

The Tower



July 2020 &
Sunday, June 28th, 2020

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www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org

A Brand New Format . . .

The Bethel Session, after listening to your comments and ideas, has decided to continue with the Bethel Weekly Message “newsletter” instead of returning to the original announcement format. Once the Worship Committee has deemed it safe to return to using printed bulletins again, the Weekly Message will be included with your bulletin like the original announcements.

Also, The Bethel Tower and the Bethel Weekly Message will be combined one week a month, when the Tower is regularly scheduled to be published and mailed. It’s the Session’s hope that this will make things easier and reduce waste. However, the Tower will not be included with your bulletin. A few printed copies will be available in the vestibule and Memorial Hall.

Let the Session know what you think! Your opinion does matter.

Have a blessed week and month!

As This Elder Sees It & The Weekly Message . . .

Hello Friends,

I pray this message finds you and your families well! As we navigate our way through the coming weeks I wanted to share two pieces of scripture that I lean on.

Psalms 34:19

The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all.

Trouble befalls us all, believers and nonbelievers. We never know when or how or in what form it will come, but we all will walk in these shadows. Burdens weigh on those who faithfully follow the rules and those who willfully transgress them. The difference lies in our attitude toward the challenges that confront us.

Faith in Gods love, compassion and His power to help means that we are never alone when we are dealing with difficulties. As people of faith we should know that we can call on Him and trust that He listens and answers.



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As we manage our daily lives in these challenging days, we need to leave our worries and our frustrations in His very capable hands. Trust that once we do this, we can rest easy and be confident that He will stir in us the patience, acceptance and strength as He leads us through to the end. Remember in His way and in His time we ***shall*** be delivered.

2 Peter 2:9

You see the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials

Pray with me please.

Father God deliver us from anxiety and despair when trouble comes our way. Lord, help us trust in your almighty power and give us the strength and personal ability to rely on your almighty sovereignty to save us.

Amen

God's speed my friends, in Christ,
Derek Almarode,
Elder

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today, June 28th

Rev. Malcolm Brownlee, Guest Minister

10:00 am Worship at the Chapel
 in the Woods

Tuesday, June 30th

12:00 pm Sunday Bulletin &
 Announcements Deadline

Saturday, July 4th

Happy Independence Day!

Next Sunday, July 5th

Rev. Malcolm Brownlee, Guest Minister

10:00 am Worship at the Chapel
 in the Woods
 (weather permitting)

Summerlee Local Mission Work Begins
 July 5th - July 10th



The flowering plants at the chapel this morning (June 28th) are given to the Glory of God by Bill & Sally Brubeck.

GUEST
speaker

Bethel welcomes the Rev. Malcolm Brownlee who will be the Guest Minister today, June 28th. Rev. Brownlee grew up in Rockbridge Baths, Virginia, and moved back there 10 years ago to retire. He has been pastor of churches in Hazard, Kentucky; Riverdale, Georgia; and Huntersville, North Carolina, and interim pastor of churches in Lexington, North Carolina; Beckley, West Virginia, and Fairfield and Rockbridge Baths, Virginia. From 1973 till 1984 he and his wife Sarah were missionaries in Indonesia. Bethel was one of their supporting churches during that time. Please let Rev. Brownlee know how much we appreciate his being with us!

ELDER-ON-CALL JUNE 2020

If you have a pastoral need during the month of June please contact Kathy Swisher.

(540) 885-7397 (call or text)
kswisher@gmail.com

ELDER-ON-CALL JULY 2020

If you have a pastoral need during the month of July please contact Bill Brubeck.

(540) 885-5871 (call) (540) 290-1172 (call or text)
brubeck@mgwnet.com

The Session News & Notes . . .

The Session meet June 14th, 2020 with Rev. Patrick Pettit as Moderator and six members present. The Session used Zoom to meet virtually.



- The minutes of the last Session meetings were approved.
- The Session decided to continue using the Bethel Weekly News and the June Tower to communicate news, announcements, and information. The Elder-on-Call will be Bill Brubeck. He can be reached at (540) 290-1172 (call or text) or by email at brubeck@mgwnet.com.
- The Worship Committee and Session continued with plans to reopen beginning with having worship services outdoors, at the Chapel in the Woods. The first Sunday back will be June 21st and the service will be at 10:00 am.
 - *Worship on Sunday, June 21st was a success and it's been decided to continue holding services at the chapel at 10:00 am until further notice (weather permitting). Please note that continuing with the worship services outdoors is a change! We hope to see you there!*
- The Personnel Committee will be advertising for the position of Music Director and Organist. Eli will be leaving August 1st, 2020 to pursue a master's degree.
- A July Session meeting has not been scheduled. A meeting can be called if necessary.

Church
Attendance
June 21st - 55

The Session is praying for life to return to normal soon.

Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to keep you in ours.

David Schooley,
Clerk of Session

Church Office News . . .

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, July 6th, for the Independence Day holiday. If you have an immediate need please contact the Elder-on-Call, who will be able to assist you. Have a wonderful and safe 4th of July!

The deadline for Sunday bulletin information and announcements is Tuesday at noon (unless otherwise noted). Please email the information to Adrienne or place it in her mailbox in Memorial Hall.



The August Tower Newsletter Deadline will be Monday, July 20th, at noon. You

may leave articles and announcements for the Tower in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall or email them to:

bethelpc@gmail.com. We welcome and appreciate early submissions before the 20th! All announcements for the newsletter should include: Who? What? When? Where? Why?.



Church Office News (continued) . . .



Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
(as circumstances allow)

*(Lunch usually taken
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm)*



Hand sanitizer and Lysol are available in the Church Office if needed. Please return them to the office so they are available for others to use. Thanks!



Congregational Care Committee . . .

Bethel Prayer List (updated June 24th, 2020)

New Additions Rev. Roxana Atwood

Congregation Members

Jarod Davis & Family	Dan Gano	
Bobby Goodson	Karen Koogler	
Evelyn LaPorte	Kenneth LaPorte	
Sam Leonard	Margaret Liptrap	John Pilson
Allen Quick	Doris True	Alice Wooddell

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
Isaiah 41:10

Family & Friends of the Church & Congregation

Sarah Brownlee	Bernice English	Joe Fleming	Paul Harper
Matt Koogler	David Law	Cecil Layman	Mattie Marsh
John Michael	Roy Pilson	Jamie Pirkey	Van Pirkey
Barbara Shaner	Lee & Katie Simon	Linda True	Walter Wade

Sympathies & Condolences Family & Friends of Sara Ann Lamb

Community, Country, & World

Doctors, nurses, & those in healthcare including volunteers who are working with COVID-19 patients

All Military Leaders & Personnel

Police, Firemen, and EMS workers & volunteers

Michael & Rachel Weller, Missionaries in Ethiopia

Please call Tammy Barbour at (540) 471-0450 or Barb Gough at (540) 255-6521 with any additions or updates. In an effort to keep the Prayer List up-to-date names may be removed after three months (excluding congregation members, military, first responders, and missionaries). If you would like family members or friends to remain on the Prayer List for a longer period of time or be added back to the list, please call Adrienne in the Church Office at (540) 886-6041. Many thanks!

Personnel Committee . . .



Organist/Music Director Needed

Eli will be leaving us in August to continue his study of voice. We are actively searching for an organist/choir director. If you have suggestions, contact Bill Brubeck, Dale Thompson or Jill Webb.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in the position, please tell the person that information can be obtained by checking indeed.com: search "Choir Director" and "Virginia".

Presbyterian Women . . .

PWCT Yearbook 2020-2021

Attention All Women of the Church: The PWCT will start the process of updating the Bethel Presbyterian Women Yearbook, which lists all women of Bethel and their phone numbers. The PWCT will need your help in updates. Please make sure your correct phone number is listed - home and/or cell phone.



To make changes or corrections, please contact Barb Gough (540/255-6521; barbsgough@gmail.com), Irene Elliott (540/290-8354; ipelliott@aol.com) or the Church Office (540/886-6041, bethelpc@gmail.com). If you are able, and prefer to receive text messages or if you would like to change from one circle to another, please tell Barb or Irene.

The deadline for changes in the yearbooks is Monday, August 10th. If you have questions, please contact the Church Office. Thank you!

Stewardship & Finance Committee . . .

Weekly Financial Report

Estimated Weekly Budget:	\$4,317.00
Offerings Received June 7th:	\$3,200.00
Offerings Received June 14th:	\$260.00
Offerings Received June 21st:	\$3,895.00



May Financial Report

Estimated Expenses for May:	\$18,702.00
Total May Offerings Received:	\$8,005.00



July Lectionary Schedule

July 5, 2020

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Malcolm Brownlee

Genesis 24:34-67 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-30

July 12, 2020

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-23



July 19, 2020

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-43



July 26, 2020

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister: Rev. Bernard Bangley

Genesis 29:15-28 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:44-52

LOCATION OF ALL WORSHIP SERVICES: The Chapel in the Woods (*weather permitting*)

TIME OF ALL WORSHIP SERVICES: 10:00 am

Please note that due to the risk of infection there will not be any printed copies of the order of worship, weekly news, or Tower available at worship services. You are welcome to print out and bring your own copy of the order of worship if you wish. Thanks for understanding!

- The Bethel Worship Committee

JULY
WORSHIP
LEADER
Tim Turner



Bethel's Reopening Guidelines

- *Social Distancing strongly encouraged*
- *Wearing of masks strongly encouraged*
- *Bring lawn chairs from home*
- *Outdoor bathroom facility for emergencies only*
- *No singing at this time*
- *Handshaking and/or close greeting strongly discouraged*
- *Bethel Church interior should not be accessed unless necessary*
- *Offering placed in plates as you leave, no passing of the plate*



Worship Committee (continued) . . .

Flower Schedule July 2020

July 7th Drury Whitaker
July 14th Lee Ann Heizer
July 21st Tammy Barbour
July 28th Libby Smith



Worship Services will be held at the Chapel in the Woods (weather permitting). Flowers are still the standard to use but flowering plants and ferns are also appropriate and welcome.

Devotionals Available for Summer Bible Study

(both are provided free of charge)



Weekly Devotionals

Copies of the weekly “Daily Family Devotionals” are available in Memorial Hall and on the table across from the Choir Room.

Quarterly Devotionals

Copies of the “These Days” devotionals for the next quarter (July, August, September) are available in Memorial Hall and on the table across from the Choir Room.

Deacons Offering Schedule

June 2020

Katie McElveen
Joe Moore
Alex Sproul
Linda Tenney

Deacons Offering Schedule

July 2020

Wade Cash
Tom Heizer
Charlie Johnson
Mitch Lathrop

Deacons & the Offering Schedule

Due to social distancing and to avoid unnecessarily spreading germs the offering plates will not be passed. However, if you are on the Offering Schedule you will still be needed to count the offering each Sunday.

There will be hand-sanitizer along with disinfecting wipes in the Church Office for you to use both before and after you count the offering. Please leave both in the Church Office when you are done. Many thanks - your help is appreciated!

Many Thanks . . .

Thanks to all who came out to help with the cleaning up and maintenance of the Bethel exterior and grounds on June 30th! Needed tasks were completed and we were able to work together while still maintaining the correct amount of social distancing. We know your time is valuable so we appreciate your taking time out of your busy Saturday to assist in making Bethel look as marvelous as possible!



Many Thanks . . .

Thanks for your patience as we work on repairing the church phones. Lightning struck the church during a violent thunderstorm on Tuesday evening and caused the outdoor phone box to explode. We are working with Verizon and hope to have it replaced by the middle of this week.

We are grateful Dominion Power was able to come and fix our electrical box and lines on Wednesday morning.

In the meantime if you need anything you can call or text Adrienne during normal Office Hours at (540) 241-3728. An email will be sent out when phone service is restored.



Remnants of the phone box after the storm on Tuesday evening.



The phone box cover was found in pieces in the handicap parking lot on Wednesday morning.



Happy June Birthdays & Anniversaries . . .



Faye Brown	July 7
Bruce Lamond, IV	July 7
Lindsey Lennon	July 7
Danny Morris	July 9
Linda Lamond	July 11
Betty Schooley	July 12
Phyllis Cash	July 15
Andrew Heizer	July 16

Denise Roope	July 17
Drury Whitaker	July 19
Odell Smith	July 20
Laura Swisher	July 21
Julia Tate	July 23

Lee Deacon	July 24
Danny Goodson	July 27
Isabelle Leonard	July 28
Kayla Folsom	July 29
Briana Lawhorne	August 1
James Williams	August 2
Louise Caldwell	August 5






Leona and R. W. Ware, Jr.	July 6, 1966	Barbara and James Tate	July 19, 1980
Brenda and Frank Shiflett	July 7, 1967	Suzanne and Michael Goings	July 27, 1996
Kay and Dale Thompson	July 7, 1967	Stephanie and John Davis	July 30, 1988
Betty and David Schooley	July 8, 1967	Linda and Bruce Lamond, Jr.	July 30, 1985
Robin and Harry Moffett	July 10, 1998	Penny and Brian Lee	August 1, 2009
Drury and Tom Whitaker	July 13, 1985	Sarah and Dustin Smith	August 2, 2014
Sally and Shannon Shafer	July 15, 1992	Libby and Dale C. Smith	August 3, 1963
Carol and Puggie Sprouse	July 16, 1968		
Cynthia and James Williams	July 17, 1982		

Presbytery Interactive Bible Study of Matthew 25

Join the Presbytery on Zoom during Wednesdays in July from 10:00 am until 11:00 am as they study Matthew 25 which contains three stories: The Story of the Wise & Foolish Woman; the Story of the Talents; and the Story of the Sheep and the Goats. We will meet for the study on Zoom for approximately one hour. These Bible Study sessions are open to everyone: pastors; congregation members; interested readers. A study guide will be sent out each week. You can still join us even if you can't make it to all the sessions. To register please contact the Presbytery Office at shenpres@shenpres.org



July 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				2	3	4 Independence Day 
5 10:00 - Worship at the Chapel in the Woods <i>(weather permitting)</i> Summerlee Local Mission Work Begins July 5th - July 10th	6 Church Office Closed <i>(for the Independence Day holiday)</i>	7 12:00 - Bulletin & Announcements Deadline for the 12th	8	9	10	11
12 10:00 - Worship at the Chapel in the Woods <i>(weather permitting)</i>	13	14 12:00 - Bulletin & Announcements Deadline for the 19th	15	16	17	18
19 10:00 - Worship at the Chapel in the Woods <i>(weather permitting)</i>	20 12:00 - August Tower Deadline 12:00 - Bulletin & Announcements Deadline for the 26th	21	22	23	24	25 
26 10:00 - Worship at the Chapel in the Woods <i>(weather permitting)</i>	27	28 12:00 - Bulletin & Announcements Deadline for August 2nd	29	30	31	