

THE TOWER

Bethel Presbyterian Church
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July 2010

PICNIC PHOTO ISSUE



From the Pastor's Desk

“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.” Psalm 90:1



Well, I will soon be leaving for a three month sabbatical (July, August, September). I greatly appreciate Bethel's supportive attitude in making this Sabbath time the blessing that I am sure it will be. The session has been working diligently to make certain that the pulpit is filled, that ministers are available for emergencies, that pastoral needs will be met, and that the regular work of the church will go on unimpeded.

Elders of the week (posted herein and to be posted in the weekly bulletin) can be contacted in the event of any need. If need be, they will be able to rely on trusted local pastors who have enthusiastically volunteered to be available should a situation arise where only a pastor will do. Also, I know that you will look after one another as you have always done in that way that makes Bethel the special community that it is.

Bethel will continue with the Lord as your dwelling place just as you have for 264 years. I look forward with excitement to coming back this fall with renewed strength, energy, and purpose. Keep me in your prayers, as I keep you in mine. May God continue to bless Bethel as she goes about His ministry and mission in the world!

Sabbatical Arrangements - While Joel is on sabbatical, the elders have a system of “**Elders of the Week**” where two elders are the contacts for each week.

Please call one of the “Elders of the Week” listed below for the week in question of you have any of the following needs:

- a death in the family or the church family
- a death in the wider community that we need to respond to
- a sickness/health problem that you would like prayer for
- a surgery that you would like visitation and prayer for
- a hospital stay that you would like visitation and prayer for
- an emergency you would like prayer for
- a need you would like the church to pray for
- a need of others that you would like the church to pray for

If you would like a visit, please let the elders know.

Elders of The Week During Joel’s Sabbatical

July 1st-14th	Jane Law	(540) 885-2818
	John Wooddell	(540) 885-2333
July 15th-28th	Margaret Kyle	(540) 337-4654
	James Williams	(540) 292-8578 (540) 294-1851
July 29th-Aug. 11th	Bill Brubeck	(540) 885-5871
	Yvonne Goodson	(540) 885-2716 (540) 280-4391
Aug. 12th-Aug. 25th	Billy Wade	(540) 337-2032
	Jill Webb	(540) 337-4311 (540) 332-4196 (wk)
Aug. 26th-Sept. 8th	Kathy Swisher	(540) 885-7397
	Peggy Smith	(540) 886-4653
Sept. 9th-Sept. 22nd	Louise Hoy	(540) 886-3314
	Don Hall	(540) 886-3280
Sept. 23rd-Sept.30th	James Williams	(540) 294-1851
	Jill Webb	(540) 337-4311 (540) 332-4196 (wk)



The Worship Committee welcomes Rev. William L. “Bill” Painter, Jr. to the pulpit during the month of July and Rev. Robert D. “Bob” Goshorn during August. We are still scheduling September supply ministers, if you have a request; please let Yvonne Goodson or Jill Webb know.



Several Kenneths at the Picnic



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is starting to come together. Please join us for a trip to the Amazon Rainforest, an experience of discovery you will never forget! We will start on Sunday, July 18th at 4 PM with a full schedule of lessons, games and songs. Keith Folsom will show slides of his trip to the Amazon. Sunday's meal will be a covered dish with Bethel providing the chicken tenders and drinks.

Classes are being offered for ages 3 and up and will include the Parable of the Lost Sheep taught by Rev. Marilyn Heishman from St. John's. In this class, kids will GET FOUND! As they hear Jesus tell the Parable, they'll discover what it means to be lost and how each one can be found by Jesus to become part of God's family. Deanna Reese and Teresa Christian from Mt. Tabor will again lead the teen class. The adult class will be taught by Rev. Joann Bunn (topic to be determined). Cindy Almarode will lead our teaching team with Jeanne Lee and Susan Smith. We still need 2 more teachers to teach one parable. Listen ---- are you being called?

Mary Ann Anderson and Melodie Strickler are working on crafts and will need a few helpers, especially with the younger classes. Games and activities will be lead by Keith Folsom and Kathy Swisher. Tammy Barbour will help in the kitchen, how about giving her a hand. Contact Irene Elliott 885-3554 or Jill Webb 337-4311 for more information or to volunteer. Pre-registration is encouraged, forms are in the vestibule and outside the office. Return completed forms to the church office or leave them in Jill's mail box in Memorial Hall.



Sunday School News

The Seekers Sunday School Class finished the spring semester and will break until Rally Day, at which time we will resume the study of Isaiah with chapter 40.

The Middle and High School Class will meet in the Educational Building in the room beside the Pre K to 5th Grade Class for the summer.





Presbyterian Women

July 2010

Emphasis: Church Conferences and Planning

***The Afternoon and Evening Circles** will meet on Tuesday, July 13th at 6:00 pm at the Middlebrook Community Center, 54 Cherry Grove Road, Middlebrook, for the Bethel Presbyterian Women's Annual Night Out annual dinner. The meal is \$13.00 a person and there will be entertainment after the dinner. Please notify Libby Smith (337-2058) or Irene Elliott (885-3554) by **July 4th** if you plan to attend.

Ladies, we need to know if you would like to continue in your Afternoon or Evening Circle. We will be printing our yearbooks soon so we need to know if you are planning to switch circles. Thank you!



The Diaconate will not meet in July. They will meet in August at their normal time.

The Session will not meet in July. They will meet August 29th.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday July 5th, 2010 for the 4th of July holiday. The Church Office will also be closed on Tuesday, July 6th, while the Church Secretary s on vacation. Thank you!





The Nursery is a Mission, Too!

The nursery we provide during worship is indeed a ministry of the church to families who come and worship here. Volunteers rotate every week in keeping with a flexible schedule. If you would like to take part in this rewarding ministry, please call Cynthia Williams at 337-2967.

Nursery Schedule

July 2010

July 4th - Joyce Miller; JoAnna Nichols

July 11th - Josh and Meagan Smith

July 18th- Luanne Leonard; Jake Leonard

July 25th - Barbara Gough; Judy Olson

Flower Schedule

July 2010

July 4th - Bettie Beard

July 11th - Mary Ann Anderson

July 18th - Lee Ann Heizer

July 25th - Joan McLaughlin – Memorial

Offering Schedule

July 2010

Derek Almarode

Tom Heizer

Josh Smith

Mac Williams

Thank you to the Bethel congregation for all the phone calls, cards, prayers and visits during my recent illness. Also, special thanks go to Joel for all he has done! Jim Heizer





Deacon's Notes June 2009

We remain close to the 2010 income and expense budgets through May. We continue to restrain spending where possible.

The Women of the Church are testing a rebate program with Kroger grocery stores Gift Services. Kroger issued cards we can use to pay for grocery purchases, and Kroger will return 5% of sales from the cards as a charitable contribution to Bethel. For convenience, we can add funds to our cards at the checkout counter using cash or other credit cards.

The Finance Committee and Trustees opened an account at Fidelity Investments to diversify and manage endowment fund investments. The Ellinger, William Sproul, and Congregational Youth endowments were transferred to the account. Two other endowments are planned to move to this account. The donors designated earnings from these funds for use in Bethel's programs.

Repairs of ice damage are complete. A ceiling fan, donated by Bill and Sally Brubeck, was installed in the choir room. Programmable thermostats were installed in the sanctuary and office areas.

We thank Keith Bosserman and Mary Jones for their good service and support to Bethel, as officers, friends, and active members. We wish them well as their lives take them in new directions. Aggie Dodson will replace Mary on the Nominating Committee.

Larry Edwards, Consulting Forester, conducted a bid opening for Bethel timber on June 2nd. Larry had previously marked and inventoried 477 trees for cutting. Bids ranged from about \$32,000 to the winning bid of \$50,697 from Augusta Lumber. Preliminary indications are that harvest will be completed this summer.

The Deacons congratulate Boy Scout Troop 13 on their awards at the Covington Moose BSA Camp. They received first place awards in archway construction and cooking, and second place in campsite. Assistant Scoutmaster Wayne Swisher recently presented Paul Logan Fravel his Eagle award. Paul's Eagle project was to create an outdoor learning area at Riverheads Elementary School.

Deacon's Prayer List

Glenn Austin, Edith Beahm, Kelsey Bosserman, Covie Brandt, Marjorie Brooks, Lorine Caldwell, Melissa Coffey, Jim Crosby, Aggie Dodson, Jessie Earhart, James Gano, Nellie Hamilton, Jim Heizer, Wayne Hord, Flora Law, Lucy Miller, Judy Olson, Roy Pilson, Les Prickett, Adam Ritter and Family, Tom Small, Richard Smith, Charlotte Swortzel, and David Turner

Summer Concert Series

The Stonewall Brigade Band, Staunton's 75 member community concert band, presents a free concert every Monday night in July and August. Concerts begin at 8 pm and are held in the Gazebo in Gypsy Hill Park, Staunton, VA. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic baskets and enjoy an old fashioned band concert under the stars. More information and programs are available on their website at stonewallbrigadeband.com.

Bethel is collecting donations of shoes until the end of July. We will accept all kinds of shoes...old shoes, new shoes, tennis shoes, dress shoes, male and female and all sizes. Please deposit your donations in the designated box in Memorial Hall. We could also use some left over knitting yarn to tie the pairs of shoes together. This mission project is being sponsored by the younger youth group. More information about this project is posted on the Bethel Youth bulletin board.

Don't Forget!!

July 4th - Independence Day

TAKE A MOMENT TO PRAY FOR ALL WHO STAND IN NEED OF PRAYER .