



The Tower

April 2016

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Dear Church Family,

By the time that you get this in the mail Easter will be over. The kids will be finishing up their Easter Candy. Our Easter ham, or whatever our particular favorite Easter meal, will be gone. And with our Lenten midweek services done, we will be looking forward to our Church lives calming down a bit.

Or at least that is the temptation. But the reality is that we are in a post-resurrectional world. On Easter Sunday we celebrated that the grave could not hold Jesus. But the amazing truth is that his resurrection is only the beginning.

He leads us to new life and ultimately that results in our own resurrection when he returns someday in glory. But in the meantime it means that our lives have been touched by the power of Jesus' blood.

Easter Sunday may be over, but we are still in what is called the Eastertide season. That means our celebrations are not over because Jesus' resurrection is not merely a historical fact that happened years ago. It is an ongoing reality that encourages us and strengthens us to be his followers.

God bless,
Pastor David

As I See It

Hallelujah! Christ has risen. The one who was crucified and dead is now alive and well. Jesus has defeated the Devil by rising from the grave.

And what we have celebrated between Good Friday and Easter Sunday *literally* is the most important thing that has ever happened in the history of everything that has ever been.

Jesus' death and resurrection not only changed the course of history, but it also changed history itself. God's reconciling grace has been extended to humanity. And our response is Hallelujah!

April Worship Services

April 3, 2016

2nd Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

Read: Acts 5:27-32 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31

April 10, 2016

3rd Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

Read: Acts 9:1-20 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

Sacrament of Holy Communion

April 17, 2016

4th Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

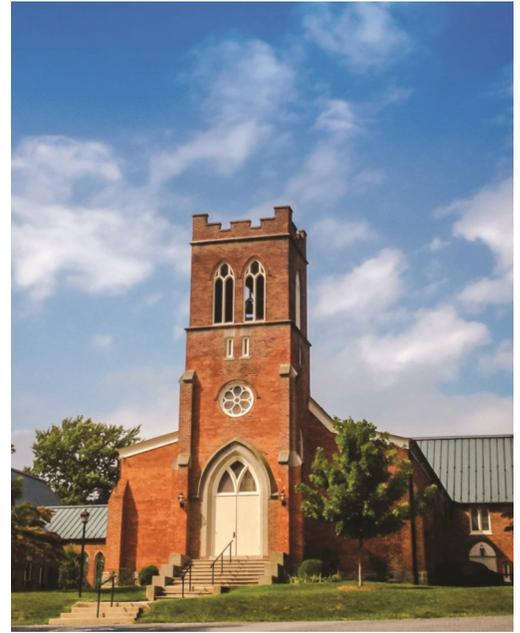
Read: Acts 9:36-43 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30

April 24, 2016

5th Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

Read: Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35



Worship Service - Palm Sunday March 20th, 2016



Waving palms and playing music during the procession.





There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 3rd, following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect someone to the Board of Deacons. Our nominee for the position is Briana Lawhorne. There is a vacancy on the Diaconate which occurred when Mitch Lathrop moved out of state.

Fellowship Following Worship



What wonderful refreshments we have been having at our after church fellowship get-togethers! It is so good to see the children in our church family enjoying this easy time of being together. March is soon leaving us and April is almost here. Would you look at our sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall and see if there is a date you can sign up for? There are openings in April and May, as well as later in the summer. Light refreshments, something to drink and a friendly face are all the ingredients required!



Fellowship following worship on March 20th, 2016.



The May Tower Deadline will be Thursday, April 14th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the May 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?. Thank you!

Please send your announcements for the weekly bulletin and updates for the Prayer List to the Church Office by noon each



Wednesday (unless otherwise noted in the bulletin). Feel free to email the information to: bethelpc@gmail.com or you can place it in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall. Please remember that all announcements are subject to editing. Thank you!

Presbyterian Women - April 2016
Emphasis - Christian Higher Education



*The Afternoon Circle will meet on April 12th, at 1:30 pm. The meeting will be at Bethel.

*The Evening Circle will meet on April 12th, at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be at Bethel.

April 3rd - PWCT Meeting



The 2016 Birthday Offering will be collected at the May circle meetings. After reviewing numerous proposals, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee chose four projects to receive grants from the 2016 Birthday Offering. Your gift to the 2016 Birthday Offering will allow these four ministries to help at-risk youth in Kansas and Florida, girls in South Sudan, and individuals living in California in manufactured homes that are in dire need of updates.

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Continuing Education Loan Fund (formerly the Scholarship/Loan Fund)



The Bethel Presbyterian Church Continuing Education Loan Fund (*formerly the Scholarship/Loan Fund*) was established a number of years ago due to the generosity of an anonymous donor to assist young people in furthering their education. Aid from this fund is available to church members for any post-high school education, including vocational schools, nursing, etc. Applications are available in the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact one of the following Continuing Education Loan Fund Committee members: Bill Brubeck, Dan Gano or David Schooley. The deadline for the return of the completed application together with attachments is April 15th, 2016. Completed applications may be left in the Church Office or given to a member of the committee.



Family Movie Night

The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a movie night on Saturday, April 30th, at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. "War Room" is the movie we will be showing and it is about prayer. If you have younger children, please contact Peggy Smith (540/292-0885) so we can arrange for childcare. This is for all ages and for the Bethel Church family and their friends. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. Please come and see this inspiring movie!

Bethel Congregation and Friends:

Please submit any changes to your address, phone numbers, email, etc. to the Church Office. If we do not have your correct information, you may miss out on Bethel events and news. You can send update information to the Church Office at bethelpc@gmail.com. Thank you!

**Update Your
Contact Info**



Witness Committee News . . .

Pork Loin Dinner & Silent Auction

Our annual Pork Loin Dinner will be held on Sunday, April 3rd, at 5:30 p.m. Bob and Kenneth Olson will sponsor the meal with a menu of pork loin, sauerkraut, baked potatoes, green beans, baked apples, rolls and fried ice cream, with cooking assistance from Wayne and Kathy Swisher. We will also hold a silent auction during the meal and need donations of new or gently-used items. You may leave your donated items on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for a fun evening of delicious food, fellowship and great bargains to support Bethel's missions.



The committee donated \$1,000 to God's Pit Crew to help those affected by the recent tornadoes in Waverly and Appomattox, VA. God's Pit Crew is a disaster relief organization based in Danville, VA, which set up operations in those locations immediately following the tornadoes to provide aid.

Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta

We have chosen two Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta projects to complete in the coming months. We will provide the details as soon as definite plans are made and hope that you will consider helping with these worthwhile projects.



Worship Committee News . . .



Worship Committee

Join the Worship Committee!

Are you interested in serving your church? Have you thought about joining a committee? The Worship Committee will be glad to have you join us. We meet the second Sunday of the month, right after worship, to plan meaningful worship services for Bethel.

Scripture Readers Needed!

The Worship Committee is also asking for your help. We are always looking for members willing to read scripture or help with other parts of the worship service. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please call the office or let Jill know.



SPRING CLEANING GIVE AWAY! We are looking for good homes for our "old" red hymnals. If you would like to have a hymnal, please call the Church Office or see us after the worship service any Sunday in the Choir Room.

Adopt - A - Highway

Spring Roadside/Trash Pickup on Howardsville Road on:

Friday, April 15th at 1:00 pm (Picking up trash from the church west to Middlebrook.)

Saturday, April 16th at 9:00 am (Picking up trash from the church east to Rt. 11.)

Trash bags will be provided but please bring gloves! Children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Please join us for this special service project that helps our community!



Note from the Co-Chairs of the Diaconate:

Spring is our favorite time of year - there is a sense of renewal that makes us step a little more lightly. We want to paint, fix, repair, make things look their best! Bethel is such a place of beauty and peace, but it is beginning to feel and show its age. It is in need of repairs and maintenance, some of which we as Deacons are aware and are making efforts to correct. We need your help and we are placing a notebook/clipboard in Memorial Hall for suggestions. Often we may miss something, so if you see anything needing attention, please write it down. Please include the date and time, the room, part of the church, the specific concern or problem and your name. We will be checking the book each week and looking at the concern/problem. Please check the bulletin board in Memorial Hall behind the choir loft. We will be looking for a permanent home for the notebook/clipboard, but for now you will find it there. May the beauty of the season give you joy!!

- Marty Simmers and Tamara Barbour



Session News and Notes



The Session met on Sunday, March 13th, with eleven Elders and Pastor David present.

Marty Simmers gave the Deacons' Report.

Bethel's Treasurers and Clerk were re-elected to their positions for fiscal year 2016.

Briana Lawhorne was approved as a nominee to fill the vacancy on the Diaconate which was created when Mitch Lathrop moved out of state. A Congregational Meeting will be held on April 3rd, following worship, for the election of the new Deacon.

The Christian Education Committee will hold a Family Movie Night with a showing of the movie "War Room".

The 21st Century Committee is getting bids for a new sound system for the sanctuary.

An Audit Committee will be formed to assure that audits of Bethel's various accounts are done in a complete and timely manner.

A summer 2016 Appalachian mission trip sponsored by the Witness Committee was approved.

The Personnel Committee is working to fill the Youth Leader position.

Laura Barmore and Pastor David reported on the Presbytery meeting that they recently attended.

General Fund Report (*through March 1, 2016*)

Estimated Budget: \$33,102.00

Actual Receipts: \$23,775.00

Actual Expenses: \$25,892.00





Greetings from the Choir Director!

In the March Tower I described musical "culture shock". This month I will share the three goals of how a Choir Director should perform.

The number one goal for any Choir Director is to sing praises to God and enhance services through music to the best of each choir member's ability.

Second is to utilize the resources that Bethel currently has available.

Third is to build up the files that we presently have and order music compatible with that of our choir.

You may notice a slight change in the music starting about May 1st. I have worked closely with Pastor David, and I will be using anthems that will embellish the lectionary readings.

I may not always get it right, but I am making an effort to do so.

- Harold Coiner

Nursery Schedule
April 2016

April 3rd - Mary Ann Anderson; Maggie Rivers
 April 10th - Joe & Tabby Moore
 April 17th - Jackie Law; Stephanie Rivers
 April 24th - Barbara Gough; Judy Olson

April Greeters:
Dave & Betty Schooley

Flower Schedule
April 2016

April 3rd - Doris True (Memorial)
 April 10th - JoAnn Pendley
 (Communion; Memorial)
 April 17th - Joyce Miller (Memorial)
 April 24th - Jackie Law

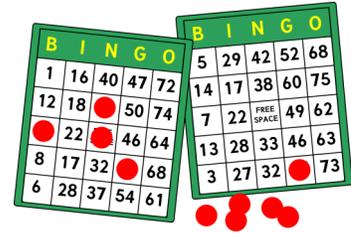


Deacons Offering
Schedule
April 2016

Wade Cash
 Charlie Johnson
 Bob Olson
 Marty Simmers

Shenandoah Presbytery Event

BAJA BINGO BASH!



What: 2016 Baja Mission Trip BINGO Fundraising Event!

When: April 10th from 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Where: Verona Moose Lodge

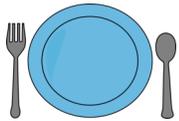
Why: The Shenandoah Presbytery is hosting a BINGO fundraising event to support its summer trip to Baja California, Mexico.

Cost: \$25 (pre-sale – 3 bingo cards per person; at the door – 2 bingo cards per person)
18 BINGO games with prizes! Please call Keith Folsom (540-294-0025) for tickets.

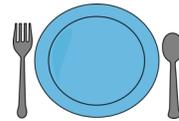
Come out for a fantastic time of fun and fellowship for the whole family! Hope to see you there!

Learn more at <http://shenpres.org/baja-mission>

Community Events



Spring Supper



St. John's Reformed Church
(1515 Arborhill Road; Staunton, Virginia)

Saturday, April 9th, 2016 4:00 pm – Until

Menu:

Beef Brisket Baked Potato Green Beans Cole Slaw Rolls Fruit Pies

\$12.00 – Adults

\$6.00 – Children ages 3 – 12

Free – Children under the age of 3

20% of proceeds go to local missions.



Community Events

Miles for Mary 5k Fun Run/Walk

When: Saturday, April 9th Time: 9:00 am
Location: Riverheads High School



Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/hmrw9cm>

All donations and proceeds will be going to the Mary Williams Dransfield scholarship fund at Riverheads High School.

Join Miles for Mary 5k Fun Run/Walk group on Facebook and registration will also be available at 8:00 am on April 9th.

For more information contact Katie Shook at (434) 547-9724 or shookke@vcu.edu.



Grace Christian School's 16th Annual Boots & Bandana Auction

Please support our local Christian education ministry by attending Grace Christian School's 16th Annual Boots & Bandana Auction on Saturday, April 16th at Augusta Expo. Bid on fantastic items in the silent and live auctions, enjoy a delicious bbq dinner by Up-N-Smoke, and then be rejuvenated by the music of Brian Free & Assurance, a Dove Award Winning Artist. Tickets are available at the school offices. For more details, contact the school at (540) 886-9109 or visit their website at www.gcswarriors.org.

Spring Concert at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church



The congregation is invited to the Men's Chorus Spring Concert at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 17th, at 3:00 pm. Harold Coiner (Bethel's Adult Choir Director) will be participating in this concert. Refreshments will follow the concert.

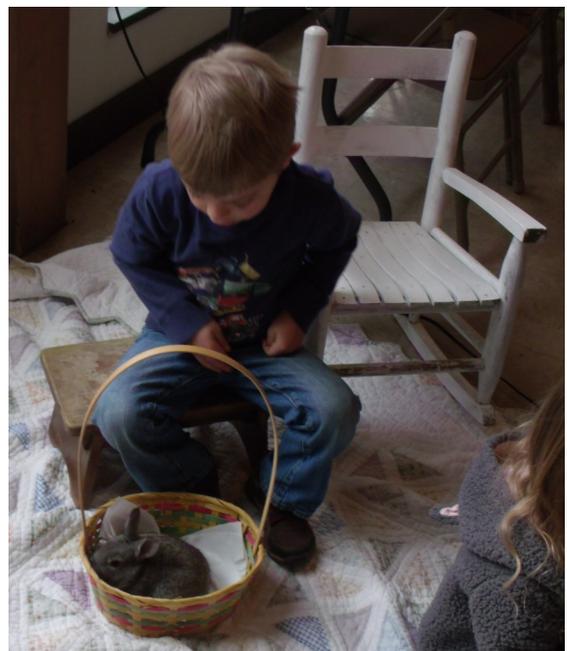


Bethel Prayer List

Mike Almarode (Betty Schooley's brother-in-law), Barry Blacka (Joyce Miller's brother), Catherine Bryan (friend of Stephanie Rivers), Dan Burroughs (friend of Laura Barmore), Lorine Caldwell (Dean Caldwell's mother), Debbie Callison & her sister-in-law Patricia Stiles & great-niece Reese Burdette, Murphy Cash (Penny Cash's brother - has pancreatic cancer), William Cash (father of Dana Cash), Ann Christian, Jim & Betty Crosby, Jarod Davis (please send cards to home address), Friends & Family of Mary (Williams) Dransfield, Friends & Family of Meredith Furr, Danielle Hanger, Jeff Hess & Family (coworker of Tom Whitaker), Sawyer Hull (Brent & Wendy Hull's daughter), Frances Humphries (friend of Margaret Wade), Tom Jeffrey (friend of Laura Barmore), Jeannie Jones (diagnosed with breast cancer - Marion Simmers sister), Bill Kealing (friend of Laura Barmore), Bill Klitzman (nephew of Louise Hoy), Sara Ann Lamb, L. Cpl. Bertram Bruce Lamond (active military), Evelyn LaPorte, David Law, Margaret Liptrap, Meade Loomis (sister of Anne Jones), Bonnie Messinger (has pancreatic cancer), Michelle Murphy (friend of Kymberlee Schneider), Christy Glover Pilson (John Pilson's niece), John Pilson, Carly Pond (14 year old great niece of John Pilson), Nickie Rutledge (cousin of Louise Hoy), Irene Sarnelle (has lung cancer - friend of Linda Tenney), Corbett Smith (pneumonia), Charlotte Swortzel, Jerry Utz (on hospice - Cynthia Williams brother), Bruce Webb (friend of Corbett Smith), Katie Williams & Family, Sarah Williams & Family, Friends & Family of Isaac Wolfe, MISSIONARY: Michael and Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends

Please call Tammy Barbour @ 540-471-0450, Barb Gough @ 540-255-6521, or the Church Office @ 540-886-6041 with any additions or updates. Thank you!

Bethel Easter Egg Hunt - 2016



Bethel Easter Egg Hunt - 2016



Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook! 

