



# The Tower

March 2018

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bethelpc@gmail.com \* www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org

## From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Well, you may have heard that my time with you is coming to an end. I was offered and have accepted a call to be the next General Presbyter for Florida Presbytery which encompasses the panhandle of Florida. I thought I might have another month with you at least but they would like for me to start March 1st.

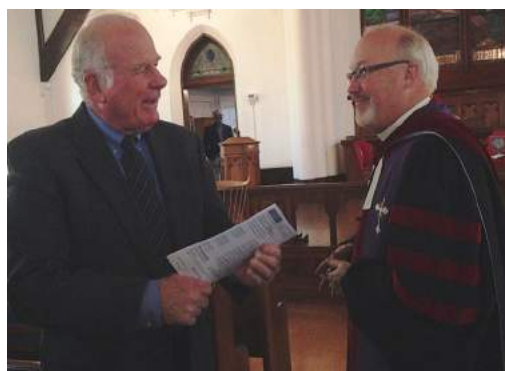
My daughter and her family live only a couple of hours east of Tallahassee and my son lives a little farther east in St. Augustine so it will be wonderful being geographically close to them again.

After four years serving as your Transitional Presbyter here in Shenandoah Presbytery, it has been an absolute delight being a pastor again. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the privilege of serving you these last three and a half months. This is a wonderful church filled with kind and committed Christians doing great things for God's Kingdom.

I know that presbytery and your own session are working very hard to find your next Stated Supply who will, I pray, be able to stay with you much longer than me. I believe with all my heart that God has already found that person and it will be just a matter of time before they arrive.

In the meantime, keep serving the Lord with gladness; keep being the church; keep loving and caring for one another; and I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers.

Roy



*Worship  
February 2018*



## March Lectionary Schedule

*March 4, 2018*

3rd Sunday in Lent

Guest Minister: Rev. Bernard Bangley

Exodus 20:1-17 I Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

*March 11, 2018*

Daylight Saving Time begins

4th Sunday in Lent

Guest Minister: Rev. Amy Fetterman

Numbers 21:4-9 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

*March 18, 2018*

5th Sunday in Lent

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Guest Minister: Rev. Bernard Bangley

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

*March 25, 2018*

Passion/Palm Sunday

Guest Speaker: Pastor Kelly-Ann Rayle

Mark 11:1-11 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14:1-15:47



## Community Lenten Worship Service Schedule - 2018

All services begin at 7:00 pm and are on Thursday evenings. People of all ages including families are encouraged to attend and participate in these important worship services!

Date: March 1st

Location: Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church

Date: March 8th

Location: Redeemer Lutheran Church

Date: March 15th

Location: Greenville United Methodist Church

Date: March 22nd

Location: Bethel Presbyterian Church

Information about Holy Week services will be announced in the coming weeks in the bulletin.

## One Great Hour of Sharing Offering March 18th, 2018

Bethel will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering during the worship service on March 18th.



Since 1949, Presbyterians have been giving from the heart in the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to help those in great need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

## Serving Breakfast at Valley Mission



On Saturday, March 10th, at 9:00 am, the Women of Bethel and the Witness/Mission Committee will again serve brunch at the Valley Mission. This mission is always well-received and appreciated by the residents there. We will serve breakfast casseroles, fruit (oranges and grapes) and quick breads (such as banana bread) and need donations of these items. Please prepare the casseroles in disposable pans and do not include nuts in the breads. If you can help, please call Rhonda Johnson at 292-4441 or Doris True at 885-4526 for details. If you would like to help us at the Valley Mission, please come. We would love to have you join us and we appreciate your donations!

## Presbyterian Women - March 2018

Emphasis - Lent, Easter



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

\*The Afternoon Circle will meet on March 13th, at 1:30 pm at Bethel.

\*The Evening Circle will meet on March 13th, at 7:00 pm at Bethel.

March 4th - PWCT Meeting

March 25th - PWCT Meeting



## April Tower Deadline

The April Tower Deadline will be Thursday, March 15th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. All articles and announcements for the Tower need to be submitted in writing. Articles and announcements for the April 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!

## Monthly "Fellowship Following Worship"

"Fellowship Following Worship" will be held on Sunday, March 18th. Many thanks to Marion & Marty Simmers who will be providing the refreshments. The Congregational Care Committee is still looking for people who would be willing to provide refreshments once a month for "Fellowship Following Worship" in 2018. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall if you can help out (you choose which month and Sunday). Thank you!



The Cemetery Committee will be cleaning up and doing landscape work in the cemetery during the month of March. If you have any mementos or arrangements on any of the graves that you would like to save please remove them before March 1st. Thank you!



Easter Lilies and BERF Donations Form

You may order lilies at a cost of \$10.00 (tax included) each or you may make a monetary donation to BERF (Bethel Emergency Relief Fund). The Easter Lilies purchased and the donations made to BERF will be acknowledged in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. 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 lily 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, March 18th.

*\*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 bulletin on Easter Sunday. Also, if you would like to order a lily and make a donation please use two forms (one for the lily and one for the donation). Thank you!*

Easter Lilies and BERF Donations Form

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 lily 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, March 18th.*

Number of Lilies \_\_\_\_\_ Check or Cash Total \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

Donation to BERF \_\_\_\_\_ Check or Cash Total \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

## Prime Rib Meal & Dessert Auction

*Saturday, March 24th at 6:00 pm*

*Make your favorite dessert to donate!*

MENU    *Prime Rib*                      *Green Beans*  
              *Mac & Cheese*                      *Rolls*



*Sponsored by four families from the  
Bethel Witness/Mission Committee*

*All money raised goes to Bethel's mission work!*

*Come & join us for an evening of fun & fellowship!*

## **Bethel Easter Egg Hunt!**

*Saturday, March 31st (Rain or Shine) 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm*

*All ages are invited, young & old!*

*All children need to bring their own basket.*

*There will be Bunnies, Refreshments, an Easter Egg Hunt, & Fun!*

*Make plans now to attend!*



Bethel Presbyterian Church Continuing Education Loan Fund  
(formerly the Scholarship/Loan Fund)

Continuing  
Education

The Bethel Presbyterian Church Continuing Education Loan Fund (formerly the Scholarship/Loan Fund) was established a number of years ago due to the generosity of an anonymous donor to assist young people in furthering their education. Aid from this fund is available to church members for any post-high school education, including vocational schools, nursing, etc. Applications are available in the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact one of the following Continuing Education Loan Fund Committee members: Bill Brubeck, Dan Gano or David Schooley. The deadline for the return of the completed application together with attachments is April 15th, 2018. Completed applications may be left in the Church Office or given to a member of the committee.

**News**  
And  
**Notes**

Session News and Notes

The Session met Sunday, February 11th, at 7:00 pm with ten members present. Also present was the Moderator, Roy Martin and Deacon, Tammy Barbour.

The Annual Statistical Report for 2017 was approved. We gained eight members and we had losses of three sowing a net gain of five. Our active membership is now 204.

The Deacons have estimates for painting the Sanctuary. The Session requested an estimate from one additional painter. The matter will be discussed at the next Session meeting.

Elder Jill Webb will represent Bethel at the Presbytery meeting on February 24th at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church.

Rhonda Johnson was elected to serve as Clerk of Session for the year 2018.

The following Treasurer's were elected to serve for the year 2018: Ken Wilkinson (through April 6th), Receiving; Lori Miller, Disbursing; Sarah Frances Ralston, Witness/Mission, Women of Bethel and Continuing Education Loan Fund; Lee Ann & Tom Heizer, Memorial Fund; Dale Smith, Cemetery Fund; and Ken Miller, Endowment Fund.

The Stewardship & Finance Committee's budget for 2018 was approved.

The Treasurer's Report presented by Ken Miller was approved.

The Session will have a workshop on February 24th to plan for 2018.

The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 8:30 pm.

Our sympathies & condolences to the family & friends of Betty Crosby who passed away on February 7th, 2018.





### Bethel Prayer Train

In order to get information to church members about members, friends or relatives in need of urgent prayer, the Prayer Train list is called with information passed to each person. Prayer requests are usually for illness, death, accidents, or for someone just in need of prayer. The “conductors” for the Bethel Prayer Trains are Sally Brubeck (540/885-5871) and Evelyn LaPorte (540/886-2236). If you don’t have email, are not currently on the Prayer Train, and are willing to pray when prayer requests come in please contact Sally or Evelyn and they will add your name to the Prayer Train list. You’ll receive a call when a prayer is needed, and you are asked to call the next person on the list. (If the next person on the list doesn’t answer, call the next name on the list and continue until you reach and talk with a “real” person - not an answering machine.) If you are currently on the Prayer Train list and would like to be removed please call Sally or Evelyn. If you have any prayer requests for the Prayer Train and/or the Prayer List that appears in the bulletin, please call Adrienne at the Church Office (540/886-6041). Thank you!



### Bethel Prayer List

Tish Amerault (*cousin of Kay Thompson & friend of the Almarodes - has Hodgkins Lymphoma*), Phil Balsey (*friend of Bob & Louise Hoy*), Mildred Barmore, Friends & Family of Roscoe Botkin, Sr., Catherine Bryan (*friend of Stephanie Rivers*), Reese Burdette (*great niece of Debbie Callison*), Lorine Caldwell (*Dean Caldwell’s mother*), Betty Cash, Friends & Family of William Cason, Friends & Family of 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*), Preston McCallistar (*on transplant list & in kidney failure - friend of Drury Whitaker*), All Military Leaders & Personnel, Bob Moody, John Pilson, Wallace Pilson, Carly Pond (*great-niece of John Pilson*), Police, Firemen, and EMS workers & volunteers, David Ramsey, H. O. Sandridge (*diagnosed with cancer - cousin of Betty Schooley*), Phyllis Cash Saunders (*Wade Cash’s aunt*), Friends & Family of Alfred Sheets (*relative of John Pilson*), Michael Somers, Tina Rankin Staton (*colon cancer, niece of Betty Schooley*), Parker Staples (*student at Hugh K. Cassell Elementary School*), Patricia Stiles (*recovering from surgery - Debbie Callison’s sister-in-law*), Paul Stiles (*now home & recuperating - Debbie Callison’s brother*), Millie Trent (*maternal grandmother of Sam Goodson*), Bill & Marguerite Whitaker (*Tom Whitaker’s parents*), Those suffering losses in the California fires and mudslides, Those suffering losses in Puerto Rico from the hurricanes, MISSIONARY: Michael & Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends



### 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)

The Bethel Communications Committee is seeking pictures and content from any Bethel activities to post on the website and Facebook. Thank you for keeping us up to date! You can send these materials to Adrienne in the Church Office or Communications Committee member Tim Turner at [timturner@lumos.net](mailto:timturner@lumos.net).



Class of 2021

The Congregation of Bethel met on February 11th to hear the report of the Nominating Committee. The following people were nominated and elected to the Class of 2021. We are grateful for their willingness to serve and the giving of their time and talents!

Elders

Derek Almarode  
Dean Caldwell  
Pat Quick  
Kathy Swisher

Deacons

Katie McElveen  
Joe Moore  
Linda Tenney  
Drury Whitaker

Trustees

Charlie Johnson  
Dale C. Smith

Nursery Schedule March 2018

March 4th - Brian & Penny Lee  
March 11th - Joyce Davis; Louise Hoy  
March 18th - Cindy Almarode,  
Karen Koogler  
March 25th - Mary Ann Anderson,  
Maggie Rivers

Flower Schedule March 2018

March 4th - Libby Smith  
March 11th - Sarah Frances  
Ralston  
March 18th - Marty Simmers  
March 25th - Eloise Moore (*Palm Sunday*)

March Greeters:  
John & Mary Ann Anderson

Deacons Offering Schedule  
March 2018

Brian Lee  
Katie McElveen  
D. W. Miller  
Joe Moore

Financial Stewardship Report - 2018

Estimated Budget through January 31st: \$15,499.00  
Actual Budget Expenses: \$11,387.00  
Actual Budget Receipts: \$13,085.00




A big thanks to everyone who participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring! Bethel collected \$638.00 and numerous food items for Kingsway. The generosity of Bethel's members and friends is greatly appreciated!



Mobile Medical Clinic

Remote Area Medical of Virginia will hold a mobile medical clinic on March 10th and March 11th in Buena Vista, VA located at Southern Virginia University (1 University Hill Drive). No appointment will be necessary. First come, first served beginning at 6:00 am. Medical, dental, and vision services will be provided plus child physicals and infant checkups will be available. For further information visit [www.facebook.com/buenavistaRAM](http://www.facebook.com/buenavistaRAM), call (540) 583-6408 or email: [svuramclinic@gmail.com](mailto:svuramclinic@gmail.com).





2018 Baja Mission Trip      July 8th - July 14th, 2018

Registration is now open until deadline - March 1st, 2018

For more information go to the Shenandoah Presbytery website at:  
[shenpres.org/baja-mission](http://shenpres.org/baja-mission)

*This is Misgane Wondimu Fayisa the sponsor child in Ethiopia that Bethel supports. By your generosity in giving to the iCARE program last year, Misgane is able to continue to go to school and improve her life and the lives of those in her community. Thank you for making a difference!*  
- The Bethel Witness Committee





- March 11th - Daylight Saving Time begins
- March 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- March 20th - Spring Begins
- March 25th - Palm/Passion Sunday
- March 29th - Maundy Thursday
- March 30th - Good Friday

