

Announcements

1. ALTAR FLOWERS-

- The beautiful flowers on our altar were provided by the Bernadini family in celebration of son Jordan’s 28th birthday.
- The sign-up sheets for altar flowers for Jan-April 2026 are now posted on the narthex bulletin board. Reserve your special date now to provide altar flowers during worship service to celebrate a special occasion or remember a loved one.

2. ANGEL TREE- The Angel Tree gifts in support of AID this Christmas were much appreciated by their recipients. Thank you to all who donated. To learn more about this organization and how you can continue to support them throughout the year, visit aidcares.org.

3. NAME THE CAMEL- Submit your suggestion to name the newest addition to our nativity set, the charming camel. Vote in the narthex- the winning name will be announced next week!

4. CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS Hard to believe, but it’s that time already. Tomorrow, January 5, starting at 10am, we will be taking down all the Christmas decorations at the church. It is a big job and we need as many volunteers as possible! Even if you can only come for an hour, every bit of help is appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Small Group: Loyal Leaders class (10:15am)
Children’s Church (9:20 am)

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Director John Kwon / yoahn4piano@gmail.com
Handbell Choir Sherry Allen / sherryamail@gmail.com
Children & Youth Choirs Bonni Pear / bpear@agencyinmotion.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

Bradley Bibbs / bradley.bibbs@gmail.com
Angelica Bibbs / aeliasmagadan22@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS

Live Worship Technician
Dorothea Ryneearson / dcryneearson@gmail.com
Web Master Gwen Daniels / gwendelyndaniels@gmail.com

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS

Rev. Sang Hun Han, Pastor
Office: 630.851.8010 ext. 2 Email: crosshsh55@bfvumc.org
Rev. Dr. Marvin McClain, Pastoral Care Minister
Office: 630.851.8010 ext. 1 Email: pastormarvin@bfvumc.org
Christine Pommier, Director of Administrative Ministries
Office 630.851.8010 ext.1 Email: info@bfvumc.org

This Week at Bethany

SUN Jan 4	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Online	9:00 am
	Loyal Leaders		10:15 am
MON Jan 5	Christmas-undecorate	BFVUMC	10:00 am

SAINTS IN ACTION

Worship Leader:	Jacquee Lawrence
Ushers:	Charles Bibbs, Don & Amelia Stern
PowerPoint Preparer:	Jacquee Lawrence
Greeters:	Jan Allman & Laura Garvey
In-Person Slide Operator:	Ken & Jacquee Lawrence
Online Worship Service:	Dorothea Ryneearson

	11/30	12/7	12/14	12/21
IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE	29	48	29	51
ON-LINE ATTENDANCE	6	1	6	-
WEEKLY OFFERING	\$1,170	\$4,638	\$5,120	\$TBD

2025 APPORTIONMENT ALLOCATION: \$27,396
PAID THROUGH NOV: \$5,780

January 4, 2026

THE VACATION



BETHANY OF FOX VALLEY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2200 RIDGE AVE. AURORA, IL 60504
WWW.BFVUMC.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/BETHANYFOXVALLEY

Epiphany Sunday

* Indicates that worshippers are to stand if able.
Congregational responses are in bold print.

Worship Leader: Jacquee Lawrence

ENTRANCE & PRAISE

Prelude	“The Comfort of God” (W.S. Martin)	John Kwon
Greetings		Rev. Marvin McClain
Announcements		Jacquee Lawrence
Opening Hymn	“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”	UMH #173
1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light, Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o’er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.		
2. Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee; joyless is the day's return, till thy mercy's beams I see; till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.		
3. Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, Radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief; more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.		

*Call to Worship

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.		
Passing Peace of Christ	“O How He Loves...”	TFWS #2108
O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me! He gave his life. What more could he give? O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!		
Joys and Concerns		
The Lord’s Prayer		(Screen)

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Contemplation Hymn **“We Would See Jesus”** UMH# 256

- 1.** We would see Jesus; lo! his star is shining above the stable while the angels sing; There in a manger on the hay reclining; haste, let us lay our gifts before the King.
- 2.** We would see Jesus, Mary’s son most holy, light of the village life from day to day; shining revealed through every task most lowly, the Christ of God, the life, the truth, the way.
- 3.** We would see Jesus, on the mountain teaching, with all the listening people gathered round; while birds and flowers and sky above are preaching the blessedness which simple trust has found.

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

*Scripture Reading	Matthew 16: 13–16	Jacquee Lawrence
Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah		
¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”		
¹⁴ They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”		
¹⁵ “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”		
¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”		
This is the Word of Life for all the people of God.		
Thanks be to God.		

Offering Our Gifts to God’s Service

Offertory Anthem	“This is My Father’s World”	John Kwon
*Doxology	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	UMH #95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.		

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept, O Lord, these offerings your people make to you, and grant that the work to which they are devoted may prosper under your guidance, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

You may give your offering at www.bfvumc.org/online-giving, scan the QR code to the right, or mail it to:

Bethany of Fox Valley UMC
2200 Ridge Ave. Aurora, IL. 60504



Sermon: **“The Vacation”** Rev. Marvin McClain

COMMUNION SUNDAY & SENDING FORTH

Holy Communion-	A Service of Word and Table	Screen
Prayer after Communion:		
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.		
Closing Hymn	“This is My Father’s World”	UMH #144
1. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.		
2. This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise, the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise. This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair; in the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.		
3. This is my Father's world. O let me ne’er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad? The Lord is King; let the heavens ring! God reigns; let the earth be glad!		

*Benediction Rev. Marvin McClain

Leader: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

People: Amen.

*Postlude	Traditional Anglican Melody	John Kwon
We are glad that you joined us this morning in worship. We hope that you find strength, renewal, and a sense of peace going through the coming week.		