

THIS WEEK AT
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 26th - December 2nd

Today	Deadline: Gift Cards for PCHH 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/ Four Cents A Meal Offering 12:15 Diaconate Meeting 12:15 Witness Committee Meeting 12:15 Worship Committee Meeting
Monday	7:00 Boy Scouts 7:30 Young Life Meeting
Tuesday	9:30 Shenandoah Presbytery Meeting at Third Presbyterian Church; Staunton, VA
Wednesday	6:30 Cub Scouts (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>) 7:00 Adult Choir 7:00 The Bells of Bethel 7:30 Young Life Meeting
Thursday	2:15 Prayer Fellowship Group
Saturday	11:00 Advent Workshop Set-Up (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>) 11:00 Hanging of the Greens Set-Up & Decorating 4:00 Staunton Choral Society Concert

Next Sunday, December 3rd: 1st Sunday of Advent

Deadline: Salvation Army Gifts

9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship/Hanging of the Greens
12:00 Advent Workshop
12:15 PWCT Meeting

CHURCH
ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 26th - December 2nd



•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!

•The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Bettie Swisher in memory of Mr. & Mrs. M. B. Swisher and Don B. Swisher.

•Any announcements for the December 3rd bulletin and/or the December 10th bulletin will need to be submitted by this Wednesday, November 29th, at 9:00 am. Thank you!

•The Staunton Choral Society will present their 2017 Christmas Concert "Tell the News" here at Bethel next Saturday, December 2nd, at 4:00 pm. There is no admission cost but a free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Staunton Choral Society, a 501(c)3 organization. For more information please check out the Staunton Choral Society website at: www.stauntonchoralsociety.org or their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StauntonChoralSociety. Make plans now to attend this special concert!

•Massanetta Springs will host its annual Christmas Dinner and Concert next Saturday, December 2nd, at 6:00 pm. The delicious dinner includes appetizer, salad, main course with sides, and dessert. This year's concert will be performed by the Mosaic Handbell Choir, a group of ten ringers skillfully playing 3 octaves of bells and 5 octaves of chimes - coordinating with each other to craft a magical presentation to enjoy with eyes and ears. The dinner and concert are \$20/adult; \$13/ages 6 - 17; 5 and under are free. Reservations are required so please contact 540-434-3829 or nolaa@massanettasprings.org.

•The annual Hanging of the Greens program will be held next Sunday, December 3rd during our regular worship service. Please make plans to attend this wonderful and meaningful service.

•The Advent Workshop will be next Sunday, December 3rd, following worship. All ages are welcome! We will have a light lunch provided by the Bethel Women and then do crafts and activities to take home to celebrate the Advent season. Please contact Barb Gough if you would like more information. Make plans now to attend and join the fun!

- Congregational Care Committee

•Reminder: All gifts for the Salvation Army family are due next Sunday, December 3rd. When you return your gift please make sure it's wrapped and the tag is attached. (Remember that while elaborate bows on the presents are pretty they get mashed when the gifts are packed for delivery.) Contact Doris True if you have any questions. Thanks for your generosity with this annual project!

•Come support the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and prepare for the holiday season! Local musicians will spread holiday cheer at the 21st annual "Christmas at Augusta Stone Church" in Fort Defiance. The concert will be on Monday, December 4th, at 7:00 pm. A freewill offering will go directly to the Food Bank. \$1.00 = 4 meals. For more information please see: facebook.com/FoodBankChristmasConcert/

•Children's Christmas Program - December 10th

The Children's Christmas Program is scheduled as part of the 11:00 am worship service on December 10th. Also, during this time the congregation will sing beautiful and traditional Christmas hymns. Invite grandparents, neighbors, and friends to share in this Advent season.

•Joy Gift Sunday & Fellowship Meal - December 10th,

The Joy Gift Offering will be collected on Sunday, December 10th. A covered dish meal will be held immediately following morning worship, so bring your favorite dish to share!

What Is the Christmas Joy Gift Offering?

A Presbyterian tradition for almost eighty years, the Christmas Joy Gift Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need. The receipts for the Joy Gift Offering are distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs and to National Ministries of the General Assembly Council to help support Presbyterian racial ethnic education. More information about the Joy Gift Offering is included on the insert in your bulletin.

•It's time to place your order for Christmas poinsettias and/or make a special Christmas donation to the Bethel Emergency Relief Fund (BERF)! Poinsettias will be \$10.00 each (tax included). The Poinsettias purchased and the donations made to BERF will be acknowledged in the bulletin on December 17th and Christmas Eve. For more information please see the "Bethel Christmas Poinsettias or Donations to BERF" form in your announcements. The deadline for Poinsettia orders and Christmas BERF donations is Sunday, December 10th.

•The Stonewall Brigade Band is having it's annual Christmas Concert on December 11th, at 7:30 pm at St. Paul's United Methodist (2000 Shutterlee Mill Road) in Staunton. Admission is free. The flute choir will perform from 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm and the band will start at 7:30 pm.

•Note from the Bethel Diaconate . . .

Feels like winter is already here, doesn't it? Cold mornings, frost on the ground, chill in the sanctuary at church. The deacons are working hard to make sure everyone at Bethel feels warm and welcome when they settle in to worship at Bethel and hear the words of the gospel. We plan to have the wall units set at a constant temperature to stabilize the humidity and optimize moisture content for the care of our beautiful organ. In conjunction with the wall units we will have the church boiler set on a thermostat and you should feel warmth from the radiators along the sides of the sanctuary. As we all know, warm air flows upward, so we will have the ceiling fans circulating the warm air downward at a low speed. We ask that the fans be left on, the thermostat be left as set and any requests for change be directed to a deacon. There are vents on the wall units that can be redirected if a church member finds that they are sitting in the direct line of an uncomfortable air flow. Your serving deacon's names are on the back of your bulletin. We are here to help you, please help us keep Bethel comfortable this winter.

•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.

•Volunteers Needed! Many of you know long-time Bethel members Jon & Donna Bush. Not only are they the Bethel Custodians, they also volunteer at many church events, and Donna teaches the Children's Sunday School Class. They would like to attend worship one Sunday a month and are looking for someone who would be willing to stay with Donna's mother, Margaret Liptrap at their home. If you would be willing to stay with Margaret so Jon & Donna can attend worship please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall. Circle the Sunday you would be willing to serve along with your name and phone number. Donna will contact you with more details before you are scheduled to serve. Thank you for your consideration in volunteering!

•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.

•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!

<u>November 12th</u>	
Weekly Budget: \$3,327.00	Received: \$3,543.00
<u>November 19th</u>	
Attendance: 51	
Weekly Budget: \$3,327.00	Received: \$2,259.00



Bethel Christmas Poinsettias or
Donations To BERF Form

You may order Poinsettias at a cost of \$10.00 (tax included) each or you may make a monetary donation to BERF (Bethel Emergency Relief Fund). The Poinsettias purchased and the donations made to BERF will be acknowledged in the bulletin on December 17th and Christmas Eve. Please fill out the form below, attach the check or cash and place in the offering plate or mail to the Church Office: Attn: Church Office; 563 Bethel Green Road; Staunton, VA 24401. If you are purchasing a poinsettia please make checks payable to Bethel Presbyterian Church. If you are making a donation to BERF please make the check payable to Bethel Emergency Relief Fund. The deadline is Sunday, December 10th.

**Note: Please fill out the form completely. Sometimes forms come back not completely filled out and it can make things difficult when compiling them for the bulletins. Also, if you would like to order a poinsettia and make a donation please use two forms (one for the poinsettia and one for the donation). Thank you!*

Number of Poinsettias _____ Check or Cash Total _____

or

Donation to BERF _____ Check or Cash Total _____

In Honor Of: _____

Given By: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Given By: _____

Remember to pick- up Poinsettia(s) following the regular worship service on Christmas Eve or at the Christmas Eve Service that evening.