THE TOWER

Bethel Presbyterian Church
563 Bethel Green Road, Staunton, Virginia 24401

540-886-6041 or bethelpc@gmail.com
Website –bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org

June, 2015

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Dear Church Family,

As the weather continues to get warmer and summer rapidly approaches, I wanted to take a moment to congratulate all of our graduates. For those of you graduating from High School and heading off to more school, the military, or the work force I wish you well. And for those of you that have graduated from college, good luck in the so called 'real world'.

But to all of you, you are entering into a new phase of your lives. You will have less supervision from Mom and Dad or from professors, RAs, or administrators. With this new found freedom I want to encourage you all to make good choices. Don't forget the lessons that you have been taught and most importantly, don't forget that the Church loves you and will always welcome you.

In fact, that's a good lesson for us all. The summer often brings a more lackadaisical approach to the Church and to God. Of course, I know that the summer is the perfect time for vacations, I myself am going out of town for a few weeks. But I want to encourage us all to remember our responsibilities to worship God. When you are in town, I hope to see you at Bethel, and when you are out of town, I encourage you to find a place that you can worship God.

God bless,
Pastor David

As We See It

We are now entering into what the Church calls 'Ordinary Time'. Unlike the Lent and Easter seasons, there are very few special holidays during Ordinary Time. There is no Good Friday or Pentecost. Instead the Church returns to the normal day-in, day-out routine of worship.

But that's kind of nice, actually. As special as the extraordinary holidays of our church year are, they can also be hectic. Returning to a more calm schedule can help us to hone in on what is important: worshiping God.

After all, every Sunday is a holiday (holiday=holy-day). And Ordinary Time allows us to enter into a routine of focusing our lives on God.

June Worship Services

June 7, 2015
10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Read: I Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20 II Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35

June 14, 2015
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Read: I Samuel 15:34-16:13 II Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 Mark 4:26-34

June 21, 2015
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Father's Day
Read: I Samuel 17:32-49 II Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41

June 28, 2015
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Read: II Samuel 1:1, 17-27 II Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43

A scene from Bethel's past

Graduate Recognition Sunday and Lemonade on the Lawn
During the worship service on June 7th, Bethel will be recognizing our graduates. (A complete list of graduates begins on page 9 of the Tower.) Following the worship service we will have Lemonade on the Lawn to honor our graduates and our new members from the past year. Come and join us as we celebrate and fellowship together!

There will be a Vespers Service here at Bethel on the evening of June 14th at 7:00 pm to celebrate with all of our young people who have completed another year of school. This service is open to all so please come out and join us as we praise God for another successful school year!

The July Tower Deadline will be Thursday, June 18th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the July Tower can be left in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall or you can email them to: bethelpc@gmail.com. If you turn in items after the deadline Adrienne cannot guarantee they will be included in the Tower. When writing announcements for the newsletter please keep in mind the 5 W's: Who? What? When? Where? Why?. Please remember that all announcements and information are subject to editing. Thank you!

ATTENTION ALL! There will be a Potluck Dinner on Thursday, June 18th, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish and join us for a meal and an evening of activities for all ages. At 7:00 pm the adults will attend David's Bible study group. The young adults, youth, and children will then go to three assigned areas for appropriate age level activities. Bring a friend and join us for this special event and time of fellowship. We look forward to seeing you on June 18th!

Memorial Hall during renovation

Vacation Bible School

Our Vacation Bible School will be ecumenical again this year! We will be joining our friends from Mt. Tabor Lutheran, Redeemer Lutheran, and St. John's Reformed churches this summer. Vacation Bible School will be held at Bethel from Monday, June 22nd - Friday, June 26th and all ages are welcome. Join us for this exciting week of fellowship and activities as we study God's word at "CAMP DISCOVERY: Jesus at Work through Us".

Dinner will be at 6:00 pm and VBS will end each evening at 8:30 pm.
Each church will provide the meal and lesson on the following nights:
Monday, June 22nd - Bethel Tuesday, June 23rd - Mt. Tabor
Wednesday, June 24th - St. John's Thursday, June 25th - Redeemer
Friday, June 26th - Bethel
Bethel will host the last evening with a cookout at the picnic pavilion and chapel located in the woods across Bethel Green Road from the church.

We hope to see everyone at VBS for an exciting time of fellowship, fun and learning!

Presbyterian Women - June 2015 Emphasis - Christian Family Education

*The Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 9th, at 1:30 pm.

*The Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 9th at 7:00 pm.

Annual Catered Dinner
All women are invited to the Ladies Annual Catered Meal. It will be held on Tuesday, July 14th, at the Middlebook Community Center at 6:30 pm. The meal will be catered by Country Kitchen of Christiansburg and the cost will be $14.00 per person. Please RSVP for yourself and your guests by June 25th to either Libby Smith at 337-2058, Yvonne Goodson at 712-0678, or Louise Hoy at 886-3314.

BAJA MISSION TEAM PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

2015 Baja Suitcase

There are six members from Bethel (Laura Barmore, Keith Folsom, Robert and Kenneth Olson, Maggie Rivers and Kymberlee Schneider) going to Baja, Mexico from July 17th through July 26th. This year the group will again be taking a "Baja Suitcase" filled with donations of toys, household goods, clothing and hygiene items. Below is a list of items that are useful and appreciated. Beginning Monday, June 1st, this suitcase will be in the vestibule at the back of the Sanctuary for you to place your donations in. The deadline for donations is Monday, July 6th. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Below is a list of items that are always useful to the team in furnishing the home. These are suggestions and they are not limited to the list below:

- Single and Double Bed Sheets and Pillowcases
- Curtain Rods and Curtains - Single Windows (4 windows) and Panels for Room Dividers
- Bath Towels and Wash Cloths
- Kitchen Towels
- Kitchen Utensils
- Flatware
- Light Blankets for Twin or Full Size Beds
- Pillows
- Small Hand Mirrors

Below is a list of items that are always popular with the children. These are suggestions and they are not limited to the list below:

- Deflated Soccer, Kick and Footballs and Pump
- Tennis Balls
- Frisbees
- Balloons
- Crayons, Pencils and Sharpeners
- Drawing Pads
- Hair Accessories and Small Purses

General Items Needed

- Hygiene Items - Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Brush, Comb, Deodorant, Tampons, Pads, Diapers
- Clothing for Children and Babies
- Clothing for Small Adults (Small, Medium, some Large)
- Light Jackets
- Children and Adult Shoes (Small Sizes)

Baja Team Car Wash and Bake Sale!

On Saturday, June 6th from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm at Advance Auto Parts on Greenville Avenue in Staunton (across from the Mall), the Baja team will have a Car Wash and Bake Sale. Bring your dirty cars or trucks for a clean shine. Anyone wanting to donate any baked goods may leave them labeled in the kitchen by Friday, June 5th at 6:00 pm.

Yard Sale in support of Bethel's Baja Build Team, Los Humildes

On June 20th, from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm, the Baja Team members will be holding a yard sale on Route 11, south of Staunton, in the parking lot of Bruce Lamond's Auto Sales/ Premiere Autobody (across from the DMV). They would love to accept donations of items that will be used to support this important mission. Contact Keith Folsom at 294-0025 if you have items too heavy to deliver. The team will figure out transportation for those items. Otherwise, items can be brought to church and placed in the storage room above Memorial Hall, where the team will look for them. The team will be loading things for the yard sale up until the evening of Friday, June 19th, if you want to bring them late. As always, the team from Bethel, but especially the families in Baja, appreciates the gifts of support from this church. Thanks to all!

Hygiene Kits for Baja

The ladies of the church are preparing hygiene kits for the Baja Mission Team to take with them when they go to Baja in July. The hygiene kits include the following items:

Toothbrush and Toothpaste	Comb or Brush
Bar of soap	Washcloth and Hand Towel
Deodorant	Razor

The above items are to be placed in a one gallon plastic ziplock bag with all packaging removed. All kits need to be brought to the church by June 25th so they can be ready for shipment. There will be a container in Memorial Hall for the kits to be placed in. This project is being sponsored by the PWCT but is open to everyone in the church to participate in.

Kroger Donation Program

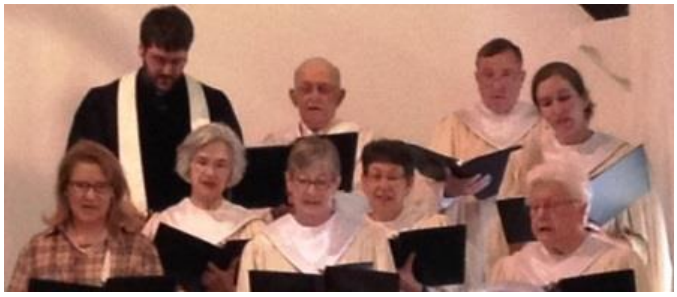
Thank you for using your Kroger Gift Card in recent years to help Bethel receive more than $3,000 in donations. Although Kroger has eliminated the Gift Card for its charitable donations to organizations, they will still donate to Bethel if you register your Kroger Plus Card, linking it to our church.

There are two ways to register your Kroger Plus card:

1. Go to krogercommunityrewards.com to register your Plus card, follow the prompts and choose the Bethel organization or its number, 83198.
2. Call Kroger at 1-800-853-3033, give them your plus card number and the Bethel organization number, 83198.

Credits will then be applied to Bethel whenever you scan your Kroger Plus card at Kroger checkout. Please contact Joyce Miller if you need help in the registration process: 540-255-9136 or rimcorp@msn.com.

Since the Choir is taking off the months of June and July we are asking for volunteers to sing or play during the worship service. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Church Office. Thank you!



In order to keep our Bethel calendars up to date, we request that all committee chairmen and all heads of other groups in the church submit all additions or corrections to the calendars by email to bethelpc@gmail.com AND to jlwebb320@comcast.net. Thank you.

Schedule of Committee Meeting Changes

The Christian Education Committee will have a meeting on Sunday, June 7th at 12:30 pm (following Lemonade on the Lawn).

The Growth & Strengthening Committee will have a meeting on Tuesday, June 30th at 6:30 pm.

Session News and Notes

The Session met on Monday, May 11th, at 7:00 pm with nine elders and the moderator present.

Barbara Gough and Bonnie Shearer reported on the Bethel pictorial directory. It will be available to congregation members in paper form and online. Penny Lee and Bonnie have volunteered to take the photos and a donation of $20 per individual or family is suggested to cover the printing cost.

David Turner suggested two changes to his portion of the Memorial Hall project: 1) change the Sunday School room enclosures on the balcony from 'doors with sidelights' to 'doors with windows' to be more visually proportional and allow more light to pass through and 2) eliminate bead board wainscot from the plans and install only chair rail. He also suggested that hammered glass, similar to that in Bethel's exterior windows, be used in the windows in the enclosures. All were approved.

Jill Webb reported that the new furniture for Memorial Hall has been ordered.

Jill Webb and Pastor David will attend the Presbytery meeting on May 12th in Hinton, Va.

Susan Smith plans to resign from the positions of Youth Leader and Sunday School Superintendent and the Christian Education Committee is looking for someone to take on those responsibilities. Susan will continue to lead Children's Church.

Pastor Dennis Russell of St. John's and Pastor David will hold an Ascension service on Thursday, May 14, at our chapel.

The Witness Committee will ask for donations of gifts appropriate for teen-aged children for Kingsway's Christmas gift program.

Bonnie Shearer and Linda Tenney will transfer their memberships to Bethel.

Laura Barmore challenged everyone to bring a new person to Bethel for worship and/or special events.

Parging walls

Bethel Photo Directory Project

Growth and Strengthening Committee is working with other committees and the Session to create and produce a Church Directory. In years past, we have worked with a studio on the directory, but we now feel we have skills in the church that can create a similar directory in house. Directories will be made available for a suggested donation of $20 to cover printing costs.

We will announce the Sundays that pictures of families will be taken, before and after church. Members can show up any of those published dates and have informal pictures taken for the directory. A digital version will be made available to members for simple reproduction at Staples, Wal-Mart or many other locations. A group photo of as many members as possible will also be taken on the Church steps. Dates to be announced. If you have any questions ask Tom, Barb, Penny, Bonnie, Marty or Jackie.

Former Nursery School location being transformed.

Memorial Hall Project

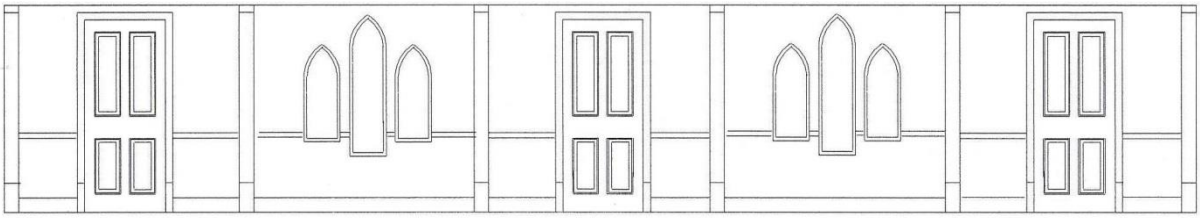
Thank you to all who stopped by Sunday May 17th after worship to speak with us about the Memorial Hall project. Most of the furniture for Memorial Hall has been ordered. We are still looking for chairs to be used with a new drop leaf table which David Turner will make. David and Ethan are busy enclosing the upstairs classrooms, what was four rooms is now three rooms. David took out one wall to create a larger center room that will become the Deacons' meeting place and a classroom. The remaining two rooms will be used for storage. David will also be making doors for the mailbox cabinet, adding length to the session table and installing a closet next to the new family rest room. Tim Turner is turning the stairway that went down to the old men's bathroom into a closet that will have a trap door. This closet will be used to store our sidewalk signs and also serve as a place to put donations for Kingsway. Until it is finished, the closet will be kept locked. You may still leave donations for Kingsway in Memorial Hall. These projects are being paid for by the 21st Century Fund and Memorial Fund.

We are also working on Phase II, which will include new furniture for the Bumgardner Classroom that will complement Memorial Hall furniture.

Donations for Phase II may be made to the Bethel Memorial Fund. As we move to complete this project and the new Session room (old preschool room), we continue to ask for your patience, support and prayers.

Your Memorial Hall Team: Cindy Almarode, Ginny Gano, Lee Ann Heizer, Libby Smith, Jill Webb and Cynthia Williams.

Preschool Room



Memorial Hall

Graduating Class of 2015

Please join the Christian Education Committee and the Growth & Strengthening Committee in congratulating our graduates this year. They are well prepared to lead the way into the future. We will recognize graduates in our June 7th service. The list of graduates follows below.

Congratulations Graduates!
Graduating From High School . . . .

Jennifer Callison - Daughter of Jimmy and Debra Callison; Graduating from Riverheads High School with honors; Attending Virginia Tech in the fall; Planning to major in University Studies initially.

Keely Fresh - Daughter of Larry and Bethany Fresh; Granddaughter of Kenny and Judy Olson; Graduating from Rockbridge County High School; Attending St. Bonaventure University on a Division I basketball scholarship; Planning to major in Pre-Law

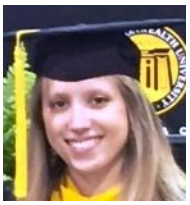
D. Cole Leonard - Son of Kyle and Keedie Leonard; Graduating from Riverheads High School; Attending Virginia Tech in the fall; Planning to major in Engineering

Michaela Miller – Daughter of Ron and Lori Miller; Granddaughter of Joyce and Kenneth Miller; graduating from Champe High School in Loudoun County; attending Mary Washington University.

Congratulations Graduates!
Graduating From College and Other Higher Education Programs. . . .

Summer Barmore - Daughter of Robert and Laura Barmore; Graduated with honors from the University of Virginia with degree in Spanish from the College of Arts & Sciences with a minor in Leadership from the McIntire School of Commerce; Has accepted a Sales and business Development position with Oracle and will be residing in Austin, Texas.
.

Christopher Cary - Son of Myra Botkin; Grandson of Sarah Frances Ralston; Graduated May 8th from Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Training Academy after completing the Basic Law Enforcement Officer course with honors. He is currently employed as a Public Safety Officer with Shenandoah Valley Airport in Weyers Cave, VA



Lillian Damico - Daughter of Larry and Barbara Damico, Granddaughter of Jim and Betty Crosby; Graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University on May 9th with a Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy

Margaret Freed - Daughter of Kelly and Leslie Freed; Graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, MA with a Bachelor of Science degree with Distinction in Civil Engineering; Will be staying at WPI for one more year to complete her Masters of Science in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Structural Engineering

Kayla Folsom - Daughter of Keith and Tish Folsom; Graduated from Shenandoah University with a BSN in Nursing; She will be pursuing her career in nursing, starting at Augusta Health in the Emergency Department

Katherine Johnson - Daughter of Charlie and Rhonda Johnson; Graduated from James Madison University on May 7th with a Master of Arts in Teaching

Ashley Kyle - Daughter of Steve and Mo Kyle; Graduated from the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree; Ashley has accepted a job at Crab Orchard Veterinary Services in Tazewell, VA and will begin working July 1st.

June 2015 Schedules

Flowers:

June 7th - Sally Brubeck

June 14th - Libby Smith - Communion

June 21st - Pat Quick - Memorial

June 28th - Judy Olson

Nursery:

June 7th - Jackie Law; Stephanie Rivers

June 14th - Barbara Damico; Eloise Moore

June 21st - Luanne Leonard; Joyce Miller

June 28th - Barbara Gough; Judy Olson

Offering :

Tom Heizer Tabby Moore

Dale Thompson Mac Williams

June Greeters: Tom and Lee Ann Heizer

General Fund Monthly Report

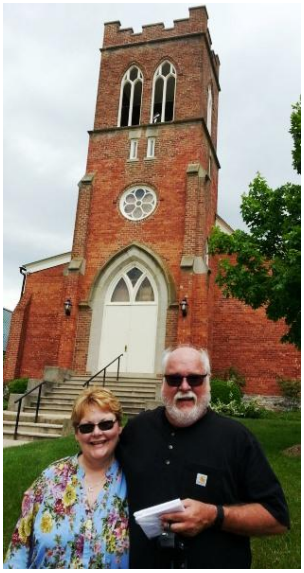
Estimated Budget as of May 7th, 2015: $64,602.00
Expenses: $56,723.00 Receipts: $58,013.00

The Witness Committee would like to thank Jug and Peggy Smith, Sarah Frances Ralston, Ellen Fitzgerald, Jill Webb, Kathy Swisher, Beth Miller and Rhonda Johnson for all their hard work in the Food Booth on Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd. Thank you to everyone who made and donated baked goods. Also, thanks to all the members who came and ate with us or bought baked goods. The proceeds were $803 which will go to our mission projects. We will be sponsoring another Food Booth on September 25th and September 26th. Thanks for all your support!!!

Bethel Prayer List:

Bentley Almarode (4 year old recovering from brain surgery), Mike Almarode (Betty Schooley's brother-in-law diagnosed with cancer), Alan and Malinda (Sproul) Brown, Ben Brown, Catherine Bryan (friend of Stephanie Rivers), Barbara Burroughs (friend of Laura Barmore), Hunter Butler (son of Laura Showalter and Jamie Butler and grandson of Steve Hord), Lorine Caldwell (Dean Caldwell's mother), Debbie Callison & her sister-in-law Patricia Stiles & great-niece Reese Burdette, Ann Christian, Judy Clark & Tony Teague & their Families (friends of Drury Whitaker), Jim & Betty Crosby, Jarod Davis (please send cards to home address), Mary (Williams) Dransfield, Henley Gabeau & Family (passing of her daughter on April 12th), Danielle Hanger, Larry Harris (Derek Almarode's uncle), Frances Humphries (friend of Margaret Wade), Travis Hutchinson (friend of Rhonda and Charlie Johnson), Tom Jeffrey (friend of Laura Barmore), Bill Klitzman (nephew of Louise Hoy), Sara Ann Lamb, David Law, Jane Law (back surgery), Margaret Liptrap, Meade Loomis (sister of Anne Jones), Michelle Murphy (friend of Kymberlee Schneider), Judy Olson, Katie Parker, Christy Glover Pilson (John Pilson's niece), Carly Pond (12 year old great niece of John Pilson), Pearle Rowe, Irene Sarnelle (lung cancer), Lucy Sproul, Charlotte Swortzel, Jerry Utz (Cynthia Williams brother), Bruce Webb (friend of Corbett Smith), Marguerite Whitaker (Tom Whitaker's mother), Katie Williams, Sarah Williams, MISSIONARY: Michael and Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends

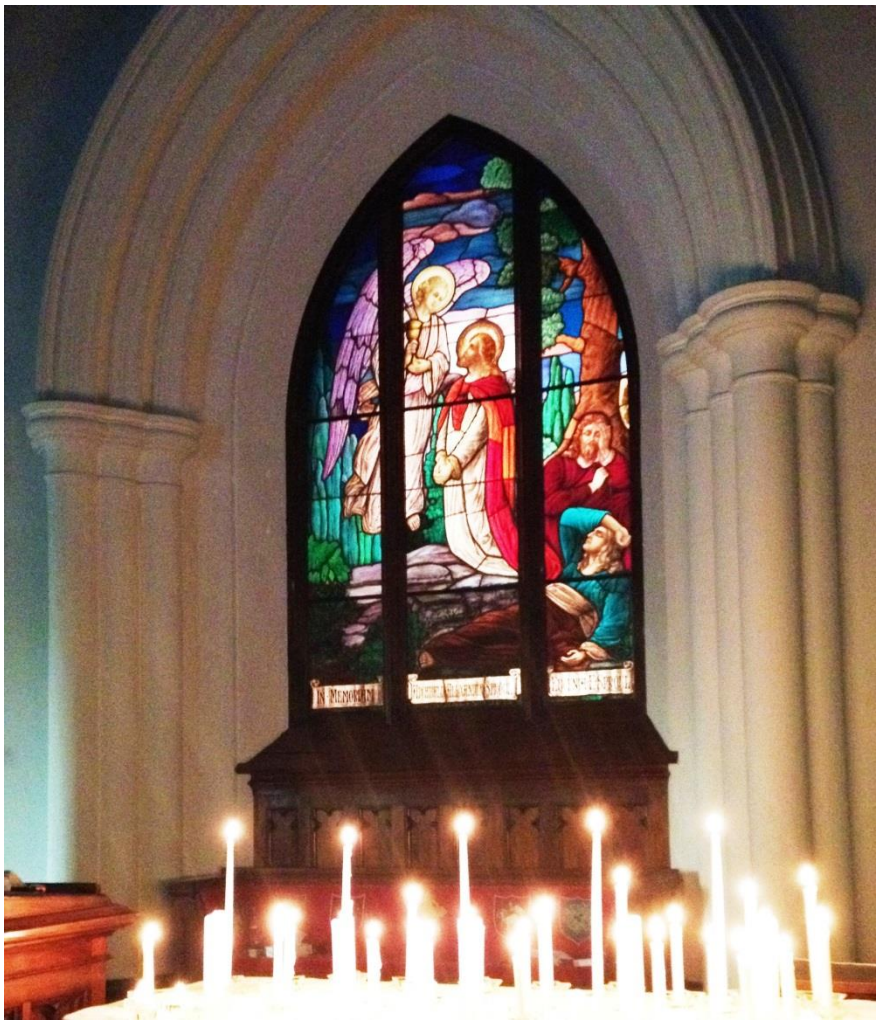
Bumgardners visit Bethel May 2015



Don’t Forget!

June 14th - Flag Day
June 21st - Father’s Day
June 21st - Summer Begins

Don’t forget to “Like” us on Facebook!



Please continue to pray
for the Williams families