

THE CHALLENGE

Bethlehem United Methodist Church
PO BOX 56/6103 Appomattox Rd.
Climax, NC 27233
Church Office: 336-674-0155 Fax: 336-674-0157

THE PASTOR'S COLUMN

My daughter, Melanie, sent out this devotional written by Rev. Greg Laurie who published it through his Harvest Ministry. With both the recent hurricane (Florence) and some personal challenges people are facing, I wanted to share this. *God Bless, Pastor Michael*

Hurricane Grace By Greg Laurie (Sept. 8, 2016)

<https://www.harvest.org/devotions-and-blogs/daily-devotions/2016-09-08>

"The film *The Perfect Storm* tells the story of an actual storm off the coast of Massachusetts in 1991, which was the strongest storm in recorded history. This so-called perfect storm was the result of three storms that combined into one, creating an almost apocalyptic situation in the Atlantic Ocean. Two existing storms were hit by a hurricane, ironically dubbed Hurricane Grace. The combination of these three weather elements produced a monstrous, two-thousand-mile-wide hurricane that produced one-hundred-foot waves.

"In Matthew 8 we find a story of Jesus' disciples facing what could be described as a Hurricane Grace of their own. We are told that 'when [Jesus] got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep.' (verses 23-24).

"Notice that verse 23 says, 'His disciples followed Him.' And where did that lead? Right into a storm. This storm came because the disciples obeyed the Lord, not because they disobeyed Him. Sometimes when troubles come, we say that it's a result of disobedience. But the fact may be that the storm is actually a result of obedience.

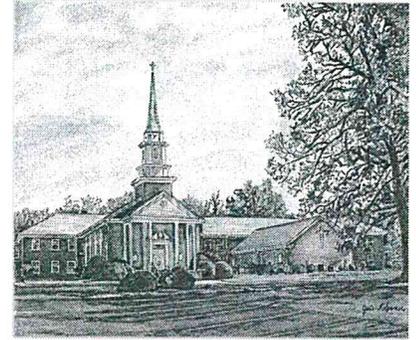
"God can use the storms in our lives to accomplish His purposes. As the saying goes, the same hammer that shatters glass also forges steel. Sometimes it seems as though it would be better if we never went through a storm. We think life always should be easy. But there are things we learn in storms. There are things we learn in hardships and crises that we don't learn anywhere else.

"Where there are no trials in life, there are no triumphs. God has His purposes in the storms. And just as Jesus was with His disciples, He will be with us, too.

"God does not cause the storms. However, when we find ourselves in the midst of one, God is there also."

Four of the disciples were experienced fishermen who knew about the great storms which often swept across this body of water.

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Our Mission at Bethlehem UMC
Is to share the love and spirit of Christ, be a welcoming fellowship for all, nurture followers of Jesus and send them, as servants, into the world in need of God's grace.

Pastor

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Vickie Flinchum

Choir Director

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Organist

Jane Reddick

Pianist

Laura Cranfill

Child Care Director

Jackie Smith
336-674-9879

Custodian

Ovido Sorbito

Webmaster

Debbie Brady



Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/BUMC.nc

Visit our Website at
bethlehemumc.org

PRAYER CONCERNS

Ongoing Prayer Needs:

Lucy Albright (Clapp's Assist.)
Mark Allen
Charles Alexander (UNC-CH)
Vicky Alexander
Dale Austin
Jack Bowman
Tony Bowman
Suzie Branch
Edna Coble (Morningview)
Brad Dills
Thomas Dills
Ben Fields (Clapps Assist.)
Cletis Fields (Clapp's)
Cory Fields
Kelsey Garrett

Ongoing Continued

Ruby Hockett (assisted living)
Carlton Johnson
Carolyn Johnson (home)
Marjorie Mabe
Mildred Moser (Clapp's Assist.)
Jamie O'Daniel
Dicky Parks
David Robb
Francis Snow
Bobby Tew
Brandon Thompson (injury)
Mike Underwood (home)
Brody Watson (home)
Jeffrey Welker
All of our homebound

Immediate Prayer Needs:

Peggy Bowman (home)
Brad Fields (heart surgery)
Gene Flinchum
Todd Garrett (overseas)
Nancy Golden
Betty Hull (home)
Hilda Hutchens (Phyllis Dahl's aunt)
Arnold Ingold (knee surgery)
Clyde Land
Jim Robb (David Robb's brother)
Dennis McGee (Melanie Robb's step-father)
Tessa Murphy (Laura Cranfill's Aunt)
Lisa Ornsby (acquaintance of Sheila Moser)
Ernest Wicker (Phyllis Wicker's Bro. in law.)
Kathy Wilkinson
Unspoken



YOUTH BASKETBALL (Recreation League) – Sign-ups for youth, (boys & girls) ages 6-18 are as follows (@ Pleasant Garden Gym)

- Monday, October 15, 2018 6-8PM
- Sunday, October 21, 2018 2-4PM
- Tuesday, October 23, 2018 6-8PM

Contact David Cranfill with any questions (336)509-5994.

Individuals can change things....If everyone will just do their little part, then we can make a tremendous difference in the lives of other people.

Sarah Purcell
1970 -, American Writer



OCTOBER FAMILY REUNIONS

John Fields Reunion is Sunday, October 7.

Youth News

Submitted by Kristen Windsor, Youth Director

- Fall Mission Project is Blessing Bags. These are plastic zip-lock bags filled with basics/hygiene products that are needed for those who are homeless. Donations for these are being accepted now through Dec. 30th. (A basket for donations is located in the Youth Room.) Monetary donations to offset cost of supplies are also accepted. Please contact Kristen for details (828)638-4744.
- Canned food Drive for "Out of the Garden Project" begins Nov. 4. See a youth member for more information.
- Youth "Friendsgiving" will be Nov. 14 from 6:30 - 7:30PM at the church.
- CCC Interest Meeting is Dec. 2 @ 4PM at the church.
Give Kristen a call if you/your youth will be attending CCC next year. She needs a headcount.
- The Youth Christmas Party is Dec. 21 from 6-8PM @ the church.



CROP Walk - Sunday, October 14th

For more information contact Sandie Harris (336)681-1558

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Budget Results for August 2018

\$268,025.34 Total Budget Money Available August 1, 2018
 + 23,263.05 Money Received in August
- 27,197.54 Money Spent in August
 \$264,090.85 Total Budget Money Available August 31, 2018

For the month of August, 2018, the Church Budget spent \$3,934.49 more than it received. For the year, the Church Budget received \$1,693.85 more than it spent.

Major Maintenance & Repair Fund – this designated money will be used to pay for major maintenance or repair projects to the Church building, parsonage or parking lot. The Board of Trustees must recommend all expenditures from this fund to the Church Council, and the Church Council must approve all expenditures from this fund. This is a perpetual fund and a minimum balance of \$2,500.00 shall be maintained at all times.

\$21,235.24 Total MM&RF Money Available August 31, 2018

Other Designated Gifts – occurs when the Church receives money for a designated purpose and the Church shall only spend this money for the purpose that it was given.

Insurance Money (mold)	\$ 6,053.70	Camp Tekoa	\$ 781.88
Food Pantry	\$ 497.89	Handbells	\$ 160.52
Discretionary Fund	\$ 6,765.68	Scholarship-Religion Ed	\$ 1,983.22
Little Chefs	\$ 26.29	Missions-Undesignated	\$ 18,660.85
Records & History	\$ 541.56	Christmas Shoeboxes	\$ 714.62
UMYF	\$22,685.31	Cemetery Fund	\$ 26,293.71
Family Ministries	\$ 1,807.87	Cemetery/Columbarium	\$ 39,159.94
Helen Grady Endowment	\$ 252.65	Columbarium Donations	\$ 11,812.06
Flowers	\$ 38.00	Columbarium Niche	\$ 1,000.00
Camp Meeting Fund	\$ 130.00	Veteran's Memorial Pavers	\$ 1,800.00
Brunswick/Chicken Stew	\$ 150.00	Col/Vet Mem: Golf Tour.	\$ 2,338.01
		Choir Fund	\$ 865.00

Total Other Designated Gift Money Available August 31, 2018 \$144,518.76

\$101,800.00 Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund

In order to plan and provide the necessary funds for the care and upkeep of our cemetery, a Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund was created. This fund was a non-expendable trust fund in which the principle (donations) cannot be spent but the interest earned on the principle can be spent for the care and upkeep of the cemetery. The Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund was capped as of January 17, 2016 by the Church Council and is no longer taking donations.

\$51,380.22 Helen Grady Endowment Fund

The money was donated to our church from the estate of Helen Grady in 2007 to be used for improvements to the church, community, or the development of an individual. The money is at the United Methodist Foundation of WNC, Inc. and the amount that can be spent annually is 5% of the last three (3) years average end-of-year balance.

Frank Willis, Stewardship Ministry Chair

October Birthdays

10/2 Phyllis Dahl
Scott Wilkinson
10/4 Travis Franklin
10/5 Jim Smith
10/6 Jack Bowman
Lorrie Roth
10/8 Tracy Peele
10/9 Dale Routh
10/11 Courtney Ingold
10/13 Betty Kirkman
10/15 Susan Davis
LeeAnne Curtis
10/16 Kristy Robb
10/17 Bonnie Averill
Joseph F. Garrett
Pat Snyder
Kelli Wilkinson
10/18 Byron Dahl
Herbert McClintock
10/20 Braxton Wall
10/22 Cletis Fields
10/23 Alex Haywood
10/24 Carolyn Johnson
Kimber Faircloth
Donna Younts
10/25 Jeffrey Welker
10/27 Jim Little
10/28 Holly Robb
10/30 Victoria Coble

Happy Birthday!

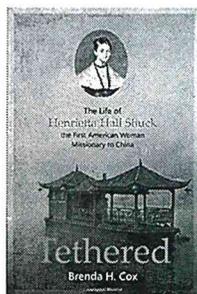
November Birthdays

11/1 Matthew Garrett
Amanda Parks
11/3 Denny Spencer
11/5 Kaila Hill
11/6 Sharon Hill
11/10 Justin Windsor
11/11 Pat Coble
Sarah Hinshaw
Annie Mae Jones
Jean Greeson
11/12 Vickie Flinchum
Karen Lauder
Madison Nance
Kathy Wilkinson
11/13 Fred Cook
11/14 Ronda Faggart
Phil Smith
Melissa Swofford
Carol Williams
11/17 Jonathan King
Nathan Pipe
Emily Lauder
11/18 Gail Williams
Mario Massarelli
11/19 Will Rivers
11/22 Nancy Kivett
Terry Owens
11/23 Doug Garrett
Franklin Stevens
11/24 Frank Willis
Ginny Fields

11/28 Tim Fields
Bobby Tew
11/29 Ethan Hill
Wayne Moser
11/30 Mark Allen
Beverly Culbertson



ADULT BEACH RETREAT
"Life Re-Set" 2018 is Nov.
27 – Nov. 29 @ Beach
Cove Resort in Myrtle
Beach, SC. This Retreat is
designed to help enjoy the
beach, make some
friends, and learn how to
grow stronger & wiser in
today's world. It is led by
Joel Elder & Chris Thore.
Brochure/registration
forms are available in the
narthex & outside of
church office. **Deposits
due by Oct. 21st.**



FRIENDLY CLUB - Please join us on **Tues., Oct. 9th** at 10:30AM for our meeting. Our speaker will be Brenda H. Cox. Brenda is the author of the book - *Tethered, The Life of Henrietta Hall Shuck, The First American Woman Missionary to China*. Please join us as we learn more about this book and its author. Bring a dish for lunch and a friend.

REMINDER FROM THE TRUSTEES - In an effort to move forward with security measures for our church, all entrance doors will be locked at 10:55am. To gain entry after 10:55am, enter via the front main doors to the sanctuary which will be monitored. Thank you, BUMC Trustees Committee



PECANS have arrived and are in the conference room. Cost is \$10.00/pound (large pieces). Please pay any Arlene Stokes Circle member.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Date	8:50 Greeters	10:55 Greeters	Altar Flowers	Family Reunions @ BUMC	3 STEWARDS NEEDED PER SERVICE Communion Stewards (First)	3 STEWARDS NEEDED PER SERVICE Communion Stewards (Second)	Opener/ Closer For Month
10/7 World Communion	Lucille & Stacy	Joy, Mario, Lorrie	Jane Snead	John Fields Reunion	Becky & Dale	Lorrie & Joy	OCTOBER Bud Lauder (O); Jim Culbertson (C)
10/14 Children's Sabbath	Wayne & Phyllis Alley	Shirley Hackett & Jane Chamelin	Beverly Fields	McClintock Reunion/Lois Snow			Bud Lauder (O); Jim Culbertson (C)
10/21	Jerry & Karon Monnett	Jim Evans & April Wreath	Phyllis Wicker				Bud Lauder (O); Jim Culbertson (C)
10/28	Deena, Jenahlee, Matthew	Michael & Debbie Brady	Lois Snow				Bud Lauder (O); Jim Culbertson (C)
11/4 Communion/All Saints' Sunday	Lois Snow	Buddy & Judy Fields	Becky Windsor		NEED STEWARDS	NEED STEWARDS	NOVEMBER Jerry Monnett (o); David Cranfill (C)
11/11 Veterans Day	Jerry & Karon Monnett	Mario, Joy, Lorrie	Lorrie Roth				Jerry Monnett (o); David Cranfill (C)
11/18	Dale & Gloria Austin	NEED GREETERS	Dale & Gloria Austin				Jerry Monnett (o); David Cranfill (C)
11/25 Christ the King Sunday/UMC Student Day	Alice Jones	Brian, Layne, Maysa	Ruth Rowland & Robin Bunton	Wicker Reunion			Jerry Monnett (o); David Cranfill (C)

October Ushers:

David Allen, Jerry Berry, Byron Dahl, Terry Franklin, Kevin Gunter

November Ushers:

Earl Fields, Tim Fields, Doug Garrett, Leo Kirkman, Bob Norris

Audio/Visual:

Gene Flinchum, Terry Franklin, Wayne Moser, Denny Spencer, Justin Windsor

Acolytes:

Sofia Cook Marimon & Claudio Cook Marimon

Thank you all for serving!

THE PASTOR'S COLUMN

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Maybe it was those whose careers did not have them working on the water that ran to Jesus during this storm crying out, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" At least they knew to turn to Jesus although some translations say, "Jesus, don't you care?" The answer to such a question is he does."

Trusting him brings calmness through the strength and courage he brings into one's life and answers in the midst of the challenges. In my short time at Bethlehem, we have as a congregation experienced several miracles as we prayed in faith to the Lord our God. Continue to lift up one another in prayer and especially include those facing challenging storms.

BOO BASH

A FREE EVENT!

Trick-or-Treating




Hot Dogs

6-8PM

FUN FOR ALL

Hayrides



October 31

Bethlehem United Methodist Church
6103 Appomattox Rd.
Climax, NC 27233
336-674-0155

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Memorials Received

In Memory of **Dalton Bowman & Boys**
By Louise Bowman

In Memory of **Scott Hackett**
By Shirley Hackett

In Memory of **Doris McClintock Hockett**
By Linda Duncan, Kim & Cindy
By Gene & Vickie Flinchum

In Memory of **Bobbie McClintock**
By Buddy & Judy Fields
By Kelly & Betty Fields
By Jerry & Karon Monnett
By Francis & Lois Snow
By Betty Wilkins
By Frank & Julia Willis

Honorariums Continued

In Honor of **Louise Bowman**
By Margaret Royal

In Honor of **Kelsey Garrett**
By Phala Garrett

In Honor of **Todd Garrett**
By Phala Garrett
By Michelle Miles

In Honor of the **Sunshine Class**
By Margaret Royal

In Honor of **All of Our Good Neighbors**
By Vivian Wilkinson

In Honor of **Michael & Melissa Swofford**
By Dickie & Evonne Parks

In Honor of **Melanie Swofford**
By Jerry & Karon Monnett

In Honor of **Clarence & Lucille McClintock**
By Wes & Lisa Taylor

In Honor of **Dicky & Evonne Parks**
By Margaret Royal

In order to meet printing deadline for the newsletter, some memorials & honorariums received during the month will appear in next month's newsletter.

Project AGAPE Christmas Shoe Boxes

Submitted by Julia Willis

Way to go, Bethlehem! We contributed 245 shoe boxes for Armenia...a Bethlehem RECORD! Previously our record was 198. Thanks to all who donated money, items, made your own boxes, and helped to create and prepare the boxes for shipment. This is an ongoing project, so we will continue to accept your monetary donations to cover the \$5/ea. shipping charge, take advantage of year-end sales such as stuffed animals after Valentines & Easter, and purchase much needed hats & gloves as they become more available in the next few weeks. These are ways to stretch our mission dollars. Thank you so much for your support of this mission project in the oldest Christian country of Armenia.



MEETING REMINDER

Sun., Oct. 28 @ 7PM Church Council Meets;
Charge Conference will follow @ 7:30PM.



Memorials for Veterans Day – The Young-at-Heart SS Class is preparing a special keepsake bulletin to honor or memorialize our Veterans on Sunday, November 11. Donations are \$5 per name. Please use a separate envelope for each Veteran's name (available at each entrance and in the SS Classes.) Make checks payable to Young-at-Heart SS Class with Veterans Memorial on the memo line. Envelopes may be given to Karon Monnett or Phyllis Wicker or placed in the offering plate. Deadline is Sunday, November 4. Thanks for your participation in this project.

OCTOBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>7 20th Sun./Pentecost World Communion Sunday Peanut Butter/Catmeal Sun. John Fields Reunion 8:50AM First Worship 10AM Sunday School 10:55AM Second Worship NO UMYF 5:30PM Disc. BS 5:30PM Lord Change My...BS</p>	<p>1 6:30PM Child Care Board 7:30PM Exercise</p>	<p>2 Barn Breakfast Club @ Backyard Grill 10AM StoryTime (Library)</p>	<p>3 6:30PM Line Dancing (OFF SITE) 7PM Women in Christ 7PM Cub/Boy Scouts (Cubs in FH)</p>	<p>4 3:15PM Children's Chapel 7PM Missions 7:30PM Trustees</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Kitchen & FH in use 5:30AM - 3PM 9-1PM Car Show 12noon Hot Dogs (by Youth) 1PM Stew Sales</p>
<p>14 21st Sun./Pentecost Children's Sabbath Pastor Appreciation Sun. 8:50AM First Worship 10AM Sunday School 10:55AM Second Worship 5PM UMYF 5:30PM Disc. BS NO Lord Change My...BS CROP WALK</p>	<p>8 Columbus Day 6:30PM History & Records 7PM Evangelism 7:30PM Exercise</p>	<p>9 10AM StoryTime (Library) 10:30AM Friendly Club</p>	<p>10 Food Pantry Open 3-4PM 6:30PM Youth Bible Study 7PM Cantata/Choir 7:30PM Exercise</p>	<p>11 3:15PM Children's Chapel</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 FH in use 1-5PM (Boy Sh.)</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16 10AM StoryTime (Library)</p>	<p>17 Food Pantry Open 3-4PM 6:30PM Youth Bible Study 7PM Cantata/Choir 7:30PM Exercise</p>	<p>18 3:15PM Children's Chapel</p>	<p>19 FH in use 6-10PM (Hot Mess Canvas Event)</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>21 22nd Sun./Pentecost Lady Sunday Special Offering (UMCOR) VETERAN'S BULLETIN BEGINS 8:50AM First Worship 10AM Sunday School 10:55AM Second Worship 5PM UMYF 5:30PM Disc. BS 5:30PM Lord Change My...BS RE-SET (RETREAT) DEPOSITS DUE</p>	<p>22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7PM Arlene Stokes 7:30PM Exercise</p>	<p>23 10AM StoryTime (Library)</p>	<p>24 Food Pantry Open 3-4PM 6:30PM Youth Bible Study 7PM Cantata/Choir 7:30PM Exercise</p>	<p>25 3:15PM Children's Chapel</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 23rd Sun./Pentecost 8:50AM First Worship 10AM Sunday School 10:55AM Second Worship 4PM Missional Net. (Mt. Lebanon, Randleman) NO UMYF; NO Disc. BS 5:30PM Lord Change My...BS 7PM Church Council 7:30PM Charge Conference</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 10AM StoryTime (Library)</p>	<p>31 Reformation Day Halloween Food Pantry Closed BOO Bash 6-8PM</p>	<p>1 3:15PM Children's Chapel 7:30PM Trustees</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>

Notes:

NOVEMBER

Bethlehem United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 56/6103 Appomattox Road
Climax, NC 27233

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PERMIT NO. 1

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you are not a member of Bethlehem UMC and feel God leading you to it, I welcome you to speak to me about adding your name as a member of the church. You can reach me at – (704)516-6272 or email me at msofford2@wnccumc.net

Blessings, Pastor Michael

CHARGE CONFERENCE CELEBRATION—2018

For several years now, the Bishop, along with the conference cabinet have provided for a different way to conduct the annual Church Charge Conference. In the past the district superintendent attended each and every individual charge conference. With realignment combining many more churches into a district, the local pastor, if an elder such as Pastor Michael, may now conduct their own charge conference. Also, if a church does not have an elder as their pastor, it may ask a pastor who is an elder to conduct their charge conference. The Charge Conference for Bethlehem UMC is October 28th at 7:30PM following the Church Council meeting at 7PM.

ADDITIONALLY, the district, divided into seven missional networks, is to have a Charge Conference Celebration, where the churches of these missional networks will gather to worship with the district superintendent in charge. BUMC's church council members are invited (and encouraged) to attend this Southeast Guilford Missional Network celebration. It will be held at Mt. Lebanon UMC in Randleman at 4 pm, October 28th. We will bring the UMCOR offering we received Sunday, October 21st during our regular worship to the event.

This is an important gathering. While it makes for a very long day, considering our Charge Conference later (we scheduled ours first, by the way), it's important that all Church Council members attend. Hopefully, we can take a bus to get there. More info on our travel there is to come. *In Christ, Pastor Michael*

**DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER
IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 22nd.**