



The Echo

April 2022

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.

Community Easter Egg Hunt



Saturday, APRIL 16
10:30 am - 12:00 PM

Egg Hunt - Crafts - Puppets - Snacks

Invite family & friends!



LENT ..

We are so excited to be hosting all our Lent and Easter services and events in-person at Bethany this year. Masks are optional. We promise you will be greeted by friendly faces and receive a warm welcome from people who are very glad to see your smiling face. If you haven't returned to Bethany yet, make a commitment to come back beginning Palm Sunday. And invite friends and family to join you! Our services begin at 9:30 am.

On Palm Sunday, smile as our children parade through the sanctuary waving their palm branches. Enjoy hearing the Easter Choir sing a joyous song. And then join us immediately after the worship service for a potluck brunch in the fellowship hall.

Maundy Thursday, we invite you to join us for a short, but meaningful service at 7 pm where we will share communion with our church family as Jesus did with his disciples.

And then on Easter Sunday, we will come together to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. There will be special music, Children's Church and an Easter Egg Hunt for children after the worship service. We invite you to stay and enjoy watching our children hunt eggs on the church lawn and enjoy some refreshments in the fellowship hall.



Bethany Softball

If you would like to play on the Bethany softball team, please contact Eddie Moyer at canesfansfan@aol.com or 540-294-6616. Practice is underway and games start soon!

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, April 9 @ 8 am
Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, April 10 - Palm Sunday Service
followed by brunch

Wednesday, April 13 @ 6:30 pm
Bible Study led by Pastor Dan

Thursday, April 14 @ 7 pm
Maundy Thursday Service

Saturday, April 16 @ 10:30 am
Community Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 17 - HE IS RISEN!

Tuesday, May 3
10 am - Caring Cards
12 pm - Young at Hearts Luncheon at
Mrs. Rowe's in Staunton

Sunday, May 8 - Mother's Day



Palm Sunday Brunch

After the Palm Sunday worship service, a brunch will be served in the fellowship hall. All are invited to join us. We are asking for everyone to bring a dish to share with all. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. Please take time to look it over and sign up! Help will also be needed to clean up afterwards. Please contact Carla or Mark Whitecotton if you have questions or you can help set out food or clean up at the end.

This is a great opportunity for you to fellowship with your church family. Catch up with old friends, introduce yourself to new faces and even make a new friend or two!



Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for Bethany children after the worship service. There will also be refreshments in the fellowship hall. We hope you hang out for awhile before scurrying off to family dinners.

Easter Photos

Krisalyn Mooney has graciously agreed to take family or individual pictures after the Easter Sunday worship service. This is a good opportunity to have an updated picture taken for the new edition of the church picture directory, which should be available early June. If you miss having your picture taken Easter Sunday, please email a picture of your family taken outside to Cindy Kite in the church office at office.bethany@gmail.com.



It's Almost Time to Mow ...

Are you tired of being cooped up in the house? Would you like to get outside in the fresh air? Do you like the smell of fresh cut grass? If you answered yes to any of these questions, have we got the perfect opportunity for you to serve at Bethany.

The Trustees are still in need of volunteers to mow the church lawn this summer ... yes, it's that time of year! The easiest thing, if you're interested, is to sign up for an entire month from April through October. We have volunteers for April, May, June and August ... thank you! We are still in need of volunteers for the months of July, September and October. If you need a break or can't make it a week, we will have volunteers ready to assist you.

The church has it's own zero-turn mower and you will be reimbursed for any gas you need to provide for the mower. And you can mow at any time, any day of the week ... with the exception of course, Sunday mornings!

If you would be willing to help out this summer, please contact Cindy at the church office (office.bethany@gmail.com or 540-234-8880) to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Williams.

We also need people to volunteer to be a fill-in when needed!!

Please consider helping to keep our church beautiful and inviting for members and visitors.





Missions Update

by Lori Mooney

April is springtime. Happy Easter to everyone this month. **JESUS HAS RISEN.**

Thank you for all donations on Ash Wednesday to complete the action packs for Voice of the Martyrs group. Those were shipped out and well on their way.

We will be accepting shoes for Soles4Souls until Easter Sunday. Any used shoes are acceptable to donate to this group. We have sent shoes to this group before, and it is a great organization. So, if you have some used shoes and you want to get rid of them, please donate for this great cause. This gives you a reason to get you a new pair and donate your used ones. Clean out those closets and let's see how many pairs our church can donate. 50, 100, 150, or 200?

Only time will tell. Ask friends and family members if they would be willing to help. Thank you for all the donations. No matter what number we come up with in the end, we are helping others out and that is what missions is all about.

Our next gathering of materials will be items to make hygiene kits for Annual Conference. Be on the lookout for information about putting these together and they will be due to the church by Memorial Day weekend. Thank you for these donations.



I am pleased to announce that I will still take items to Embrace. After my last drop off with Jenelle, I decided there is no way that we can just stop donating used clothing to them. So, if you have any clothing that you want to get rid of and it has no stains or rips, please

label it with EMBRACE and leave in the social hall.

Any questions, please ask me. If you know of anyone that needs help, please let me or anyone on Missions know about it.

Mission Spotlight for the month: First Step in Harrisonburg. For over 40 years, First Step has been committed to providing free and confidential services to survivors of intimate partner or relationship violence who have experienced economic, physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, and/or verbal abuse, including but not limited to controlling behavior, isolation, threats, intimidation, gaslighting, stalking, and dating violence. These are hard things to talk about, but they are out there in this world and we need to help those that need help.

Chair: Lori Mooney, 540-820-7394
Brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com,

UMCOR Hygiene Kits

This June we will be sending Hygiene Kits with Rosemary Wagoner to the United Methodist Conference. After Easter and the conclusion of Soles4Souls, we will begin collecting items to prepare hygiene kits. You can either donate items, prepare a kit yourself or donate money to help purchase items to put together kits. It cost \$12 per kit.

Here is a list of items that are needed to prepare a hygiene kit ...

- One hand towel (15x25 - 17x27 inches) - No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels
- One washcloth - No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- One Comb - Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth. No pocket combs or picks. Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth
- One toenail or fingernail clipper - No emery boards or metal nail files

- One Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger) - No Ivory or Jergen's soap. Do not remove from packaging.
- One adult toothbrush - Do not remove from packaging. Personal advertising not acceptable.
- 10 adhesive bandages (3/4 by 3 inches) - Common household bandages acceptable
- One 1-gallon size re-sealable bag

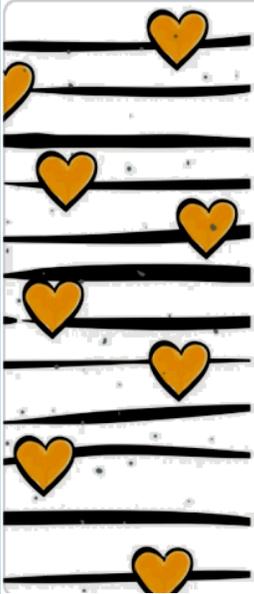


Assembly instructions ...

1. Lay hand towel flat on a table.
2. Lay the washcloth in the center of the hand towel.
3. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth (except the plastic bag).
4. Fold the sides of the hand towel to cover the items.
5. Grasp the bundle tightly and roll over the remainder of the towel.
6. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.



Thoughts from a Member by Julie Ritchie



I'M A BIG FOOL

I'm sorry for the way I acted

I feel terrible and I hope it's not too late to make things up with you. Please accept my apology.

Dearest Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

I am sorry, I don't feel it enough. I don't feel it enough. I have a lot of excuses for why I don't feel it; half a world away, desensitized because something awful is happening somewhere all the time, busy, distracted. I remember studying History when Hitler was on his rampage, and so many times since then, how can so much of the world just go on living as if nothing is going on, and yet here I am. Selfish bullies running amuck, selfish individuals waste the precious resources you have provided and trash this planet and Your children, I am one of them, - a gift from You to us and we stomp on it like an insulate child not appreciating the gift for what it is, we want more. I am sorry. I AM sorry.

You are my God my salvation, THE ROCK of my foundation, my role model, my hero, my Path, my Light, my Everything and yet here I am. I want to hear You, I want to follow You, well mostly ... I want to show your Love to Your People, I want to be "your hands and feet."

Easter, to me, is accepting Your Love, Your Light, Your forgiveness even when I do not deserve them. It is accepting that you created me as I am for a purpose that sometimes only You can know. To be armed with Your Love and Your Light and ready at a moment's notice, always watching, listening for Your Call. It is following Your "Still Small Voice" when it calls to me, leaving behind my plans when they do not line up with Yours. Easter is a reminder that You gave everything because you wanted me to have the freedom to make mistakes, not be enough and still through You to have access to that Highest Power, the Love that surpasses all Love, pick up the pieces and try, try again. My Easter egg is cracked, the colors are less vibrant and organized that I would like but there is an energy, visible most strongly through those cracks, that tells of an Amazing Kind of Love.

Where have you seen The Easter Love this season?



Decorate a hard boiled egg or blown egg

to show what Easter means to you! Write a sentence or two describing how your egg reflects your spiritual connection to Christ's resurrection (where do you see Christ). Bring your egg on Easter Sunday and place it along with your note on a designated table in the foyer.

Help us make this "eggceptional" exhibit on Easter morning by adding your Easter testimony! Take a look at the examples already in the foyer!



Flower Fundraiser

Young Life is selling beautiful 12" hanging flower baskets to benefit Valley Young Life! Flowers will be delivered (porch drop-off) with a personalized note on May 7th anywhere in Augusta County, Staunton, or Waynesboro!

The perfect Mother's Day gift, for another loved one or for yourself.

To order visit: <https://va37.younglife.events/flower-fundraiser-2022>





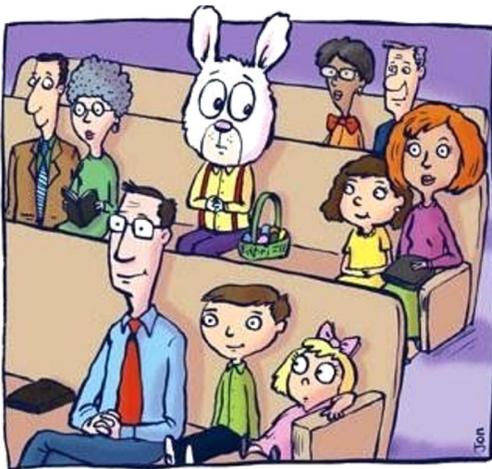
Financial Update

by Cindy Kite

Spring has arrived in the Valley, although some days ole man winter just doesn't want to let go! Despite some cold days, you can see signs of spring everywhere you look ... blooming flowers, budding trees, green lawns. I always look forward to spring and those warmer days full of sunshine and the promise that summer is on the way. However, we have get through the cold winds and rain of March first. April then brings the promise of warmer days. I always feel spring is a time of promise, of renewal, of new beginnings. A time to reflect on how Jesus took our sins to the grave with him and gave us a new life full of promise.

As I'm sitting here writing this article, looking at numbers, I'm praying to God to give me the words to share with my Bethany family. Positive words, not a negative report. And the song by Anne Wilson "My Jesus" comes on the radio. There's a verse in that songs that goes like this ...

*He makes a way where there ain't no way
Rises up from an empty grave
Ain't no sinner that He can't save
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus
His love is strong and His grace is free
And the good news is I know that He*



The moment was bittersweet
when the bunny realized
Easter was not about him.

| March 22, 2022 - Week 12 | | |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Budget | 224,216.00 | |
| Where We Should Be | | 47,430.35 |
| Where We Are | | 33,378.72 |
| Deficit of | | (14,051.63) |
| Net Percentage | | -29.6% |
| Expenses as of 3/22/22 | | 30,470.95 |

*Can do for you what He's done for me
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus
And let my Jesus change your life*

That's all I need to say to my Bethany family! Jesus makes a way when we can't see a way. His love is strong and His grace is free. And that's all I need to remember when I'm posting giving and writing checks. Jesus has provided the way for Bethany to survive and, not flourish, but do well during the past two years. As I reflect on new beginnings, God's love, grace and sacrifice, I know we'll be okay. Again, we may not flourish, but we will survive! So, "let me tell you 'bout my Jesus and let my Jesus change your life." He raised up from that empty grave just for you and me! He will provide for us. All will be well. Please continue to love and provide for your church! We are starting out slow but hey, "let me tell you 'bout my Jesus."

Please continue to donate eggs and candy
for all our Easter Egg Hunts!
We are also in need of help
on Saturday, April 16
for the Community egg hunt.
Please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer and
sign up to help!
It's that simple and its only for a few hours!
Thanks in advance!



IT'S A GIRL!
 Congratulations to Faith (Lucas) & Juan Hernandez on the birth of their daughter, Rosalina Patricia, on Monday, March 21. She was 7 lbs 3.5 ozs and 18.5" long. Proud grandparents are Gary & Laura Lucas and great grandmother, Peggy Lucas.

Congratulations to Lindsey (Richards) & Chris Kite on the birth of their son, Lane Andrew, born on Tuesday, March 29 weighing in at 6 lbs 15 ozs, and 20.5" long. Proud grandparents are Randy & Cindy Kite and Pete & Cheryl Richards. And of course, great grandma, Carolyn Swartz.



Prayer List

Members

Carolyn Swartz & family
 Abe Smith & family
 Lindsey Richards Kite

Extended Members

Sid Grove - father of Kelly Herron
 Daniel Phillips - brother-in-law of Donald Michael

All prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested. If you have someone you would like placed on the prayer list, please call (540-234-8880) or email (office.bethany!@gmail.com) the office.
 Thank you!

Many heartfelt thanks to my church family for the prayers, cards, food, phone calls and help with the memorial service during the recent loss of my wife Sharon. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness.
 -Abe Smith & family



WE HAVE MOVED !

Brian & Kelly Shifflett
 1697 Laurel Hill Road
 Verona, VA, 24482

April

- | | | | |
|------|------------------|------|------------------|
| 3rd | Easton Moyer | 6th | Stanley Houff |
| 5th | Trae Elkins | 8th | Camden Huffer |
| | Sawyer Dunsmore | 9th | Helen Figgins |
| 7th | Jordan Dunsmore | | Delores Diehl |
| 9th | Phil Mikesell | | Pat Lynn |
| | Susan Thacker | 10th | Mark Dunsmore |
| 10th | Chuck Schwab | 12th | David Hughes |
| 11th | Tiana Ryan | 15th | Brian Shifflett |
| 17th | Rick Northrop | 17th | Gary Lucas |
| | Jenifer Williams | | Debbie Schofield |
| 18th | Susan Meadows | 23rd | Zac Hittie |
| 20th | Stella Hughes | 25th | Hannah Cook |
| 25th | Carrie Dunsmore | 26th | Jay Frizzelle |
| | Nash Colvin | 28th | Tom Thacker |
| 28th | Sarah Cook | | |
| 29th | Gail Reese | | |
| 30th | Nadine Moore | | |
| | Sarah Williams | | |

If your birthday is listed incorrectly or not listed at all, please contact the office with the correct info. Thank you!

May

- | | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 1st | Faye Youmans |
| 4th | Pierce Moyer |
| 5th | Dani Martlock DeHart |



Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

www.mybethanyumc.org



EASTER
Blessings

The Echo

"The Echo"

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

May Newsletter Deadline: April. 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