



The Tower

June 2018

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Greetings From the Pastor's Desk . . .

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. - Ecclesiastes 3:11

They say, “beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” so I suppose that means since I am writing this little note I am the beholder of what I deem beautiful...

My first days at Bethel have been wonderful and I am astounded by all the beauty I have been privileged to be invited into over the last several weeks. You are a beautiful congregation, you have a beautiful church, and you live in a beautiful place!

Oh, what a beautiful congregation you are! I have witnessed a congregation that is filled with tremendous gifts, especially a deep love for one another. It is my desire and prayer for each of you to believe that and to continue to live into it. I have been lovingly welcomed in to your church, your hospital rooms, your homes, your favorite places to eat, your farms – your very lives! I appreciate every meal, every story, every smile, every tear, and especially every prayer we have shared. I am humbled and feel extremely blessed to be invited into your beautiful lives.

You indeed have a beautiful church! When I first entered the church to “check it out” I was surprised that the door was open – I later found out that Bethel is always open! A church should always be assessable even if it is risky, and especially because it is risky. That is beautiful! When I walked into the sanctuary I immediately noticed the stain glass windows, and they took my breath away. They are exquisite and how wonderful that they flank the church on the east and west, so that sunrise and sunset sing through them – that is beautiful. Then I listened, the floors creaked, and I immediately thought, this church has a long and rich history. My dear friends – that too is beautiful.

Alas – the beautiful place you live in! As I meander on the country roads of Augusta Co. I have never been disappointed. The beauty is beyond what I imagined. The rolling hills, the mountain vistas, the charming villages, the cows, sheep, horses, and yes even the wild turkeys all give me pause to reflect on God’s awesome majesty and meticulous hand in creation. That is beautiful!

(Greetings from the Pastor's Desk continued)



(Greetings from the Pastor's Desk continued)

My dear Christian friend, together we have a tremendous opportunity to use all this beauty bestowed on us to embark with God, in name of Christ Jesus, and by the power of the Spirit to proclaim and glorify the triune God to affect change in the world!

Now, that is a beautiful invitation!!! Now, let's get "on our knees" together and see where God leads us next!

Pastor Kelly-Ann

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New Sermon Series!

We will be starting an exciting new Sermon Series on Sunday, June 17th that will continue through Sunday, July 22nd. The series will be on The Lord's Prayer so you won't want to miss a single Sunday during the series! (Remember that if you can't be here one Sunday you can listen to the sermon on the website.) The schedule of scripture and sermon titles are below. See you in worship!

June Worship Services

June 3, 2018

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Joseph Condro

I Samuel 3:1-20 II Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23-3:6

June 10, 2018

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Bernard Bangley

I Samuel 8:4-20 II Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35

June 17, 2018

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day

Scripture: Romans 8:26-28 Matthew 6:5-13

Sermon Title: "Hallowed Be Your Name"

June 24, 2018

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: I Chronicles 29:10-13 Matthew 6:9-13

Sermon Title: "Thy Kingdom Come"



Lemonade on the Lawn will be held on Sunday, June 24th, following the worship service. Be sure to join us for this special time of fellowship!

*Members & Friends of Bethel,
You are invited to celebrate the
ordination of Kelly-Ann Rayle
to the
Ministry of Word & Sacrament
June 10th, 2018 at 2 o'clock
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Reception to follow the service*

**All guests are encouraged to wear red
Please come to celebrate this joyous
occasion for Kelly-Ann and Bethel!*



Kelly -Ann being introduced & speaking at the Shenandoah Presbytery meeting on May 22nd for her examination to join the Presbytery.



Shipwrecked at Bethel!

Vacation Bible School

*When: Monday, June 25th -
Wednesday, June 27th*

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Get ready for an Island Adventure!

*Come explore together what it means
to be "Rescued by Jesus".*

Registration for ages 3 years - 5th grade will begin on Monday, June 4th and you may register by contacting the Church Office at: (540) 886-6041 or bethelpc@gmail.com.

ALL HANDS ON DECK - *We are in need of volunteers (youth and adults) who can help lead our main teaching rotations, serve as crew leaders, help with decorations, and help coordinate snack. Please email Pastor Kelly-Ann at: bethelpcpastor@gmail.com. Together we can make this an AWESOME experience for the youth in our community!*



The Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 12th, at 1:30 pm.
The meeting will be at the church in the Bumgardner Classroom.

The Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 12th, at 7:00 pm.
The meeting will be at the church in the Bumgardner Classroom.

June 3rd - PWCT Meeting



Annual Catered Dinner

All women are invited to the Annual Catered Dinner. It will be held on Tuesday, July 10th, at the Middlebook Community Center at 6:30 pm. The meal will be catered by Country Kitchen of Christiansburg and the cost will be \$15.00 per person.

Please RSVP for yourself and your guests by Friday, June 22nd, to Irene Elliott, Louise Hoy, Barbara Gough or Jackie Law. The PWCT will collect personal care items for the Valley Mission that night. A complete list of items that may be donated will be available in the July Tower. Please join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship!

July Tower Deadline

The July Tower Deadline will be Thursday, June 14th. Please have all articles and announcements to the Church Office by noon. Articles and announcements for the July 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. Thank you!



Summer Vespers Service & Concert

Save the dates on your calendar for Bethel's new Summer Vespers and Concert series. We'll have a hymn sing by request (just call out a number of your favorite), read scripture, pray together, and enjoy a guest musical group. We'll start at 7:00 pm and be finished by about 8:00 pm. The dates are June 20th with The Staunton Choral Society, July 18th with The Faithful Men from Waynesboro, and August 1st with the wonderful African-American Choir from St. James Baptist Church in Waynesboro. I had the opportunity to share a funeral service at Grace Lutheran with the St. James Choir back in April and they are wonderful! Please put these dates on your calendar. - Bob Moody, Bethel Music Director



Summer music while our adult choir is on vacation will include guest soloists from The Staunton Choral Society and Shenanarts, maybe a couple of young singers, and occasional instrumentalists. Some Sundays we'll have the "Shy Choir" where we invite members of the congregation to join the adult choir up front to sing a familiar gospel hymn or praise song. We will announce the Shy Choir dates as soon as we line up all our guest singers. If you have questions, call or text Bob Moody at 540-294-9791 or email: rboomboody@gmail.com.



The Bells of Bethel will be taking a vacation for the next few months. They will resume practice on Wednesday, August 8th. Thank you!

Session News & Notes



The Session met on Tuesday, May 16th, 2018 with nine elders and moderator Joe Condro present.

Vacation Bible School will be held on June 25th - June 27th and neighboring churches will be invited to participate with us.

John Carr Williams, son of Ben and Tessa Williams and grandson of James and Cynthia Williams, will be baptized on June 17th.

Two elders will attend a conference on gun violence where preparing for an active shooter situation and crafting a church gun policy will be discussed.

A new policy for Session decisions made via email, videoconference and telephone was adopted.

Several elders will attend the Presbytery meeting on May 22nd in Lexington, where Kelly-Ann Rayle will be presented for ordination.

Any church social media postings regarding an individual congregant or congregants must be approved by Kelly-Ann prior to posting.

The Session proclaimed that the Boy Scout complex will be named "Eagles' Roost Pavilion and Chapel" in honor of Donald "Wayne" Swisher for his long and selfless service to the youth of our church and community. A dedication ceremony will be held at the complex on May 27th at 1:00 p.m.



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

Financial Report

(through April 30th, 2018)

Estimated Budget: \$60,809.00

Actual Receipts: \$51,489.00

Actual Expenses: \$46,126.00



June Greeters:

Betty Heizer &
Rosalee Miller



Offering Schedule

June 2018

Wade Cash
Joe Moore
Linda Tenney
Dale Thompson



Nursery Schedule June 2018

June 3rd - Joyce Davis; Louise Hoy
June 10th - Cindy Almarode, Karen Koogler
June 17th - Mary Ann Anderson,
Maggie Rivers
June 24th - Jackie Law, Stephanie Rivers

Flower Schedule

June 2018

June 3rd - Sally Brubeck
June 10th - Barbara Damico
June 17th - Pat Quick (*Memorial*)
June 24th - Judy Olson



class of
2018 Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

We wish all the graduates God's blessings as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Graduating from High School:

Madison Miller - Daughter of Ron & Lori Miller; Granddaughter of Ken & Joyce Miller; Graduated from Riverheads High School; Attending Eastern Mennonite University in the fall; Plans on majoring in Nursing

Kenneth Olson - Son of Bob Olson & Phyllis Olson-Leake; Grandson of Kenny & Judy Olson; Graduated from Riverheads High School; Plans on employment as a Welder

Jesse Wade - Son of Jimmy & Michele Wade; Grandson of Billy & Margaret Wade; Graduated from Chambersburg High School in Chambersburg, PA; Attending Virginia Tech in the fall; Plans on majoring in Engineering

Graduating from College:

Keely Fresh - Daughter of Larry & Bethany Fresh; Granddaughter of Kenny & Judy Olson; Graduated from St. Bonaventure University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Mass Communications with a Minor in Law and Society

Katie Williams - Daughter of Joe & Sally Williams; Granddaughter of Dr. Lynn & Eloise Moore; Graduated from Murphy-Deming School of Physical Therapy with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy

Thank you to the Bethel Congregation & Friends!

Once again, you made our annual Pork Loin Dinner & Silent Auction a great success! Because of your generosity, we raised \$2,976.00 and we hope that everyone enjoyed the food, fun and fellowship. The Witness/Mission Committee is blessed to be able to hold these events, blessed by the great support and generosity you give us, and blessed to be able to use your donations to help those in need in our community and beyond. Thank you so much!



PRAYER LIST

Bethel Prayer List

Tish Amerault (*cousin of Kay Thompson & friend of the Almarodes - has Hodgkins Lymphoma*), Mildred Barmore, Catherine Bryan (*friend of Stephanie Rivers*), Reese Burdette (*great niece of Debbie Callison*), Lorine Caldwell (*Dean Caldwell's mother*), Betty Cash, Christopher (*Marion & Marty Simmers grandson*), Friends & Family of Betty Jo Clemmer, Jarod Davis & Family, Friends & Family of Mary Louise Fisher, Henley Gabeau, Friends & Family of Tom Glover, Don Hanger, 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*), Matt Koogler, Sara Ann Lamb, Evelyn LaPorte, David Law, Sam Leonard (*at Kings Daughters Nursing & Rehab - Room 418*), Margaret Liptrap, Meade Loomis (*sister of Anne Jones*), Pam Massie (*friend of Faye Brown*), Virginia Massie (*friend of Faye Brown*), Preston McCallistar & Meredith McCallister (*friends of Drury Whitaker*), Bob Moody, All Military Leaders & Personnel, John Pilson, Wallace Pilson, Carly Pond (*great-niece of John Pilson*), Police, Firemen, and EMS workers & volunteers, David Ramsey, Bob Robinson & wife Shirley (*friends of Stephanie Rivers*), 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*), Wayne & Kathy Swisher, Millie Trent (*maternal grandmother of Sam Goodson*), Bill & Marguerite Whitaker (*Tom Whitaker's parents*), Alice Wooddell, Hannah Wright (*Marion & Marty Simmers granddaughter*), MISSIONARY: Michael & Rachel Weller and Ethiopian friends

Pork Loin Dinner Mission Fundraiser - April 29th



Pork Loin Dinner Mission Fundraiser - April 29th



Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up - April 21st

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the Adopt-A-Highway clean-up on April 21st. The neighborhood surrounding Bethel is more beautiful thanks to your hard work!




 June 14th - Flag Day
 June 17th - Father's Day
 June 21st - Summer Begins

