



# The Tower

June 2016

563 Bethel Green Road \* Staunton, Virginia 24401 \* (540) 886-6041  
bethelpc@gmail.com \* [www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org](http://www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org)



Dear Church Family,

We have had a whirlwind of worship over the last few months. Between Lent and Easter, followed by the Easter Season, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday we have just come out of one of the busiest worship seasons of the year.

And as we approach summer which has less 'major' Christian holidays, it is important for us to sit back and reflect on what God has done for us. Starting with the Christian New Year last Advent we eagerly awaited Jesus' birth as a little baby: God made Human, the Christmas event, so that he could save us. Then with Lent we recognized our sinfulness and ultimately our unworthiness for that salvation. But with Easter we celebrated that God loves us anyway and on Pentecost we celebrated the birth of the Church and the gift of the Holy Spirit and finally on Trinity Sunday we celebrated the unity of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Now we turn to what is called 'Ordinary Time' when there aren't any major holidays. But that doesn't mean that the excitement has ended because now we celebrate all of those things: the birth, life, death, resurrection, the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, everything that makes our faith rich and beautiful.

This is the life of the Church: the day-in, day-out worship of our God. And over the next several months I look forward to worshipping our Savior together.

God bless,  
Pastor David

### As I See It

As summer is approaching, kids are getting out of school, and the weather is getting warmer it is easy for all of us to slow down and forget what is really important. It's easy for us to fall out of the habit of going to Church, praying, and reading our Bible, especially when there are other things that take our attention. With the warm weather comes yard work, playing outside, and sometimes even trips to the beach, but it is important for every Christian to remember the role that God plays in our lives and to give him the worship that he deserves. And so as we begin to think about our summer plans, let's all make sure to include God in them by planning on worshipping him on a daily basis.



### June Worship Services

*June 5, 2016*

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Read: I Kings 17:8-24 Galatians 1:11-24 Luke 7:11-17

*June 12, 2016*

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Read: I Kings 21:1-21 Galatians 2:15-21 Luke 7:36-8:3

*June 19, 2016*

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Father's Day

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Read: I Kings 19:1-15 Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39

*June 26, 2016*

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Read: II Kings 2:1-14 Galatians 5 Luke 9:51-62



Communion will be held during the worship service on June 19th.



Lemonade on the Lawn will be held on Sunday, June 26th, following the worship service. Be sure to join us for this special time of fellowship!





### 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. 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 June and July so please sign up and help if you can! Light refreshments, something to drink and a friendly face are all the ingredients required!



*Refreshments on May 15th following worship.*

## Witness Committee News & Upcoming Projects . . .

Thanks to everyone who came out for our annual Prime Rib Dinner and Dessert Auction. It was an evening of fun and great food. Through your generosity we took in \$6,095, all of which will be used for Bethel's missions. Without your support, we couldn't do our projects to help those in need, including these which we have planned:



- a Valley Mission brunch for the residents on July 30
- a Renewing Homes project to repair a home for an elderly Staunton resident
- the Summerlee Mission Trip to West Virginia in July
- the Baja Mission Trip to Mexico in July.



Also, we will have a yard sale on June 18th to benefit our Baja Mission. It will be located on Rt.11 across from the DMV in Staunton. We need more items to sell, so please help by donating any extra things you want to get rid of and we will put them to good use. You may leave them on the stage in the Fellowship Hall.

Again, we thank you for your generous support of our projects!



*The Prime Rib Dinner & Dessert Auction on May 14th.*





### Bethel Vacation Bible School 2016

Bethel's Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, June 20th through Wednesday, June 22nd from 6:00 – 8:30 pm. Dinner will be provided at 6:00 pm and the 2016 VBS theme is the Beatitudes. Our VBS will be family based and all ages are invited! There will be Bible lessons, crafts, music and activities.

One project that Bethel will be working on during VBS is to provide "Children's Blessing Bags" which are used by God's Pit Crew and given to children during times of disaster. The following items are needed to complete these bags:

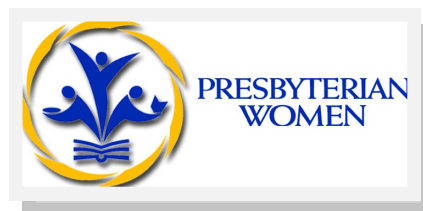
2 gallon Ziploc bags	Christian coloring books	Crayons (8 in a pack)
Sheet of stickers	Small to medium size stuffed animals	A New Testament Bible
Or money to buy any of the items		

There will be a box for the items in Memorial Hall and if you would like to donate money, please see Peggy Smith.

Please bring your children, grandchildren or neighbors. If you would be willing to be a part of our VBS or have any questions, please contact Peggy Smith at 540-292-0885.

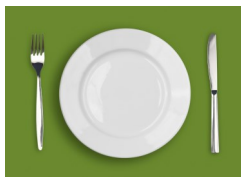
### **Presbyterian Women - June 2016**

*Emphasis - Christian Family Education*



\*The Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 14th, at 12:30 pm for lunch. The meeting will be at the home of Bettie Swisher & Kay Swisher (67 Folly Mills Station Road, Staunton; 540-337-2252).

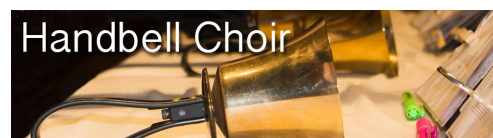
\*The Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 14th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be at the church.



### 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 29th to either Libby Smith at 337-2058, Yvonne Goodson at 712-0678, or Louise Hoy at 886-3314.

The Bells of Bethel will be taking a vacation for the next few months. They will resume practice on Wednesday, August 3rd. Thank you!





### *Note from the Choir Director . . .*

The Adult Choir will be taking its annual vacation during the months of June and July. During this time, I will be in the area and available by phone (540/447-0434), with the exception of the first two weeks of June when I will be out of state.

Rehearsals will begin Wednesday, August 3rd, in preparation of "Homecoming Sunday".

I pray you will have a safe and fun summer; and am looking forward to seeing you in August!

Sincerely,  
Harold Coiner

### *Notes from the Church Office . . .*

The July Tower Deadline will be Thursday, June 16th. 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](mailto: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!



### Please Note:

Church Office hours will be varied from May 31st through June 2nd while the Church Office Manager is on vacation.

Tuesday, May 31st and Wednesday, June 1st - Pastor David will be in the office from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm (*unless he has an unexpected meeting*). Please contact him at (540) 490-2258 or at [jdavidshearer@gmail.com](mailto:jdavidshearer@gmail.com) if you have a need.

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday, June 2nd.

If you have any prayer requests that you would like to have emailed to the congregation while Adrienne is on vacation please contact Jill Webb at: (540) 294-5770 or at [jlwebb320@comcast.net](mailto:jlwebb320@comcast.net).

Adrienne will be back in the office on Monday, June 6th, at 9:00 am.

Thank you!



### Pastor David on Vacation!

Pastor David will be on vacation Thursday, June 2nd through Wednesday, June 15th. Please contact any of the following Elders if you have a pastoral need:

Laura Barmore (540) 462-7794 or laura@alllabs.com

Jill Webb (540) 294-5770 or jlwebb320@comcast.net

Tom Whitaker (540) 607-6165 or whit2153@gmail.com

### Session News & Notes

## News & Notes

The Session met on Monday, May 9th, 2016 with 9 elders and Pastor David present.

Adrienne will be on vacation from May 31st to June 2nd.

Tom Whitaker, Laura Barmore and Jill Webb will serve as emergency contacts during Pastor David's vacation from June 2nd to 16th.

Briana Lawhorne will serve as the new Nursery Coordinator.

Five youth have expressed interest in attending the Middle School Conference at Massanetta Springs.

Pastor David, as a member of the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for the Ministry, has been asked to look into guidelines for Sessions of churches with prospective ministers. He has also been trained to be a liaison for churches in transition between ministers and will participate in Riverheads High School's Baccalaureate service.

The new Outreach and Evangelism Committee needs two more members in order to begin their work. Please consider joining this opportunity to help Bethel in its ministry.

The funds received from the payoff of the Thornton note will be placed in the money market account in order to earn interest and remain available. The bequest from Jessie Earhart will be placed in the Endowment Fund to be invested, with 20% of its earnings to be reinvested and 80% to be deposited in the General Fund.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Committee has received two bids for an audio/visual system for the Sanctuary, one of which was for \$23,500. The cost of installing air conditioning in the Fellowship Hall and Youth Room will be at least \$26,000.

The names of our missionaries, Michael and Rachel Weller, will now be put in the Staff and Leaders section of the Bulletin.

### Pastor Relations Committee Message

This month we recognize the 2 year anniversary of Reverend Shearer's ordination, a remarkable achievement after many years of study and preparation. The Pastor Nomination Committee witnessed his successful examination and sermon at a meeting of the Presbytery, and were among the first to address him as Reverend Shearer after his ordination at Bethel on May 25th, 2014.



In our study of scripture, we are taught the extraordinary story of David and Goliath, where we remember the fierce hurdles and troubles David faced when he found himself standing alone with Goliath. David knew before the battle that his only certainty was that he held the favor of God. Even though Pastor David has not had to face Goliath, he has had to face his own hurdles and troubles. His challenges have been many. David's victory in the Bible is comparable to Reverend Shearer's success at Bethel.

When we met David 2 years ago in Salisbury MD, sitting in his grandmother's house, we all shared an instant bond. During our conversation with him, we experienced first-hand a young man who had the favor of God, as David did in the Bible. We also saw a man who was eager and willing to face a new day, a new challenge, with a new family. We found Pastor David to be a man of God devoted to the ministry who loved first and spoke second. These attributes are remarkably similar to the beautiful story we all love and cherish in scripture.

**"... with God  
all things are  
possible."**

**Matthew 19:26**

The importance of this biblical story to our lives today and Pastor David's ministry here at Bethel is that the success of young David was in the hands of God, and at the will of God. We are taught that with God, all things are possible. Pastor David's ministry here at Bethel has been in the hands of God, and at the will of God. With God and a caring congregation, all things are possible.

Let's show our love and affection for Reverend David Shearer, his family, and his continued ministry here at Bethel.

FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE  
GATHERED TOGETHER IN MY NAME  
*I am there in the midst of them.*  
MATTHEW 18:20

## Congratulations to the Class of 2016!



We wish all the graduates God's blessings as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

### Graduating From High School:

Hannah Brubeck - Daughter of John & Karen Brubeck; Granddaughter of Bill & Sally Brubeck; Graduating in June from high school in Bainbridge, Washington; Attending Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts; Planning to study Sports Medicine

Kirsten Katt - Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Peter Katt; Granddaughter of Joe & Shirley Heizer; Graduating from Faith Christian School in Roanoke; Attending Lynchburg College in the fall; Planning to major in Drama

Isabelle Leonard - Daughter of Kyle & Keedie Leonard; Sister of Cole Leonard; Having attended the Shenandoah Valley Governors School she will be graduating with honors from Riverheads High School on June 3rd; Attending Cornell University in the fall; Possibly majoring in International Agriculture for Developing Nations

Dane McVey - Great-Grandson of Joyce Davis; Graduating from Buffalo Gap High School on June 4th

Maggie Rivers - Daughter of Russ & Stephanie Rivers; Graduating from Grace Christian School on May 28th; Attending Blue Ridge Community College in the fall with plans to transfer to a four year college to study Graphic Design

Jordan Thompson - Daughter of Paul & Wendy Thompson; Granddaughter of Dale & Kay Thompson; Graduating from Riverheads High School with an advanced studies diploma; Attending Bridgewater College in the fall; Planning to major in Liberal Studies focusing on Elementary Education

### Graduating From College:

Brian Freed - Son of Kelly & Leslie Freed; Graduating from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota with a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering specializing in Water Resources Engineering; Will be working for American Engineering Testing in Williston, North Dakota as a Field Office and Laboratory Manager; Also engaged to Lillian Temple of Glendive, Montana with a wedding date set for October 8th, 2016

*(2016 graduates continued on page 9)*



(2016 graduates continued from page 8)



### Graduating From College:

Maggie Freed - Daughter of Kelly & Leslie Freed; Graduating from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts with a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering specializing in Structural Engineering; Will be working for the firm Tighe and Bond in Westfield, Massachusetts as a Structural Engineer designing infrastructure in support of water and environmental projects throughout New England

Miranda Marks - Daughter of Jeff & Sheila Marks; Granddaughter of Rosalee Miller & the late David W. Miller; Niece of D.W. & Beth Miller; Graduated May 14th, from Bridgewater College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Physics



### Presbytery Fundraising Opportunity for Baja Mission 2016

#### 1st Annual Baja Farm Golf Tournament

June 11th, 2016

2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Springdale Water Gardens in Greenville

The 1st Annual Baja Farm Golf Tournament is being held to benefit the families in Vicente Guerrero, BCN, MX, who have been selected to receive homes built and funded by our mission team. Sixty missionaries have committed to construct four houses for residents of this desert community located south of San Diego.

*You're  
Invited!*

You are invited to sponsor a hole, create a team, or join us to cheer on your golfers! *NO golf experience is needed; this is farm golf!* Played in a pasture with a Par 3, 18-hole course, this is a fun, family event.

Stay for the covered dish dinner, silent auction, door prizes, and live music!

- Teams and team sponsors, hole sponsors, event sponsors, auction donations needed
- Call Keith Folsom at 540-294-0025 or at 540-337-4507 for an event packet, or
- Email Keith at [keithspringdale@gmail.com](mailto:keithspringdale@gmail.com) for complete information and sponsor packet



If you would like to purchase a "Bike for Jarod" poster (a copy of the poster is in the vestibule) please see Stephanie Davis or Peggy Smith. The money will be used for the purchase of an adaptive bike for Jarod Davis.

### Bethel Nursery Ministry

Briana Lawhorne has agreed to be the new Bethel Nursery Coordinator. If you would be willing to volunteer in the Bethel nursery during the Sunday morning worship service please contact Briana and she will add you to the schedule. Volunteers serve once every three months. Many thanks to all of our nursery volunteers and to Briana!



#### Nursery Schedule June 2016

June 5th - Joe & Sally Williams

June 12th - Brian & Penny Lee

June 19th - Joyce Davis; Louise Hoy

June 26th - Chris & Therese Schooley

#### June Greeters

Joe & Shirley Heizer



#### Flower Schedule

June 2016

June 5th - Judy Olson

June 12th - Libby Smith

June 19th - Pat Quick  
(Communion; Memorial)

June 26th - Sally Brubeck



#### Offering Schedule

June 2016

Wade Cash

Barb Gough

Tabby Moore

Dale Thompson



#### General Fund Monthly Report

Estimated Budget as of April 30th, 2016: \$62,527.00

Receipts: \$46,855.00      Expenses: \$60,413.00

Net Checking Balance: \$43,328.00

Thank you to all our Bethel family for your support during Corbett's illness. Your cards, calls, and especially prayers were greatly appreciated!  
 Blessings to all,  
 Susan Smith and Family



## PRAYER LIST

Bethel Prayer List Mike Alford (brain cancer; husband of Mary Alford), Mike Almarode (Betty Schooley's brother-in-law), Phil Balsey (friend of Bob & Louise Hoy), Mildred Barmore & Family (Bob Barmore's mother), 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, Clifton Family, Jim & Betty Crosby, Jarod Davis & Family (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), Friends & Family of Bonnie Messinger, Michelle Murphy (friend of Kymberlee Schneider), Linda Orebaugh (diagnosed with breast cancer), Christy Glover Pilson (John Pilson's niece), John Pilson, Carly Pond (14 year old great niece of John Pilson), Presbyterians in South Sudan, Africa (as peace negotiations continue), Nickie Rutledge (cousin of Louise Hoy), Irene Sarnelle (has lung cancer - friend of Linda Tenney), Charlotte Swortzel, Jerry Utz (on hospice - Cynthia Williams brother), Katie Williams & Family, Sarah Williams & Family, MISSIONARY: Michael and Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends

***Taste and see  
 that the LORD is good;  
 blessed is the man  
 who takes refuge in him.***

*Psalm 34:8*



June 14th - Flag Day  
 June 19th - Father's Day  
 June 20th - Summer Begins

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

