

Bethel UMC Announcements

Advent Giving Challenge- We are collecting a special offering until December 14th for families at Byrd Elementary School. Collectively the UMM & UWF gave \$700 last month, and we hope to match or double that amount. All donations will be used to purchase gift cards, which need to be delivered to the school by December 15th. Thank you for supporting our neighbors this season.

SPRC- Will meet on December 7th after service.

Jingle Bell Bazaar- Tuesday, December 9, from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm visit the holiday marketplace benefiting Goochland Cares. The event will be held at Richmond Country Club.

Book Study- Our book study group will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall December 9th.

Christmas Pageant- Join us on Sunday, December 21st, during worship for our Christmas Pageant as the children share the story of Christ's birth.

Christmas Eve Service- Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 5:30 pm. All are invited to join us for a meaningful time of worship and celebration.

Goochland Cares- We're still collecting food to support Goochland Cares.

Goochland Cares is especially in need of shelf-stable, high-impact items such as:

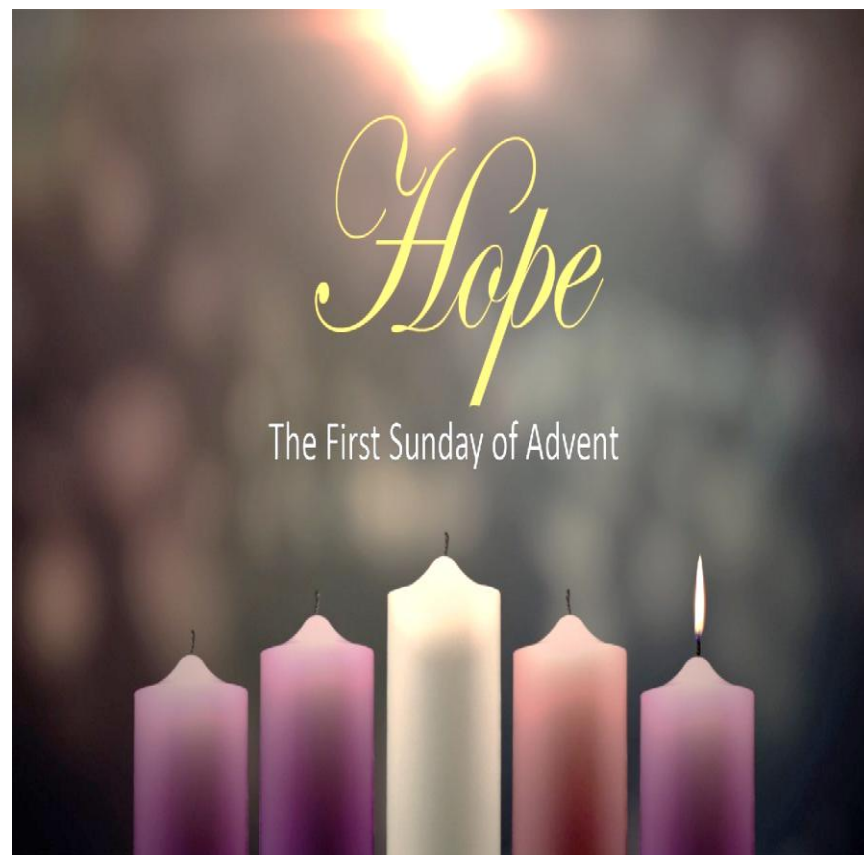
- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, Spam)
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Pasta and rice
- Canned or dry beans, canned fruits and vegetables
- Shelf-stable milk and baby formula



Welcome to Worship **Bethel United Methodist Church** **A United Methodist Faith Community** **November 30, 2025 | 11:00 am** **First Sunday of Advent**

Mission Statement:

Proclaiming God's love through Spiritual Growth, Grace, Prayer, Compassion, and Hope to All People.



Rev. Louis Berkeszi – Pastor

Teri Wootton – Admin. Asst. | Frances Lamberti – Pianist

Bethel United Methodist Church

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Order of Worship

(*Please stand as you are able)

*Processional Hymn – *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* (UMH #206)

Hymn of Praise – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (UMH #211)

*Scripture Reading Matthew 24:36-44 (*New Testament pg.26*)
Read by Berkley Pickels

Listen for the Word of the Lord

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left.

Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left.

Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect

The Word of God for the people of God

Sermon – Are We There Yet

*Affirmation – *Apostles Creed* (UMH #881)

*Hymn of Reconciliation – *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (UMH #431)

*Hymn of Dismissal – *Marching to Zion* (UMH #733)

Prayer List

Don Chambers (ICU; *Friend of Shirley Bishop*)

Sissy Clarke (VCU; *Heart Surgery on Dec. 1*)

Diane Hawk (Hospice; *Sister of Janet Toney*)

Sherry Henley (Cancer; *Friend of Joy Pickels*)

Claude Newton (Cancer; *Friend of Jo Donovan*)

Kitti Perry (Surgery; *Sister of Judi Sheppard*)

Pam Proffit (Heart Issue; *Friend of Karen Sadler*)

Scott Schabach (Sepsis; *Friend of Debbie Durie*)

Becky Smith (Heart surgery, in recovery; *sister of John Toney*)

Bonnie Toney (Health; *sister of John Toney*)

Janet and John Toney (Health)

Ernie Wootton and Family (Cancer; *husband of Teri Wootton*)

• Virginia Cancer Institute

•Peace and reconciliation for our nation.

Prayer Focus

Luke, Jennifer, Elijah, Noah, and Jonah Black

Goochland Christian Churches Association

Mizpah Christian Church

Metro Richmond at Prayer

We pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For effective, affordable, regional public transportation to support job access.

For sufficient employment to make healthy family life possible.

We continue to pray for...

Susan Bass (*Breast cancer*)

Jeff Baird (*Health*)

Jean & Frank England (*Health*)

Alex & Kyle Hayden (*Montgomery PD*)

Claire Hoag (*Spine injury*)

Alex & Kyle Hayden (*Montgomery PD*)

Ronnie Jordan (*Health*)

Diane Lloyd (*Health*)

Betty Martin (*Health*)

Brenda Morris (*Injury*)

Dario Palawan (*Cancer*)

Betsy Pond (*Health*)

Ted & Diane Peterson (*Health*)

Bonnie Swanson (*Health*)

Chic Wells (*Health*)

2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 30, 2025



The Wootton Family

Reader: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God "shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4).

All: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

Reader: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

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Call to Worship

Pastor: Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus.

All: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Pastor: We remember the signs and the times that heralded the arrival of the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.

All: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Pastor: We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the times, watching for glimpses of God's here-and-not-yet kingdom among us.

All: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Pastor: Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.

All: Come, let us worship as we journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

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