

October, 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.**

One of my favorite verses is **“We walk by faith, not by sight.”** It’s a short, familiar verse. There are many times in our lives in which we step forward by faith, even if we can’t clearly see the path forward. Accepting a marriage proposal, bringing home a newborn baby from the hospital, weighing a major career move or job change—all these situations require us to step forward trusting that we will have the personal resources to navigate whatever the future may hold. We say a quick prayer, take a deep breath for strength, and cross over the threshold into an unknown future trusting that with God, all things are possible.

In this unsettled time our Church continues to walk forward by faith. Our Session is actively considering safe ways to once again start our Wednesday dinners. In person Bible study will once again start this Fall. Plans are being discussed about once again playing Pickle Ball on Sunday evenings. And finally Country Couple Dancing may be right around the corner.

In every time of transition of our life, there is what we can “see”- the literal reality around us and the difficult choices within our own minds. But there is also a larger perspective we cannot see with our literal eyes, but must see with our spiritual vision. This larger perspective reminds us that God loves us and longs for us to be well and that whatever the future may hold, God is aware of it and will be beside us as we experience it.

As we go through these days may faith sustain us. For we do not walk alone in the future, and with God truly all things are possible.

God Bless You!

Doug





Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center News and Updates

Covid-19 Update

The health and safety of our Campers, Guests, and staff continue to be our number one Priority. Over the last several months we have updated our Guest Guidelines to allow us to be able to offer limited space for churches and guests to utilize while also following the most recent CDC guidelines. We are still open and taking reservations for this fall.

Summer Camp

Although we did not conduct in person programs this summer, we were pleased to be able to provide our Backyard Bethelwoods packs to 90 children and families. Additionally, our Summer Staff lived and worked on site and completed a Prayer Trail using a perimeter trail on Bethelwoods' property. We thank all of our churches and camper families for supporting our Backyard packs and Summer Staff!

Fall Programs

In an effort to do our part to flatten the curve and to stay in community with our Bethelwoods' family we do not currently have any fall programs scheduled. It is our greatest hope to return to offering in person programs as soon as we are able. In the meantime, we invite you to connect with us through our social media accounts and our newsletter! To subscribe, please visit our website at www.bethelwoods.org

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen has been closed since March because of Covid-19. We are happy to announce that they are opening back up on October 4 with some changes to keep everyone safe.

Due to Covid-19, the guests will not be eating in the fellowship hall. A table will be set up outside for the patrons to pick up their boxed dinner and drink. If it is raining, the table will be just inside the doorway. Volunteers are asked to wear a mask and gloves will be provided.

Bethesda will serve at Plentiful Harvest on October 25 and January 24.

Please let Steve or Sarah Childers know if you would like to help serve on October 25.

There will not be a Community Thanksgiving Service this year.

Our Christmas Worship Service will look a little different than in the past years. We are going to do a Christmas Carol service with scripture. I need your suggestions for which carols to include. Please let me know what your favorite carols are and I will try include as many as I can into this service. You can send them to me by e-mail at larayneha@gmail.com; phone or text me at 803-554-4705; put a note in my box in the office or in person. You can also contact Stacy and she will forward them to me. I would like to have them by mid- October so I can start planning this worship service. Thank you very much for your suggestions.

Do you recycle? If so, start saving your plastics because Bethesda is going to participate in the Trex Plastic Recycling Challenge! Save your grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, ziplock & other re-sealable bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, salt bags, and cereal bags. All materials must be clean, dry and free of food residue. A container will be placed on the Fellowship Hall porch to collect the plastics. If we collect 500 pounds of plastic by April 15, Trex will award us with a beautiful Trex bench. It sounds impossible; but it's not—hundreds of schools and churches have done this. The bench will be placed near the playground beside the Fellowship Hall.



Country Couple's Dancing??

If you are interested in learning some country couple's dancing, let Steve Childers know. If there is enough interest, we will have a one hour class per week for six weeks. There will be no cost for the classes. It's a fun way to get a little exercise. Text or call Steve by October 6 (803)417-3571 to sign up or if you have questions—if no answer leave a message.

Thank you

A special thanks to our church family for all the love we have received throughout Mike's illness. Hearing the prognosis and spending the past week in the hospital was horrible. However, we could always feel the love and prayers coming from Bethesda. Mike is home now, under the care of Hospice. He is getting the nutrients he desperately needed through his feeding tube, and is starting to feel some stronger. Thank you so much for all the love, support, and PRAYERS through this difficult time. Hopefully, we will be back among you soon.

In Christ,
Mike and Karen



October Birthdays



- 2 Connor Brown, Jerred Mitchell
- 6 Anita Ferguson, Doug McCall
- 9 Cecelia Alexander
- 10 Cole Medlin
- 11 Carolann Bull, Emily Medley
- 13 Samantha Teska
- 14 Trudy Amick, Justin, Matthew, and Nicolas McAteer, Jimmy Percival
- 17 John Nettles, Jr.
- 19 Michelle Plott, Josh Stallard
- 21 Bill Davis
- 22 Bert Anthony
- 24 Caitlin Hibbard
- 26 Tom Bull, Steve Dickson
- 29 Trey Amick
- 31 Julia Dover

September Church Attendance

9/6/20	37
9/13/20	37
9/20/20	41
9/27/20	44

Feed the Hungry: Mobile Food Pantry Sites

Oct. 30: 9am - Herman PC, 107 Heckle Blvd. RH

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

Dimes for Hunger



Dimes for Hunger began in our Presbytery in 1977. At that time, many people lost their jobs due to the textile mills closing in our area. A plan came to mind: ask each member in each of the churches to give **One Dime - Per Meal - Per Day for the month of October for a total of \$9.30**. The Offering would be used to help provide food for our neighbors who were hungry. Now more than ever, our sisters and brothers need our help. Since this is the year 2020, we encourage you to double your offering to **Two Dimes -- Per Meal – Per Day for a whole month for a total of \$18.60**.

This year at Bethesda there will be three ways to make a contribution to *Dimes for Hunger*. A bucket will be placed at the front of the sanctuary so that those attending worship on Sundays may donate. Another bucket will be placed in the church office for those who wish to drop off their contributions during office hours, daily 9:00 AM through 1:00 PM. In addition checks designated for *Dimes for Hunger* may be sent to Bethesda. Thank you all in advance for your participation in the important annual effort to feed the hungry.

Remember in Prayer

At Bethesda

Lou Anne Hildebrand (back pain)
Ray Johnson (Westminster)
Johnny Rockholt (Faye's son)
Gail Jones, hurt ankle
Phil Hughes (leukemia)
Cheryl Hughes (acute back pain)
Anita Ferguson Buffolino
Bill Dover
Michelle Melton
Sonny Moore
Mike Percival
Steve Rawdon
PNC Committee

Deaths

Edgar Jennings Allen, 9/1/20 (Frank's brother)
Gary Wright, 9/9/20
Chris Brackett, 9/23/20

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. Next Sunday, October 4, in coordination with Communion, is designated as Benevolence Giving Sunday. Please be generous in replenishing our resources for those in desperate situations.

Homebound

Billie Ann Burton
Robert Jones

Global Mission Partners

Matias Family and
Tito Palacios (La Mision)

In the Community and Beyond

Heath, cancer (3 yr. old friend of Tara Rogers)
Josh Turney, Doris Jonas' grandson
Ella Kingston (Lou Anne's 2 yr. old friend (genetic disorder)
Milton & Linda Pym (Dorothy's sister) and family
Jeff Lewis (Josh Stallard's friend) lung cancer
Karen Starkey, cancer
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)
Ellen Green
Scott McDaniel (Bill Dover's son-in-law)
Hildegard and Jim Bell's granddaughter, lupus
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)
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

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Email: bethesda@comporium.net

Website: www.bethesdapres.org

The Lord will reply, "I tell you the truth whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

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

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