

# THE Tower

MARCH/APRIL 2024

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## COME! BE PRESENT WITH YOUR BETHEL FAMILY!

Greetings My Friends,

As Christians we need the promise of Spring's renewal! The joy and sight of Spring is refreshing and invigorating, let us not miss out on the chance to experience it together here at Bethel. I would be remiss if I didn't reflect on our Easter celebration just last week. All I can say is, wow, we are truly blessed to be serving together in Bethel's ministry. What a celebration of the Lord's resurrection. My deepest appreciation to everyone who made it possible.

I am not sure about you, but for me, Christ's resurrection causes me to reflect on Psalms 30:5. "Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." Isn't this the absolute truth? As we see the flowers bloom and the trees bud, even in this world with so many questions, we do not question the renewal of God in our lives. How could anyone, with all of these amazing signs of new life!! With Easter just behind us and the promise of the resurrection in front of us, Hope and Healing have arrived. As morning dawns over our beautiful church, our families, our com-

munity, and all of God's creation, let us join together every week, in fellowship and God's amazing grace. Friends, in Christian Hope we can release our anxiety and stress of this world, and look ahead with joyful anticipation of what is to come in Christ Jesus.

God has so many good things in store through the promise of His son's resurrection. As we unite in this gift of Hope together, let us accept the fact that we walk on this side of Heaven where we are not immune to trials and tribulations, but we are not alone in this walk of faith.

Nowhere is that more prevalent in our faithful lives than at church, worshiping and celebrating God and His glory together. Please come join us at Bethel on Sunday mornings at 11:00am, or every Thursday night at 6:30pm for Community Bible Study. We will also be celebrating our Lord, and our community children, together in a new Youth Bible Study program hosted by Pines Chapel Presbyterian Church every other Wednesday, beginning this coming Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

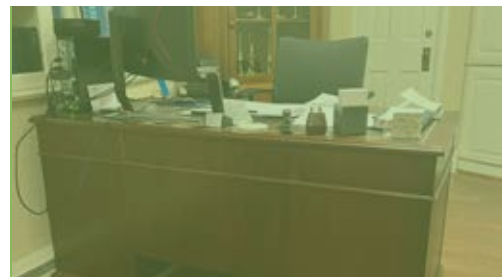
### — MESSAGE FROM THE — PASTOR'S DESK

Don't be a stranger, we would love to have you. Our activity calendar can be viewed online and we can be reached by calling our main number, texting the staff, messaging us on Facebook or Instagram. If life causes you to miss us, come be with us on Facebook Live every Sunday morning or catch our messages on our Website: [bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org](http://bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org)

Remember, living in God's hope is a gift, don't dismiss it, come be a part of it. Bethel's doors are open, and her family awaits.

Blessings,

Derek Almarode,  
Lay Pastor



# 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 March 11, 2024

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

The Bethel Session met along with the Deacons and Trustees on Sunday, March 11th for our regular meeting in the Fellowship Hall with 7 Elders, 4 Deacons and 1 Trustee present.

### General Business:

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

- Disposable communion cups will be used for Easter Sunday.
- Youth bible study will begin April 10th and continue every other Wednesday. The group is named the Kingdom Builders and will meet at Pines Chapel.
- There will be a celebration meal on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend.
- There will be a June vacation bible school in conjunction with Pines Chapel.
- The bylaws of the church incorporation were adopted and will be presented to the congregation.
- East Coast Presbytery meeting and MAG is April 18-20 in Maryland.
- The next session meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2024.



Respectfully,  
David Schooley  
Elder David Schooley  
Clerk of Session

# March BIRTHDAYS

Bobby Goodson . . . . . March 3  
Jim Stout . . . . . March 7  
Heather (Flint) Clem . . . . . March 8  
Harris Moffett . . . . . March 10  
Kay Thompson. . . . . March 11  
Jim Williams . . . . . March 17  
Irene Elliott . . . . . March 23  
Trevor Lee. . . . . March 23  
Ashlyn Almarode . . . . . March 23  
Sam Leonard . . . . . March 26  
Bob Barmore. . . . . March 28

# March ANNIVERSARIES

Derek & Cindy Almarode  
March 9, 1996

Billy & Margaret Wade  
March 21, 1964



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

# April BIRTHDAYS

Kyle Leonard . . . . . April 3  
Julie Turner . . . . . April 4  
Jake Leonard . . . . . April 7  
Mo Kyle . . . . . April 9  
Jon Bush. . . . . April 10  
Steve Kyle . . . . . April 10  
Dale Thompson . . . . . April 17  
Joe Moore. . . . . April 20  
Lucy Sproul . . . . . April 21  
Penny Lee . . . . . April 22  
Kenneth E. Olson . . . . . April 25  
Elizabeth Mulcahy . . . . . April 27

# April ANNIVERSARIES

Scott & Debbie Hughes  
April 14, 1979

Jon & Donna Bush  
April 15, 1972

ANNIVERSARY ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
April 23 (1960) would have been Joe & Shirley Heizer's anniversary. Shirley, we are thinking of you and remembering you and your family in our prayers, this first year without Joe.



*JolAnn showing the boys the organ!*



*— very busy spring at the church & the chapel —*





# EASTER EGG HUNT





5¢ A MEAL OFFERING BY THE KIDS



STACY STEVENS

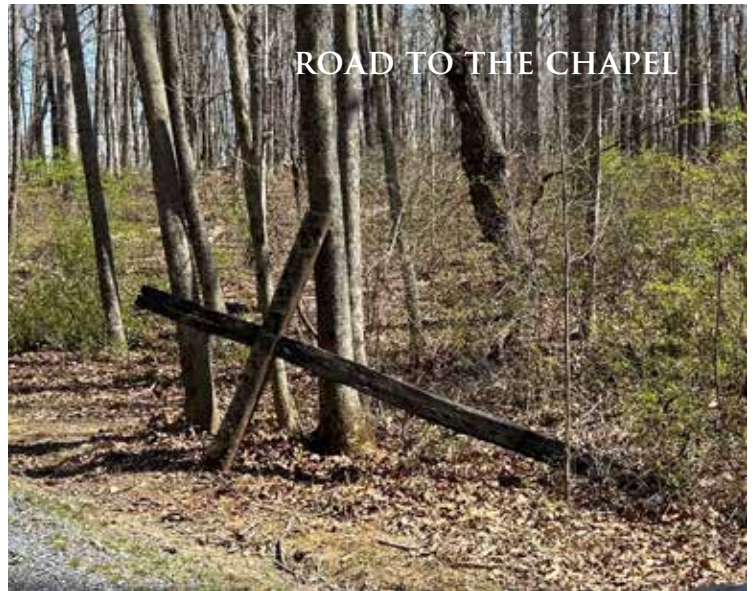


TREVOR AND MALLORY = NOT AWAKE!!

SUNRISE SERVICE AT CHARLIE OBAUGH RV



GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

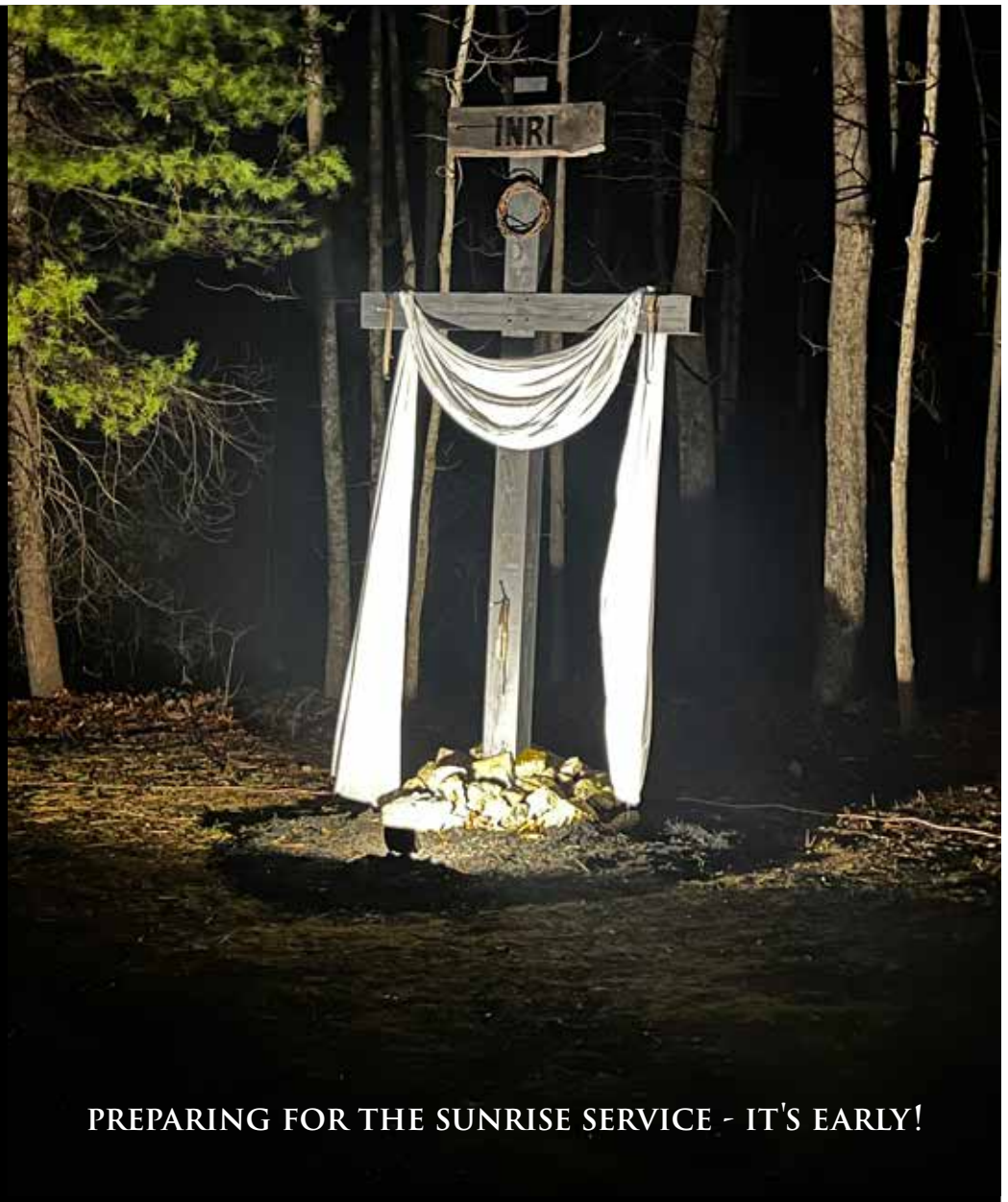


ROAD TO THE CHAPEL



BRENT HULL REHEARSING FOR SUNRISE





**PREPARING FOR THE SUNRISE SERVICE - IT'S EARLY!**



**THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED  
WITH THE INSTALLATION OF THE FLAGPOLE.**

**IT WILL BE DEDICATED AT THE  
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SERVICE!**



## THE SUNRISE SERVICE

AMAZING CROWD  
AMAZING SERVICE  
AMAZING SUNRISE  
AMAZING SON-RISE





LYRICS

*Come as You Are*

ARTIST: Crowder

Come out of sadness  
From wherever you've been  
Come broken hearted  
Let rescue begin  
Come find your mercy  
Oh, sinner come kneel  
Earth has no sorrow  
That heaven can't heal  
Earth has no sorrow  
That heaven can't heal

So lay down your burdens  
Lay down your shame  
All who are broken  
Lift up your face  
Oh, wanderer come home  
You're not too far  
So lay down your hurt  
Lay down your heart  
Come as you are

There's hope for the hopeless  
And all those who've strayed  
Come sit at the table  
Come taste the grace  
There's rest for the weary  
Rest that endures  
Earth has no sorrow  
That heaven can't cure

So lay down your burdens  
Lay down your shame  
All who are broken  
Lift up your face  
Oh, wanderer come home  
You're not too far  
Lay down your hurt  
lay down your heart  
Come as you are

Come as you are  
Fall in his arms  
Come as you are  
There's joy for the mourning  
Oh, sinner be still  
Earth has no sorrow  
That heaven can't heal  
Earth has no sorrow  
That heaven can't heal

## ELDERS

Class of 2023  
BOB OLSON  
DAVE SCHOOLEY  
TIM TURNER

Class of 2024  
TAMMY BARBOUR  
BRIAN LEE  
DALE THOMPSON

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 McELVEEN

## 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

### Men's Supper, April 9 @ 6:30pm

- Hosted by Bethel

### Wednesday, April 10 @ 6:30pm, Youth Bible Study Begins

- Every other Wednesday
- up to 18 years old
- Light meal provided

### April 14, 15, 16 - Ark Bus Trip

- Not too late if you want to go - notify Derek asap!

### April 28 @ 6:00pm - WRE Praise Night

- Raphine Christian Church

### Friday, May 24 - Stride for Life

- Comfort Care Women's Health

### August 18 - River Baptism & Worship, Tentative Date

- Covered dish picnic
- Joint service with Pines

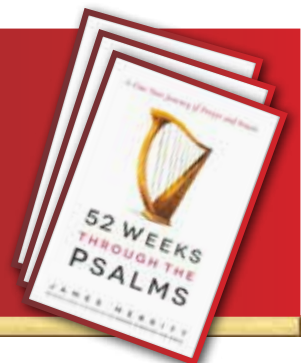
*follow us on instagram!*



@BETHELCHURCH.ECO

Bible study with  
**the Waymakers**

6:30 Thursdays at Bethel - Join Us!



### YOUTH COMMITTEE

Meets the last Sunday  
of each month.

### SECURITY COMMITTEE

Meets the 3rd Sunday  
of each month.