



The Echo

October 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.



Being a Christian ...

... is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.



From the Pastor's Desk

Brokenness and Division. It is all around us, and as much as we wish it was not that way, it ultimately is. Now I'm not talking about the division of rooting for the right team (FSU obviously is the right choice), but the division that is shattering families and breaking churches up. Whether it is division over controversial social or political topics, different scriptural interpretations, or even amongst different faiths; we have built walls and thrown grenades, instead of building each other up and choosing love over violence. How are we going to be participants in this season of repair? I'd like to offer a couple of ways:

- 1) **Participate in life giving and fun ways that Christ's unifying love is on full display.**

Trunk or Treat is a wonderful way to be active participants in repairing division and strife. By loving our

community and neighbors, together we will get to see what happens when God's people join together to do something special. There will be hundreds of families, some who may be church and others who are unchurched, and we have the opportunity to show Christ's unifying love, by parking folks, decorating a trunk, or by baking cupcakes! Let us show up in a heavy presence to glorify God and love our community.

- 2) **May we be people who are eager to listen and willing to be graceful towards one another.**

Brothers and sisters in the faith, life is too short and too hard, for us to continue to focus on our differences, rather than learn from each other's differences. We each bring multiple experiences to the table and it is okay if they are conflicting or go against each other. It is what makes us a diverse and wonderful body of

believers. Let us have the grace and love in our heart to appreciate one another's perspective, and be folks who build each other up.

I will leave you with this timely reminder from 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11, *"For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."*

In Christ,

Pastor Blaine



*Therefore, encourage one another
and build one another up,
just as you are doing.*

1 Thessalonians 11

Stewardship: Faithfulness in the Midst by Randy Roller

October is when we typically emphasize the importance of good stewardship in our Christian lives. The concept of stewardship may well give us the most foundational understanding of our relationship with God. Stewardship is not just one element of the Christian life; it is the Christian life. We are challenged to use the time, talents, abilities, resources, and finances God gives us for the furthering of His kingdom here on earth.

We have an exciting lineup of Sunday morning sermon topics to provide you with information and inspiration as you prayerfully consider your stewardship commitment to faithful service.

October 2 - "Faithfulness Through Prayer"

You will not only receive encouragement in your prayer life but you will hear about planning for our current and future financial needs by renewing the use of commitment cards.

October 9 - "Faithfulness Through Learning Discipleship"

In addition to learning more about faithful discipleship, you will receive an update on our Capital Fund campaign.

October 16 - "Faithfulness Through Service"

We will emphasize the importance of being the hands and feet of Christ both within the church and in the community. From our church perspective, our own Lori Mooney will be speaking and from the community viewpoint, we will hear from Nathan Carr, a mission worker for Virginia Mennonite Missions as he serves in prison ministry extending love and friendship to men released from the local jail and building networks of Christian community for former inmates.

Interesting to note that Nathan was a former visitor to our food pantry.

October 23 - "Faithfulness Through Gifts"

Retired UMC Elder in the Virginia UMC, Steve Hay, will present an entertaining and informative message on gifts in terms of finances.

October 30 - "Faithfulness Through Community"

Dale Roller's band, Southern Hospitality, will provide wonderful music during our worship service.

Your Stewardship Committee would like to express appreciation to our Bethany family for your dedication and faithfulness to our mission as we continue "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."



October Bible Study

As followers of Jesus it is paramount to continue to be life-long learners of the faith. Join us for four Wednesdays in October, beginning October 5, at 10 am or 7 pm as we dive deep into God's good and faithful word, as we explore the Book of 1 John together!

Pastor Blaine is excited to learn, study, and pray together with our beloved Bethany community.

Missions Update by Lori Mooney

It is October. Time for scary and spooky at the end of the month. Cooler weather means sweaters and sweatshirts. Enjoy this comfy and cozy time.

We will be taking donations for "Dollars for Drugs. This will provide medicine for the Friends of Barnabas team heading to Honduras on Oct. 15 through Oct. 9. Please be sure to put your donations in the bucket. If you write out a check, you can make it to the church and put "Dollars for Drugs" in the memo line. Good luck to Gary Lucas and the team when they head out for the week.

Keep bringing in the bags of candy for Trunk or Treat and please be sure to sign up at the table to help with the event on Sunday, Oct. 23 from 4-6 pm. All hands-on deck. We need everyone.

We will soon have the sign-up sheets out to purchase items for the Apple Tree Project with Kingsway Ministries. We have done this for several years. We usually get 60-75 names that we need to buy Christmas presents for. Keep your eyes open for the sheets and sign up for an item that will help brighten a kid's Christmas.



Mission Spotlight for the Month:

The Gideons International is the result of a meeting between two men who wished to band commercial travelers together for evangelism. What began in 1908 as an Association of Christian businessmen placing Bibles in hotel rooms has evolved into an expanding mission to provide Scriptures to all

people in nearly every facet of life. Today, we have taken more than 2 billion Scriptures in more than 95 languages to 200 countries, territories, and possessions across the globe. We exist as an advocate for the lost, to bring them the saving knowledge of the Word through not only placing and distributing Scriptures, but also through personal witnessing and by associating together for service. Remember last Christmas we helped the Gideons, by selling bibles to spread the word for Jesus's birthday. If you would like to donate to them, please put a note in the memo section of your check.

If anyone needs help, please let me know or anyone on the mission team.

Lori Mooney, Chair of Adult Missions
540-820-7394
Brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com

Financial Update by Cindy Kite

Yep, fall is officially here! Cooler weather, leaves changing colors, sweaters, college football, and pumpkin flavored everything! Take time to enjoy this special time of the year and all the beautiful colors of fall! God painted us a beautiful canvas of breathtaking colors. Even if you're a summer person like myself, you have to love and appreciate fall just for the beauty.

As you can see by the chart, we are currently a little behind our projected budget of \$222,620.00. I challenge all of us to increase our giving just a little, or start giving just a little, so we can catch up, and maybe even exceed our projected budget! Wouldn't that be awesome! I know EVERYTHING is increasing in cost, from paper for the office to our oil and electric bills. But I also know my Bethany family! And I know how generous you are!! I have no concerns over our finances and that you will help us catch up.

I also want to give you an update on our Capital Expenditure Fund. Our hope was to collect \$26,000 from the congregation to help with the cost of the roof, new A/C unit and gutters. We have collected \$12,878.84 so far. We still need to collect another \$13,121.16. If you would like to donate to this fund, just make a note in the memo of your check "Capital Fund" and it will go towards those repairs.

You will be receiving commitment cards this month for 2023. We won't be mailing them out this year, but encourage you to pick one up in the foyer. Please fill it out and bring it back to lay on the altar on Sunday, October 30! These give us an idea of how much we will be receiving from you all and will help us plan for 2023.

September 28 - Week 39		
Budget	222,620.00	
Where We Should Be		166,964.85
Where We Are		145,236.69
Deficit of		21,728.16
Net Percentage		-13.0%

Trunk OR TREAT



Sunday, October 23 | 4-6 pm

Weyers Cave Community Center



FUN, FOOD, GAMES
for ALL

FREE ADMISSION

Wear Your Halloween Costume!



A Safe, Family-Friendly Event
All are Welcome!

Sponsored by Bethany United Methodist Church

**We will be accepting non-perishable food
items for our Food Pantry!**



Trunk or Treat

The Trunk or Treat Planning Team has been busy meeting and making plans for our 4th Annual Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 23 from 4-6 pm at the Weyers Cave Community Center.

There are so many ways you can sign up to help. The first is to bake cookies, cupcakes or muffins for the Prize Walk. You can bring your donations in beginning Wednesday, October 19, but no later than Sunday morning, October 23, and leave them in the kitchen.

We are also asking if anyone has contacts to get donations of gifts cards, such as Smiley's Ice Cream, Kline's Dairy Bar, Chic-fil-A, Wendy's Frosties, McDonalds, Dairy Queen Blizzards, etc., to please contact Cindy Kite or Jackie Dunsmore. Gift cards make great gifts for prizes!

We also need lots of working hands and feet the day of the event.

We anticipate having approximately 600-700 people come, possibly 1,000, since it is at the WW Community Center and will be publicized within the community.

This is a safe, family friendly outreach event. It's not a Halloween thing, not a fall festival, just an outreach to love on our community, letting kids have a little fun as we do so. We want to share all that Bethany has to offer with our neighbors! Invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. It will be fun for all ages!

Please consider **DECORATING A TRUNK!** We will need lots of trunks for kids to visit. Although there are a lot of things for them to do, they love visiting the trunks, seeing the creativity, and getting candy, of course! There are a lot of ideas for trunks on



Pinterest if you need some help for decorating ideas! Plus, talk to Cindy Kite, Jackie Dunsmore or Kathy Kile, and we'll be glad to give you ideas or even help you with decorating. We ask you to also sign up if you plan to decorate a trunk. **Trunks will need to be at the community center by 3 pm.**

We need **YOU** to make this a successful event for the children in our community!

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Volunteer sheets for all kinds of things are in the foyer! Check them out!

Fifth Sundays Are Awesome! And there is a Fifth Sunday in October!



To begin the day,
the Men's Group will be preparing
a pancake breakfast for all.

Join your church family at 8:30 am
for a yummy breakfast and
some fellowship time!

After breakfast, we are in for a treat.
Dale Roller's band, Southern Hospitality,
will be singing during the worship service!



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Sunday, October 9, is Pastor Appreciation Day. In the short time Pastor Blaine has been with us, many of you have expressed how thankful you are to have him at Bethany. Please take a minute to write a few words of encouragement and thanks to honor him on this day. Perhaps you would like to include a gift card or other gift to show him your appreciation. You will find cards and a box for cards in the foyer. We are so blessed to have Pastor Blaine every day. Let's use October 9 as a special day to express our gratitude. After the worship service, please join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments with Pastor Blaine.



Young at Hearts

Young at Hearts will meet at Thomas House in Dayton on Tuesday, October 4 at 12 noon for their October get-together. Anyone 55 and over, and still "young at heart" are invited and encouraged to join this lively bunch for lunch. There will be good food, fellowship and lots of laughing. Please contact Carolyn Swartz if you plan to attend.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited to join us on Saturday, October 22 at 8 am for a yummy breakfast, prepared by Eddie Moyer and then a time of prayer and fellowship. Please note that it is the 4th Saturday of the month instead of the usual 3rd Saturday. Afterward we will be picking up trash.

All Saints Day Sunday, November 6

We look forward to this special service when we celebrate and remember individuals in our church family that we have loved and lost in the past year. Please email (office.bethany@gmail.com) or call (334-8880) Cindy if you have someone to be remembered.

Caring Cards

Caring Cards will meet on Tuesday, October 4 at 10 am. All are invited to join this small group to write notes of encouragement to members, just to say we are thinking about you!



October Birthdays

- 1st Carolyn Roller & Tara Stroop
- 2nd Wayne Frizzelle
- 3rd Linda Byers & Landon Ryan
- 4th Brantley Metcalfe
- 6th Mary Beth Hill, Stephen Metcalfe & Kenneth Diehl
- 10th Jan Peterson
- 16th Maecy Anne Frizzelle
- 19th Jennifer Cook
- 20th John Hull
- 21st Barbara Somers & Wyatt Dunsmore
- 22nd Jan Fulton & Beth Metcalfe
- 23rd Tom Ott & Tobias Casey
- 29th Lois Huffer, Ruth Ann Mikesell & Amy Michael
- 30th Kim Hull & Mary Tyree
- 31st Doug Hiner & Leslie Wagoner



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





Trunk or Treat Bethany T-Shirts On Sale!

This year for Trunk or Treat we are offering Bethany T-shirts for you to purchase.

We have two designs ... one a burnt orange

and the other one in black.

You can purchase either short sleeves or long sleeves.

They will have "Fall for Jesus He Never Leaves" on the front and Bethany United Methodist Church on the back.

Orders are due by Tuesday, October 4.

Be sure to order yours today.

Order sheets are at the Trunk or Treat table in the foyer.



We Extend Christian Sympathy to ...

We extend Christian sympathy to the family of Helen Figgins, who passed away on September 8, 2022.

We also extend Christian sympathy to Barbara Miller, Sidney Moyer, and their sister, Janet Morris, upon the death of niece and daughter Lorry Ann Morris, who passed away on September 11, 2022.

We also extend Christian sympathy to Lori Mooney and family upon the death of her father, Isaac Ward, on Sunday, September 25, 2022.

Prayer List

Church Family

Hazel Truslow, Geneva Burns, Peggy Lucas,
Tom & Jan Gorden, Lori Mooney & Family

Extended Family

Stephanie Thurston - friend of Lorna Frizzelle
Amy Tyson - 7 yr old with autoimmune disease
Michelle - daughter of Diana Eicher
Scott - nephew of Diana Eicher
Kathy - friend of Libby Riddle
Ernie - brother-in-law of Nancy Colvin
Lane Kite - grandson of Randy & Cindy Kite

Happy Fall

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

GALATIANS 6:9



OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 HAVE A NICE DAY 
2	3 6:30 pm - Worship Meeting	4 10 am - Caring Cards 12 pm - Young at Hearts Luncheon at Thomas House	5 10 am - 1 John Bible Study 7 pm - 1 John Bible Study	6 3-5 pm - Coffee with the Pastor at Valley Pike 	7	8 11 am - 4 pm Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Reserved
9  PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY	10 6:30 pm - Finance Meeting 	11 9:30 am - 12 pm Coffee with the Pastor at Valley Pike 	12 10 am - 1 John Bible Study 6 pm - Church Council Meeting 7 pm - 1 John Bible Study	13 6-7:30 pm - Girl Scouts	14 	15
16	17 	18	19 10 am - 1 John Bible Study 6-9 pm - Kitchen & Fellowship Hall Reserved for Youth 7 pm - 1 John Bible Study	20 Nov. Newsletter Articles Due	21	22 8 am 
23 4-6 pm at WC Community Center 	24	25	26 10 am - 1 John Bible Study 7 pm - 1 John Bible Study	27 6-7:30 pm - Girl Scouts 6:30 - 8:30 pm - Food & Conversation with the Pastor at Cracked Pillar	28	29  National Cat Day
30 8:30 am - Pancake Breakfast SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY!! 	31 					

Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

www.mybethanyumc.org



Trunk or Treat
Sunday, Oct. 23
4-6 pm

The Echo

"The Echo"

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Blaine Thomas, Pastor
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Marguerite McDonald, Organist & Choir Director
Dale Roller, Praise Band Leader
Cindy Kite, Secretary/Treasurer

November Newsletter Deadline: Nov. 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