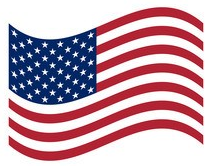


July 2024



Bethesda Banner

Let me say right at the outset of this article... this story might seem a little odd to you but stay with me. I bet that you will be able to identify with me at the end it.

For Father's Day my family took me to a barbecue restaurant that I like near Charlotte. We have eaten there several times, and every time we have eaten at this restaurant, I have enjoyed the food. While we waited for our drinks and appetizer to come, I noticed that Emma's iPhone case was cracked and breaking. So, being a good parent, I asked her about this and wondered what she was going to do about it?

She told me that she was worried about the safety of her phone if she dropped it but wasn't doing anything to resolve the issue. I resisted the urge to chastise her for buying something of poor quality, and instead, I gave her my case to solve the problem. It was a case that I felt that I didn't need anyway. Honestly, I was looking for an excuse to trade-up to something different myself. But by doing so, I created a new problem. Now I had to deal with her broken case myself, and it created a source of irritation for me.

For the week of VBS, and on into half of this week, I have fought her phone case. It 'sticks' to the inside of my pocket and does not come out neatly. It turns my pocket inside out every time that I take it out and is hard to put away. I can see why she did not like the case.

Finally last night Emma returned my case to me. She bought a new one that was similar to mine in its durability. Relieved I snapped my case back into place and I returned to my book thinking nothing more about the whole incident. But now every time I pick up my iPhone, I notice the returned case and I smile. So here is the point of this unique and very personal story for you:

There are times in our faith that we do not notice the thing that is right before us until it is absent. It was there and now it is not. We may have forgotten how important it was to us but the absence of it nags at our heart. At times this can be as small as a cell phone case that we loaned to someone or as simple as a blessing from God that we never noticed in the first place. Yet it was present the whole time if we were observant.

Perhaps the task of faith, a task that God wonders if we will continue to practice this summer, is to take the time and notice what is right before us. Sure, there are big blessings that God places in our lives, but there are also little things present too. Can we notice them both? For both are gifts from God.

Blessings

Rev. Derek

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*

Helping our neighbors:

Please help replenish our "Blessing Box" and Food Pantry. Suggested items are non-perishable food items - peanut butter, jelly, canned meat or pasta items, spaghetti sauce, pasta, small cereal boxes, etc. A basket is available weekly in the vestibule for donations. There is also a basket in the Fellowship Hall for those who wish to make contributions at the Wednesday Night Dinners. These items are used to fill the "Blessing Box", distributed to people who request help through the Bethesda Benevolence Fund, and delivered regularly to local food distribution organizations. Thank you for your contributions to this ministry.

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen: Future dates are August 11 and October 27.

Plastic Recycling- We have collected enough plastics for our third bench! We will continue to collect plastics for our fourth bench.

Second Harvest Food Pantry Dates 9:00 am:

July 12- St. Matthew AME Zion Church, 539 Lige St., Rock Hill

August 30- Faith Presbyterian, 7520 Charlotte Hwy, Indian Land, SC

September 13- Mt. Zion, 5376 McConnells Hwy, McConnells, SC

September 27- Faith Presbyterian, 7520 Charlotte Hwy, Indian Land, SC

October 11- Jerusalem Baptist, 1003 Steele St., Fort Mill, SC

November 8- Fishing Creek Baptist, 1220 Springlake Rd., York, SC

November 15- Faith Presbyterian, 7520 Charlotte Hwy, Indian Land, SC

December 13- Green Pond UMC, 983 Bethel St., Clover, SC

Missions, Outreach, and Service Report— June, 2024

Presbyterian Women's Circle:

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

Five Lap Afghans/Prayer Shawls Presented

Online Ministry

Worship Services

Pastor's Bible Study

Sounds of Grace

Ministry of Care and Support

Provided Transportation for Community Member to Appointments

Community Support/Outreach

Maintained the Blessing Box by Keeping It Fully Stocked

Food Distribution—Distributed 65 bags of groceries, serving 120 people in 34 families

Vacation Bible School—Evening Sessions of Camp Firelight were attended by an average of 29 to 31 children each evening, supported by 35 to 40 Volunteers.

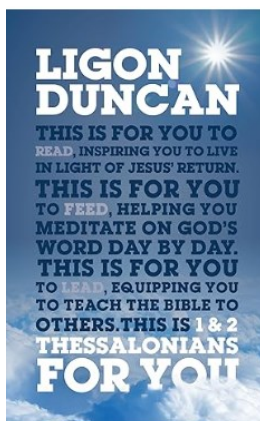
Benevolence Fund

Assistance Provided for One Family Through the Benevolence Fund

Child Development Center

Pastor Conducted Weekly Chapel Services for Three Year Olds through Pre-K Children and for the After School Children

Fellowship Class to Begin a New Study



Beginning Sunday July 14th the Fellowship class will begin a new study on 1&2 Thessalonians. If you are not currently attending a Sunday morning Bible study, please consider joining us in this study. The Fellowship class meets at 9:45 in the Session room.

John Nettles

Bethesda Ladies!

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
CHRISTMAS
IN JULY**

Girls Night Out!

THURSDAY, JULY 11TH, AT 6 PM

Mud Ceramic Studio
2354F Ebenezer Road, Rock Hill

RSVP by July 7th
to Laura Merritt





July Birthdays



2	<i>Grant Barton</i>
4	<i>Elizabeth Bull, Jill Carter, Kathy Jagers</i>
5	<i>Julie Cornwell</i>
6	<i>Gage Russell</i>
7	<i>Krystal Jordan</i>
11	<i>Ed Williamson III</i>
14	<i>Kari Darby</i>
16	<i>Daisy Hine</i>
17	<i>Carolyn Rockholt</i>
19	<i>Anita Coxton</i>
20	<i>Stacy Russell</i>
21	<i>Matthew Hudson, Marvin Johnson Jr., Kelsey Simpson</i>
22	<i>Gayle Dickson</i>
23	<i>Holly Love</i>
28	<i>Cindy Davis</i>
29	<i>Donna Hagler</i>
31	<i>Tim Burns</i>

	Attendance			
	<u>Morning Worship</u> In-person	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Online Worship</u> Views	<u>Bible Study*</u>
6/2/24	50	17	19	N/A
6/9/24	48	24	14	12
6/16/24	49	19	9	N/A
6/23/24	44	22	26	11
6/30/24	38	20	N/A	13

*Bible study includes in person and online participation.

Remember in Prayer

At Bethesda

Derek Marotta
Dorothy Williamson
Margaret Moore
Jonathan Lauckner
Gene Cornwell
Ricky & Debbie Simpson & Family
Frank Allen
Anita Ferguson Buffolino
Bill Dover
Ruth Rawdon
Eddie Allan Smith (back)
Stacy Meek (CDC)
Janice Meeks (CDC)
Hildegard Bell
Eddie Smith
Luke Johnson

At Bethesda Child Development Center

Cynthia Jackson, Dawn Westmoreland, Esther Bailey,
Jamie Baker, Catherine Goodband, Janice Meeks,
Natalie Ashe, Emily Hopkins, Shelby Ashe, Madison
Hartis.

Global Mission Partners

Matias Family and
Tito Palacios (La Mision)

In the Military:

Chase Davis, Zoe De Anda,
Pierce Dewey, Sully Foy,
Nicholas McAteer, Gage Orr,
Michael Wilkerson, Sabrina Dollar

In the Community and Beyond

David (Bobby Fulmer's friend) awaiting liver transplant
Jackie Johnson Saboley (hip surgery)
Cheryl Hughes
Larry Rockholt (Carolyn's son)
Johnny Rockholt (Faye's son)
Rick Stallard (Josh's father)
Noah Smith, Sr. (Pacia's dad)
Penelope Lowder (Rocky's niece) surgery
Dennis Duncan (Debbie Fulmer's dad) his memory
Hildegard and Jim Bell's granddaughter, lupus
Brittany, Wes & Whitley Teter (Linda's granddaughter)
Dolores Lynn (Tara's aunt in Iowa) heart problem
Joanne Cox (Debbie Fulmer's aunt) cancer
Dwight Little (cirrhosis of liver & stroke) Leslie Henson's co-worker)
Tommy & Nell Harper (Sarah's parents)
James David (David Chamber's grandson)
Ron Saboley (Jackie's husband) unable to have surgery
Peggy Neal (JoEllen's mom) disease narrowing blockages
Rose Locklair (Peggy, Faye, Ruth & Mack's sister) hospice
Nikki Thompson (Alberta's daughter) colon cancer
Christina Dixon (Shannon's friend) breast cancer
Janet Osborne (breast cancer)
Incun Patrick (Jim & Lisa's friend) brain tumor
Debi Dubard
Helen Steele

Ministry Support Online!



A QR code and link have been added to the Bethesda Website and the weekly bulletin for those who would like the flexibility of making ministry contributions online. Contributions may be made from the QR code to your annual pledge, special offerings, and other areas of support.

SUMMER CHOIR

We will be having a summer choir. We will be singing on the last Sunday of June, July and August. This is for anyone who would like to sing for the worship service. You do not have to be a member of our current choir. You do not have to be able to read music. We will practice at 10:45 on the morning of the worship service. Music will not be complicated. Just come and join us in the choir room. We hope to have some new voices join us!

Bible Study will not meet during the summer.

The Church Office and Bethesda CDC will be closed on Thursday, July 4th for the Holiday.

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and *heal their land.*”

(Chronicles 7:14-16)

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

Mark Boyd

Steve Childers

Cheryl Forlines

Debbie Fulmer

Laura Merritt

Linda Messer

Jim Percival

Stacy Russell

Johnny Walker

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