

July, 2022



Bethesda Banner

Last month I asked you to articulate your missional purpose from God. If you remember the question looked like this: **I exist to _____ so that _____.**

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

4858 McConnells Hwy.

York, SC 29745

(803)328-1360

Sunday School 9:45 am

Worship 11 am

Visit

www.bethesdapres.org
for updates.

Now let's build off that a little bit and add some new learning and attention to the process. . . This month I would like you to take a walk around your community—however you define the community. And I do mean, 'take a walk.'

Certainly for those of us living off of McConnells Highway, walking down the street is not just going to be a challenge but also quite dangerous. But there are roads around you that you could travel to that are near your home and give you space to walk. If you are concerned about walking alone there then take a partner. This work can be done as a team. And if walking is not possible, a slow drive can also work.

As you walk, I want you notice what's around you. The slope and feel of the road or sidewalk under your feet. Notice the sound your feet make as you walk. How about the houses, what do they tell you about the occupant? The state of the front yard and flowers. Notice it. . . The trees and foliage. The general decor of their property.

How about animals? Dogs? Horses? Cats? What do you see and what do you notice. Is there a lot of shade? Are the houses hidden or do they sit on large empty lots? Try as you walk to just let the process direct itself. As far as is possible for you, do not take an agenda with you when you walk. Just walk and notice.

This practice is formally called an ethnographic study. In this work you are noticing what conclusions can be drawn by what you see and notice— and there is a difference in that statement. Ethnography invites us to develop non-judgmental cultural conclusions and begin to wonder what those conclusions teach us about the community. Perhaps the 'thing' that captures our attention while walking in our community, could be what God is calling us toward.

Just because you see a nice car in the driveway or big house with a pool doesn't mean the people who live there do not go to church or do not love the Lord. It just means that is what you see, and since God is there as well, space is created for us to wonder about what God is up to and inviting us to participate in.

But we cannot be who God calls us to be as a church if we do not have a missional understanding of our purpose and an initial understanding of our community. So go take a walk and let's see what you learn. . .

Blessings
Rev. Derek



*This is a publication of
the people of
Bethesda Presbyterian Church*

Helping our neighbors:

Food Pantry - a basket will be available weekly in the vestibule for donations to the Food Pantry. There will also be a basket in the Fellowship Hall for those who wish to make contributions at the [Wednesday Night Dinners](#). Please bring non perishable food items to help us provide for the hungry. These items are distributed to people who request help through the Bethesda Benevolence Fund and also delivered regularly to local food distribution organizations. Thank you for your contributions to this ministry.

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen 2022: Bethesda will serve at the Plentiful Harvest Kitchen at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill Sunday, July 10. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve those in our community. We begin cooking at 2:00 pm and serve from 4:00-6:00 pm. You can come help the entire time or come at 2:00 to help cook, at 4:00 to help serve or 5:00 to help clean up. Future dates are 9/25/22 and 12/11/22.

The **Benevolence Ministry** provides assistance to those in the community in immediate need of emergency financial assistance. A burned out home, a loss of job, or a pending eviction, may all qualify depending upon what the background information may suggest. It caters to legitimate needs which may be ascertained with a combination of a benevolent heart and sound judgement. The Benevolence Team is made up of persons of good report, wisdom, and filled with the Holy Spirit. Funds are not given to those in need, but are paid to the billing party. **This Sunday, July 3, 2022, in coordination with Communion is designated as Benevolence Giving Sunday.** Please be generous in replenishing our resources for those in desperate situations.

Missions and Outreach Report - June 2022

Presbyterian Women's Circles:

Card Ministry

Donations to:

Thornwell

Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina

Tito Palacios and La Mission in Guatemala

The Matias Family in Brazil

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Three Baby Blankets Presented

Six Lap Afghans/Prayer Shawls Presented

Food Items Collected for Food Pantry

Benevolence Fund

Scouting Ministry

Child Development Center

Bake Sale for Youth Retreat

Vacation Bible School



Youth Retreat and Fundraiser- The Youth are planning a retreat to the Mountains on July 21 – July 24 and will have fundraisers to help with the cost. On Saturday, July 9 there will be a Pancake Breakfast in the Family Life Center. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Marotta, cell phone 724-221-4491 or manse telephone 803-328-9338.

There will be an AED (automated external defibrillator) Training will be held on Sunday, July 17 following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Bethesda has three AED's. Come learn where they're at and how to use them.



There will be an Ice Cream Social and Music on Sunday, July 17 at 6:00 pm in the Picnic Shelter. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex to sign up to bring a churn of homemade ice cream.



Vacation Bible School

Many thanks and much appreciation to all those who assisted with our Vacation Bible School this week. It has been wonderful to be able to hold Bible School again for the first time since before the pandemic. Over 20 children participated this year. We served supper to the children and workers every night, and the daily activities included Bible Stories, Arts and Crafts, Recreation and Music. Special thanks to Esther Bailey, the Director, for her organization and planning for the week and to Rev. Dr. Derek Marotta for presenting the Bible Stories each night.

July Verse to Remember

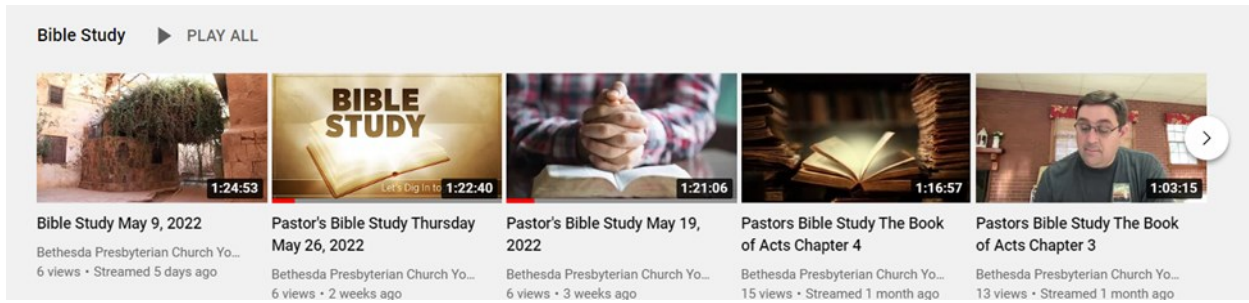
“It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just be sure that you don’t use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather use your freedom to serve one another in love; that’s how freedom grows.”

Galatians 5:13-14

The Message

Did you Know?

Each week Pastor Marotta leads a Bible study in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm. If you cannot join him in-person, you may join the class on-line as the lesson is live steamed from our YouTube site or you may view the lesson later. Pasto Marotta is currently leading the class in a study of the book of Acts.



Pastor Marotta's lesson handouts are available from a link on our website. The lessons also directly link to the YouTube video for the lesson.



FAMILY WORSHIP RESOURCES



CHILDREN'S CHURCH WITH MY FAMILY
Weekly Lessons and Activities



ADULT CHALLENGE
STAYING CONNECTED IN GOD'S WORD
Monthly Devotions
Pastor's Weekly Bible Study

	Devotion	Lessons	Prayers
<p>ADULT BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>June, 2022</p> <p>Devotions 365</p> <p>A daily devotion</p>		
	<p>Pastor's Weekly Bible Study The Book of Acts</p>		
	<p>On-line Lessons</p>	<p>Lesson 1 April 21 (Handout)</p> <p>Lesson 2 April 28 (Handout)</p> <p>Lesson 3 May 5 (Handout)</p> <p>Lesson 4 May 12 (Handout)</p> <p>Lesson 5 May 19 (Handout)</p> <p>Lesson 6-7 June 9 (Handout)</p>	



July Birthdays



2	Grant Barton, Faye Boyd
4	Elizabeth Bull, Jill Carter, Kathy Jagers
5	Julie Cornwell
6	Gage Russell
7	Krystal Jordan
11	Ed Williamson, III
14	Kari Darby
16	Daisy Hinline
17	Carolyn Rockholt
19	Anita Coxtan
20	Stacy Russell
21	Marvin Johnson, Kelsey Simpson
22	Gayle Dickson
23	Holly Love
28	Cindy Davis
29	Donna Hagler

	June Attendance			Bible Study
	Worship	Sunday School	Online Worship Views	
6/5/22	57	34		
6/12/22	56	24		
6/19/22	61	30		
6/26/22	47	29		

Remember in Prayer

At Bethesda

Nettie R. Daves
Bobby Moore
Irvin and Gail Jones
Jonathan Lauckner
Gene Cornwell
Doris Jonas - heart
Ricky & Debbie Simpson & Family
Ina Oates - under Hospice care at home
Krystal Jordan - testing & eye surgery at Duke
Frank Allen
Anita Ferguson Buffolino
Bill Dover
Steve & Ruth Rawdon
Eddie Allan Smith (back)

Births

Easton Cooper Caudle, 6-2-22 daughter of Mckinzie Rockholt & Jarrett Caudle: granddaughter of Jerry & Jeana Rockholt: great granddaughter of Faye Rockholt.
Nova Faye Funderburk, 6-13-22 daughter of Brionna & Gray Funderburk, great-granddaughter of David & Esther Bailey.
Coleman Lane Burns, 6-28-22, son of Donavon and Katie Burns, grandson of Steve and Sarah Childers.

At Bethesda Child Development Center

Cynthia Jackson, Dawn Westmoreland, Gracie Arnold, Esther Bailey, Jamie Baker, Algeria Ervin, Catherine Goodband, Stacy Meek, Janice Meeks, Tracy Modispaugh, Elizabeth Martin, Kennedy Brown, Aliah Hagy.

Global Mission Partners

Matias Family and
Tito Palacios (La Mision)

In the Military:

Chase Davis, Zoe Davis, Morgan Drayton, Sully Foy, Nicholas McAteer, Alyarda Thompson, Michael Wilkerson

In the Community and Beyond

Lewis Whisonant
Evelyn Williams
Mark Williams (Donna's brother)
Allison Teno
Peggy Wells (Sarah's aunt, leukemia)
Memory Jordan
David Miller
Shelly Palmer
Willie Wilson (Bert's brother)
Rowdy Jordan (Crystal's father)
Sharon Gable
Jim Hodnett
Johnny Rockholt (Faye's son)
Cherish Clark Walker (Krystal's friend) cancer
Dale Wray & mother, Peggy (Krystal's friend)
Rick Stallard (Josh's father)
Sawyer Long (Jeff & Kim Parrish's grandson) cancer
Ottis Wagner
Heath, cancer (3 yr. old friend of Tara Rogers)
Larry Rockholt (Carolyn's son)
Dorothy Hazard (LaRayne's sister-in-law)
Ed Beam (Cecelia Alexander's brother-in-law)
Scott McDaniel (Bill Dover's son-in-law)
Hildegard and Jim Bell's granddaughter, lupus
Barbara Good (Debbie Darby's mother)
Edna Rhinehart (Carolyn Rockholt's sister)
Vivian Fulmer (Bobby's mother)
Bryan Good (Debbie Darby's brother)
Eddie Gregory (cancer)
Karen Blaikie (Doug's sister-in-law - cancer)

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

4858 McConnells Highway
York, SC 29745

Phone: (803)328-1360

Email: bethesda@comporium.net

Website: www.bethesdapres.org

Our Pastor:

Rev. Derek Marotta

Our Elders:

Alberta Anthony

Ernice Bookout

Mark Boyd

Sarah Childers

Jimmy Darby

Cheryl Forlines

Susan Hibbard

Irvin Jones

Linda Messer

Todd Russell

Johnny Walker

Dorothy Williamson

*"So if the Son
sets you free,
you will be
free indeed."
John 8:36*

Our Mission

We celebrate the sharing of the Good News of Jesus Christ who is the head of the Church. Through the leading of the Holy Spirit, we are God's servants dedicated to the nurturing of all people in faith, service and fellowship; providing service to those in need; comforting the bereaved; ministering to the sick; offering solace to the troubled; and always seeking the lost.

We invite all believers in the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to share the communion loaf and cup of communion as symbols of our unity and service to the Risen Lord.



Established 1760

Bethesda Presbyterian Church Staff:

Pastor - Derek Marotta

Secretary/Bookkeeper - Pat Jones

Director of Music Ministry - LaRayne Hall

Sexton - Donna Hagler