



The Echo

October 2024

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

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 From the Pastor's Desk
- 3 Truck or Treat
- 4 Missions Update & Meeting Reminders
- 5 Financial Update
- 6 Pastor Appreciation & Misc Announcements
- 7 Birthdays & Prayer List
- 8 October Calendar
- 9 Coloring Page

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newsletter
and other important
updates by email, please
send your email address to
Cindy Kite at
office.bethany@gmail.com.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As October begins, I find myself, probably like the rest of you, starting to get annoyed or at least tired of the number of political signs and ads that are everywhere. No offense to any of our candidates running, but when I am watching college football on Saturday, I do not to be reminded of the American political system and all the joy it brings to all of us (insert sarcasm.) It is safe to say I could totally go the afternoon without seeing a multitude of political ads, often degrading the other candidates. But as November 5 approaches, I have been wrestling with what our job as followers of Jesus looks like on Election Day. In fact, I shared last month with the Donuts and Devotions guys about what John Wesley said about Christians and voting in elections; and I'd like to share that as a way to navigate this divisive season.

On October 6 in 1774 (just a few years ago) John Wesley wrote in his journal about his interactions with those in his Christian society, regarding the upcoming elections in England. Wesley suggested three keys to voting:

- 1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy.**
- 2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against.**
- 3. To take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side.**

When I look at these three principles it reminds me of the importance of voting in elections for those who follow Jesus; but also highlights maybe even more important than who one votes for, is how those who vote ought to act in response. My hope and prayer for us at Bethany, but also for the church in the world is to remember that Christ is King, and that as the election creeps closer, we do not forget the Greatest commandment;

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" AND "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Friends, our neighbors do not only include those who vote the same as us, but

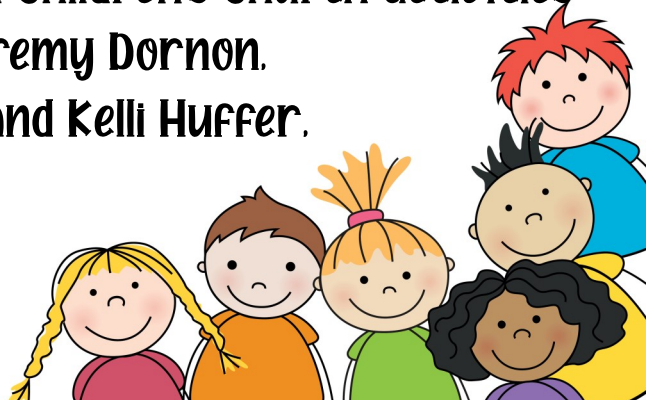
those who vote differently. So, when the political vitriol gets ramped up and you feel the need to "share" your political opinions with someone who you disagree with, let us remember the greatest commandment that Jesus gives us. Because we can be better, my friends. Let the Church be a place where love, grace, and respect for one another guide us, in a world that needs more healing and less division.

In Christ's Love, *Pastor Blaine*

**Love the Lord
your God
with all your
heart
& with all your
soul
& with all your
strength**
Deuteronomy 6:5

 **faith**
myfaithradio.com

Thank you to the volunteers who provided Children's Church activities during the summer months: Karie and Jeremy Dornon. Julie Ritchie. Lucy and Mike Huffer. Happy and Kelli Huffer. Megan and Kristen Kile. Jac Bridges and Autumn Johnson. Rosemary and Leslie Wagoner. We appreciate you!





TRUCK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCT. 27 / 3-5 PM



SAVE the DATE!

It's a new twist on this fun community event at the Weyers Cave Community Center. We are inviting BIG trucks of all types to come for a "Touch a Truck" experience. We will still have food, games, inflatables, a hay ride and of course lots of candy to hand out.

We need everyone to start donating that candy starting next Sunday. There will be a basket in the foyer for donations.

More info and sign up sheets to come. We need lots of help.

Please plan on being a part of this outreach event for our community!



Missions Update by Lori Mooney

October, fall colors will be flowing freely soon. Enjoy all that it can offer because you know what comes next.

The 70th anniversary celebration was a huge success. Thanks to all who participated in the service, helped behind the scenes, donated food, decorations, time, etc.

Thank you to those of you who donated toys or games that will be heading to the Harrisonburg Social Services. We appreciate your help with this event.

Next up on the agenda will be on the Truck or Treat this year at the Weyers Cave Community Center on Sunday, Oct. 27th from 3-5 pm. This year will be a little different with having all types of trucks to check out instead of doing trunks. We will need volunteers to help at the event, so please plan on helping in some way. Of course, we need donated candy to give out to the community that comes to the event. Start donating candy now because you know we need a lot of it.

Be on the lookout for Apple Tree donations. They should be coming in the mail any day now. I will put the list together and have the envelopes out for pick up as soon as I



can. Make Christmas morning a special treat with gifts for the kids that might not otherwise receive anything because part of their family is incarcerated. This is one of our many projects that we love to participate in each year. Come be a part of it!

Mission spotlight of the month: Weekday Religious Education. Clymore Elementary sends the kids to the Augusta Stone Presbyterian Church for a religious experience. Each class goes once a week, I believe. So, the money donated to this program lets the word of Jesus go out to those that might not go to church on Sunday mornings. This is a great program for those that participate. If you would like to make an extra donation, please mark it for Weekday Religious Education program. If you know of someone who needs help, please let us know.

Lori Mooney, co-chair, Brownsugarcookie@yahoo.com, 540-820-7394

Sarah Simmons, co-chair, sarahsimmons4@aol.com, 540-292-0956

October is the Month for Budget Planning and Meetings!

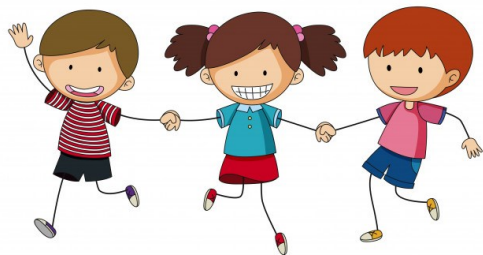
Monday, Oct. 7 - Nominations Committee @ 6 pm

Tuesday, Oct. 6 - SPPRC @ 6 pm and Trustees @ 7 pm

Wednesday, Oct. 9 - Finance Committee @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday, Oct. 15 - Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm

Children's Church



Armor of God Coin Challenge

The Children's Ministry Team is excited to begin a study of the Armor of God.

Those who attend Children's Church on Sunday, October 6 and the Sundays from October 20 thru November 24 will receive an Armor of God souvenir coin in recognition of their dedication to studying God's word.

Families may reach out to Karie Dornon at barbour.karie@gmail.com for a short devotion guide as a substitute for lessons their children are unable to attend. Please join us as we encourage the children of Bethany to draw closer to God.

Come by and take a peek at our new renovated room downstairs in the old junior high classroom.

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who helped renovate our new room!

Financial Update by Cindy Kite

Fall has arrived and with it comes cooler temperatures, colorful leaves, pumpkins, college football, sweaters and sweatshirts and of course, pumpkin spice everything! At the end of September we are officially three quarters of the way through another year. Which means we only have three more months to make up a deficit of \$15,699.39.

Our 2024 budget was set at \$226,345.00. That means we need to collect \$4,328.71 every week of the year. We have fallen behind by \$15,699.39 or 9.8%. On average we are collecting \$3,904.40 per week. The positive is that we are not spending as much as we have budgeted for expenses in 2024. Our bills are getting paid each month and so are our staff. If you haven't been as diligent about giving each week or month as you would have liked, it's not too late to make up those missed Sundays! You can put a little more in the offering plate on Sunday. Write an extra check or make a donation online at www.mybethanyumc.org.

Attention all church committee chairs! You should have received your 2025 budget request form by email. If you haven't, please let me know so that I can send you one. Those request forms are due back to me by Friday, Oct. 4. If you fail to turn in a budget request form, the Finance Committee will decide what your budget will be for 2025. I will be out of the office from Friday, Sept. 27 thru Sunday, Oct. 6. If you have questions about your budget for 2025, please email me at office.bethany@gmail.com and I will respond as soon as I get back in the office.

only by
GIVING
are you able
to receive
MORE
than you
already have

- Jim Rohn
MORE QUOTES @ WWW.INSPIRINGQUOTES.IN

September 15 - Week 37

Budget	226,345.00	
Where We Should Be		160,162.27
Where We Are		<u>144,462.88</u>
Deficit of		-15,699.39
Net Percentage		-9.8%

Appreciating Our Pastor

by Randy Roller

Being a pastor can be hard work at times. It is not the type of job where you can clock in and clock out or where calls can wait until business hours. Pastors preside over the most important moments of their congregation's lives -- baptisms, marriages and funerals, to name a few. They help their church progress in mission, evangelism and discipleship.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. It is an ideal time to show you care -- to the leader who cares for you and your family all year long. We are truly blessed to have Pastor Blaine as our minister with his caring nature, boundless energy, and his love of God and the members of our Bethany fellowship. **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, IS PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY.** We will have refreshments after the service and there will be a basket for cards and gifts. Here are some ideas to show your gratitude this month or any time throughout the year:

1. Pray for Pastor Blaine and his family.
2. Write a simple note of thanks for his work and his ministry.
3. Offer to take Pastor Blaine out for coffee or lunch. Invite him and Ashley to your home for a meal.
4. Have the children of the church make cards for him.
5. Give a gift: Consider giving a gift card, tickets to an event, or a service that Pastor Blaine would appreciate.
6. Send him an email with encouragement for the week.
7. Bring Pastor Blaine a treat to enjoy.
8. When Pastor Blaine is looking for volunteers, step up and get involved!

Be creative. Show your love and concern for Pastor Blaine in your own special way.

Young at Hearts

Young at Hearts will meet at Taste of Thai in Harrisonburg on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 12 noon for their October get-together. All those 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. We guarantee you'll have a good time. Come on ... give us a try this fall. There is no commitment. Come when you can.

Caring Cards

Caring Cards will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 10 am. All are invited to join this small group to write notes of encouragement and thank you notes to members, just to

say we are thinking about you!

Coffee with the Pastor

Join Pastor Blaine for coffee at Valley Pike's Rumor Mill on Thursday, Oct. 10 from 9:30 am - 12 pm and again on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 3-5 pm. This is a great time to have some casual conversations on a variety of topics. Come and join him for a cup of coffee or a drink of your choice.

Donuts & Devotions

All men are invited to attend "Donuts & Devotions" on the third Saturday of each month. This will be a time of donut eating, coffee drinking, fellowshiping, sharing of devotions and praying! Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. It's a great way to kick off fall with

something new. There's no commitment. Come when you can. The October gathering will be held on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 8 am in the fellowship hall.

All Saints Day Sunday, November 3

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 the office if you have loved and lost a special person within Bethany's congregation. (office.bethany@gmail.com) or call (540-234-8880).



October Birthdays

1st Carolyn Roller & Tara Stroop
2nd Wayne Frizzelle
3rd Linda Byers
5th Josh Unger
6th Mary Beth Hill
10th Emma Riddle
16th Maecy Anne Frizzelle
21st Barbara Somers & Wyatt Dunsmore
22nd Jan Fulton
23rd Tom Ott
25th Joe Morris
29th Lois Huffer & Amy Michael
31st Leslie Wagoner



November Birthdays

3rd Addyson Mooney
4th Jean Moyer
6th Carolyn Cobb
9th Barry Shifflett
11th Donald Michael
12th Sarah Huffer
13th Rosemary Wagoner
14th Kelly Shifflett
17th Lorna Frizzelle
21st Carla Whitecotton
24th Mike Huffer & Madelyn Shifflett
25th Cindy Kite
27th Kathleen Stump & Susan Frease



If your birthday is not listed or listed incorrectly, please let Cindy know so she can correct it or add it.



Prayer List



Church Members: Hazel & Don Truslow, Tom & Jan Gorden, Laura Lucas, Ramona Garrison

Extended Family: colleague of Rosemary Wagoner, Carl - brother of Gary Ruleman, Fred Jones - cousin of Joe Meek, Bill Simmons - father of Cheryl Richards, Amy Moore - niece of Bobbie Meek

Shut-Ins: Audrey Bradshaw, Judy Faby, Charlene Michael, Carolyn Roller



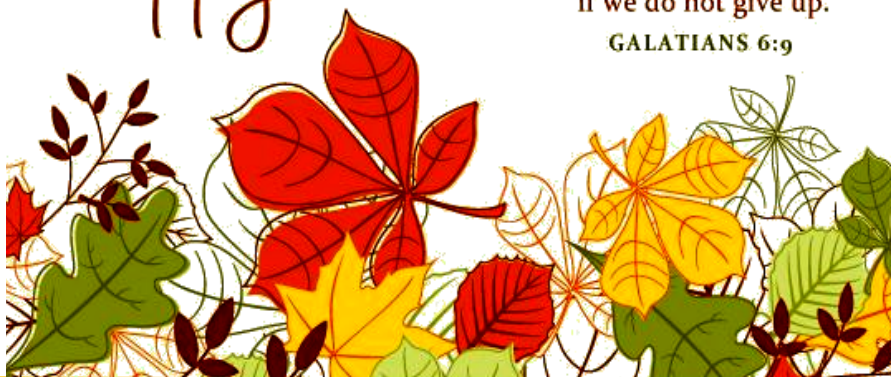
FALL BACK

**SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

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 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Cindy Out of Office		1 12 pm - Young at Hearts at Taste of Thai in H'burg	2	3	 National Taco day	5
6	7 6 pm - Nominations Committee Meeting	8 6 pm - SPPRC 7 pm - Trustee Meeting	9 6:30 pm - Finance Meeting	10 9:30 am - 12 pm -- Coffee with the Pastor 	11	12 
13  PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY	14  HAPPY Columbus Day	15 10 am - Caring Cards 6:30 pm - Church Council Meeting	16  HAPPY BOSS' DAY!	17	18	19 8 am  DONUTS & DEVOTIONS
20	21  be AWESOME today	22	23	24 3-5 pm - Coffee with the Pastor 	25	26 
27 3-5 pm at the Weyers Cave Community Center  Truck or TREAT	28	29	30	31  AUTUMN Blessings		



Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

www.mybethanyumc.org



Sunday, Oct. 27
3-5 pm

The Echo

"The Echo"

A Publication of Bethany United Methodist Church
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Dale Roller, Praise Band Leader
Cindy Kite, Secretary/Treasurer
Bridgett Crawford, Youth Leader
Danny Perry, Sexton

November Newsletter Deadline: Nov. 20, 2024

Please submit articles to the office 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