

THE TOWER

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Bethel Presbyterian Church

June 2011

From the Pastor's Desk

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

Rabbi Simlai in the 3rd century noted that Moses gave 365 prohibitions and 248 positive commandments of the Lord's law. David in Psalm 15 reduced them to 11. Isaiah, in 33:14,15, made them six. Micah 6:8 binds them into three, and Habakkuk reduces them all to one, namely- "The just shall live by faith." -Signs of the Times

During a long and severe drought, a Texas church decided to hold a special service to pray for rain. When they gathered, the minister looked sternly at his congregation and said, "Brothers and sisters, we all know why we are here. Now, what I want to know is...where are your umbrellas?"

Doubt sees the obstacles, but Faith sees the way!
Doubt sees the darkest night, yet Faith sees the day!
Doubt dreads to take a step, while Faith soars on high!
Doubt questions, "Who believes?"
Faith answers, "I!"

The Gospel Banner



On June 5th, we will honor our graduating seniors and present them with Bibles and with tokens of our great affection and well wishes for them. This year, our seniors are: Summer Barmore, Kayla Folsom, Maggie Freed, Emily Hord, Jim Williams and Ethan Wonderley. Congratulations! God's blessings and Godspeed!

We will have Lemonade on the Lawn after worship on June 5th to honor our graduating seniors and our new members from the past year. Come and join us as we celebrate and fellowship together!



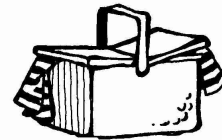
Communion will be held on Sunday, June 12th, Pentecost Sunday.

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Bethel Church Picnic

**Saturday, June 25th, 2011
pm until 7 pm**



Come and bring a covered dish and a lawn chair!

Hot dogs/Buns and Condiments will be furnished

There will be face painting, games, good food,
and fellowship!

Freezers of homemade ice cream needed!

Contact Louise Hoy (886-3314) or Jane Law (885-2818).

BETHEL CHURCH LIBRARY

New Librarian - Rhonda Johnson will replace Joyce Miller as Bethel Librarian beginning June 1st.

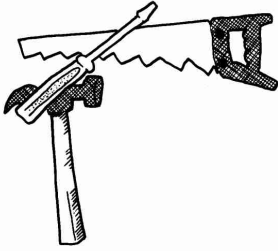
The library has hundreds of books, publications, and some current professional magazines.

Book categories include Noted Authors, Commentary and Study, Bible-related, Inspirational, Spirituality, Devotional and others.

The library is a comfortable and quiet place to read and study or to have small meetings. A computer is available for researching and taking notes. A list of holdings is available from the librarian or from the library computer.



WITNESS COMMITTEE NEWS



The Rebuilding Together project that Bethel will be working on for the spring and fall have the following repairs needed: back door and frame needs replacing, back deck and steps need replacing, underskirt on mobile home needs to be put back in place, floor under washer and dryer needs to be replaced and old materials removed, and some yard cleanup. Also, if anyone has a hand held auger, please contact Peggy Smith. The work can be done during the day, evening, or a Saturday.

Please let Peggy Smith (home - 886-4653) know if you would like to help and if you can help, what you can do and when. Thank you!

Car Wash for Bethel Mission Fund!

Join the Witness Committee to raise funds
for the Bethel Mission Fund

WHERE: AutoZone (615 Richmond Avenue; Staunton)
WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 18 - 9 AM UNTIL 2 PM
COST: CAR WASH BY DONATION



BAKED GOODS –You can either bring baked goods to AutoZone or leave them in the Church Kitchen by the evening of the 17th.

The donations from money raised will go towards our mission team going to Baja, Mexico this July to build homes for needy families.

“Baja Suitcase”



There will soon be a suitcase in the vestibule at the back of the Sanctuary. The Baja Mission Team hopes you will fill the “Baja Suitcase” to the brim and over with any “gently used” toys, small stuffed animals, or sports items (soccer balls, Frisbees, small balls, kite kits, air pumps, etc.). Also appreciated are shoes, hair accessories, drawing pads, crayons, pencils and sharpeners, small purses; anything that you think a child would enjoy having.

Twin and full sheets, blankets, pillows, curtains and curtain rods, tablecloths, may be left in the Senior High Sunday School room. These donations do not need to be new - just clean and ready to be put to use. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Bethel Mission Team

Shenandoah Presbytery Baja Mission Trip Fundraisers

Fundraiser for Baja Mission Trip at Jalisco's Restaurant (571 Lee Highway; Verona) on June 6th, from 11 am until 9 pm. Twenty percent of the receipts for the meals will be donated to the Shenandoah Presbytery for the costs associated with the trip.

If you don't like Mexican Food though . . .

There will be an all you can eat pancake breakfast fundraiser at the Staunton Applebee's on June 11th from 8 until 10 am. Tickets are \$7.00 and will need to be purchased prior to the breakfast. Call Andrew Heizer (540) 414-4439 to purchase tickets.

Thanks for your generosity and support for both of these fundraisers!!!

Youth News

All ages of youth will meet on Saturday, June 11th at 3 pm. The meeting will be held in the room adjoining the Nursery Room in the Sunday School building. We will be painting slate markers for the plants in the "Kinder-Garden" flower beds on the playground.

All children and youth that are interested in participating in the Father's Day worship service are encouraged to come for preparation and practice on June 12th and June 19th. We will practice during the Sunday School hour in the downstairs room.



Presbyterian Women - June 2011

Emphasis - Christian Family Education

*The Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 14th, 2011, at 2:30 pm.

*The Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 14th, 2011, at 7:00 pm.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Annual Dinner Meeting--Ladies Night Out--will be held on Tuesday, July 12th at 6:30 pm at the Middlebrook Fire Department. Come out and enjoy a catered meal by Country Kitchen out of Christiansburg. The cost will be \$14.00 per person. Entertainment will be provided. It will be a great time of good food, fellowship and fun. We will be accepting donations of snack foods for the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. Anyone wishing to participate may bring them to the dinner meeting. Suggested items--popcorn, cookie mixes and brownie mixes.

Please let Circle Leaders know by JULY 1ST if you plan to attend and give the names of guests if you have any.

Libby Smith 337-2058
Stephanie Rivers 849-9839



Presbyterian Women would like to have additional donations of the following hygiene items to complete our kits for delivery to Baja: hand towels, razors, combs, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

Session News

- The Session heard the Deacons report from Ken Miller. He stated that work needs to be done on the Bell Tower plus the consideration to air condition the kitchen and fellowship hall. There was discussion on paying for this but no action was taken.
- High school and college seniors will be recognized on June 5th and there will be Lemonade on the Lawn also.
- The Growth & Strengthening Committee is planning a church picnic the last Saturday of June, the 25th, at 4:00 p.m.
- The Worship Committee stated the Maundy Thursday service was a very meaningful service and well attended.
- Kip Caldwell will be our Homecoming speaker this year.
- There will be a bazaar this year in October with Libby Smith, Tish Folsom and Kathy Swisher leading this event.
- Joel will be on vacation from June 26th thru July 9th.



Kingsway Help Center

Kingsway is a local benevolent organization, a neighbor serving Augusta and Rockbridge counties. Kingsway has helped many in our community who were in need of food, clothing, household goods, and books. Kingsway served 605 people from 216 families in December 2010. Two families had fires and needed everything.

Kingsway depends on donations of all types. We will deliver all the contributions you bring to Bethel.

God Bless, Joan McLaughlin

A Short History of Kingsway Help Center

Kingsway began in our area in the 1980s when Mary Lou Taylor helped a needy family with food and clothing. Soon Mary Lou and her husband, John Lee, were helping about ten families. They began working with the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and Kingsway Ministries in Harrisonburg.

The Taylors went on to develop a wonderful life-saving resource for the needy in our area. Both are now deceased. Nancy Hamilton, who volunteered with them, says many times when supplies were running out, Mary Lou would say “have faith” and needs were always met.

Kingsway supplies clothing, kitchen goods, white goods, toys, children’s books, furniture and appliances, and emergency supplies. All are donated by churches, organizations, companies, and individuals. Many donations are made as memorials.

Kingsway has expanded three times into larger quarters. They are now located rent-free in the Spottswood Medical Center building, thanks to the Spottswood Ruritan Club.

Kingsway has no regular paid employees. Seventeen volunteers work Tuesdays from 9:00 am to noon accepting and organizing donations. Trucks travel to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank in Verona to purchase food. The third Wednesday of each month is “Food Day”, when twenty-five volunteers provide a pleasant, caring atmosphere for families to get food and supplies between 9:15 am and 4:30 pm.

An example of Kingsways’ service includes helping 182 families (486 people) in January 2010. Between October 2009 and March 2010, Kingsway assisted 22 families with rent and electricity payments. All families who receive help meet certain financial criteria.

THANK YOU BETHEL for your continuing support with food, clothing, money and prayers, all of which are needed and much appreciated as more and more people in our neighborhood need our support.

Joan McLaughlin

Deacons Notes – May 2011

The Diaconate continues to meet its goals through May.

Financial - Receipts and expenses are on target with the 2011 budget. Although utilities significantly exceeded budget estimates through the winter, total expenses remain in line.

Congregational Care Committee (Tabby Moore and Sally Williams, Co-Chairs)

Congregational Service:

- We are increasing contact with members who are shut-in, on the prayer list, or on the membership roll but out of touch. Please pass on requests or contact information in these areas to a Deacon and we will follow up.
- The Deacons applaud Joel for his excellent May 12th Bible Study presentation and applaud our congregation for the outstanding participation at the event. We look forward to the continuing series.
- **Community Service:**
- Dean Caldwell spoke to the Greenville-Riverheads Ruritan Club on the Coast Guard, Coast Guard careers, and a major rescue mission in a storm off Alaska. The talk was based on his son's career as a Coast Guard officer.
- Derek Almarode will speak on local law enforcement at the Greenville-Riverheads Ruritan Club in June.
- Adopt-A-Highway Program – Lee Ann and Tom Heizer cleaned along Howardsville Road from St. Johns to Middlebrook Road. Susan McCutchen-Smith prepared breakfast and led a crew to clean from Springleigh to Bethel Green Road.

Building and Grounds Committee (Mac Williams and Jon Bush, Co-Chairs) –

- Fellowship Hall floor - Jon Bush is replacing broken tiles in Fellowship Hall. Mac Williams is getting an estimate for re-tiling the entire floor, for future consideration.
- Jon Bush trimmed trees and shrubs.
- Mac Williams, Chris Schooley, Barbara Gough, Joel and others mulched the church shrubs.
- Susan McCutchen-Smith and Youth members replanted flower beds.
- Obrien Roofing, the contractor that repaired our ice damage last year, is preparing an estimate to repair Tower masonry and the south wall of the hallway. The general assessment of repair needs was discussed with the Diaconate and the Session in May. When we have cost estimates, the Deacons will make recommendations to the Session for financing and repairing the Tower.
- We are taking steps to improve coordination and timely billing with our lawn service contractor.
- Tim Turner hung the Charles Hanger Wright Memorial baseball bat in the Youth Room and secured the new Preschool Fountain.
- To save on heating bills, we shut down boilers at the church and Manse for the summer and are cutting off electric heaters when rooms are not in use.
- The Diaconate and Session have discussed possible air conditioning options. We will update cost estimates for air conditioning the kitchen as requested by the Session.
- We replaced the preschool fountain and repaired the handicapped parking lot light.

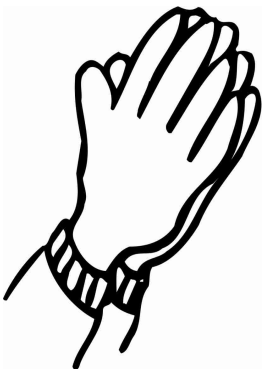
(Deacon's Notes continued on page 9)

(Deacon's Notes continued from page 8)

Manse (Chris Schooley, Chair) – Minor repairs were made in May.

Scouting and Property (Wayne Swisher, Chair) –

- The Scout troop was awarded two \$250 scholarships for summer camp, one from the Bethel Youth Fund and one from the Greenville-Riverheads Ruritan Club.
- The Scouts had a very successful camp weekend at the Frontier Culture Museum grounds.



Deacon's Prayer List

Powhatan Bouldin, Covie Brandt, Marjorie Brooks, Dr. David Burgess (Med Mission), Lorine Caldwell, Aggie Dodson, Jessie Earhart, Denny Grimm, Joel and Nellie Hamilton, Family of Mark Hanger, Family of Glenna Hutchens, Anne Jones, Flora Law, Lucy Miller, Family of Finley Mish, Miguel Norman, Judy Olson, Les Prickett, Jean Reeves, Carol Schooley, Tom Small, Richard Smith, Charlotte Swortzel, David Turner, Flood Victims, Storm Victims, Earthquake Victims

Congratulations Graduates!!

Graduating From High School



Summer Lee Barmore - Daughter of Bob and Laura Barmore; Graduating from The Oneal School in Pinehurst, NC with a 4.2 GPA; Planning to attend the University of Virginia

Kayla Diane Folsom - Daughter of Keith and Tish Folsom; Graduating from Riverheads High School; Planning to attend Shenandoah University; Majoring in Nursing

Margaret (Maggie) Freed - Daughter of Kelly and Leslie Freed; Graduating from Riverheads High School; Planning to attend the Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, MA; Majoring in Bio-medical Engineering

Emily Paige Stafford Hord - Daughter of Steve Hord and Nancy Reichard; Graduating from Riverheads High School

Jediadiah Walker Katt - Son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Katt; Grandson of Joe and Shirley Heizer; Graduating from Franklin County High School

Ethan Paul Wonderley - Son of Julie Turner; Graduating from Riverheads High School

Congratulations Graduates!!

Graduating From College



Josh Back - Son of J.W. and Missy Back; Grandson of Bob and Louise Hoy; Graduated from Virginia Tech on May 14th with a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Agriculture and Applied Economics with an area of specialization in Agribusiness Management

Sarah Kathryn Heizer - Daughter of Tom and Lee Ann Heizer; Graduated from Virginia Tech on May 13th with a M.S. degree in Career and Technical Education
Graduating From College

Ashley Elizabeth Kyle - Daughter of Steve and Mo Kyle; Graduated from Virginia Tech on May 13th with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal and Poultry Sciences with a minor in Chemistry; Will be attending the Virginia/Maryland School of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech in the fall

Mary Elizabeth Williams - Daughter of James and Cynthia Williams; Granddaughter of the late Jim and Charlotte Williams; Graduated from Virginia Tech on May 13th with a degree in Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise with a minor in Psychology; In June will begin attending Virginia Commonwealth University's physical therapy degree program

Nursery Schedule
June 2011



June 5th - Katie Williams; Mac Williams

June 12th - Karen Koogler;
Kelley Tuennermann

June 19th - Libby Smith; Evelyn LaPorte

June 26th - Joe and Sally Williams

Bethel Preschool is a state licensed preschool for ages 3-5 that meets in the mornings from Monday through Thursday. We have openings for the 2011-2012 school year! Please tell your friends and neighbors to call Pam Kirchman (886-3192) for information and registration packets.



Offering Schedule
June 2011

Dean Caldwell
Shirley Heizer
Josh Smith
Wayne Swisher

Flower Schedule
June 2011

June 5th - Sally Brubeck

June 12th - Keedie Leonard/
Communion/Pentecost Sunday

June 19th - Polly Bundy

June 26th - Pat Quick



The prayers, cards, and visits were greatly appreciated during my recent illness. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and concern.

- Doris True

Church Directory Update

Carol Schooley
(540) 337-1868
Baldwin Park
21 Woodlee Road, Apt. 220
Staunton, VA 24401



Our condolences to the family and friends of Glenna Hutchens who passed away on May 10th, 2011

Bethel Presbyterian Church

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WWW.BETHEL-PC.COM

The banner above was contributed by our friends at Hatch Graphics in Staunton to the Bethel Witness Committee. It is in Joel 's office and is available for your use.

Vacation Bible School 2011



Our Vacation Bible School will be ecumenical again this year! We will be joining our friends from Mt. Tabor Lutheran, Redeemer Lutheran, and St. John's Reformed UCC churches (all the same folks we do our Lenten cycle with) this summer. Vacation Bible School will be held at St. Johns Reformed UCC. More details will be available soon!

The Bells of Bethel are taking the summer off! They will resume practices at the end of August. We appreciate the bell choir helping us worship with beautiful music.



The Adult Choir will be taking their summer break from June until the beginning of August. We greatly appreciate the talent, dedication, and enthusiasm of our choir and our musicians as they help us worship.

Don't Forget!!

June 14th - Flag Day
June 19th - Father's Day
June 21st - First Day of Summer



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