

THE CHALLENGE

Bethlehem United Methodist Church

Volume 9

Issue 6

October 2021

From the Pastor's Desk

Hello and Blessings Bethlehem Church Family,

Joshua 1:9:

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

My family and I are excited to be joining you all at Bethlehem. We look forward to the many new blessings that the Lord is preparing for you, us, the community, and His Kingdom. We are being energized by the Holy Spirit for all the awesomeness and fresh starts to further love God and neighbor as we work together in Christ's Name.

The same God who spoke to Joshua who was heading into new experiences, challenges, opportunities, and uncertainties is the same Living God who speaks to us today. So, may we all find great courage and strength in times of transition, uncertainty, and the unknown because of the faith we have in the Almighty God who shared through Jeremiah:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV)."

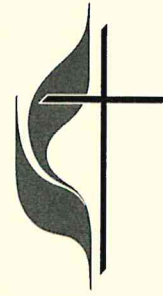
Thanks and Praise be to God!

A few things to help you get to know my family and me a little better as we prepare to walk this journey together as God's children, God's people, serving as the Lord Jesus has called us to do (and given the example).

Currently I am 43, but very soon I will be turning 44...the Lord has blessed me with a lovely wife Elaine Marie (not mentioning an age here...shh but she is 40) and four pretty awesome children (most of the time) - Riley (19), Lily (15), Quart (7), and Anna-Grace (4). We also have two loving pets: "Bubbas" and "Sweetheart."

I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior at an early age and renewed that relationship with Him in my mid-twenties. The Lord has been calling me to ministry in different ways and forms throughout my life, especially after graduating from Western Carolina University in 2003. In February of 2005 I heard the Lord clearly to go and serve Him and His people. Life has been so different since then but so blessed.

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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.**

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Custodian

Ovido Sorbito

Webmaster

Debbie Brady



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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/214541575234325/?ref=share>

Visit our Website at

bethlehemumc.org

While living in Baltimore, Maryland, I served Rogers Forge UMC and studied at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC as I student-pastored for four years. After this incredible experience, I have served in Surry and Davidson Counties (6 and 5 years respectively).

The Lord's work I love doing from preaching and teaching to doing missions here and abroad. I love working with the schools, kids, youth, and all ages to not only hear about the love of Jesus Christ but experience it and take it home with them in their hearts to share with others and the world. I genuinely believe in the power of prayer and that nothing is too big, too far gone, or out of reach for the love and power of Jesus Christ. Just look at me, a sinner saved by God's unfailing Mercy and Grace.

Blessings again to you each and all Bethlehem Church Family.

Great is our God!
Pastor Joseph, III



Our Prayer List

Please keep these friends in your prayers:

Ongoing

Vicky Alexander
Martha Boren
Suzie Branch
Edna Coble
Fred Cook
Jane Dunham
Cory Fields
Elaine Flinchum
Melba Fulghum
Kelsey Garrett
R.W. Hinshaw
Ruby Hockett
Mary May (Karen Holt's mom)
Jamie O'Daniel
Our Homebound

Immediate

Betty Hull
Bill Jones (Clapps, rm. 304/Appomattox Rd.)
Jimmie Jones
Sara Kauzlick
Wayne & Ruby Kirkman
Nancy Kivett
Mike McClintock
Dickie Parks
Barbara Riddle
Sandy Russell (Friend of Londa Parks)
Preston Ryan
Jimmy & Ann Shoemaker (Friends of Londa)
Francis Snow
James Surratt (Sandie Harris' dad)
Wes Taylor (Home)
Amber & Brandon Thompson
Julia Willis



Christian sympathy is extended to the family of **Pamela Jean (Mayberry) Darnell**.

Pam graduated to the Church Triumphant on Sunday, September 12th, 2021.

Our prayers are with the family.



Congratulations to Dale & Jennifer Young. **Luke Andrew Young** was born on Friday, September 3rd, 2021.

He came a little bit early and spent time in the NICU. Baby Luke is welcomed home by his big sister, Jenahlee and his big brother, Matthew.

Arlene Stokes UMW Mascot Pecans Sale

The Arlene Stokes Circle has ordered our usual Mascot pecans for this year and expect them to arrive around the end of September. They are selling for \$10 per pound bag. Call Shirley Hackett at (336)676-0485 or Phyllis Wicker at (336) 685-9322 to place your order, or check by our local beauty shops – Lyn's, Londa's or Margaret's, to stock up for holiday cooking.



October is Pastor Appreciation Month!
Welcome to Bethlehem, Pastor Joseph!
We look forward to serving our Lord and Savior along with you. Thanks to ALL pastors for the many jobs they perform!



CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES' NEWS



Save the date!

Boo Bash Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 31st
6-8 pm

We need candy!!

Please place your candy donations in the box labeled Children's and Family Ministries located in the vestibule.
Thank you!



A Reminder From the Missions Team...

The first Sunday of the Month is Peanut Butter & Oatmeal Sunday. Bring donations of peanut butter & oatmeal for Urban Ministries. Your donations may be left in the narthex or conference room. Thank you for supporting this outreach!



Opportunities...

Altar Flowers & Greeter(s) sign-up lists still have openings. Lists are available on the table outside of the church office and the narthex. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

Honorariums & Memorials

Since the last newsletter publication, the following gifts have been made in honor/memory as listed. BUMC gratefully acknowledges each gift received.

Honorariums

In Honor of **Earl Fields**
By Sid & Libby Fields

In Honor of **Bob Norris**
By Sid & Libby Fields

In Honor of **Pat Waugh**
By David & Ronda Robb

Memorials

In Memory of **Sandy Waugh Bradshaw**
By David & Ronda Robb

In Memory of **R.W. Helper**
By Frank & Julia Willis

In Memory of **Robbie Monnett**
By Jerry & Karon Monnett

In Memory of **Bette Weatherly**
By Jerry & Karon Monnett

Gifts received after the newsletter deadline will be listed in the next issue.



October		November	
10/2	Phyllis Dahl	11/1	Matthew Garrett
	Scott Wilkinson		Amanda Parks
10/4	Travis Franklin	11/3	Denny Spencer
10/5	Sherri Davis	11/5	Kaila Hill
	Lorrie Roth	11/6	Sharon Hill
10/8	Tracy Peele	11/10	Justin Windsor
10/9	Dale Routh	11/11	Pat Coble
10/11	Courtney Ingold		Sarah Hinshaw
10/13	Betty Kirkman		Annie Mae Jones
10/15	Susan Davis		Jean Greeson
	LeeAnne Curtis	11/12	Vickie Flinchum
10/16	Kristi Robb		Karen Lauder
10/17	Bonnie Averill		Madison Nance
	Joseph F. Garrett		Kathy Wilkinson
	Pat Snyder	11/13	Fred Cook
	Kelli Wilkinson	11/14	Ronda Faggart
10/18	Byron Dahl		Phil Smith
	Herbert McClintock		Carol Williams
10/20	Braxton Wall	11/17	Jonathan King
10/23	Alex Heywood		Nathan Pipe
	Donna Younts		Emily Lauder Taylor
10/25	Jeffrey Welker	11/18	Gail Williams
10/27	Jim Little		Mario Massarelli
10/28	Holly Robb	11/19	Will Rivers
10/30	Victoria Coble	11/22	Nancy Kivett
			Terry Owens
		11/23	Doug Garrett
			Franklin Stevens
		11/26	Frank Willis
		11/27	Ginny Fields
		11/28	Tim Fields
			Bobby Tew
		11/29	Ethan Hill
			Wayne Moser
		11/30	Mark Allen



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Budget Results for August 2021

\$412,365.27 Total Budget Money Available August 1, 2021

21,952.42 Money Received in August

- 23,747.66 Money Spent in August

\$410,570.03 Total Budget Money Available August 31, 2021

For the month of August, 2021, the Church Budget spent \$1,795.24 more than it received. For the year, the Church Budget received \$3,027.02 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.

\$32,984.61 Total MM&RF Money Available August 31, 2021

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.

Camp Tekoa	\$ 781.88	Arbor Fund	\$ 924.39
Food Pantry	\$ 1,629.06	Handbells	\$ 160.52
Discretionary Fund	\$ 4,637.50	Scholarship-Religion Ed	\$ 1,983.22
Records & History	\$ 581.56	Missions-Undesignated	\$ 21,733.99
UMYF	\$19,700.63	Christmas Shoeboxes	\$ 302.85
Family Ministries	\$ 687.40	Cemetery Fund-Maint.	\$ 23,809.39
Helen Grady Endow.	\$ 800.00	Choir Fund	\$ 1,004.46
Hurricane Fred Relief	\$ 50.00	Insurance Claim	\$ 23,645.00

Total Other Designated Gift Money Available August 31, 2021 \$102,431.85

\$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 principal (donations) cannot be spent but the interest earned on the principal 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.

\$63,572.72 **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 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Notes: * Child Care Board no longer has a standing night for its monthly meetings. * October is Pastor Appreciation Month 3 World Communion Sun. Prnt Buffer/Odmedd Sun. Rev. Bev Copley Preaches 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship 1:30PM CROP Registration 2:30PM CROP Walk Begins at Gboro Coliseum	4 Walking Group (time varies)	5 10AM StoryTime 	6 Walking Group (time varies)	7 6:30PM Trustees	8	9 10-2PM County Store & Bake Sale 
10 20th Sun./Pentecost Pastor Appreciation Sunday Rev. Joseph Fulk, III Preaches 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship	11 Columbus Day Walking Group (time varies)	12 10AM StoryTime  7PM Nominations (in Parlor)	13 Walking Group (time varies)	14	15	16
17 21st Sun./Pentecost Children's Sabbath 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Walking Group (time varies)	19 10AM StoryTime 	20 Walking Group (time varies)	21	22	23
24 22nd Sun./Pentecost 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship	25 Walking Group (time varies)	26 10AM StoryTime 	27 Walking Group (time varies)	28	29	30
31 23rd Sun./Pentecost Halloween 9:15AM Sun. Sch. 10AM Worship  6-8PM BOO Bash/Trunk or Treat	1 Walking Group (time varies)	2 10AM StoryTime 	3 Walking Group (time varies)	4 6:30PM Trustees	5	6

Notes:

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



COMING UP...

All Saints Sunday is Nov. 7th

In mid to late October, letters/invitations to participate in the remembrance portion of worship on All Saints Sunday will be mailed to the families of church members who passed away in 2021. This service is a time for remembering and celebrating the lives of those we lost in 2021. Plan to come and worship with us on Nov. 7th!