

October, 2022



Bethesda Banner

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.



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

Today was a glorious morning at the church, and while Hurricane Ian prepares to make landfall in Western Florida, and the rain is coming toward us here in the York area, my spirit was blessed and I felt uplifted by God. Let me explain. .

I was blessed because, for the first time since my arrival at Bethesda, the children of Day Care came to chapel with me.

We met in the sanctuary a little past 9:30 on Wednesday. I prayed with them. It was awesome to watch them fold their hands with me. I read them a story from God's word to them. I taught them the lesson that I shared with the children Sunday morning. The lesson was about paying attention and noticing how God is active in all things with us—done through an ancient numbering system. In spite of the fact that the chapel service was brief, I was recharged and encouraged by the children and the energy they brought. On the way out they said, 'thank you Pastor Derek;' some waved, some gave me a 'thumbs up.'

Next week, they will come again into the sanctuary and again we will pray, read, and talk together. I am blessed to part of their spiritual journey.

As I think about the intersection between chapel with 3 and 4-year-olds, a hurricane, a graveside funeral, an answer to prayer for healing, and World Communion Sunday, I can't help but wonder about the challenge and struggle of finding God each day and we are together in those struggles.

For many people finding God can be easy when life feels easy. When our prayers are answered (as I heard about today), when the children of our community are excited to participate in chapel and want to sing that "Zacchaeus was a wee-little man," it is easy to see and feel God close at hand. But the life of a Christian is not only these type of moments.

Our lives can be, and often are, a struggle.

There are days that I wake up tired. My head hurts. My faith feels fragile and crackable. I offer my prayers to God because that is what I am taught to do, and not because I want God to change and reshape me. . . This is an old story and series of old practices.

But as we celebrate communion on World Communion Sunday (October 2), do we know people who could use a dose of that joy and faith that we are living with each day? You see often I think that the difference in our joy and their struggle is just the unwillingness that we might feel to share our story and lives with another person.

Blessings,
Derek

Helping our neighbors:

Food Pantry - a basket is available weekly in the vestibule for donations to the Food Pantry. There is also be a basket in the Fellowship Hall.

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen 2022: We will serve again on 12/11/22.

Thank you to Ernice Bookout, Rev. Marotta, Debbie Darby, Debbie Fulmer, Adam Cole, Beckett Hall and Steve and Sarah Childers for helping on September 25. 132 plates were served!

Missions, Outreach, and Service Report—September 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

Blankets/Lap Afghans Presented

Presented Five Prayer Shawls and Lap Afghans

Online Ministry

Worship Services

Pastor's Bible Study

Sounds of Grace

Ministry of Care and Support

Provided Meals for Members

Provided Transportation and Support for Members with Medical Needs

Group from Bethesda prepared and served 132 meals at Plentiful Harvest Kitchen at Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fellowship Hall Opened to be Available for Graveside Service

Food Items Collected for Food Pantry and Blessing Box

Benevolence Fund

Provided Assistance for One Family

Scouting Ministry

Child Development Center



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women's Spiritual Gathering that was to take place on Saturday, October 1, was cancelled due to Hurricane Ian. It will be rescheduled for a later date. More information to come..

Music Opportunities



Music Opportunities The Adult Choir has resumed rehearsals on Wednesdays at 5:30. The choir sings for the worship service 2-3 times a month and we would like to have some new voices joining us. The Christmas Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, October 12. We will divide our rehearsal time and work on the Christmas music at 5:30 and regular Sunday music at 6:00. Our Christmas Worship Service is Sunday, December 18 at 11:00. Anyone that is interested is invited to join us. Hand Chimes will begin rehearsal for our Christmas Worship Service on Monday, October 24 at 6:30 in the Ladies Parlor. If you have never played chimes before, or don't even read music, we will help you learn how. We need 12 ringers so if you are interested, please come on October 24. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at larayneha@gmail.com ; by phone 803-554-4705; or in person.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has been thinking of me during my surgery and recovery. Thank you for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and meals. I especially thank Tara and Jim for filling in for me during this past month. I am now doing therapy and my shoulder is doing very well. Thank you again for your support.

In His Love,
LaRayne

Thank you Bethesda congregation for the cards, calls, visits, and prayers while I have been unable to attend church. It helps to be remembered. I am home now but will be continuing rehabilitation with home health care.

Frank Allen

Thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the lovely shawl that you made for me. The colors of pink, purple, etc. are my favorite colors. I will use it very day and thank of you and your kind thought of thinking of me at this exciting time in my life.

Love to all,
Brittney Teter

Soft Plastics Recycling



Don't forget to save your soft plastics, any plastic that can be balled up, and put them in our Recycling Boxes on the Fellowship Hall and Family Life Center porches. For every 500 pounds of plastic we collect, we receive a bench made out of Trex lumber. So far, we have collected around 200 pounds. We need 300 more pounds by the end of December! Remember all those Amazon boxes that come to your house, probably contain some type of plastic!

October Verse to Remember

**"Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life will keep it."**

Luke 17:33



October Birthdays



6	Anita Ferguson
9	Cecelia Alexander
10	Cole Medlin
11	Carolann Bull
14	Justin, McAteer, Matthew McAteer, Nicolas McAteer, Jim Percival
17	John Nettles, Jr.
19	Josh Stallard
21	Bill Davis
22	Bert Anthony
24	Caitlin Hibbard
26	Tom Bull, Steve Dickson
29	Trey Amick
31	Julia Dover

September Attendance

	Worship	Sunday School	Online Worship Views	Bible Study
9/4/22	55	28	14	5
9/11/22	50	33	10	6
9/17/22	66	25	23	5
9/25/22	63	29	N/A	

Remember in Prayer

At Bethesda

David Nettles
Esther Bailey
LaRayne Hall
Nell Glover
Margaret Moore
Nettie R. Daves
Bobby Moore
Irvin and Gail Jones
Jonathan Lauckner
Gene Cornwell
Doris Jonas - heart
Ricky & Debbie Simpson & Family
Krystal Jordan - testing & eye surgery at Duke
Frank Allen
Anita Ferguson Buffolino
Bill Dover
Ruth Rawdon
Eddie Allan Smith (back)

Baptisms

Adley Rose Costner, 9/18/22

Deaths

Margaret Mary Burris, 9/4/22
Patrick Russell, 9/8/22
Robert Michael Baker, 9/22/22
Jean Workman, 9/27/22
Chuck Sanford, 10/3/22

Global Mission Partners

Matias Family and
Tito Palacios (La Mision)

At Bethesda Child Development Center

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

In the Community and Beyond

Don Eikleberry
Billy McAbee
Darlene Dunlap
Florida hurricane victims
Rimica Brown
Kenny Good
Ed & Sara Jennings
Brittany Teter
Lewis Whisonant
Evelyn Williams
Peggy Wells (Sarah's aunt, leukemia)
Memory Jordan
Shelly Palmer
Willie Wilson (Bert's brother)
Rowdy Jordan (Crystal's father)
Johnny Rockholt (Faye's son)
Cherish Clark Walker (Krystal's friend) cancer
Dale Wray & mother, Peggy (Krystal's friend)
Rick Stallard (Josh's father)
Heath, cancer (3 yr. old friend of Tara Rogers)
Larry Rockholt (Carolyn's son)
Dorothy Hazard (LaRayne's sister-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)

In the Military:

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

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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

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:9

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