

# THE OUTREACH

**A People of Hope. A Culture of Grace.**

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**BETHEL**  
 BAPTIST CHURCH

**Vol. 56 No. 2 February 2024**

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I appreciate a good question. A thoughtful, well timed question can often change our outlook, our perspective, maybe even change our life. Jesus was a master at asking great questions. Think of the time in Matthew 16 when Jesus asked Peter, "Who do you say that I am?" That one question forced Peter to think through all he knew of Jesus and Peter declared, "You are the Messiah, the son of the Living God." Or think of John 5 when Jesus encountered a man that had been paralyzed for 38 years and Jesus asked him, "Do you want to be healed?" That's a great question. We might think the obvious answer is, "Yes! Of course I want to be healed!" However, healing would mean that the man would have to learn a skill, get a job, make his own way, and that must have been a scary realization. It's like a prisoner who is released from prison and immediately commits a crime so they can go back to a life that is known and familiar. Do you REALLY want to be free? Are you SURE you want to be healed? Bottom line, Jesus knew the power behind a well phrased question. I was recently presented with two great questions that caused me to stop and think. These questions were an encouragement to me and I want to share them with you. The questions are courtesy of Delia Loving.

Delia and I met recently and in the course of our conversation she told me that she's made it a goal for 2024 to ask herself the same question every day. That question is, "Where do I notice God's presence in my life today?" I asked Delia how she came up with that idea. She said the idea occurred to her at the beginning of 2023, but the question was different. Her question for 2023 was, "What do I need to get rid of today in order to make more room for God?" As she asked that question throughout 2023 the Lord brought to mind different ways that she could reorganize things in her life. Delia said, "I don't like clutter and I found that my life was too cluttered, not only with things, but my mind was sometimes too cluttered.



The Loving Family

cluttered. Asking this question helped me to think about what I needed to let go of so that I could grow closer to the Lord." As Delia began to rid herself of things that distracted her from the Lord, she began to take note of where God was working and her prayer life was enriched through this process.

Delia had two pretty dramatic answers to prayer in 2023. The first answer to prayer came on their family vacation to Prague. Delia explains, "We were stranded in New York's JFK Airport because our flight to Prague was cancelled, and so we changed airlines and had to retrieve our checked bags from Delta Airlines (the original carrier). At that time, numerous flights had been cancelled, and the luggage claim area was a sea of yet-to-be-claimed suitcases. While I stood in line, I prayed this: 'Lord, my eyes are hurting from trying to find our luggage in this incredible mess, could you just make our luggage appear?' While the part about my eyes hurting was true, the request to have our suitcases show up magically was not made with much seriousness or expectation, as I continued to stand in line along with the multitude of stranded passengers with the same mission of retrieving their belongings. My turn to walk up to the help counter finally arrived after two long hours. The agent typed in my information, and her screen showed that our suitcases were arriving at that exact moment! Our luggage literally had just shown up, just as I had prayed. God hears our prayers -- and has such a wonderful sense of humor in His perfect timing."

The second answered prayer occurred last fall. Delia's son, Cody, transferred to Virginia Tech as a junior. Cody was doing well in all of his classes, but he was particularly worried about a computer science class. Cody is a very smart young man and is talented in many areas of his life, but coding is not something that he enjoys or that comes naturally to him. Cody expressed his concerns to Delia. Delia began to pray that the Lord would send Cody a friend who could help him. Only a couple of days later Cody called Delia and in the course of their conversation he mentioned that he met a new friend through Campus Crusade Ministry. Cody's new friend lived within walking distance of Cody and his major was, you guessed it, computer science. For the rest of the semester Cody's new friend assisted him with coding and Cody ended up with an A in the class!

Fast forward to this year. Delia has seen the Lord answer her prayers in dramatic ways in 2023 so she decided in 2024 she'd ask herself, "Where did I notice God's presence today?" Delia told me that at first she was expecting dramatic answers to her question, like her two answered prayer requests from 2023. Surprisingly, Delia is finding that God is found in the small blessings of ordinary life. Delia said, "I notice things like when God helps me to arrive safely at home or I thank God that I'm healthy or when food is on the table. God is present everywhere and is found in the small things. He is teaching me lessons in gratitude for His touch is even found in the most minute details in the routines of life. He is helping me pay attention to His whispers of love and has given me a verse for this season: 'Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. (Psalm 16:8b)'"

I say amen to Delia's revelation. Certainly we all love and appreciate stories of dramatic answers to prayer, it edifies our faith. However, our faith is equally edified when we begin to notice God in the small, ordinary blessings of life. Have you ever stopped to thank God for your next breath of air? Or, try this, find your pulse on your wrist and every time your heart beats pray, "Thank you Lord. Thank you Lord." Do this for a minute or two and one quickly realizes that God is the giver and sustainer of life. I really appreciate Delia's two questions and I hope you do as well. My prayer is that we will each join Delia in asking ourselves each day, "Where did I notice God's presence today?" I suspect that our faith will grow, we'll experience a closer walk with the Lord and we too shall declare, "Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved." Thank you Delia for these questions. May God bless the Loving family and may God bless you and our Bethel Church Family.

Todd

# Valentine's Day Party February 14, 6 pm

Please Join us on Wednesday, February 14th at 6 p.m. for a Valentines Day Dinner. In addition to a great meal, we'll also have some fun and games planned. Don't miss out on the fellowship and fun. Please call the church office to sign up. We'll have a basket available for donations to cover the cost of the dinner.



By Heather Kerns  
Preschool Director

February is here and it is always an enjoyable month for our preschoolers. Between winter weather and Valentine's Day celebrations, there is lots of fun and anticipation! We began enrollment for our current students and church families in January, and public enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year began on February 1st. Families who register their students before March 1st will receive a \$10.00 discount on their fees and we will, once again, be offering sibling discounts for families who enroll multiple children. We are excited to, once again, be able to offer two PreK classes, a 4-day class offering for 3-year-olds, and STEAM After School Enrichment every Thursday! If you know of anyone who may be looking for a wonderful little preschool, please keep Bethel in mind. We are confident that our school will have a full roster for the next academic year, which is just so thrilling.

Valentine's Day celebrations will take place on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for all our preschool classes. Our teachers will be planning a special day of treats and Valentine exchanges. The children always LOVE to share their cards and creations with their friends, and it makes for such sweet memories. Teachers will be reaching out to parents soon about how they can contribute to their class parties.

Looking ahead- Our Preschool will be hosting the second annual Bethel Museum of Fine Art on Thursday, March 21st in the Hope Center. Our teachers have saved special artwork from each of our students throughout the school year, and we will be showcasing all their incredible designs on the evening of March 21st. We hope to see many church members, as well as preschool families at 6:30 p.m. to view a gallery of artwork made by our students. We will have light refreshments and are so excited to have our students proudly show off their work. So, mark your calendars now- we hope to see you there!

I would also like to remind everyone that the preschool will be closed on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents' Day.

Thank you again to all who help support the preschool; you are the reason we are the program we are today!

# Wednesday Night Programs in February



- February 7 — Sacred Circle — 6 p.m.
- February 14 — Valentine's Party — 6 p.m.
- February 21 — Sacred Circle — 6 p.m.
- February 28 — Sacred Circle — 6 p.m.

# Note from Our Parish Nurse



February Health Awareness Topics

February 1-29: American Heart Month

Mayo Clinic has many great ideas to start a heart healthy lifestyle. For the complete article click on the link below.

**Here are tips to get you started on heart healthy habits:**

By Mayo Clinic Staff

- Pay attention to your portion size
- Eat more fruits and vegetables
- Cut down on unhealthy fats
- Choose whole grains
- Choose low-fat protein
- Reduce sodium
- Plan your meals in advance/check restaurants menus ahead of time
- Plan for an occasional treat

“Include these tips into your life, and you'll find that heart-healthy eating is both doable and enjoyable.” - Mayo Clinic

For the complete article and tips see the link below:

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heart-disease/in-depth/heart-healthy-diet/art-20047702>

Covid, Flu, and RSV are on the rise. Vaccines can be found at most area pharmacies.

“Let all that you do be done in love.” 1 Corinthians 16:14

Father God, I pray for peace, love, and kindness. I pray for the sick, the homeless, and the lonely. May we all know God's love and have trust in Him.

May you all have a blessed month.

Cindy Luck FCN RN

# A Note from Our Library

In February, embrace your love .... of reading! When it's cold outside, there's nothing better than reading next to a roaring fire or snuggled under a blanket. "A Week in Winter", by Maeve Binchy, is a great book to bring about the cozy feeling we all want this time of year. Set in a small town on the west coast of Ireland, this book tells the story of Chicky Starr, who decides to turn a decrepit old mansion into a restful place for a holiday by the sea. Full of rich characters and a compelling plot, "A Week in Winter" might be the novel that keeps you warm this winter.



# Many Thanks

Dear Bethel Family,

Thank you so much for your Christmas gift and lovely ornament. I am very blessed to be part of the Bethel staff and church family. It is a joy to serve God's people through the music ministry. May you all receive wonderful blessings throughout 2024 and I look forward to seeing you all in church every week!

Cathy Marshall  
Accompanist

Dear Bethel Family,

I do want to thank everyone for prayers for me. My shingles are almost gone. I just have one spot that pinches, burns or itches. I'm banking on that to go as soon as the rest have. Thank you everyone for all of your prayers. Such a great praying family. I feel so blessed to be a part of Bethel.

Debbie Mead.

Dear Bethel Family,

It is with immense gratitude that we thank you for honoring our Mother by renaming the library as a memorial to her years of service. The family is extremely grateful for this recognition—one Mom never would have imagined.

Mom's example of dedication and unwavering commitment to the values, and mission of Bethel, especially the library, is an attribute we will always cherish about her. The library was the perfect place to share her gifts. As Christians, we are presented with opportunities to share our love of God every day. We are exceedingly thankful that Bethel supported Mom in her library ministry.

During her service, we referred to a notebook Mom left for us regarding her funeral service and other wishes. One of her wishes was to donate \$2000.00 to Bethel, either to the building fund or the library. To honor her request, we have included two checks for \$1000.00 each. One to the library and the other to the building fund. It was certainly her hope to pay it forward to the present and future members of Bethel.

Thank you for loving Mom so dearly. The service and luncheon were beyond our expectations, and we are certain Mom was looking down on all gathered with great love and gratitude.

Blessings and gratitude,  
Anne Cullen and Michael Bell

# Statewide Mission to Kenya

The statewide WMU is collecting reading glasses/or sun glasses for a Medical Mission trip to Kenya. You can pick some up at Dollar Tree, or donate any old reading glasses you have laying around. Please bring them to Bethel and drop them in the box marked "Glasses for Kenya." Deadline March 3rd.



## Missions News by Frances Morris

**Women's Missionary Union Meeting**—The monthly meeting of the WMU will be **Monday February 5, at 10 a.m.** in the People of Hope. All women are invited.

**Bethel Preschooler Cards/Gifts:** If you have signed up to send something to a preschooler, please be sure to remember his/her birthday and any upcoming holidays.

**Kroger:** To register your Kroger card for missions, go to [www.Kroger.com](http://www.Kroger.com) and sign in. Then click on "Community" on the tab bar and click on "community Rewards." The church member number is **QW701**. You will still get your points toward gas.

## Men's Fellowship Lunch February 1, 2024

The Men's Fellowship will meet for lunch on Thursday, February 1, at noon at the Italian Delight Restaurant in Powhatan. If you have any questions, please call Bruce Lewis at 804-467-2886. All men are welcome.



## Ladies Fellowship Lunch February 29

The Ladies Fellowship Luncheon will be the LAST Thursday in the month which is February 29. It will be at noon at the Four Seasons Restaurant in Midlothian. All women are invited. If you would like more information about the Ladies Lunch, or you plan to attend, please call Shirley Lewis at 804-467-2885 so she can call and reserve a place for you.



## Monday Small Group Sharing and Caring

The "Sharing and Caring" group meets each Monday morning at 9 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. For more information, contact Bruce Bartlam at 804-739-2936.

## Charlotte's Pantry Schedule

**Upcoming pantry schedule:**

February 14, 2024 — 5 to 6:30 p.m.

February 23, 2024 — 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.



## February Birthdays



1	Bruce Lewis	17	Kaitlyn Patteson
2	Kaelyn Keaton	17	Madeline Talley
6	Shannon Truban	18	Jeff Ratliff
7	Lauren Birt	18	Tweedle Richardson
7	Jeff Huband	21	Elizabeth Bradbury
7	Charlie Jamerson	21	Jane Ruehrwein
8	Suzanne Kiiffner	21	Coen Moore
8	Robert Yeager	22	Carter Brandon
9	Jason Moore	23	Kilby Proffitt
11	Sharon Laslie	25	Mark McNeel
13	Pamela Cody	25	Peggy Keatts
13	Emily R. Montaigne	27	Dee Garland
14	Brian Moseley	27	Joseph Thomas
14	Barbara Phillips	27	Nancy Treanor
14	Bob Gillis	29	Doug Jamison
14	Natalie Realubit		
14	Josephine Realubit		
15	Sara Currie		
16	Elzora Bye		
16	Nicole Mayberry		
16	Sarah Moseley		
16	Stephen B. Theriot		

## Opportunities for:

### Mission/Ministry

- Music Ministry/Choir
- WMU (Meets the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m.)
- Charlotte's Pantry (See Brenda Peck)
- Backpack Ministry (See Vera Caniglia)
- Sunday Morning Nursery Ministry (during worship)
- Friends of the Homeless (5th Mondays at 8:30 a.m. (See Ardelle Florence)
- AA Meeting every Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
- Puppet Team (See Andrea Hale)
- Media Center (See Cindy Wight)
- Care Team Ministry

### Fellowship/Discipleship

- Men's Fellowship Lunch 1st Thursday of each month at noon (See Bruce Lewis)
- Women's Fellowship Lunch last Thursday of each month at noon (See Shirley Lewis)
- Youth Group Meets every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m.
- Sacred Circle Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m. each Sunday
- Brotherhood Breakfast (every 5th Sunday)
- JIGSAW children's ministry, every Sunday (See Tina McNeel)
- Sharing & Caring Group meets every Monday at 9 a.m. in POH (See Bruce Bartlam)

# The Boxcast App



The AV Team has a way to view our complete church services on your Apple TV, Roku, or Smart TV, using the Boxcast app. This will provide a simple high quality means to view our services on your large screen TV so the entire family can watch the service together.

Simply follow these instructions:

1. Add the Boxcast app to your device.
2. Search for the church's channel by searching for Bethel Baptist Church Midlothian, VA . (NOTE: Spelling and punctuation is important when searching.)
3. Once you find our channel the church's logo will appear. Select this channel.
4. You are DONE.

Please contact any member of the AV team if you have any questions.

## 4 Ways to Give at Bethel

- 1. In Person:** Drop your check in the offering plate as they pass it in the People of Hope on Sunday morning.
- 2. Send a check to our secure mailbox:** The address is: Bethel Baptist Church, 1100 Huguenot Springs Rd. Midlothian VA, 23113.
- 3. Online Giving:** On our Website there is a link to give. Once you click on the link you'll be prompted to give through either your bank account or a credit card. Here's the link for online giving:  
<https://www.bethelchurchmidlothianva.org/giving/>
- 4. Text Giving:** Simply text the dollar amount you'd like to give to (804)361-8590 and follow the prompts. You'll be asked to enter a debit card or credit card number. The minimum amount for text giving is \$10. The platform we're using is safe and secure and you'll be given the option of an email receipt at the end of your transaction. As always, we are grateful for your contributions to the church and we thank you for your gifts.

## Sunday School Classes

The following classes are meeting in person:

- The Providers Class meets in the Providers Classroom in the People of Hope.
- The Endeavors Class meets in the Endeavors Classroom in the People of Hope.
- The Salt and Light class now meets in the last room on the right in the Education Building (it is marked Salt and Light)
- Students in grades K-5 will meet in the Jigsaw Room downstairs.
- Students in grades 6-12 will meet in the Youth Room downstairs.

The nursery remains open during the Sunday School hour for our younger children. The zoom class will be from Robert Brooks class in the Providers classroom.

The zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87461349993?pwd=UW0rZ2F0OEp4RUJNVHhK1pGRmldQQT09> Meeting ID: 874 6134 9993 Passcode: 139739

# Hope for Appalachia



The WMU will be collecting Hope for Appalachia Hope Boxes during the month of February. A HOPE BOX (shoebox) is our gift of essential items and also fun items to school children in eastern Kentucky. The box also helps us share the Good News of Jesus with the children. Boxes will be provided and you can find a list of suggested items below to put in your box. Please check your box when you pick it up if you have a preference as to a boy or a girl since the boxes have boy listed on it or girl listed on it. The deadline for the boxes to be returned is **March 3rd**. We have 24 girls and 24 boys in the 2nd grade that need boxes.

Suggested Items:

### Boy Items

Toothbrush  
Full sized toothpaste  
2 pairs of socks  
Pencils  
Comb/Hair brush  
Chapstick  
Pencil sharpener  
Erasers  
Crayons  
Markers  
Glue sticks  
Blunt scissors  
Flashlight w/batteries  
Matchbox cars/trucks  
Play doh  
Slinky  
Legos  
Baseball/Tennis ball/or beach ball  
Yo-yo  
Bubbles,  
Puzzle, Glow sticks

### Girl Items

Toothbrush  
Full sized toothpaste  
2 pairs of socks  
Pencils  
Comb/Hair brush  
Chapstick  
Pencil sharpener  
Erasers  
Crayons  
Markers  
Glue sticks  
Blunt scissors  
Flashlight w/batteries  
Hair bows/hair ties  
Doll/stuffed animal  
Play doh  
Stickers  
Bubbles  
Puzzle  
Glow sticks

## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

The WMU thanks you for your contributions to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We were able to send \$1,540 to the WMU Virginia to support missionaries throughout the world who share God's word.

The deadline for the March Outreach is February 10th. All articles, thank you notes, ministry information and other items should be emailed to the church or dropped off at the church office before February 10th. Thank you for your help on this.



# Bethel Care Team



Amazing folks that here we are already in February the month that we celebrate more often than the other months the word LOVE.

We who serve on this committee often see that word in action, we see the love and devotion that couples give to each other as they take care of each other. Often one has lost their eyesight, to be able to read, the other one reads to them the paper or the books or the newsletter from the church and cards sent by loved ones and such. This means they both can still enjoy reading.

Often we see one or the other, or sisters or families helping with every need as long as they are able to have the energy to do so. Things around the house and cooking can be a challenge and the yard work can especially can be hard and difficult for older folks to handle. Those are some things we can help with just by taking a dinner once in awhile or ordering something to take to them. Often a fruit basket or a treat of a favorite dessert is such a welcome surprise.

We will be that word LOVE in so many ways, and the greatest of these is love as the Bible verse goes. Often times a written note or card to someone will make their day, someone who has made an impact in your life and now is the time to tell them so, how you appreciate them for the things they have done in your life.

Now is the time to show LOVE for one another. Bethel is very good at that, as Todd says "church" goes beyond our walls and reaches outside to others.

God Bless you as you do unto others.  
Shirley Lewis/ Team lead

Happy Valentine's Day to one and all.  
Should you want to be a part of our team, please contact me. I can find a spot for you.

# Scout Sunday February 4



Join us on Sunday, February 4th for Scout Sunday. Troop 800 will be with us on the 4th, and they will participate in different parts of our worship service. Please give them a warm Bethel welcome when you see them.

# WMU Sunday



Join us on February 25th at 10:30 a.m. for WMU Sunday (Women's Missionary Union). Our speaker will be Sara Hubble, Operations and Pastoral Director of Camp Crossroads Conference Center. We will have special music from our very own Bethel ladies. If you would like to sing with our Bethel Ladies, please contact Janet Goodman. We hope you will join us on February 25, as we celebrate missions.

## Four Free Covid Tests Kits

If you are interested in getting Covid test kits to have at home, you can go to, [www.usps.com/covidtestkits](http://www.usps.com/covidtestkits). Each order includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests including shelf life and updated expiration dates. If an order has not been placed for your address since the program reopened on September 25, 2023, you can place 2 orders now. Orders will ship free.

## Hallsborough Tavern Update

At the December Missions and Ministry Celebration, the members of Bethel voted overwhelmingly to enter into a Letter of Intent (LOI) to purchase Hallsborough Tavern, 2.93 acres adjacent to Bethel at 16300 Midlothian Turnpike. The seller's asking purchase price was \$700,000.



Subsequently, the Trustees communicated to the seller the Church's interest in pursuing a purchase and starting due diligence. An attorney was engaged by Bethel, and a purchase agreement consistent with the agreed terms was prepared and delivered to the seller's attorney on January 3rd. We learned through public sources that on January 15th, the seller listed the property with a realtor with an asking price of \$1,100,000.

The trustees will monitor the sales process of the property to determine if there may be an opportunity to reengage with the seller in the future at terms more in line with the original agreement.

## Memorial Association Meeting Feb. 11, 2024 Following Worship

# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>SCOUT SUNDAY</b>            Sunday School—9:30 am            Worship—10:30 am—POH            Worship—10:30 am—POH</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Shearing and Caring—9 am            ESL—9 am (Downstairs)            WMU—10 am POH            Girl Scouts—6:30 pm (Downstairs)</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Garden Club—9 am            Boy Scouts—7 pm</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Sacred Circle—6:00 pm            Youth Group—6:30 pm            Choir Rehearsal—7 pm</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Men's Fellowship Lunch—noon at            Italian Delight            AA Meeting—5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Circle of Truth—5 pm</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Sunday School—9:30 am            Worship—10:30 am—POH            Communion Sunday            Memorial Association Mtg—following            worship</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Shearing and Caring—9 am            ESL—9 am (Downstairs)            Girl Scouts—6:30 pm (Downstairs)            Church Council Mtg—7 pm (Zoom)</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts—7 pm</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Charlotte's Parity—5 to 6:30 pm            Valentine's Day Party—6:00 pm            Youth Group—6:30 pm</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>AA Meeting—5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Circle of Truth—5 pm</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Sunday School—9:30 am            Worship—10:30 am—POH</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Shearing and Caring—9 am            ESL—9 am (Downstairs)            Girl Scouts—6:30 pm (downstairs)</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts—7 pm</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Sacred Circle—6:00 pm            Youth Group—6:30 pm            Choir Rehearsal—7 pm</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>AA Meeting—5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Charlotte's Parity—9 to 11 am</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>WMU SUNDAY</b>            Sunday School—9:30 am            Worship—10:30 am—POH</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Shearing and Caring—9 am            ESL—9 am (Downstairs)            Girl Scouts—6:30 pm (downstairs)</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts—7 pm</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Sacred Circle—6:00 pm            Youth Group—6:30 pm            Choir Rehearsal—7 pm</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Ladies Fellowship Lunch—Noon at            the Four Seasons            AA Meeting—5:30 pm</p>		

**Bethel Baptist Church**

1100 Huguenot Springs Road  
Midlothian, VA 23113

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Change Service Requested

**WORSHIP TIMES**

**9:30 am Sunday School | 10:30 am Worship**

*Happy*  
*Valentine's Day*

