



BETHANY IN BERLIN

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Christ's Love Grows Here

Our vision is to be a faithful community of disciples growing in Christ, sharing God's grace, and serving our neighbors near and far.

Our mission is to grow in Christ's love,
share Christ's love, and serve in Christ's love.

Bethany UMC



Newsletter



October 2026 Edition

bethanyberlin.org info@bethanyberlin.org 410-641-2186
Rev. Jacob T. Jackson pastor@bethanyberlin.org 443-953-4550

PASTOR'S WELCOME

Dear Bethany Family,

Not everyone walks through the doors on Sunday morning for the same reason. For some, Sunday morning is a chance to simply be refreshed. Others come because they are looking to grow deeper. They want to understand Scripture better, ask questions about their faith, grow in their relationship with God, or discover what it means to follow Jesus more faithfully in their everyday lives. Some come because they want to plant seeds of faith in the lives of their children.

And some of us come for all of the above. The truth is, church looks a little different for everyone. We come from different places, carry different experiences, and have different needs. We are at different places in our faith journeys. That is part of what makes the church such a beautiful community.

So, I want to invite you to consider a simple question this month: Why are you coming to Bethany?

There is no wrong answer. You do not need to have a profound spiritual reason. Maybe Bethany has simply become a place where you feel like you belong. Whatever your answer may be, I hope you know you belong here. I hope Bethany can be a church that helps you take whatever next step God may be calling you toward. If there is something we could be doing to better serve you or your family, if there is an area of your faith you would like to explore more deeply, or if you simply want someone to walk alongside you as you figure out what that next step might be, please talk to me.

My hope is that Bethany will continue to be a place where people can come as they are, find the grace of Jesus Christ, grow at their own pace, and discover that they do not have to walk through life or faith alone. Whatever brought you through our doors, and wherever God may be leading you next, I'm so glad you're here.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Jacob T. Jackson



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WORSHIP SERVICES

PRESSING ON TOGETHER

Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

#662 "Stand Up and Bless the Lord"; #2226 "Bind Us Together"

10/4

10/11

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

"He's got the Whole World in His Hands"; #2088 "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

PRACTICING OUR FAITH: GIVE

Matthew 22:15-22

#396 "Oh Jesus, I Have Promised"; #87 "What Gift Can We Bring?"

10/18

10/25

PRACTICING OUR FAITH: DO NO HARM

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Matthew 22:34-40

"In Christ Alone"; #384 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

GUIDELINES FOR SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

01.**Respect privacy**

If you are sharing a concern about someone else, please avoid specific personal details. It is appropriate to say, "Please pray for John, who was recently diagnosed with cancer," but not to share details about hospital visits, medical information, or family circumstances.

02.**Remember who is listening**

Our children can hear from the Sunday School room, and our worship services are livestreamed on Facebook. Please share only concerns that are appropriate for a public worship service.

03.**Keep your sharing brief**

To allow everyone an opportunity to participate, please keep your joy or concern to 30 seconds or less.

04.**Prayer requests, not announcements.**

This is a time to share joys and concerns that invite the congregation into prayer, rather than community announcements, lengthy updates, or other information better shared after the service.

05.**Keep political opinion out of prayer.**

We welcome prayers for our nation, leaders, and those affected by current events, but please avoid political commentary, debate, or partisan statements.

⁶ *Can't be with us in person?*

WORSHIP FROM HOME!

Every Sunday at 10 am

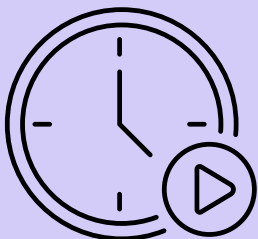


Watch Live

Watch Bethany's services live on Sunday:
Youtube: youtube.com/@bethanychurchinberlinmd4242
Facebook: facebook.com/BethanyUMCBerlin

Listen Live

Dial-in and listen to Bethany's services:
Dial-in Number: 1-(605) 313-9642
Access Code: 1350592



Watch or Listen Later

Find our sermon and full service at a later time:
Youtube: youtube.com/@bethanychurchinberlinmd4242
Podcast: "Bethany in Berlin UMC" on your desired podcast provider



HALO

Hope And Life Outreach

Since 2007, HALO Ministry has been a beacon of hope for the homeless and hungry in our community. We are committed to providing essential services, including nourishing meals, warm clothing, safe shelter, and our Journey of Hope Life Change program tailored for men, women, and mothers with children.

Our Mission

“Love ‘Em Like Jesus”

Jesus loved us unconditionally. No matter the reason a person finds themselves homeless, they are loved.

Our Core Values

- We Honor God by trusting and obeying Him.
- We are good stewards of God’s Resources.
- We value people.

Our Solutions

- Free Meals for All, Every Day
- Shelter Services for Men, Women, and Children
- Journey of Hope: an 8-10 month transformative experience designed to help our guests confront the root causes of homelessness and other life challenges
- Spiritual Development: Bible Teachings, Worship Services, One-on-One Personal Mentorship
- Resource and Respite Center: Housing Assistance, Employment Support, Showers, Mail Service, Computer Services, Referrals for Healthcare, Legal Aid, and More

United in Mission: Shared Ministry & Hub Meetings

Join **Bethany, St. Paul's, Atlantic, Stevenson, Community Church at Ocean Pines, Curtis, New Bethel, Calvary, St. John's, and Showell** as we continue to strengthen our connectional ministry across congregations.



- ✓ Combine Resources and Talents
- ✓ Build Relationships Across Congregations
- ✓ Live Out Our Shared Call to Discipleship

HUB/SHARED MINISTRY MEETING
Oct 14th at 12:00 PM
HALO SHELTER in SALISBURY, MD

Focus on service projects for
our community and shared worship
opportunities for our churches

FAMILY WORSHIP NIGHT

Dinner • Worship • Breakout Activities

Bring the whole family for a night of food, fun, and worship! Each evening begins with a shared dinner, followed by a brief worship service featuring contemporary Christian music and a short message. Afterward, kids and youth will go to age-appropriate breakout groups with games, crafts, activities, and meaningful conversation.



Friday, Oct. 23rd - 6:00 pm
Friday, Nov. 13th - 6:00 pm
Friday, Dec. 11th - 6:00 pm



Bethany UMC
8648 Stephen Decatur Hwy
Berlin, MD 21811



(410) 641-2186



bethanyberlin.org

All ages welcome!



BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S



WILD WEST BLOCK PARTY



OCT. 10TH - 11 AM TO 2 PM

8648 STEPHEN DECATUR HWY

BERLIN, MD 21811

FREE FOOD

—
LIVE MUSIC

—
BOUNCE HOUSES

—
YARD GAMES

—
ARTS AND CRAFTS

—
SNOW CONES

—
GIVEAWAYS

—
LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS
AND CHARITIES

—
SO MUCH MORE
ALL FOR FREE!



WWW.BETHANYBERLIN.ORG | INFO@BETHANYBERLIN.ORG

410-641-2186 | RAIN DATE: 10/17

SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT

More Than Answers

"Call unto me and I will show you great and unsearchable things
which you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

Have you ever encountered a time when you did not know something? I have. In fact, if I am being honest, I have found myself in that situation many times. There is a lot that I do not know.

This verse forces all of us to acknowledge that we do not know everything, but there is Someone who does. God is omniscient.

Even as Christians, we can be a bit skeptical about the omniscience of God at times. Perhaps it is because the idea pushes us out of our comfort zones and allows fear to creep into our minds. If God knows everything, then He knows what I did, thought, and believed when I was not at my best. It can also create tension when we do not understand or agree with what God is doing in our lives or allowing in the world around us.

If that is how you feel, you are not alone. The disciples experienced this frequently with Jesus during His earthly ministry. Jesus would teach something, and the disciples would often respond, "How can that be?"

Yet God does not merely know everything; He has also promised to show us things that we do not know. While this statement may also invite skepticism, Jeremiah 33:3 is not an offer of a crystal ball. It is an invitation into a relationship with Him. In fact, God spoke these words to Jeremiah during a difficult and uncertain season, reminding him that God's knowledge and purposes extend beyond what we can see.

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SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT

Psychological theories on relationships suggest that one indicator of a growing relationship is allowing another person to teach us something we do not know. This idea is called Self-Expansion Theory. It stems from the belief that people have a basic desire to grow, and that learning new things, broadening our perspectives, and having new experiences helps expand our identity in connection with another person. For us, that may mean learning to play pickleball. With God, however, the possibilities are endless. He may want to teach us how to love someone we have resisted loving, how to live with unconditional forgiveness, how to become a cheerful giver of our time, talents, and treasure, or how to have the mind of Christ in the face of life's challenges.

But how do we enter into this kind of relationship?

God says it begins with prayer: **"CALL."**

C - Create space for you and God to spend time alone together.

A - Acknowledge that you do not have all the answers and that the answers you have been giving yourself and others may not be the best ones.

L - Listen for what God is trying to show you, and

L - Learn what He is teaching without presumption or skepticism.

When we call on Him, we discover not only what we do not know, but also the God who knows us completely and loves us perfectly.

-Leesa Thomas Banks

OCT. CALENDAR

OCT 4

SUNDAY

10 AM SUNDAY
WORSHIP &
CHILDREN'S
SUNDAY SCHOOL

WORLD
COMMUNION

OCT 7

WEDNESDAY

10 AM BIBLE
STUDY

11 AM NOW
MEETING

6 PM CHURCH
CONFERENCE AT
ST. PAUL'S UMC

OCT 10

SATURDAY

11 AM TO 2 PM
COMMUNITY BLOCK
PARTY

OCT 11

SUNDAY

10 AM SUNDAY
WORSHIP

CHILDREN'S
SABBATH

SUM FRUIT
DONATIONS

OCT 14

WEDNESDAY

10 AM PRAYER GROUP

12 PM HUB MEETING AT
HALO SHELTER IN
SALISBURY, MD

6:30 PM L.I.F.T.

OCT 18

SUNDAY

10 AM SUNDAY
WORSHIP &
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY
SCHOOL

LAITY SUNDAY

OCT 21

WEDNESDAY

10 AM SPIRITUAL
PRACTICE

6:30 PM L.I.F.T.

OCT 23

FRIDAY

6 PM FAMILY
WORSHIP NIGHT

OCT 25

SUNDAY

10 AM SUNDAY
WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S
SUNDAY SCHOOL

PASTOR'S
APPRECIATION POTLUCK
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

OCT 28

WEDNESDAY

10 AM PRAYER
AND CARE TEAM

EXTENDED PRAYERS

1. Brad
2. Charlotte
3. Dee
4. Gloria
5. Joanne
6. Judy & Jeffrey
7. Kathleen
8. Wilma
9. Kevin and Linda Anderson
10. Russel Bagnall, Jr.
11. David Banks
12. 86 yr. old aunt
13. Callie Bitner
14. Melody Bennett
15. Patricia Brodsky
16. Kevin Clemence
17. Scott and Mary Collins
18. Evan Craig
19. Brantley Cropper
20. Francis Daigre
21. Yvonne DeBree
22. Dee Drescher
23. Jen Elliott
24. Shirley Findlay
25. Bette Finley
26. Richard Finley
27. Sharon Goetz
28. Keith Goshen
29. CJ Hebert
30. Joel & Nell Houston
31. Rebekah Jackson
32. Helen Maloney
33. PJ Maloney

34. Jenna Martin
35. Fox Martinez6
36. Nathan Mitchell
37. Jacob Mongelli
38. Colin Murphy
39. Lily & Joe Nicosia
40. Suzanne Nimmo
41. Jeff Pan
42. Pat Parks
43. Lori Pittek
44. Liberty Porch
45. Mason Prather
46. Mike Rogers
47. Leneve Savag
48. Ron Scherch
49. Ryan and Chrissie Spencer

50. Carson Taylor
51. Bob & Gloria Taylor
52. Cathy Tenorio
53. Norma Timmons
54. Frank & Nancy Tribuno
55. 46. Charles W.
56. Joyce Wagner
57. Jerome & Jane Wharton
58. Ken & Judy Williams
59. Kelly Wood
60. John & Linda Wyatt

LOCAL, REGIONAL & GLOBAL

1. Active duty military and veterans
2. Desire to find common ground and peace in our world
3. First Responders and Caregivers
4. Friends & members of Bethany UMC
5. God's direction for ways to help the homeless
6. Human Trafficking
7. Immigrant Crisis
8. Issues surrounding abortion
9. People who don't know Christ
10. People struggling with violence, racism, unemployment, injustice, mental health & drug issues
11. The United Methodist Church & all denominations, Lower Shore District, Pen-Del Conference
12. Troubled relationships & marriages
13. Vulnerable youth in our community
14. World Conflicts
15. World Hunger, Water Availability

BETHANY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 8 – Betty Hudson | 13 - Roz Hagner | 24 - Randolph Hudson |
| 10 – Lyn Burr | 14 - April Rosamilia | 26 – Brayden Clark |
| 10 – Kandice Ringenary | 24 – Aaiden Black | 29 – Tony Wiles |
| 10 – Rev. Bev Stang | 24 – Kay Brittingham | 31 – Pastor Jacob Jackson |