

# Bermudian Church

*“enabling every person to experience the living  
Christ in transforming ways”*

Experience | Connection | Growth | Impact



**May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 #987**

## Unity in Diversity

When I was in elementary school, I remember the symbol often used about the United States of America was that we are a “melting pot.” The idea of this symbol was that although we are all from different places, we have come together and are melted into one nation. The idea was that each individual ingredient was put into the pot and the new content in the pot was a wonderful mixture of each individual. Later in my school years, though, the description was changed to the nation being a fruit salad. We are all together in the same bowl (USA), mingling together, but we are still individuals and retain our individual differences.



Instead of one new mixture different than the individuals, in the newer symbol we can distinguish the individuals while still being in the same bowl. I wonder what the accurate symbol is today. Perhaps, to keep the food analogy, we are different side dishes on the same table (USA). In our nation we seem to see more division and individuality than unity. Are we really the United States? Perhaps something to ponder, but maybe not something to dwell on.

Because, we are citizens of another kingdom. As Hebrews 13.14 states, **“For this world is not our home; we are looking forward to our everlasting home in heaven.” (TLB)** We live in the Kingdom of God while living here in the USA. In the Kingdom of God, in the midst of our diversity we are to live in perfect unity. Last night in the new member/baptism class, ten of us sat around the tables and shared our spiritual journeys. In that room there was a diversity of ages, genders, ethnicity, backgrounds, and spiritual/religious experiences. No doubt there were differences in other ways that we did not talk about.

However, there was also a unity that pulled all of us together as we reviewed the Statement of Faith and affirmations of this church. If you want a copy of this for yourself you can find it on our website under “What We Believe,” ([Bermudian Church | ABOUT US](#)) or you can request a copy. The Statement of Faith portion provides what are in fact the essentials of the Christian faith, those beliefs that all Christ followers must believe in order to be a Christ follower. These are the things that unify all Christ followers. The affirmations are those things that we affirm here at Bermudian Church and unify us here in our local church community. In the Kingdom of God, there are differences, there is a diversity. This is true in many ways including how God gifts us with Spiritual Gifts, talents and abilities. Nevertheless, we are to maintain a unity even in diversity because **“just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12.12-13)**

Therefore, let us celebrate our diversity in the Lord, while maintaining a unity in the Lord.

In Christ Alone.

## Prayer & Praises

- Terry Stover for continued prayer as he starts 6 weeks of chemo/radiation treatment for a stage 4 brain tumor
- Raymond Deardorff, brother in law of Gerald Gerber, who is home recovering and resting after bleeding at the skin graft site.
- Roger, the brother of a friend of Pam and Brett, who is in ICU while they run tests to in order to find a diagnosis for multiple medical issues.
- Glenn Julius who is having severe headaches. Wisdom for a proper diagnosis and treatment. He is at home.
- Karen, Sharon Stepp's sister in law, who 7 inch tumor removed from her brain and diagnosed with glioblastoma brain cancer, a non curable, fast spreading cancer. She begins chemotherapy and radiation in 6/7.
- The family of Pastor Gary due to the passing of his Aunt Martha. The memorial service will be on May 30.
- Mel & Pat Lehr's Niece Barbara is recovering from cancer surgery. Pray for continued recovery.
- Sue Deardorff requests prayer for Charlotte Deardorff who will be having an operation for melanoma today.
- Marilyn Julius requests prayers for the Barry Dubbs family for comfort and peace after the passing of his mother.



### Ongoing Health Concern Prayers

\*Kathy McWilliams \*Sarah Sabold (Smeltzer)\*Ken Warren \*Mary Fisher\*Alyssa Leakway  
\*Jeff Deardorff \*Gloria Gerber \*Missy Braden \*Bryce Baublitz  
\*Julie Waggoner \*Bill Barley \*Brandon Little \*Derek Meck \*Mark Lipsitz  
\*Josh (Bonnie Tyson's Grandson) \*Ruth Cook

### Cancer Special Prayers

\*Julia McCartney \*Greg & Sandy George \*Butch Warren's brother \*Chris Betts (Smeltzer friend) \*Ted Erb (Traci Kauffman family) \*Carolyn Kimmel \*Kathy McWilliams brother-in-law Phillip \*Tom Kimmel \*Bob (Ron Engle, friend) \*Sandy Harlacker \*Ellie Basko \*Mark Yonker  
\*Keith Kauffman (Kerry Kauffman's brother) \*Jean Beck

### CBC and CBC Region 3 Prayer Requests

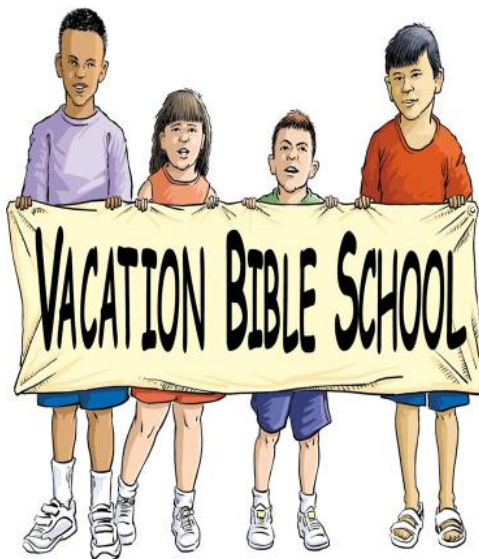
Please pray for the following congregations and pastors:

Iglesia Jesucristo el Camino Congregation in Hendersonville, NC and Pastor Jose' Lucero  
Mt. Joy Congregation in Mt. Pleasant, PA and Pastor P. V. Smith

Studying:  
The Book of Romans

**LIFE GROUP**

Wednesdays @ 6:30pm  
with Pastor Gary



VBS Crafts  
We need clear, non-colored, glass or plastic jars with lids. Size of about 4-5 inches tall. Jelly, pickle and peanut butter jars for example.  
Thanks for your support. If you have any questions see Kathleen Eisenhart.



**This week**

**Wednesday 5/24**

- \*Life Group @ 6:30 pm
- \*Sisters Bible Study @ 9 am
- \*Ladie's Choir Practice @ 7:45 pm

**Thursday 5/25**

- \*Prayer Shawl @ 10 am

**Next Week**

**Wednesday 5/31**

- \*Life Group @ 6:30 pm

**Bermudian Church Office Email address:**

[bermudiansecretary@gmail.com](mailto:bermudiansecretary@gmail.com)

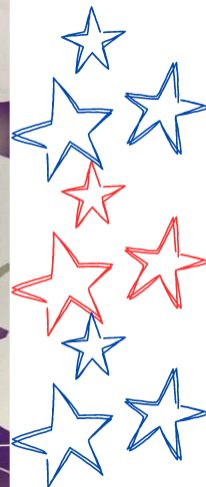
Julie will be out of the office from May 22<sup>nd</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup> for a family vacation

**This Week's Birthdays!**

May

- 24 – Jeff Mayle
- 31 – Kathy McWilliams
- 31 – Christian Hoke

**Next Regular Meeting**  
**women's FELLOWSHIP**  
**June 6, 2023 @ 6:30pm**



**All gave some...  
Some gave all**

**Remember them this Memorial Day**

**Happy Anniversary**



May

- 26 – Ronald & Joyce See
- 30 – Ralph & Kathleen Eisenhart

Volunteers needed – see Sue Mayle  
July 30 – Aug 3

**STELLAR**  
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
2023



**Don't forget to check your church mailboxes!**

**Commission Mailboxes Too!!!**

# Newsletter

THE LAST DAY TO SEND ITEMS IN  
TO BE PLACED IN THE  
JUNE NEWSLETTER  
IS JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> BY 10:30 AM

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Next meeting will be Thursday  
June 22, 2023  
10 am – 2 pm



## Ladies Choir

June 14<sup>th</sup>  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>

Wednesdays  
@ 7:45pm



See Betty Engle  
for more information

Faith & Fun Carnival  
9/23/23

# Donations Needed

Items needed to borrow:  
Corn hole game/ladder golf/ring  
toss/baby pool/horse shoes

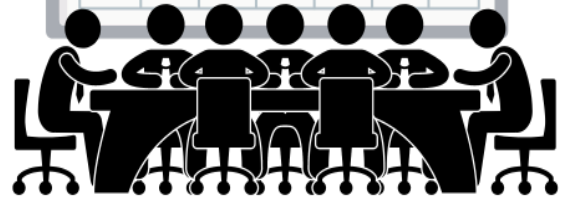
Help Needed  
\*facepainting  
\*food stand  
\*parking  
\*games

All the ladies are invited  
to attend @ 9 am in  
Shepherd's Hall  
Next meeting is 6/14/23

# Sisters

A Bible Study for Women

Commission Meeting at 6 Pm  
Board Meeting at 7 Pm  
June 13<sup>th</sup>



# MEN'S BREAKFAST

NEXT MEETING

Saturday

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 7am

@ Dover Valley Restaurant



**THANK YOU** – We want to thank all of you for your cards, prayers, thoughts and words of sympathy for the passing of my Aunt Martha. She was a godly woman who blessed not only her immediate family, but all in her extended family as well as others in her church and community. Thank you for your expressions of love and comfort extended to us.

Gary and Linda