

August, 2020



Bethesda Banner

**Bethesda
Presbyterian
Church**
4858 McConnells Hwy.
York, SC 29745
(803)328-1360

Worship 10:00 am
**No Sunday School
or Nursery.**
Check
www.bethesdapres.org
for updates.



Dear Friends and Bethesda Family,

I hope this letter finds you doing well. I do know that some of our church family and community are dealing with some difficult times. Please know that you are in my prayers and the prayers of many others here at Bethesda.

The one constant in this world we live in is that God is the beginning and the end. He always was, is, and will always be there. The world we live in is constantly changing. I remember discussions in committee meetings at church about how to reach people and get them involved. This seemed like a hard task back then when things weren't shut down. Now, with all the closings and social distancing, some of the ideas we came up with back then aren't even an option right now. So what are we as Christians supposed to do? Give up? That's definitely not an option. Postpone our outreach? Others need us now more than ever. I know that some that I've had the opportunity to talk to are more receptive now of "Christian" advice than they were before Covid-19. As Christians, we should remain positive. We should do what we can to adapt to the circumstances around us and move forward. We are all different parts of the body of Christ, with different talents. Think of ways to show God's love to others. A church sign I saw last week said, "YOU might be the Light that someone sees today." If you get up in the morning, you are still called to bring glory to God. Sometimes we get busy or weary and miss some good opportunities. Pray that God opens our eyes.

A few weeks back I was in the drive-thru at a fast food restaurant. As I drove up to pay for my order the girl said the car in front of me had already paid for mine. This caught me off guard. What I should have done was pay for the one behind me. That was a missed opportunity for me. I sometimes have lapses when I'm not looking for "opportunities". That's where I was that day. Since then, I've done that good deed several times at the drive-thru. Hopefully I've been the light for someone else.

There's a song we sing sometimes, "Light the Fire". The chorus goes like this:

Light the fire

In my soul

Fan the flame

Make me whole

Lord, you know

Where I've been

So light the fire in my heart again.

I pray that God lights our fires and gives us a desire and passion to do something new for Him. Don't live in fear. Act without fear! God's got your back

Still in His service,

Steve Childers

Editor's note: Before publishing this I had a conversation with the writer about the frequency of his reference to "going through the drive-thru!" 😊

Update from the PNC:

In spite of the Corona virus, the PNC has continued to move forward in the process of calling a pastor. Currently, we are transitioning from Step 4 to Step 5 of the process which is the beginning of the selection phase. In Step 5, we are looking seriously at specific candidates.

We greatly covet your prayers for us especially now. We are hopeful that we can move to the final two steps – nominate and rejoice in a timely manner. We trust that God will help us discern who should lead us here at Bethesda. It is God's will that we are seeking and not our own.

Thank you for your trust in us during this process. We appreciate you support and prayers.

In His Service,

The PNC

Susan Hibbard

Valerie Bull

Cindy Davis

Donna Hagler

Irvin Jones

John Nettles

Jim Percival

Stacy Russell

The Process of Calling a Pastor

1. **ORGANIZE:** A Pastor Nominating Committee is recommended by the Nominating Committee, approved by the Session and voted upon by the Congregation at a Congregational Meeting. The committee members are elected, the PNC meetings begin, with guidance from the presbytery's Committee on Ministry.
2. **CREATE:** The PNC develops the Ministry information form (MIF), which includes a detailed description of our congregation and its ministries.
3. **SEARCH:** The MIF is then posted on the PC(USA)'s Church Leadership Connection website. This website helps match Personal Information Forms (PIFs) from prospective pastors, to the information on our MIF. The PNC is given the PIFs that match our required competencies and experience. The PNC also seeks and follows up on referrals and recommendations from a variety of channels.
4. **EVALUATE:** When matches arrive from PC(USA) the PNC prayerfully decides which ones they would like to pursue further. Pastors who self-refer are also acknowledged. The PNC reviews carefully each PIF of candidates they have chosen to pursue, as well as church websites and other materials from and about the candidates. When the PNC finds a candidate that everyone on the PNC agrees may be a fit, that candidate is contacted and asked to send sermons for the PNC to view or the PNC may visit, have a phone conversation, or Skype with the candidate. The PNC also begins their background and reference checks.
5. **SELECT:** The top candidates are selected for face-to-face interviews. This part of the process requires much prayer, discussion, and consultation with the presbytery's COM (Committee on Ministry). Ultimately, a call is extended to one candidate.
6. **NOMINATE:** Pending acceptance of the call the PNC reports to the Session and the congregation on the chosen candidate. If approved by the congregation and the Presbytery, the new pastor will then begin ministry at Bethesda Church.
7. **REJOICE:** The PNC, along with the entire congregation, welcomes the new pastor, gives thanks to God, and celebrates the beginning of a new season in church life!



August Birthdays



- 1 Asa Darby, Chay & Seth Williamson
- 2 Elizabeth Steward
- 4 Darius Alexander, Matthew McDaniel
- 6 Hope Dover
- 7 Teresa King
- 8 Ellen Dewey
- 9 Tamara Rockholt
- 10 Peggy Adkins, Diane Arnold
- 11 Jim Bell, Nancy Smith
- 14 Hildegard Bell, JD Hibbard, Lennie Teska Jr
- 20 Hart Teska, III
- 21 Abby Costner, Ethan Hose
- 22 Ashlyn Dexter, Lisa Faris
- 23 Betty Jo Alexander, Rebecca Simpson
- 29 Kim Mitchell, Connie Sigmon
- 30 Hunter Melton

Thank You

Thank you for the prayers and many ways our church family demonstrated acts of concern for the past month leading up to Ed's heart surgery. Please continue to pray for complete recovery.

Ed and Dorothy

Dear Bethesda Presbyterian Church members,

Thank you for partnering with P.A.T.H. Together we can make such a difference in the lives of those in our community especially during this crisis.

With much gratitude,
Cricket Comer

July Church Attendance

7/5/20	29
7/12/20	42
7/19/20	61
7/26/20	31

Join Pastor Doug each week for an "on-line" Bible study. The current study is on the Epistle of James. Bible study lessons will be posted each Thursday morning on our church YouTube Channel: www.bethesdapres.org Gather together, share with friends and family as we grow in God's Word together.

Feed the Hungry: Mobile Food Pantry Sites

Aug 25: 9am - Unity Presby., 303 Tom Hall St., Fort Mill

Aug 31: 9am - Faith Presby., 7520 Charlotte Hwy, Indian Land

Sept. 24: 9am - Union Baptist, 11915 Hands Mill Rd., Rock Hill

Thank you in advance for your assistance with these pantries. Questions? Call Catawba Area Agency on Aging (803)329-9670

Remember in Prayer

At Bethesda

Mark Boyd
Nancy Moore Smith
Eddie Smith, hip replacement, 6/1/20
Gail Jones, hurt ankle
Ed Williamson
Phil Hughes (leukemia)
Cheryl Hughes (acute back pain)
Anita Ferguson Buffolino
Bill Dover
Michelle Melton
Sonny Moore
Mike Percival
Steve Rawdon
Carolyn Rockholt
PNC Committee

Deaths

Kenny Green, 7/27/20

Marriages

Lisa Davis and Todd Hagler 7/18/20

Baptisms

Wyatt Daniel McCoy and Madelyn James McCoy,
7/29/20, Parents are Mr. and Mrs. Matt McCoy

Homebound

Billie Ann Burton
Robert Jones

Global Mission Partners

Matias Family and
Tito Palacios (La Mision)

In the Community and Beyond

Karen Starkey, cancer
Bethany Childers (11 yrs. old, dravet epilepsy & surgery, Donna Hagler's friend)
Carmine Scarpelli (soft tissue lymph gland testing)
Mary Parkman (friend of Walkers) stomach cancer
Larry Rockholt (Carolyn's son)
Dorothy Hazard (LaRayne's sister-in-law)
Ed Beam (Cecelia Alexander's brother-in-law)
Randy Ransom
Ellen Green
Scott McDaniel (Bill Dover's son-in-law)
Hildegard and Jim Bell's granddaughter, lupus
Chris Brackett - cancer
Barbara Good (Debbie Darby's mother)
Kathy Gale (Debbie Simpson's friend)
Edna Rhinehart (Carolyn Rockholt's sister)
Vivian Fulmer (Bobby's mother)
Amanda Hall (LaRayne's daughter)
Doris Duncan (Christine McCraven's mother) ALS
Mattie Thomas (granddaughter of Jim Percival's cousin)
Bryan Good (Debbie Darby's brother)
Casey Lane (Nancy Smith's nephew, dialysis)
Eddie Gregory (cancer)
Dugan Meredith (t-cell lymphoma)
Tommy Ligon (Carol Hope's cousin - cancer)
Karen Blaikie (Doug's sister-in-law - cancer)
Phil Hughes, leukemia
Joe Ligon (Carol Hope's uncle) cancer
Future Wade (Bert's nephew) surgery 7/29/20
Mary Parkman (Walkers' friend) stomach cancer
Cheryl Hughes, acute back pain

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

4858 McConnells Highway

York, SC 29745

Phone: (803)328-1360

Email: bethesda@comporium.net

Website: www.bethesdapres.org

Our Pastor:

Rev. Doug Blaikie

Our Elders:

Ralph Adams

Trudy Amick

Ernice Bookout

Mark Boyd

Steve Childers

Bobby Fulmer

Irvin Jones

Linda Messer

Jim Percival

Stacy Russell

Debbie Simpson

Dorothy Williamson

*Shout for joy to the Lord,
everyone on earth.*

Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come to him with songs of joy.

Know that the Lord is God.

He made us, and we belong to him.

We are his people.

We are the sheep belonging to his flock.

Psalm 100: 1-3

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:

Secretary/Bookkeeper - Pat Jones Director of Music Ministry - LaRayne Hall

Interim Director of Children/Youth Ministries

Caretaker - Mike Percival

Sexton - Donna Hagler