and no one wanted to be the point person to pursue it.

Are YOU Missing . . .

. . . from the birthday (name, month, day) list or anniversary (names, month, day) list? Send your information to bumcsecretary@gmail.com, call 804-453-3282, or leave a note in the church office.

Give the Gift of Altar Flowers



Please consider giving altar flowers for the worship service to honor or to remember a loved one. Gift forms are in the narthex. If you have questions, contact Cathy Ortiz at 1-540-446-6019; mrsportiz@hotmail.com.

The Rebekah Circle

By Suzy Amburn



- ◆ The Rebekah Circle conducted its annual bake sale fundraiser during the Reedville Independence Day event. A big thank you goes to all who donated baked goods and who worked to help make it a success. We raised \$545.
- ◆ Circle members also participated in the “Christmas Cookies in July” event by sharing cookies with those in the Reedville community who were shut-in or grieving the loss of a loved one; we also shared cookies with the teachers on opening day of school.
- ◆ Pastor Dinah Bondzie was guest speaker for the September Circle meeting. She regaled us with stories of her recent visit to Ghana for a family wedding.
- ◆ Our next meeting is October 3, 2023, at 1 p.m. Slated as guest speaker is Shauna McCranie, the executive director of the Reedville Fisherman’s Museum.

If you’re not already a member, all ladies of Bethany UMC are cordially invited to join the Rebekah Circle. It’s a great group of women who have fun together and do good things for the community! The Circle meets the first Tuesday of the month, except for July and August.



**Bethany United
Methodist Church**

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Return Service Requested

Bethany Team Aids Hurricane Ian Victims in Fort Myers, Florida



(From left: Florida project coordinator Dennis Schum and Adult Mission Team members Jay Lightfoot, Karen Dost, Leigh Westfall, Ivor Van Heerden, Janet Sansalone, and Tony Wilde)

According to Jay Lightfoot, “This summer, the BUMC Adult Mission Team journeyed to Florida to help with the ongoing rebuilding effort from the effects of Hurricane Ian. The team stayed in the North Fort Myers area and worked on a house in Fort Myers.

“While there, we completed tasks, such as laying flooring, finishing hanging doors, finishing installing trim, and painting. When we left, the house was ‘mostly’ finished; another team followed the following week and finished the rest of the projects at the house.

“The Adult Mission Team would like to thank all for the support received from the congregation and look forward to more great trips in the following years.”



Welcome, Dinah! A celebration of the appointment of Pastor Dinah took place at BUMC on July 2, 2023. As the choir and congregation look on, Dinah was inducted as Bethany’s newest pastor by UMC official Jim O’Quinn.

Bethany Celebrates Independence Day



Reedville's annual Independence Day Celebration took place on July 1, 2023. BUMC's contingent on Main Street included (above) George and Cathy Armes, (below, left) Frank Sansalone, Susan Shelton, and her sister, Janet Sansalone, who wrangled hot dogs for hungry parade watchers to raise funds for the Adult Mission Team. Susan's husband, John (not pictured) and Frank provided "setup and teardown muscle." (Below, right) church admin Susan Holland and Judy Knick (in her patriotic fashion statement) smile for photographer Kim Schmidt.

