

Ash Wednesday

(*) The asterisk is to indicate that those who are able are invited to stand.
As the prelude begins, please take your seat and center yourself for worship.
**There are large print hymnals available for those who need one.
Please ask an usher to bring you one.

Prelude *Iste Confessor* Poitiers

(Use this time to make the transition between "getting here" and "being here." Let it be a silent, prayerful preparation for worship.)

Welcome

*Call to Worship
Out of the darkness, God brought light.
Praise God for the light!
Out of despair, God brought hope.
Praise God for God's healing love.
Out of sadness, God brings joy and peace

Lord, open our hearts to your joy and peace this Lenten season.

*Opening Prayer
Most Holy God, your Son came to save sinners. We come to this season of repentance, confessing our unworthiness, asking from new and honest hearts, and the healing power of your forgiveness. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*UMH #395 *Take Time to Be Holy* Longstaff/Stebbins

Prayer for Illumination
O God our deliverer, our lives are laid open before you: as we hear your word today, rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

UMH page 785 Psalm 51:1-17

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Homily *"Stirring the Ashes"* Rev. Rowell

Invitation To The Observance Of Lenten Discipline
(A brief silence is kept.)

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes
Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Bethel Ministers and Church Staff

J.B. Barnett, Custodian
Rev. Julie Belman, Senior Minister
Carol Burger, Preschool Director
Greg Cone, Custodian Assistant
Sheryl L. Jones, Administrative Assistant
Rev. Reggie Rowell, Minister of Congregational Care
Bill Webb, Organist / Choir Director

United Methodist Men's Boston Butt Fundraiser

The United Methodist Men are having a Boston Butt fundraiser for Easter. Tickets are available now for \$40 each, advance sale only. You may pick up your order in the back parking lot on April 7th, between the hours of 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Please see any UMM member for tickets or contact me.

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President UMM
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803-240-8192



AED / CPR Training Class at Bethel

Bill Lucas' daughter and granddaughter, Stacie Lucas Neeley, RN and Alexis Neeley, RN, have graciously agreed to lead a training class at Bethel on using the automated external defibrillator (AED), as well as a refresher on CPR and choking. Everyone is welcome to attend this class on Sunday, February 26th at 3 p.m. in the Pool Activities Building.

Serving the Congregation Today

Altar Stewards: Kimberly Wilson, Karen Stewart, and Dave Barnes
Greeters: Tom Elliott and Fred Brown
Livestream: Travis Belman and Karen Furr
Offering Counter: Charles Byrn

Special Prayers for Bethel Friends and Family (in alphabetical order)

In Hospitals, Assisted Living, Rehab:
Carolyn Bowers (Watercrest Columbia)
Nancy Burkhalter (Atria)
Connie Fowke (NHC)
Bill and Sylvia Hulbert (Laurel Crest)
Mary Kirby (TerraBella Windsor Lake)
Mac Marshall (NHC)
Frances May (Generations of Irmo)
Mary Ott (Pruitt Ridgeway)
Sarah Parker (Still Hopes)
Carmen Pool (Rice Estates)
Adelyn Price (Still Hopes)
Roberta Yount (Atria)
At home: Hannah Andrews (Janet Roberts' great-granddaughter), Eugene and Joyce Appleman, Ann Christopher (Julie Narang's mother), Sara Derrick, Jo Dowdey, Margie Jackson, Bonnie Lutz, Margaret Marshall, Rosa Nichols, Brenda Shealy, Sibyl Staples, Verlon Stone, Jean Tolbert, and Brenda Turner
Out-of-Town: Irene Boyd, Josh Funderburk (Kathryn Emery's son), Wayne Hairfield (Debbie Carter's relative), Jake Lass (Debbie Carter's relative), Pat and Bethany Naser, Morgan Varn (Debbie Carter's relative), Joshua Furr (Karen Furr's son, deployed to Syria)
The families of: Helen Overstreet, Joyce Varn, Joey Turner, Harry Parker, Russ Pruett, David Hinze, Lucinda Miller, Fran Love, Ronald Gordon, Sandra Wayson, Margaret Alley McGregor, Sarah Walker and Ron Jordan

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me..." Matthew 19:14

We welcome all persons in worship and rejoice in the sounds of God's little blessings in our sanctuary! A room is available in the back of the sanctuary for crying babies, nursing or pumping mothers to use at any time.

Imposition of Ashes

*(After receiving the imposition of ashes,
you are invited to kneel at the altar in prayer.)*

The Acceptable Fast

by Lucien Deiss

“The fast that I like,” says the Lord, “is the breaking of the chains of evil, the untying of the bonds of slavery.”

Help us to fast, O Lord, by loving our brothers and sisters.

“It is freeing the oppressed, and welcoming the poor into your home.”

Help us to fast, O Lord, by loving our brothers and sisters.

“It is clothing the person you find naked, and not despising your neighbor.”

Help us to fast, O Lord, by loving our brothers and sisters.

“Then will your light shine like the dawn, and your wound be quickly healed over.”

Help us to fast, O Lord, by loving our brothers and sisters.

“Then, if you cry, God will answer; if you call, God will say: I am here.”

Help us to fast, O Lord, by loving our brothers and sisters.

Assurance of Pardon

*UMH #301

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Crosby/Doane

*Dismissal with Blessing

Go forth into the world in the strength of God’s mercy to live and to serve in newness of life. May Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven, bless and keep you.

Amen.

May the Lamb of God who laid down his life for all, graciously smile upon you.

Amen.

May the Lord God order all your days and deeds in peace.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WHEN OUR WORSHIP ENDS, OUR SERVICE BEGINS



Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday—9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Phone number—803-787-3058

Publication Submission Deadlines

The deadline for the *Bulletin* is **3:00 pm** on the preceding Tuesday.
The deadline for the *Messenger* is **9:00 am** on the 3rd Monday of month.
Please contact the church office as soon as possible to get your upcoming events on the calendar. Rooms are scheduled on a first-come basis.

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Wednesday, February 22

09:30 Preschool Chapel with Rev. Meegan Gossard (S)

12:00 Ash Wednesday Service with Rev. Reggie Rowell (S / livestream)

Thursday, February 23

06:00 Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting (NJ)

Sunday, February 26

09:45 Children, Youth, and Adult Sunday School (EB)

11:00 Worship Service with Lay Leader Kate Brown (S / livestream on YouTube)

02:00 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

03:00 AED / CPR Training Class (PAB)

Wednesday, March 1

09:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

Saturday, March 4

10:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Sunday, March 5

09:45 Children, Youth, and Adult Sunday School (EB)

11:00 Worship Service with Rev. Julie Belman (S / livestream on YouTube)

02:00 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Wednesday, March 8

09:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

Saturday, March 11

08:30 UMM Breakfast (PAB)

10:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

CR - Conference Room
EB - Education Building
NJ - New Journeys Room
PAB - Pool Activities Building
S - Sanctuary

Ways to Connect

Website: www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com

Facebook: [bethelmethodistcolumbia](https://www.facebook.com/bethelmethodistcolumbia)

Youtube: [Bethel UMC Columbia](https://www.youtube.com/BethelUMCColumbia)

Instagram: [@wearebethelunited](https://www.instagram.com/wearebethelunited)

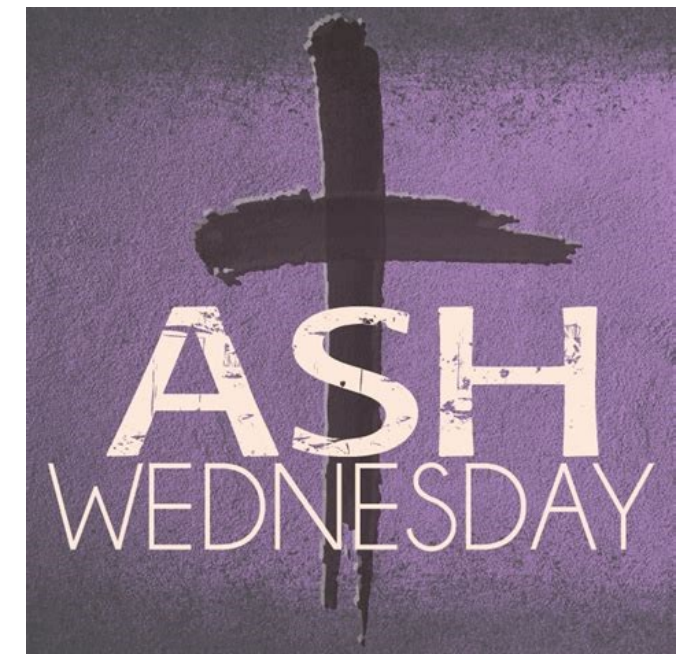
Hashtag: [#wearebethelunited](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/wearebethelunited)

Email: office@bethelmethodistcolumbia.com

Telephone: 803-787-3058



KNOWING, LOVING, SERVING
...so the world will experience Christ’s love!



Wednesday, February 22, 2023
Ash Wednesday
The Color is Purple.

Today marks the beginning of the season of **Lent**. **Ash Wednesday** occurs forty days before Easter, not including six Sundays (which are considered feast days), and recalls the Israelites’ forty years in the desert and Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness. Lent is thus an opportunity to go deep into our hearts and the souls of our communities, and to recognize the horror and depth of our estrangement from God. In practicing the disciplines of Lent, such as prayer, self-examination, fasting and repentance, we seek systematically to put things right.