



May 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](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com).

Heavenly Father  
We lift up all mothers  
today and thank them for  
their guidance and love.  
We ask You to bless them  
with Your own special love,  
today and always.  
Amen.





## From the Pastor's Desk

### Diversity in the "Body of Christ"

*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12:27-31)*

In this scripture passage the Apostle Paul talks about his inspired idea of the church as the "Body of Christ." We can glean many important insights from this way of thinking about the church:

- Each person in the church is like a different part of the body
- Each person is unique
- Each of us have differing abilities
- Each of us have an important role to play

The body can't function well without each of us doing our part

So, it is part of God's plan that we are each unique individuals. That each person is different. We call these differences diversity. And diversity is a good thing! Sometimes these differences can be a source of tension in a community of people. But diversity is also a source of strength. Our different insights and abilities complement each other. We all have blind spots. But, working together, we complement each

other's vision of the world, so we have fewer blind spots and see more clearly together than by ourselves. This is one of the reasons why, when someone disagrees with the way you see or think about something you should consider it a blessing and not an obstacle.

Not only do we all have different perspectives (viewpoints), but we also have different abilities. Our differing abilities make us able to fulfill different functions in the church. Paul says:

*"And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?"*

It is part of God's plan that we all have differing abilities in the church so that we can fulfill different roles.

In addition to our diversity, we also can see that each (and every) person has an important role to play. We are all called to participate in our own unique ways. We are all called to ministry together. A body is healthy when all parts are doing their jobs, working together in harmony, and with a unified purpose. It is the same for the church.

What part have you been called to play in this church? Are you using the gifts that God has given you to build up the church? If not, how might you be able to develop and use these gifts to glorify God? These questions are more important than ever as we seek to remain connected and functioning as a "Body" in the midst of a time when staying connected is such a challenge. I invite you to spend some time in prayer this week asking God to show you the role you have been called to play in this "Body of Christ" that we call Bethany United Methodist Church.

Grace & Peace,

*Pastor Dan*





## Missions Update by Lori Mooney

Flowers are starting to pop and new leaves are budding out on the trees. Spring is finally here, I do believe. Happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there. Thank you for all that you do.

A huge THANK YOU to all those who contributed shoes for Soles4Souls until Easter Sunday. We ended up with 217 pairs of shoes. WOW!!! I am blown out of the water with all these shoes. We did have some single shoes donated, so if you are missing a shoe, please check in the kitchen to see if your match is there.

Our next gathering of materials will be making the hygiene kits for Annual Conference. Items needed:

- 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.

You can put whole kits together or bring in items and we can combine to make the kits. They will be due to the church by Memorial Day weekend. Thank you for these donations.

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:** Young Life. Their motto says it all, "Live your story as it is meant to be." Young Life is a Christ-centered ministry that helps kids know Jesus, grow in their faith, and serve Him. We got to kids, build bridges of authentic friendship, and introduce them to Jesus Christ. We accept them for who they are and want them to better themselves. They have events at their high schools and there is a summer camp that they can attend to grow deeper in their faith. If you would like to make a donation, be sure to write it in the memo line.

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

volunteers plant seeds of love  
that help countless hearts  
to grow ...







## Our Church Website by Laura Lucas

A few weeks ago Cindy asked me to write an article for The Echo. We had been talking about the church's website and she suggested that I highlight our website in this article. Before I can talk about the website, I must talk about my church and church family. I joined Bethany United Methodist Church the first year that Gary and I were married. The members of Bethany welcomed me with open arms. It wasn't long before I was an active member; teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir, leading Children's Choir and the list goes on for over 40

years. Bethany was alive and doing God's work throughout those years.

In the fall of 2019 I was asked to be a part of the website team and I agreed. I got busy checking the site and making the necessary changes to have up-to-date information. Then the world became subject to a pandemic and all church activity either stopped or slowed down. Our website had to keep up with the events of the day during this time. As the pandemic is slowing down, Bethany is once again alive with activity and the website must follow.

I have been taking pictures and talking with many people about the many opportunities to get involved at Bethany. Over the next several

weeks/months you will see more pictures and will be able to read about ways to get involved at Bethany. We have added the church calendar as a way for you to see scheduled events/meetings and a listing of our church leadership can now be found on the website and will be updated as people move on and off committees. Keep a watch on the website for new information and to stay current with our events.

If you have any suggestions for things you would like to see us have on Bethany's website, please let me know.



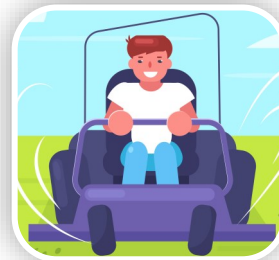
I would like to send out a big THANK YOU to Laura Lucas, Pam Roller and Dani DeHart for taking the time to work on the website each week keeping it up to date with information, opportunities, missions, activities and the many other things that are there!

If you haven't taken the time to check out Bethany's website, please do so!  
[www.mybethanyumc.org](http://www.mybethanyumc.org)



**A BIG THANK YOU to the folks who have volunteered to help keep the church lawn mowed and beautifully inviting to visitors and members. You are awesome!**

April - Mark & Marguerite McDonald  
May - Adam Casey  
June - Stanley Houff  
July - STILL NEED A VOLUNTEER!  
August - Jerry Sheets



We are still looking for folks to volunteer to cover the months of July, September and October. If you can mow one of these months, please contact Cindy in the church office ([office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com) or 234-8880). We will have fill-ins if you can't cover a week during your month! And the church has a lawn mower in the building for you to use.



## A Simple "Thank You"

**"I thank my God every time I remember you ..."**

**Philippians 1:3**

Just as the Apostle Paul was quick to thank those who joined him in the work of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, so I want to say "thank you" to our church family for your faithful stewardship and untiring efforts over the last two years. Since the pandemic began, we have been challenged to find ways to continue the ministry of Bethany Church. At first, we were unable to meet in person so we found a way to stream our pastor's message online each Sunday thanks to the technicians on our Worship Team. Then we were allowed to have services outside and once again we found a way with a flatbed trailer, a camera, sound system, an antenna, and an FM station to transmit the sound to the folks in their cars. Eventually, we moved back indoors wearing masks and practicing social distancing while continuing to stream the service online. I was so excited this past Easter Sunday to see the sanctuary completely full with folks who were enthusiastic and eager to get back to regular worship as a church family.

The foregoing events demonstrated our concerted efforts to maintain the worship experience for our congregation and friends of Bethany. In addition, we have continued our

work in the important area of missions by supporting our youth group mission trip and local charities designated by our Missions Team. We reached beyond our walls with Halloween and Easter events for the community. We understood the importance of maintaining our small group meetings such as those for the women and men of the church, various Bible studies, and our Sunday morning Connections (Sunday School) time. Our youth and children's activities have been maintained with the guidance of dedicated parents and awesome volunteers.

Through it all, you have been faithful servants in supporting the mission of our church through the gifts of your time, talents, and financial support. You encourage me with your faithfulness!

I want to express appreciation to Pastor Dan and the leaders of our church for their continued efforts on our behalf. To you who offer those little acts of kindness each day, you are the fabric of our church keeping us closely knit together. I thank God for you and your quiet, behind-the-scenes gifts of love. As we reflect on the immensity of God's faithfulness and goodness, may we continue to challenge each other to offer hope and a future to our community and the world.

Thank you for supporting the work of Bethany.

Randy Roller, Stewardship Chair

## Church Directory

**An updated church picture directory is coming soon! And we want to include you and your family!**

If Krisalyn Mooney took your or your family's picture on Easter Sunday, please email it to Cindy Kite in the church office at [office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com). If you didn't get your picture taken or didn't like the way it came out, please have someone take a new photo, outdoors preferably, and email it to Cindy. Everyone wants to see your smiling face and it always helps to put names with faces if you are new to the church.

If you have a different address, phone number, email address, etc., please email all updated info to Cindy so it can be included in the new directory. The directory is so helpful to folks in the church when they are trying to get in contact with you, remember your children's names, birthdays, etc. If you have questions, please get in contact with Cindy Kite at [office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com) or 540-234-8880.

Printed copies of the directory can be purchased for \$5 when printed, to help cover the cost of printing. If you don't need a printed copy, a pdf copy will be emailed to you! Once it is finished, a proof will be left in the foyer for you to check and see if all your info is correct!







## Treasurer's Report by Cindy Kite

I'm just going to jump right into numbers, money, giving, and expenses. It will be like ripping off a band aid quickly so it's less painful. So here goes ...

We need \$4,311.85 each week to meet our budget. Our average per week this year has been \$3,104.92 making us \$19,310.83 behind our 2022 budget. That's a lot! And yes, we did miss two Sundays this year due to inclement weather and have not been able to make that offering up so far. Last year at this time, we were only 12.6% or \$8,552.02 behind the budget. We've thankfully collected \$49,678.77 in giving; however, our expenses thru today total \$52,042.88. If we haven't collected as much as our expenses are, how can we be paying our bills, you wonder. Well, because we have funds left over from last year which have been helping us keep up with our expenses. But that excess from last year won't last forever!

Even though there are more people attending worship service each Sunday, our giving is down from last year. We are so very fortunate to have such awesome folks within our congregation who supported the church through such tough times. When many churches closed their doors, we were able to not only survive, but thrive. Thank you for helping to get Bethany through those difficult times! I'm asking you to once again step up and help Bethany get through yet another tough time! We only survive due to your generosity. If you are giving on a regular basis, or even a not so regular basis, thank you so very much! If you haven't been giving, please prayerfully consider it (every little bit counts). It helps us keep the lights and heat on each Sunday morning! Just for you!



## Pentecost – Happy Birthday

Mark your calendars now for  
**Sunday, June 5** when we will celebrate  
**Pentecost Sunday** ... the birthday of the church!  
 There will be some fun festivities that day.  
 Stay tuned for the details!

April 17, 2022 - Week 16		
Budget	224,216.00	
Where We Should Be		68,989.60
Where We Are		49,678.77
Deficit of		(19,310.83)
Net Percentage		-28.0%

God has plans for Bethany ... big plans. I know it in my heart. Bethany is OUR church family. We can't wait to see what HE has planned for us in the future! HE wants you to be part of those plans. And so do I. We love and appreciate you. You are Bethany! Each of you are what makes Bethany, well, Bethany. And families stick together through good and bad. More good is coming ... with your help! I hope the good Lord blesses each of you as you have blessed your church.

FYI ... We have started passing the offering plate again on Sunday mornings, so you won't find it sitting in the back of the church any longer. If you are like me and forget to bring your check on Sundays, you can always use the online giving feature on the church website. Go to the website ... [www.mybethanyumc.org](http://www.mybethanyumc.org) and then click on the "Online Giving" link and just follow the directions to get your account set up. You can set up to give once a week, once a month or just once. It you're like me, it's a lot easier to not have to remember to do it. Give it a try. If you need help to get it set up, please give me a call (540-234-8880) or send me an email ([office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com)) and I'll walk you through it!



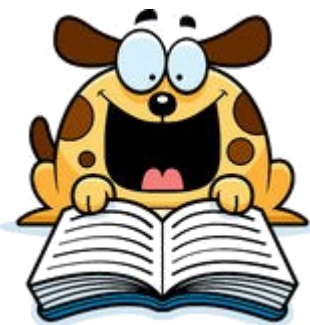
## Holy Chow

A couple decided they wanted a Christian dog, so they went to a breeder to find one. One pup caught their eye, so they asked the pup to fetch a Bible. The pup did so. Then the couple asked the pup to turn to John 3:16 and the pup went right to it. Clearly, this pup was the one they wanted, and they took him home.

That evening, they invited friends from church over to meet the new member of their household. The friends were impressed with the pup's abilities, but one friend wondered if the pup would obey regular commands, too.

"Let's find out," the wife said. Looking directly at the pup, she said: "Heel!"

The pup immediately jumped up into her lap, put his paw on her forehead, and howled in prayer!



## Honoring Our Graduates

Sunday, May 22 will be Graduate Sunday.

We look forward to recognizing our high school and college graduates and celebrating with them at a reception immediately after the service.

We don't want to miss anyone, so if you have a graduate in your family to be included, PLEASE contact the church office at 540-234-8880 or [office.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethany@gmail.com).

## Caring Cards

will meet on Tuesday, May 3 at 10 am at the church.

All are invited to join them on any Tuesday as they fellowship together while writing cards and notes of encouragement to members.

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

will meet on Saturday, May 21 at 8 am at the church.

## Young at Hearts

will meet on Tuesday, May 3 at 12 noon at

O'Neil's in Harrisonburg for their monthly luncheon.

If you are 55, or older, and still "Young at Heart" you are invited to join this fun group!

The June luncheon is on June 7 at Mrs. Rowe's in Staunton.



Always believe  
that something wonderful  
is about to happen!





# May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 4-5:30 pm - Food Pantry  6 pm - Worship Meeting	3 10 am - Caring Cards  12 pm - Young at Hearts Luncheon (O'Neils)	4 6:30 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor Dan	5  	6 	7
8 Baptism of Sawyer Dunsmore  	9 4-5:30 pm - Food Pantry	10	11 6:30 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor Dan	12	13 	14
15	16 4-5:30 pm - Food Pantry	17 	18 6:30 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor Dan	19	20 <b>June Newsletter Deadline!</b>	21 8 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast  
22 Graduate Sunday!  	23 4-5:30 pm - Food Pantry	24	25 6:30 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor Dan	26	27  <b>WE RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS</b>	28
29  	30 Office & Food Pantry Closed	31				





## Join the Bethany Softball Team!

We need softball players. If you would like to play on the softball team, please contact Eddie Moyer at [cansfinsfan@aol.com](mailto:cansfinsfan@aol.com) or 540-294-6616. Anyone age 14 or older can play. Practices have begun and games will begin soon. If you're looking to exercise a little more, and have some fun doing it, here's your opportunity!



# Happy Mother's Day

## May

1st Faye Youmans  
4th Pierce Moyer  
5th Dani Martlock DeHart  
6th Stanley Houff  
Camden Huffer  
7th Helen Figgins  
9th Delores Diehl  
Pat Lynn  
10th Mark Dunsmore  
12th David Hughes  
15th Brian Shifflett  
17th Gary Lucas  
Debbie Schofield  
23rd Zac Hittie  
25th Hannah Cook  
26th Jay Frizzelle  
28th Tom Thacker

9th Jac Bridges  
11th Amelia Hughes  
12th Avery Craun  
15th Terri Shifflett  
18th Jonathan Northrop  
20th Maggie Huffer  
23rd Kelly Herron  
Jim Miller  
Phoebe Rhodes  
24th Deja Moyer  
26th Dianna Eicher  
Mae Houff  
28th Dave Williams  
30th Pete Richards

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

## June

3rd Becky Hawkins  
5th Bettina Ruleman  
7th Brenda Hiner  
Briton Herron  
Lucy Huffer



## Prayer List

### Members

Judy Faby

Families of Sidney Moyer & Barbara Miller

### Extended Members

Father of Tara Stroop

Baby Maggie

We extend Christian sympathy to Barbara Miller and Sidney Moyer upon the death of their sister, Hope Burner.

If you would like to send a card, the addresses are:

Barbara Miller

P.O. Box 333, Grottoes, VA 24441

Sidney Moyer

320 Homestead Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

## Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway  
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

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



### "The Echo"

A Publication of Bethany United Methodist Church  
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[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, Sexton

June Newsletter Deadline: May 20, 2022

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

Webmaster: [bethanyumc.website@gmail.com](mailto: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