

# THE Tower

FEBRUARY 2024

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## MAY OUR WORKS BE PLEASING...

Dear Friends,

As you know the prophet Jeremiah reminds us "The Lord's mercies are new every morning", and this is the message I want you to remember everyday of this year.

It is unbelievable, but if we look back, we will immediately realize we have already completed the first full month of 2024. I wonder how your New Year's Resolutions are working out now that we are a month in? I am not sure if you know this, but statistics tell us that most people begin to give up on their resolution after two weeks.

If that is a true statement, then

most of us have already tossed our resolutions aside and they are some ten plus days behind us as I write this message. But here is what I want you to remember. Our faith teaches us that something new can be started at any time.

Referencing the opening scripture, if God's mercies are new every morning, then the opportunity for us to begin new is also available each, and every morning. That's the bearing I want each of you to mark in your spiritual compass as you travel this year.


As 2024 unfolds into its second month, keep your eye on the

### — MESSAGE FROM THE — PASTOR'S DESK

sparrow, because He watches over you. The beauty of this simple expression is the meaning of His boundless love for you and me. The love of Christ is your compass, and your bearing is His mercy and grace.

Friends, may our Lord Jesus Christ be pleased with all our efforts this year. May our church and her people be blessed; thus, our ministry will be a real blessing to others.

Christ Blessings, Derek



*<sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup> they are new  
every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

*Lamentations 3:22-23*

# Prayer

## REQUESTS OR CHANGES

If you have any changes,  
additions or updates  
to the Prayer List  
please contact:  
Tammy Barbour  
@ 540-471-0450 or  
Ellen Fitzgerald  
@ 540-292-2914

To keep the Prayer List  
as up to date as possible,  
names will be removed  
from the list after eight weeks  
unless Tammy, Ellen  
or the Office has been  
notified otherwise.

## ATTENTION WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Our Acronym will no  
longer be PWCT - that was  
affiliated with PCUSA.

**We will now go by  
Bethel Presbyterian  
Women or BPW.**

## Bethel Session Meeting January 14, 2024

——— Notes of Importance for the Congregation ———

The Bethel Session met along with the Deacons on Sunday, January 14th for our regular meeting in the Session Room with 10 Elders and 3 Deacons present.

### General Business:

Derek Almarode opened the meeting with prayer. Several matters of business were discussed.

- Worship Committee chair Tammy Barbour reported that the first outside service will be May 26, and remain outside until October 6, with one service inside in June, July, August and September, with dates to be confirmed..
- Wade Cash Reported work needed to be done before the Easter Sunrise service including restoring the Cross destroyed by visiting bears.
- The budget was presented by Stewardship and Finance, it was approved and will be presented February 11th to the Congregation.
- Penny Lee and Cindy Almarode will lead an inquiry committee on Bethel Day Care and Preschool.
- The Transition Committee will be operating until the letter of Dismissal is received and paperwork completed.
- The next session meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2024.



Respectfully,  
David Schooley  
Elder David Schooley  
Clerk of Session



# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28 @ 7:00pm  
Pines Chapel, Meal Included

## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

March 29 @ 7:00pm  
Bethel, Joint Service with Pines

## EASTER SUNDAY

### SUNRISE SERVICE

March 31 @ 7:00am  
Bethel Chapel in the Woods, with Pines

### COVERED DISH BREAKFAST

After the Sunrise Service  
Bethel along with Pines

### EASTER SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

March 31 @ 11:00am  
Bethel, Pines will be joining us for Church!

THE CIRCLE MEETING  
IS THE 3RD THURSDAY OF  
THE MONTH AT 12:30

# February BIRTHDAYS

- James Tate . . . . .February 1
- John Davis . . . . .February 2
- Steve Hord . . . . .February 3
- Nancy Reichard. . . . . February 8
- Debra Callison . . . . .February 10
- Jackie Law . . . . .February 10
- Lydia Lee . . . . .February 10
- Doug Brubeck. . . . .February 11
- R.W. Ware, Jr.. . . . .February 11
- Yvonne Goodson . . . . .February 13
- Molly Smith . . . . .February 19
- Myran Moore . . . . . February 26
- Kay Swisher . . . . .February 27
- Maggie Rivers. . . . . February 28

WE CANNOT FORCE  
SOMEONE TO HEAR A  
MESSAGE THEY ARE NOT  
READY TO RECEIVE.  
BUT WE MUST NEVER  
UNDERESTIMATE  
THE POWER OF  
PLANTING A SEED.

*We can all be a gardener!*

2024 BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN | JAN 21 - FEB 18

## SPEAK UP

for those who  
cannot speak  
for themselves  
Proverbs 31:8



COMFORT  
CARE  
WOMEN'S  
HEALTH

Fill A Bottle With Change... Change A Life.

## ELDERS

Class of 2023  
BOB OLSON  
DAVE SCHOOLEY  
TIM TURNER

Class of 2024  
TAMMY BARBOUR  
BRIAN LEE  
DALE THOMPSON  
JILL WEBB

Class of 2025  
CINDY ALMARODE  
DEREK ALMARODE  
WADE CASH  
PENNY LEE

Clerk of Session  
DAVE SCHOOLEY

## DEACONS

Class of 2023  
ELLEN FITZGERALD  
CHARLIE JOHNSON

Class of 2024  
MITCH LATHROP  
D.W. MILLER

Class of 2025  
HARLEIGH RAHNAVARD-TEHRANI  
KATIE M'ELVEEN

## TRUSTEES

Class of 2023  
BILL BRUBECK  
JAMES WILLIAMS

Class of 2024  
GUY D. BROOKS

Class of 2025  
CHARLIE JOHNSON  
BILLY WADE

## CHURCH STAFF

JoAnn Pendley  
PIANIST, ORGANIST  
BELL CHOIR AND CHOIR

Lois Stogdale  
DISBURSING TREASURER

Kay Thompson  
RECEIVING TREASURER

John & Donna Bush  
CUSTODIANS

Carol & Puggie Sprouse  
CUSTODIANS



# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING OUR COMMUNITY  
FAMILY OF FAITH

**Saturday, February 10th @ 7:00pm**

- Game Night at Redeemer

**Shrove Tuesday, February 13th @ 6:30pm**

- Pancake supper at Pines

**Ash Wednesday, February 14 @ 7:00pm**

- Location will be Redeemer or Mt. Tabor, will announce soon

**Monday, February 19th @ noon**

- Youth bowling trip and lunch at Staunton Lanes

**Friday, March 1 @ 6:30, Bethel**

- Game night with Baked Potato Bar & Salad

**Maundy Thursday, March 28 @ 7pm**

- Meal included at Pines Chapel

**Good Friday Service, March 29 @ 7:00pm**

- Hosted by Bethel

**Sunrise Service, Sunday March 31 @ 7:00am**

- Community Service at Bethel Chapel in the Woods
- Breakfast afterwards in Fellowship Hall

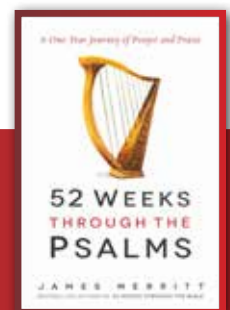
**Easter Worship, Sunday March 31 @ 11:00**

- Pines will be joining us for church, Communion

**April - Date TBD**

- Youth trip to Ark Encounter,
- Anyone interested please see the Almarodes or the Lees

**BIBLE STUDY WITH  
THE WAYMAKERS  
BETHEL, THURSDAYS @ 6:30**



**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR**  
In case of inclement weather, cancellations will be  
emailed and posted on WHSV & FaceBook.

**YOUTH COMMITTEE**  
Meets the last Sunday  
of each month.

**SECURITY COMMITTEE**  
Meets the 3rd Sunday  
of each month.