

THE TOWER

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Staunton, Virginia 24401

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October 2011

From the pastor's desk.....

God accepts knee-mail.

If God is your co-pilot, swap seats.

Love cannot be perfect if it knows no suffering.

A wrecked lighthouse is much more dangerous than an uncharted reef.

Holiness is but another name for obedience. – A.E. Cate

The three arch-enemies of happiness are hurry, worry, and doubt.

Don't put a question mark where God has put a period.

The best way to cheer yourself up is to try and cheer someone else up. – Mark Twain

“Gospel” is neither a discussion nor a debate. It is an announcement. – Paul Ree

God promises a safe landing but not a calm passage.

Have trouble sleeping? We have sermons; come hear one.

AND my personal favorite: I believe in the sun even when it is not shining, the wind even when it is not blowing, and God even when He is silent.



Communion will be held on October 2nd, 2011, World Communion Sunday.

Bethel Fall Bazaar - Saturday, October 15th, 2011

9 am until 3 pm

Come and enjoy the fellowship and support Bethel's Women of the Church and the Witness Committee projects. There will be donated handmade items and baked goods. Also, food will be available for sale for lunch or takeout. Donations of handmade items should be delivered to the Church by 3 pm on Friday (October 14th) and perishable items should be turned in by 8 am on Saturday (October 15th). If you are donating items for the bazaar please let Libby Smith (337-2058), Tish Folsom (337-0725) or Kathy Swisher (885-7397) know what your donations will be. Please call, Libby, Tish or Kathy if you would like to help with the bazaar. **COME AND ENJOY THE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!**



The Witness Committee will be leading the worship service on Sunday, October 23rd. During the worship service, members of the Baja mission team will reflect on their work in Mexico. Snacks and lemonade will follow in the Fellowship Hall where members of the congregation may visit with the team and ask

During the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 11th, 2011 the following people were elected by the Congregation to the Nominating Committee for 2011:

Tammy Barbour
 Laura Barmore
 Barbara Gough
 Linda Lamond
 Joe F. Williams



BASICS of READING MUSIC - A 4 week basics of reading music class will be offered starting Sunday 9/25. The class will meet immediately after the worship service in the Choir Room for about an hour. This class is designed to teach the names of the notes, counting rhythms and terminology. If you have thought about playing in the Bell Choir, singing in the Adult Choir or just want to learn your way around the hymn book, this class is for you. A workbook will be provided, let Jill Webb know if you are interested, 337-4311. If this class time does not suit your schedule, another time can be arranged

Advent Workshop

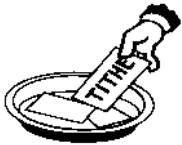
November 27th, 2011

Advent is a season of anticipation and preparation for the coming of Christ. This workshop consists of lunch following the morning worship service, craft activities representing each Sunday of Advent and an Advent wreath to be used during the Advent Season. We invite everyone to be a part of this Advent Workshop. If you would like to help or have questions, please see Peggy Smith.

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR!!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

You will find a brochure on how to pack a shoebox included in your bulletin on Sunday, October 16th. If you choose you will be able to track your shoebox this year. Just read the directions in the brochure for details. The shoeboxes are due by Sunday, November 13th. If you have any questions, please see Peggy Smith, (540) 886-4653.



Remember that stewardship season is fast approaching! Be thinking about the programs, ministry, and outreach of our congregation and how you might support them.



Youth News

HARVEST PARTY! Sunday, October 23rd, from 6pm-8pm! Come join in the fun, the costumes, the fellowship, and the food! Trunk or treat! Pumpkin carving! Games! What more needs to be said! Make plans to come and bring someone with you!

Missed Church? If you cannot attend church one Sunday and would like to see the **bulletin** you can visit the Bethel website at <http://www.bethel-pc.com>. You can view current and past bulletins, announcements, and Towers. There is also an online church calendar that is updated each month with church events.

Shenandoah Presbytery—If you would like information about events going on in the Shenandoah Presbytery, log on to the Presbytery's website at: <http://www.shenpres.org>.

To keep up with current news and projects within the denomination log on to the PCUSA website at <http://www.pcusa.org>.

SESSION NEWS

Joel discussed the new form of government for the Presbyterian Church. No action was taken but will be discussed at our next meeting.

The Christian Education Committee sponsored a cook-out on September 10th, with parents and their children for the purpose of building up our youth group. There will be more information forthcoming.

The Nominating Committee will place forms in the bulletin during the next three weeks for your suggestions of new officers to be elected this year.

A proposal was made that the outside lights at the Church be changed to dusk-to-dawn lights. The Deacons will consider this and make a decision.



Deacons Notes – October 2011

Financial - Receipts and expenses through August are within the 2011 budget. Contributions lag the budget by about \$4300, but this is not unusual for end of summer. The Capital Improvements account is under budget year to date and Utilities appear to be well over budget, but manageable.

Congregational Service – The younger age group of youth and their parents, our Sunday morning front row group, attended a youth program dinner and meeting September 10th at the Bethel picnic shelter. The attending adults volunteered to support the youth program. Church officers are exploring ways to include the older youth group in Bethel activities. September and October congregational activities include Men's Supper, Bible Study sessions, and Rally Day.

Community Service – The Bethel Bazaar will take place October 15th, and a new year of the Bethel Preschool has begun. The Bethel Preschool and Bethel Emergency Relief Fund are important continuing community services. Neighbors tell us that in the old days county school buses transported children to the Bethel Preschool.

Building and Grounds Committee – Bob Olson adjusted the exterior lighting at the exits for improved safety.

Scouting and Property – Chris Schooley's tree replacement recommendations will be available on the bulletin board in late September. Fundraising has begun. Memorial gifts to this fund will be recognized with a memorial plaque.



Deacon's Prayer List . . .

Powhatan Bouldin, Covie Brandt, Marjorie Brooks, Ben Brown, Bill Brubeck, Dr. David Burgess (Med Mission), Lorine Caldwell, Aggie Dodson, Jessie Earhart, Denny Grimm, Joel and Nellie Hamilton, Danielle Hanger, Angelina Hewitt, Anne Jones, Flora Law, Margaret Liptrap, Lucy Miller, Judy Olson, Les Prickett, Jean Reeves (F. Brown), Tom Small, Richard Smith, Sam Stewart, Charlotte Swortzel, David Turner, Richard Turner (Greater Augusta), Kelly von Arnsvoldt



Nursery Schedule**October 2011**

October 2nd - Luanne Leonard;, Jake Leonard

October 9th - Barbara Gough; Judy Olson

October 16th - Bruce and Linda Lamond

October 23rd - Katie Williams; Mac Williams

October 30th - Karen Koogler; Kelley Tuennermann

Flower Schedule**October 2011**

**October 2nd– Ginny Gano/commuion/
Memorial**

October 9th—Alphie Canning

October 16th—Libby smikth

October 23rd—Jane Law/Memorial

October 30th—Laura Barmore/Memorial

Offering Schedule October 2011

Jon Bush Tom Heizer

Chris Schooley Sally Williams



We would like to thank Mr. Edwin B. Brown for his gift to Bethel of his published book Descendants of James Brown (Senior) (17**-1833) Who Settled in Augusta County, Virginia Between The South River and The "Great Road" That Ran From Waynesboro to Greenville to Lexington, Virginia. Bethel has such a rich history in this Valley that many interested people look to our records for family and historical research. It is a blessing to have this wonderful book to add to our collection.



On behalf of myself and my whole family, I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, calls, cards and visits following my auto accident.

The love given, the prayers spoken and the concerns expressed by our church family have been a blessing to each one of us.

May God bless each of you and continue to bless our church.

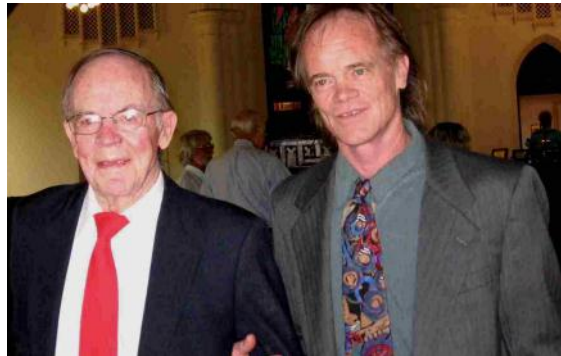
With love in Christ,
Angelina Hewitt

I want to thank my church friends for the lovely cards, visits, and prayers while I was a patient at Augusta Health. Also, thanks for the food from my circle friends. All was greatly appreciated! May God bless all. - Jessie Earhart

Thanks to the Women of the Church for the brownie and cookie mixes, snack foods, and puzzles donated for the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands.

Kingsway continues to need all types of non-perishable food: cereal, peanut butter, canned goods, dried beans, etc. Please place your donations in the designated basket in Memorial Hall. Thank you for your generosity!

The Men of the Church will meet for dinner and fellowship on October 18th, at 6:30 p.m.



MISSING? A brass urn often used at the Communion Table for flowers has been missing for several months. This is a special urn as it was a memorial gift. The Presbyterian Women would be grateful and very appreciative of its return to the church. Thank you

Presbyterian Women - October 2011

Project - Blanket Offering

*The Afternoon Circle will meet at 2:30 pm at the church on October 11th, 2011.

*The Evening Circle will meet at 7:00 pm at the church on October 11th, 2011.

October 2nd - PWCT Meeting

October 30th - PWCT Meeting



ANNUAL REPORT**BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WOMEN**

September 1, 2010 thru August 31, 2011



Hello from the Women of Bethel Church.!

We met our budget of \$4,200.00 and we had Special Offerings totaling \$819.71 which were for the following benevolences: Least Coin, Links of Love for Sunnyside, Blankets, Thank, and Birthday. The Women's projects are separate from the Church Mission Projects, although many participate in both. Gift cards were sent to the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands so the children would have spending money. Also, a large basket of snacks were sent so the children could fix snacks, this included packages of cookie mix, brownie mix, popcorn, and other snacks. The Women plan to do this project twice a year.

The Circles rotated serving the Men's Suppers and thank you to the men for their generous donations. The Women provided a meal to the Augusta Free Clinic.

Vacation Bible School was held at St. John's Church this year and some of the ladies helped with the program and served a meal one night.

We are sorry to say that two of our ladies passed away and they are Mrs. Edith Beahm and Mrs. Glenna Hutchens. Our prayers go out to each of their families.

The Women always enjoy the catered dinner in July held at the Middlebrook Community Center. The entertainment was a fashion show like you have never seen before. Great fun and thanks to the ladies who participated. We want to thank Bettie and Kay Swisher who keep our kitchen supplied and to the ladies who

cleaned the kitchen and replaced the old cardboard boxes with nice plastic totes.



All women are encouraged to attend the Afternoon 2:30 pm or Evening 7:00 pm Circle Meetings. We have Bible Study, this year was on Revelation, business meeting and fellowship. Come join us.

The ladies paid to have the chairs with cloth seats in the Fellowship Hall cleaned for a cost of \$675.00, we also, purchased 11 new tablecloths to fit the 8 foot tables purchased last year.

Thank you to all who have helped make this year a success!

Please review the income and expenses report that follows.

Beginning September 1, 2010

\$ 3,743.41

Receipts:

Regular Offering	2,110.79	
Note Cards	9.00	
Men's Suppers	740.00	
Cookbooks	300.00	
Annual Dinner	1,113.00	
Refund Subscription - Church Secretary Today	33.71	
Girl Scouts Of America Check Returned	125.00	
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	4,431.50	



SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

Least Coin	118.21	
Links of Love (Sunnyside)	157.50	
Blankets	159.00	
Thank Offering	204.00	
Birthday Offering	<u>181.00</u>	
	<u>819.71</u>	
	5,251.21	+ <u>5,251.21</u>
		\$ 8,994.62

DISBURSEMENTS:

BUDGET ITEMS:

Literature	678.55
Flowers	31.50
Gift for Missionaries (Michael and Rachel Weller)	425.00
Girl Scout Troops	125.00
Mission Court	100.00
Medical Benevolence Foundation	200.00
Shenandoah Presbytery Women	75.00
Synod of Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Women	25.00
Riverheads W.R.E.	100.00
Riverheads Elementary School	150.00
Presbyterian Children's Home	50.00
Kitchen <i>Tablecloths 230.88</i>	1308.28
<i>Plastic Totes 177.40</i> <i>Supplies 900.00</i>	

DISBURSEMENTS:

BUDGET ITEMS: *(continued)*

Kingsway Help Center	100.00
Bethel Preschool Program	500.00
Meal for Augusta Free Clinic	122.01
Miscellaneous/Projects	675.00

Cleaning Chairs in Fellowship Hall

Annual Dinner	1,256.68
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Meal 1,106.68 Fire Dept. 150.00

Memorials-Mrs. Beahm and Mrs. Hutchens	<u>50.00</u>
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5,972.02

NON BUDGET ITEMS:

Meal - Augusta Free Clinic	122.01
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Annual Catered Dinner (Entertainment,	1,256.68
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Caterer, and Middlebrook Community Center)

Memorials	<u>50.00</u>
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1,428.69

SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

Least Coin	120.29
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Links of Love (Sunnyside)	157.50
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Blankets	159.00
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Thank	204.00
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Birthday	<u>181.00</u>
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821.79

6,793.81 - 6,793.81

\$ 2,200.81

Less Designated Funds	<u>- 775.51</u>
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Balance August 31, 2011	\$ 1,425.30
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Designated Funds:

Bethel Memorial Gardens	\$736.89
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Child to Camp	20.00
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Least Coin (August)	<u>18.62</u>
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\$775.51

Respectfully Submitted, Sarah Frances Ralston, Treasurer



Trees— The Deacons have developed a phased plan to plant new trees over the next few years.

The first phase will include replacement of those maple trees in the front as well as other trees as funds allow. It is anticipated that each tree will cost about \$300, including installation and we hope to plant between 5 and 15 trees this fall. We will be raising money between now and the middle of October for this first phase. If you would like to contribute, please note any contributions for the “Bethel Tree Project”. Please see Chris Schooley if you have any questions.

Don't Forget!!

October 10th - Columbus Day Observed
October 31st - Halloween



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

