

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

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF BETHANY CHURCH OF WANCHESE • NORTH CAROLINA'S OUTER BANKS • OCTOBER 2026

How Can I Say Thanks?

“Good-bye, Adios,” “Arrivederci,” “Until We Meet Again.” Many ways to bid farewell. None of them express how I feel. I have a feeling of gratitude for the time I have spent as “Preacher David.” I want to thank everyone who encouraged me, prayed for me, cheered me on, and opened the door of their lives to me.

I want to thank those who were a part of my “Help Me Think Team.” Your listening ear and wise council meant a great deal to me. I want to thank the church for the opportunity to listen to my “favorite preacher” every Sunday. Standing before you and hoping to say something that might help you, inspire you, comfort you, challenge you, and make a little difference in your spiritual journey has been an honor.

I want to thank everyone who laughed at my jokes. I hope you saw that each one was done on purpose for a purpose. Laughter is good medicine. It is fun being “saved.” Being a “Clown for Jesus” is the privilege of my life.

Teddy, my dog, loved patrolling the “back forty” of the church. I think he felt it was his territory to investigate and guard. He will miss playing with the preschool children. He had a wonderful time at Vacation Bible School.

I have no idea what my life will be like now. I am trusting God to help me “plot” the course on this next part of my voyage. Teddy is a good listener, but it is not the same as seeing your faces. Faces that I have grown to care for and will miss.

I will certainly miss the faces of the children who came forward on Sundays. They are such a

wonderful group. Full of energy and smiles. I finally figured out how to get them to **not** put the money in the church first. I just blocked it. You can “teach an old dog new tricks.”

I apologize that I am not able to finish the course that I plotted out when I began on that last Sunday in November of 2025. So much I wanted to do. On that first Sunday I saw amazing possibilities for Bethany Church. I still see those possibilities. With your help, with the guidance of a wonderful Leadership Team, and the gifts of your new pastor great things can happen. God will be faithful. I know you will be faithful to the challenges that lie ahead.

I will do everything I can to help prepare the way for the new shepherd of the Bethany flock. Begin now to pray for whoever that might be. Make a commitment to walk beside that person into whatever God would like to see happen at Bethany Church.

How do I end my last newsletter article? Let me try this. Some day when you are out and about and you see a short gray-haired man who still doesn't think he puts off a “grandpa vibe,” smile and think of me. Thanks for the memories. They will now become “precious memories” in the story of my life.

In His Service

David



October 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



Monthly Schedule:

Bethany Women's Group:

Thursday, October 1, at 7:00 pm

Hosts: Becky and Tricia

Bethany's Table:

Wednesday, October 7

Preparation Day 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Thursday, October 8

Meals Packaged 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Deliveries 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Methodist Men:

Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 pm

Will be hosting the Men's Fellowship Group

Special dates:

Pastor Appreciation Month

World Communion Sunday, *October 4*

Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday, *October 11*

Columbus Day, *October 12*

Indigenous Peoples Day, *October 12*

Canadian Thanksgiving, *October 12*

Reformation Sunday, *October 25*

Reformation Day, *October 31*

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

Tuesday

9:30 am Bible Study

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

College Students – Sheila Garrison 804-239-5242

Web Site: www.bethany of wanchese.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Bethany2023

Email: bethanymethodist@gmail.com

You Tube:

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

Preacher David S. Clift

Church 252-473-5254

Cell 843-957-5626

Email: dsclift@gmail.com

(Preacher David will be leaving on October 11)

A sign on the front of our parking lot Blessing Box reads, "Take what you need. Give what you can." It's wonderful to see the volume of food and products that flows in and out of that cabinet-sized receptacle. Ready-to-eat foods are taken most quickly because people with limited resources don't usually prepare traditional meals. As a result, donated dried beans linger in the box. When I removed one bag to save for Bethany's Table, another one would appear! Even our Blessing Box can be a source of food for Bethany's Table.

Another source of food is found when church events are in sync. Surplus desserts and bread from a recent funeral rolled right into our menu. Now if we could just schedule fundraiser dinners right before Bethany's Table, we'd really be in high cotton.

Dorita Ballance gave us a whole case of her famous home-canned figs. The *Outer Banks Cookbook* came off the shelf to look up the Ocracoke Fig Cake recipe. It turned out better than expected, and reminded many of us of gingerbread.

Island Farm came through with another donation of locally grown Irish potatoes. They soaked in the sink to remove the dirt, and in that sink they multiplied as the volunteers struggled to finish the job. God still stretches food like Jesus did with the loaves and fishes.

A grocery sale paper advertised brats on sale for Labor Day, buy-one-get-one-free. We were also given some coupons to get \$5.00 off when you spend \$75.00 at Food Lion. There was a whole lot of ciphering and finagling going on at the self check-out that day. The attendant was scrutinizing my every move.

Delivery day turned into married couples day. Joining our usual teams of Toni and Larry Franklin

and Lynn and Bill Wilson were Stella and Chuck Hollingsworth and Donna and Larry Pologruto. They are the ultimate lifetime teams.

In September, we served a bratwurst sausage, buttery potatoes, black bean salad, a roll, and a variety of desserts to 179 people at \$1.55 per person with 22 adult and 3 young volunteers.



Donna and Larry Pologruto got back from Delaware just in time for Bethany's Table.



Stella and Chuck Hollingsworth prepare to be a blessing to their neighbors.



Colorful black bean salad is coming together as Dave Nicholas arranges brats on cooking trays.



3 - David Tawes
 4 - Toni Franklin
 5 - Thatcher Tillett
 5 - Melissa Dickerson
 5 - Victoria Meekins
 5 - Leslie Cahoon
 7 - Bryan Defosse
 7 - Ginger Oxnard
 7 - Bonny Bonner
 7 - Ansley Casey
 7 - Charlie Midgett
 7 - Edward "Eb" Meekins
 8 - Harold Bundy
 9 - Buddy Callaway
 9 - Bryson Casey
 9 - Owen Meekins
 9 - Logan Simpson
 11 - Dana Tillett
 14 - Annie Etheridge
 14 - Luke Meekins
 14 - Peter Simonsen
 15 - Lynn Fidanzato
 15 - Johnny Midgett
 15 - Ken Davenport
 16 - Bailey Dickerson
 16 - Larry Gutshall
 19 - Randy O'Neal
 19 - Danny Quidley
 19 - Leigh Ann Smith
 21 - Tom Gesse
 22 - Kristin Winfree
 22 - Ronnie Meekins
 22 - Luther Daniels Jr.
 23 - Hewy Griffin
 28 - Deanna Curles
 29 - Merlee Austin
 30 - Rheana Watts
 31 - Jordan Baum
 31 - Taylor Baum
 31 - Allison Lopez



2 - Les and Lori Toler
 2 - Thomas and Kim O'Malley
 2 - John and Joan Gaskill Wyndham
 8 - Conrade and Jessica Davenport
 10 - Carroll and Janice Williams
 14 - Allen Moran and Caroline Basnight
 17 - Larry and Carletta Ballance
 19 - Jim and Peaches Eckhardt
 23 - Will and Pat Fields
 31 - Michael and Ansley Casey



TITHES

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER
 We need \$6,109.33 weekly.

In August, we needed \$30,546.65 and our offerings were \$25,346.00.

In September, we needed \$24,437.32. As of September 21, our offerings were \$13,018.75.



BETHANY METHODIST MEN MEETING

On Tuesday, October 13, the Bethany men will meet (not the usual second Thursday of each month). We are hosting the Dave Stormont Men's Fellowship Group at 6:00 pm which is 30 minutes earlier than usual.

I ask that the Bethany men show up at 5:00 pm to set-up dinners for about 80 men, including Dare Challenge, and if possible, bring desserts.

Please, let's have a good turnout at this meeting.

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

Larry Franklin

Bethany Methodist Men's Leader



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

LAMP — In Bible times, lamps were small but essential sources of light, especially during the dark hours of night. Scripture often uses the image of a lamp to represent God's guidance, truth and wisdom. Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path," reminding believers that God's Word directs each step of life. Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids also connects the lamp with wisdom and spiritual readiness (Matthew 25:1-13). In addition, the lamp is sometimes used to symbolize the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the gift of life itself. Because of these meanings, the lamp has become a lasting symbol of God's guidance, faithful living and the light of Christ shining in the darkness.



We are so thankful for
Bethany Church for allowing
us to use your space!



Atlantic Autism

School Supplies:

Just wanted to take a minute to say thank you for your continued support of Manteo Middle School and our students through your gift card donations. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Alan Ellington, School Counselor
Manteo Middle School

The family of Gayle Tillett wishes to express its sincere appreciation for all the love and prayers during the time of Gayle's passing. We are especially thankful for all the food after the funeral. We know that Gayle would have loved it so much.

Love: Billy Carl, Ryan, Farrah and Families

FROM KNOWING TO BECOMING

Get to know Jesus well because the more you know Him, the more you'll love Him. And the more you love Him, the more you'll want to follow Him. And the more you follow Him, the more you'll become like Him. And the more you become like Him, the more you become yourself.

—Ned Erickson

PASTOR APPRECIATION: GRATEFUL FOR FAITHFUL LEADERSHIP

October gives us a special opportunity to thank the pastors who teach, encourage, pray and care for our congregation. May we honor their faithful service, support them with our prayers and remind them that their ministry makes a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

CHARGING FORWARD IN STEWARDSHIP

Rhinoceroses are remarkable creatures. Strong, sturdy and surprisingly fast, a rhino is built to protect. When it senses danger, especially near its herd or its young, it does not hesitate. It moves with focus, strength and purpose.

There may be a stewardship lesson for us in that.

God has entrusted each of us with gifts, time and resources to use for his kingdom. When opportunities come to serve, give, encourage or help, faithful stewards do not stand still and wait for someone else to go first. They respond with willing hearts and steady faith.

Stewardship is not passive. It calls us to move with purpose, give with conviction and serve with the strength God provides. May we be quick to answer God's call, bold in putting our faith into action and faithful in caring for the people and work God has placed before us.



COMMON GROUND

"Christianity was never intended to be a solo walk with God," says pastor Jeremy

Basset. "A conversion to Christianity is also incorporation in the body of Christ, the church."

That's a fitting reminder as we observe World Communion Sunday in October. Christians don't take Holy Communion alone; the very name of this sacrament refers to unity with God and others. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't learn Scripture or Christian theology and history alone. We can't have Christian fellowship by ourselves.

The New Testament is clear that one cannot be a solitary Christian. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30) and "belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10, NIV). As you gather for worship and receive Holy Communion, thank God for "our common salvation" (Jude 3, ESV) granted to all followers of Jesus.

OCTOBER 2026

A TIME TO PLANT, A TIME TO REAP...

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1 7:00 Bethany's Women Hosts: Becky and Tricia	2 9:00 McPrayer	3
4 	5	6 9:30 Morning Bible Study	7 1:00 – 3:00 Bethany's Table Preparation Day 6:30 Praise Team Practice	8 Bethany's Table 3:00 – 4:00 Meals Packaged 4:00 – 5:30 Deliveries	3 9:00 McPrayer	10
11 	12 	13 9:30 Morning Bible Study 6:00 Men's Fellowship	14 6:30 Praise Team Practice	15	16 9:00 McPrayer	17
18	19 6:45 Administrative Leadership Team Meeting	20 9:30 Morning Bible Study 11:00 College Care Packages	21 6:30 Praise Team Practice	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23 9:00 McPrayer	24
25 	26	27	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

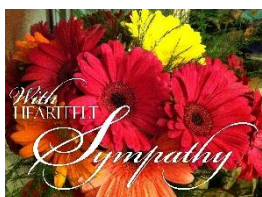
Michele Cribb	Thelma O'Neal
Tim Morrill	Teresa Silva



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	Dawn Gerakaris
Gregory Austin	Siobhan Hall
Dylan Baker	Kristine Hamilton
Wayne Barnett	Ruth Hayes
Walter Baum	Dewey Hemilright
Carl Beacham	Ted Hemilright
Mike Beasley	Linda Mann
Freddie Blackmon	Karen Martin
G. G. Bonner	Babs Meekins
Nathan Boone	R. S. Meekins
Jimmy Bulfin	Paul Midgett
Carol Copeland	Ted Midgett
Eric Craddock	Brandy Flynt Moore
Karl Daniels	Linda O'Neal
Jennifer Delio	Missy Ogden
Katy Dettmer	Holly Presgrave
Joe Doak	Sharon Ralph
Linda Dunn	Scott Sawyer
Karen Etheridge	Stan Sawyer
Sharen Etheridge	Ashley Seay
Jordan Ford	Jean Tillett
	Joe Willis



LOST LOVED ONES

Family of Stanley Beacham
Family of Rex Tillett

Family of Gayle Tillett
Family of Alvah Ward

HAITI MISSION

School has started in Haiti, just like America, and Sonson's two boys, Samy (8) and Mike (6) are in school thanks to someone in our church who sponsors school for them.

Sonson didn't make it in the police academy. He told us that he and six others were asked to leave. This put him out on the streets of Port-au-Prince before we had a chance to send him money to get back home. Someone had sent him (loaned him) \$50 to help get home. After he got home, the man asked for the money back. Sonson didn't have the money, and after a couple of days, the man called the police and said Sonson had stolen the money from him. The police arrested him and put him in jail until he paid the money back.

After being in jail a few days, they needed to clear out the jail, so Sonson and a vanload of men were taken out to be shot. Sonson's wife found out about it and followed begging for him to be released. She was told they would release him for \$214. So at 8:30 one night, we had to wire money to save his life and the \$50 to pay the man who he owed the money to, so he didn't get rearrested. Now his family is back together. This is how corrupt Haiti is. It's all about the money.

MAKE YOUR BLESSINGS COUNT

Years ago, a newspaper shared the story of Mr. and Mrs. Davis Illingworth, an elderly Christian couple known for quiet, faithful service. Early in their marriage, they decided to use the gifts God had given them to bless others.

Through the years, they served through their church and in life-care retirement homes, offering time, kindness and generosity wherever they were needed. When a foundation later honored them for their caring philanthropy, they shared the motto that had guided their lives: "Count your blessings, and make your blessings count."

What a wonderful reminder that God's gifts are meant to be shared for His glory.



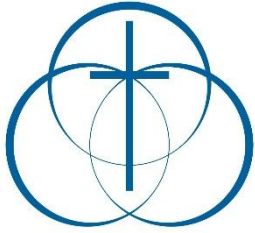
Future Christian Athletes (FCA) is already off to a great start here locally for the new school year! Our area FCA representative, Emilie Preiser, met with 42 Manteo Middle School leaders to begin planning Campus Huddles with students every Wednesday at 7:30 am in the school gym. Manteo High School students will meet on Tuesdays at 7:30 am in their gym. Both schools will be looking for speakers and also donations/ volunteers to provide breakfast at the Campus Huddles. Fields of Faith is another local FCA annual event and this year is taking place Sunday, October 4 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm at Manteo High School Football Field and Bethany families are invited to participate in the evening of fellowship, student led worship, and student testimony. Bethany and GMC continue to support FCA as a local Missions outreach opportunity, and if you are interested in serving on a committee to help respond to the various school/team support requests, please let Denise Mann or Sheila Garrison know.

Care Packages FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS



COLLEGIATE CARE PACKAGES

The date for mailing boxes full of goodies to our college students is Tuesday, October 20. Donations of snacks, home baked goods, cards and letters, or other small items need to be labeled and dropped off in the Bethany kitchen no later than 11 am, October 20. Volunteers are welcome to help with the fun task of packing the boxes and sealing them with love! Any address updates for our student roster need to be submitted to Denise Mann or Sheila Garrison.



Global Methodist Church
General Conference 2026
Sandton Convention Center
Johannesburg, South Africa
8-30-2026 thru 9-5-2026

Greetings!

What a week! The Holy Spirit was moving and the power of God's will could be felt in each action and decision. What an honor to be present at the first General Conference in Africa.

We worshiped together, prayed together and felt the power of the Holy Spirit as we worked our way through more than 451 petitions we were presented with, voted on {Yes:370 and No:1} and officially adopted our Articles of Faith. Affirming our Wesleyan heritage and establishing a shared expression of the faith that unites us in Jesus Christ, these Articles speak to who we are, what we believe, and the faith we carry forward as one global connection.

We elected and consecrated eight full-time Bishops to lead the connection through the 2026-2032 sexennial term.

We were treated to an awesome Celebration of Africa with storytelling, poetry, music and native dance. Donations were made in support of our brothers and sisters in South Africa through an offering.

The continued work of elections for the various General Church commissions and councils were completed and three from North Carolina were elected: Tammy Stott to the Connectional Council Commission, John Howard to the Conferences Commission and Lindsey Clark to the Finance, Administration, Pension and Benefits Commission. Congratulations to all.

We experienced the beauty of our global connections in ways we will carry with us long after leaving Johannesburg. The NC Annual Conference was blessed in being able to meet and spend time with our global partners, brothers and sisters from the Ugandan Conference.

May we remember and share that the Beauty of Holiness was never simply the theme of our gathering, it is our calling as we all go out to live spirit filled lives, love one another well, and carry the beauty of Christ into our churches, communities and across the globe.

All the General Conference videos are available on the GMC YouTube channel and at [beautyofholiness2026.org](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqWz8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8).*

I am giving thanks for all God has done, for relationships formed and strengthened, also for the privilege of being part of this historic moment in the Global Methodist Church.

Submitted with God's blessings,

Lizann Creef-Meekins
Representative to NC Annual Conference
Delegate to 2026 GMC General Conference

*portion used and edited from the daily Conference journals



A LETTER FROM CHRIST

Paul the Apostle gave a beautiful compliment to the believers in Corinth. He wrote:

"And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts" (2 Corinthians 3:3, ESV).

What a meaningful picture. A letter carries a message, and Paul reminded the church that their lives were sharing the message of Christ with others.

The same is true for us today. Through our words, actions and faith, people can see evidence of God at work in our hearts. None of us is perfect, but living faithfully can point others toward Him.

What a wonderful goal for every Christian: to be known as "a letter from Christ."

August Wrap-Up From the Administrative Leadership Team

In the spirit of unity and transparency, Preacher David Clift has requested that the church family be made aware of ministry progress and operational decisions made by the Administrative Leadership Team at each of their monthly meetings.

To begin the meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2026, Preacher David challenged the members to create an environment of encouragement at Bethany.

Trustee chair David Whitehurst reported that many routine plumbing and air conditioning repairs were made this summer. An order has been submitted for the purchase and installation of a new handicap door and automated opener for the entryway at the large handicap ramp. A future project is being investigated to have encroaching brush cleared from the back fence.

Finance chair Jim Troutman got property insurance quotes, but found that our current provider's premiums are lower than the competition can beat. He recommended increasing the coverage on our building, stained glass, and sound and music equipment. He is working on an idea to reduce wind and hail premiums. Collections are strong and are higher than this time last year.

The group prayed for and recognized that Lizann Creef-Meekins was in Johannesburg, South Africa, as a delegate to the Global Methodist Church General Conference from August 30-Sept 5, 2026. It is quite an honor to have one of Bethany's members elected to such an important position.

Bethany's Charge Conference will be held with our other circle churches on Sunday, September 27, at 3:00 pm at Mt. Carmel Global Methodist Church in Manns Harbor. All leaders are expected to attend and all church members are encouraged to support our church with their presence.

The group is looking forward to the completion of the church directory, the Break the Chains 5K run, and the Haiti pancake breakfast fundraiser in September.

Preacher David will assemble a nominating committee to begin filling the positions of those who will be stepping down after years of volunteer service. Positions to be filled include the Administrative Leadership Team chairperson, the Trustee chairperson, and the delegate to Annual Conference. Preacher David will also be assembling teams to support missions, trustees, and children and

youth. In addition, Bethany Church is still in need of a staff member to be the Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries.

A rough draft of the 2027 budget was presented. Representing the Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations team, Bill Wilson, made recommendations concerning employee salaries that the team agreed with. There was also discussion concerning a greater allotment for missions. After making these changes, the 2027 budget was unanimously passed.

The Administrative Leadership Team will meet again on Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 6:45 pm.

September Wrap-Up from the Administrative Leadership Team

As a devotion for the September 17 meeting, Misty Curles gave a heartfelt testimony about seeing the path to walk in God's Word and following through.

Preacher David passed out a sheet with names of candidates for positions and teams in the church. The group voted in favor of his recommendations. The new leaders will begin their duties after Charge Conference at Mt. Carmel Global Methodist Church on September 27.

A love offering will be taken for Chris Daniels who cleared out brush from the back of the property.

Preacher David would like his salary for October to be put into a fund for furniture for the parsonage.

The Team was presented with the idea of creating a part-time property manager position to keep our Trustee chairperson from being overworked. This person will be responsible for preventative and routine maintenance in the church building and will answer to the Trustees. Current chairperson David Whitehurst will come up with a list of duties and an estimate of hours needed per month for the Team to review next month.

Finance chairperson Jim Troutman recommended increasing insurance coverage on the overall church, stained glass, and sound and music equipment. The premium has already been paid for the year. The group voted to increase coverage immediately and pay an extra fee. Coverage will be reviewed again upon our insurance renewal in April 2027.

Laura Beth Mann reported shrimp fundraiser figures. Lizann Creef-Meekins wrote an article about her participation as delegate to the Global Methodist General Conference for the newsletter.

The Administrative Leadership Team will meet again on Monday, October 19, 2026 at 6:45 pm.



We had so much fun showing our patriotic spirit for Red, White & Blue Dress Up Day! We loved seeing everyone dressed for the occasion and making another fun preschool memory together.

Safari Scoop

September
2026 Issue
Bethany Preschool

What We've Been Learning

Our first few weeks of preschool have been all about learning and growing! We learned the shape circle, number 1, and color yellow. We've also been learning our classroom routines and important school skills like lining up, holding a pencil, following directions, sharing, and being a good friend.

Little Scientists

Science has already been so much fun! Our little scientists explored volcanoes and experimented with sink or float. We loved making predictions, watching what happened, and learning through hands-on discovery!

Jesus Is Our Shepherd



This month we learned that Jesus is our Shepherd. Just like a shepherd loves and cares for his sheep, Jesus loves us, watches over us, and guides us each day.

*"The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want."*

Psalm 23:1

Looking Ahead to October

October 1st
Show N Tell

October 6th
Firetruck Comes to School

October 15th
Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

October 29th
Dress Up Party



Students of the Month

Congratulations to our Explorers of the Month, Finn & Kaison! These two have done a wonderful job showing how to be kind, follow directions, and be leaders in our classroom. We are so proud of them and the example they are setting for their friends!



Learning Through Play

Some of our best learning happens while we play! Our classroom has been filled with pretend play, building, creating, sharing, and learning how to work and play together. The beautiful weather has given us plenty of opportunities to get outside! We've spent lots of time playing, exploring, laughing, and making memories with our friends.

Here's to a wildly wonderful year! ♥





Thank you!

We raised over \$6,500 at this year's Fall Fundraiser. We would like to thank everyone who was involved in making this happen, from those who cooked, prepared, & served to those who donated, and ate! We are so grateful for our community.



S.A.L.T. SISTERS

September Meeting



31-Day Scripture Writing Challenge

OCTOBER

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.

- | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|------------------|
| ☐ Oct. 1 | Luke 6:35 | ☐ Oct. 17 | Revelation 1:8 |
| ☐ Oct. 2 | 2 John 1:6 | ☐ Oct. 18 | Psalms 42:11 |
| ☐ Oct. 3 | Proverbs 17:17 | ☐ Oct. 19 | 2 Peter 1:16 |
| ☐ Oct. 4 | Judges 5:31 | ☐ Oct. 20 | Psalms 112:1 |
| ☐ Oct. 5 | Zechariah 8:16 | ☐ Oct. 21 | Deuteronomy 28:9 |
| ☐ Oct. 6 | 2 Thess. 1:11-12 | ☐ Oct. 22 | 1 Kings 8:61 |
| ☐ Oct. 7 | Hosea 6:6 | ☐ Oct. 23 | 2 Peter 1:20-21 |
| ☐ Oct. 8 | Romans 14:17-19 | ☐ Oct. 24 | John 17:17 |
| ☐ Oct. 9 | Luke 12:33-34 | ☐ Oct. 25 | Romans 10:8 |
| ☐ Oct. 10 | 1 Peter 4:10 | ☐ Oct. 26 | Judges 6:12 |
| ☐ Oct. 11 | Zechariah 7:9-10 | ☐ Oct. 27 | Isaiah 41:13 |
| ☐ Oct. 12 | Daniel 7:13-14 | ☐ Oct. 28 | Matthew 10:28 |
| ☐ Oct. 13 | Isaiah 47:4 | ☐ Oct. 29 | Romans 8:15 |
| ☐ Oct. 14 | 2 Samuel 22:29 | ☐ Oct. 30 | 1 Peter 3:14 |
| ☐ Oct. 15 | Psalms 8:3-4 | ☐ Oct. 31 | Psalms 23:4 |
| ☐ Oct. 16 | Haggai 2:6-7 | | |

Come back next month for a new Scripture writing challenge!



A Family of Prayer

Acts tells us about a man named Cornelius. He was a Roman soldier who worshiped God and prayed with his family. God used Cornelius to help Peter learn an important truth: God welcomes everyone who loves Him and does what is right.

Solve the math problems using the grid. Then use the key to find the letter for each answer. Write each letter on the blank to discover what Cornelius and his family did.

GRID	
A	B
2	4
C	D
6	5

KEY			
a = 7	e = 8		
i = 10	o = 9		
u = 11	y = 6		

"H nd ll h s f m l
A+C A+D A+D B+C A+D B+C A+B

w r d v t nd
A+C A+C A+C B+D C+D A+D

G d-f r ng; h g v
B+D A+C A+D B+C A+C A+D A+C

g n r sl t th s n
A+C A+C B+D C+D A+B B+D B+D A+C B+C

n d nd pr y d t G d
A+C A+C A+D A+D A+B A+C B+D

r g l rl ." cts 10:2, NIV
A+C C+D A+D A+B A+D

Answers: "He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly." Acts 10:2, NIV

Bible Quiz

Psalms 103 (ESV) begins: "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his _____." What should we "not forget"?

- A. goodness
- B. kindness
- C. gifts
- D. benefits

Answer: (Psalm 103:2)



Give Thanks with Music

Music is one way to give thanks to God. Make these simple instruments to accompany your singing!

What you need:

- 3 small coffee cans with lids
- 1/2 cup dry pinto beans
- 1/2 cup unpopped popcorn
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice
- Heavy-duty tape
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons for decorating

What you do:

1. Put the beans in one can, the popcorn in another, and the rice in the third.
2. Secure the lids and tape around the rims.
3. Cover the cans with construction paper and glue it in place.
4. Decorate the cans with markers or crayons.
5. Shake the cans to hear the different sounds, then use them to make joyful music for the Lord!

Puzzle!

NAMES OF GOD

Every name of God tells us something about his power, love and care for his people. Use the Scripture clues to uncover just some of these special names.



F _____ (Matthew 6:9)

A _____ and O _____ (Revelation 1:8)

I A ____ (Exodus 3:14)

Y _____ (Exodus 6:2-3)

G _____ M _____ H _____ (Genesis 14:19)

G _____ A _____ (Genesis 17:1)

R _____ (Psalm 18:2)

J _____ (Psalm 75:7)

F _____ (Psalm 18:2)

H _____ O _____ (Isaiah 40:25)

Answer key: Father, Alpha and Omega, I AM, Yahweh, God Most High
God Almighty, Rock, Judge, Fortress, Holy One

Return Service Requested



A HARVEST OF GRATITUDE

The colors and beauty of autumn remind us that every season carries evidence of God's goodness. As we enjoy cooler days and changing leaves, may we pause to give thanks for His provision and share our blessings with those around us.

