



The Tower

July 2017

563 Bethel Green Road * Staunton, Virginia 24401 * (540) 886-6041
bethelpc@gmail.com * www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org

The Session's View . . .

Pastor Search

The Session assigned its Personnel Committee to seek an Interim Pastor after the departure of Rev. Shearer. Shenandoah Presbytery requires a congregation to have an Interim Pastor before bringing on a new Installed Pastor. Interim Pastors are specially trained to assist congregations in transition. Bethel is being supported by Stephany Morgan, a member of the Presbytery Pastoral Transition Committee.



Personnel described our open position in a Ministry Information Form submitted through the PCUSA Church Leadership Connection. We are having preliminary discussions with one of three pastors who responded. We have also contacted some local supply pastors directly.

The Stewardship Committee has determined that Bethel's financial projections are inadequate to support a full time Interim or Installed Pastor at this time, but we will consider a Pastor for a half to three quarter time position if we see an opportunity.

The Session and Transitional Presbyter Roy Martin have agreed that Bethel will also pursue the alternative of a Stated Supply Pastor. This would be a negotiated contract employee with reduced overhead costs as compared to an Interim Pastor. We see this type of relationship with several other churches in Shenandoah Presbytery, including Pines Chapel. Ideally we might find an experienced local pastor to fill the position. We will continue to talk with local preachers and will place a notice on the Church Leadership Connection seeking a Stated Supply Pastor.

- The Bethel Session

Please continue to pray for . . .

The Stated Supply Pastor that God has already chosen for Bethel, as we prepare for that pastor, and for those who are looking for whom God has chosen for us.

July Lectionary Schedule

July 2, 2017

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Guest Speaker: Tommy Carrico

Read: Genesis 22:1-14 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

July 9, 2017

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Guest Speaker: Don Reid

Read: Genesis 24:34-49 Romans 7:15-25 Matthew 11:16-30

July 16, 2017

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Guest Speaker: Tommy Carrico

Read: Genesis 25:19-34 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-23

July 23, 2017

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Guest Minister: Rev. Jim Yao

Read: Genesis 28:10-19 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-43

July 30, 2017

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Guest Minister: Rev. Bill Painter

Read: Genesis 29:15-28 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-52



Summer Vespers Service & Concert

Save the dates on your calendar for Bethel's new Summer Vespers and Concert series. We'll have a hymn sing by request (just call out a number of your favorite), read a scripture, pray together in the evening prayer, and enjoy a guest musical group.

Summer
Worship



The Faithful Men performing at the Summer Vespers Service & Concert on June 21st.

Arrangements are still in progress for the groups, so watch for further announcements. We'll start at 7:00 pm and be finished by about 8:00 pm. The dates are Wednesday, July 5th and Wednesday, July 19th. The Stonewall Flutes of the Shenandoah will be the guest musicians on July 19th.

"Sharing the Bounty" Sunday

"Sharing the Bounty", our program of sharing our extra fruit and veggies with Kingsway, will start on Sunday, July 16th. "Sharing the Bounty" Sunday will also be held on August 13th and September 17th. Thank you for helping provide fresh food for those in need in our community!





July 2nd - PWCT Meeting

July 30th - PWCT Meeting



Annual Catered Dinner All women are invited to the Ladies Annual Catered Meal. It will be held on July 11th, at the Middlebook Community Center at 6:30 pm. The meal will be catered by Country Kitchen of Christiansburg and the cost will be \$15.00 per person.

Please RSVP for yourself and your guests as soon as possible to Irene Elliott, Louise Hoy, Barbara Gough or Jackie Law.

The PWCT will collect personal care items for the Valley Mission that night. Items needed by the Valley Mission include: Shampoo/Conditioner, Shower Shoes, Feminine Hygiene products, Body Wash, Deodorant, Reusable Shopping Bags, and Diapers - sizes 5 & 6. If you would like to make a donation, please bring it with you to the dinner.



Please join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship!

August Tower Deadline

The August Tower Deadline will be Thursday, July 13th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the August 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!



Men of the Church - July 18th

The Men of the Church will be meeting on Tuesday, July 18th, at 6:30 pm. The Guest Speaker will be Kim Welliver who is retired from the US Air Force and returned to his wife's family farm at Arbor Hill and now flies a medivac helicopter for UVA hospital.



Lemonade on the Lawn will be held on Sunday, July 30th, following the worship service. Come and join us for this time of fellowship!



Summer Display in Memorial Hall



Financial Report - through May 31st, 2017

Estimated Budget: \$73,194.00
Actual Receipts: \$67,458.00
Actual Expenses: \$56,590.00



Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed Monday, July 31st through Thursday, August 3rd while Adrienne is on vacation. Please contact Bill Brubeck (540/885-5871; brubeck@mgwnet.com) or Rhonda Johnson (540/292-4441; crkjohnson@ntelos.net) if you have a need.

Any announcements for the July 30th bulletin and/or the August 6th bulletin will need to be submitted by 9:00 am on Wednesday, July 26th.

Adrienne will be back in the office on Monday, August 7th, at 9:00 am. Thank you!



Session News & Notes

The Session met on Sunday, June 11th with 10 elders and the moderator, Joe Condro, present.

Roy Martin, Interim General Presbyter of the Shenandoah Presbytery, discussed Bethel's financial condition in regard to hiring a full-time interim pastor. He approved the hiring of a stated supply pastor, similar to the position Joe Condro holds at Pines Chapel. A stated supply minister will be less costly, and may be easier to find, than a full-time interim.

The rental of the manse was discussed, but put on hold until more information can be gathered.

Offerings will be collected during our summer Vespers services, with the proceeds going toward the repair of the organ. The organ is in need of several repairs and upgrades, including the blower.

Tom Whitaker will install the equipment necessary to make WIFI available in the Fellowship Hall. The internet must be available there for us to hold a blood drive later this year.

The Stonewall Brigade Band has opened its 129th season of concerts in Gypsy Hill Park in Staunton. Concerts are each Monday evening at 8:00 pm through August. Programs are available at: www.stonewallbrigadeband.com. The SBB is the nations oldest-continuous community band, currently in its 163rd year of serving the community. All 100 members are volunteers.



FREE - Hammond Spinnet electronic organ, 12 pedals, not working, repairable? or for parts. Please contact Tammy Barbour (540/471-0450 or barbour.tamara@yahoo.com) if interested. Thank you!



Flower Schedule July 2017

July 2nd - Mary Ann Anderson

July 9th - Drury Whitaker

July 16th - Lee Ann Heizer

July 23rd - Tammy Barbour

July 30th - McClure Family



Nursery Schedule July 2017

July 2nd - Eloise Moore, Elizabeth Mulcahy

July 9th - Jackie Law, Stephanie Rivers

July 16th - Chris & Therese Schooley

July 22nd - Joe & Sally Williams

July 30th - Joe & Tabby Moore

Offering
Schedule
July 2017

Charlie Johnson

Briana Lawhorne

Marty Simmers

Dale Thompson



From Bethel's Personnel Committee . . .

A Tradition of Service: Donna Bush and Carol Sprouse



Donna and Carol are sisters from the Liptrap family. They grew up in the Bethel congregation and lived in the Murphy house across Howardsville Road from Bethel. Donna remembers that her parents helped their daughters cross Howardsville Road safely for Sunday School. Later, the girls were babysitters for the families of Reverend Sprunt and Reverend Caldwell.

Parents John and Margaret Liptrap were Bethel caretakers for many years. When John mowed the lawn at Bethel, Donna and Carol accompanied him and brought scissors to help their Dad trim grass!

Margaret maintained the interior of Bethel and earned the Presbyterian Women's Lifetime service award.

The Liptraps lived in the Murphy house for 5 years after John passed away. Margaret moved into Donna and Jon Bush's home about 26 years ago.

For more than 30 years, Carol and Donna have been Bethel's housekeepers and have kept Bethel in excellent condition. They enjoy their service, helping to keep people happy. Donna says she would change nothing about the work.

iCARE Update

Thanks to your generosity, Bethel will again be able to sponsor a child in Ethiopia in the iCARE program for another school year. It means one more child will get an education which is so essential for success. Thanks again!



The Witness Committee would like to thank those who helped in The Meating Place Food Booth on May 26th and May 27th. They included Ellen Fitzgerald, Sarah Frances Ralston, Beth Miller, Rosalee Miller, Rhonda Johnson and Kathy Swisher. Thanks also to those who donated baked goods and those who came to eat with us. With everyone's help we raised \$945.00 that will be used for Bethel's mission work.



Many thanks to all who provided food and help at the Valley Mission breakfast on June 10th. It is always especially nice to have the young people come to help serve. This is a special mission project for us and is most appreciated by the residents. - Doris True

Way to go Bethel! We were able to collect 50 pairs of flip-flops (which will take up an entire suitcase) to donate to the children of Honduras! Doris Fredricksen of New Providence Church will be delivering them in person on our behalf with Friends of Barnabas. This is her thirteenth year of mission work there in Honduras. Friends of Barnabas Foundation began helping those in need in Honduras in 2000. It has grown from its origins of simple mission trips to dispense Vitamin A and anti-parasite medications to children to general medicine, eye, and dental clinics and now they have added surgical mission teams focusing on cardiac, oral and maxillofacial cases and a full-time clinic. FOB's staff work diligently alongside a dedicated group of volunteers and missionaries to serve the people of Honduras. Thank you Bethel for making the world a little better one child at a time!



We would like to thank the Bethel congregation for being so gracious in offering the Manse to our family. It was a godsend to us and the Manse was beautiful and welcoming. Our family had the space and comforts we needed during our difficult time and we all felt at peace while we were there. We enjoyed going for walks around the yard and thru the cemetery as it warmed our hearts to be near loved ones who've passed. Those walks brought comfort and smiles at times when we needed them the most. We would especially like to thank the Almarode and Lee families. They went above and beyond for us. Again, please accept our heartfelt thanks. Your kindness will always be remembered!

- Love the Adams and Phillips Families

Please remember to pray for . . .

The Mission Teams going to Fayetteville, WV. They will be leaving Sunday, July 9th and returning Friday, July 14th.



The Shenandoah Presbytery Mission Teams going to Baja, Mexico. They will be leaving Friday, July 14th and returning Sunday, July 23rd.



Bethel Prayer List

Mike Alford (*brain cancer; husband of Mary Alford*), Friends & Family of Mike Almarode (*Betty Schooley's brother-in-law*), Lucille Baker (*Linda Tenney's mother-in-law - recovering from a stroke*), Phil Balsey (*friend of Bob & Louise Hoy*), Mildred Barmore, Barry Blacka (*Joyce Miller's brother*), Catherine Bryan (*friend of Stephanie Rivers*), Lorine Caldwell (*Dean Caldwell's mother*), Betty Cash, Larry Clemmer (*farm accident*), Betty Crosby, Jarod Davis & Family, Joyce Davis, Ronnie Davis (*Joyce Davis' son*), Friends & Family of Anita Edwards, Herbert Hamilton (*Kingsway volunteer - has cancer*), Bill Hanger, Bill Kealing (*friend of Laura Barmore*), Bill Klitzman (*nephew of Louise Hoy*), Tate Knick (*2 year old - son of Will & Cassie Knick - friends of Laura Barmore*), Sara Ann Lamb, L. Cpl. Bertram Bruce Lamond (*active military*), Evelyn LaPorte, David Law, Margaret Liptrap, Meade Loomis (*sister of Anne Jones*), Jeannette Moran (*friend of Kym Schneider - complications from surgery*), Jerry & JoAnn Pendley (*passing of Jerry's sister*), Christy Glover Pilson (*John Pilson's niece*), John Pilson, Police, Firemen, and EMS workers & volunteers, Carly Pond (*fifteen year old great niece of John Pilson*), Alfred Sheets (*relative of John Pilson*), Miles Sisson (*Lucy Sproul's brother - diagnosed with melanoma*), Michael Somers, Bill & Marguerite Whitaker (*Tom Whitaker's parents*), Friends & Family of Lizzie Wood (*Boyd Wood's mother - friend of Jane Law*), MISSIONARY: Michael & Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends

Bethel Vacation Bible School 2017 June 5th - June 7th Theme: "The World is Us- one earth, one people"





May the God of HOPE
 fill you with all
 JOY & PEACE
 as you trust in him,
 so that you may overflow
 with HOPE by the
 power of the Holy Spirit.
 Romans 15:13

Don't Forget!!
 July 4th - Independence Day

