



The Tower

September 2017

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

The Session's View . . .

Recently we have been challenged to just get up and do something, and do our part in the partnership. When a doctor prescribes a medicine to treat your sickness, you have to do your part in the healing by taking the medicine. When you want a good yield from your garden or crops or healthy calves, you work hard to take care of them so they can do their part. The same is true as Christians. We have to do our part, to follow the example set before us by Jesus.



Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

In following Jesus, we have to do our part and follow the law set before us by God. We are instruments of peace and justice. None of us could cure leprosy in a man but we can embrace this person that has been rejected by others. In this work, we have hope for a future and an eternal life with our Lord.

Submitted by the Session in serving our Lord and savior.

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.

Congregational Care “Fellowship Following Worship”

There is a volunteer sign-up sheet for “Fellowship Following Worship” on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall. The Congregational Care Committee has placed monthly Sunday dates under the name of each month. Please write your name down next to the month you are willing to provide refreshments and then circle the date of the Sunday you have chosen. *We are still looking for someone to provide refreshments one Sunday during September!* Thank you!



September Lectionary Schedule

September 3rd, 2017

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Bernard Bangley

Exodus 3:1-15 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28

September 10th, 2017

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Bernard Bangley

Exodus 12:1-14 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20

September 17th, 2017

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Jim Yao

Exodus 14:19-31 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

September 24th, 2017

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Jim Yao

Exodus 16:2-15 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16



SESSION NEWS & NOTES

The Session of Bethel Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, August 13th, 2017 with ten Elders and the moderator, Pastor Joe Condro, present.

The Deacons will replace much of the landscaping in the beds surrounding the church.

The Personnel Committee is actively working to find a stated supply pastor. They have placed our job opening on the denomination-wide network and have received two applications for the position.

There will be no Rally Day Sunday this year.

The Communications Committee is working to get WIFI access in the Fellowship Hall.

Mac Williams attended a July Presbytery meeting where Warm Springs Presbyterian was released from the PCUSA.

Rhonda Johnson will attend the August 26th Presbytery meeting, where a possible new General Presbyter will be considered.

Financial Report through July 31st, 2017

Estimated Budget: \$103,137.00

Actual Received: \$100,862.00 Actual Expenses: \$74,624.00



Presbyterian Women

September 2017 - Emphasis: Christian Education
“Links of Love” - Project



Committed to
nurturing faith,
supporting mission,
working for justice,
and building community.

*The Afternoon Circle will meet at 1:30 pm at the church on September 12th, 2017.

*The Evening Circle will meet at 7:00 pm at the church on September 12th, 2017.

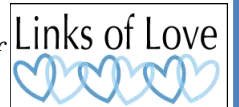
September 3rd - PWCT Meeting



As Bethel begins a new year of Sunday School classes, the Presbyterian Women also begin a new year of Circle meetings in September. If you have not attended Circle, please join us for Bible study, fellowship and food on the second Tuesday of each month. There is an Afternoon Circle that meets at 1:30 pm and an Evening Circle that meets at 7:00 pm. We usually meet at the church but check the bulletin for changes.

Presbyterian Women - Special Emphasis

In September, the Presbyterian Women of Bethel urge you to support the *Links of Love* program. The *Links of Love* is a partnership between the Sunnyside Communities and the Women of the Presbyterian Church. Your *Links of Love* contributions are a lifeline that provides security and attentive care for those who can no longer provide for themselves. The special offering will be collected during the September Circle Meetings.



“Share the Bounty” Sunday is September 17th, 2017

Sharing the bounty. Summer is almost over and fall is on the way. Gardens have provided vegetables for our tables for months. The Worship and Witness Committees are designating Sunday, September 17th as “Share the Bounty” Sunday. The Witness Committee will gather the fresh vegetables and fruit you donate and take them to Kingsway. An extra basket will be placed in the vestibule. Please share what you can with those in need. Thank you for your generosity!

Church Office News & Information

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 4th, for Labor Day.



Church Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Closed Fridays



The Church Office will be closed on Monday September 11th, while Adrienne is on vacation. Thank you!



Church Office News & Information (continued)

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The October Tower Deadline will be Thursday, September 14th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the October 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.

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.



PLEASE NOTE

The Church Office has begun sending congregational emails from a new email address. Please add office@bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org to your email's contact list so you can stay up-to-date on Bethel news, congregational prayer requests, and announcements. The Church Office email address is still: bethelpc@gmail.com so please continue to use that email address if you need to contact us. Thank you!



Bethel Congregation & Friends:
Please submit any changes to your address, phone number, 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!

Note from the Congregational Care Committee

The Congregational Care Committee tries to keep in contact with our College Students throughout the year, but we need your help. We need the contact information for your college age children. Telephone numbers, email addresses, and mailing addresses are all important ways that Bethel can stay in touch with them. Please send the information to Barbara Gough (barbsgough@gmail.com or (540) 255-6521). Thank you!



Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church Annual Harvest Sale and Supper

The Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church will be having its annual Harvest Sale and Supper on Saturday, September 9th, 2017, at 4 pm. The Family Style Menu includes: Country Ham, Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Lima Beans, Tomatoes, Pickles, Homemade Rolls, Apple Pie and Cherry Pie, Coffee and Tea. The price is \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 10.

Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church is located off Rt. 252 (Middlebrook Road), South of Staunton on Route 694 (Mt. Tabor Road). Signs will be posted. The church telephone number is 540-885-4738.

Have you heard of SACRA?



The Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association is an ecumenical organization supported by 79 area congregations in Staunton and Augusta County. It was established in 1983 to provide emergency assistance of rent, utilities, or food to the needy of the area. The relief efforts are carefully coordinated among the Salvation Army, Valley Mission, Valley Mental Health, and Social Services, as well as the churches.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday each week, from 9:00 am - 11:30 am, more than 30 volunteers interview clients, prepare reports, and sort food for clients. The facility is provided by St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church.

Since the beginning of 2017, SACRA has disbursed over \$99,963 in rent and electricity assistance to 517 families.

Bethel contributes financially to SACRA through the Bethel Emergency Relief Fund (BERF), whose funding is supplied through the Four Cents a Meal offering and direct contributions.

SACRA is looking for volunteers and contributions of food. For more information, call Joyce Miller (540) 255-9136.

“The Big Event: A Coming Together of All Shenandoah Presbytery Congregations”

Saturday, September 16th 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

Massanetta Springs (Harrisonburg, VA)



The Big Event will offer worship, music, a mission fair, and workshops to interest adults, youth and children as we celebrate our oneness in Christ. To discover what workshops are offered this year or for more information please check out the Shenandoah Presbytery website at: www.shenpres.org/big-event-resources/. Brochures and registration forms are also on the table next to the Choir Room. Make plans now to attend!



Our sympathies & condolences to Julie Turner and her family on the passing of her father, Harry McCray on August 3rd, 2017.

Many thanks to the Congregational Care Committee, the Seeker's Sunday School Class, and the Adult Sunday School Class for providing refreshments for Lemonade on the Lawn this summer!



It's a Boy! 

Congratulations to the Williams family on the birth of John Carr Williams. He is the son of Ben & Tessa Williams and the grandson of James & Cynthia Williams. John was born on July 29th and weighed 6 lbs., 9 oz.

Bethel Employees: JoAnn Pendley, Pianist and Bell Choir Director



JoAnn Pendley studied piano in Oklahoma and Arkansas from the age of five until she was sixteen. Her instructor in Hot Springs, Arkansas taught her to accompany soloists and other musicians, and she had her first opportunity to play the organ for Sunday evening services. During the last 2 years of high school, she taught piano lessons and replaced her mother as organist at the First Methodist Church in Afton, Oklahoma.

For the next 30 years, piano and organ were strictly a hobby for JoAnn. After she and her husband, Jerry, retired to Culpeper, Virginia, she served as church organist for the Christian Church and was a guest pianist at the Methodist Church.

The Pendleys moved to Staunton and first attended Bethel in 2003. JoAnn substituted for bell ringers in 2004 and became Bethel's hand bell director after Lou Dolive retired from that position. She played piano for Bethel's early church services and accompanied Sara Ann at the 11 o'clock services. She took organ lessons from 2004 through 2006 to improve her skills for Bethel and St. John's churches.

JoAnn enjoys sharing the language of music with others, watching choir members grow in skill levels, and seeing the music come together on Sunday morning. She hopes the music touches someone in the congregation and adds meaning to their worship time.



Nursery Schedule September 2017

September 3rd - Brian & Penny Lee

September 10th - Joyce Davis, Louise Hoy

September 17th - Cindy Almarode,
Karen Koogler

September 24th - Mary Ann Anderson,
Maggie Rivers

*Need a Ride to Church?
Call the Bethel Deacon's Taxi Service!*

If you need a ride to worship or to church activities please contact the Church Office at 540/886-6041 or at bethelpc@gmail.com. You can also contact any Deacon. We will make sure transportation is provided for you. Thank you!

Flower Schedule
September 2017

September 3rd - Cathy Hill

September 10th - Jill Webb
(Memorial)

September 17th - Lucy Sproul

September 24th - Jackie Law



Offering Schedule
September 2017

Wade Cash
Ellen Fitzgerald
Marty Simmers
Dale Thompson




September Greeters
Joe & Sally Williams





From Bob Moody, Bethel's Music Director . . .

Excuses, excuses. What if... But I can't sing... But the notes are too high for me.... I don't have time.... But I can't read music...

So what if Jesus had decided not to go out to the Garden of Gethsemane? Would there be a Bethel Presbyterian church? What if the disciples hadn't met in the upper room on the evening of the first Easter Day, assuming that Jesus did go to Gethsemane, was crucified, died, was buried, and rose? Aren't we all glad that they all followed through?

Jesus's life gives all of us a challenge. Show up on time, pay attention, take action, and follow through. Of course we will make mistakes, learn from them, and do better over time, if we figure out the difference between the wrong way and the right way and keep at it. Thomas Edison is reported to have said that he learned 999 ways not to make a light bulb.

God gives us the ability to sing. Just like learning to walk, talk, read, write, and drive, each skill we have been given needs regular practice just to develop and maintain the skill and improve our performance of that skill. The same is true with singing.

Yes you can sing. Sing along with the radio, tv, streaming music on your computer or phone. Or just sing a song you know and like. Sing while you cook, or while you work. Whistle a song, then sing it. If you get sleepy driving a long way, sing a song. It builds up your oxygen, clears the sinuses, and strengthens the lungs—all medically studied and proven.

Music reading is really easier than reading words. There are 26 letters in the alphabet, but only 12 notes in music. Most songs use 8 or 9 of the 12 notes, in recognizable, repeating patterns. We only use 7 letters of the alphabet to name the notes. (Just like a naming a dog or cat, naming makes it more likely that it will stay with you.) So we have 12 notes and 7 letters. 12 minus 7 is 5, so we need 5 more names. Rather than stick all the names we have at the beginning and the ones we are yet to name at the end, people way back when (around 991 AD) mixed them, alternating. But there is a problem here—with 7 and 5 you can't do "every" other one, because 7 minus 5 equals 2—2 places that letters need to be next to each other. Now stay with me on this. It isn't rocket science or brain surgery, just simple addition and subtraction, plus a little history and common sense.

So how are we going to name those 7 nameless note? Just name them by their neighbors—higher than one but lower than another. Sort of like saying that Bethel is between Riverheads and St. John's Reformed on Howardsville Road. A sort of abbreviation for higher than is "sharp" because something sharp on the ground sticks up from the ground. The nickname for lower than is "flat" mainly because it sounds like the opposite of sharp. (Or flat when you stomp on a sharp thing, but not barefooted.)

So now we have our names. We use A, B, C, D, E, F, G as our letters. So let's add the in-betweeners now: A, A sharp or B flat, B, C, C sharp or D flat, D, D sharp or E flat, E, F, F sharp or G flat, G, G sharp or A Flat. And we're back to the beginning and the sequence repeats over and over. This seem complicated, so let's simplify.

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)



To make it look simpler, let's use the symbols for sharp # and flat b
A, A# or B \flat , B, C, C# or D \flat , D, D# or E \flat , E, F, F# or G \flat , G, G# or A \flat

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW ANY OF THIS TO SING A SONG. You just need to know the words and how it goes. But knowing all this makes it easier to sing from a book. Easier is better than not easy. And by the way, there is a much easier to write all this. But that's for another climb into the Tower newsletter, maybe next month.

But the notes are too high.... Then just harmonize "by ear" singing a note that fits in. If it doesn't fit in on the first verse, try a different one on the second verse. Trial and error and error and error finally leads to success, just like Edison and the light bulb, where Edison learned 999 ways not to do it.

Or just sing while driving. Sing a song you know, starting low enough to be comfortable. Then start on a slightly higher note. Keep starting higher and higher until you can't do it anymore. Then stop. Do it again tomorrow. And the next day, and the next day. All of a sudden those high notes will be easy. Singing practice is just like athletic practice. Just stop when it hurts. Then try again the next day. Inch by inch, it's.....

I don't have time..... Hmm there are 24 hours in a day for each person. 60 minutes in an hour. How about 5 minutes and 23 seconds? Just go to YouTube and search for "How to read music."

Who will teach me? You'll teach yourself. If you get stuck, just ask me for help. I've been teaching folks from age 10 to age 80 how to sing and play music... going on 55 years now. I love to see folks succeed.

Stay tuned. It gets easier and very interesting.

- Bob Moody

July 30th, 2017 - Worship & Lemonade on the Lawn



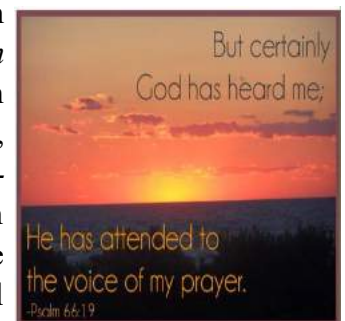
July 30th, 2017 - Worship & Lemonade on the Lawn



PRAYER LIST

Bethel Prayer List

Mike Alford (*brain cancer; husband of Mary Alford*), Tish Amerault (*cousin of Kay Thompson & friend of the Almarodes - has Hodgkins Lymphoma*), Lucille Baker (*Linda Tenney's mother-in-law - recovering from a stroke*), Phil Balsey (*friend of Bob & Louise Hoy*), Mildred Barmore, Catherine Bryan (*friend of Stephanie Rivers*), Lorine Caldwell (*Dean Caldwell's mother*), Betty Cash, Larry Clemmer (*farm accident*), Betty Crosby, Jarod Davis & Family, Larry Edwards, Todd Gibson (*friend of Louise Hoy*), 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 (*deployed/south pacific*), Evelyn LaPorte, David Law, Margaret Liptrap, Meade Loomis (*sister of Anne Jones*), Jeannette Moran (*friend of Kym Schneider - complications from surgery*), 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*), Friends & Family of Marsha Roach (*Bryan Lamond's mother-in-law*), Alfred Sheets (*relative of John Pilson*), Frank Shiflett (*treatments*) & Brenda, Miles Sisson (*Lucy Sproul's brother - diagnosed with melanoma*), Michael Somers, Mitchell & Holly Sutton, Tim & Julie Turner (*death of Julie's father - Harry McCray*), Bill & Marguerite Whitaker (*Tom Whitaker's parents*), MISSIONARY: Michael & Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends





September 4th - Labor Day
September 11th - Patriot Day
September 22nd - Autumn Begins

