

THE OUTREACH

A People of Hope. A Culture of Grace.

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One of my favorite places is Scotland and, in particular, the Highlands of Scotland. The Highlands are a place of majestic beauty, but it can also be a difficult place to travel through, due to the roughness of the terrain, frequent rain and high winds. Roads can be washed out or blocked by fallen rocks. These delays aren't common today, but a century ago they were commonplace. There is one road in particular that is infamously tough to navigate, it's called the A83. At one point the A83 climbs a treacherously steep mountain named The Cobbler. Landslides and falling rocks are frequent on The Cobbler. In the era of the horse and buggy, people climbed the mountain knowing it would be time consuming, arduous and potentially dangerous. A tradition began that when travelers finally made it to the top, they'd stop to rest and give thanks to God for their safe passage. If you travel to the top of the mountain today there is a stone to mark the spot where people stopped to rest and there is a car park near the stone marker where you can take in the view, it's magnificent. The name of this place is "Rest and be Thankful." I love how the



"Rest and Be Thankful, Scotland"
Photo Credit: Tripadvisor.com

Scots actually named the place "Rest and be Thankful." Since I visited "Rest and Be Thankful" a number of years ago, that name stuck with me and I will think about it sometimes, especially around Easter. Easter is a time when I reflect on the crucifixion. I think of Christ's betrayal, His suffering, and His sacrifice. I think of the depth of God's love, and how God's love is a suffering, all consuming, passionate love. Then I think of the miracle of the resurrection and what it means to live in light of the resurrection. The Easter story is overwhelmingly good, in fact, I don't believe the blessings of Easter can be fully comprehended or understood. Perhaps the best thing we can do is to "Rest and be Thankful," because when I stop to think through the Easter story I/we truly have reason to "Rest and Be Thankful. We can rest and be thankful knowing our sin debt is paid in full and our eternal destiny is secure. We can rest and be thankful knowing we are beloved sons and daughters of the living Lord and that our God has a plan and purpose for our lives. We can rest and be thankful that joy and peace are ours to receive. We have traveled over some tough mountains this last year, as Easter approaches, let us intentionally carve out some time to do as those Scottish travelers did; let's enter into an Easter rest and look back and give thanks for all God has done through Christ. May each one of you enjoy a blessed Easter. With much love for each of you, may God bless you and may God bless Bethel Church.

Todd

Continued next column

*A Note From Your Associate
Pastor and Music Minister
by Gayle Taylor*



**A Note from Your Associate Pastor
and Music Minister
"Easter and Song!" by Gayle Taylor**

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

*For now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.*

What better time than to break out in song than during the Easter season! As we recall our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, His Last Supper with His disciples, and His resurrection, music moves us in a unique way of appreciating the significance of all of these events. We invite you to join us in the various services and to hear the music of the Easter season!

Music Calendar for the Easter Season

- March 28** *Palm Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. in the POH Center*
Bethel's Small Ensemble
Flute and piano duet with Barbara Gregory and Gayle Taylor
- April 1** *Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m. in the POH Center*
Mt. Sinai's Small Ensemble
Bethel's Small Ensemble
Kim Ferrell, guest violinist
- April 4** *Easter Sunday (8:30 a.m. in the Historic Sanctuary; 10:30 a.m. in the POH Center)*
Bethel Belle Trio
Bethel's Small Ensemble
Circle of Truth
One Accord



Just for Fun
Easter Tidings!

The lyrics of Easter songs are below. Can you guess the titles?

(Answers below)

1. "My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride."
2. "Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!"
3. "And then one day, I'll cross that river..."
4. "Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!"
5. "What heights of love, what depths of peace When fears are stilled, when strivings cease"
6. "I could write a sonnet about your Easter bonnet And of the girl I'm taking to the Easter parade."
7. "He's got jelly beans for Tommy, colored eggs for sister Sue. There's an orchid for your mommy and an Easter bonnet too."

Happy Easter!!



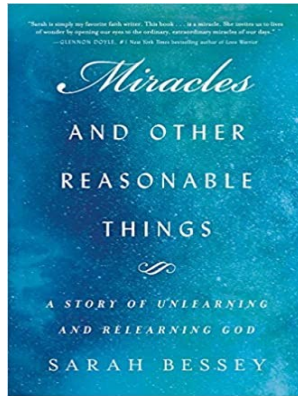
1. "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
2. "Up from the Grave He Arose" or "Low in the Grave"
3. "Because He Lives"
4. "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"
5. "In Christ Alone"
6. "Easter Parade"
7. "Here Comes Peter Cottontail"

ANSWERS

Book Club News

The Book Club is reading *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things* by Sarah Bessey. Here is a brief description from Goodreads: "Weaving together theology and memoir in her trademark narrative style, Bessey tells us the story of the moment that changed her body and how it ultimately changed her life. She invites us to a path of knowing God that is filled with ordinary miracles, hope in the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, and other completely reasonable things." We will discuss *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things* on June 13 after the worship service. Please bring a bagged lunch and drink.

If you would like to participate in the book club and need a copy of the book, please contact Gayle Taylor at (804) 794-8590.



Hoops! Come Join Us

We are taking every measure to ensure our students and volunteers stay safe so if you haven't been back to church yet, please consider joining us!



Pastor's Message Posted on YouTube



Great News! The pastors message will be posted on YouTube. It will be available by searching YouTube using Bethel Baptist Church Midlothian Virginia, and the stream to YouTube will be available by 12 a.m. on Monday morning each week.

Lilley Sickal Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year. Scholarships are awarded for post secondary education. If you have been accepted into a technical school program, an undergraduate or graduate college program you may be eligible. If you have any questions please contact Faye Cohen at 317-0352. Applications are available through e-mail by contacting Linda, in the church office. Please return your completed application to the church office or to Faye by May 10, 2021.



Library News

I am hoping everyone had a great Easter. Easter gives each of us time to reflect on our lives and on Jesus and His sacrifice for us. We may have things in our lives that we know need work, but we can celebrate in the fact that Jesus died for our sins, past, present and future sins. That is good news.

I hope everyone has had a chance to look at the library window. Cindy Wight did a beautiful, job as always. The message it told was an Easter message and it was right on point.

Our preschoolers have enjoyed the Dr. Seuss books, Easter books and St. Patrick's Day books. March was full of events to talk about. Take time to enjoy God's spring as it begins to wake up from winter, taking a long walk with a friend or spending time with your children sounds great.

Barbara Bell,
Media Director



Many Thanks

Dear Bethel Church Family,
Thank you for all the cards, phone calls, food and the beautiful vase of flowers. I really appreciate all of my church family and all you do for me.

With Love,
Barbara Phillips

Dear Bethel Baptist Church,
Thank you so much for the prayers, calls, texts, cards and food. I really appreciate everything after my recent surgery. I am so grateful for such a caring and loving church family.

Love,
Lisa Hardy

Dear Bethel Church Family,
Thank you for the fruit basket and the many cards. They were much appreciated. Thank you also for your prayers. We will see you soon.

Love,
Bob and Ellen Moseley

Maundy Thursday Service April 1, People of Hope

We will have a joint Maundy Thursday Service at 7 p.m. on April 1, in the People of Hope Center. Mt Sinai Baptist Church will be joining us. We hope to see you there.

Joint Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Historic Sanctuary

Join us each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the historic sanctuary, in person or on Zoom for our joint Sunday School class. Our teachers are Sherwood Dance, Gayle Rogers, David Grubbs, John Pulley, Mike Rider and Howard Humphreys. They will be rotating each week and they are teaching from the Formations Adult Bible Study. If you need a book, you may pick one up in the church office or there are some in the historic Sanctuary.



By Carter Cosgrove
Preschool Director

Hello Spring!!! April is always an exciting time for the preschool. We will begin our month with the most important thing, Easter! The children will be having their Easter celebrations on Thursday, April 1st followed by time off for Spring Break. We will be closed from April 2nd through April 11th returning to school on April 12th. When our classes get back, the children will begin to learn about Spring and what it brings with it such as the life cycles of animals, insects and plants. Students will also learn ways to take care of their environment and celebrate Earth Day. Our Pre-K class will be getting ready for Kindergarten Registration which will be held by all Elementary Schools on Thursday, April 15th. As you can see, April is a very busy month for everyone here at the preschool!



The preschool will be doing a lifecycle experiment with the children. The children will get to plant a small vegetable garden that is self-contained in a clear box. That way the children will be able to watch the growth process of carrots and green beans! Maybe we can even encourage better eating habits when they see how their vegetables grow!

For those families who have children ready to go to Kindergarten, you will be receiving a postcard from your school district. This postcard will give you important information regarding Kindergarten registration which will be held by your Elementary school on Thursday, April 15th. If you have any questions regarding the process, you may contact your Elementary school or myself at church. We will be more than happy to help!!

Just a reminder that the preschool is currently accepting registrations for our 2021/2022 school year and still have several spots available. If you know anyone who is looking for a preschool, please send them our way. We would love to have them!

Thank you again to all who help support the Preschool and myself. You are the reason we are the program we are today!

Youth News Connect



by Lauren Moore

I want you to read something. Nothing long, just two sentences: He bore a cross now He wears a crown. You turn graves into gardens.

What comes to mind as you read that?

Over the last year, these statements have lived in my head and heart. When you look at these words individually they are just that; nothing fancy, nothing very meaningful. When you read them as a whole they take on a new form. They become powerful. They are powerful because they are rooted in the spirit of resurrection. They are rooted in the power of Easter. They are rooted in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Easter season, or not, these words constantly point us to the redeeming work of the cross.

Easter is an intentional reminder and celebration that our Savior once bore a cross on his back and as he was nailed to the cross he took on the sin of the world, our sin. The cross He bore was a symbol of death but now he wears a crown of great victory! As if that wasn't enough, He shares that victory with us! It's a reminder that all that has died can be reborn into the beauty of a garden. From the ashes and ruins come beauty and life. Because of Easter, because of the cross, because of the grave, there is victory and there is life.

These statements also paint beautiful images. As you prepare for Easter Sunday, picture places in your life where God has turned a grave into a garden. Ask yourself, 'Where have I seen the fruits of Jesus bearing the cross to bring me victory?'

I pray your Easter will be filled with joy, love, and a sense of gratitude for a risen Savior and an empty grave!

April Calendar

7: Connect, 7 pm

14: Connect, 7 pm

21: Connect, 7 pm

25: Deadline to register for Impact camp

28: Connect, 7 pm

May 1: Impact deposit due, \$100

Missions News by Frances Morris

Women's Missionary Union Meeting—The monthly meeting of the WMU will be held on Monday, April 5, at 10 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. The program will be a video by Dr. Valarie Harper Smith, Director of the WMU of VA. She will share a message on the state theme of "Relentless Faith."

Bethel Preschooler Cards: If you have signed up to send a card to a preschooler, please be sure to remember his/her birthday and any upcoming holidays.

Kroger: Please **register your Kroger card** so Bethel can continue to receive reward points toward Missions. Go to www.Kroger.com and sign in. Then click on "Community" on tab bar and click on "community Rewards." The church member number is **QW701**. You will still get your points toward gas, Bethel will just get credit for any amounts you spend at Kroger.

4 Ways to Give at Bethel

1. In Person: Drop your check in the offering plate as you enter or leave the People of Hope on Sunday morning.

2. Send a check to our secure mailbox: The address is: Bethel Baptist Church, 1100 Huguenot Springs Rd. Midlothian VA, 23113

3. Online Giving: On our Website there is a link to give. Once you click on the link you'll be prompted to give through either your bank account or a credit card. Here's the link for online giving:
<https://www.bethelchurchmidlothianva.org/giving/>

4. Text Giving: Simply text the dollar amount you'd like to give to (804) 361-8590 and follow the prompts. You'll be asked to enter a debit card or credit card number. The minimum amount for text giving is \$10. The platform we're using is safe and secure and you'll be given the option of an email receipt at the end of your transaction. As always, we are grateful for your contributions to the church and we thank you for your gifts.

April Birthdays



2 Sarah Riley	21 James Heath, Jr.
3 Sam Watson	21 Aleta Jenkins
3 Bob Worthy	22 Carter Cosgrove
3 Colby Robinson	24 Jarvis Florence
3 Chase Robinson	25 Bernice Smith
5 Eric Mead	25 Peyton Baker
6 Deborah Acree	26 MaryLynn Smith
6 Burt Chauncey	27 Schuyler Doughtie
7 Charles Stump	30 Reagan Gilbert
8 Nancy Verne	
13 Beth Deyerle	
14 Philip Dewire	
15 Bruce Moseley	
16 Nancy Dewire	
17 Cole Rogers	
20 Lisa Evans	
20 Mary Longnecker	
20 Deborah Patteson	

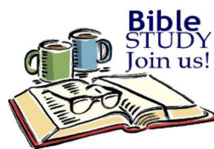


Sharing and Caring Monday Small Group



The "Sharing and Caring" group plans to resume meeting in May. They will not meet in April, but look forward to meeting in May. For more information, please contact Bruce Bartlam at 804-739-2936.

Wednesday Night Programs in April



April 7 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
 April 11 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
 April 18 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
 April 25 — Sacred Circle (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.

Opportunities for:

Please note: Some of these ministries are on hold due to Covid

Mission/Ministry

- Music Ministry/Choir (See Gayle Taylor)
- WMU (Meets the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m.)
- Charlotte's Pantry (See Brenda Peck)
- Backpack Ministry (See Vera Caniglia)
- Sunday Morning Nursery Ministry (See Lauren Moore)
- Friends of the Homeless (5th Mondays at 8:30 a.m. (See Ardelle Florence)
- AA Meeting every Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
- Puppet Team (See Andrea Hale)
- Media Center (See Barbara Bell)
- Care Team Ministry (See Pat Reynolds)

Fellowship/Discipleship

- Men's Fellowship Lunch 1st Thursday of each month at noon (See Bruce Lewis)
- Women's Fellowship Lunch 1st Thursday of each month at noon (See Margaret Gillis)
- Youth Group Meetings every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. (See Lauren Moore)
- Bible/Discipleship Study Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m. each Sunday
- Zumba Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. (See Megan Luck)
- Brotherhood Breakfast (every 5th Sunday)
- JIGSAW children's ministry, every Sunday (See Tina McNeel)
- Children in Action meet every 5th Sunday, during the Sunday School hour. (See Frances Morris)

Charlotte's Pantry Schedule

Upcoming pantry schedule:

April 14, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
 April 23, 9 to 11 a.m.
 May 12, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
 May 28, 9 to 11 a.m.

If you would like to help on any of these dates, please contact Brenda Peck.



April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i> AA—5:30 pm Joint Maundy Thursday Service—7 pm	2	3
<i>4</i> Easter Easter Service—8:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Sunday School—9:30 am (Parlor for Easter Sunday Only) Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>5</i> WML—10 am	<i>6</i> PAL's Class—11 am Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>7</i> Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm	<i>8</i> AA Meeting—5:30 pm	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i> Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> PAL's Class—11 am Girls Small Group—6:30 pm Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>14</i> Charlotte's Party—5 to 6:30 pm Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect—7 pm	<i>15</i> AA Meeting—5:30 pm	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i> Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> PAL's Class—11 am Girls Small Group—6:30 pm Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>21</i> Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect Youth—7 pm	<i>22</i> AA Meeting—5:30 pm	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> Sunday School—9:30 am (Historic Sanctuary) Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> PAL's Class—11 am Girls Small Group—6:30 pm Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>28</i> Sacred Circle Zoom—6:30 pm Connect Youth—7 pm	<i>29</i> AA Meeting—5:30 pm	<i>30</i> Charlotte's Party—9 to 11 am	

Bethel Baptist Church

1100 Huguenot Springs Road
Midlothian, VA 23113

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Change Service Requested

WORSHIP TIMES 9:30 Sunday School | 10:30 Worship

Welcome Spring

