

THE Shining the Everlasting Light of Our Lord Jesus Christ Let His Light Shine in You

LIGHTHOUSE

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF BETHANY CHURCH OF WANCHESE · NORTH CAROLINA'S OUTER BANKS · JANUARY 2026

Clift-Notes

We have now begun a New Year. For my birthday I got some “new” golf balls. They are top of the line. They even have my initials on them, DSC. The promise on the box is that I would have a “new” distance on my long shots, and a “new” feel on my short shots, and they would help me have a “new” game.

With excitement I went out so I could experience my “new” game with my “new” golf balls. The weather was not great, but I didn’t care because something “new” was about to happen on the golf course. Then I made this discovery. It was still the same old David, with the same old swing, and the same old mistakes. I had “new” golf balls, but my golf game was not new.

You know where I am going with this don’t you? If I am going to get the best use out of my “new” golf balls, I am going to have to work on having a “new” game. That is the challenge of golf.

Now for the challenge of life. 2026 is here. We call it a New Year. But you know what will happen. Some people will continue to do the same old things and expect a new life, a new family, a new marriage, a new, new, new, new. But they will blame God when none of that happens. But the reason many times is because they are still living the same “old” life.

It is amazing to me that people will expect God to bless them in “new” ways when they continue on with the same “old” relationship with God. Worshipping the God they want to bless them will be a **when I feel like endeavor**. They will want God to help them through the “new” year. But reading

the Bible, which contains his recipe for living will be a **when I feel like it endeavor**. You get the point.

We want a “New” year, a wonderful year, a blessed year, a spectacular year but we will do the same “old” things. You know what they say, **“Doing the same things and expecting different results is insanity.”**

We have all begun a “New Year.” But for it to be “new” we need to do some “new” things. For example, we need to work on having new attitudes, new thoughts, new habits, and new commitments. I think 2026 has amazing possibilities. Here are some things that can help. Be in church to worship God every Sunday you are able. Worship the One you want to bless you. Get into God’s word each week. See what the God you want to help you says about how to live your life.

You understand my point. If we are to truly have a “New Year” and if the “New Year” is going to be the best it can be, then we have to work on becoming, as the Bible puts it, **“new creations, the old is gone the new has come.”**

So, my friends, I don’t wish for you a “New Year.” Wishing doesn’t accomplish anything. Instead, I pray that you will continue the work of becoming a “new creation.” Then you won’t have just new days on the calendar. You will have blessings each “new” day.

It is cold this time of year so I doubt if I will be working on having a “new” golf game. But I know I need to be working on those areas in my life that need to become “new.” See you in church where God’s people gather to worship the God who is helping us become “new.” I look forward to a “new” year, a “new” you, and a “new me.”

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Date:	Nursery Workers	Acolytes	Children's Church
January 4th	Millie Barkley/ Need a Volunteer	Becca Tawes	Jessica Davenport/Sheila Garrison
January 11th	Nancy Doak/ Need a Volunteer	Joanna Davenport	Jessica Davenport/Carol Saunders
January 18th	Stormy Heroux/ Need a Volunteer	Becca Tawes	Jessica Davenport/Millie Barkley
January 25th	Carol Saunders/Victoria Meekins	Evalynn Meekins	Jessica Davenport/Laura Mann

Monthly Schedule:

Bethany Women's Group:

Thursday, January 8, at 7:00 pm

Hosts: Becky and Liz Ann

S.A.L.T. Sisters

Monday, January 12 at 5:45 pm

Paint Party with Mrs. Mari LaRose

Bethany's Table:

Wednesday, January 14

Preparation Day 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Thursday, January 15

Meals Packaged 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Deliveries 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Methodist Men:

Thursday, January 15 at 6:30 pm

Dinner and Fellowship

Special dates:

New Year's Day, January 1

Epiphany, January 6

Baptism of the Lord, January 11

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 19

Weekly Meetings at Bethany:

Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School (Classes for All Ages)

10:30 am Worship – Sanctuary

Live Stream: Bethany YouTube and Facebook

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Crossroads Kids (Fellowship

Hall)

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm His K.R.E.W. (Youth Room)

Tuesday

9:30 am Bible Study

7:00 pm Prayer Service

Wednesday

6:30 pm Praise Team Practice

Friday

9:00 am Mc Prayer

(Darrell's Restaurant)

Preschool

Tuesday - Thursday

8:30 am - 12:00 noon

MINISTRIES AT BETHANY

Meal Train – Jennifer Hamlen 919-665-7993

Y.A.L. – Outreach to New Mothers

Sheila Garrison 804-239-5242

College Students – Sheila Garrison 804-239-5242

Web Site: www.bethanyofwanchese.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Bethany2023

Email: bethanymethodist@gmail.com

You Tube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvKaNdMcGqS95YiViFQ1ydQ/>

[5YiViFQ1ydQ/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvKaNdMcGqS95YiViFQ1ydQ/)

Preacher David S. Clift

Church 252-473-5254

Cell 843-957-5626

Email: dsclift@gmail.com

"Locally sourced" is a relatively new craze in the foodservice industry. Restaurants advertise that they serve seafood, meat, and produce from nearby vendors as a way to support the local economy and capitalize on freshness. Since Bethany's Table is always looking for free food, I can't say that when we get something local, we are boosting the area economy, but we are capturing products at the height of freshness!

God provides in the most spectacular ways. Dewey Hemilright came through again and furnished golden tile caught off our coast for December's meal. Dewey conscientiously gave the fish a final inspection for bloodline and bones. Ladd Bayliss of the north end's Island Farm donated cases of homegrown sweet potatoes. Finally, the Dare Challenge Women's Center offered collards to us. Their donation, along with collards from our own church garden, were enough to either stink up the whole church or make it smell wonderful, depending on your perspective.

Unprocessed food takes extra hours of preparation. Donna Pologruto, just in from Delaware, worked the prep day and the delivery day to take the sweet potatoes from their right-out-of-the-ground state to baking, to peeling, to serving. Vickie and Dave Nicholas worked two days as well. Sheila Garrison made homemade chocolate cupcakes using cake flour that was also donated from the Dare Challenge women.

Speaking of local vendors, I was sad to learn that Jennette Brothers of Elizabeth City is closing shop. Carter and Cully Jennette, third generation owners, have decided to retire and sell the property. Jennette's has been very good to Bethany in that they allowed us to make an order under the minimum amount and have it delivered to Darrell's Restaurant (who has also been good to Bethany). It is the end of an era. Many remember when

Jennette's was the only foodservice company that delivered to the Outer Banks.

In December, we served fried golden tile, glazed sweet potatoes, collards, a lime Jell-O salad with pears and a maraschino cherry (for Christmas!), and a berry muffin or a chocolate cupcake to 211 people at \$.97 per person with 27 adults and 4 young volunteers.



Friday is the new bread stand day! The transition seemed to be smooth for our "customers." We did get an extra load of bread during the switching over period. With approval from Preacher David, we set up a pop-up stand in front of the church on the day of the Wanchese CHRISTmas parade and community celebration. That way, people who were on their way to events could stop and pick up bread. Ken Davenport has been providing huge double-yolk eggs that he gets from a farmer friend. As you can imagine, they are very popular.



Vanessa and Hughie Basnight fried the mountain of golden tile.



- 1 - Anne Ross
- 1 - Colby Davenport
- 2 - Robert Ruhle
- Taryn 3 - Bobbi Payne
- 3 - Jewel Mavrommatis
- 5 - Tricia Tawes
- 5 - Holly Redmon
- 6 - Robin Daniels
- 6 - Nan Willis
- 8 - Darren Bay Saunders
- 9 - Benjamin Midgett
- 10 - Ryder Payne
- 10 - Connie Daniels
- 11 - Keri Simmons
- 12- Brant Honeycutt
- 13 - Chance Silvestre-Tillett
- 14 - Dionne Glover
- 16 – Sharon Whitehurst
- 18 - Landin Wells
- 18 – Aiden Coronado
- 19 - Mike Brisson
- 19 - Kenny Midgett
- 21 – Lewis Mizelle
- 22 - Crystal Gray
- 22 – Harper Griffin
- 25 - Yvonne Austin
- 27 - Melodye Callaway
- 27 - Christian Cudworth
- 30 - Jenn James
- 30 - Robert Quinn
- 30 - Misty Curles
- 30 – Nita Hepler

- 5 – Charles and Janelle Parrish
- 9 – Jonathan and Flowers
- 14 – Beach and Lara Gray
- 21 – Ken and Paula Mann
- 28 – Billy Carl and Gayle Tillett



CUDWORTH CEMETERY

Please remember your cemetery dues for mowing at the Cudworth Cemetery.

Dues are \$25.00 per lot, annually. Make your payment to: Cudworth Cemetery Fund P. O. Box 100 Wanchese, NC 27981.

If you don't remember if you paid this past summer for mowing, check with Connie 252-473-0989.



TITHES

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER We need \$5,932.61 weekly.

In November, we needed \$29,663.05 and our offerings were \$20,277.00. In December, we needed \$23,730.44. As of December 22, our offerings have been \$21,210.00.



Bethany Methodist Men Meeting

On January 15, the Bethany men will meet (the third

Thursday of each month). We will share the meeting with Dare Challenge participants.

We will have a dinner starting at 6:30, a devotion, and continue the video series "Everything You Need" with David Jeremiah. Our ultimate goal is growing the Methodist Men fellowship which will also include involving young men.

I encourage you to join us to learn and grow in our faith in Jesus.

Larry Franklin
Bethany Methodist Men's Leader



Next dates/themes for the College Boxes:

All packing will begin following Tuesday morning Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

- Tuesday, February 3 @ 11 am (Valentine's Day)
- Tuesday, March 24 @ 11 am (Easter)
- Tuesday, April 28 @ 11 am (Exams/end of term)

"You can accomplish more in one hour with God than in a lifetime without him."
—Author unknown

PACKING COLLEGE BOXES

Tuesday, December 2



Thank You Note

Dear Bethany
Methodist Church,

My name is Bella
Jernigan and I have

been graciously receiving the care packages that you all have made. I wanted to reach out and personally thank y'all, as I look forward to whenever my grandparents tell me that I should be expecting one soon. They always make my day, and my friends love stealing a few of the delicious treats included. It truly puts a smile on my face and there is no way I could thank you all enough.

Best,
Bella Jernigan



MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, January 25

We will invite family members who have lost a loved one this year to be our guests. There will be a candle for each loved one who passed away between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.



Bethany's float in the Wanchese CHRISTmas parade.



**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
VOLUNTEERING WITH CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES PLEASE CONTACT
JESSICA DAVENPORT, (252)256-4275**



PHONE NUMBER

If you have changed your phone from a house number to a cell number, please let us know so we can update our records.

You can drop a note in the offering plate with your name and phone number or email mannfarmyard@embarqmail.com.

JANUARY 2026

Christ is here to lead us into a brand new year...

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1 	2 9:00 McPrayer	3
4 4:30 – 6:30 Crossroads Kids His K.R.E.W.	5	6 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Prayer Service	7 6:30 Praise Team Practice	8 8:30 - 10:00 Pastors' Prayer Breakfast 7:00 Bethany's Women Hosts: Becky and Liz Ann	9 9:00 McPrayer	10 2:00 – 4:00 Administrative Leadership Team Meeting
11 4:30 – 6:30 Crossroads Kids His K.R.E.W.	12 5:45 S.A.L.T. Sisters Paint Party	13 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Prayer Service	14 1:00 – 3:00 Bethany's Table Preparation Day 6:30 Praise Team Practice	15 Bethany's Table 3:00 – 4:00 Meals Packaged 4:00 – 5:30 Deliveries 6:00 Methodist Men Dinner & Fellowship	16 9:00 McPrayer	17 6:30 Host Emmaus
18 4:30 – 6:30 Crossroads Kids His K.R.E.W.	19 	20 4:00 Feeding Manteo High School Basketball Team 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Prayer Service	21 6:30 Praise Team Practice	22 5:45 – 8:00 Administrative Leadership Team Dinner & Meeting	23 Newsletter Articles Due 9:00 McPrayer	24 4:00 – 7:00 Preschool Fundraiser
25 Memorial Service 4:30 – 6:30 Crossroads Kids His K.R.E.W.	26	27 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Prayer Service	28 6:30 Praise Team Practice	29	30 9:00 McPrayer	31

Our Prayer List.. *In Your Mercies Lord. Hear our Prayers*

NEW PRAYER CONCERNS

Donald Adams	Rusty Hardee
Marilyn Burrus	Clint Hepler
Tedrick Dough	Linda O'Neal
	Allyson Snapp



Logan Bonner	Unspoken
Elizabeth Chabay	Unsaved
Jason Galloway	Caregivers
Kyle Gaskill, Jr.	Haiti
Darren Gibbs	Our Nation and Leaders
Dylon Griffin	People in Nursing Homes
Vova Lebediev	The Peace of Israel
Colby Moore	Those in Prison
John Snider	Ukraine
Jonson Utz	

ONGOING PRAYERS

Roy and Sharon Ambrose	Susan Johnson
DeLana Barkley	Vova Lebediev
Wayne Barnett	Brandy Mann
Ethan Basnight	Dewey Mann
Tyisha Basnight	Linda Mann
Walter Baum	Denise Mariner
Freddie Blackmon	Sammy Mariner
G. G. Bonner	Karen Martin
Nathan Boone	Donna Medeiros
Glenn Bradley	Babs Meekins
Jimmy Bulfin	R. S. Meekins
Eric Craddock	Paul Midgett
Santa Daniels	Tom and Connie Miss
Joe Doak	Mamie Morrill
Linda Dunn	Bill Parker
Kathy Elks	Sharon Ralph
Jordan Ford	Ginger Reber
Razph Sparks	Gail Shelton
Lois Gallop	Robin Smith
Dawn Gerakaris	Colin Tibbs
Siobhan Hall	Carrol Tillett
Kristine Hamilton	Gayle Tillett
Ruth Hayes	Tim Whitehurst
Ted Hemilright	Debbie Williams
	Joe Willis



LOST LOVED ONES

Family of Ed Dunlevy	Family of William "Bubba" Gallop
Family of Terry Gray	Family of Marcie Haywood
Family of Evara Helrus	Family of Paul Kael
Family of Terry Saunders	Family of Bobby Tolson



MISSION TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

By Craig Parker

We live in such an awesome community!

“Just ask and you shall receive” the Bible tells us in Matthew 7:7.

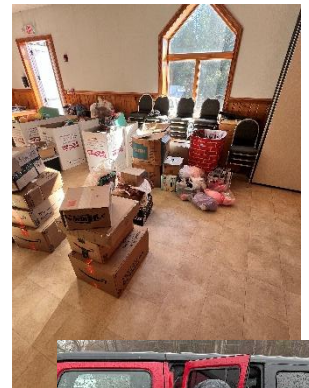
We had eight families ask for help this year. We asked the church and the community for help with Christmas for children from another community that none of us know. The call went out and it was answered.

We had individuals who sent cash to give to the families and in each case, they said the gifts were enough. We told them that there were people who wanted them to have money for other needs. One mother said her boy’s father had died this year. Another family was grandparents who had two of their grandsons to raise. The grandmother is confined to a wheelchair with MS and the grandfather recently found out he has cancer. It’s stories like this that we hear every time we come here, just people in need!

After our trip here last January, we told about a couple living at the top of a mountain. The man has dementia and the wife is afraid to leave him to even go to the store. They have no family and only a few friends. Well, in January we were asked to go help find a drain under their long gravel/dirt road/driveway going up to the house. Come to find out, the lady’s brother had lived in Wanchese at one time, and I had worked with him. When we went to their home she recognized Chetty from the store in Wanchese. The lady is the great aunt of Kate Smith who is part of our church. Well today, a lady who is a nurse out-of-work said she had to hurry and get back to a job she found taking care of an elderly couple. We figured out that it was Kate’s great-aunt again. And here we were in a totally different town.

We had another trailer load to go to WNC, not just Christmas gifts but also toys for a community block party and other items that we collected and had been holding onto. We’ve finally been able to empty our house of all of the collected stuff from the community.

The people here say to tell everyone at home how much it means to have people that don’t even know them to care enough to help them with Christmas for their children. They said God bless you all and they hope y’all have a Merry Christmas!



BETHANY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS



DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH OF BETHANY CHURCH HAD FUN CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS. WE READ THE WONDERFUL STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS, AND STUDIED ISAIAH 9:6. CROSSROADS KIDS ENJOYED A PARTY TOGETHER DECORATING COOKIES, EATING DINNER, AND PLAYING MANY GAMES. HIS K.R.E.W YOUTH ENJOYED AN EVENING AT THE OUTER BANKS BOWLING CENTER WITH MANY OTHER DARE COUNTY YOUTH GROUPS. IT WAS A WONDERFUL TIME HAD BY ALL AS WE BOWLED, ENJOYED GOOD FOOD, HAD MANY LAUGHS, AND WORSHIPED TOGETHER.



Bethany Children's Ministry January Calendar

Sunday, January 4th: 9:30AM Sunday School; 10:30AM Children's Church and Nursery; 4:30-6:30 PM Crossroads Kids & His KREW Youth Meetings
Sunday, January 11th: 9:30AM Sunday School; 10:30AM Children's Church and Nursery; 4:30-6:30 PM Crossroads Kids & His KREW Youth Meetings
Sunday, January 18th: 9:30AM Sunday School; 10:30AM Children's Church and Nursery; 4:30-6:30 PM Crossroads Kids & His KREW Youth Meetings
Sunday, January 25th : 9:30AM Sunday School; 10:30AM Children's Church and Nursery; 4:30-6:30 PM Crossroads Kids & His KREW Youth Meetings

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR UP TO DATE EVENTS (BETHANY CHURCH OF WANCHESE)

Crossroads Kids = Open to children ages 3 - 10. **His K.R.E.W. Youth** = Open to Youth age 11 and up.

BETHANY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS



BETHANY CHURCH CROSSROADS KIDS

We will meet every Sunday in January from 4:30-6:30 PM in the Church Fellowship Hall. During our time together we will enjoy dinner, games, crafts, and a lesson.

Crossroads Kids (Faith+Fun+Friends)

Open to children ages 3 - 10.

BETHANY CHURCH HIS K.R.E.W YOUTH MEETINGS

WHEN: EVERY SUNDAY ~ 4:30PM - 6:30 PM

WHERE: IN THE BETHANY YOUTH CENTER

THIS GROUP WILL MEET WEEKLY TO ENJOY DINNER, GAMES, AND FELLOWSHIP. HIS K.R.E.W IS OPEN TO CHILDREN AGE 11 AND UP.

PRESCHOOL SCOOP



During the month of December, our preschoolers stayed busy learning and growing in so many fun ways! We practiced writing the letters I, J, and K and reviewed our numbers 1-10. We also learned about the star shape and the color red through hands-on activities and play. Throughout the month, our lessons focused on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus. The children enjoyed learning about the Nativity scene, hearing the story of Jesus' birth. December was a joyful month filled with learning, laughter, and reminders of why we celebrate Christmas.



Children are a gift from the Lord.
They are a reward from Him.
- Psalm 127:3

Important Dates:

- January 8th: Show N Tell
- January 14th: Colton's Birthday
- January 15th: Cash's Birthday
- January 24th: Preschool Fundraiser
- January 31st: Ariel's Birthday

Please be sure to check out our bulletin board for more information about upcoming activities

We celebrated with a joyful Christmas party, enjoyed a special visit from Santa, and had a cozy pajama day at school. The children also loved decorating Christmas cookies, showing their creativity while making sweet treats together. These activities made December extra special and gave our preschoolers wonderful opportunities to celebrate the season with friends.



We also enjoyed a special show and tell during December, where the children brought in their favorite Christmas ornaments to share with the class. Each child loved telling their friends why their ornament was special, and it was a wonderful opportunity to practice speaking, listening, and sharing. We also celebrated Ella's birthday and Mrs. Emma's birthday!



Dear Bethany Church Family,

As my family and I conclude our time in Wanchese and I step away from the role as Co-Chair of the Administrative Team at the end of the year, I want to express my sincere thanks for the years we have shared. We have purchased our first home in Currituck and began attending church at Jarvisburg Church of Christ. Leaving Bethany, a place that has shaped our lives in profound ways, brings both sadness and gratitude.

I still remember arriving here in 2020 during the first three months of becoming a born-again Christian. My very first Sunday in Dare County was spent being welcomed by the people of Bethany. Fortunately, I had a fresh haircut from Mrs. Becky, which helped me feel presentable. I came as a single father with a four-year-old son, seeking stability and a place for us to grow spiritually. In the years that followed, the Holy Spirit renewed me. I met my wonderful wife, Rylee, and together our family continued to grow and settle into the life God built for us. Today our home is full, and we have been blessed with another amazing little boy. Bethany has been a cornerstone of that journey, providing support during difficult times, community when we needed it most, and encouragement in every season.

I am happy with the work I could contribute to since being asked to serve in leadership. At the time, the idea of consolidating from multiple boards into one Administrative Team was a bit of a daunting task, but over time it has improved our transparency, approachability, and efficiency. We walked through a new denominational affiliation with great unity as a church. Our team has addressed obstacles with prayer and a clear sense of purpose, strengthening the foundation and character of this church. Among our most significant accomplishments, we invested in

raising leaders to carry the Gospel forward, whether through supporting an expanded youth program, or sending our congregation's support to Western North Carolina, Haiti, Ecuador, Ukraine, or down the street with Pastor Susie at the Piggly Wiggly. We defined fair and equitable hiring processes and provided realistic job descriptions that were unanimously agreed upon. We improved administrative processes, made progress to modernize the sanctuary, and extended our reach to young families. We did all of this while balancing fiscal responsibility and generous giving, faithfully stewarding the resources entrusted to us. We accomplished all these things because we kept the Gospel at the center of all we set out to do. These achievements reflect the dedication and faith of this congregation and will continue to bless Bethany in the years ahead.

I want to encourage each of you to continue doing what you once did for me. I came to Bethany poor in spirit, hungry and thirsty for righteousness, and God used the faces in this congregation to show me his mercy. Look for those who are willing to learn and serve, support them, and give them room to grow. Thank you for your trust, support, and the many moments of kindness that made our time here so meaningful. Equipping others is one of the greatest strengths of this church, and doing so will continue to bear great fruit.

After years of spiritual renewal, my family and I now leave for our next chapter filled with great peace. Thank you for allowing me to worship the Lord and serve him beside you.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19–20

Much love,

Isaac, Rylee, Ezekiel, and Peter Simonsen

CHRISTMAS PROJECTS TO HELP OTHERS

ROOM IN THE INN



Thank you to everyone who donated items for wrapping presents. We donated the following list of items to the Angel

Gift Program that the Outer Banks Women's Club sponsors for the families to be able to wrap their children's gifts.

Wrapping paper – 15 rolls and 3 sheets
Boxes – 4 packages
Gift Bags – 26
Tags – 4 packages
Tape – 3 rolls



LUNCH AT LONE CEDAR

We sold a total of 702 plates. We brought in \$10,873.78. This money was split in

half, and we sent \$5,436.89 to the Outer Banks Community Foundation for the Marc Basnight Scholarship Fund. The remaining balance of \$5,436.89 was for Bethany's Building Fund.



The Bethany Church Family would like to thank Vicki and Caroline Basnight, and the Lone Cedar

staff for hosting and providing food for our annual fundraiser held in memory of Lessie Tillett and Marc and Sandy Basnight. We would like to thank Joby Beasley for donating the shrimp for the lunch.

Also, thank you to everyone who sold or purchased tickets, volunteered at the event, and everyone who made a dessert for the bake sale. We made \$1,002.00 just on the bake sale.

This sixth year of Bethany's participation in the Room in the Inn ministry has been wonderfully different from the previous years. Sheila Garrison took the helm as organizer and broadened the reach of volunteers.

The mission of the OBX Room in the Inn is to provide hospitality, food, and shelter to homeless adults on the Outer Banks during the winter months and support services year-round. Each church that signs on for a week of service is asked to provide grab-and-go breakfast and lunch items as well as household supplies for seven days. A hot meal each night is also requested.

Sheila recruited her Peninsula Drive neighbors to provide a Mexican themed meal one night. For another evening, they donated money to hire the Dare Challenge Women's Center catering crew to prepare chicken potpie and the fixings. Charlie Durr facilitated a traditionally favorite meal of the guests when he caught and cleaned enough sea mullet for a feast. Other evenings, main dishes that were served included meatloaf, ham, barbecue, and hambone soup.

Another unique aspect of this year was that Bethany partnered with Clarks Bethel Methodist Church of Salvo to prepare food one night. Rene Midgett, Polly Moffatt, and Sharon Matthews came to Bethany to work alongside Nancy Gray in the kitchen. They breaded and fried fish and made cole slaw, hash brown casserole, hush puppies, and peanut butter cookies. It was so fun to work together, and plans are in the works to do it again next year.



Rene, Nancy, Sharon, and Polly united to prepare a meal on a December evening. Bethany was responsible for the week of November 30 through December 6.

PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER

UPCOMING EVENTS

*SALT Sisters invites you
to an evening of food, fun
and fellowship.*

January 12, 2026 | 5:45pm
Bethany Church

Evening Includes:

- Guided step-by-step painting session with Mrs. Mari LaRose
- \$25 sign up fee

***•Finger foods will
be provided.***

RSVP to 252-216-9869

Saturday, January 24, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Wanchese Community Building
Menu: Stewed Chicken and Pastry
Candied Yams and Green Beans

Cost: Donation

Bake Sale

Silent Auction: Bidding 4:00 – 6:00

Music: 5:00 – 7:00

We need to gather silent auction items. If you can help by going and asking for items, or if you would like to donate items, please contact Denise Mann 252-216-6373
email mannfarmyard@embarqmail.com

We need to know which businesses are being asked so we are not asking them numerous times by different people. Also, there are forms I need to give you.

If you want to cover a whole area, we have a suggested list.

We will also need people to stew chicken. You will need to pick the chicken off the bone and save the broth. If you would like to help with this, let Becky Forrest, Preschool Teacher know (252-423-8693).

In January we will have a sign-up sheet for helping. We will also need bake sale items.



SCRIPTURE KEYS TO A JOYFUL NEW YEAR

- H**old fast to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)
 - A**ssemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)
 - P**ray earnestly every day (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18)
 - P**ray for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)
 - Y**ield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

 - N**eglect not your talents and opportunities (Galatians 6:10)
 - E**xamine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)
 - W**ork diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

 - Y**ield your members to righteousness (Romans 6:11,16)
 - E**xercise yourself in godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)
 - A**im at sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)
 - R**edeem the time (Ephesians 5:15, 16)
- Gus Nichols



Anybody hear about Angels during the Christmas season? Well, our church is blessed with many angels. Some work in the background and you never see or hear from them. Some perform with their hands and feet, some work in unknown ways to the average church member. This past month, as you may well know, we suffered the loss of heat in the church sanctuary. So much so, that we had to rearrange our worship area and postpone some of the special events that would have been held in the sanctuary. This is where some of the angels came together and provided special above and beyond financial means that helped us to pay for our new heating/air conditioning system without having to get a bank loan. On the day of the arrival of the new unit, a large crane was needed urgently to remove the existing unit and set a new unit in place. Thanks to the “angels” of Mannkaniks. They provided personnel and equipment to perform the lifting and placement of the new unit. Thanks to Rex, Ken, and Laura Beth. They came in on the split moment and fixed us up! This is not a commercial or endorsement, but if you need some automotive repairs, remember Mannkaniks for your service needs. Of course, I hope you participate with all of our church members who own their own businesses. It just makes “good sense.” We do have some needs for structural repairs to some of our church buildings. We are in the process of getting an estimate and hope we will be back at work keeping “the Lord’s House” in tip top shape. Thanks for all your support.

Dave Whitehurst



If you would like to donate to the building fund, you can make check to Bethany Church of Wanchese and put Building Fund in the memo line.

Mailing address: Bethany Church of Wanchese
P.O. Box 239
Wanchese, NC 27981

You can donate using our online link.

For the fund do Building Fund.

<https://onrealm.org/BethanyChurchWa/give/now>

PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

Thomas Dorsey, a jazz musician from Atlanta, made a bold decision in 1926 to leave behind secular music and devote his talent to writing songs for the Lord. But following that call wasn’t easy. During the Great Depression, many church leaders criticized his soulful gospel style, calling it “the devil’s music.” Dorsey later joked, “I got kicked out of some of the best churches in the land.”

Then, in 1932, tragedy struck. While in St. Louis for a revival, he received a telegram that his wife had died suddenly during childbirth. His faith was shaken to the core, and grief nearly silenced him. Yet in his deepest sorrow, Dorsey turned back to what he knew best — music. Out of that heartbreak came one of the most beloved hymns of all time:

“Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand.
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn...”

Dorsey’s song reminds us that even in our valleys, God is near — guiding us, strengthening us, and using our pain to comfort others who walk the same road.

PROJECT GLAM GIRLS

FREE PROM ATTIRE AND ACCESSORIES

Choose from over 300 new & gently used dresses, shoes, purses & accessories. Menswear also available. Save your money, we've got you covered! We have a great selection, you won't be disappointed!

EVENT DATE

FEBRUARY 19 - 21

Thursday - 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday - 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCATION

**Bethany Church
of Wanchese**

101 Old Wharf Rd.,
Wanchese

Interested in donating your dress, shoes, or accessories from last year?

Go to our facebook page for dropoff locations.

He saw the value of education: The W. R. Davis Scholarship and Educational Funds

By Nancy Beach Gray
(A press release from the Outer Banks Community
Foundation)

Outer Bankers love to tell a good story. The mention of Walter R. Davis's name can spark the telling of tales that seem too tall to be true. Davis said that even he considered his life beyond belief. He was an extremely wealthy man whose generous acts were both finely scripted and wildly spontaneous. Although he died in 2008, his name and philanthropic spirit will live on in perpetuity through the Outer Banks Community Foundation.

Davis established an educational fund at Bethany Church of Wanchese in 2000. The scholarship was unique in that not only did it offer awards for students bound for college, but it also provided funds for helping children at all levels in their education. Many students benefitted from the scholarship, but after years of dormancy, Bethany Church pursued putting the fund's capital under the management of the Outer Banks Community Foundation. In keeping with the spirit in which it was created, there will be two aspects of the fund. The *W. R. Davis Scholarship Fund* will award traditional college scholarships, and the *W.R. Davis Educational Fund* will support students in lower grades by financing everything from field trips to needed supplies.

Walter Davis was a friend of the Basnight family in Dare County for decades, and they carry forth his legacy even now. Entrepreneur and OBCF Board of Directors member Michael Basnight remembered that Davis did not finish high school, but he saw the value of education for others. Basnight said, "He was a man who was always impacting and improving lives. Yes, he was tough, pushy, a risk taker, a decision maker, but he had a compassionate heart and didn't seek the spotlight for himself." Retired educator Bea Basnight recalled that Davis lobbied for a new elementary school building, bought spelling books and a year's worth of ice cream for the entire fifth grade, sent a boy with Down syndrome to camp every summer, brought comedian Bill Cosby to Manteo to

entertain school children, and purchased three school activity buses. And that was just a drop in the bucket.

Davis bestowed hundreds of thousands upon UNC Chapel Hill, NC State, Duke, Elizabeth City State, and Roanoke Bible College. He did not limit his educational giving to institutions. It is said that he financed more than 1300 college students, although he did not keep a paper trail and many scholarships were given as cash on the spot when an everyday worker shared a dream of going to college. Former UNC system president William Friday said, "When it came to making an impact, his investment in the lives of young people to give them a chance in the world was by far his most significant contribution."

Born and raised in Elizabeth City, Davis hitchhiked down to Midland, Texas, in a pair of shoes given to him by a pool shark. There, he made his fortune in the oil business at the same time his new friend and neighbor George H. Bush did. He eventually returned to North Carolina where his wielded political influence, albeit under the radar. He had the Midas touch, but said later in life, "I have often wished I had the courage to stop making money and become educated. I've thought about that many times, I just didn't think I had the groundwork to switch." His fascinating life would make a great book. In fact, it did. *The Walter Davis Story, One Man Who Made a Difference* is an unbelievable tale that is quite true.

"We're deeply grateful to Bethany Church of Wanchese—and to Mr. Davis—for giving the Community Foundation the opportunity to continue this remarkable legacy," said Michael Basnight. Thanks to these new funds, generations to come will benefit from Davis's generous spirit.



The logo for iBelieve.com, featuring the word "iBelieve" in a purple, cursive font and ".com" in a smaller, purple, sans-serif font.

31-Day Scripture Writing Challenge

The word "January" written in a large, white, cursive font against a background of a night sky with fireworks.

God speaks to us through His Word, so take some time each day this month to write down the following Scripture. If you have time, you might want to also write a prayer that the Scripture leads you to pray, or your reflections as you write.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 1 | Revelation 21:5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 17 | Psalms 46:1-3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 2 | Isaiah 65:17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 18 | Isaiah 26:3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 3 | Psalms 33:3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 19 | Habakkuk 3:19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 4 | Colossians 3:9-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 20 | Psalms 119:114 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 5 | Lam. 3:22-23 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 21 | Proverbs 18:10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 6 | Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 22 | Psalms 29:11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 7 | Ezekiel 11:19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 23 | Philippians 4:13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 8 | Romans 6:6-7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 24 | Isaiah 40:29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 9 | 2 Corinthians 5:17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 25 | Ephesians 3:16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 10 | Isaiah 42:9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 26 | Psalms 34:8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 11 | Ephesians 4:22-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 27 | Joshua 10:25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 12 | Psalms 40:3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 28 | Philippians 3:10-11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 13 | Isaiah 43:19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 29 | Zechariah 4:6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 14 | Deut. 31:6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 30 | Exodus 15:2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 15 | Jeremiah 29:11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 31 | Romans 8:31 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 16 | Isaiah 41:10 | | |

Come back next month for a new Scripture writing challenge!

PUZZLE

TRANSLATE GOD'S WORD

The Bible we use is translated into English from other languages.
"Translate" the verse below using the code.

CODE	E=△	L=□	R=+
A=■	G=●	M=↗	S=■
B=X	H=◀	N=⌈	SH=☼
D=◀◀	I=▲	O=⊗	T=♫
	K=	P=□	TH=♥

Y
 W F
 W
 W
 U

Proverbs 3:13

Answer: Happy is the one who finds wisdom and the one who gets understanding.

- C. Season
- D. Covenant

Answer: (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV)

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from 2 Corinthians: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new _____. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

- A. Creation
- B. Beginning



Snowflake SNACK CAKES

Celebrate the beauty of winter with these fun snowflake-inspired treats!

What you need:

- Graham cracker squares or sugar cookies
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Pretzel sticks (snowflake arms)
- Shredded coconut or white sprinkles
- Mini marshmallows or candy pearls

What you do:

1. Frost each cracker or cookie.
2. Arrange pretzel sticks in a crisscross for the snowflake base.
3. Sprinkle with coconut or sprinkles for snow.
4. Add marshmallows or candy pearls to the ends for detail.

Lesson tie-in:
Remind kids that God made each of us unique—just like no two snowflakes are alike! (Psalm 139:14, KJV)

Puzzle!

In the New Testament, followers of Christ are called by many names. Use the hints to fill in the blanks. Need help? Check an NIV Bible for the missing letters.

D _____ s
(Acts 6:7)



C _____ n P _____ e
(1 Peter 2:9)



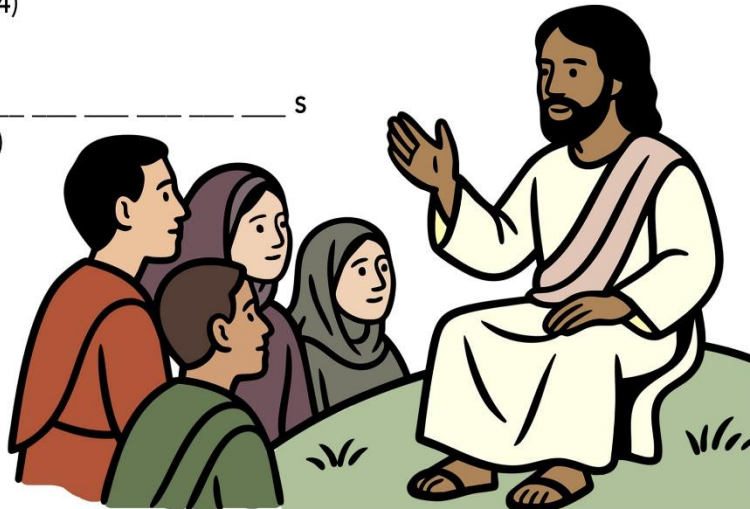
S _____ s of C _____ t
(1 Corinthians 4:1)

C _____ s
(Acts 11: 26)

B _____ s and S _____ s
(1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)

B _____ s
(Acts 5:14)

W _____ s
(Acts 1:8)

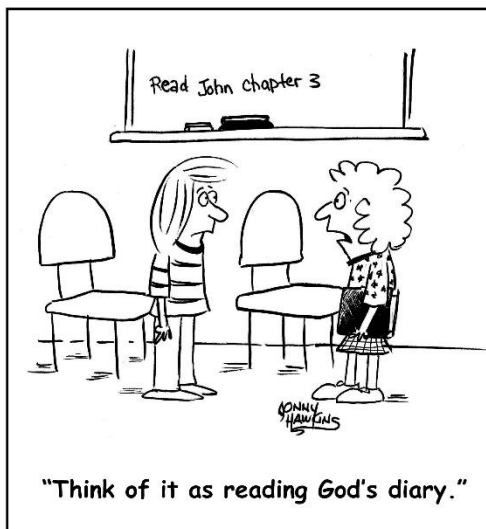
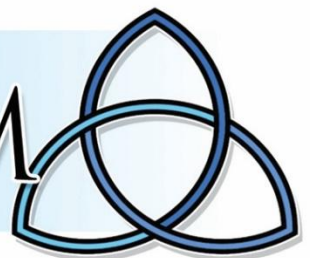


Answers: Disciples; Chosen People; Servants of Christ; Christians; Brothers and Sisters; Believers; Witnesses

Return Service Requested



HUMOR & WISDOM



FAITH IN ACTION

A Christian is someone who makes it easier for others to believe in God — not through perfection, but through kindness, grace and love in everyday life. When people see Christ's compassion in us, they're drawn closer to Him.