



# The Tower

January 2018

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## From the Stated Supply Pastor's Desk . . .

I'm not sure if you will be reading this just before or after Christmas. If it's before Christmas, than merry Christmas! If it's after Christmas, I hope you had a merry Christmas and now I wish you a happy new year!

In any case, the new year is almost upon us and it always brings with it new hopes and dreams, new beginnings, and new opportunities. I think it may be something of God's timing that you and I have been brought together as temporary pastor and congregation right at this time of year.

In January, you will be electing new officers for the various boards of the church after which I will be training them in their work. Then, I will be conducting an all-officer workshop where we will do some goal-setting and reorient the work of the church to meet those goals effectively. A new beginning for the new year!

In the meantime, I look forward to getting around to visit as many of you as I can. If you would like a visit, I hope you will let me know either by calling the church office or emailing me at [bethelpastor@bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org](mailto:bethelpastor@bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Roy



*Pastor Roy during the Children's Sermon on November 26th, his first Sunday at Bethel*



January Lectionary Schedule

January 7, 2018

Baptism of the Lord

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Guest Minister: Rev. Bronwen Boswell

Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11

January 14, 2018

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

I Samuel 3:1-20 I Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51

January 21, 2018

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5 I Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20


January 28, 2018

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 I Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28



Communion will be held on January 7th, 2018, Baptism of the Lord Sunday.



Pastor Roy's Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm





Guest Minister Rev. Bangley & his family played the dulcimer during the worship service on December 17th.



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 1st, 2018, for New Year's Day.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 15th, 2018, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Presbyterian Women January 2018  
Emphasis: Witness Season



\*The Afternoon Circle will meet at the church on January 9th, at 1:30 pm.  
\*The Evening Circle will meet at the church on January 9th, at 7:00 pm.

January 7th - PWCT Meeting

*Afternoon Circle Christmas Party on December 12th*





### Men of the Church - Dinner & Meeting

The Men of the Church will be meeting for dinner and fellowship on January 16th, at 6:30 pm.

### February Tower Deadline

Don't Miss the



The February Tower Deadline will be Thursday, January 18th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the February Tower can be left in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall or you can email them to: [bethelpc@gmail.com](mailto: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!

\*Please remember that all announcements and information are subject to editing.\*



### You're Invited! Mission Appreciation Luncheon

The Witness/Mission Committee invites everyone to its annual Mission Appreciation Luncheon after worship on Sunday, January 21st, 2018.

There is no need to bring anything - we want to thank you for your generous support of our mission projects and share with you our plans for the coming year. Please come to learn how you have helped those in need in our community and beyond and the volunteer opportunities you can help with this year.

### 2017 Annual Reports



The deadline for the Annual Reports for 2017 is Tuesday, January 23rd, 2018. If you were a chair of a committee for 2017, please have your report and statement to the Church Office by the above date. Thank you!



### Receiving Treasurer Search

Bethel is looking for a financially qualified member of the congregation to fill the position of Receiving Treasurer for the General Fund. Ken Wilkinson is retiring in the near future after serving in this position for many years. The General Fund receives donations from the Bethel congregation and others to fund the annual budget, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund, the Youth Fund and other funds. The Receiving Treasurer maintains complete and accurate records of donations by church members and others. With confidentiality in mind, the records are kept in ledger form on paper. No individual members donations or accounts are entered on any computer program. A weekly email report of total donations is made to the Disbursing Treasurer using Microsoft Excel. Also, a weekly bank deposit of all money received is made by the Receiving Treasurer. Other responsibilities to accomplish the above actions will be made available upon request. Please contact Ken Wilkinson at [kenwilkinson@hotmail.com](mailto:kenwilkinson@hotmail.com) or talk to Ken after service any Sunday.

## Church Inclement Weather Information



In the event of bad weather on Sunday mornings, please tune into WHSV-TV3 (Harrisonburg) or log onto their website ([www.whsv.com](http://www.whsv.com)) for information on whether church has been cancelled. If church is cancelled a congregational email will also be sent out to all active members.

For weekday activities please follow the Augusta County Schools. If school is cancelled, all events for that evening at the church are cancelled.

The Church Office may also be closed due to inclement weather if Augusta County Schools are closed (Monday through Thursday). If the Church Office is closed due to inclement weather and you have a need please email [bethelpc@gmail.com](mailto:bethelpc@gmail.com). Adrienne will be checking email messages throughout the day even if she is not in the Church Office. Thank you!



### Financial Stewardship

Estimated Budget through November 30th, 2017: \$159,696.00

Expenses: \$123,412.00 Receipts: \$154,908.00

### Financial Stewardship 2018

*Pledges 2018:* 17 pledges for a total of \$63,200 have been received. Thanks to those who pledged. If you have not already pledged, please prayerfully consider pledging now for 2018 - it is never too late! Pledge cards are available in the vestibule and Memorial Hall. Send completed cards to the church (Attn: Receiving Treasurer), or put in the Receiving Treasurer mailbox in Memorial Hall or in the offering plate any Sunday.

*Offering Envelopes for 2018:* Are available in the vestibule for those who used offering envelopes in 2017. If you do not currently use envelopes but would like to or want to discontinue use, please contact the Church Office with your request.

We are very pleased to welcome Bob & Joy Moody as members of Bethel. Of course, they are not new to us, as they have been attending while Bob has been doing an outstanding job as our Music Director. Please let them know how happy we are to have them as members of our Bethel Family!



Bob & Joy Moody  
540/885-3037 or 540/294-9791  
936 Frog Pond Road; Staunton, VA 24401  
[rbobmoody@gmail.com](mailto:rbobmoody@gmail.com)



Our sympathies & condolences to the family and friends of Rev. Dr. Thomas Pinner who passed away on Saturday, November 25th. Dr. Pinner was the Supply Minister at Bethel from June 1956-July 1957. He was also the speaker at several Homecoming Sundays in the years following.

## Session News and Notes



The Session met on November 12th, 2017 with nine elders present.

The Deacons reported that they will investigate the installation of a fire alarm system; heat has been restored to the vestibule; the exterior education wing doors were repainted by D. W. Miller; and Alex Sproul has placed a church-wide maintenance schedule online.

David Schooley was elected to attend the November Presbytery meeting.

Bethel has contracted with Joe Condro to provide congregational care, moderating and various ministerial services, as needed.

The Session met on November 14th, 2017 with nine elders present.

The Session approved the hiring of Rev. Dr. Roy Martin, Jr. as Bethel's temporary supply pastor.

The Session met on December 10th, 2017 with eleven elders present.

The Deacons reported that the boiler has been repaired and that Wade Cash repaired the leak and damage in the Memorial Hall bathroom.

Committee Annual Reports are due to Adrienne by January 23rd, 2018.

Ken Wilkinson announced that he will retire from his position as disbursing treasurer, effective in mid-January, 2018.

The audit of 2016 General Fund transactions by David and Mike Schooley is complete and they will begin the audit of the 2017 transactions shortly.

The Congregation met on November 12th, 2017 and named the following members to the Nominating Committee: Shirley Heizer, Mitch Lathrop, Betty Schooley, Dean Caldwell and Chris Schooley.



### The Bethel Website

Have a question about what is going on at Bethel? Did you miss church on Sunday or forget what day or time an event is? Did you misplace your Tower? The Bethel website can help! The Sunday bulletin and announcements are on the website, in addition to the Tower, an online calendar of church events, audio of worship service sermons and more! The Bethel website is there for you. [www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org](http://www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org)



## BETHEL EMPLOYEES: ADRIENNE BARKER

Adrienne has kept the Bethel office humming for 13 years. We especially appreciate her outstanding work during the past year when there has been no steady pastor.

Adrienne was educated at Eastern Mennonite University and Mary Baldwin College. She majored in history, minored in education and took courses in office automation. After college, she worked as the children's book specialist at Books a Million and assisted with administrative tasks at her church. At Bethel, she has worked with many different ministers and many different committees. She pioneered in modernizing our communications and office automation, including use of internet, email, office network, webpages, modern printer capabilities, and artistic newsletters and video displays.

Adrienne grew up in Waynesboro and is married to Justin Barker. They live in Stuarts Draft with their two favorite dogs: Butters and Chloe.

She enjoys her career at Bethel and loves coming to work every day. She says she finds us to be caring, patient, and understanding people. We appreciate the many blessings she brings to our church.

Did you know that Drury Whitaker coordinates the flowers that are in the church every week? While the schedule has been set for 2017, there are still Sundays available. If you would like to provide an arrangement some Sunday, please call Drury at (540) 348-1153 to see what dates are available.

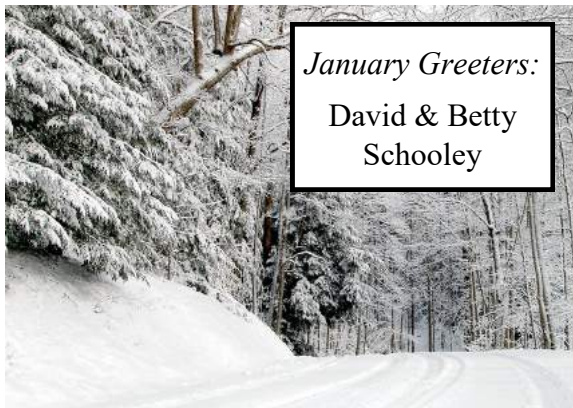


### Flower Schedule January 2018

- January 7th - Sally Williams  
(Baptism of the Lord; Communion)
- January 14th - Emily Williams
- January 21st - Penny Lee
- January 28th - Libby Smith

### Deacon's Offering Schedule January 2018

- Barb Gough
- Charlie Johnson
- Brian Lee
- Marty Simmers



January Greeters:  
David & Betty  
Schooley



Nursery Schedule January 2018

- January 7th - Jackie Law; Stephanie Rivers
- January 14th - Chris & Therese Schooley
- January 21st - Joe & Sally Williams
- January 28th - Joe & Tabby Moore

Thank You



Many thanks to Bill Francisco for donating the lovely tree for the Sanctuary. Also, thanks to Rhonda Johnson and Kathy Swisher for decorating it. The Chrismon tree has added beauty to the Bethel Sanctuary during the Advent season for about 50 years.

The Staunton Choral Society would like to thank Bethel for hosting their Christmas Concert this year on Saturday, December 2nd.



*Staunton Choral Society Concert at Bethel on Saturday, December 2nd*



The Congregational Care Committee thanks all those who helped with the 2017 Advent Workshop: Libby Smith, Mary Ann Anderson, Marty Simmers, Sally Williams, Mitch Lathrop, Ellen Fitzgerald, Cindy Almarode, Faye Brown, Emily Williams, Linda Tenney, Penny Lee, Harleigh Lee, Lydia Lee, Doris True, Yvonne Goodson, and all that participated and provided sandwiches. Without all your help, this fun social activity could not have been the success it was. THANK YOU! - Barb Gough, Congregational Care Committee Chair



*2017 Advent Workshop on Sunday, December 3rd*



Thanks for your generosity and kindness!

Blessings to all who participated in the Salvation Army Christmas Tree Gift Project! The Christmas Tree Gift Project is sponsored by the Witness Committee, and delivers your gifts to the Salvation Army's neediest families. Because of you there will be a happy family this year. You are loving people who are willing to help others. Blessings to each one. - Doris True, Witness Committee



### Bethel Prayer List

Tish Amerault (*cousin of Kay Thompson & friend of the Almarodes - has Hodgkins Lymphoma*), Aubree (*10-12 year old with diabetes, plays ukulele with Jill Webb*), Friends & Family of Lucille Baker (*Linda Tenney's mother-in-law*), Phil Balsey (*friend of Bob & Louise Hoy*), Mildred Barmore, Catherine Bryan (*friend of Stephanie Rivers*), Reese Burdette (*received a kidney transplant on 11/20, great niece of Debbie Callison*), Lorine Caldwell (*Dean Caldwell's mother*), Betty Cash, Nancy Cook (*friend of Judy Olson*), Betty Crosby, Jarod Davis & Family, Todd Gibson (*friend of Louise Hoy*), Don Hanger, Mariann Hilenbrand (*mother-in-law of Ben Brown, Jr.*), Gail Hord (*heart issues, Steve Hord's mother*), 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, Friends & Family of Donald Landes (*husband of Gloria Smith Landes*), Evelyn LaPorte, David Law, Sam Leonard, Margaret Liptrap, Meade Loomis (*sister of Anne Jones*), Shane Middleton (*grandson of Bobbye D'Orsi*), All Military Leaders & Personnel, Friends & Family of Wesley Miller (*Shirley Heizer & Betty Heizer's brother*), Bob Olson, Bob Moody, John Pilson (*recovering at home*), Wallace Pilson, Police, Firemen, and EMS workers & volunteers, Carly Pond (*fifteen year old great niece of John Pilson*), Kristofer & Tracie Ranstrom (*cousins of Beth Miller*), H. O. Sandridge (*diagnosed with cancer - cousin of Betty Schooley*), Alfred Sheets (*relative of John Pilson*), Frank Shiflett & Brenda, Michael Somers, Friends & Family of Jo Speck, Friends & Family of Kelly Berry Sprouse, Parker Stapels (*student at Hugh K. Cassell Elementary School*), Paul Stiles (*in hospital - Debbie Callison's brother*), Bill & Marguerite Whitaker (*Tom Whitaker's parents*), Those affected by the wildfires in California, MISSIONARY: Michael & Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends



January 1st - New Year's Day

January 15th - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

