



The Echo

February 2021

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.



May you be able to understand
how long, wide and deep
His love really is. Ephesians 3:18

Happy Valentine's Day

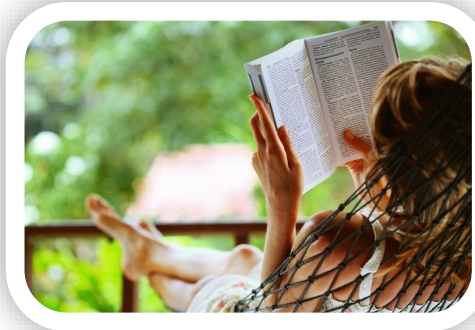
From the Pastor's Desk ...

Time for God

"Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God." (Luke 6:12)

Scripture reminds us that Jesus took time away from his active ministry for prayer and reflection. To grow closer to God, in our walk with Christ, we need to do the same. As I've mentioned before, my morning routine includes setting aside time for reading scripture, other devotional materials, and prayer. This practice has helped me to grow in my faith and understanding, and I want to encourage each of you to give it a try! I want to share a simple template which you may choose to use to help structure your own unique morning devotional time with God.

1. Start off using the Daily Lectionary (or other reading plan) to guide your scripture readings. You can



download copies each month on our church website. This lectionary allows users to read through the Old Testament once, and the New Testament twice, in a two-year period.

2. Recommended extra-Biblical devotional materials (some of my favorites):

- a. **Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations** - these come as an email each morning. Sign up for these at www.cac.org.
- b. **Stillness Speaks** by Eckhart Tolle
- c. **Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence** by Sarah Young
- d. **Being Peace** by Thich Nhat Hanh

NOTE - not all of these are specifically Christian resources but with the Daily Lectionary as a foundation these readings can be a great benefit to your spiritual growth in general.

3. Prayer
 - a. Intercessory - pray for family, friends, your church, the world
 - b. Liturgical - use favorite written prayers from a variety of sources. Some of my favorites include:
 - i. **Prayers Encircling the World: An International Anthology**
 - ii. **Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit** by Paul Chilcote
 - iii. **Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle** by Ted Loder
 - c. Contemplative - be silent in God's presence for 5-10 minutes.

If you are able to take time each day for some of these activities, you will be amazed at how you will grow in your faith and spirit over time. You may choose to use all, or just a few of these suggestions. The most important thing is to stick with it. May God bless you, and the Spirit guide you in your efforts!

Grace & Peace

Pastor Dan

God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs



Missions Update

... by Lori Mooney

Happy February. What a January we have had with the snow and ice. 60 degrees until the new year and then BAM!! Happy Valentine's Day to all of you. Thanks for being a part of Bethany and the mission team loves you with all their heart.

I will be making one last trip to Embrace, probably towards the end of February. The end of January was my last pickup, but if you absolutely have things that you want donated to Embrace, please take it to the church by Feb. 14 and let me know it is there. I will do my best to get it before I take the big load to Waynesboro. THANK YOU to everyone who has donated items all year long to this great cause.

I am just putting this out there now,

in case anyone is interested. I have enjoyed my many years as a co-leader or leader for this adult mission's team. I will be stepping down at the end of this term. I feel that I have been doing it for so long that some new blood needs to step in and take over. If anyone is interested in working with a great group of folks and being the hands and feet of Christ to lead this team, please let me know. Ask me questions. I am willing to help anyone that is willing to take over. I won't leave you high and dry. Please consider taking on this duty. It will not disappoint, I assure you.

Mission Highlight of the month is our very own Food Pantry. Thank you to all the people who are keeping this mission going. Even through the pandemic, they still got together and handed out food and still are. THANK YOU to the team that is still making this

happen. Great leadership from Pat Lynn and Wayne and Kathy Frizzelle. Thanks to all workers that either pick up the food, bag/box the food, or hand the food out on Monday nights. You are greatly appreciated. Help feed our community by donating to the food pantry.

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"
— Martin Luther King Jr.

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

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

Young at Hearts
Tuesday, February 1
12 noon

O'Neil's in Harrisonburg

If you are 55 or older,
but still "young at heart"
we invite you to join us for lunch.
We have a great time enjoying
lunch and each other's company.

Contact Carolyn

Swartz at

540-820-9798

if you plan to attend.



Men's Prayer Breakfast
Saturday, February 19

8 am

Church Fellowship Hall

All men are invited to join us for breakfast and then some
fellowship and prayer.

Questions? Contact Eddie Moyer
at canesfinsfan@aol.com.

Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?
No, they had an apple!

What did the flame say to his buddies after he fell in love?
"I found the perfect match!"

Did you hear about the bed bugs who fell in love?
They're getting married in the spring!



“Ahava” by Kathy Kile

Do you like my title? ... a play on the Hebrew word for love... “Ahava.” When asked to write an article for the February newsletter my mind instantly went to the subject of love with a zillion little hearts dancing in my head. You see, I have always been very passionate about the people and things that I love.

The Webster dictionary’s definition of love is “a feeling of strong or constant affection for a person.” Okay, Mr. Webster, so maybe I don’t truly love my Coca Cola, Kline’s black berry ice cream, or the flowers in my yard. However, I must argue that I do love my pets as the little four legged “persons” who take up space in an area of my most affectionate heart. According to the dictionary, however, the word love does most perfectly describe the people who fill my WHOLE heart (and even overflow into the occupied pet space). I feel all warm and fuzzy just thinking of each of them. I am very blessed to have so much love in my life.

According to the Bible, there are four types of love. The Greek words for these are:

Eros – Romantic love – (CHECK) – Bill, my husband of 38 years

Storge – Family love – (CHECK) – my children, Jared and Kristen – my daughter in law, Megan – my precious little granddaughter, Whitley – my Mom, my siblings and extended family

Philia – Brotherly love – (CHECK) – my many dear and faithful friends, including all of you.

These types of love are wonderful but not perfect. We are



all givers and receivers of Eros, Storge, and Philia... each having their ups and downs, a source of happiness and sadness... again... wonderful but not perfect.

There is one love, however, that IS perfect... **AGAPE** – God’s divine and unconditional love for us. We do not need to earn it. We do not deserve it. He does not offer it just in our February month of love. He offers it every hour of every day of every week of every month of every year of our lives.

WOW!! Gone are the feelings of warm little fuzzies. They are now replaced with a heart bursting with hope, thankfulness and joy!

May we each go out into the world and spread our kinds of love (Eros, Storge and Philia) while rejoicing and being thankful for God’s Agape love... the PERFECT LOVE!

Do you enjoy a warm beverage or juice, a light snack and some fellowship time before and/or after the worship service each Sunday morning? If so, we need some folks to step up and

volunteer to make coffee, set out snacks and clean up on Sunday mornings. Coffee making instructions are in the kitchen, and there’s help available if you need it. Coffee and snacks are provided; however, if you would like to bring additional snacks, that would be great! Grab a friend or friends, or a family member and sign up for a week. Or sign up as a committee. Without the help of our church family, we will not be able to continue offering this ministry. Questions or need more information, please contact Julie Ritchie or Jackie Dunsmore. Hey! No one is signing up!! Please give it a one Sunday try ... it might be easier than you think!!! (You can find guidelines in the kitchen.)



Weather Cancellations

If weather forces us to cancel or postpone services or events at Bethany, please be sure to check WHSV-TV3 for all updates. Closures and delays will also be posted on the church website at www.mybethany@gmail.com. We will also get a churchwide email out as soon as possible.

Office Closed

Beginning Monday, January 31, Cindy Kite will be out of the office for approximately 4 weeks due to knee surgery on February 1. You can always reach her by email or text message. Or you can contact Pastor Dan at 540-292-4028 or danprdm@gmail.com.

February

| | | | |
|------|------------------|------|-----------------|
| 1st | Jackie Dunsmore | 13th | Kelli Huffer |
| | Megan Kile | 14th | Chuck McCarty |
| | | | Pastor Dan |
| 2nd | Reid Hill | 15th | Lisa Cox |
| 3rd | Gary Ruleman | | Laura Hittie |
| 4th | Pam Lynn | 16th | Rose Campbell |
| | Ron Castle | 17th | Jared Kile |
| 5th | Scott Herron | 18th | Sidney Moyer |
| 6th | Dylan Snyder | 23rd | Cheryl Richards |
| 11th | Paige Crawford | 25th | Camden Herron |
| 13th | Rebekah Castle | 26th | Barbara Long |
| 14th | Bradley Dunsmore | 27th | Tim Schnittger |
| 18th | Laura Lucas | | |
| 19th | Natalie Hiner | | |
| 21st | Sandra Campbell | | |

March

| | |
|------|---------------------|
| 2nd | Jan Gorden |
| 5th | Ken Elkins |
| 7th | Becky McCarty |
| 9th | Marguerite McDonald |
| | Amanda Hughes |
| 10th | Bobbie Meek |
| | Lindsay Williams |

If your birthday is listed on the wrong day, or has been missed, please notify the office at office.bethany@gmail.com.



Prayer List

Members

Mary Beth Schwab
Hazel Truslow
Carolyn Roller
Susan Meadows & Family
Jackie Dunsmore
Terri Shifflett & Family
Cindy Kite

Extended Family

Clem Smiley - nephew of Carolyn Swartz

Please send prayer requests to the office that you would like placed in The Happenings and newsletter to Cindy Kite at office.bethany@gmail.com or call the office at 540-234-8880.

All prayer concerns will be removed from the prayer list after four weeks, unless otherwise requested.

Bethany's Website

When you have a chance, take a look at Bethany's website. Pam Roller and Laura Lucas keep it updated with the latest happenings at Bethany. There is also a calendar with events, dates and times for your convenience. If you have any updates or something you would like to have added to the website, please contact one of these ladies or send it to bethanyumc.website@gmail.com.

You can also find online giving on the website to make giving to Bethany easier and more convenient for you!

Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

www.mybethanyumc.org

and the
greatest
of these is
love



The Echo

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A Publication of Bethany United Methodist Church
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Dan Purdom, Pastor
540-292-4028
danprdm@gmail.com

Marguerite McDonald, Organist & Choir Director
Dale Roller, Praise Band Leader
Cindy Kite, Secretary/Treasurer
Danny Perry, Sextons

March Newsletter Deadline: Feb. 20, 2022

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