

# THE TOWER

*June 2010*  
*Bethel Presbyterian Church Joel Thornton, Pastor*  
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*Calendar - see website*

## **From the Pastor's Desk . . .**

“Hear, my children, the instruction of a father,  
and give attention to know understanding.”  
(Proverbs 4:1)

To you, O child of mine, I cannot give  
A vast estate of wide and fertile lands;  
But I can keep for you, while I live, unstained hands.

I have no blazoned family crest that insures  
Your path to eminence and worldly fame;  
But longer than empty heraldry endures a blameless name.

I have no treasure chest of gold refined  
No hoarded wealth of clinking, glittering pelf;  
But I will give to you my hand, and heart, and mind-  
All of myself.

I can exert no mighty influence  
To make a place for you in men's affairs;  
But I will lift to God in secret audience  
Unceasing prayers.  
I cannot, though I would, be always near  
To guard your steps with the parental rod;  
But I trust your soul to Him who holds you dear,  
Your father's God.

-Merrill C. Tenny



**From the Pastor's Desk (continued) . . .**



I would like to take the occasion of this Father's Day to tell my own father that he is a living example of the poem above. Thank you, Dad, for the great gifts of yourself given to me in my life... gifts that continue even to this day. A blameless name, unstained hands, and unceasing prayers have been among those precious gifts. May God continue to bless you and your own ministry. You are my hero.

greatly appreciate the talent, dedication, and enthusiasm of our choir and our musicians as they help us worship.

**The Adult Choir** will take their summer break from June until the beginning of August. We

**No Summer Early Worship Services** - There will be no summer early worship services this year due to Joel's sabbatical.



**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.

**Handbell Choir Concert** - On Sunday, June 6, the Bethel Handbell Choir will be in concert with four other Augusta/Rockbridge County choirs. The community concert will be held at Bethel Presbyterian Church at 3:00 p.m. A reception is planned following the concert. An offering for "Mission Next Door" will be taken. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend!

**Communion** will be held on Sunday, June 27th.

**Congregational Meeting** will be held

after the worship service on June 20, 2010. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect five members of the congregation to the Nominating Committee.



### **Vacation Bible School 2010**

Bethel is hosting our community Vacation Bible School this year July 18th to July 21st with Redeemer Lutheran, Mt. Tabor Lutheran and St. John's Reformed UCC. We will start on Sunday at 4 PM, in order to get in 2 lessons and continue nightly through Wednesday starting with a meal at 6 PM. Our theme will be SonQuest Rainforest and classes will study five parables. Classes are being offered for ages 3 up and will include, in addition to the Bible study, arts and crafts, songs and games. Pre-registration is encouraged. The adult class will be taught by Rev. Joann Bunn (topic to be determined).

We will provide the meat, drinks and snacks on Sunday and families are requested to bring a covered dish. Each of the other churches will provide the meals and snacks the other 3 nights. All the churches will provide teachers and other class leaders. Your help is needed for the following: 3 teachers (one parable for 5 grade levels Pre-K to 5), arts and crafts with Mary Ann Anderson and Melodie Strickler, games and activities with Keith Folsom, songs, computer person and kitchen help nightly to prepare drinks and help as needed. Contact Irene Elliott 885-3554 or Jill Webb 337-4311 for more information or to volunteer.



**Presbyterian Women - June 2010**  
Emphasis - Christian Family Education

The Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 2:30 pm.

The Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 7:00 pm.



### Witness Committee News

#### Baja Mission News

Derek Almarode, Alex Arneson, Laura Barmore, Kristen Cox, Lily & Olivia Damico, Ben, Keith & Kayla Folsom, Andrew Heizer, Katie Johnson, Garrett Nichols, Bob Olson, Adam Ritter, Dustin Skillman, Kathy Swisher and Jackie Whetzel, will be going on the Highland-Augusta Mission Community Trip to Baja California, Mexico from July 22nd through August 2nd. The Bethel team is the largest group of the 54 members from congregations in the Shenandoah Presbytery who will be building houses for 3 Oaxacan Indian families, a native people of Mexico.

Each build team will consist of approx. 18 people. This year the “Bethel Baja Builders” as we have named ourselves will again be taking a “Baja Suitcase” for the children.

Beginning Sunday, June 6th, the “Baja Suitcase” will be located in the vestibule. We hope that you fill it to the brim and over with any “gently used” toys, stuffed animals, or sports items (soccer balls, Frisbees, small balls, kite kits, air pumps, etc.). Also appreciated are hair accessories, drawing pads, crayons, pencils and sharpeners; small purses; anything that you think that a child would enjoy having.

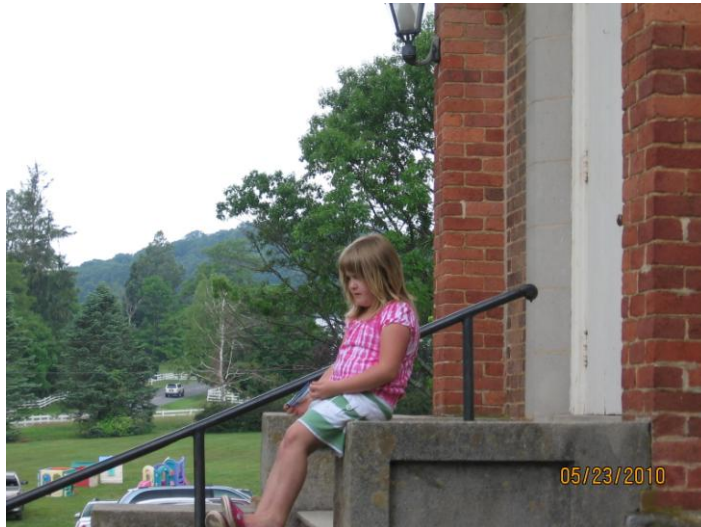
Sheets, blankets, pillows, curtain rods, table cloths, may be left in the Senior High Sunday School room. These donations need not be new- just clean and ready to be put to use.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. We will share more information about Bethel’s Mission trip to Baja in the weeks ahead.

#### Bethel Car Wash

On June 19th, 2010, the Bethel Mission Team will be holding a car wash and baked goods sale at

the Staunton Advance Auto Parts parking lot from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. A free will offering will be collected for the car wash and all money will go to Bethel's Mission Fund. Please contact Andrew Heizer (414-4439) if you would be willing to help with the car wash or bake anything for the bake sale. Come and support Bethel's Mission Programs!



### **Bethel Mission Quilt**

Mission work is a very active and important part of Bethel Church. To raise funds for missions, we will be constructing another quilt this year. The name of the 2010 Bethel Church Quilt is **THE CIVIL WAR LOVE LETTER QUILT**. All patterns, supplies, sewing machine and instructional help will be available. Please get involved for great fellowship with lots of laughs while contributing to Bethel Church's outreach program. If you would be interested in making a quilt square, please contact Margaret Wade at 337-2032, immediately.

### **Thanks For Your Support!!!!!!**

The Pork Dinner Fundraiser on April 18th was great! Thank you to all who helped and attended the Pork Dinner sponsored by the Olson's. Thank you for all the donations which totaled \$1,396.00. Special thanks to the Olson's for all their hard work.

- The Witness Committee

Thank you to all who helped, who stopped by or who made a donation to the Yard Sale which was held in Stuarts Draft in April. The total raised was \$1,329.40. All proceeds go to the Mission Funds.

- The Witness Committee

A BIG THANK YOU to the congregation for all the help and support with the Rebuilding Together Augusta Project on April 24th. Special thanks to David Turner, Jug and Peggy Smith, Guy Brooks, Mac Hewitt and Billy Wade for fixing the guttering on the house. Also helping with

the foundation work on Saturday was Kevin Dodson, Guy Brooks, James Williams, Bruce Lamond, Mac Hewitt, Jug Smith, Grant McDaniel, Mo Kyle, Peggy Smith and Levi McDaniel. Thanks go to Peggy Smith and Levi McDaniel for providing a good lunch. There is more work to do on this project and we will continue working in the evenings. Please let Peggy Smith know if you would be willing to help complete this project. Thanks again for a job well done!

- The Witness Committee

### **Bethel Church Picnic**

**Saturday, June 26th, 2010**

**4 pm until 7 pm**

Come and bring a covered dish and lawn chair!

Hot dogs/Buns, Condiments, and Drinks will be furnished

Freezers of homemade ice cream needed!

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

Youth News

Thanks to all who participated in the Mother's Day Service. You all did a wonderful job singing and reading scripture!

On May 16th we were blessed with a beautiful day to plant the "Rainbow Garden" box on the playground. We also planted geraniums in special flowerpots to share with our shut-ins. A big thank you to Don Hall for taking the time to share with us a fun and informative presentation about Memorial Day.

There will be no regular youth meeting in June, but we will practice for the Father's Day worship service during Sunday School on June 6th, 13th and 20th.

There will be no regular youth meeting in July as well, but we hope to see everyone at Vacation Bible School from July 18th through July 21st.

- Youth Committee



## **Congratulations High School Graduates!**

Shantell Brown - Daughter of Niann (Cash) Wimer; Granddaughter of Nancy and George Stephenson and the late A. W. Cash Jr.; Graduating from Farmville High School with a business diploma; Planning to attend Pitt Community College in Greenville, NC

Tate Burkholder - Son of Fred Burkholder and Debbie Burkholder; Graduating from Riverheads High School

Aaron Barclay Crosby - Son of Harry and Beverley Crosby; Grandson of James and Betty Crosby; Graduating from Buffalo Gap High School

Benjamin Folsom - Son of Keith and Tish Folsom; Graduating from Riverheads High School

Elizabeth Hord - Daughter of Steve Hord and Nancy Reichard; Graduating from Riverheads High School; Planning to attend

Roanoke College

Kelly Johnson - Daughter of Charles and Rhonda Johnson; Graduating from Riverheads High School

Kelley Tuennermann - Daughter of Steve Tuennermann and Karen Koogler; Graduating from Riverheads High School on June 4th; Planning to attend Radford University; Majoring in Nursing

Colin Thomas Whitaker - Son of Thomas and Drury Whitaker; Grandson of John and Mary Ann Anderson; Graduating from Rockbridge County High School in Lexington, VA; Planning to attend Shepherd University

Katie Williams - Daughter of Joe F. and Sally Williams; Graduating from Riverheads High School

## **Congratulations College Graduates!**

Sarah Kathryn Heizer - Daughter of Tom and Lee Ann Heizer; Graduated from Virginia Tech on May 15th with a bachelor of science degree in Agricultural Science with minors in horticulture and biology

Lindsey Lamond Lennon - Daughter of Bruce and Linda Lamond; Graduated from James Madison University on May 8th with an undergraduate degree in Sociology/Psychology; Lindsey and her husband, Phil plan to move to Florida this summer where Lindsey will be enrolled in the Sociology/Psychology doctoral program at Florida State University

Laura Leigh Swisher - Daughter of Wayne and Kathy Swisher; Graduated from Temple University on May 13th with a bachelor of arts degree in Cultural Anthropology with minors in history and religion.

## **Session News**

The Session continues to plan for Joel's sabbatical, which will take place during the months of July, August, and September. Details will be in the next Tower (July).

The Session called for a Congregational Meeting to be held on June 20th for the purpose of electing congregational members to the nominating committee.

Another Congregational Meeting will be held on October 17th for the election of officers.

Ben Heizer, who is publishing his first collection of church music that he has written for the organ, was given permission to use Bethel's picture on the front of his publication.



## Deacon's Notes May 2010

We remain close to the 2010 income and expense budget through April. We continue to restrain spending where possible. The Women of the Church are reviewing rebate programs with area grocery stores as a possible fundraising activity.

The Finance Committee and Trustees worked together in May to diversify and manage endowment fund investments. Ken Wilkinson researched and defined individual endowments and their current status. The Trustees approved a management plan and the following Finance Committee: Derek Almarode, Don Hall, Ken Miller, Mike Schooley, Dale Smith, and Ken Wilkinson. The Trustees, Session, and Deacons are represented on the committee. Fidelity Investments was selected as Bethel's investment company for endowments, except for the Cemetery Fund, which is managed separately. The Finance Committee will report quarterly to the Trustees and Session.

We received a preliminary settlement from our insurer for ice damages to the church and Manse. Mac Williams is working with our contractor, O'Brien Roofing, to repair ice damage. Several minor improvement activities are scheduled.

Bethel contracted with Larry C. Edwards, Consulting Forester, to sell standing timber on Bethel property. Larry marked and inventoried 477 trees for cutting. Larry has distributed a request for bids. Bids will be opened at the Bethel Scout Hut on June 2nd at 2:00 P.M.

Deacon's Prayer List

**Deacon's Prayer List:** Glenn Austin, Edith Beahm, Kelsey Bosserman, Covie Brandt, Marjorie Brooks, Lorine Caldwell, Melissa Coffey, Jim Crosby, Aggie Dodson, Jessie Earhart, Nellie Hamilton, Jim Heizer, Wayne Hord, Flora Law, Lucy Miller, Judy Olson, Suzanne Perl, Roy Pilson, Les Prickett, Tom Small, Richard Smith, Charlotte Swortzel, David Turner, Robbie Victorine.



**The Adult Choir** would like to thank Sara Ann Lamb and JoAnn Pendley for our wonderful music during church services. We'll be looking forward to getting back together after our break for the summer.

### **KINGSWAY HELP CENTER**

Kingsway began in our area in the 1960's when Mary Lou Taylor felt led to help a needy family with food and clothing. Soon Mary Lou and her husband, John Lee, were helping about ten families, so she contacted the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank for assistance.

Mary Lou and John Lee then became a satellite organization of Kingsway Ministries in Harrisonburg, Virginia, in order to use the tax exempt status of that organization.

At the beginning, Mary Lou and John Lee were working from their home, but as their clientele grew in number their need for space grew, resulting in their moving the operation to the old Depot building in Spottswood. Later they moved again to two unused rooms in the Spottswood-Raphine Ruritan building. Here they collected a number of freezers and put up shelves for food. By this time, word had gotten around about the work being done and donations began to come in from churches, individuals and organizations.

Kingsway is now located in the Spottswood Medical Center building, pays its own telephone and electricity, but pays no rent due to the generosity of the Spottswood Ruritan Club. Between October 2009 and March 2010, our expenses for utilities, emergency help and purchased food amounted to \$13,343.85

The original two room operation had about 900 square feet, and is presently used to store donated furniture and appliances. The Medical Center building added another 2700 square feet, and now Kingsway has rooms for men, women and children's clothing, kitchen goods, white goods, toys, children's books, emergency supplies and an office needed for endless paperwork. Around the time when this additional space was obtained, Mary Lou reorganized and acquired our own tax exempt number.

At present we have seventeen volunteers who come weekly each Tuesday from 9 am until noon. At this time donations are accepted, sorted and placed in the appropriate rooms, and those who have trucks travel to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank in Verona to purchase whatever food is available. This food and the food donated directly to us by churches and individuals is then organized by the volunteers in the storage area which includes ten freezers.

The third Wednesday of each month is "food day". Beginning with a devotional period at 9:15 am, twenty-five volunteers work until 4:30 pm to provide a pleasant, caring atmosphere for families to get food and shop for needed supplies. As an example, in January 2010 we served 182 families, a total of 486 people. Each family must meet certain financial criteria. In addition, between October 2009 and March 2010, 22 families were helped with payment of rent and electricity.

Kingsway pays no employees, all work is done by volunteers, and all of our money is donated. Churches, organizations, companies and individuals, many of whom make memorial donations, keep Kingsway going.

Mary Lou and John Lee Taylor established a wonderful life saving source for the needy in our area. Both of them are now deceased, but Nancy Hamilton, who volunteered with them, has stated that many times when only \$200.00 was in the bank, Mary Lou would say "have faith", and needs were always met.

THANK YOU BETHEL for your 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

### **Bethel Presbyterian Women Donation Request**

The Bethel Presbyterian Women are planning to purchase new tables for the Fellowship Hall. The PWCT is currently checking with the Middlebrook Fire Company about the type and price of the tables they purchased recently. They are asking for monetary donations from the congregation to help with the cost of the tables. The PWCT will cover the remainder for the cost of the tables out of their general fund. All donations given by the congregation are requested by July 31, 2010.



### Flower Schedule

June 6	Sally Brubeck
June 13	Keedie Leonard
June 20	Polly Bundy
June 27	Pat Quick / Communion

### Nursery Schedule

June 6	Joe and Tabby Moore
June 13	Stephanie Rivers; Jackie Law
June 20	Derek and Cindy Almarode
June 27	Eloise Moore; Barbara Damico

### Church Directory Update

Edith Beahm  
(540) 943-2974  
339 Westminster Drive; Room 121  
Fishersville, VA 22939



Cub Scout Pack 13

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