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Sunday Schedules *(Click on the “blue” date below for that Sunday’s schedule)*

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Greeting

Welcome to the Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea. You will find wonderful information here about our parish and the upcoming events throughout our season. Bethesda is a vibrant and joyful community of people from all walks of life who come together to learn and to be inspired by our fellowship to make God’s love a living reality in our lives every day. The very center of our church’s life is Sunday worship, and nothing substitutes for being here with us. So come and join us on a Sunday morning soon.

Peace,

The Rev. James Harlan, Rector
Worship at Bethesda

Every Sunday is where life begins at Bethesda. Our worship is formal, intimate, transcendent, reflective, fun, and inspiring. We have communion as an integral part of every service with glorious liturgy and music, where we share together in a simple meal of bread and wine. We also celebrate Holy Eucharist during the week and offer a healing service on Wednesdays. While our worship may not be entirely familiar to you, we encourage you to join in as you are comfortable. All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the Holy Eucharist when visiting Bethesda-by-the-Sea. It is not necessary to be a member of the Episcopal Church in order to receive Holy Communion. Persons who have not been baptized are welcome to come to the altar rail and kneel to receive a blessing. Cross your arms on your chest as a sign that you desire a blessing. Worship at Bethesda is formal but need not be stiff. While many people prefer to wear their “Sunday finest” for church, others prefer to dress more casually. As God loves all, Bethesda welcomes all. Below is our schedule for our season.

SUNDAY | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.
TUESDAY | 8:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY | 12:05 p.m.

Directions

We are located at 141 South County Road at the intersection of South County and Barton Avenue in Palm Beach, FL.

Parking

Parking is permitted on South County Road on Sunday until 1:00 p.m. See our website, bbts.org, for more parking information.

Questions?

Check out our website, bbts.org, or contact the church (561) 655-4554 for more information. Be sure to connect with us on Facebook and Twitter!
The Shoppe at Bethesda

The Shoppe is nestled in the breezeway leading from the Garth to the Cluett Garden on the church property. At The Shoppe, you will find Prayer Books, Bibles, and an assortment of books selected by our clergy to aid in everyone’s spiritual growth and learning. We also offer a wide assortment of unique merchandise geared toward the seasons and special events of our church life. We are open following our services on Sunday.

The Church Mouse

Bethesda’s Church Mouse—
Serving those in need around the corner and around the world! We are located at 378 South County Road just south of Palm Beach’s Town Hall and just north of Worth Avenue. Our store is over 4,500 square feet, and we sell everything from top-shelf designer clothing, handbags, and accessories, to furniture, crystal, china, and books. Most importantly, 100% of the proceeds from The Church Mouse provide funds for Bethesda’s Outreach ministry. This ministry focuses on three key areas of need: Education, Food, and Shelter. We are open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Monday through Saturday).

Directions

The Church Mouse is located at 378 South County Road just south of Palm Beach’s Town Hall and just north of Worth Avenue.

Questions?

Contact The Church Mouse at (561) 659-2154 for more information about our resale store or to schedule a pick-up for your gently-used donations.
Life at Bethesda
The key guide below will help you access an event by category and for whom the event is intended:

**Care:** At Bethesda-by-the-Sea we clothe ourselves in compassion through our Pastoral Care Ministry, “Bethesda Cares,” an organizational structure that includes the clergy, staff, and trained lay members of the congregation. Through a network of helping hands and hearts, this inreach ministry provides support to members of the congregation during times of need. Visit our “Care” page on our website for information about the ministries we offer, including Eucharistic Visitors, the prayer chain, and clergy visitation.

**Education:** Bethesda offers rich learning opportunities for Children, Youth, and Adults that speak to all aspects of our life of faith. All are welcome to participate and join in the lifelong journey of learning and grow’s in our faith.

**Fellowship:** Through fellowship we develop and build connections, and through those relationships we grow closer to God. Bethesda provides many opportunities for making those connections such as the International Potluck, Ministry Fair, Picnics, etc. The goal is to foster Christian fellowship among all members, guests and visitors, to embrace individual differences, and to provide opportunities to experience the strong presence of God.

**Give:** All that we have is a gift from God and our lives are an expression of gratitude. Financial gifts ensure Bethesda continues to be a vibrant, energetic community—including our beautiful sacred space, our music, and our worship. Making a pledge to the mission and ministry of Bethesda also helps us practice a personal spiritual commitment increasing our love of God and neighbor. Another way to give to Bethesda is to become a member of the Heritage Society and include Bethesda in your will. We benefit from generations of generosity by members of Bethesda. Our planned gifts help carry forward our ministries for our children and grandchildren.
Leadership: At Bethesda we have 18 lay members, elected by the parish, who make up our Vestry. The Rector and Vestry set the course for our church’s spiritual and financial direction. Vestry meetings are open to all members. All of Bethesda is encouraged to attend our Annual Meeting and Town Hall Meetings.

Music: Our concerts and choral services throughout the year include our first-Sunday of the month Evensong (October through May, each preceded by a half-hour Recital), a service of Advent Lessons and Carols, the annual Christmas Concert and Community Carol Sing, A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, the annual Boar’s Head and Yule Log Festival, and special Good Friday music (usually a Requiem with orchestra accompaniment).

Outreach: At Bethesda, one of our essential commitments is to serve. We serve within the community of faith through a variety of worship, fellowship, and care ministries. We also serve in the world around us, moving beyond charity to building relationships with people beyond our church walls. These relationships enable us to encounter Christ and share in God’s compassion, particularly for those who are poor and suffering. Bethesda has a myriad of opportunities to build our lives of faith and our community of faith by working toward a just and compassionate world.

Worship: At Bethesda, our goal is to provide loving, supportive, and uplifting worship for members and visitors where all can understand and experience the word of God through liturgy, instruction, music, and prayer.

Other useful keys to indicate what age group that the event designed for are below:

Children: These events are open to children through 5th grade.
Youth: These events are open to youth in 6th through 12th grade.
Adult: These events/groups are open to adults such as Men of Bethesda (MOB), St. Mary’s Guild, or Episcopal Church Women (ECW). However, some of these groups are for men only or women only.
Parish Wide: These events are open to the entire parish and all are encouraged and welcome to attend.
Recurring Sunday Schedule & Sunday School Offerings

Sunday Worship

Sundays | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 a.m. is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with music offered by the Bethesda Choir. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sunday School Offerings

Pray and Play Group

Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Sunday School Hall
Our Pray and Play Group (available for all children ages 3 & 4) uses lessons and resources from Godly Play to engage young minds in the teachings of the Old and New Testaments through storytelling and imaginative play. Each week, children will learn a different story from the Bible and be able to interact with it through child-friendly toys.

Story Group

Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Sunday School Hall
For our Kindergarten and 1st Grade children we have a class that engages them in the lessons of the lectionary, the Bible readings assigned for each Sunday worship service. Each week children will explore the readings from worship in more detail through centers-based learning.

Arts Group

Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Sunday School Hall
For all children in 2nd to 5th Grade who learn best through creating, either through visual arts, creative drama, music, science projects, etc., we offer a class that focuses on learning through art. Each month we will explore one Bible story through a variety of artistic disciplines.
Service Group
Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Sunday School Lounge
For children in 2nd to 5th Grade who learn best through helping others, we offer a class that focuses on participating in outreach ministries at Bethesda-by-the-Sea. For one month each, children will participate in annual service projects including the Blessing of the Animals, the Port Ministry SOS Project, the Angel Tree, Feeding in February, etc.

Explorers Group
Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Sunday School Lounge
For children in 2nd to 5th Grade who learn best through getting out of the classroom and exploring the community around them we offer a class that focuses on reaching out to our Bethesda community and beyond. Children will participate in a program called Christ Walk Kids where they apply lessons from Christian life (taking care of the planet, sharing our resources with the community, making mistakes, prayer) and learn real world ways they can apply those concepts in their lives.

Questions Group
Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Library
For our 6th & 7th grade youth, we offer a primer class for confirmation that focuses on learning the basics of Christian beliefs while encouraging our young people to ask hard questions about their faith.

Confirmation Group
Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | ECW Room
In this class, available for all youth in 8th Grade, we explore beliefs, specifically the beliefs that make up Episcopal theological understanding through the three areas of scripture, tradition, and reason. Together, we learn where our beliefs meet the beliefs of a 2,000 year old tradition that has been passed down to us and what that means for our lives. Youth have the option to be confirmed at the bishop’s visitation in the Spring.

Mission Group
Sundays | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Youth Room
This year our high school-aged youth will work on a mission project for the year. As we’ve done over the past three years, youth will discern, budget, and raise funds for a summer mission trip in 2018. This group is open to all youth in 9th to 12th grades including those who are away at boarding school.
December 2017

**St. George’s Sandwich Making**

**Friday, December 1 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen**

Every Friday people of all ages meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

**Backpack Food Program**

**Friday, December 1 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall**

Join us each Friday for Backpacks with Blessings. Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. They are given to parents who come to collect their child at the day’s end. Parents are asked to read at least one book to each of their young children over the course of the weekend in thanksgiving. They return the empty backpacks to the school on Monday so they may be filled again for the following Friday. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.
Know Your Number: An Introduction to the Enneagram

Know Your Number is a foundational course and is the first step in working with the Enneagram, an ancient personality typing system that will profoundly deepen your understanding and love for yourself, others, and God. In this retreat, Joey Stabile Schewee of Life in the Trinity Ministry (Dallas, Texas) introduces the nine Enneagram Types:

Challenger, Peacemaker, Perfectionist, Helper, Performer, Romantic, Investigator, Loyalist, Enthusiast

Each personality type is reviewed in detail, including an evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the Types, and the likely interpersonal challenges that may be involved in an unhealthy expression of the Type. Scheduled at the beginning of Advent, this retreat is offered for those who want to dive deeper into a spiritual consciousness in this season of expectation and preparation. Cost is $60 per person and includes lunch on Saturday. Registration is required, click here and register now or contact Ayana at (561) 655-4554 or e-mail her at ayana@bbts.org.

Introduction to the Enneagram
Friday, December 1 | 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. | Parish Hall

Advent Retreat Continues
Saturday, December 2 | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Parish Hall
Nautical Knitters
Saturday, December 2 | 10:30 a.m. | Library
Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.

Holy Eucharist—Advent I
Sunday, December 3 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. During Advent the Sunday School children process and help to build the Crèche. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with music offered by the Bethesda Choir. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please see the complete list of Sunday School Offerings on page 8.

Fellowship Breakfast
Sunday, December 3 | 8:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Parish Hall West
We will have a full breakfast, with a rotating menu, for $5 per person starting at 8:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall West. After 10:00 a.m., a simpler fare, Fellowship Finger Foods, will be provided until 1:00 p.m. with no cost to our parishioners. During this time, one of the clergy, on a rotating basis, will be in the fellowship area. The hosting clergy will stay for fellowship with the parish until time to convene the adult forum and will return to fellowship before the end of the 11:00 a.m. service.

Adult Forum
The Enneagram in Practice; God and Ourselves
Sunday, December 3 | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Parish Hall East
Joey Stabile Schewee, lifelong student of the enneagram and leader of this weekend’s Advent Retreat, joins us this morning to offer a practical, comprehensive way of accessing Enneagram wisdom and exploring its connections with Christian spirituality for a deeper knowledge of ourselves, compassion for others, and love for God.
Advent Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 3 | 4:00 p.m. | Church
Sixteen years after introducing the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols to King’s College, Cambridge, the Dean created this service for Advent. He stated that the purpose of the service was “not to celebrate Christmas, but to expect it.” The beautiful Bidding Prayer at the beginning of the service describes the lessons which will be read. Advent carols are sung by the Bethesda Choir, and many of the great hymns of Advent are sung by the congregation. There is no recital preceding this service, but Prelude music will begin at approximately 3:50 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Men of Bethesda (MOB)
Monday, December 4 | 7:30 a.m. | Parish Hall
The Men of Bethesda is a group of men from our congregation who share monthly fellowship and prayer, gathering on the first Monday morning of each month in our Parish Hall. As well, we enjoy occasional evening socials at our church, homes, and local restaurants with our loved ones and friends. All men are invited and encouraged to attend.

St. Mary’s Guild (SMG)
Monday, December 4 | 10:30 a.m. | Guild Room
St. Mary’s Guild is a group of women who meet the first Monday of the month through May. The morning begins with a business meeting followed by a scheduled speaker and a delicious luncheon. The SMG is open to all women of Bethesda and new members/guests are welcome at any time.

Intercessory Prayer
Monday, December 4 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.

Holy Eucharist
Tuesday, December 5 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel
Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Holy Eucharist and Healing
Wednesday, December 6 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel
This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-Hands for those who wish.
St. George’s Cooking
Wednesday, December 6 | 1:30 p.m. | Kitchen
Every first and third Wednesday of the month people of all ages meet in the kitchen to cook a hot meal for St. George’s Center in Riviera Beach. It takes approximately 1.5 hours. Others meet at 4:30 p.m. at the center to serve the meal which takes approximately 2.5 hours. If every household here at Bethesda commits to just one Wednesday, we will be on a three year rotation for volunteering! For more information, please contact Father Thomas at (561) 655-4555 x104 or e-mail outreach@bbts.org.

Bethesda Book Group
Wednesday, December 6 | 3:00 p.m. | Library
The Bethesda Book Group is a group of readers who meet every month for a book discussion. Come to one meeting—or come to all. No reservations are required and anyone is welcome to attend. This month we will be reading and discussing A.J. Cronin’s The Citadel.

Community Supper
Wednesday, December 6 | 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. | Parish Hall East
We invite you to join other Bethesdans for a catered, informal Community Supper. Every week will be a different menu and the cost is $10 for adults; $5 children under 12; $25 family max (payable at the door). Kindly RSVP by clicking HERE or call Ayana at (561) 655-4554. The supper is from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. then you can choose a class that interests you from 6:30 to 7:40 p.m., and we will close the evening with compline in the choir stalls from 7:50 to 8:00 p.m.

Featured Classes
Liturgy through the Ages
Wednesday, December 6 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Guild Room
Our liturgy at its best is both fresh and new on the one hand, and tried and true on the other. With the Rector, we will learn about some of the rich heritage that has shaped us as Christians and Episcopalians and formed the prayers that we pray each Sunday. We will especially learn about some of the ancient worship traditions present in the British Isles in the earliest centuries of the Christian Church. We will also explore what our liturgy does today that inspires and strengthens us and discuss what it might look like in the future.
Inquirers’ Class

Wednesday, December 6 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Library
If you’ve ever wanted to know more about The Episcopal Church, who we are and why we believe what we do—and exactly what we do believe—you’re invited to join Father Burl in this eight-week course drawn from Christopher Webber’s book Welcome to the Episcopal Church. This course is specifically designed for those adults desiring confirmation or reception at Bishop Eaton’s visit on December 13, but is open to and welcoming of all inquiring souls wishing to strengthen their faith. The course is informal and discussion-based.

RECURRING CLASSES

Bible Study

Wednesday, December 6 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | ECW Room
From Genesis to the Revelation, reading the Bible together is a meaningful way for us to deepen our faith while strengthening our ties to one another and the church community. Each Wednesday, Father Thomas and other clergy will offer an informal and instructive opportunity to study the Bible with a focus on historical perspective and scripture’s meaning for us in the daily living of our lives. So, bring your bibles to the ECW Room—or use one of ours—for an ongoing opportunity to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest God’s word.

Liturgy Group

Wednesday, December 6 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Sunday School Hall
For all children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade who are interested in learning more about what we do on Sunday mornings in our worship services, the Wednesday Liturgy Class will teach them more about what we do and why. Over the course of the year we will explore elements of the Holy Eucharist more in-depth with our young people and also train them to become worship leaders for Sunday services. Topics will include communion, acolyting, music, the liturgical calendar, and saints. If you’ve ever wanted a class to teach your child about what we do in worship, don’t miss this wonderful opportunity.

Yoga

Wednesday, December 6 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Parish Hall West
Physical therapist and yoga therapist, Emily Large, invites all adults for an evening of holistic worship through Christian yoga practice. Physical postures, relaxation, breath techniques and mental focus create a holistic approach for worship as we will reflect on the themes associated with the liturgical calendar. This method is quite efficient, resulting in a systematic and time friendly approach to nourish the body, mind, and spirit. All abilities and conditions are encouraged to attend as Emily skillfully offers
appropriate modifications to those in need. To see Emily’s biography, go to www.livinglargetherapy.com. A requested donation of $10 per class (payable at the door).

**Bethesda Youth Group **
*Wednesday, December 6 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Youth Room*
The Bethesda Youth Group will move from our traditional Thursday night meetings to Wednesday nights to join our Middle Way ministries. Come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and stay for Youth Group until 7:40 p.m. The Bethesda Youth Group is a fellowship group open to all those in 6th through 12th grade. Members also participate in monthly special events including our annual lock-in, service day, and camping trip to Peanut Island.

**Compline**
*Wednesday, December 6 | 7:50 to 8:00 p.m. | Church*
An ancient, brief, and contemplative liturgy of the Christian tradition, compline offers an opportunity to give God thanks for the day behind us and pray for rest and safety in the night ahead. A fitting end to the day, compline offers a peaceful and meditative sacred time in the middle of our often frenetic weeks, as well as a beautiful conclusion to our Wednesday evenings together.

**St. George’s Sandwich Making**
*Friday, December 8 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen*
Every Friday people of all ages meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

**Backpack Food Program**
*Friday, December 8 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall*
Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

**Wine and Fellowship Under the Stars**
*Friday, December 8 | 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. | Cluett Garden*
Join us for a special cocktail party of fellowship, wine, and appetizers. All are invited! A contribution of $10 per person is suggested. You can RSVP in the Cloister on Sundays in October or by sending an e-mail to ayana@bbts.org.
Bethesda Life 📁 PW
Saturday, December 9 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
Come get a fresh perspective on Bethesda's ministries at Bethesda Life! Whether you are new to Bethesda, or have been attending for years, we encourage you to join us to learn more about the mission, history, organization, and life of both the Episcopal Church and Bethesda-by-the-Sea. Father James and other church leaders will present the ministries of Worship, Education, Outreach, Bethesda Cares, Stewardship, Fellowship & Hospitality, and Evangelism & Communication. This is a wonderful opportunity for all to identify with one or more areas in which you feel called to serve, as well as to meet other parishioners—new and long-time. A continental breakfast is served beginning at 8:45 a.m. and the session is from 9:00 a.m. to noon with lunch immediately following. Please sign-up in advance by calling April Lawrence in the church office at (561) 655-4555 x112, or e-mail her at april@bbts.org.

Nautical Knitters 📖 PW
Saturday, December 9 | 10:30 a.m. | Library
Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.

Holy Eucharist–Advent II 📖 PW
Sunday, December 10 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. During Advent the Sunday School children process and help to build the Crèche. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with Morning Prayer as the “service of the word” and music offered by the Bethesda Choir. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please see the complete list of Sunday School Offerings on page 8.
**Fellowship Breakfast**
Sunday, December 10 | 8:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Parish Hall West
We will have a full breakfast, with a rotating menu, for $5 per person starting at 8:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall West. After 10:00 a.m., a simpler fare, Fellowship Finger Foods, will be provided until 1:00 p.m. with no cost to our parishioners. During this time, one of the clergy, on a rotating basis, will be in the fellowship area. The hosting clergy will stay for fellowship with the parish until time to convene the adult forum and will return to fellowship before the end of the 11:00 a.m. service.

**Adult Forum: The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn**
Sunday, December 10 | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Parish Hall East
A dear friend of Bethesda, Canon Gunn, Executive Director of Forward Movement, returns to us this morning to share about Forward Movement, a ministry of far-reaching, bilingual, print and e-publications for group and individual study, born of the Great Depression and thriving in a changing landscape of spirituality and connectivity.

**Church Tour**
Sunday, December 10 | 12:15 p.m. | Church
We offer a Church Tour every second and fourth Sunday of the month. The tour will include information about architecture and the beautiful embellishments of the church. The tour is presented by Ann Elizabeth Hall and members of the Church Tour Committee. This tour is open to anyone interested in learning more about our beautiful church.

**Intercessory Prayer**
Monday, December 11 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.

**Holy Eucharist**
Tuesday, December 12 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel
Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

**Holy Eucharist and Healing**
Wednesday, December 13 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel
This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-Hands for those who wish.

**Bethesda Youth Group**
Wednesday, December 13 | 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. | Youth Room
Come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and stay for Youth Group until 8:00 p.m. The Bethesda Youth Group is a fellowship group open to all those in 6th
through 12th grade. Members also participate in monthly special events including our annual lock-in, service day, and camping trip to Peanut Island.

**Adult Confirmation and Holy Eucharist with Bishop Eaton**

*Wednesday, December 13 | 6:30 p.m. | Church*

The Right Reverend Peter Eaton will preside at this special service, confirming and receiving several of our adults. A reception in the Garth will follow the service. Please plan on joining us for this very special occasion.

**St. George’s Sandwich Making**

*Friday, December 15 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen*

Every Friday people of all ages meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

**Backpack Food Program**

*Friday, December 15 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall*

Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

**Nautical Knitters**

*Saturday, December 16 | 10:30 a.m. | Library*

Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.
LEAD US TO YOUR PRESENCE

HOLY EUCHARIST AND HEALING—Advent III
Sunday, December 17 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. During Advent the Sunday School children process and help to build the Crèche. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with music offered by the Bethesda Choir. An opportunity for Anointing Laying-on-of-Hands is offered following the 11:00 a.m. service. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please see the complete list of Sunday School Offerings on page 8.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST
Sunday, December 17 | 8:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Parish Hall West
We will have a full breakfast, with a rotating menu, for $5 per person starting at 8:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall West. After 10:00 a.m., a simpler fare, Fellowship Finger Foods, will be provided until 1:00 p.m. with no cost to our parishioners. During this time, one of the clergy, on a rotating basis, will be in the fellowship area. The hosting clergy will stay for fellowship with the parish until time to convene the adult forum and will return to fellowship before the end of the 11:00 a.m. service.

ADULT FORUM
Maintaining Emotional Health Amidst the Holidays
Sunday, December 17 | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Parish Hall East
While many deck the halls with boughs of holly, the holiday season can be deeply challenging for others. Join us this morning to hear practical ideas for coping with cultural jollity while tending to encroaching, emotional darkness amidst the festivities around us.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER
Monday, December 18 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.
**Christmas Concert**
**and Community Carol Sing**

*Monday, December 18 | 7:30 p.m. | Church*

Bethesda presents one of our area’s most popular Christmas concerts! The Bethesda Choir performs with some of the finest instrumentalists in our area, and the audience sings many favorite Christmas carols with the excitement of full orchestra accompaniment. A requested donation of $20 will be received at the door. All are welcome and encouraged to attend—come early to get a seat.

**Holy Eucharist**

*Tuesday, December 19 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel*

Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

**Caregivers’ Support Group**

*Tuesday, December 19 | 5:30 p.m. | Library*

Elayne Forgie, Founder, President, and CEO of Alzheimer’s Care Resource Center, Inc. will facilitate this group. Whether your caregiving is a result of illness, age, disability, death, divorce, or anything else, if you are now or have past experience caring for a friend or loved one, this may be the place for you to find information and support. For more information, contact Regine Reimann at (561) 655-4555 x117 or e-mail her at reimann@bbts.org.

**Holy Eucharist and Healing**

*Wednesday, December 20 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel*

This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-of-Hands for those who wish.

**Vestry Meeting**

*Wednesday, December 20 | 3:00 p.m. | Guild Room*

Vestry meetings are held monthly (except during the summer) and are required meetings for all elected Vestry members. The meetings are also open for any member to attend. After a short devotional time, an official meeting is conducted in which the Vestry discusses and acts upon church issues for which it has oversight.

**St. George’s Cooking**

*Wednesday, December 20 | 1:30 p.m. | Kitchen*

Every first and third Wednesday of the month people of all ages meet in the kitchen to cook a hot meal for St. George’s Center in Riviera Beach. It takes approximately 1.5 hours. Others meet at 4:30 p.m. at the center to serve the meal which takes approximately 2.5 hours. For more information, please contact Father Thomas at (561) 655-4555 x104 or e-mail outreach@bbts.org.
Bethesda Youth Group
Wednesday, December 20 | 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. | Youth Room
Come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and stay for Youth Group until 8:00 p.m. The Bethesda Youth Group is a fellowship group open to all those in 6th through 12th grade. Members also participate in monthly special events including our annual lock-in, service day, and camping trip to Peanut Island.

St. George’s Sandwich Making
Friday, December 22 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen
This day people of all ages will meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

Backpack Food Program
Friday, December 22 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal—Full Cast
Saturday, December 23 | 10:00 a.m. to noon | Church
The full Christmas Pageant rehearsal for all cast members will be at 10:00 a.m. in the church. We will walk through the full pageant twice and fit any last minute costumes for children that need them. The Christmas Pageant will be Sunday, December 24, at 4:00 p.m. For more information, contact Greg Knight at knight@bbts.org or call him at (561) 655-4555 x114.

Nautical Knitters
Saturday, December 23 | 10:30 a.m. | Library
Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.
HOLY EUCHARIST–ADVENT IV

Sunday, December 24 | 9:00 a.m. | Church

The 9:00 a.m. service will be in the setting of a traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist, in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home, participants of all ages will explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. Parishioners will process and help to build the Crèche on the final Sunday of Advent. Parishioners are encouraged to stay after the service to help the Flower Guild decorate the church for our Christmas services. Refreshments and food will be provided in the Parish Hall.
Christmas Eve Services
Sunday, December 24 | 4:00, 6:30, and 10:30 p.m.

- **Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist at 4:00 p.m.** Join us for a wonderful Bethesda tradition with our annual Christmas Pageant, as the children and youth of our parish live out the story of Jesus’ birth in Luke’s Gospel, from the Annunciation to the manger.
- **Holy Eucharist at 6:30 p.m.** The Bethesda Choir and an instrumental ensemble provide music for this traditional Christmas Eve service.
- **Festal Eucharist at 10:30 p.m.** The Bethesda Choir and an instrumental ensemble provide music for this traditional Christmas Eve service.

Christmas Day Services
Monday, December 25 | 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

- **Holy Eucharist at 9:00 a.m.** This spoken service will celebrate the joy of welcoming the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- **Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m.** This service is a perfect way to worship with music by the Bethesda Choir and celebrate the joy of welcoming the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Office Closed
Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26
We will resume normal office hours on Wednesday, December 27. Blessed Christmas to all!

Holy Eucharist and Healing
Wednesday, December 28 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel
This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-of-Hands for those who wish.

Luncheon for the Homebound and Holy Eucharist
Thursday, December 28 | 11:00 a.m. | Church
This enjoyable and uplifting holiday service is provided each year for our parishioners who may have difficulty attending regularly as well as for residents of area skilled nursing and rehabilitation facilities. We begin with a hot holiday luncheon served in the Parish Hall at 11:00 a.m., followed by Holy Eucharist in the church. We need volunteers to help with all aspects of this event including registration and helping guests as they arrive for the service, assisting them over to the Parish Hall for lunch, serving the meal, and clean-up after the event. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact April Lawrence at (561) 853-0958 or e-mail her at april@bbts.org.

St. George’s Sandwich Making
Friday, December 29 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen
This day people of all ages will meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

Backpack Food Program
Friday, December 29 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
Join us each Friday for Backpacks with Blessings. Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. They are given to parents who come to collect their child at the day’s end. Parents are asked to read at least one book to each of their young children over the course of the weekend in thanksgiving. They return the empty backpacks to the school on Monday so they may be filled again for the following Friday. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.
**Nautical Knitters**

Saturday, December 30 | 10:30 a.m. | Library

Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.

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**Lessons & Carols, Holy Eucharist, & Reception Honoring Hal Pysher**

Sunday, December 31 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. This Sunday our Christmas celebration continues with Lessons and Carols. At the 9:00 a.m. service, a shortened selection of lessons will precede Holy Communion. At the 11:00 a.m. service, our annual service of lessons and carols this year will honor Hal Pysher’s 30 years of ministry as Associate for Music and Liturgy at Bethesda-by-the-Sea with special music, a mass choir including current and former members of the Bethesda Choir, and special guest musicians. Following the service, there will be a reception for the entire parish to celebrate. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. *Our Adult Forum schedule and Sunday School Offerings will resume on Sunday, January 15.*

**Christmas Wassail**

Sunday, December 31 | 9:50 a.m. | Parish Hall

Join us for a special coffee hour following our 9:00 a.m. service as we continue our Christmas celebration with this traditional beverage.
January 2018

Office Closed
Monday, January 1
We will resume normal office hours on Tuesday, January 2.

Holy Eucharist
Tuesday, January 2 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel
Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Holy Eucharist and Healing
Wednesday, January 3 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel
This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-Hands for those who wish.

St. George’s Cooking
Wednesday, January 3 | 1:30 p.m. | Kitchen
Every first and third Wednesday of the month people of all ages meet in the kitchen to cook a hot meal for St. George’s Center in Riviera Beach. It takes approximately 1.5 hours. Others meet at 4:30 p.m. at the center to serve the meal which takes approximately 2.5 hours. If every household here at Bethesda commits to just one Wednesday, we will be on a three year rotation for volunteering! For more information, please contact Father Thomas at (561) 655-4555 x104 or e-mail outreach@bbts.org.
Bethesda Book Group
Wednesday, January 3 | 3:00 p.m. | Library
The Bethesda Book Group is a group of readers who meet every month for a book discussion. Come to one meeting—or come to all. No reservations are required and anyone is welcome to attend. This month we will be reviewing three short stories by different authors.

St. George’s Sandwich Making
Friday, January 5 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen
This day people of all ages will meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

Backpack Food Program
Friday, January 5 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
Join us each Friday for Backpacks with Blessings. Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. They are given to parents who come to collect their child at the day’s end. Parents are asked to read at least one book to each of their young children over the course of the weekend in thanksgiving. They return the empty backpacks to the school on Monday so they may be filled again for the following Friday. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

Boar’s Head & Yule Log Festival
Saturday, January 6 | 3:30 p.m. | Church
A perennial favorite of the Christmas season returns! Pipes and Drums, Beefeaters, Sprites, Shepherds, the Three Kings and their Pages, Mary and Joseph, Flag Bearers, Jesters, the Herald, King Wenceslas and his Page, a Brass Quintet, the mighty Austin organ, and the Bethesda Choir . . . all will be in place as our Festival takes place on the weekend closest to The Feast of the Epiphany, twelve days after Christmas! All are welcome and encouraged to attend. A requested donation of $20 will be received at the door.
2018 Annual Campaign: Commending the Past—Embracing the Future
Sunday, January 7 | Pledge Cards Available following services
Life is an opportunity. Life is a journey. A journey to saying “yes” to God who calls us the Beloved. Life is a journey to love, to peace and to generosity. On our journey, we learn from the ones who have come before us, from the witness of their lives. The gospel stories we hear each week inform, challenge, and inspire us. As we remember the past we are always moving forward, growing, becoming, embracing the future. As we welcome the new we discover ever deeper ways of saying “yes” to God and becoming the person God creates us to be. The 2018 Annual Campaign at Bethesda, Commending the Past—Embracing the Future, invites us to make a commitment to further the mission of Bethesda to love and serve. A pledge to the Bethesda 2018 Annual Campaign is an opportunity to take another step in our journey to generosity. It is a way to return to God what God has so generously given to us. Because it is a known amount, contributions in the form of a pledge help Bethesda make informed budget decisions on operating expenses and commitments to the many ministries of Bethesda.

Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist
Sunday, January 7 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with music offered by the Bethesda Choir. We will also baptize and welcome new members at the 11:00 a.m. service. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Our Adult Forum schedule and Sunday School Offerings will resume on Sunday, January 14.
Boar’s Head & Yule Log Festival
Sunday, January 7 | 2:00 and 4:30 p.m. | Church
A perennial favorite of the Christmas season returns! Pipes and Drums, Beefeaters, Sprites, Shepherds, the Three Kings and their Pages, Mary and Joseph, Flag Bearers, Jesters, the Herald, King Wenceslas and his Page, a Brass Quintet, the mighty Austin organ, and the Bethesda Choir . . . all will be in place as our Festival takes place on the weekend closest to The Feast of the Epiphany, twelve days after Christmas! All are welcome and encouraged to attend. A requested donation of $20 will be received at the door.

Men of Bethesda (MOB)
Monday, January 8 | 7:30 a.m. | Parish Hall
Because of New Year’s Day, the MOB will meet on the second Monday. The Men of Bethesda is a group of men from our congregation who share monthly fellowship and prayer, gathering on the first Monday morning of each month in our Parish Hall. As well, we enjoy occasional evening socials at our church, homes, and local restaurants with our loved ones and friends. All men are invited and encouraged to attend.

St. Mary’s Guild (SMG)
Monday, January 8 | 10:30 a.m. | Guild Room
Because of New Year’s Day, the SMG will meet on the second Monday. St. Mary’s Guild is a group of women who usually meet the first Monday of the month through May. The morning begins with a business meeting followed by a scheduled speaker and a delicious luncheon. The SMG is open to all women of Bethesda and new members/guests are welcome at any time.

Intercessory Prayer
Monday, January 8 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.
Holy Eucharist and Healing
Wednesday, January 10 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel
This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-of-Hands for those who wish.

Bethesda Youth Group
Wednesday, January 10 | 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. | Youth Room
Come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and stay for Youth Group until 8:00 p.m. The Bethesda Youth Group is a fellowship group open to all those in 6th through 12th grade. Members also participate in monthly special events including our annual lock-in, service day, and camping trip to Peanut Island.

Widow’s Walk
Thursday, January 11 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Led by Gayle Petersen, this group serves as an opportunity for widows of all ages to discuss how to navigate the waters of widowhood, no matter how recent or distant that reality is. Discussion in the group centers around Miriam Neff’s book From One Widow to Another; Conversations on the New You. Meetings are Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Library.

St. George’s Sandwich Making
Friday, January 12 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen
Every Friday people of all ages meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

Backpack Food Program
Friday, January 12 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
Join us each Friday for Backpacks with Blessings. Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. They are given to parents who come to collect their child at the day’s end. Parents are asked to read at least one book to each of their young children over the course of the weekend in thanksgiving. They return the empty backpacks to the school on Monday so they may be filled again for the following Friday. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

Nautical Knitters
Saturday, January 13 | 10:30 a.m. | Library
Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.
2018 Annual Campaign: Building for the Future

Sunday, January 14 | Pledge Cards Available following services

Life is an opportunity. Life is a journey. A journey to saying “yes” to God who calls us the Beloved. Life is a journey to love, to peace and to generosity. On our journey, we learn from the ones who have come before us, from the witness of their lives. The gospel stories we hear each week inform, challenge, and inspire us. As we remember the past we are always moving forward, growing, becoming, embracing the future. As we welcome the new we discover ever deeper ways of saying “yes” to God and becoming the person God creates us to be. The 2018 Annual Campaign at Bethesda, Building for the Future, invites us to make a commitment to further the mission of Bethesda to love and serve. A pledge to the Bethesda 2018 Annual Campaign is an opportunity to take another step in our journey to generosity. It is a way to return to God what God has so generously given to us. Because it is a known amount, contributions in the form of a pledge help Bethesda make informed budget decisions on operating expenses and commitments to the many ministries of Bethesda.

Holy Eucharist and Healing

Sunday, January 14 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with Morning Prayer as the “service of the word” and music offered by the Bethesda Choir. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please see the complete list of Sunday School Offerings on page 8.
Fellowship Breakfast 🥣
Sunday, January 14 | 8:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Parish Hall West
We will have a full breakfast, with a rotating menu, for $5 per person starting at 8:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall West. After 10:00 a.m., a simpler fare, Fellowship Finger Foods, will be provided until 1:00 p.m. with no cost to our parishioners. During this time, one of the clergy, on a rotating basis, will be in the fellowship area. The hosting clergy will stay for fellowship with the parish until time to convene the adult forum and will return to fellowship before the end of the 11:00 a.m. service.

Ministry Fair 🌈
Sunday, January 14 | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Parish Hall
If you have missed Bethesda’s Annual Ministry Fair in September, then we encourage you to attend a smaller version on Sunday, January 14. This is the perfect opportunity to learn and sign-up to volunteer in our different ministries.

Church Tour 🏄
Sunday, January 14 | 12:15 p.m. | Church
We offer a Church Tour every second and fourth Sunday of the month. The tour will include information about architecture and the beautiful embellishments of the church. The tour is presented by Ann Elizabeth Hall and members of the Church Tour Committee. This tour is open to anyone interested in learning more about our beautiful church.

Intercessory Prayer 🌱
Monday, January 15 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.

Holy Eucharist 🚪
Tuesday, January 16 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel
Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Caregivers’ Support Group 🌸
Tuesday, January 16 | 5:30 p.m. | Library
Elna Forgie, Founder, President, and CEO of Alzheimer’s Care Resource Center, Inc. will facilitate this group. Whether your caregiving is a result of illness, age, disability, death, divorce, or anything else, if you are now or have past experience caring for a friend or loved one, this may be the place for you to find information and support. For more information, contact Regine Reimann at (561) 655-4555 x117 or e-mail her at reimann@bbts.org.
**Women at the Well Winter Bible Study**

Wednesday, January 17 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

This year we will be studying the Old Testament Book of Ruth. It is the story of God’s grace and love in difficult times. Ruth’s story happens in a period of disobedience, idolatry, and violence in the world. It is also a story of romance, redemption, and hope. Even in times of crisis and despair, we can find encouragement in how God is at work in our lives and how we can bring His love and redemption to the world we live in today. Please join us for this women’s six week study, lead by The Rev. Cecie Titcomb, Ellen Kaufmann, Georgie Skover, and Vivian Chen. For more information and sign up please call Ayana at the church office at (561) 655-4554.

**Holy Eucharist and Healing**

Wednesday, January 17 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel

This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-of-Hands for those who wish.

**St. George’s Cooking**

Wednesday, January 17 | 1:30 p.m. | Kitchen

Every first and third Wednesday of the month people of all ages meet in the kitchen to cook a hot meal for St. George’s Center in Riviera Beach. It takes approximately 1.5 hours. Others meet at 4:30 p.m. at the center to serve the meal which takes approximately 2.5 hours. If every household here at Bethesda commits to just one Wednesday, we will be on a three year rotation for volunteering! For more information, please contact Father Thomas at (561) 655-4555 x104 or e-mail outreach@bbts.org.

**Community Supper**

Wednesday, January 17 | 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. | Parish Hall East

We invite you to join other Bethesdans for a catered, informal Community Supper. Every week will be a different menu and the cost is $10 for adults; $5 children under 12; $25 family max (payable at the door). Kindly RSVP by clicking HERE or call Ayana at (561) 655-4554. The supper is from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. then you can choose a class that interests you from 6:30 to 7:40 p.m., and we will close the evening with compline in the choir stalls from 7:50 to 8:00 p.m.
FEATURED CLASSES

Celtic Spirituality
Wednesday, January 17 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Guild Room
As a complement to the three Sunday morning forums beginning on January 21 about the context of Celtic spirituality, the next three Wednesday evenings we’ll dive deeper into the spirituality itself. We will be focusing specifically on theologies and spiritual practices that characterize this unique expression of Christianity that especially informs Anglicanism and comes down through history into our own Episcopal Church and our Book of Common Prayer. Join us as we uncover the transformative depth of this vital thread within our tradition.

Bethesda at Its Best!
Wednesday, January 17 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Library
Come one, come all for a behind-the-scenes look at what makes Bethesda the special place that it is. Over a series of four weeks, join the clergy and vestry as we discuss the history, mission, and organization of this remarkable parish and how each of these beautiful threads comes together into a diverse and spirit-filled tapestry. Whether you’ve been here for years or a couple of weeks, you’re invited to join this great conversation.

RECURRING CLASSES

Bible Study
Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | ECW Room
From Genesis to the Revelation, reading the Bible together is a meaningful way for us to deepen our faith while strengthening our ties to one another and the church community. Each Wednesday, Father Thomas and other clergy will offer an informal and instructive opportunity to study the Bible with a focus on historical perspective and scripture’s meaning for us in the daily living of our lives. So, bring your bibles to the ECW Room—or use one of ours—for an ongoing opportunity to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest God’s word.

Liturgy Group
Wednesday, January 17 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Sunday School Hall
For all children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade who are interested in learning more about what we do on Sunday mornings in our worship services, the Wednesday Liturgy Class will teach them more about what we do and why. Over the course of the year we will explore elements of the Holy Eucharist more in-depth with our young people and also train them to become worship leaders for Sunday services. Topics will include communion, acolyting, music, the liturgical calendar, and saints. If you’ve ever wanted a class to teach your child about what we do in worship, don’t miss this wonderful opportunity.
Yoga
Wednesday, January 17 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Parish Hall West
Physical therapist and yoga therapist, Emily Large, invites all adults for an evening of holistic worship through Christian yoga practice. Physical postures, relaxation, breath techniques and mental focus create a holistic approach for worship as we will reflect on the themes associated with the liturgical calendar. This method is quite efficient, resulting in a systematic and time friendly approach to nourish the body, mind, and spirit. All abilities and conditions are encouraged to attend as Emily skillfully offers appropriate modifications to those in need. To see Emily’s biography, go to www.livinglargetherapy.com. A requested donation of $10 per class (payable at the door).

Bethesda Youth Group
Wednesday, January 17 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Youth Room
The Bethesda Youth Group will move from our traditional Thursday night meetings to Wednesday nights to join our Middle Way ministries. Come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and stay for Youth Group until 7:40 p.m. The Bethesda Youth Group is a fellowship group open to all those in 6th through 12th grade. Members also participate in monthly special events including our annual lock-in, service day, and camping trip to Peanut Island.

Compline
Wednesday, January 17 | 7:50 to 8:00 p.m. | Church
An ancient, brief, and contemplative liturgy of the Christian tradition, compline offers an opportunity to give God thanks for the day behind us and pray for rest and safety in the night ahead. A fitting end to the day, compline offers a peaceful and meditative sacred time in the middle of our often frenetic weeks, as well as a beautiful conclusion to our Wednesday evenings together.

Widow’s Walk
Thursday, January 18 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Led by Gayle Petersen, this group serves as an opportunity for widows of all ages to discuss how to navigate the waters of widowhood, no matter how recent or distant that reality is. Discussion in the group centers around Miriam Neff’s book From One Widow to Another; Conversations on the New You. Meetings are Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Library.

St. George’s Sandwich Making
Friday, January 19 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen
Every Friday people of all ages meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.
**Backpack Food Program**

**Friday, January 19 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall**

Join us each Friday for Backpacks with Blessings. Volunteers fill twenty 30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early 1930’s. They are given to parents who come to collect their child at the day’s end. Parents are asked to read at least one book to each of their young children over the course of the weekend in thanksgiving. They return the empty backpacks to the school on Monday so they may be filled again for the following Friday. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

**Nautical Knitters**

**Saturday, January 20 | 10:30 a.m. | Library**

Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are welcome to attend this fun and free activity.

**Holy Eucharist**

**Sunday, January 21 | 8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. | Church**

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 9:00 is a Rite II service in which any long-time Episcopalian will feel right at home. Participants of all ages explore the scripture, tradition, and reason at the foundation of our beliefs as we seek to learn through instruction, grow through liturgical service, and teach generations of Christians in our worship together. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with music offered by the Bethesda Choir. An opportunity for Anointing and Laying-on-of-Hands is offered following the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please see the complete list of Sunday School Offerings on page 8.
FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST  
Sunday, January 21 | 8:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Parish Hall West
We will have a full breakfast, with a rotating menu, for $5 per person starting at 8:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall West. After 10:00 a.m., a simpler fare, Fellowship Finger Foods, will be provided until 1:00 p.m. with no cost to our parishioners. During this time, one of the clergy, on a rotating basis, will be in the fellowship area. The hosting clergy will stay for fellowship with the parish until time to convene the adult forum and will return to fellowship before the end of the 11:00 a.m. service.

ADULT FORUM: Celtic Spirituality  
Sunday, January 21 | 9:50 to 10:50 a.m. | Parish Hall
Continuing our emphasis on Celtic spirituality, the next three Sunday morning forums will look at the geography, history, and liturgies of Ireland, Scotland, and England, and the form of Christianity that thrived in each of those places, united by an unique and pervasive spirituality borne of the very particular culture of the Celtic peoples. Join us as we become more familiar with the specifics of Father James’s sabbatical and prepare for our own Celtic pilgrimage in May of 2019.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER  
Monday, January 22 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.

HOLY EUCHARIST  
Tuesday, January 23 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel
Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

WOMEN AT THE WELL WINTER BIBLE STUDY  
Wednesday, January 24 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
This year we will be studying the Old Testament Book of Ruth. It is the story of God’s grace and love in difficult times. Ruth’s story happens in a period of disobedience, idolatry, and violence in the world. It is also a story of romance, redemption, and hope. Even in times of crisis and despair, we can find encouragement in how God is at work in our lives and how we can bring His love and redemption to the world we live in today. Please join us for this women’s six week study, lead by The Rev. Cecie Titcomb, Ellen Kaufmann, Georgie Skover, and Vivian Chen. For more information and sign up please call Ayana at the church office at (561) 655-4554.

HOLY EUCHARIST AND HEALING  
Wednesday, January 24 | 12:05 p.m. | Chapel
This service provides an opportunity to receive Anointing and Laying-on-of-Hands for those who wish.
Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, January 24 | 3:00 p.m. | Guild Room
Vestry meetings are held monthly (except during the summer) and are required meetings for all elected Vestry members. The meetings are also open for any member to attend. After a short devotional time, an official meeting is conducted in which the Vestry discusses and acts upon church issues for which it has oversight.

Community Supper
Wednesday, January 24 | 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. | Parish Hall East
We invite you to join other Bethesdans for a catered, informal Community Supper. Every week will be a different menu and the cost is $10 for adults; $5 children under 12; $25 family max (payable at the door). Kindly RSVP by clicking HERE or call Ayana at (561) 655-4554. The supper is from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. then you can choose a class that interests you from 6:30 to 7:40 p.m., and we will close the evening with compline in the choir stalls from 7:50 to 8:00 p.m.

Featured Classes

Celtic Spirituality
Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Guild Room
As a complement to the recent Sunday morning forums about the context of Celtic spirituality, we continue our discussion on theologies and spiritual practices that characterize this unique expression of Christianity that especially informs Anglicanism and comes down through history into our own Episcopal Church and our Book of Common Prayer. Join us as we uncover the transformative depth of this vital thread within our tradition.

Bethesda at Its Best!
Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Library
Come one, come all for a behind-the-scenes look at what makes Bethesda the special place that it is. Over a series of four weeks, join the clergy and vestry as we discuss the history, mission, and organization of this remarkable parish and how each of these beautiful threads comes together into a diverse and spirit-filled tapestry. Whether you’ve been here for years or a couple of weeks, you’re invited to join this great conversation.
RECURRING CLASSES

**Bible Study**
**Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | ECW Room**
From Genesis to the Revelation, reading the Bible together is a meaningful way for us to deepen our faith while strengthening our ties to one another and the church community. Each Wednesday, Father Thomas and other clergy will offer an informal and instructive opportunity to study the Bible with a focus on historical perspective and scripture's meaning for us in the daily living of our lives. So, bring your bibles to the ECW Room—or use one of ours—for an ongoing opportunity to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest God's word.

**Liturgy Group**
**Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Sunday School Hall**
For all children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade who are interested in learning more about what we do on Sunday mornings in our worship services, the Wednesday Liturgy Class will teach them more about what we do and why. Over the course of the year we will explore elements of the Holy Eucharist more in-depth with our young people and also train them to become worship leaders for Sunday services. Topics will include communion, acolyting, music, the liturgical calendar, and saints. If you’ve ever wanted a class to teach your child about what we do in worship, don’t miss this wonderful opportunity.

**Yoga**
**Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Parish Hall West**
Physical therapist and yoga therapist, Emily Large, invites all adults for an evening of holistic worship through Christian yoga practice. To see Emily’s biography, go to [www.livinglargetherapy.com](http://www.livinglargetherapy.com). A requested donation of $10 per class (payable at the door).

**Bethesda Youth Group**
**Wednesday, January 24 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Youth Room**
The Bethesda Youth Group will move from our traditional Thursday night meetings to Wednesday nights to join our Middle Way ministries. Come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and stay for Youth Group until 7:40 p.m. The Bethesda Youth Group is a fellowship group open to all those in 6th through 12th grade. Members also participate in monthly special events including our annual lock-in, service day, and camping trip to Peanut Island.

**Compline**
**Wednesday, January 24 | 7:50 to 8:00 p.m. | Church**
An ancient, brief, and contemplative liturgy of the Christian tradition, compline offers an opportunity to give God thanks for the day behind us and pray for rest and safety in the night ahead. A fitting end to the
day, compline offers a peaceful and meditative sacred time in the middle
of our often frenetic weeks, as well as a beautiful conclusion to our
Wednesday evenings together.

WIDOW’S WALK 🗓️ PW
Thursday, January 25 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Led by Gayle Petersen, this group serves as an opportunity for widows of
all ages to discuss how to navigate the waters of widowhood, no matter
how recent or distant that reality is. Discussion in the group centers around
Miriam Neff’s book *From One Widow to Another; Conversations on the New
You*. Meetings are Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Library.

ST. GEORGE’S SANDWICH MAKING 🍜 🌐 PW
Friday, January 26 | 8:00 a.m. | Kitchen
Every Friday people of all ages meet in the Kitchen to make sandwiches for
the St. George’s Community Center in Riviera Beach, FL.

BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM 🍜 🌐 PW
Friday, January 26 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
Join us each Friday for Backpacks with Blessings. Volunteers fill twenty
30-liter backpacks with assorted dry food items that will help feed a hungry
family over a weekend. The backpacks are delivered to Opportunity Early
Childhood & Family Center which was founded by Bethesda in the early
1930’s. For more information, please contact Lee Daniels at outreach@bbts.org.

NAUTICAL KNITTERS 🧶 🌐 PW
Saturday, January 27 | 10:30 a.m. | Library
Nautical Knitters are a group of knitters who provide handmade watch caps
and scarves for the Port Ministry. These necessities are then blessed and
given to mariners at the Port of Palm Beach. All—including beginners—are
welcome to attend this fun and free activity.
2018 Annual Campaign: Building for the Future

Sunday, January 28 | Celebration Sunday—Ingathering of Pledge Cards

In celebration of our life together, we will combine the ingathering of our pledges with our Annual Meeting and picnic on Sunday, January 28. Our Annual Meeting will celebrate the accomplishments of 2017 and look toward the exciting future at Bethesda in 2018. During each service, there will be an opportunity to come forward and place our pledge cards on the altar. This is an outward and visible sign of our gratitude for all that God is doing through the ministry of Bethesda. Of course, you may send your pledge card in at any time. We will have a blank card for you to come forward with that day.

Commissioning of the Vestry and Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 28 | 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. | Church

Because of the Annual Meeting, there will NOT be a 9:00 a.m. service.

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 is a spoken Rite I service. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. is a traditional Rite II service, with music offered by the Bethesda Choir. We will commission our Vestry and welcome new members at the 11:00 a.m. service. Nursery care is available from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sunday School Offerings will resume on Sunday, February 5.
Annual Meeting, Election of Vestry Members, and Annual Parish Picnic

Sunday, January 28 | 9:15 a.m. | Parish Hall
The Annual Meeting includes: electing new Vestry members, electing delegates to the Diocesan Convention, an update on 2017 results and 2018 plans, and our Stewardship celebration. We will have the opportunity to talk about our parish life, and to share the excitement and challenge of all that God is calling us to accomplish in the coming year. The Annual Meeting is an important component of our system of governance. An old-fashioned Parish Picnic will follow in the Garth. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken, side dishes, and dessert! Vegetarian and gluten free options are available. The cost is $10 Adults; $5 Children under 12 years old; $25 Family Max. We hope everyone will take this opportunity to celebrate their membership of the Bethesda family.

Intercessory Prayer

Monday, January 29 | 11:00 a.m. | Library
Come join us on Mondays for a short meditation and prayer time. All are welcome to attend.

Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, January 30 | 8:00 a.m. | Chapel
Join Father James every Tuesday for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Women at the Well Winter Bible Study

Wednesday, January 31 | 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall
This year we will be studying the Old Testament Book of Ruth. It is the story of God’s grace and love in difficult times. Ruth’s story happens in a period of disobedience, idolatry, and violence in the world. It is also a story of romance, redemption, and hope. Even in times of crisis and despair, we can find encouragement in how God is at work in our lives and how we can bring His love and redemption to the world we live in today. Please join
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Wednesday, January 31 | 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. | Parish Hall East
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**Featured Classes**

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**Yoga**

Wednesday, January 31 | 6:30 to 7:40 p.m. | Parish Hall West

Physical therapist and yoga therapist, Emily Large, invites all adults for an evening of holistic worship through Christian yoga practice. Physical postures, relaxation, breath techniques and mental focus create a holistic approach for worship as we will reflect on the themes associated with the liturgical calendar. This method is quite efficient, resulting in a systematic and time friendly approach to nourish the body, mind, and spirit. All abilities and conditions are encouraged to attend as Emily skillfully offers appropriate modifications to those in need. To see Emily’s biography, go to [www.livinglargetherapy.com](http://www.livinglargetherapy.com). A requested donation of $10 per class (payable at the door).
Compline

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Bethesda’s Mission is to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ’s teachings through collective worship, learning, and service.