

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 29th - November 4th



•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!

•We welcome Rev. Bernard Bangley who will be preaching and leading the worship service this morning. Rev. Bangley is a retired Presbyterian Minister living in Rockbridge County. He was pastor of Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Rockbridge Baths for eleven years, and then served churches in Lynchburg and Sarasota, Florida. He and Anna, his wife of 59 years, have 3 children and 4 grandchildren. He is the author of a number of religious books. Please let Rev. Bangley know how much we appreciate him being with us this morning!

•The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Laura Barmore in memory of her mother, Lee Jump.

•Today is Reformation Sunday! During the worship service we will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is **500** REFORMATION 1517 ✠ 2017 always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Make plans to be at the worship service next Sunday for this special occasion!

•"Fellowship Following Worship" will be today in the Bethel Fellowship Hall. Many thanks to Betty Heizer and Mo Kyle who will be providing the refreshments!

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed tomorrow through Thursday, November 2nd while Adrienne is on vacation. Please contact Bill Brubeck, Rhonda Johnson, or Kathy Swisher if you have a need. Thank you!

•You are invited to a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser today from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm to support Martha's Meals on Wheels of Staunton. The meal will be at The Moose Lodge in Verona (1510 Commerce Road, Verona) and tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12, and free for children under the age of 5. Tickets are available at the door or you can purchase tickets from one of the Meals on Wheels board members. Please call (540) 886-1219 for more information. A 50/50 drawing and door prize tickets will also be available at the door. Don't miss the fun! Since 1973 Martha's Meals on Wheels has continuously served meals to homebound residents in the Staunton area. Over 4,000 meals are delivered each year by volunteers. Meals are provided free or at a lower cost for clients in need. Thanks for your generosity in helping to support those in need in our community!

Church Wide Clean Up... Roadside Trash Pick-Up Next Saturday, November 4th from 9:00 am until ?

Next Saturday, November 4th, the Deacons invite all the members of our congregation to help us in our annual church wide clean up. We will be clipping bushes, removing debris, spreading mulch, maybe even moving a little furniture from one place to another in the church to find more storage space in our unused rooms above Memorial Hall. We are also asking for help with the removal of a huge hornet's nest in the maple tree just outside the Sanctuary doors. Please let one of the Deacons know if you have suggestions for removing this nest safely. All of these activities will be going on from 9:00 am until we are done or decide we are just too tired to do any more. Anyone interested in helping or fixing our lunch will be welcomed with smiles and open arms.

On that same day from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm we will have our roadside clean up from Route 11 to Middlebrook Road. This is in conjunction with the Virginia Dept. of Highways who provide our safety vests and garbage bags. (Please bring your own gloves!) Having our roadway to Bethel free of litter from either direction says a lot for our church and benefits all who attend as well as those just driving by.

Please mark this day on your calendars and come out to help us keep Bethel and our roadway clean and beautiful.

•Daylight Saving Time ends next Sunday, November 5th. Make sure to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night!

•Next Sunday, November 5th, Bethel will be observing “All Saints Sunday” during the worship service. This is the Sunday in the church calendar when we celebrate all the saints, who have served their Lord faithfully on earth and now live eternally in God’s presence. During the worship service we will honor all who have gone before us in the past year. Please make plans to attend this special service.

•The Christian Education Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 8th, at 6:00 pm. We will be working on plans for the Christmas program on December 10th so all committee members should make every effort to attend this important meeting!

•The December Tower Deadline will be Thursday, November 9th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the December Tower can be left in Adrienne’s mailbox in Memorial Hall or you can email them to her at bethelpc@gmail.com. When writing announcements for the newsletter please keep in mind the 5 W’s: Who? What? When? Where? Why?. Answer all of these in your announcement and you can be sure that your news will be communicated well. Remember if you turn in items after the deadline Adrienne cannot guarantee they will be included in the Tower.

Please note that the December Tower will be mailed out a week early due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you!

•Stewardship Season & Stewardship Sunday
School is back in session. Thanksgiving is almost here, and it is time again for Bethel to make plans for next year. Yes, Stewardship Season is here. Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, November 12th. If you cannot be present on Stewardship Sunday please use the pledge cards in the vestibule or Memorial Hall. Mail the completed card to the attention of the Receiving Treasurer (Church Address: 563 Bethel Green Road; Staunton, VA 24401). You may also place the pledge card in the offering plate any Sunday. Bethel needs all of you to help if we are to reach our goals. Please carefully and prayerfully consider your pledge for next year. Thank you for your continuing support!

•There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 12th, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect five members of the congregation to the Nominating Committee. By order of the Session.

•*IT’S THAT TIME OF YEAR - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES!* Since 1993, Samaritan’s Purse has been distributing shoebox gifts to boys and girls around the world in Jesus’ name through Operation Christmas Child. Each shoebox gift can bring joy and the good news of Jesus Christ to a child in need. Please be a part of this effort by filling a shoebox this year. Brochures on how to pack your shoebox are available in the vestibule and Memorial Hall. All shoeboxes will be due Sunday, November 12th. Please contact Kathy Swisher if you any questions. Thank you for all the past support of this project!

•You are cordially invited to join Staunton Third Presbyterian Church in celebrating their 100th Anniversary on Sunday, November 12th, at 10:30 am. Lunch will follow the worship service in the Church Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to the Third Presbyterian Church Office by November 1st if you plan to attend (540/886-6567 or email thirdpres@verizon.net). Thank you!

•Fellowship Following Worship Volunteers Needed!
The Congregational Care Committee is looking for people who would be willing to provide refreshments for the “Fellowship Following Worship” in November. Would you look at our sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall and see if there is a date you can sign-up to bring refreshments? Light refreshments, something to drink and a friendly face are all the ingredients required!

•Volunteers Needed! Younglives which is a program, started by Young Life more than 20 years ago provides weekly support, spiritual guidance, teaching and training for teenage mothers in our community. Childcare workers are needed for one Monday evening each month from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm while the mothers have their meetings in Fishersville. If you have additional questions and/or are interested in volunteering please contact Linda Lamond. Thank you!

•The Bethel Communications Committee is seeking more members! We need help and ideas in spreading the good news about Bethel and our activities in the community! If you are interested in being a part of this committee or would like more information please contact Tabby Moore.

•The Bethel Building & Grounds Committee have begun a landscaping project starting with the flowerbeds and area surrounding the vestibule at the entrance of the church. They would appreciate any donations made to offset the cost of this project. If you would like to make a donation to this special project please make your check payable to Bethel Presbyterian Church and note on the check that it's for the "Landscape Fund". Please contact Wade Cash if you have any questions. Thank you!

•Wedding Coordinator Needed

The Session has approved a Wedding Coordinator position with a fee of \$150 to be paid by those getting married. This person, who will be a member of the church, will meet with every couple being married at Bethel and/or their wedding planner to answer any questions about the church and its policies. They will be present at church for the rehearsal and the wedding to help insure a memorable time at Bethel. If you are interested in this position, please contact the Church Office.

•Are you looking for a birthday gift? A Christmas gift? Don't forget that Shenandoah Awards and Apparel in Staunton has the Bethel logo and can put it on a hat, shirt, or anything you might want. You can walk in and order on your own without a group order. Help yourself and get Bethel's name out there!

•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!

October 22nd

Attendance: 70

Weekly Budget: \$3,327.00 Received: \$2,160.00

Four Cents A Meal Offering: \$256.00

REFORMATION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 29, 2017

Luther's Bible



This year Presbyterians celebrate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses. The theses, which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the opening salvo in the Protestant Reformation—a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone.

Luther is also celebrated for a second piece of writing: his translation of the Bible into German. After Pope Leo X excommunicated Luther in 1521, the reformer took refuge inside Wartburg Castle. There he completed his translation of the New Testament, based on Erasmus's 1516 Bible text. First printed in September 1522, the "September Testament" does not include Luther's name on the title page, an elision meant to limit church reprisals.

The Old Testament translation proved more difficult, owing in part to Luther's struggles with Hebrew and his insistence that the text be accessible to all Germans. "The translator must not be led by the Hebrew words," Luther wrote. "He should make sure that he really understands the sense and ask himself: 'What would the German say in such-and-such an instance?'" His editorial philosophy required inventive interpolations. For example, he replaced the word "chameleon," which would have been unknown to sixteenth century Germans, with "weasel."

It took Luther and a team of fellow scholars twelve years to translate the Old Testament, which was printed in 1534 together with Luther's New Testament. Despite criticism for the way he valued certain books of the Bible over others and for editing passages to fit his own theology, Luther's Bible was an immediate and lasting success; one Wittenberg publisher alone printed 100,000 copies between 1534 and 1574. Many Germans regarded it as a work of literary genius, the way English readers would revere the King James Bible in the century to come.

Reformation Sunday materials are provided by the [Presbyterian Historical Society](http://www.history.pcusa.org). For more information on the Reformation and PHH, visit us at www.history.pcusa.org/reformation-sunday

Above left: Portrait of Martin Luther, engraved by John Serlach, 1835.

Above right: Title page of Luther's translation of the New Testament, 1522. PHH Rare Books Collection.