



BELLAMY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4870 Chestnut Fork Road, Gloucester, VA

When We Look Ahead

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

“Bellamy United Methodist Church is dedicated to fanning the Spiritual flame, while growing closer to Christ through love, commitment, and service.” Bellamy Mission Statement

Believe it or not the conversation I am going to share with you began in March! Our Church Council had a two night Leadership Retreat. We worshipped, discerned, and had holy conversation about the past, the present, and the future. Two statements guided our thinking in March. They are printed above. The mission statement was developed four years ago from conversations regarding the mission of the church. The statement was inspired by the Great Commission and the words of Christ remain our guiding voice.

Using these tools, we looked at how a guest moves into the life of our church. We examined five areas that take a person from outside the door to living out the Great Commission. The areas are: Community Presence, Welcoming, Worship and Nurture, Empowering, and Serving. So what exactly do these areas mean? Let's look at the steps.

Community Presence. This is the first look a person has of our congregation. How is Bellamy perceived within the community? For someone who is not a part of Bellamy, has no connection with our church; how does a person perceive us? We realized that our community presence is important and that Bellamy has a definite presence in Gloucester. Our many mission outreach ministries help establish a presence. Our website is a very important part of who we are because statistics show that most people looking for a church do so online. The step also reminds us of our continued need to always seek ways to be visible and inviting within our community.

Welcoming. The next step. Once a person perceives us and ideally has received an invitation to come to Bellamy, the next step is coming through the door. How are they welcomed? Are there greeters at all the doors? Do people greet and make a guest feel welcome? If there are children has someone taken the time to offer a worship bag, shown the parents where the nursery is, and offered a Sunday School class to all? When the guest



is seated, do the people around the guest introduce themselves? Think of when a guest arrives at your home, a guest at church should be welcomed in the same way.

Worship and Nurturing. Very often a guest will experience Bellamy through Sunday morning activities. How we greet, worship, fellowship, and study together on Sunday morning shows a guest a good look as to who we are, what our priorities are, and how we interact with one another.

Empowering. Ah, the next step. Once a guest begins worshipping on a regular basis and engages in some ministries with Bellamy, empowering is that vital connection with the work of a disciple. The empowering step is done *outside* of Sunday morning. This is where disciple training occurs through classes, groups, and activities. The work of the United Methodist Men, the United Methodist Women, XYZ's, Young Adults, KidZone, and Youth Fellowship and other groups all play an important role in empowering a person to realize their gifts and find their passion to serve Christ.

Serving. Living the Great Commission. This step occurs when ministry is brought from vision to activity. Be it a church dinner with White Marsh Baptist, a Snac Pak or Bear Pak food ministry, Bell Ringing, Food Pantry, Clothes Pantry, or a host of other ministries whether short or long term.

From this process the Council looked at what "could be" if every group and organization in the church applied this formula to their work. No longer looking at, for example, welcoming as the work of just the welcome team, but seeing these steps as a process for every group and ministry. For example, at the next Finance Committee meeting we will discuss what the Finance Committee can do to help improve Community Presence, Welcoming, Worship and Nurture, Empowering, and Serving. Does this sound a little different? Well, actually at the last Finance meeting one of the things discussed was to encourage parking in the side lot instead of the back of the church to show passers-by that things really happen here and a lot of people come to Bellamy.

Another exciting discussion is the formulation of classes as a way of building fellowship and connections. Offering a variety of classes will also enhance our work in empowering disciples. A variety of class ideas are being considered, and even the possibility of offering semesters of classes so that something is always being offered. From Bible Studies, to parenting classes, to classes for men and women; fellowship and disciple forming is done effectively in small group settings.



These are just some of the things that Bellamy’s Church Council has been working on and praying about. If anything you have read resonates with you, please see Pastor Ken or any member of the Church Council. We would love to hear your ideas for Bellamy. We feel the blessings of God are abundant and we are ready to face the future with joy and optimism that God has great plans for us. Thanks for reading.

God Bless,
Pastor Ken

+++++

Shore Break in May

Our Sunday evening worship service, “Shore Break,” will conclude for the Spring on May 6th at 6 p.m. .



Geraniums for Pentecost

Once again, you are invited to bring “red” geraniums to the sanctuary for Pentecost Sunday. Our goal is to fill the sanctuary with the bright red color symbolic for the season. Afterwards, our Bellamy gardeners will plant the geraniums around the church to add a bright splash of color to the flower beds. Pentecost will be celebrated on May 27th.



A Mother’s Day Poem
By Helen Steiner Rice
A mother’s love
Is fashioned
After God’s enduring love—
It is endless and unfailing
Like the love of Him alone.



Bellamy United Methodist Men's Yard Sale

Spring is here, and so is the annual United Methodist Men's (UMM) Yard Sale! As you start your spring cleaning, keep in mind that on May 19th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the UMM will be selling the items you donate to support their mission projects. Beginning May 4th, an area in the Fellowship Hall will be set-up to receive your donated items. A special preview of sale items will be conducted on Friday, May 18th, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Arrangements can be made to pick up your donations if you are not able to bring them to the Fellowship Hall. Contact Tom Judy at 695-1654 to arrange pickup or for further information. Thank you for your continued generosity. *(Submitted by Tom Judy)*



Bellamy United Methodist Women's Fundraiser

To raise funds for our mission giving, the United Methodist Women (UMW) will hold a Bake Sale and raffle in conjunction with the United Methodist Men's Yard Sale on Saturday, May 19th at Bellamy UMC. If you would like to support our mission goals, we would greatly appreciate your support. If you would like to donate a baked item for our sale, you may drop the item off in the church kitchen on Friday, May 18th. Please label the item UMW bake sale.

A family vacation basket with lots of goodies for the whole family will be raffled off after the 11 a.m. service on May 20th in the Fellowship Hall. You do not need to be present to win. Tickets will sell for one dollar and be available at the yard sale preview on Friday, May 18th, at the Bake Sale on Saturday, May 19th, and on Sunday morning, May 20th, during fellowship time. Thank you for supporting United Methodist Women's missions.





Virginia Robins Circle

The Virginia Robins Circle will be meeting on Tuesday, May 8th, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Billie Jenkins. Our program will be lead by Betsy Guckeyson on the fifth chapter of our reading program. Please remember to bring your items for the family vacation basket. Keep in mind the UMCOR kits that are due in June. May is also our Mother's Day Bulletin time. Gifts in honor or in memory of children, family and special individuals will be used for mission giving. *Proverbs 16:3 – "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."* (Submitted by Billie Jenkins)

Fannie Robinson/Lola Bland Circle

The Fannie Robinson/Lola Bland Circle will meet again on Thursday, May 10th, at 1:30 p.m. in the Old Church. Nan Pointer will give our program. (Submitted by Daisy Horsley)

XYZ (Extra Years of Zest)

The next regular meeting of the XYZ will be held on Wednesday, May 16th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. After the program, a covered dish lunch will be served. (Submitted by Carolyn Moore)



Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Marlene Tomlinson upon her passing on April 17th, 2012.



Baptism

Congratulations upon the baptism of Emily Kathryn (Emma Kate) Kozenski on April 1, 2012. Her parents are Kim and Scott Kozenski.



From the Director of Children's Ministries, Barbara Joyner

Confirmation



Plans are being made for this year's confirmation program. *Classes will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday mornings in July and August with Confirmation Sunday being September 9th.* Assistance with transportation is available. Confirmation is an intentional time of study and preparation in order that the participant will "confirm" their baptismal vows. The class is open to young people 12 years and older.

This year we will be using a new curriculum called *Credo*. For more information or if you are interested in participating in the program, please speak to Pastor Ken or Barbara Joyner.

Mission Opportunity



The children of Bellamy United Methodist Church KidZone Program are working to help sponsor Bob and Laura Dickie on an upcoming trip in July to the Honduras. Any member who would like to purchase a share in this mission can do so by providing a check for any amount made out to Bellamy United Methodist Church. In the memo section write, "KidZone/Honduras" so the money will be set aside in the correct account. All money received will be used to offset cost of airfare and incountry expenses. Any monies received over and above the travel costs will be given to the mission to help with the care of the local people living in Honduras. For each member who elects to purchase a share, a certificate will be provided and an invitation will be extended to attend a celebration dinner and slide show shortly after Bob and Laura return from the trip. The dinner will consist of a simple Honduran style meal and the slide show will be a presentation of the photos taken in the Honduras, allowing you a chance to see how your donations were put to good use. This is an easy way to help people in need whilst remaining on the home



front. Thank you for your support of this project! To learn more about the program, visit www.medicaldental.org.

Vacation Bible School – Operation Overboard!



Mark your calendars now for this year’s Vacation Bible School! *Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep With God* will be held **July 23rd through 27th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. Come accept the invitation and challenge to dive into the waters of God’s Word and discover what it means to have deep faith. As kids journey farther down towards the ocean floor, Deep Sea Voyage Bible stories introduce people from the Old Testament and New Testament who show deep faith by depending on God, daring to care, claiming Jesus, choosing to follow, and changing the world. During the months of June and July, our children will be listening to the music and making decorations for VBS during Children’s Church. If you would be willing to assist with our program this summer, please contact Barbara Joyner at 694-5142 or b.joyner@bellamyumc.org.



BUMC Christian Education

Sunday School Classes (Start at 10:00 a.m.)		
<i>Ages 3-5th Grades</i>	<i>Children’s Wing</i>	<i>Rock Solid Curriculum</i>
<i>Middle School Class</i>	<i>Second Floor (Old Church)</i>	<i>(Study Topics Vary)</i>
<i>Senior High</i>	<i>Basement</i>	<i>Sharing Jesus</i>
<i>Young Adults</i>	<i>Second Floor (Old Church)</i>	<i>Exodus</i>
<i>Fellowship Class</i>	<i>Main Hall (Fellowship Room)</i>	<i>Detective Stories from the Bible</i>
<i>Helen Kerns Class</i>	<i>Main Hall (Helen Kerns Room)</i>	<i>Adult Bible Studies</i>
<i>Cornerstone Class</i>	<i>First Floor (Old Church)</i>	<i>Women in the Bible</i>
<i>Bible Seekers Class</i>	<i>Second Floor (Old Church)</i>	<i>Gospel of Matthew</i>
<i>Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Old Church</i>	<i>Video Series-More details to</i>
<i>Young Adults</i>	<i>Dinner is served.</i>	<i>Follow.</i>



CHILDREN'S PAGE
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Mandy Groce '10

<http://ministry-to-children.com>



May Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 01 | Jessie Horsley, Brianna Putnam | 19 | Carolyn Moore |
| 03 | Mollie Trainum | 20 | Bonnie Emerson, Heather Teller,
Colbie Russ |
| 04 | Tracie Tillage, Raven Carlton | 21 | Lucille Newton, Ann Earl,
Alex Meier |
| 05 | Norma Acosta, Ronald Cook,
Erin Kohlhorst | 22 | Neva Connaughton |
| 06 | Daniel Michaud | 23 | Louise Horsley |
| 08 | John Bohannon | 24 | A. J. Johnston, Meredith Garner,
Katie Clements |
| 09 | Mike Moore | 25 | Stewart Baldwin |
| 10 | Charles Stoddard, Whitney Trotter | 26 | Al Cottee |
| 12 | Colton Bonnaville | 27 | Kenny Eastwood, Casey Terry |
| 13 | Marie Wescott, Paula Cottee | 28 | Jessica Grey, Emily Brown |
| 14 | Pat Feurer, Glen Coulson | 29 | Clay Robins |
| 15 | Gaige Davidson | 30 | Kathy Mitchell |
| 16 | Beatrice Harwood, Ron Trainum,
Jeri-Lee Russ | 31 | Judy Brabrand |
| 17 | Alison Foley | | |
| 18 | Kathryn Prochnow | | |



May Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---------------------------|
| 05 | Bob and Donna Dickie | 17 | Todd and Cynthia Geisert |
| 06 | Charles and Judy Brabrand,
Alvin and Lucille Newton | 18 | Rick and Heather Teller |
| 08 | Martin and Clay Robins | 21 | Bruce and Janet South |
| 12 | John and Melanie Thompson | 22 | Brian and Debbie Eckstein |
| 14 | Jose and Gloria Beth Pagen | 24 | Harold and Kathy Dumas |

