

THE TOWER

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Staunton, Virginia 24401

540-886-6041: bethelpc@gmail.com



From the Pastor's desk.

September 2011

Some Notes on Prayer

A little boy in church was noticed by a minister to be praying very fervently. When the minister passed near the boy, though, he could hear the young fellow praying, over and over again, "Tokyo, Tokyo, Tokyo." After the service, the puzzled minister said to the boy, "I am glad to see that you were praying so devoutly, but what is the meaning of your prayer in mentioning 'Tokyo' over and over again?"

The young man answered by saying, "Well, sir, I took an important geography exam last Friday, and I have been praying ever since for the Lord to make Tokyo the capital of France."Sir Eric Roll

Some Christians seem to look upon God as kind of a spare tire. A spare tire is forgotten for months at a time until we suddenly have a flat on the road. Then we want the spare tire to be in good condition and ready for use. In just the same way, many folks forget God during times when all is well, but want God to immediately answer their cries of distress in times of troubleSunday Magazine

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance. It is laying hold of God's highest willingness." Archbishop Trench.





There will be a Congregational Meeting after the worship service on September 11th, 2011. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect five members of the congregation to the Nominating Committee.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th, 2011, for Labor Day.

RALLY DAY will be on Sunday, September 18th, 2011. The day will kick off with a fabulous fellowship breakfast at 9:00 am. Everyone's invited!!



The Witness Committee will meet on Sunday, September 18th, after the morning worship service. Witness Committee members need to let Peggy Smith (540-886-4653) know if they will not be able to attend. Thank you!

PARENTS, YOUTH, VOLUNTEERS, and ALL

Who Are Concerned With Reaching Out To The Youth In This Community :

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! **SEPTEMBER 10th at 5:30 PM**



We will be meeting with all parents, youth, and those concerned about Bethel's youth program on this day at our NEW PICNIC FACILITY located down the road beside the Scout Hut. Following a wonderful COOK-OUT, we will discuss the FUTURE of Bethel's youth program. We need everybody to come and bring someone with you. Want to see a vital and meaningful youth program continue at Bethel? We can make it happen TOGETHER! Come on out for some good fun, fellowship, food, and discussion!

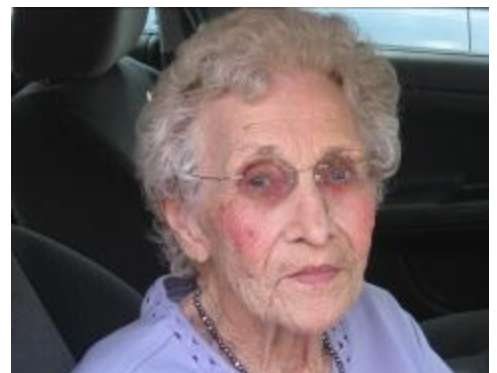


Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church

Annual Harvest Sale and Supper

The Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church will be having its annual Harvest Sale and Supper on Saturday, September 10th, 2011, beginning at 4 pm. The Family Style Menu includes: Country Ham, Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Lima Beans, Tomatoes, Pickles, Home-made Rolls, Apple Pie and Cherry Pie and Coffee and Tea.

The price is \$12.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 10. Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church is located off Rt. 252 (Middlebrook Road), South of Staunton on Route 694 (Mt. Tabor Road). Signs will be posted. The church telephone number is 540-885-4738.



Presbyterian Women

September 2011 - Emphasis: Christian Education

“Links of Love” - Project



*The Afternoon Circle will meet at 2:30 pm at the church on September 13th, 2011.

*The Evening Circle will meet at 7:00 pm at the church on September 13th, 2011.

September 4th - PWCT Meeting

September 10th - Shenandoah Presbytery “The Big Event” at Massanetta Springs

Presbyterian Women - Special Emphasis

In September, the Presbyterian Women of Bethel urge you to support the **Links of Love** program. The **Links of Love** is a partnership between the Sunnyside Communities and the Women of the Presbyterian Church. Your Links of Love contributions are a lifeline that provides security and attentive care for those who can no longer provide for themselves. The special offering will be collected during the September Circle Meetings.

Bethel Presbyterian Women - Coordinating Team Members

2011 - 2012

Moderator: Irene Elliott

Co-Moderator: Stephanie Rivers

Secretary: Joan McLaughlin

Historian: Jane Law

Treasurer: Sarah Frances Ralston

Moderator of the Search Committee: Doris True

Circle Leaders:

Afternoon Circle: Libby Smith

Evening Circle: Stephanie Rivers





If you have a child or grandchild in college that you would like to receive the Tower, please fill out the form below and return it to the Church Office by September 15th. If you are a student that would like to receive the Tower, please fill out the form below and return to the Church Office by the date above.

Name of Student: _____

Address _____

_____ email _____

If they (or you) are a returning student please resubmit the information again so the list can be updated for the 2011-2012 school year. This form can be placed in the offering plate, in the secretary's mailbox in Memorial Hall, or in the mail: Bethel Presbyterian Church, Attn: Church Secretary, 563 Bethel Green Road, Staunton, VA 24401. You may also email the information to

bethelpc@gmail.com. Thank you!



SESSION NEWS

Ken Miller, Diaconate Chairman, gave an extensive report of the deacon's accomplishments and future projects. This report will be printed in the Tower.

Chris Schooley presented a plan for planting new trees on the church grounds and will be gathering information regarding the best varieties to consider.

A congregational meeting is called for September 11th to choose members for the Nominating Committee for the year 2014.

Derek Almarode reported that the mission trip was very successful and a full report will be given at a later date.

A dinner will be held September 10th for the purpose of meeting with the families of Bethel's youth to discuss future plans for our young people.

Bethel's Preschool program has ten children enrolled this year. In the event no additional children are enrolled, staff salaries will be funded by money in the preschool treasury and it may be necessary to use some funds from our church budget .

Deacons Notes – September 2011

Financial – Receipts and expenses are on target with the 2011 budget.

Congregational and Community Service – The Bethel congregation produced and enjoyed a number of activities recently, including Bible Study, Men’s Supper, Women’s Catered Meal and Fashion Show, a booth at Staunton’s Weekend in the Park, Lemonade on the Lawn, and others. A highlight of the season was the great picnic with music, food, movies, and a tournament. We enjoyed good turnouts this summer from the congregation and the community.

Building and Grounds Committee (Mac Williams and Jon Bush) –

- We thank Susan Smith and her team for their work on our beautiful flowerbeds.
- We thank Obrien Roofing for help assessing work to be done on Tower masonry. He provided a working cost estimate and helped formulate a statement of work for the project. The Deacons drafted a statement of work.
- We installed air conditioning in the Kitchen and Choir Room, and members have expressed appreciation for this convenience. The Deacons borrowed the Choir Room from Sara Ann for our August meeting and were thankful for the cool hospitality.
- The office computer and the laptop computer were upgraded.

Manse (Chris Schooley) – Drainage improvements are being planned for the Manse, as our basement water problem has gotten worse. We studied the effects of the mid-August rains and identified some improvements to be made right away.

Scouting and Property (Wayne Swisher, Chair)

- The Scout Hut was vandalized in August.
- We lost a number of trees in recent years and have several beautiful trees that are past their prime. Chris Schooley presented a preliminary plan to the Deacons and then to the Session for tree replacement over the next several years, starting in October.



Deacon's Prayer List September 2011

Powhatan Bouldin, Covie Brandt, Marjorie Brooks, Dr. David Burgess (Med Mission), Lorine Caldwell, Aggie Dodson, Jessie Earhart, Denny Grimm, Joel and Nellie Hamilton, Danielle Hanger, Anne Jones, Flora Law, Margaret Liptrap, Lucy Miller, Judy Olson, Les Prickett, Jean Reeves, Tom Small, Richard Smith, Charlotte Swortzel, Doris True, David Turner



Bethel Preschool is a preschool for ages 3-5 that meets from 9 am until 12 pm, 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.

Kingsway continues to need all types of non-perishable food: cereal, peanut butter, canned goods, dried beans, etc. They also are requesting donations of large men's clothes and household goods. Please place your donations in the designated basket in Memorial Hall. Thank you for your generosity!

Flower Schedule

September 2011

September 4th - Jessie Earhart/ Memorial

September 11th - Keedie Leonard

September 18th - Margaret Wade

September 25th - Lucy Sproul



Offering Schedule for September

Bob Olson

Susan McCutchen-Smith

Mac Williams

Sally Williams

Nursery Schedule September 2011

September 4th - Stephanie Rivers; Jackie Law

September 11th - Eloise Moore; Barbara Damico

September 18th - Joyce Miller; JoAnna Nichols

September 25th - Josh and Meagan Smith



Help the American Cancer Society Save Lives!

Are you interested in making a difference today in someone's life?

Having cancer is hard, finding help shouldn't be. The American Cancer Society offers free support, products, transportation, programs and services but we're constantly needing more volunteers to meet the demand.



Our community needs us more now than ever before. . .Can you help?

If you are interested in more information on how you can volunteer for one of our patient programs. By driving a patient to treatment or helping with someone's grocery shopping please contact:

Carrie Klamut ~ ACS Community Manger - Staunton/Waynesboro/Augusta County
Call:(540) 434-3360 Email: Carrie.Klamut@cancer.org



Don't Forget!!
September 5th - Labor Day
September 11th - Patriot Day

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

