



# The Echo

November 2021

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

## WHAT'S INSIDE

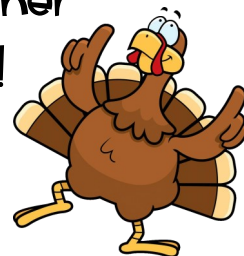
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If you would like ...  
and currently don't  
receive the church  
newsletter  
and other important  
updates by email, please  
send your email address to  
Cindy Kite at  
[office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com).



May your stuffing be tasty,  
May your turkey be plump.  
May your potatoes 'n gravy ...  
Have nary a lump,  
May your yams be delicious,  
May your pies take the prize,  
May your Thanksgiving dinner  
Stay off of your thighs!

Happy Thanksgiving!





## From the Pastor's Desk

### Called to Serve

*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)*

As Christians we are all called to serve God in ways that are unique to our own gifts and graces. Scripture tells us that **all** Christians are gifted by God with special abilities and qualities. That includes you! Have you ever taken time to consider what your unique gifts might be? In the scripture quoted above, the apostle Paul says that the church is like the "Body of Christ". Like a human body, each member serves a different function. We all need each other. We all work together in our complementary roles to accomplish the goals and missions of the congregation. But in order to be most effective in our ministry together, we need to be clear about what that mission is. And we need to be focused on that mission. Here's something to think about. **What is our mission focus here at Bethany?** Well, we are fortunate that someone has already thought about this question. If you go and check out our church's awesome website ([www.mybethany.org](http://www.mybethany.org)) you can find the answer to this question!



### OUR MISSION

*The mission of Bethany is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*  
(this echoes the official mission statement of the United Methodist Church.)

But then we get more details-

### OUR VISION

*CONNECT with GOD in community,  
GROW in our likeness to JESUS CHRIST,  
and SERVE our neighbors.*

Continuing to quote from the website:

*Our vision is both a dream of who we want to be for God and our community and a plan for how to accomplish our mission at Bethany. Our vision becomes reality in three primary ways ... we CONNECT in worship, we GROW in small groups, and we SERVE through missions. Worship, small groups, and missions are the ways we live out our discipleship, the best ways we know how to follow Jesus....*

Worship, Small Groups, and Missions!

Isn't that an awesome vision!

But what I want to know is... where are we going from here?

In the same way that people have unique callings which evolve and change over time, churches are also often called to distinctive ministries at different seasons in the life of the congregation. In my short time here, I have already discovered that this church has a lot going for it. We have a beautiful facility, a warm and welcoming congregation, a strong music program, vital and ongoing missions, and effective and committed lay leaders. God has blessed us to be a blessing to others. In the coming months I want to work with you all to identify how we can continue to utilize these abundant resources to serve others. What is the unique calling of this congregation in this particular time, and in this particular place? What unmet needs exist in our community? What do **you** sense that we are being called to?

Grace & Peace,

*Pastor Dan*

## A Million Times ... Thank You! by Cindy Kite

To say that I was overwhelmed on Sunday, October 24, the day we held our Community Trunk or Treat, is an understatement!

First, I was stunned to see how many people from the community came and enjoyed all that we had to offer them. When those at the Welcome Table started letting people come in at 4 pm, they just kept coming ... and coming ... and coming! I thought ... WOW! Is there an end to that line? If you had a trunk or were running a game, you know that we ran out of candy!! And we ran out of food! It wasn't an ideal situation, but it was a good problem to have because of the number of people we shared our church with that day! When you plan for 400 and over 800 show up, it becomes overwhelming. I think we all felt that way ... but at the same time, also very blessed!

Second, I was truly amazed and incredibly blessed to see over 80 folks from Bethany work together to share God's love, and Bethany's love with our community! Over 80 of you volunteered to help with this wonderful outreach event to our community. Do you realize what a great church Bethany is? I am so blessed and fortunate to be part of this church family and have been all my life. I don't even know how to put into words what it means to me to be a part of something so awesome!! When people ask me what surprised me the most, I always say "that so many Bethany folks came out to work together and support this outreach project." **OVER 80 OF YOU!!! I can only say THANK YOU! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!! A MILLION TIMES ... THANK YOU!!!! If we can come together to do Trunk or Treat as an entire church, just think of the possibilities for the future!**

# Trunk OR TREAT

It was truly a wonderful day!! If you were unable to help this year, make plans now to help next year. If we had over 800 people this year, what can we expect next year?? It's exciting to think about, yet also intimidating at the same time!! But I have no doubt that Bethany folks will come together again to make it a great outreach event.

Many of you have thanked me for organizing Trunk or Treat, but it wasn't all me. I had an awesome committee that worked hard to put all of it together. A big thank you to Jackie Dunsmore, Kathy Kile, Carolyn Swartz, Maggie Huffer, Carla Whitecotton, Stephanie Caricofe, Beth Metcalfe, Lorna Frizzelle and Lori Mooney. I want to send a special thank you out to Cheryl and Pete Richards for painting and setting up the board you could stick your head through for a picture. It was beautiful. I would love to name everyone who was there working hard, but I know I would forget somebody and there's not enough room to list everyone's name. I wish I could send each one of you a personal, handwritten note saying thank you and how much I appreciate you, but my hand would be numb!

If you have any comments or suggestions on what can be improved upon or added, please let myself or someone on the committee know. We are planning to meet soon and discuss this year's Trunk or Treat and get a head start on next year! If you want to be a part of this awesome planning team next year, please come talk to me! We would love to have you!!

Oh, and congratulations to Mark Caricofe and family for winning the best trunk prize!!





## Missions Update by Lori Mooney

November... we are so thankful for all of you that are part of this church. We hope that you get to have some family time and enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving feast with loved ones.

A big Thank you to all who helped with the Community Trunk or Treat. If you helped with games, donations of candy, food, trunks, or anything that you did, it was so much appreciated. This event was a great outreach.

The envelopes are out for the Apple Tree Project from Kingsway Ministries. You pick an envelope with a child's name, age, and gift that they want. Please put your name on the list of the envelope that you take. We have worked with Kingsway Ministries for many years in providing presents to these dear children. There are lots of churches and organizations that help provide this service. Please have unwrapped gifts back to the church by Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with postage, please put it in the envelope. We are also taking donations of pencils, Chapstick's, 6 oz plastic tube of toothpaste, 5x8 mini writing pads with wide band at top, wrapping paper, and scotch tape. These donations are for the parents that are incarcerated. Pre-COVID, Kingsway would have volunteers wrap all the gifts, but now they just send wrapping paper and tape with the gifts for the guardians to wrap them. Thank you for all the donations.

Starting, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have a fundraiser to help the Gideons collect money to purchase bibles to help spread the word of God. When we think about Christmas time, we think of presents. This will be a way for our youth to purchase a present for God. You give \$5 (which buys a Gideon regular bible or 3 small pocket size bibles) and you will receive an ornament that you put your name on and place on the small Christmas tree that we will have in the narthex. You can ask your family and friends for the \$5 donation to help purchase Bibles. We want to see how full we can make this tree of these Gideon ornaments.

On Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, we have signed up to ring the bell for the Salvation Army at the Shenandoah Valley

Heritage Market. The times are from 10am - 6pm. If you would like to sign up for an hour time slot, just let me know or sign up at the Welcome Center. If you can't do that day, then just contact me and we can find a day, time, and place that works for you to sign up and ring the bell for such a great cause.

We are still taking gently used clothing donations for the Green Hanger Project all year. Make sure to label your box or bag with "Green Hanger". No holes or stains, please. You can also donate personal hygiene items, such as shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste, pads, etc. Thanks to everyone who is donating their used clothes. This is such an amazing place to help. They are now called Embrace-A Center for Community. You can look them up online at [embracewaynesboro.org](http://embracewaynesboro.org).



**Mission Project of the Month:** Valley Mission in Staunton. Serving more than 700 unique individuals each year, the Valley Mission strives to promote self-sustainability through the provision of case management, pastoral counseling, financial assistance, and onsite enrichment programs including an afterschool program and onsite mental health counseling. We help restore the lives of people experiencing homelessness. We are **your** community homeless shelter, serving our neighbors in need—24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They have provided 3,300 bed nights, 53,479 free meals, 183 emergency food boxes, 764 after-school lessons, and 6,347 volunteer hours. This is a worthy mission that we give money to. If you feel led to give a donation, please place in offering plate and write Valley Mission in the memo line.

*The number of followers you have doesn't make you better than anyone else. Hitler had millions, Jesus had 12.*

~ Anonymous

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

Chair: Lori Mooney  
[Brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com](mailto:Brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com)  
540-820-7394



**VOLUNTEER  
BELL RINGERS  
NEEDED!**

*Ring a bell... Take a Stand Help Others*



## Hanging of the Greens

Come embrace the Christmas season as we join together in fun and fellowship on Sunday, November 28 at 5 pm for our Annual Hanging of the Greens. We will eat dinner, sing some carols and decorate our Chrismon tree. Dinner will be provided. It will be a wonderful night for folks of all ages!



## Poinsettia Orders



You can help decorate the church this Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one. The cost is \$9 each. You can also purchase a “living poinsettia” and choose to have the \$9 go to Backpack Pals or the Society of St. Andrews. Forms will be available soon!

Backpack Pals pack backpacks each week at Pleasant Valley COB with food donated by the Weyers Cave area. The backpacks go to students at Clymore Elem or Steward Middle School so they can have food over the weekend.

Society of St. Andrews brings people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishment to hungry neighbors.

## Calling All Musicians!

We are looking for people to share their musical talents during Advent. We would like to provide special music during our morning worship services and also during our Christmas program on December 12. If you would like to participate, please contact Marguerite McDonald. Please consider using your musical talent and sharing it with the folks in your Bethany family!



*'Tis the Season*



## The BUMS Christmas Post Office will open December 5!!

Want to spread some old fashioned Christmas cheer? Send Christmas greetings through the BUM Post Office. Baskets will be set up in the fellowship hall. Postage is a donation of .25 cents per card or whatever donation you want to make which goes to the BUM Mission Fund. Bring your cards to church members, and “mail” place them in the appropriate baskets, make a donation and remember to check the baskets for cards sent to you! Please have greetings to the church on or before Sunday, Dec. 26. If you are at the service on the 26th, your mail will be sorted and available for pick up.

What a wonderful way to share the Christmas spirit with others!

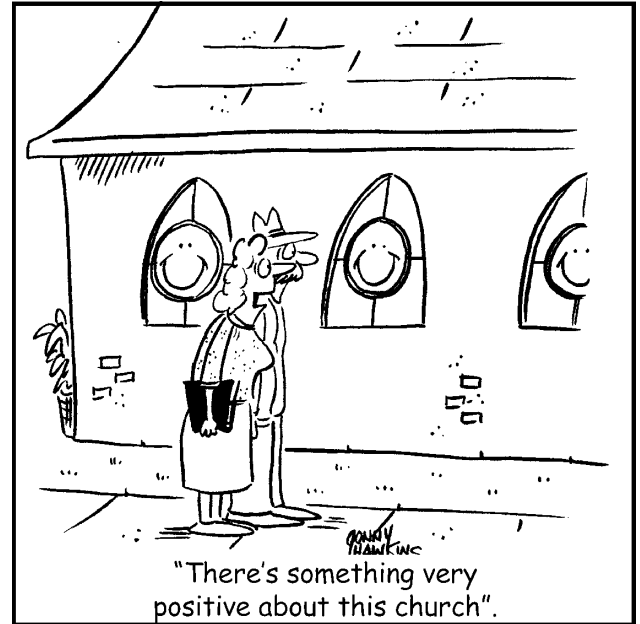




## Awesome Youth!

Congratulations to our Bethany youth, Maecy Ann Frizzelle and Amelia Simmons! Maecy and Amelia are members of the Fort Defiance JV Volleyball team who just completed an undefeated season and won their district championship.

*Your church family is very proud of you!*



All I need today is  
a little bit of  
**COFFEE**  
& a whole lot of  
**JESUS**

## Coffee is Making a Comeback!

For those who enjoy a warm beverage and some fellowship before or after the worship service, Sunday, November 7 is the day for their return! Refreshments can be found in the fellowship hall. Precautions will be taken to be COVID safe. However, **we will NEED YOUR HELP** to provide this opportunity weekly. Everything is provided including brewing instructions. Please sign up for a Sunday ... or two to set up and brew the coffee. The sign up sheet can be found at the Welcome Center in the foyer. Is this one of the many talents you have and would like to share with your church family? Even the small things are a blessing to all.



## Greeters Needed!

It can be very intimidating the first time visitors push open the door and enter a new church, which is why our greeters are so important. First impressions are lasting and having someone greet you with a friendly smile and welcome you into our church is very impactful. There's no special talent required, just a friendly smile and a warm handshake (when we are able to do that again!) ... hey, I think this job was made for YOU! There is a signup sheet at the Welcome Center for the months of November and December. Sign up once a month, once a quarter, once a year or just once. But give it a try! It's fun and exciting to see familiar and new faces on Sunday mornings! Questions? Contact Mary Beth Schwab.





## *You're Invited!*

Heather and Jamie are holding a 50th Anniversary Celebration for their parents, James and Janet Peterson! The celebration will be held on Saturday, December 4 between 1-4 pm in the Bethany UMC fellowship hall.

It's a floating reception; meaning you can stop by for a few minutes any time between 1 and 4 pm. Please, don't everyone come at 1 pm! Just come and visit for a little while. We would like to be COVID safe and ask you to keep 6 feet apart and masks will be required!

### A Few More Things to Mention ...

- No gifts, please! You being there is the gift.
- If you are unable to attend, but would like to send them a card, their address is 3977 Lee Highway, Weyers Cave, VA 24486
- Jim and Jan started a scholarship fund in memory of their late granddaughter, Maggi Peterson, which is very near and dear to their hearts. The fund helps students in the Vet Tech Program at Blue Ridge Community College. If you would like to help with the scholarship, please make your checks out to Janet Peterson and write "Scholarship Program" in the memo section. So far they have given two students scholarships for tuition and books! Please do not feel any obligation to contribute.

Please RSVP to HeddurP@aol.com. Questions? Contact Heather Peterson at 919-559-3771.

### November Birthdays

3rd Addyson Mooney  
4th Jean Moyer  
11th Donald Michael  
12th Sarah Huffer  
13th Rosemary Wagoner  
14th Kelly Shifflett  
17th Lorna Frizzelle & Ethan Cook  
21st Carla Whitecotton & James Craun  
24th Mike Huffer  
25th Cindy Kite  
27th Kathleen Stump  
30th Anthony Streiff

### December Birthdays

1st Jeff Ritchie &  
Gerald Fulton  
3rd Kristen Kile  
5th Annie Roller  
9th Hudson Dunsmore  
16th Shawn Cook  
19th Layne Shifflett  
20th Elizabeth Williams  
21st Amber Casey  
23rd Jane Elkins  
25th Alexander Carter  
26th Garrett Roller  
29th Jake Frizzelle





## PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



### Prayer List Updates

**Leslie Wagoner** is still in a great deal of pain. She is waiting on blood work to be able to get an injection in her back. Her first injection helped the pain tremendously and she is hoping for the same result when is able to get one. Please continue to pray for her as she deals with the pain in her back and legs and pray she will be able to get scheduled for her injection soon!

**Libby Riddle** had a 12 hour surgery to remove her appendix with the primary tumor, her gall bladder, spleen, a total hysterectomy, part of her colon and had to strip her diaphragm muscle. Her surgeon was able to get all of the tumor he could see. She then received heated chemo in her abdomen for two hours which should kill any remaining cells. She has a slow recovery ahead of her. Please pray for rapid healing and no sign of the return of the tumor. She thanks everyone for their prayers.

**Faye Youmans** is recovering from shingles which affected the nerves in her arm and shoulder. She was doing rehab to get movement back in her shoulder and to relieve the pain.

**Lloyd Meadows** had an MRI on Thursday and unfortunately, they got the news they had been dreading. The chemo is no longer working and the tumors are growing. He will keep receiving infusions every two weeks for swelling and slowing down the productions of cancer cells, but no more chemo. Lloyd feels pretty good but struggles to get around because he is so dizzy and he tires very easily. Please continue to pray for peace and comfort for Lloyd and Susan. They will need it in the days to come. Susan says "even though the news was not great - we are not done fighting. Lloyd is tough, he is loved, and he has a desire to keep going! He will continue to enjoy each day and we will keep our faces toward the Son!"

### Prayer List

#### Members

Lloyd Meadows, Jean Radocha,  
Johnnie Barr, Carolyn Roller,  
Audrey Bradshaw, Jan Gorden,  
Faye Youmans, Libby Riddle,  
Kevin Stroop, Barbara Long,  
Leslie Wagoner

#### Extended Family

Charles Stoke - grandfather of  
Amber Casey  
Don & Diane Smiley - brother and  
sister-in-law of Carolyn Swartz  
grandson of Kevin Stroop  
Ray Miller - friend of Randy Kite

Ms. Charlene Michael  
Shenandoah Nursing & Rehab  
339 Westminister Drive  
Fishersville, VA 23039

Ms. Nadine Moore  
1184 Old Furnace Road  
Apt. A  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		2 10 am - Caring Cards  12 noon - Young at Hearts at Thomas House	3	4	5	6  
7 	8 6 pm - Worship Meeting	9 6:30 pm - Trunk or Treat Meeting at Valley Pike 	10	11 	12	13
14 Apple Tree Gifts Need Returned No Later Than Today! 	15	16 	17	18	19	20 8 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast
21	22 December Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25  Office Closed	26	27 
28 5 pm - Hanging of the Greens 	29	30				

## Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway  
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

[www.mybethanyumc.org](http://www.mybethanyumc.org)



## *The Echo*

### *"The Echo"*

A Publication of Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway, Weyers Cave, VA 24486

(540) 234-8880

[www.mybethanyumc.org](http://www.mybethanyumc.org)

Dan Purdom Pastor

540-292-4028

[danprdm@gmail.com](mailto:danprdm@gmail.com)

Marguerite McDonald, Organist & Choir Director

Dale Roller, Praise Band Leader

Cindy Kite, Secretary/Treasurer

Danny Perry, Sextons

December Newsletter Deadline: Nov. 20, 2021

Please submit articles to Cindy Kite at  
[office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto: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