



# Binnacle

December 2024

## **Bayside Presbyterian Church Staff**

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### **Rita Dunning | Steve Baker**

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## **Bayside Publication Deadlines**

### **Weekly Bulletin - Wednesdays by 9:00 am**

Minutes for Mission, Announcements, Flowers, Ushers

### **Weekly Helmsman - Thursdays by 9:00 am**

Events, announcements, calendar updates

### **REVO or Electronic Bulletin Board - Thursdays by 9:00 am**

Events, announcements

### **Monthly Newsletter - Binnacle - the 15th of each month.**

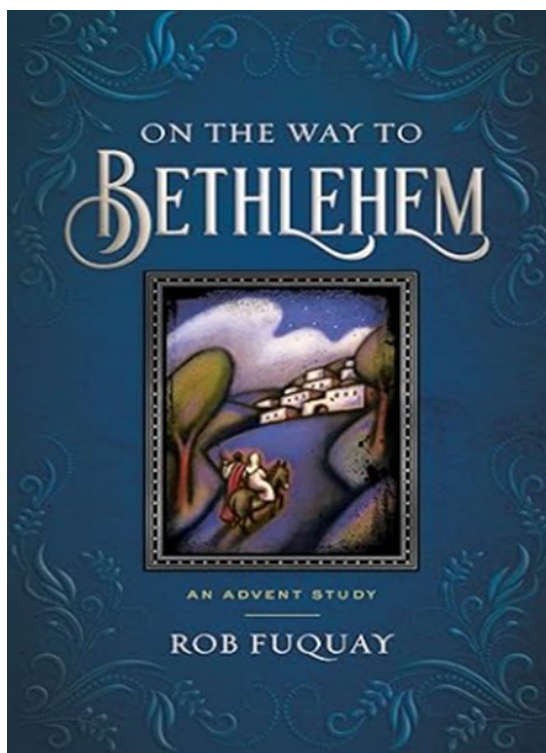
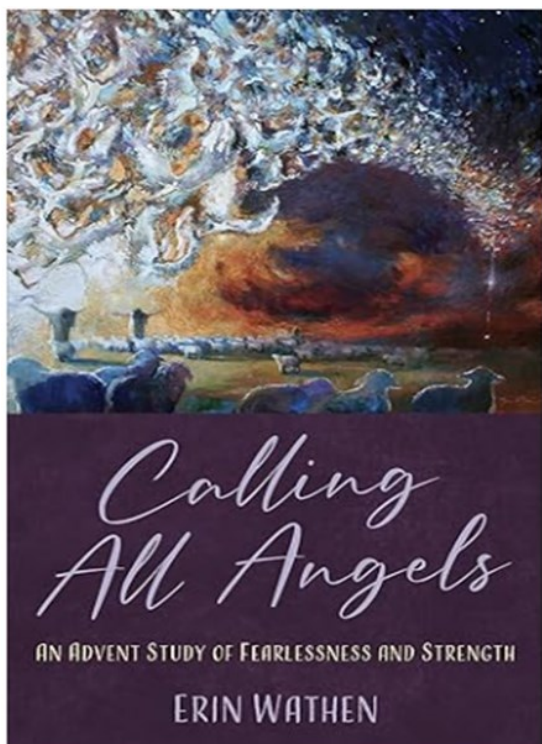
Events, Ministry Notes, calendar updates, articles

*Join one or both adult studies  
to engage with others during your Advent journey:*

**Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength by Erin Wathen**

**Brown Bag Bible Study** - Mondays (Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>) from 11:30-1:00 in Room 512. *What would you do if you were not afraid?* Bring a bag lunch and delve more deeply into the content of the Sermon from the previous Sunday. We will watch a short video and use the Calling All Angels study guide to facilitate our discussion. The study guide is optional and can be purchased through Amazon for \$10 (Kindle version) or \$16 (paperback version)

[Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength - Kindle edition by Wathen, Erin. Religion & Spirituality Kindle eBooks @ Amazon.com.](https://www.amazon.com/Calling-All-Angels-Advent-Study-Fearlessness-Strength/dp/B075333333)



**On The Way to Bethlehem by Rob Fuquay**

**Sunday School** – Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 in room 508. Follow the journey to Christmas through **Rome** (A Place of Longing), **Jerusalem** (A Place of Waiting), **Nazareth** (A Place of Simplicity) and **Bethlehem** (A Place of Humility). Be drawn into these places in a way that helps you experience the spiritual truths each location holds. We will utilize a video and related study guide. The study guide is optional and can be purchased through Amazon for \$10 (Kindle version) or \$13.50 (paperback version)

<https://www.amazon.com/Way-Bethlehem-Advent-Study-ebook/dp/B0CS7SJRJ#customerReviews>





From Bayside Presbyterian  
Preschool & Kindergarten!

The Preschool and Kindergarten classes will be celebrating the month of December with hopes for a wonderful and joyful Christmas. We will have a short Christmas Program for the 3's, 4's and kindergarten classes at 5 pm on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary. We will be making stockings and all sorts of Christmas crafts throughout the month.

The Preschool will be closed for our Christmas and New Year break beginning Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and will reopen on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**The Preschool and Kindergarten classes are all 100% full at this time!** Have a safe holiday and a Merry Christmas!

Kathy Armstrong, Director



Dear Bayside Community,

Over 50 days ago, hurricane Helene struck and devastated the pan handle of Florida and continued on a path of destruction ending in Kentucky. Its path was unusual, maintaining strength in land locked towns/cities. Many in our church community and our geography watched helplessly as neighbors in western North Carolina (think Montreat) were stripped of their homes, clean drinking water, and even their lives. Personally, my heart hurt to see so many friends impacted.

The area has struggled to recover. The holiday season is coming up, and our neighbors are still in need of help, supplies, and prayers. One of our sister churches in the area, Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, has organized funds and Amazon wish lists that outline specific needs. Would you be interested in contributing to some of their needs? Click [here](#) to view their wish list and send them items directly. Want to help another way? Click [here](#) to see BMPC's relief web page. There are so many ways to bless hurricane victims near us, and this is just one avenue. How else can we help?

Summer





# 'Tis the Season! Angel Tree Tags are out!



Please take a look at our angel tree tags in the front Atrium and consider helping out a child in need this holiday season! If you find one, please take the front of the tag with you and fill out the back of the tag with your name, email address, and phone number and place it in the box for our records. As always, monetary donations are welcome as well - we will take care of the shopping for you! Gifts are due back to the church office by **December 8th! Thank you!**

Any questions, please e-mail [baysidepresbyterianangeltree@gmail.com](mailto:baysidepresbyterianangeltree@gmail.com) or get in touch with Cameron Bonney Evans directly!

Thank you to everyone who came out to assist and donated to the Thanksgiving food drive, basket assembly and distribution. With the generosity of members and friends of Bayside we were able to assist over 30 families to have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving meal.

A BIG  Thank YOU

The Scouts collected over 4000 pounds of food from the neighborhood. In addition to that, TOPS (an organization that meets here weekly) donated decorative items, (that the recipients loved to choose for their home), and \$170 in gift cards.

Without the generosity of the members and friends of Bayside, projects like this would not be as successful! Thank you!



Shelter Dates have been moved to the month of March. More information will be provided as the date gets closer.

PIN Ministry Shelter Dates

March 12 - March 19



COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Prayer Chain

**Bayside's Prayer Chain** is comprised of a small group of people who's desire is to be in prayer for others. Requests are sent to the Prayer Chain for those who are requesting prayer, but who's desire is to keep the request on a more private level. Prayer requests that are sent via the general email are requests from those who are okay with the whole congregation being aware of their circumstances.

If you have a desire, a passion, a talent for prayer, and are currently not on Bayside's Prayer Chain but would like to be, please email your request to Linda at [lvogl@baysidepresby.org](mailto:lvogl@baysidepresby.org) or call the church office.

## Membership Information Updated

Congregational Care will be developing and distributing an updated directory in early 2025. Be sure that your information is correct! Some things to consider . . . Have you moved recently? Do you have a new cell or home phone number? Do you still have a home number (landline)? Have you ever wondered why your birthday or anniversary is not published in the newsletter? Have you currently been married or possibly divorced?

Remember, only you can have your personal information updated in our membership software.

Send an email to Linda in the church office - ([lvogl@baysidepresby.org](mailto:lvogl@baysidepresby.org)) with any information that needs to be updated or changed.

The spirit of sermon series continues in **Advent**. During the four weeks of Advent, we'll use "Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness & Strength" as an anchor for our sermon series. (The same resource will also be used as a book study on Monday's in Advent; see the Christian Education page for details).

Advent is the beginning of our Christian (liturgical) calendar. Our liturgical new year begins on Sunday Dec 1, 2024. Unlike the festive New Year's on Jan 1, **the Advent season is a pensive one**. We prepare for the coming of Immanuel ("God with us") during a darkened season of waiting. The nights are longer, the darkness lingers, and waiting is no fun ride.

And yet, this time is necessary and holy. Let us, then, not rush to the jubilation. Let us linger in the taste of Advent for even in the waiting, God is near, and God is good.

Advent Blessings,

Aram

PS:

As some of you have already read from last month's session highlights, I have renewed my interim contract and will remain as interim pastor until Jan 1, 2026. (If you didn't receive the email with the November session highlights, please call the church

so we can add you to the Bayside email list.)

This is often the case with interim ministry--a renewal of a one-year contract as interim ministry, on average, takes longer than a year. I am excited to continue our work together so that we can wrap up the Mission Study Survey and continue onward with next steps. I'll include a detailed map of those next steps in the January Binnacle.

### Reminders:

We will have one combined worship at 11am on Dec 29, 2024 & Jan 5, 2025.

The church office will be closed on the following dates:

- Wednesday Dec 25, 2024 - Friday Dec 27, 2024
- Wednesday Jan 1, 2025

For any pastoral care emergencies when the office is closed (or at any time), call pastors Aram (609.658.7924) or Emma (313-580-4510).



# ... PEVA



## Compassion, Peace, and Justice Ministry Team (CPJ)

PEVA Wide Book Study  
Poverty by America  
By Matthew Desmond

Members of the Compassion, Peace, and Justice team will facilitate the 3-part study over the next year. If you miss a part at one place, you have the option to catch it another time. There will be a wrap-up discussion (break out) at the July 2025 Presbytery meeting at Hidenwood Presbyterian Church.

3 Locations! The PEVA Office, Portsmouth, VA (which will have a Zoom option), Denbigh United Presbyterian Church (in-person only), Newport News, VA, and Bayside Presbyterian Church (in-person only) Virginia Beach, VA

### Presbytery Office (in-person & Zoom):

Thursday, Oct. 24, 2024, at 6:30 pm  
Chapters 1-3

[Register for the Zoom Link for meeting 1](#)

Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024, at 6:30 pm  
Chapters 4-6

[Register for Zoom Link for meeting 2](#)

Thursday, Feb 27, 2025, at 6:30 pm  
Chapters 7-End

[Register for Zoom Link meeting 3](#)

### Denbigh United Presbyterian Church: (in-person only)

Tuesday, Nov 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.  
Chapters 1-3

Tuesday March 25, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.  
Chapters 4-6

Tuesday May 13, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.  
Chapters 7-End

### Bayside Presbyterian Church: (in-person only)

Monday, Dec 2, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.  
Rm 508 Chapters 1-3

Monday March 3, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.  
Rm 508 Chapters 4-6

Monday May 19, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.  
Rm 508 Chapters 7-End

The Digest for the 139th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia is now available.  
You can find it here [Digest](#)


# ... A SEMINARY

The Leadership Institute of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond offers a variety of educational opportunities to anyone who is interested. For more information, check out their website: <https://www.upsem.edu/leadership-institute/overview/>



CONNECTING WITH ...






Living Nativity  
December 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Share the story of Jesus's birth with family & friends!

Bayside Presbyterian Church  
1400 Ewell Rd, VBVA

Hot cocoa and cookies will be available in our Fellowship Hall.

*We hope you will come and take part in the Living Nativity - either by volunteering or by just watching the story unfold! Bring your family, your friends and your neighbors!*



Living Nativity  
December 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>  
5 pm – 8 pm

**Volunteers Needed!**

Bring out your inner actor or singer!

Volunteer to make and or serve cookies and hot cocoa.

See the Volunteer Display Board in the Atrium.



**Anne Baker**

I am Anne Baker. My husband Kenny and I have been members of Bayside since moving into Thoroughgood. We raised our children, Ryan and Carrie, in this church. Ryan even married his wife Caitlin at Bayside. After 40 years of teaching, I have retired this year. I look forward to more Gigi time with Charley, Hattie (Ryan) and Wilbur (Carrie), which involves traveling and I am fine with that.

As an incoming elder, I look forward to working with the members of my church. I ask for the church to pray for me to be a voice of innovation, of wisdom, and for the will of God.

**Stephen Baker**

Janet, our son Derek and I started attending Bayside in 2001. We were both still Active duty and had recently settled into a new home. We were searching for a church home and a new Cub Scout pack for Derek and saw a notice about Scout Sunday. Bayside was very welcoming and the connection with Troop 364 was an added bonus. We started attending regularly and shortly after, Dick Keever stopped by for a visit and Derek bonded with him immediately. 20+ years later, Derek has grown up with two children of his own (Derek Jr-4 1/2 and Elijah-3 1/2). He is halfway through a career in the Army; currently stationed in Fairbanks AK. The distance makes visiting challenging, but we're looking forward to their return to the lower 48 in the spring.

Making the decision to accept the invitation to serve on Session again wasn't easy; having retired from the Navy and then from civil service. I decided to take the leap. I've served for several years on the Property Ministry and I'm a back row Presbyterian working the A/V system. I'm looking forward to a new challenge and developing a deeper connection with the Church, here at BPC and within the Presbytery. I will be praying for wisdom, patience and discernment while serving as Elder.

**Tracy Davis**

My name is Tracy Davis and I have been a member of Bayside Presbyterian for almost 40 years. My husband, Neil Bonney, and I raised our children Tyler and Cameron here, and I am so grateful for all the positive people and experiences they were exposed to while growing up. I am a grandmother of two, Skylar and Clayton, and am expecting a third grandchild in the spring. I look forward to joining the Session and appreciate your prayers and support as our church navigates the changes ahead while we seek to grow and do the will of God.

# MEET OUR NEW SESSION MEMBERS



**Mary Hubbard**

My name is Mary Hubbard, husband Ben Hubbard, and I have 2 children and 5 grandchildren who live out of the area. I have been a Presbyterian for over 50 years, and have been a member of Ocean View, Great Bridge and now Bayside Presbyterian Church. I am excited to serve on Session at this time because I believe we are at a turning point with opportunities to grow and become an even more valuable asset to our community. Please pray that my experience, my unique gifts as a person and Session member, and my ability to discern the will of God will all be used to further the mission of Bayside.



**David Rudiger:**

I have been part of the BPC family since the early 1960s. My wife, Emily, and I met through the church. Over the years, I have attended and taught Sunday School, been in and helped with Youth Group, and served on Session twice.

I hope to be able to help lead the church during this important transitional period, and I appreciate all prayers for discernment.



**Tyler Stefkovich**

My name is Tyler Stefkovich and I am married to Heather Stefkovich. We are the proud parents of Luke, Nora and Nathan. All three children attended the preschool here at Bayside and continue to be involved with the youth programs. We appreciate the welcoming and friendly members. I'm looking forward to continuing to be an active member of the church and serving Christ for the betterment of Bayside Presbyterian. During this time, I ask for your prayers of guidance inside the church and out, along with prayers of the continued growth for our Bayside community as a whole.

Weak leaders of churches blame people and circumstances. Breakout church leaders accept responsibility and see God's possibilities in even difficult situations.

Thom S. Rainer



## Thank You BPC!

SPCA Donations From Pet Blessing on October 13, 2024

\$75 cash donations	22 sheets	Newspapers
5 blankets	52 towels	1 mattress pad
7 washrags	1 large storage container	4 dog beds
12 food/water bowls	1 heating pad	5 dog toys
5 bottles of Dawn	8 boxes of Ziploc bags	1 water bottle for dogs
A bag full of empty medicine bottles	9 cans of dog food	1 roll of doggie poop bags
3 bags of dog treats	2 cat/dog food mats	4 bags for holding dog treats
	1 bag of variety dog bows	1 roll of bags with holder







**CHRISTMAS**

- THE SAVIOR IS BORN -

## Christmas Eve Services

Family Candlelight Service

4 pm

Candlelight Service of  
Lessons and Carols

7 pm



**Bayside**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1400 Ewell Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
757-460-1188  
[www.baysidepresby.org](http://www.baysidepresby.org)

### **Join us Sunday Mornings**

Contemporary Worship  
9 am

Sunday School for All Ages  
10 am

Traditional Worship  
11 am

### ***Communion is celebrated***

1st Sunday of the month at the Combined  
Worship at 11 am

3rd Sunday of the month at our Contemporary  
Worship at 9 am

*We are a covenant community of Christ's people seeking to know and do the will of God.  
Changing lives. Growing Christian disciples. Living God's word.*



# Celebrations

## BIRTHDAYS

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1-Dec Ann Shafer        | 15-Dec Erica Bertholf |
| Gloria Wardrup          | Yunbyeong Chae        |
| Flavia Xavier           | Lynne Chewing         |
| 2-Dec Sue Graves        | Joanne Fillion        |
| 4-Dec Patricia Guerrero | Gloria Potter         |
| Marshall Miller         | 17-Dec Brian Golden   |
| Connie Zuidema          | Jean Maxwell          |
| 5-Dec Jeff Guerrero     | 21-Dec Jay Muscatello |
| 6-Dec Ruth Tenney       | Lauren Wheeler        |
| 7-Dec Don Shafer        | 22-Dec William Bensen |
| 8-Dec Jordan Simonelli  | Jennifer Davis        |
| 9-Dec Lauren Minson     | Angela Hamilton       |
| Lisa Touhey             | Stacy Saville         |
| 10-Dec James Pecsok     | 23-Dec Chip Rawls III |
| Nancee Shields          | Emily Rudiger         |
| 11-Dec Jennifer Gordon  | 24-Dec Stephen Opitz  |
| 12-Dec Earl Ludwick III | 26-Dec Holly Becker   |
| Jeffrey Walters         | Elizabeth Ficarra     |
| 13-Dec Judy Richards    | 27-Dec Todd Modlin    |
| 14-Dec Cathy Behrens    | 29-Dec Camden Dechert |
| Sarah Critzer           | 30-Dec Jenna Lambert  |
|                         | 31-Dec Tina Hamby     |

## ANNIVERSARIES

- |        |                         |
|--------|-------------------------|
| 6-Dec  | John & Jennifer Rayhill |
| 21-Dec | Steve & Gayle Ratajczyk |
| 24-Dec | Daniel & Lita Totten    |
| 28-Dec | Bill & Sandy Meredith   |
|        | Andy & Jen Widman       |
| 29-Dec | Joseph & Claire Schopen |
| 31-Dec | Martha & Paul Berryman  |

**A**  
 Partridge  
 In a Pear Tree  
 Two Turtle Doves  
 Three French Hens  
 Four Calling Birds  
 Five Gold Rings  
 Six Geese A Laying  
 Seven Swans A Swimming  
 Eight Maids A Milking  
 Nine Ladies Dancing  
 Ten Lords A Leaping  
 Eleven Pipers Piping

**TWELVE  
 DRUMMERS  
 DRUMMING**

# December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10:00 Advent Study On The Way to Bethlehem 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:30 Youth Group	<b>2</b> 11:30 Brown Bag Advent Study Call All Angels  7:30 Praise Team	<b>3</b> 9:00 Yard Crew 9:15 SIS Returns 2025 9:30 Staff Mtg  2:00 Book Club  7:00 Ministry Mtgs.	<b>4</b>   5:45 Kid's Choir 6:15 JAM 6:15 Handbells 7:00 Adult Choir	<b>5</b>   4:00 MOMCO 5:00 Taizé Service	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 Contemporary 10:00 Advent Study On The Way to Bethlehem 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional 5:30 Youth Group	<b>9</b> 11:30 Brown Bag Advent Study Call All Angels 11:30 Circle 8  7:30 Praise Team	<b>10</b> 8:00 Men's Brkfst 9:00 Yard Crew 9:15 SIS Returns 2025 9:30 Staff Mtg	<b>11</b>   5:45 Kid's Choir 6:15 JAM 6:15 Handbells 7:00 Adult Choir	<b>12</b>   5:00 Preschool Christmas Program	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:00 Men's Brkfst  11:00 Circle 10  5:30 Living Nativity
<b>15</b> 9:00 Contemporary 10:00 Advent Study On The Way to Bethlehem 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional 5:30 Living Nativity	<b>16</b> 11:30 Brown Bag Advent Study Call All Angels  7:30 Praise Team	<b>17</b> 9:00 Yard Crew 9:15 SIS Returns 2025 9:30 Staff Mtg  7:00 Session	<b>18</b> 5:30 Longest Night - A Blue Christmas Service 5:45 Kid's Choir No Handbell Practice 6:30 Adult Choir	<b>19</b>   4:00 MOMCO	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 Contemporary 10:00 Advent Study On The Way to Bethlehem 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional  5:30 Youth Group	<b>23</b> 11:30 Brown Bag Advent Study Call All Angels 11:30 Circle 8  7:30 Praise Team	<b>24</b>  <i>Christmas Eve</i> 4:00 Family Service 7:00 Candlelight Service of Carols And Lessons	<b>25 Office Closed</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> NO Men's Brkfst
<b>29</b> 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 One Worship	<b>30</b>   7:30 Praise Team	<b>31</b> 9:00 Yard Crew 9:15 SIS Returns 2025 9:30 Staff Mtg  				