

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 12th - March 18th

•The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God by Sarah Frances Ralston.



•Good morning and welcome to Bethel! Whether you are a member, a friend or a visitor please take a moment to fill out the friendship pad at the end of your pew. Don't forget to give the friendship pad to others to sign when you are done. Thank you!

•Rev. Joseph Condro will be preaching and leading the worship service this morning. Rev. Condro is the Interim Pastor at Pines Chapel Presbyterian Church. Please let him know how much we appreciate him being with us this morning.

•Congregational Meeting There will be a Congregational Meeting today following the worship service, for the purpose of presenting the 2016 Annual Reports and the 2017 budget. Bethel's transition between pastors will also be discussed. Copies of the Annual Reports and the budget are available in the vestibule at the back of the Sanctuary.

•Come join the Riverheads Weekday Religious Education program for "A Night of Praise" tonight at 6:00 pm, at Raphine Christian Church (5131 Lee-Jackson Highway; Greenville). All types of groups and individuals including kid's groups will be singing and/or playing music this evening. A free-will offering will be taken for the Riverheads WRE program and a hand-made quilt (see picture below) will be auctioned off. Refreshments will follow the concert. Make plans to support WRE this evening and join them for this fun community event!



Full Size Batiks Quilt that will be auctioned off during "A Night of Praise" this evening.

•The April Tower Deadline will be this Thursday, March 16th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the April Tower can be left in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall or you can email them to: bethelpc@gmail.com. When writing announcements for the newsletter please keep in mind the 5 W's: Who? What? When? Where? Why?. Please remember if you turn in items after the deadline Adrienne cannot guarantee they will be included in the Tower. Thank you!

•The Weekly Community Lenten Service will be this Thursday evening, March 16th, at Pines Chapel Presbyterian Church. The service begins at 7:00 pm. People of all ages including families with children are encouraged to attend and participate in these important worship services!

•Fellowship Following Worship will be held next Sunday, March 19th, in the Bethel Fellowship Hall. Many thanks to Marion & Marty Simmers for providing the refreshments!

•Pork Loin Dinner & Silent Auction Our annual Pork Loin Dinner will be held Sunday, April 2nd, 2017, at 5:30 pm. 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. A Silent Auction will also be held during the meal and donations of new or gently-used items are needed. You may leave your donated items for the Silent Auction on the stage in the Fellowship Hall by Friday, March 31st. A free-will offering will be collected for the meal. All the money donated for the meal and collected from the Silent Auction will go to Bethel's mission projects. Please join us for a fun evening of delicious food, fellowship and great bargains to support Bethel's missions!

•We are in the process of updating the church email list. If you receive congregational emails but no longer wish to, please contact the Church Office (bethelpc@gmail.com). Remember that the bulletin, announcements, and Tower are all available on the Bethel website (www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org) if you do not receive them by email. Thank you!

•The quilt in the Fellowship Hall has been taken down for annual maintenance. Thank you! - Margaret Wade

•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, 2017.* Completed applications may be left in the Church Office or given to a member of the committee.

•The Shenandoah Presbytery Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering will be on April 8th, 2017, from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm, at the Massanetta Springs Conference Center. Childcare will be available and the offering collected for the day will go to the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands in memory of Travis Wirt. Please bring travel size personal items (shampoo, soap, toothpaste) which will be shared with local women's shelters and children's homes. The Worship Speaker will be the Rev. Helen "Punker" Robertson and Special Music will be provided by Teresa Whitesell. The registration fee is \$5.00 per person and lunch is \$12.00 per person. Registration forms along with all fees are due April 3rd. Registration forms which are included with brochures about the event are on the table in the hallway next to the Choir Room.

•*ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLERS AND PARENTS*

The Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference 2017

The theme this year is "All Together Now" and is based on Galatians 3:28-29. Anyone who has finished 6th thru 8th grade in 2017 is eligible to attend. The dates of the conference are June 22nd - June 25th. All applications for those wishing to attend must be submitted by April 3rd to prevent the \$35 late fee. The Conference may fill up quickly, so we need to receive all applications and make reservations as soon as possible. Scholarships may be available for those who need them! If you have questions, want more information, or are interested in applying for a scholarship please contact Marion Simmers ASAP. You can also check the Massanetta Springs website (www.massanettasprings.org) for more information. Thank you!

•*American Red Cross- Home Fire Preparedness Campaign*

We have all recently seen the effects of a home devastated by a fire. Bethel has been fortunate to be able to offer the Manse to a family who was in need after just that kind of horrifying experience. Now you can help prevent this from happening to you!

The American Red Cross is sponsoring the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign. All persons whether you own or are renting, no matter what income bracket you are in, can get FREE (10 yr.) Smoke Detectors installed in your home. Usually up to 3 per home but can be more depending on the size of the home. The Smoke Detectors are installed by vetted, experienced volunteers of the American Red Cross at your convenience. You pick the time and date. You might be thinking...."Well, I already have smoke detectors." More than likely, they are over 10 years old or original to the house or improperly placed in your home. Now you can upgrade at no cost to yourself and feel better prepared. All you need to do is call Viviana Cristian to set up an appointment at: 434-242-5585. Anyone interested with questions can also call Laura Barmore.

•If you would like to join Bethel Presbyterian Church, please feel free to contact the Church Office or a Session member. We would love to hear from you!

March 5th

Attendance: 72

Weekly Budget: \$3,327.00 Received: \$4,209.00

Financial Report - through February 28, 2017

Adjusted Estimated Budget: \$29,943.00

Actual Expenses: \$28,961.00

Actual Receipts: \$26,140.00



*Join the 2017 Baja, Mexico
Mission Team*

This year our mission dates are July 16th - 22nd, 2017. Arrival in California is usually two days earlier.

Our March meeting is coming soon, please plan to attend if you have any interest at all in participating this year. It will be held this Tuesday, March 14th, 7:00 pm, at Massanutten Presbyterian, in Harrisonburg.

Put Massanutten Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg, VA into Google Maps for precise directions.

If you have any fundraising dates that your church or you are sponsoring, please bring that information with you.

Future meetings and times are available from Keith Folsom at: keithspringdale@gmail.com, or go to: www.shenpres.org/baja-mission for information, forms, and FAQs.

We will have short informational sessions of important things to know. If you've never been, this is where you will have your questions answered about culture, clothing, food, skill requirements and other topics. If you have been before, this is your chance to participate by helping others learn what you already know.

We are trying to get an idea of the actual number of participants this year, so it is important to send in your registration now. Registration links and forms are found at the above link. There is a lot of planning that has to happen, so a fairly accurate number is needed. You can print out the form and bring it to the meeting. PLEASE, help us by letting us know of your or your church's intentions.

Please plan to attend or contact Keith for more information. We would like to send a full team of sixty missionaries to Mexico this summer. That means we'd be able to build four houses for families who have none, think about it!