



# The Bethel Weekly News

## Week of November 29th, 2020

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Sunday, November 29th

1st Sunday of Advent

Derek Almarode, Guest Speaker



11:00 am   Worship &  
              Hanging of the Greens

Deadline:   Nominating Committee  
              Forms -  
              Officer Suggestions

#### Monday, November 30th

Church Office Closed

7:00 pm     Boy Scouts



#### Tuesday, December 1st

9:00 am - 3:00 pm   Church Office  
                          Hours

12:00 pm   Deadline: Order of  
              Worship & Weekly News  
              (December 6th & 13th)

#### Wednesday, December 2nd

9:00 am - 3:00 pm   Church Office  
                          Hours

#### Thursday, December 3rd

9:00 am - 3:00 pm   Church Office  
                          Hours



#### Friday, December 4th

9:00 am - 3:00 pm   Church Office  
                          Hours



*(calendar continued on page 2)*

### GENERAL CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

Do you have risk factors that make you more vulnerable in contracting the coronavirus and you can only be around those wearing a mask when indoors?



The Worship Committee has set things up so the worship service (& audio) is streaming on the TV in Memorial Hall. Audio of the service is also available in the Church Kitchen. (TV streaming of the service will also be offered in the Church Kitchen soon!)

The Session wants to keep everyone comfortable but also safe by considering the needs of those with higher risk factors.

**GUEST**  
*speaker*

#### GUEST SPEAKER NOVEMBER 29TH

Bethel welcomes our very own Derek Almarode as the Guest Speaker on November 29th. We appreciate Derek's willingness to help with the worship service this morning!

Derek is active in the life and ministry of Bethel by serving as an Elder and serving as the Chair or Co-Chair for several committees including Christian Education, Continuing Education Loan, and Stewardship & Finance. Derek lives in Augusta County with wife Cindy and daughter Ashlyn.

The poinsettias in the sanctuary on November 29th are given by Kay Swisher in loving memory of her grandparents, Mitch & Antha Swisher, her parents Don & Bettie Swisher, her brother Wayne Swisher, and her little furbaby Abby.

# The Bethel Weekly News ... Week of November 29th, 2020

## GENERAL CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

**NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADER:**  
DAVID SCHOOLEY

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**  
NOVEMBER 22ND: 28

**DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADER:**  
JILL WEBB

## SESSION NEWS & NOTES



### Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 6th

The Session has called for a Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday, December 6th, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect five members of the congregation to the Nominating Committee. Be thinking and praying about whom God may be calling to serve on this committee - could it even be you?

## CHURCH OFFICE NEWS & NOTES

### **NEW BETHEL OFFICE HOURS!**

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
(Lunch *usually* taken 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm)

Keep an eye on the Weekly News for any changes with office days and/or hours. The Church Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year holidays

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS (continued)

Sunday, December 6th

2nd Sunday of Advent



Rev. Malcolm Brownlee,  
Guest Minister

11:00 am Worship

12:00 pm Congregational Meeting  
(following worship)

12:30 pm Deacons Meeting  
(following Cong Meeting)

Deadline: Christmas Poinsettia  
Orders and/or BERF  
Donations

Deadline: Gift Cards for  
Presbyterian Children's  
Home of the Highlands  
(PCHH)

## ELDER-ON-CALL NOVEMBER 2020



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

(540) 885-5871 (home)

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

## ELDER-ON-CALL DECEMBER 2020

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



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

**CHURCH OFFICE NEWS & NOTES**



**DEADLINES - WEEKLY NEWS & JANUARY 2021 TOWER**

The deadline for the Order of Worship & Weekly News *for both* Sunday, December 6th & Sunday, December 13th is 9:00 am on Tuesday, December 1st.

The deadline for the January Tower Newsletter along with the Order of Worship & Weekly News for Sunday, December 20th is 9:00 am on Tuesday, December 15th.

You may leave articles and announcements in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall or email them to: [bethelpc@gmail.com](mailto:bethelpc@gmail.com) (*email is preferred*). Thanks!



**OUT OF THE OFFICE**

The Church Office will be closed Monday, December 7th - Friday, December 11th while Adrienne is on vacation. Volunteers will be checking the answering machine for phone messages daily along with checking the church mailbox a few times that week. If you have an immediate need or need pastoral care please contact the Elder-on-Call.



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND/OR DONATIONS TO BERF**

It's time to place your orders for Christmas poinsettias or to make a Christmas donation to BERF in memory or in honor of someone. Order forms along with additional details are included with your worship packet. *All poinsettia orders and Christmas BERF donations must be turned into the Church Office by December 6th!*

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

**PRAYER LIST** (*updated 11/24/20*)

New Additions

Jack True (*heart issues, son of Doris True*)

Congregation Members

Jarod Davis & Family  
Dan & Ginny Gano  
Karen Koogler & Family  
Ken & Evelyn LaPorte  
Bobby Goodson  
Margaret Liptrap  
Doris True  
Alice Wooddell

Sam Leonard  
John Pilson  
Davis Williams



Family & Friends of the Church & Congregation

Sarah Brownlee  
Joe Fleming  
Roy Pilson  
Van Pirkey  
Beth Shaw

Eleanor Feldon  
David Law  
Jamie Pirkey  
Barbara Shaner  
Walter Wade

Sympathies & Condolences

Family & Friends of  
Dr. & Mrs. John Forbes  
Family of Maegan A. Hoy  
Family & Friends of Allen Quick  
Family of Mark Sawyer  
Family of Rob Schnurr



Community, Country, & World

Doctors, nurses, & those who work in healthcare including volunteers  
All Military Leaders & Personnel  
Police, Firemen, and EMS workers  
Michael & Rachel Weller,  
Missionaries in Ethiopia

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

**CHRISTMAS ALIVE PROJECT**

Many thanks to all of you who took a tag from the tree in Memorial Hall - all tags had been chosen in less than a week! By taking a tag you are making a difference for families that need our help making the holiday special for their children. Please return the gifts (wrapped with the tag attached) by December 13th, so that we can get them to the families. The Mission Committee has purchased gift cards at Sharp Shopper, so the families can also have a holiday meal. Thank you for your continued support. - The Mission Committee



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**NOMINATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS FORMS DUE DECEMBER 29TH!**



Nomination of Church Officer forms are included with the Weekly News this week. The Session & Nominating Committee are requesting that EVERY member of the congregation participate in the process of nominating potential officers! All forms are due Sunday, November 29th, 2020. For more information please take a look at the attached Nominating Form and please remember to pray for our current and future officers.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**GIFT CARDS FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S HOME OF THE HIGHLANDS**

*a ministry of the Presbyterian Church*

The Bethel Women plan to deliver gift cards to the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, known as PCHH, in Wytheville, VA. It is a long-term residential facility that accommodates up to 30 children from ages 5 to 18 and serves more than 90 residents annually. The children are offered life skills training, psychiatric evaluation, education, counseling, faith development programs, hope, purpose, and a home in a stable and loving environment that is overseen by God's love and grace. PCHH will appreciate donations to the children for Christmas.

The staff at PCHH has suggested our gifts should include cards from Walmart, McDonald's, Wendy's, Dollar Tree, Dollar General, or Family Dollar.

If you can participate in this project, please print the purchase amount of the gifts on the cards and deliver them to Stephanie Rivers, Barbara Gough, or Joyce Miller before Sunday, December 6th, 2020. (You may also contact them if you have any questions.) Thank you for your help with this effort by Bethel's Presbyterian Women.



# The Bethel Weekly News ... Week of November 29th, 2020

## STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

### Christmas Joy Offering 2020

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received during the worship service on Sunday, December 13th, 2020. Special envelopes will be included with your worship packet that Sunday specifically for "Christmas Joy". There is a special insert with more information about the Christmas Joy Offering included with your worship packet today.



### Weekly Financial Report

Estimated Weekly Budget: \$4,317.00

Offerings November 22nd: \$1,810.00

### **ADVENT WREATH & CANDLE NOVEMBER 29TH, 2020**

Betty Heizer, Joe & Shirley Heizer

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE



### **WELCOME TO THE HANGING OF THE GREENS WORSHIP SERVICE** **ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2020**

1st Sunday of Advent Sunday, November 29th, we celebrate the beginning of the Advent season! The 11:00 am worship service will be a special Advent service. The symbols of Advent will be explained and we will light our Christmas tree for the first time this season!

Candles of Advent Advent means "coming" or "arrival," and during this season, we prepare for the arrival of the Christ child. We will light a candle on the Advent wreath each week. Shaped in a perfect circle of evergreens, it symbolizes God's eternity. These four Sundays preceding Christmas are recognized for four virtues. The candles symbolize hope, peace, joy and love. The fifth and final candle is the Christ candle which will be lit on Christmas Eve to remind us of the light Jesus Christ



### **UPCOMING SUPPLY MINISTERS & SPEAKERS**



December 6th	Rev. Malcolm Brownlee ( <i>Congregational Meeting</i> )
December 13th	Rev. Melissa Harmon
December 20th	Mark Wilson
December 24th (Christmas Eve)	TBA
December 27th	Mark Wilson

In the vestibule there are Advent devotional books provided free of charge by the Worship Committee. The book "And The Word Was God" provides devotions that will help with having a more focused and prayerful Advent season. Each day during Advent has a scripture along with writings of Henri J.M. Nouwen, a master theologian. These devotions will guide you through this Advent season with hope, faith, joy and peace. Make sure to pick up your free copy of this Advent resource today!





Bethel Christmas Poinsettias or Christmas 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 worship packet on Sunday, December 20th and Christmas Eve. Please fill out (COMPLETELY) 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 6th.

\*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). Additional forms will be available with your worship packet in the coming weeks. Only red poinsettias are available for order. Thank you!

Christmas Poinsettias and BERF Donations Form

Please fill out the form below, attach the check or cash and place in the offering plate or in Adrienne's mailbox in Memorial Hall 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 6th.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

*Poinsettias will be on display in the church on  
December 13th, December 20th, Christmas Eve, December 27th  
\*\*Remember to pick-up Poinsettia(s) following the worship service*



Bethel Presbyterian Church

Nomination of Church Officers

It is time to start the process of electing officers for the Class of 2024, so they can attend training in February and be ready for ordination/installation in March. The Session & Nominating Committee is requesting that EVERY member of the congregation participate in this process! Help identify potential officers with your suggestions to the Nominating Committee.

Do not worry that they may have already been suggested!

When thinking and praying about those congregation members to nominate, ask yourselves if they faithfully try to live their lives demonstrating the fruit of the spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control”? Ask God who also might best be able to aid and assist in leading Bethel during this time of transition.

After receiving your advice and after much prayer, the Nominating Committee will meet and nominate four elders, three deacons, and two trustees for a three-year term to fill positions that will be vacant at the end of February. After the nominees are announced, the congregation will meet in January to elect church officers for the Class of 2024.

Support the Nominating Committee by praying for them as they work to discern those who God is calling to service and leadership at Bethel.

You have a few options in submitting a nominating form: (1) You may print off the form on the back (if communication is by email) and complete the information and return it to one of two “Nominations Boxes” located in the vestibule or Memorial Hall (beginning November 15th) or mail to the Church Office (2) Fill out the printed copy of the form (available at the church) & return to one of the available boxes in the vestibule or Memorial Hall (beginning November 15th) (3) You may email your suggestions to Adrienne in the Church Office at [bethelpc@gmail.com](mailto:bethelpc@gmail.com).

**ALL NOMINATIONS ARE DUE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, NO MATTER HOW THEY ARE SUBMITTED.** Please note that ALL suggestions remain confidential and will not be discussed except within the Nominating Committee. Thank you for your suggestions, support, and prayers!

<u>SESSION</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2021</u> Derek Almarode **Bill Brubeck Pat Quick *Kathy Swisher	<u>CLASS OF 2022</u> Jimmy Callison Bob Olson Dave Schooley Tim Turner	<u>CLASS OF 2023</u> Tamara Barbour Brian Lee Dale Thompson Jill Webb
<u>DEACONS</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2021</u> Katie McElveen Joe Moore Linda Tenney	<u>CLASS OF 2022</u> Wade Cash Ellen Fitzgerald Charlie Johnson Alex Sproul	<u>CLASS OF 2023</u> Tom Heizer Mitch Lathrop D. W. Miller
<u>TRUSTEES</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2021</u> Charlie Johnson *Dale C. Smith	<u>CLASS OF 2022</u> Bill Brubeck James Williams	<u>CLASS OF 2023</u> Guy D. Brooks Lee Ann Heizer

\*Designates those ineligible for re-election to the same office but may be eligible for any other office. \*\*Will be rotating off the Session after this year.

(continued)

Suggestions for the Nominating Committee for the Class of 2024.

Please complete *both* #1 and #2 for each nominee.

1. I suggest (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
for the nomination to the office of  
(Circle one)      elder                      deacon                      trustee

2. I suggest this person because:

1. I suggest (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
for the nomination to the office of  
(Circle one)      elder                      deacon                      trustee

2. I suggest this person because:

1. I suggest (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
for the nomination to the office of  
(Circle one)      elder                      deacon                      trustee

2. I suggest this person because:

1. I suggest (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
for the nomination to the office of  
(Circle one)      elder                      deacon                      trustee

2. I suggest this person because:

1. I suggest (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
for the nomination to the office of  
(Circle one)      elder                      deacon                      trustee

2. I suggest this person because:

1. I suggest (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
for the nomination to the office of  
(Circle one)      elder                      deacon                      trustee

2. I suggest this person because:

You may contact me for more information or if you have any questions. *(optional)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_