



THE BETHEL INFORMER

March 2026

Pastor Reuben Rinker

Happy Spring Bethel Family and Friends.

Wow! What a crazy winter we have had. Snow, Ice, and Sunshine. I trust each of you has thawed and is looking forward to a beautiful Spring. I have often thought that various and seemingly random weather is a lot like our lives. It can be sunny and beautiful one moment, but just hours later the temperature plummets and before we know it the winds are howling. Access to community and resources becomes limited and we hunker down to try and make it through the best we can.

In the sphere of weather, modern technology gives some allowance for prediction or at least informed possibility. I remember before the first storm hit this winter I was walking outside and it was a beautiful day. The temperature was comfortable and the sun was shining. I was chatting with a friend about how 100 years ago, people would have had very little idea and certainly no specifics as to what was about to happen. Of course, even today, what is predicted is often missed, and even just a few variables change the whole story. I really wasn't sure what the results of the storm would be, but at that point it had become fairly obvious some type of snow and ice was coming.

Most of the time the storms in life are like the weather from 100 years ago, surprising and highly unpredictable. We are unable to stock up on comfort and strength, we cannot purchase emotional generators to supply desperately needed energy, and we are completely incapable of skipping town and avoiding the storm altogether. We have little warning or ability to prepare, but the effects of the storm are similar. Our normal access to places and people that supply connection and the necessities of life may suddenly become limited. At times our condition inhibits our ability to visit the spaces of physical and spiritual food. Because of the cold and dark that at times grips our spirit it can be difficult to find the place of worship.

It is in these times that we become more reliant on others. Someone with a 4-wheel drive truck and possibly a pair of snowshoes. Someone with a less steep driveway or who didn't lose electricity. In essence someone with the capacity and resources to help bring us through. But more important even than capacity and resources is someone who has the generosity and passion to be there. Someone who will brave the cold and snow. Someone who will come down your road and knock on your door. Someone who will sit with you and then help you sprinkle salt on the icy sidewalk when you are ready to try and venture out. A Hebrews 12:12 individual.

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Scripture tells us, that just like snow and ice melt, so too, "*Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.*" [Psalms 30:5] As we look out our windows today there is no snow on the ground and no ice in the trees. The grass is beginning to green and even the teensiest of buds are beginning to form. Yet, there are still some reminders, some enduring evidence. A shovel or even generator may yet remain to be stored away. Perhaps, there limbs on the ground or even a whole tree no longer present where it once stood. So what do we do with these witnesses? Well, my best thought, at this moment, is first to talk to God, but then find someone else who is also missing a tree in their yard.

May the Great Comforter, the Lord and Giver of Life, bless you with a beautiful spring, both in your yard and in your spirit.



Pastor Reuben

Please keep these persons and their circumstances in your prayers:



Cody Cordell, Nancy Ferrell, Dean and Shirlee Graham,
Elsie Joiner, Beth and Randy Mayhew, Butch and Peggy Safrit

Nursing Homes/Retirement Centers:

Martha Doby, Judy Harrington, Dolores Richardson, Martha Surratt

Pastor Reuben would like to offer bringing personal communion to anyone who would be unable to attend communion at church. If you are interested, please let him know.



The Mission of Bethel Global Methodist Church is to:

- B**ring people together for the worship of God by
- E**ncouraging a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through
- T**eaching the Gospel message of salvation. We must
- H**ear the cry of others-both spiritual and physical
- E**stablish supportive ministries for all ages by
- L**oving and affirming all people as they grow spiritually in their faith.



Memorials Given to the General Fund

In Memory of Mike Bodenheimer

By
Maurice, Lori and Roxi Rayburn

In Memory of Shirley Tobin

By
Mary Ann Harvey
Gregory A. Hedrick
Irene King
Rev. William and Abby Sowers
Judy Tobin
Tony and Jane Fore and Dianne Fore
Ginger Cranford
Rick and Lynn Myers
Tammie Skeen
Richard and Bertie Jane Smith
Billy and Sarah Bowling
Imogene Garrett
Amy Burns
Thomas L. and Crystal H Hodges
D. L. and Lu Ann S. Thomas
Sally K. Story
Alice Ervin
Mark and Debbie Sowers
Judy and Chris Laws

Darrell Hedrick
Heather Cook
Regan Cook
Lindsay Cook
Jackson Cook

In Memory of Mama

By
Keith and Cynthia Tobin

A Memorial has been given to the Playground Fund

By
Ricky and Cindy Simpson



Methodist Men

Sunday, March 1st
7:30 a.m.
at the Family Life Center.

All men are invited to attend!



Daylight Savings Time!

**Set your clock forward 1 hour on
Saturday night, March 7th**



Seniors — 50+
Invites You To Our
Monthly Fellowship Dinner

Thursday, March 12th

**Uptown Elizabeth's
in Thomasville
4:00 p.m.**

**Meet at the church at 3:45 p.m.
to ride the church van.
Bethel Global Methodist Church**

***Good Friday Service
with Area Churches***

April 3rd - 6:00 p.m.

Bethel Global Methodist Church



On-Going Schedule



Monthly

1st Sunday
Methodist Men
7:30 a.m. @ Family Life Center

2nd Tuesday
Sisters of Hope
1:00 p.m. @ Family Life Center



Weekly

Sunday

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School in the FLC with Donna Smith
- 10:00 a.m. On-Line Sunday School Lesson with Donna Smith
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesdays

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study



(Our focus is going to be on reading through the Bible and sharing devotional insight. The intent is to give accountability and excitement to personal time in God's Word.)

- 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice



Thursday

- 6:00 p.m. Youth Meeting with Pastor Erick



Young Adults Gathering
5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March.....1st
Sunday, March..... 15th

Our Youth Need Your Help!

Dear Bethel Church Family,

We are in need of individuals, families or groups to provide meals for our youth. Sheila Myers has been asked to coordinate that. If you would be willing to provide and serve meals, please let Sheila know.

The sign-up sheet is in the foyer of the church on the bulletin board.

Thank you for your generosity and support of our Bethel Youth Group.

Youth Ministry



Youth Meetings
6:00 p.m.

March 5th
March 12th
March 19th
March 26th

March



Children's Church and Nursery



March 1st

Children's Church Lori Donovan and Kaileb Blevins
Nursery Melissa Ferguson and Irene King

March 8th

Children's Church Paige Simpson and Travis Bowman
Nursery Elizabeth Owens and Jensyn Rinker

March 15th

Children's Church Sue Tobin and Luke Bowman
Nursery Cindy Simpson and Xanthia Gray

March 22nd

Children's Church Kayla Smith and Talon Rinker
Nursery Cindy Simpson and Angelyn Rinker

March 29th

Children's Church Kallie Rinker and Emeri Ferguson
Nursery Irene King and Jesi Vargas

The children will be going on Easter Journeys throughout March. This is a five-part Bible lesson series for children that we will teach in children's church. Each session invites children to follow Jesus through the key moments of Easter — from the cheering crowds in Jerusalem, to the quiet garden of prayer, to the cross, and finally to the joy of the empty tomb. Every journey points to God's plan of salvation and leads to the greatest truth of all: **Jesus gave His life for us and is alive forever.**

To make the experience even more meaningful, each child will **receive a special Journey Map** to add stamps to mark the different stages of the Easter story.



Palm Sunday – March 29

On Palm Sunday (3/29), children are invited to bring palms in during the worship service to be placed at the base of the cross as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Please bring your children to the **drama room across from the nursery before worship** at 9:45 am to prepare for this special moment.



We can't wait to celebrate Easter together!

Sisters of Hope

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION



Upcoming Meeting
March 10th

1:00 PM



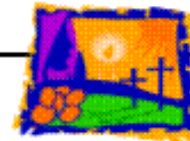
Devotions: Brenda Draughn
Refreshments: Dianne Fore

Devotions were provided by Brenda Draughn on LOVE and spending time with the Lord, scriptures included 1 John 4:11-12 and Matthew 22:36-37. A poem, "Love Today", was shared and it was about smelling, seeing and touching bits of love.

Sweet Fellowship: Cathy Hunt beautifully decorated the fellowship area and provided delicious Valentine/Love-themed refreshments. The treats were both festive and very tasty, making our time together even more special.

Community Care: Visits to shut-ins continued through February. It is with sad hearts, we share that our loving nursing home friend, Shirley Tobin, is now in the arms of our Lord (January 25th). Visits with Shirley were always a delight. She would say "come on in, and sit down" same greeting whether morning, noon or nighttime, whether she was in her room or the dining room. Next, we were invited to have a snack, "that's what it is there for", she would say. She always had a story to share and some proud things to say about her children. We laughed, shared the latest news and concerns we all had for others, prayed and talked about Jesus and church. She loved, loved her church and loved each one in her Bethel family. She was a faithful member of the UMW and contributed her time and talents, selflessly. She will be deeply missed.

Exciting News: Cathy Hunt, President, presided over the meeting and led with prayer. She suggested Sisters of Hope develop a mission statement and goals related to mission work in the coming year. Also, everyone was encouraged to consider fellowship activities such as a shopping trip and new ways to recruit members.



Easter Sunrise Service

April 5th at 7:00 a.m.

Please join us after the
Sunrise Service
in the Family Life Center
for coffee, light refreshments,
and fellowship.

(Provided by the Methodist Men)



Country Breakfast and Bake Sale

Saturday, March 14th
7:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Bethel GMC Family Life

Country Ham, Sausage, Bacon, Eggs,
Grits, Stewed Apples,
Gravy, Biscuits,
Coffee, Juice, Tea, Soft Drinks

Cost: \$12.00 (Adults)
\$6.00 (7-10 yrs.)
\$3.00 (6 and under)



Bake Sale — March 14TH 7:00 — 10:00 a.m.

We will be having a Bake Sale along with our Country Breakfast on **March 14th**. Sheila Myers is organizing the Bake Sale. We will need lots of homemade goodies to sell. Please let Sheila know if you can donate baked goods or other homemade items to sell. *Items include cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, canned jellies/jams and breads.*

Fundraiser Luncheon

11:30 — 1:00 p.m.

Immediately following
the worship service.

Sunday, March 22nd

Country Style Steak and Fixin's, Roll, Dessert and Drink



Cost:
Adults — \$10.00
Children —
6 & under \$3.00
7-10 years \$6.00



We have chicken pies and poppy seed chicken to sell.

The price of the pies are **\$ 12.00** for the chicken pies and **\$ 13.00** for the poppy seed chicken.

Please call Imogene Garrett.
(Home) 336-475-2846 or (Cell) 336-847-5228

The Sisters of Hope are selling flavoring.

Please contact **Dianne Fore** at **336-888-8557** and leave a message on her answering machine or see her at church if you would like to purchase a bottle.

Flavors

**Lemon, Vanilla,
Clear Vanilla and Almond
(Regular) — \$4.00**






MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 Allen and Jeffrey Brown
- 20 Tim and Joanna Williams

*If your birthday or anniversary
is incorrect or not listed
please call the office and
let Wanda know. 336-689-1701
Thank you!*

Email Address:
bethelthomasville@gmail.com

 Find us on Facebook at:
[Bethel GMC Thomasville](#)

The webpage has a link
to our
YouTube channel.

Check it out! *Bethel's Webpage*
<http://www.bethelthomasville.com>

Happy Birthday!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sue Tobin
- 2 Niki Kimrey
- 2 Ashley Finch Padgett
- 13 Martha Surratt
- 16 Heather Whitman Carroll
- 17 Tim Williams
- 18 Sharon Pierce
- 23 Patrick Doby
- 24 Jeremiah Walton
- 26 Nathan Walker
- 28 Debbie Kennedy
- 28 Keith Tobin
- 28 Mark Surratt
- 28 Wade Loftin



*If you need to contact our
church secretary, her hours
are as follows:*

*Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday
4:00 — 6:00 p.m.
Phone: 336-689-1701*



First day of Spring
Friday, March 20, 2026



Calendar of Up-Coming Events and Live Streaming

1	7:30 a.m.	Methodist Men
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School in the Family Life Center with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	On-Line Sunday School Lesson with Donna Smith
	5:00 p.m.	Young Adults
3	6:30 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
4	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
5	6:00 p.m.	Youth Meeting
8		Daylight Savings Time Begins
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School in the Family Life Center with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	On-Line Sunday School Lesson with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
10	1:00 p.m.	Sisters of Hope
	6:30 p.m.	Staff Pastor/Parish Relations Committee Meeting
11	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
12	4:00 p.m.	Senior Outing—Uptown Elizabeth's
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Meeting
14	7:00—10:00 a.m.	Country Breakfast and Bake Sale
15	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School in the Family Life Center with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	On-Line Sunday School Lesson with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	5:00 p.m.	Young Adults
18	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
19	6:00 p.m.	Youth Meeting
22	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School in the Family Life Center with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	On-Line Sunday School Lesson with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:30—1:00 p.m.	Fundraiser Luncheon
25	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
26	6:00 p.m.	Youth Meeting
29	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School in the Family Life Center with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	On-Line Sunday School Lesson with Donna Smith
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service (<i>Palm Sunday</i>)
	2:30—4:00 p.m.	Easter Egg Hunt



It's an eggstraordinary
event you won't
want to miss!

Easter Egg hunt

MARCH 29 2:30-4PM

**BETHEL GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
508 FISHER FERRY STREET
THOMASVILLE, NC**

Hop on over for
an afternoon of
egg-citement!

Fun
Snacks

Crafts

Egg
Dying

Easter
Story

Pictures
with the
Easter
Bunny

Games