



June 2020

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

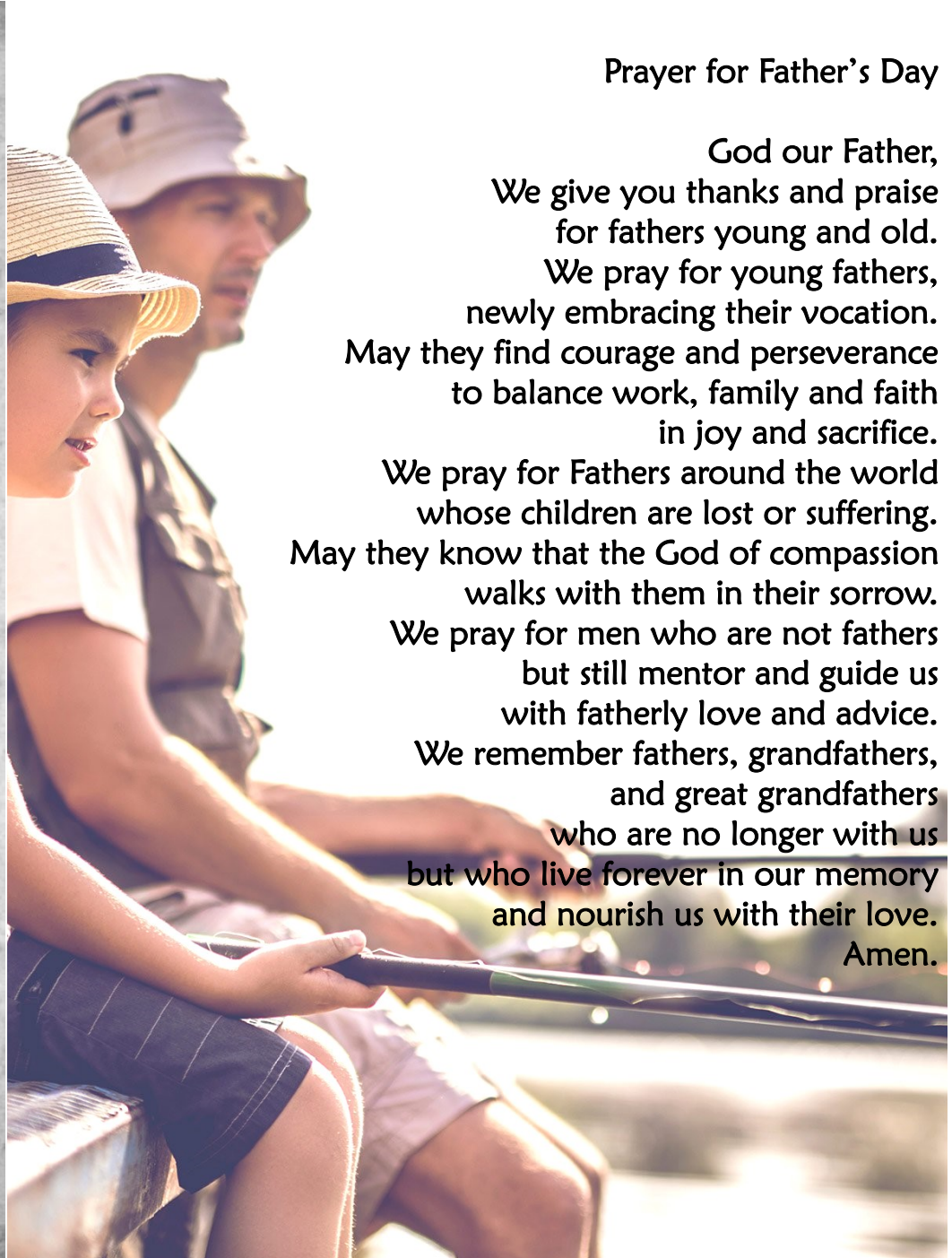
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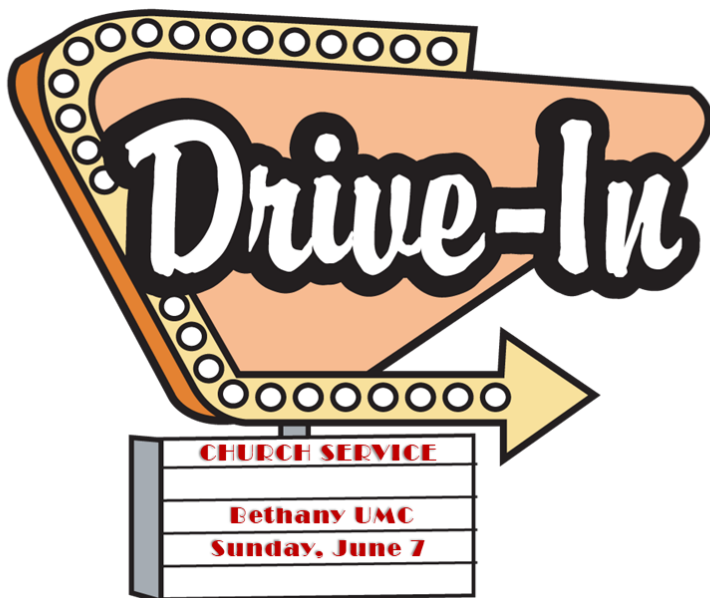
If you would like ...
and currently don't
receive the church
newsletter
and other important
updates by email, please
send your email address
to Cindy Kite at
office.bethany@gmail.com.

Prayer for Father's Day

God our Father,
We give you thanks and praise
for fathers young and old.
We pray for young fathers,
newly embracing their vocation.
May they find courage and perseverance
to balance work, family and faith
in joy and sacrifice.
We pray for Fathers around the world
whose children are lost or suffering.
May they know that the God of compassion
walks with them in their sorrow.
We pray for men who are not fathers
but still mentor and guide us
with fatherly love and advice.
We remember fathers, grandfathers,
and great grandfathers
who are no longer with us
but who live forever in our memory
and nourish us with their love.
Amen.



From the Pastor's Desk



Drive In Church Starting Sunday, June 7

As restrictions brought about by COVID-19 are lifted in parts of Virginia, Bethany United Methodist Church will begin holding “drive-in” worship services starting June 7, 2020. I know that the worship

team is excited by this opportunity to hold a more personal form of worship. Members of the team have been working long and hard in the midst of rapid changes and challenges.

While we wish with all our hearts we could just throw open the doors of the church and welcome everyone in for worship, I know that doing so could be dangerous and even deadly. The Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church has provided detailed guidelines for the drive-in services and for everyone’s health and safety and we will be following them.

- ♦ First and foremost, do not come to the drive-in service if you are running a fever or are feeling sick.
- ♦ Everyone who comes to our drive-in service will need to register by email (office.bethany@gmail.com) or by phone (540.234.8880) no later than the Thursday before

the service by 2 pm. This is so we know we will have enough parking for everyone.

- ♦ Let us know how many will be in the vehicle, especially how many children will be present.
- ♦ The service will be broadcast over an FM radio channel and when you register we will send you the station for the broadcast and a song sheet so you can sing along with the worship songs.
- ♦ We will also have a dedicated cell phone number so you can text your prayer concerns during the service and we will send that to you as well.
- ♦ There will be a parking team to direct where each vehicle will park. Vehicles will park in every other space.
- ♦ Everyone is being asked to remain in their vehicles for the entire service.
- ♦ The building is to remain locked, but please bring face masks in case an emergency occurs that would require you to exit the vehicle.

If you want to drop off your offering, there will be marked stations with collection buckets at various spots in the parking lot, but online giving is still available. If you would like to review the Conference’s reopening documents, they are available at VAUMC.org/return/ or you can download the reopen handbook at <http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/HandbookforLocalChurches.pdf>.

We will continue to do a Facebook Live service and post the video to the mybethanyumc.org website. If you have questions about the drive-in worship service, please call me at 757.653.7830 or the church office at 540.234.8880.

Remember, the only thing we want to transmit on Sundays is the good news of Jesus Christ, who offers us abundant life.

Pastor Susan



Missions Update

by Lori Mooney

Hello, Bethany church! We miss seeing you "in person" at church. It has been over 2 months since we have been dealing with coronavirus. We have had to stay in and just be with our immediate family. We are in Phase 1 of reopening and by the time the newsletter goes out, then we might be in Phase 2 already. Hopefully, soon we will be able to see each other in actual person (even with our masks on). I know we are all ready to be able to see each other. Keep washing your hands, social distancing, and everything you have been doing the past couple months. Keep up the good work and we will see you soon.

There is not a lot going on since we are just reopening certain things right now. If you are heading out on vacation, soon, please enjoy yourselves in whatever you do.

Happy Flag Day on June 14th!!

Happy Father's Day on June 21st to all the fathers out there.

The mission focus of the month will be Build United. Please consider donating this month to Build United. We support this great cause in our area that helps lots of people. This reminds me of the places that we help during Youth Mission Trips. Build United empowers low-income homeowners to live independently by providing repair services to make homes more accessible and secure. Some examples of our work include: installing ramps, remodeling vital areas of the home for wheelchair accessibility, installing grab bars and roll-in showers, improving weatherization, and repairing areas such as windows, floors, and doors to make the home safer and more comfortable. They are not working right now because of the coronavirus but hope to get back to helping needy locals as soon as possible.

Author Vivian Greene explained, "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's

about learning how to dance in the rain." Or as Sting sings, "When the world is running down, you make the best of what's still around."

If you know of anyone who needs help, please let us know.

Co-chairs: Lori Mooney, 820-7394
Brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com

Maggie Rhodes, 383-4752
r.maggielane@gmail.com,



Lifting Up the Cross and Lifting Our Community's Spirit

A huge thank you to Cheryl and Pete Richards for the wonderful cross painted on our front lawn. What a joyful sight and reminder that in the midst of this strange and difficult time, God is with us and His promises are TRUE!

We hope you have already, or will take a moment to come visit the cross, take a picture or spend time in prayer. We may not be able to connect in person, but we can take this opportunity to connect in spirit. If others are at the cross when you visit, please be kind and remember to social distance.

Thanks Pete and Cheryl. And thanks Stephen Metcalfe for the idea!



BUM BITES

With this month's BUM BITES, I want to start off by thanking all those involved in helping make Paige Crawford's graduation celebration successful! We really missed being at church celebrating her achievements with her and her family. But, hopefully we made this year special for her because she got to see her church family loving on her ... even at a distance! It will

definitely be an unforgettable senior year! There was a video during the online worship May 17 to celebrate her accomplishments. Once again, congrats Paige! We are looking forward to see what God has planned next for your life as you begin your new journey at Virginia Tech. (Go Hokies!)



The next thing I would like to bring to everyone's attention is the Youth Mission Trip, which is scheduled for July 12-18. As of now, we are still planning to go. I met with the BUMS' parents and together we decided to proceed with the annual mission trip. We are still waiting on confirmation from the WARM organization out of Wilmington, NC for any updates.

With that being said, I need more volunteers for this trip! With all that has happened recently, some of our volunteers



won't be able to go. As of today, I have a total of 13 folks going, but would like to get closer to 20 volunteers. If you have ever been on a Youth Mission Trip, you know how much fun it is, not to mention watching teenagers working hard with smiles on their faces because they truly LOVE serving others. If you have never been on a mission trip,

maybe this is your year to come along and find out what all the excitement is about and in the process you will be blessed so much by watching the kids serve and build relationships with those they serve. If you are interested in joining us or would like more information about the trip, please contact me at 540-487-9413 or scook0624@gmail.com. We invite and encourage you to come along!

And lastly parents, Val and I are meeting with the Youth on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am through Zoom. If they are not receiving my invite, please let me know. Val and I would love to see all the Youth on Sunday mornings just to catch up and be a support through these challenging times.

Thanks again for everyone's love and support of the Youth Ministry at Bethany. I look forward to seeing everyone again ... hopefully soon!

Blessings!
Shawn Cook, Youth Director

My Thoughts on Paige by Val Hiner

My journey with Paige started many years ago, when we were both knee-high to a grasshopper. The Crawford girls and I used to ride the bus to and from school together. I can remember getting on the bus in the afternoons and being greeted by high fives from Mac and Paige. I always felt like a celebrity when boarding the yellow cheese wagon. Fast forward a couple years ahead and here we are attending the same church.

It has been an honor watching Paige grow and mature into the fine young woman she is today. She possesses a dynamic personality and real zest for life. In my opinion, Paige's biggest personality trait is her drive and focus. She is hands down one of the smartest young women I know. Her critical thinking and problem solving abilities are well beyond her years. Paige always gives

110%, whether that be on the soccer field, in the classroom or in her relationships with others. Paige also has a heart for helping others. I have witnessed this first hand on mission trips and through her dealings with children and the elderly.

I have two favorite memories with Paige. The first took place on a mission trip to Plymouth, NC. Kristen Kile and I were chosen to be leaders on a roofing project that year, which meant supervising an entire group of teenagers by ourselves. Among that group of teens was Paige. We had so much fun that week, jamming out to music and holding our very own karaoke sessions on the roof. Let's not forget the corn rows that Paige gave me that
(Continue on Page 5)



Congratulations to Our Favorite High School Senior! Thoughts from Bridgett Crawford ... Mom

Looking at one of our favorite pictures of Paige, she is 2 years old in a coral and yellow floral sundress, vibrant blonde hair up in double buns, barefoot, her toes on the left foot curled under, and the most innocent, joyful smile on her face. So much hope and dreams from parents and thoughts about how things would hopefully play out for big moments as she got older. Needless to say, we did not expect the events of the past several months. Yet, despite everything, we thank God for blessing us with so much.

Paige has taken quarantine with much maturity. It disappoints her that her soccer season was cancelled. Paige has been positive, taking all the decisions and changes in stride. She continued to work with rigor on her schoolwork and took this time to make opportunities instead of dwelling on the negative. One way she deals so well with stressful situations is her witty sense of humor. She is quick to think of comebacks or added comedy phrases. Paige does not like the limelight with a lot of flair, so graduation being altered is fine with her. We think the creativity for the current graduations make for better memories and stories!

Paige is excited to start Virginia Tech in the fall as part of the Corps of Cadets. Already, she is physically training every day to prepare her for the morning PT. She is one of the most dedicated and tenacious young adults. Her ability to go above and beyond what is asked is admirable. Her only anxious feeling is not starting Virginia Tech in person and everything starting online. She wants the experience of the Corps, making lasting friendships, walking around at Tech for classes, and of course, prime seating for VT football games! She wants to study International Relations, focusing on Counter Terrorism. After VT, she will serve 8 years of service with the Army and hopes ultimately to work for the Federal Government.

Words cannot describe how proud we feel about Paige as a young woman, her accomplishments, and her intensely bright future ahead. We pray she continues to be solid in her Christian roots while she grows in her new journey of faith and obedience. May she always have a heart for Jesus and His calling of missions. We hope the service, in which it leads her, will always be a part of God's vision. In addition, we pray her favorite verse, Romans 12:2, will guide and protect her with whatever and whoever she encounters. We are excited to see what incredible things she accomplishes in this next chapter of her life.



My Thoughts on Paige (Continued)

week. That hair was epic until I took it down and had white girl fro!

My second favorite memory with Paige was the time she initiated the annual mission trip prank. I can remember the excitement in her voice and joy on her face when she whipped out numerous cans of silly string. Also in that bag were water squirters and an air horn. I so enjoyed the late night conversations planning our attack and the fun we had pranking the others.

All joking aside, I just want to congratulate you, Paige, on all you have accomplished. It has been an honor getting to grow up with you, teaching you in Sunday school, working alongside you on various service projects and watching you grow and mature in your faith. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors and I cannot

wait to see the great plans God has in store for you. Remember to always put God first and walk righteously with him. Oh, and before I forget to tell you, God loves you and so do I!



Treasurer's Report by Jerry Sheets

Thank you to all for your generous support of our church during these sometimes difficult and uncertain times. Your response to needs at Bethany, whether it be through financial support for ongoing church needs, helping with maintenance, helping our neighbors in need, or keeping Bethany and our church family in your prayers, please know how important you have been in sustaining us until this passes.

As for an update on our finances, our budgeted needs through May 18 is \$90,803, our receipts of gifts to date are \$78,551. This puts us at around \$12,000 behind budget for the year. At this point we have paid \$63,800 in expenses and currently have another \$6,400 due.

Obviously, since we are not meeting, some expenses are not as high as normal. Others however, are ongoing and do not change. Please continue your faithful support as the church, like each of us, navigates the challenges this year brings.

As we officially begin summer, and honor the fallen defenders of our freedom, I wish you all the best for the summer and the remainder of 2020. Keep the faith until we can all worship together again at Bethany!

Jerry Sheets, Stewardship Chair

May 18, 2020 - Week 20		
Budget	236,089.00	
Where We Should Be		90,803.40
Where We Are		78,551.56
Deficit of		(12,251.84)
Net Percentage		-13.5%

God's Love Endures

"Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us." -Romans 5:3-5 (NRSV)

It started with a twinge of pain in my leg, but the little twinges soon became greater and steadily intensified. Two years later, while I was sitting in my seventh-grade math class, I was told to go to the front office. I could feel my heart pounding as I walked toward the office and felt it sink when I saw my parents sitting with the principal. They told me that my doctor had diagnosed me with chronic osteomyelitis and said they needed to take me to the hospital for an emergency biopsy. I was filled with fear. I didn't understand why this was happening to me or why God allowed so much pain to enter my life. However, five years later, I know that without this experience I would not have become the person I am today.

Although the pain still takes over at times, I look to God to fill my spirit with hope and endurance. I know there is suffering in the world that far surpasses anything I will ever experience, and I continue to pray for those who are afflicted. Jesus suffered on the cross, and he understands our pain. Regardless of our earthly suffering, we can trust

that God's love will outlast it all.

Prayer: Dear God, comfort us when we face illness and pain. Give us a renewed sense of hope and faith in your love. Amen.

(May-June Upper Room - by Candyce Sturgeon)

This devotional from the Upper Room spoke directly to me and I wanted to share it with you. I feel like I could have written it myself, word for word. It perfectly describes my thoughts, fears, concerns and struggles, which turned into hope, strength, courage and a stronger faith. And I know for certain that I would not be the person I am today without going through the struggles and pain that I did, and continue to, with my brain tumor and surgery. I don't ask God why anymore. I remember that he has a plan for me. I was a Christian before, but I am a much better Christian now after going through what I did. And maybe that was the whole point that God wanted for my life.

If you have a devotion, scripture, song, poem, etc. that speaks to you and you would like to share it and a paragraph about why it speaks to you, please email it to me at office.bethany@gmail.com.

Thanks so much, *Cindy Kite*

Cleaning Kits

The Virginia General Conference is in need of “cleaning kits” and are asking churches to help supply them. Putting together an entire kit can be a little expensive. However, if you can donate a few items to place in the kit, we have volunteers who will gladly put the buckets together. If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary Wagoner at rosway13@gmail.com.

Here is a list of items needed for the buckets ...

- 1 five-gallon round bucket with lid (no screw lids) (14.35” h x 12.19” w x 12.19 d) The bucket may be used, but must be free from all residual product. Advertisement on the outside is acceptable.
- 1 32-64 oz. bottle of liquid laundry detergent
- 1 16-40 oz. bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner (no spray cleaners)
- 1 16-34 oz. bottle of liquid dish soap
- 1 4-8 oz. pump spray air freshener (3 solid or 3 gel fresheners also acceptable)
- 1 6-14 oz. spray insect repellent (pump spray bottles must have protective covers) Packs of 10-20 wipes are also acceptable.
- 1 scrub brush with or without a handle
- 8 reusable cleaning wipes removed from packaging (no terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels)
- 5 scouring pads removed from packaging (no stainless steel or pads with soap in them)
- 36-50 clothespins
- 1 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
- 24 roll of heavy duty trash bags removed from packaging (33-45 gallon size)
- 5 N-95 particulate respirator dust masks (1-3 mm thickness ... no surgical masks)
- 2 pairs of kitchen gloves removed from packaging and durable for multiple uses
- 1 pair of work gloves (cotton with leather palm or all leather)

There will be a bin outside the main church doors so you can drop off your donations at any time. Thanks in advance for your support!

There will be a Church Council meeting on Tuesday, June 2 at 6:30 pm. All committee chairs and church officers are encouraged to attend; however, it is open to all members.

The meeting will be held via Zoom and you will need an invitation to join the meeting. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Susan or Mary Beth Schwab know so you will get the invite link.



“Now that everyone’s greeted their neighbor with a handshake, the ushers will be dispensing hand sanitizer.”

A big THANK YOU to Kristen Kile who has joined our video team!!
If you would be interested in joining our team, please contact Jackie Dunsmore at jackiedunsmore@comcast.net.
If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Dani Martlock (danimartlock@gmail.com) or Dale Roller (dmroller@gmail.com).

THE RIGHTEOUS MAN

walks in his

INTEGRITY;

his children are

BLESSED AFTER HIM.

#FATHERSDAY

- Proverbs 20:7

June

3rd Becky Hawkins
 5th Bettina Ruleman
 7th Brenda Hiner
 Briton Herron
 9th Jac Bridges
 11th Amelia Hughes
 12th Avery Craun
 15th Terri Shifflett
 18th Jonathan Northrop
 23rd Jim Miller
 Kelly Herron
 Phoebe Rhodes
 24th Deja Calhoun
 26th Mae Houff
 Dianna Eicher
 28th David Williams
 29th Kay Thompson
 30th Pete Richards

5th Daisy Castle
 Grayson Metcalfe
 Hayden Metcalfe
 8th Avery Cox
 11th Geneva Burns
 14th Jerry Sheets
 16th Karen Ott
 Ralph Reese
 17th Sandy Gibson
 Jean Radocha
 Agnes Carter
 19th Nancy Colvin
 20th Taylor Rhodes
 25th Charlene Michael
 27th Kathy Kile
 30th Jacob Robertson
 Adam Casey

Please let us know if your birthday is listed wrong or isn't listed!



July

2nd Kathy Frizzelle
 Whitley Kile
 3rd Thalia Casey
 4th Tom Gorden

Prayer List

Members

Barbara Somers,
 Tom & Jan Gorden,
 Bill Kile,
 Peggy Lucas,
 Linda Byers,
 Hazel Truslow,
 Mother of Susan Meadows
 John Michael - brother of Jean Moyer
 Margaret Kisamore
 Father of Kelly Heron
 Janet W.
 Infant son of
 Alec & Heather (Pence) Miller



Hey Kids (and kids at heart) ... grab your crayons and start coloring!



Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

www.mybethanyumc.org



The Echo

"The Echo"

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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

July Newsletter Deadline: June 20, 2020

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

Webmaster: bethanyumc.website@gmail.com



connect. grow. serve.

At Bethany we ...

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