



HAPPY 4th of JULY



The Echo

July 2019

A publication of Bethany United Methodist Church, Weyers Cave, VA

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OUR AMAZING YOUTH

Have you heard the news?
 It's circulating all around the church!
 People are discussing it, asking about it,
 and definitely praying about it!!

I will give you one more hint ...
 the youth are buzzing, anticipating, and waiting patiently
 for the week they have been waiting for all year!
 Yeah, that's right!
 The YOUTH MISSION TRIP is here!!

Our trip dates are July 7-13 and we will be heading to Whiteville, NC to serve with the North Carolina Conference. We are really looking forward to our trip! Why you ask? So that we can be part of what God has planned for us and we are excited to see how He will work through us to help others.

Our theme this year is from 1 Corinthians 13:13 which states, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." In **FAITH** we step out of our comfort zones; we put our **HOPE** in the One who has called us to Whiteville, NC, and we are ready to show our **LOVE** to those we meet!

I will also add, because I cannot say this enough, we have some AMAZING youth!! Those going are giving up a week of their summer to serve others! And the ones who aren't able to go have helped and continue to help in other ways. These kids are simply AWESOME!

I thank Bethany in advance for all your help ... food donations, being a prayer warrior, praying for the members and our youth, and all the other little things! Your love and support have been noticed by our youth! I look forward to sharing all the ways God moves us and about the folks we meet. Oh, and I'll give you an updated on my mental health when we return! Blessings! Shawn Cook

If you would like ...
 and currently don't
 receive the church
 newsletter
 and other important
 updates by email, please
 send your email address to
 Cindy Kite at
office.bethany@gmail.com.

From the Pastor's Desk

In the beginning...

when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. (Genesis 1:1-4)

First, I want to thank everyone who welcomed me so warmly on my first Sunday at Bethany UMC. Second, I want to say thank you for everything that was waiting for us when we arrived at New Hope's parsonage. There was a box of food, a meal, drinks, ice cream from Smiley's, plastic cutlery, paper plates, napkins, cups, trash bags, gift cards and more. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say we were weary travelers by the time we arrived in Fort Defiance Wednesday evening. Having a meal prepared and waiting for us was wonderful. We were even able to give something to eat and drink to the three young men who had worked so hard to load and unload the moving truck.

Though the past week has been more chaotic than we expected, given that our original moving company cancelled the day before they were supposed to move us, things are calming down. We are settling in and rejoicing over small victories! There are still many boxes to unpack, but the dog, cat, bird and turtle are getting acclimated. The coffee maker has been found (it was hiding in plain sight) and the other morning we uncovered the box with the flatware and are actually eating dinner with real knives, spoons and forks. The words most often heard in our house are still, "Have you found the... (insert item here) yet?" However, we are making progress.

Slowly we are drawing order out of chaos. It puts me in mind of the first few lines of the Book of Genesis, "In the beginning the earth was formless and void." Chaos reigned until God began to create order in the universe. At first everything was disordered and confused, but it didn't remain that way. God's Spirit swept over the waters and God spoke the words "Let there be light," and the light shone forth.

When I think about this beginning in which God drew order out of chaos, I can't help but be reminded of Jesus' words from John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." Jesus Christ is the light. I know that the light of Christ shines on us, and God can bring order even to my chaos and confusion through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. I know that Bethany is already a beacon of light in the world. I saw that on Sunday in the young people who are going on the mission trip next week and I saw it on Monday night among the volunteers distributing food from the food pantry. I hope that in the weeks and months ahead I can work with you as you shine the light of Christ into the world.

Pastor Susan



Our new church directory is almost finished. It's just waiting on your picture! If you didn't have your picture taken at church during the month of June, please email a family or individual picture to Cindy at office.bethany@gmail.com. We want to have everyone included. Directories will be available SOON!

And many thanks to Krisalyn Mooney who has taken many of the pictures that will be in the directory! Thank you Krisalyn for your time ... and awesome photography skills!



And also a quick thank you to those who worked behind the scenes for the awesome picnic for Pastor John and for the nice reception for Pastor Susan! You are AWESOME!



Missions Update by Lori Mooney

Happy 4th of July and the fun times of summer this month!! We miss you to Pastor John and hello to our new pastor, Pastor Susan. We welcome you with open arms and look forward to getting to know you. We hope you get to know and love each one of us. Welcome to Bethany, Pastor Susan!

Thank you to all of you who helped with Community Vacation Bible School. We appreciate all your help. You made a difference in quite a few children's lives that week. Give yourself a big hug from the Mission Team!

The Youth Mission Trip is July 7-13. Please make donations that the group may need by looking at the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Please keep everyone in your prayers during that week. It will be hard work, but we will help those in need, and it will be good changes for everyone that takes part.

Our mission focus for this month is the Honduras Mission Trip. This group will be gone for a week the beginning of August. We need to keep them in prayer and good thoughts for their trip and during week they will be there. Gary Lucas will be the team leader again this year. Please check the bulletins closer to the time they are leaving to see if they need any items for the kids they will meet ... examples: stickers, bubbles, etc. We have quite a few people going from our church. If you would like to make a donation for the Honduras mission trip, please write the check to Bethany and note "Honduras Mission Trip" in the memo line. Thank you so much!

If you know of anyone in our community in need of help, please let someone on the Mission Team know.

"It's not our mission to change or direct another person's path. There is no wrong way or right way. We each have our own life journey and our mission is to just become a LIGHT that enlightens other people's pathways." -Jan McKingley Hilado

Lori Mooney, co-chair (brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com / 820-7394)

Maggie Rhodes, co-chair (r.maggiianne@gmail.com / 383-4752)



GREETERS ... It can be a very difficult and anxious time the first time you push open the door and enter a new church not knowing anyone or which way to go. That's why our greeters are so important here at Bethany!

Within the first seven seconds of entering the door, visitors will form an opinion of the church. First impressions are lasting! And having someone greet you with a smile and welcome you into our church is very impactful. It can determine whether or not a visitor returns.

Won't you consider signing up to be a greeter? There's no special talent required, just a warm smile and a friendly handshake or hug ... this job was made for you! And, it's not an every Sunday commitment!!

A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center. Questions? Contact Mary Beth Schwab at mschwab25@aol.com.

REFRESHMENTS ... Help Wanted! We are currently seeking individuals or teams to set out refreshments on Sunday mornings! Job Description: Make coffee (we have folks who will help and show you how), set out

sugar, creamer, hot chocolate, tea and snacks. You can bring goodies such as goldfish crackers, snack cakes, veggies, cheese and crackers, or anything you would like to bring. Check the freezer, there might be other items in there. You can either donate the items or save your receipt and get reimbursed.

This IS NOT an every Sunday obligation. You can sign up for once a month, once a quarter, or just once! There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center. Have questions? Please contact Julie Richie at jaritchie@comcast.net. She will be glad to guide you!

And **THANK YOU** for volunteering to do your part in helping make Bethany a very special place to worship!

Rhubarb Cake Recipe

- 1 quart diced rhubarb
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 box (3 oz) strawberry jello
- 1 box strawberry, white or yellow cake mix
- 1 cup melted margarine
- 1 1/4 cups water

Put rhubarb in baking dish. Sprinkle sugar (or sugar substitute), jello and dry cake mix over top of the rhubarb. Add water and margarine. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Submitted by Elva Shifflett

HONDURAS MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISING

Can you imagine a small church on a hill in Weyers Cave, VA providing the medicine and supplies for **hundreds of our Honduran brothers and sisters** in FIVE different remote mountain villages in Honduras. **The love Bethany has is so great it overflows!** Thank you to all those who have donated to Friends of Barnabas in the past! Because of you our Harrisonburg Mountain Medical Team will be changing lives of the children in Honduras. If you haven't had a chance to donate and feel led to, we would greatly appreciate your gift!

The team will be leaving on Saturday, August 3 and return on Saturday, August 10. Those going from Bethany are: Gary & Laura Lucas, Julie Ritchie and Bridget & Paige Crawford. Thank you again for your generosity!

July

- 2nd Kathy Frizzelle
- 4th Tom Gorden
- 5th Grayson Metcalfe
Hayden Metcalfe
- 6th Pastor John Lock
- 8th Bitsy Saufley
Avery Cox
- 11th Geneva Burns
- 12th Sam & Will Frease
Ramona Garrison
- 14th Jerry Sheets
Justin Rexrode
- 16th Karen Ott
Ralph Reese
- 17th Sandy Gibson
Agnes Carter
- 18th Dollie Wilfong
- 19th Nancy Colvin
- 20th Harper Ott
Taylor Rhodes
- 25th Charlene Michael
- 27th Kathy Kile
- 30th Jacob Robertson

August

- 1st Eddie Lynn
- 2nd Ryan Kite
- 3rd Joseph Meek
- 5th Roy Lee Stroop
Bill Kile
- 8th Corey Johnson
- 9th Jim Peterson
- 10th Julie Ritchie
- 11th Christian Michael
- 13th Chris Kite
Donald Truslow
- 14th Judy Faby
- 18th Joe Howard
Kevin Huffer
Maryetta Reese
- 19th Dale Roller
- 20th Lindy Sheets
Robert Hill
- 21st Mark McDonald
- 22nd Bud Somers
- 24th Hazel Truslow
- 30th Carolyn Swartz
Eddie Moyer



Please let us know if your birthday is listed incorrectly or has been missed!



Pastor Mary and I would like to thank Bethany for the wonderful expressions of love,

kindness and care shown to us. Your gifts, cards of love and the awesome picnic will always be remembered.

We thank everyone for being so kind to us and being such a wonderful church.




Thank you and may God bless you! Oh, and before I forget to tell you, God loves you and so do !!!!
Pastor John



Prayer List

Bud & Barbara Somers
Hazel Truslow, Todd Ott,
Tom & Jan Gorden,
Audrey Bradshaw, Ramona Garrison,
Agnes Carter, our Youth Mission Team

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 pm - Softball Game	2 10 am - Caring Cards 12 pm - Young at Hearts 6:30 pm - Softball Game	3	4 <i>Happy Fourth of July!</i> OFFICE CLOSED!	5	6 
7	8 7:30 pm - Softball Game	9 6:30 pm - Women's Ministries Meeting 8:30 pm - Softball Game	10 10 am - Les Feldick Bible Study Small Group	11	12	13
BUM Mission Trip to Whiteville, NC						
14 <i>Be the reason someone smiles today.</i>	15 7:30 pm - Softball Game	16 7:30 pm - Softball Game	17 NATIONAL HOT DOG DAY! 	18	19	20 8 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast 
21	22 be AWESOME today	23	24 10 am - Les Feldick Bible Study Small Group	25	26 HAPPY AUNT & UNCLE'S DAY	27
28 HAPPY Parents DAY	29	30 7 pm - Church Council Meeting	31			

Praise God
FROM WHOM ALL
BLESSINGS
FLOW

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:30 am—Contemporary Worship Service
9:50 am—Sunday School for all ages
11 am—Traditional Worship Service

Mondays

4-5:30 pm—Food Pantry

Wednesday

7 pm—Praise & Worship Practice

Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

www.mybethanyumc.org



Youth Mission Trip
July 7 - 13

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3700 Lee Highway, Weyers Cave, VA 24486
(540) 234-8880
www.mybethanyumc.org

Susan Reaves, Pastor
757-653-7830
reaves.susan.m@gmail.com

Shawn Cook, Youth Director
Marguerite McDonald, Organist & Choir Director
Dale Roller, Praise Band Leader
Cindy Kite, Secretary/Treasurer
Phil & Ruth Ann Mikesell, Sextons

August Newsletter Deadline: July 20, 2019

Please submit articles to Cindy Kite at
office.bethany@gmail.com



connect. grow. serve.

At Bethany we ...

Connect with God in community
Grow in our likeness to Jesus Christ
Serve our neighbors