

June 2024



Bethesda Banner

. I want to thank everyone who helped to support Matsiko while they were with us at the end of May. It was an amazing week that was filled with wonderful stories of God's blessing and stories of how God exceeded our expectations.

When Don called me to begin planning Matsiko's visit to Bethesda, I had no idea how God was going to transform our community or church. It looked like this was going to be a tough and long week, but I can testify to the fact that we are better together. We came together as the Body of Christ, and we cared for these young people in powerful ways. I have learned that every time Matsiko comes to visit a church, God touches that church and the people of the church profoundly. You are a living testimony of that fact.

It was great week that stretched us as much as it blessed us.

We know that the children bring love, grace, and an energy that we feel deeply in our souls. Together we cried as they left Bethesda. Those tears were a testimony of how the Holy Spirit touched our lives and shaped us.

But because the children of Matsiko have left Bethesda that does not mean that the blessing which they brought to us is over. Our work is not done in this community. The chance to share the love of Christ, and love Matsiko gave to us, lives on. God asks each of us in this church to pass on the miracle of his grace and blessing to others. Now I wonder if over the summertime, with Vacation Bible School coming in a few weeks, will you help love the children of this community as the young people of Matsiko loved you?

The work of VBS is hard. It will be hot, and we will work hard. But remember how hard, and yet how it easy it was to care for the children of Matsiko. Perhaps in those memories we can find a way to continue being 'Better Together.'

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.

Thank you to Ricky & Debbie Simpson, David Chambers, Esther Barton and Steve & Sarah Childers for helping at Plentiful Harvest Kitchen this past Sunday, May 26. 125 meals were served.

Missions, Outreach, and Service Report— May, 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

Collected \$445 for the Pentecost Offering; 40% to be used at Bethesda for Local Missions and 60% sent to Providence Presbytery

Prayer Shawl Ministry

One Baby Blanket Presented

Online Ministry

Worship Services

Pastor's Bible Study

Sounds of Grace

Ministry of Care and Support

Grief Share Weekly Support Group

Provided Transportation for Community Member to Appointments

Community Support/Outreach

Maintained the Blessing Box by Keeping It Fully Stocked

Hosted the Homecoming Celebration

Hosted a Blood Drive in Honor of Rachel Ann Taylor, Granddaughter of Pat Jones, Church Secretary. Collected 13 units of Blood

Hosted a Family Fun Day for Church and Community Members

Hosted the Matsiko World Orphan Choir—Provided housing for Choir Members in Individual Homes; Supplied Meals (at Church and in Homes) and Assisted with Transportation

Sponsored a Talent Show and Supper in the Picnic Shelter

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen—Prepared and Served 125 Meals

Benevolence Fund

Child Development Center

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



Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School will be held June 17-20.

VBS preregistration cards are on the back table in the vestibule. Please preregister your child so we have a better head count of who is coming. You may place the card in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

Bible Study will meet on Monday, June 3rd at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall

There will be a VBS meeting Monday June 3rd at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall, all volunteers are asked to attend.

Prayer Shawl will meet on Tuesday, June 4 in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm.



Thank You

Edie and I wish to express our deep appreciation for the thoughts, prayers, and outreach from the church since my injury. I am progressing very well now and just be able to participate more in the weeks to come. I have been overwhelmed by the outreach and your words of encouragement and support. Your Love and attention have been felt and been an important part of my recovery.

In Christ Service,
John Nettles

Thank you to the Congregational Life Committee for hosting another blood drive on May 14, 2024 in honor of Rachel Ann. The Blood Connection donates towards her bills for every donation. Thanks to all the volunteers and donors. These donations save many lives. Thank you for your continued prayers for Rachel Ann as she continues her treatment for leukemia.

We are so grateful,
The Taylor Family



June Birthdays



3	<i>Grayson Darby, III</i>
6	<i>Todd Hagler</i>
7	<i>Gail Boyd, Ralph Adams</i>
8	<i>Chuck Barton</i>
12	<i>Debbie Darby</i>
17	<i>Lewis Jordon</i>
20	<i>James Platt</i>
21	<i>Pam Jordan</i>
24	<i>Jim Carter, Jr.</i>
25	<i>Laura Merritt</i>
27	<i>Tyson Medlin</i>
28	<i>Tony McKinney, Wes Hibbard, Coleman Burns</i>
29	<i>David Bailey, Beth Smith</i>

	Attendance			
	<u>Morning Worship</u> In-person	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Online Worship</u> Views	<u>Bible Study*</u>
5/5/24	75 (Homecoming)	24	29	19
5/12/24	55	17	16	30
5/19/24	51	20	27	45
5/26/24	98	20	55	N/A

*Bible study includes in person and online participation.

Remember in Prayer

At Bethesda

Dorothy Williamson
John Nettles
Cecilia Alexander
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

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 Harper (Sarah's dad)
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)
Luke Johnson
Incun Patrick (Jim & Lisa's friend) brain tumor

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.

“Let everything that has
breath praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!”

Psalm 150:6

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