

THE OUTREACH

A People of Hope. A Culture of Grace.

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BETHEL
BAPTIST CHURCH

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Inside This Issue

Article from Todd
Mission News
Many Thanks
Book Club
Sharing & Caring
Sunday School

pg. 1 & 2
pg. 5
pg. 3
pg. 4
pg. 6
pg. 4

Worship Pastor's Note
Charlotte's Pantry
Boxcast App
Birthdays
Ladies Fellowship Lunch
Parish Nurse

pg. 3
pg. 6
pg. 5
pg. 6
pg. 2
pg. 4

Wednesday Night Programs
Ways to Give
Gayle Taylor's Address
Men's Fellowship Lunch
Koinonia 7 News
Pregnancy Help Center

pg. 6
pg. 4
pg. 2
pg. 5
pg. 4
pg. 5

Just for Fun
Calendar
Preschool News
Library News
Church Council

pg. 5
pg. 7
pg. 2
pg. 2
pg. 6

What would it take to motivate you to be more faithful in reading Scripture? Would being stung by six Yellow Jackets do the trick? It did for Charlie Martin. Charlie is one of our newest members at Bethel. Charlie is originally from Georgia. He worked for many years in the construction management industry in Richmond before retiring in 2015. On July 31, 2019, Charlie was removing a stump in his yard when he got stung by those pesky Yellow Jackets. Charlie decided to go to Southern States to get something to kill the Yellow Jackets. On his way home, Charlie had an accident on North Woolridge Road, near the Midlothian Mines Park. He has no memory of crossing three lanes of traffic, one sidewalk, hitting a guard rail, sliding down an embankment and ending up on a walking path in the park. When Charlie regained consciousness, he found himself in an ambulance headed for Johnston Willis hospital.



Charles Martin

Fortunately, Charlie only suffered minor scrapes and bruises, but the question was why did Charlie lose consciousness? Charlie had an aortic replacement in 2013 and the doctors initially thought he could have an issue with his heart, but there was no evidence to support this idea. They tested him for seizures, but this proved negative. They investigated the Yellow Jacket stings. Could there have been enough poison in his body to cause him to experience delayed anaphylactic shock? Doctors didn't think so. In the end they ended up calling it an "episode" and prescribed seizure medication, just to be cautious.

As Charlie laid in the hospital it gave him some time to reflect on the blessings that came from the accident. Charlie said he became acutely aware of God's providence. For example, the police came to the hospital to explain to him that he would not be charged for any moving violation. The reason he wasn't ticketed is because an off duty police officer was following Charlie and noticed he was driving erratically. What are the odds of that happening?

Continued next column

The officer called for help immediately and help arrived in short order. Second, the accident took place near Midlothian Mines Park. There are always people walking, running or biking in that area. The idea that Charlie crossed three lanes of traffic and a sidewalk without hitting a car or a pedestrian is a miracle. Charlie thought about all of this and concluded, "The Lord not only watched out for me, but he watched out for others. The Lord was trying to tell me something." I asked him what he thought God was trying to tell him and Charlie said, "The accident allowed me to be still and know that God is God. I was being led to really study the Bible and seek God in His word."

This event focused Charlie's attention on the Lord and he now faithfully reads and studies Scripture each day and spends time in prayer. Charlie has even learned about prayer walking. Since doctors weren't sure about him having seizures, Charlie lost his driving privileges for a time. He would often walk to Food Lion to get groceries and on those walks Charlie began to think more about the Lord and used this time to pray. Charlie said one added blessing from all of the walking is that he lost weight!

Being stung by six Yellow Jackets has ultimately led Charlie to a richer, fuller life with God. One question that I wrestle with when I hear stories like this is, "Did God cause this series of events just to get Charlie's attention so that Charlie would walk closer with God?" Knowing the mind of God can prove difficult. Indeed, Isaiah 55:8 tells us that "God's ways are not our ways." In wrestling with my own theology, I've come to the place where I don't believe God is the author of suffering. We see this most in the person of Jesus who came to show us what God is like and we see in Christ someone who heals and makes whole. We also see in Jesus someone who doesn't answer the tough "why" questions. In John 8, when Jesus and his disciples come across a man born blind his disciples want to know why he was born blind. Jesus doesn't answer the "why" question, instead he says, "This happened so that God can be glorified." I believe God can take the worst of situations and ultimately redeem them and use them for His good purposes. We serve a God who is able to turn tragedy

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Continued from Page 1

into triumph, we see that most clearly in Christ's death and resurrection. God can turn our messes into our message, our tests into our testimony, our misery can become our ministry. The question is, when we're in the middle of our next mess, can we pause long enough to pray and ask God to redeem this situation? Can we ask, "How can God be glorified through what I'm going through?" Kudos to Charlie for seeking God through his situation. I believe God is being glorified through Charlie's faithful reading of scripture and through the testimony of this newsletter article.

One final thought, I asked Charlie what he learned about God from this situation? He said, "God wanted to assure me how he cares and loves me and loves and cares for others." Amen. I want to remind you of the same thing, only without the Yellow Jacket stings! God loves and cares for you and wants to be with you. If you'd like to hear more from Charlie, please make a special effort to attend worship on August 7th. Charlie is going to give a testimony on how his wife Pat encountered Christ in the moments before she passed away from a battle with cancer. It's a very moving testimony that will feed your faith. Don't miss it. Until then, may God bless Charlie Martin and may God bless you and Bethel Baptist Church.

Todd

A Very Special Sunday

We have a very special Sunday coming up on Aug 14th. Not only is it Gideon Sunday, but we will hear a very moving testimony from Sharon Kenny. The Gideons are sending us a gifted speaker who will share with us the power of God's word. Sharon Kenny is going to share a very personal story of how God worked when her son Jeff passed away. Please make a special effort to attend and bring a friend. You'll be blessed by the testimonies you'll hear on the 14th.

Todd

Address for Gayle and Jeff Taylor

If you would like to write to Gayle or Jeff Taylor, please see address below. Use stamps as you would in the U.S.

Jeff and Gayle Taylor
PSC 45, Box 2619
APO AE 09468



By Heather Kerns
Preschool Director

Our hearts are full, and so is our preschool! We have been working all summer gearing up for what promises to be another fantastic school year at Bethel. As many of you know, our preschool is growing by leaps and bounds, and we have added a second 3-year-old class for the 2022-2023 school year. Our program is completely full. We are at capacity for every class! We are welcoming two new staff members (Stephanie Zahringer and Heather Byrne), and we know that they are going to be wonderful additions to our preschool family. We are honored to have all our staff from last year returning for this school year. We couldn't be more thrilled to have so many children to bless, and we are giving thanks to God for His hand in helping to grow our little program in ways we could have never thought possible. Our teachers return to school on Monday, August 22nd and the first day of school for students is Monday, August 29th.

As we prepare for our year in preschool, I want to extend an invitation to all members of Bethel Baptist Church to participate in our program and share your talents with our students. If you are interested in reading to our classes or would like to come to our preschool to share any talents you may have (music, dance, art, etc.) we would LOVE to welcome you! Our sweet students are always excited for visitors and love to learn and soak up as many opportunities as possible. Please reach out to me via email: bbcweeschool@gmail.com or phone (804)794-8590 if you're interested.

Thank you all for supporting our preschool, encouraging our growth, and helping facilitate the room rearranging so our program can thrive. Please continue to pray for our teachers and staff as they prepare for the new school year, as well as all our precious students that will soon enter our school. We are so thankful for all of you.

Ladies Fellowship Lunch August 25, at Noon

The Ladies Fellowship Luncheon will meet Thursday, August 25, at noon at Mabel's Restaurant in Powhatan. All women are invited. If you have any questions, or would like more information about the Ladies Lunch, please call Shirley Lewis at 804-467-2885.



You're Invited!

A Note From Your Worship
Pastor by Gayle Taylor



"Musical Opportunities for the Fall"

Yes, it's that time again where I put out a call for interested singers and musicians as we get ready to move into the fall months! You might consider making a full-time commitment or a partial commitment for a special event like the Christmas cantata. Below is a summary of the groups:

Adult Choir: This group will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 10, and sings a variety of music genres. This year, the choir will present its Christmas cantata on December 18. If you are interested in singing only for the cantata, rehearsals are from 7:30-8:00 p.m. If you would like to join the choir and sing music throughout the year, just stay longer, until 8:30 p.m. The choir meets in the People of Hope Center. Please see Gayle Taylor if you are interested.

Circle of Truth: This group sings contemporary Christian music and performs for the worship service twice a month. Rehearsals occur on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 5:30 p.m. and the 1st and 3rd Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. In order for the group to prepare a solid presentation, attendance at the rehearsals is required. If you are interested in singing or playing with this group, please see Sarah Oatman or Bruce Moseley.

One Accord: This is an eclectic, semi-a cappella group that sings in a variety of music styles. This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:30 a.m. in the choir room. The group is currently on a summer break, but will resume meeting in September. Please see Gayle Taylor if you are interested in singing with this group.

Handbell Choir: This group rehearses for specific worship events throughout the year and is making plans to resume rehearsals this fall to prepare special music for Christmas. Please contact Gayle Taylor if you are interested in playing in this group.

Bethel is fortunate to have other musical groups, such as the Bethel Belle Trio and the Men's Quartet, to share their talents during worship services. While these groups are closed groups, due to the nature of their type, anyone interested in forming additional trios, quartets, or duets is strongly encouraged! Also, if you are interested in singing as a soloist for a one-time occasion, please see me, Gayle Taylor, to make arrangements.

The scriptures remind us of the importance of singing "*psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to one another*" (Ephesians 5:19). Please consider lending your musical talents this fall. You will enjoy fellowship as well with your Christian brothers and sisters!

Newsletter Deadline

Effective now. The Outreach deadline is changing from the 15th of some months and the 10th of other months, to be the 10th of each month. This change hopes to avoid confusion of



when information is due for the Outreach. All articles, Thank You notes, ministry information and any other information you would like to put in the monthly Outreach should be emailed to the church office or dropped off at the church office before the 10th of the month. Thank you for your help on this.

Many Thanks

Dear Bethel Church Family,

We would like to thank everyone for the beautiful basket of pink Hydrangeas. We are also so grateful to everyone for all your prayers and support and all the cards that have had the perfect words at the perfect time. We are so blessed to have everyone lifting us up through Dwight's journey.

God Bless Each of You,
 Peggy and Dwight Keatts

Dear Bethel Family,

We are immensely blessed with your love, care and fellowship. During Connor's illness, we felt your prayers and love. You all uniquely cared for us in ways of prayer, messages, and meals, and we took comfort in your love for Conner. God heard all of you and healed his lungs. We still have a ways to go in his recovery but we are truly grateful for your words to God's ears and your fellowship.

All Our Love,
 Shawn, Krista, and Connor Smith

Thank you to everyone that was a part of making Passport Camp happen. We were able to fundraise for our van and overnight stay. Thank you to those that participated in "Rent the Youth" and to those who attended the Ziti Dinner. With your help the trip was a huge success and we saw God work in many great ways.



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.

Small Group News

New Koinonia Group in Sept.

On Monday, September 19, the small group called *Koinonia 7* will begin a 5-week study on the Book of James. The group has most recently completed a study on the Book of Acts.



We host the group on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of this group is to study the Word and to encourage one another in our faith journey. We really hope that all will experience a sense of true koinonia (fellowship) within the group.

A sign-up sheet is available in the People of Hope sanctuary on the round table. You can also contact Gayle at revgayletaylor18@yahoo.com. You will receive a Zoom invitation a day before the first meeting. We hope you will join us!

Note from Our Parish Nurse

Happy August!

Just a reminder, the Faith Community Nurse office has a wheel chair and walkers available if needed (Please sanitize before and after use). Also, the nurse cabinet has three shelves of Healthy Blessing items for anyone in need, from gauze to sanitizer.

The beginning of a new school year is quickly approaching. Praying for all of our youth to have a wonderful year.

Blessings,
Cindy Luck FCN



Sunday School Classes

The following classes are meeting in person:

- The Providers Class meets in the Providers Classroom in the People of Hope.
 - The Endeavors Class meets in the Endeavors Classroom in the People of Hope.
 - The Salt and Light class now meets in the choir room in the Education Building.
 - Students in grades K-5 will meet in the Jigsaw Room downstairs.
 - Students in grades 6-12 will meet in the Youth Room downstairs.
- The nursery remains open during the Sunday School hour for our younger children.

We will still offer zoom to those who can not be here. The zoom class will be from Robert Brooks class in the Providers classroom.

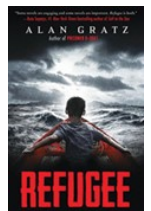
The zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87461349993?pwd=UW0rZ2F0OE4RUJNVHhK1pGRmlDQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 6134 9993 Passcode: 139739

Book Club News

The Book Club is reading the novel, *Refugee* by Alan Gratz recommended by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Here is what the CBF says about this novel:



"JOSEF is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world . . . ISABEL is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America . . . MAHMOUD is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe . . . All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers -- from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together. This action-packed novel tackles topics both timely and timeless: courage, survival, and the quest for home." Join us for the discussion on Monday, September 12, at 10 am in Gayle Taylor's office. If you would like a copy of the book, please contact the church office.

Pregnancy Help Center

If you would like to donate to the Pregnancy Help Center of Chesterfield (PHCC), their main needs right now are diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6), wipes and clothing, (sizes 18 months—24 months). You can bring your items to church and leave them on the table near the food pantry.



Missions News by Frances Morris

Women's Missionary Union Meeting—The monthly meeting of the WMU will be held on Monday, August 1, at 10 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. All women are invited.

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: To **register your Kroger card** for missions, go to www.Kroger.com and sign in. Then click on "Community" on the tab bar and click on "community Rewards." The church member number is **QW701**. You will still get your points toward gas.

The Boxcast App



The Boxcast App is now available to view our complete church services on your Apple TV, Roku, or Smart TV. This will provide a simple high-quality means to view our services on your large screen TV so the entire family can watch the service together. Please follow these instructions:

1. Add the Boxcast app to your device.
2. Search for the church's channel by searching for Bethel Baptist Church Midlothian, VA . (NOTE: Spelling and punctuation is important when searching.)
3. Once you find our channel the church's logo will appear. Select this channel.
4. You are DONE.

Please contact any member of the AV team if you have any questions.

Men's Fellowship Lunch August 4, at Noon

The Men's Fellowship will meet for lunch on August 4, at noon at the Italian Delight Restaurant in Powhatan. If you have any questions, please call Bruce Lewis at 804-467-2886.



JUST FOR FUN by Gayle Taylor

August Trivia: What do you know about the month of August?

1. The month of August was known at one time as "Sextilis." Do you know what this word means?
 - a) Eighth
 - b) Summer
 - c) Sixth
2. The name "August" is named after whom?
3. At one time in England, August 1 was known as Lammas Day. A church service was held during which something was consecrated. What was this item?
 - a) Sheaves of wheat
 - b) Baskets of raspberries
 - c) Loaves of bread
4. What are the gemstones of August?
 - a) Sardonyx and peridot
 - b) Garnet and amber
 - c) Ruby and pearl
5. August was made longer by adding a day from another month. From which month was it taken?
6. What are the flowers of August?
 - a) Rose and peony
 - b) Poppy and gladiolus
 - c) Holly hock and peony

*Source of this quiz is from funtrivia.com

1. C – "Sextilis" comes from the Latin word meaning having to do with six. August in Roman times was the sixth month. When Julius Caesar reformed the calendar, August became the eighth month.
2. AD. Augustus Caesar - he was the first emperor of Rome, 27 BC- 14 AD.
3. C – loaves of bread. This bread was baked from the first wheat harvested.
4. A – sardonyx and peridot. The quality of these stones is married happiness.
5. February (February also had a day taken from it to add to July).
6. B – Poppy and gladiolus. The meaning of gladiolus is the flower of the gladiators. Gladius means sword. The gladiolus belongs to the iris family.

ANSWERS

August Birthdays



2	Nicholas Peck	18	Romy Merchant
2	Chesney Florence	20	Paul Merchant
4	Patrick Ferguson	20	Raymond Moschler
5	Malin Carlson Blanco	21	Joann Cole
5	Nora Estep	21	Susan Wright
5	Michael Watkins	21	Frances Morris
6	Vivian Speas	21	Todd Bradbury
7	Brenda Kagels	22	Luke McNeel
7	Nick Elam	22	Travis Hale
7	Jill Sheek	23	Robert Baker
9	Walker Smith, Jr	24	Marshall Cole
9	Bud Hines	24	Kaylin Stine
9	Ian Grubbs	24	Thom Kagels
10	Jean Jackson	25	Sam Wight
10	Josie Stump	26	Penny Trentham
12	Jan Gilbert	26	Reid Watkins
12	Elizabeth Humphreys	28	Glenda Fisher
12	Marjorie Stagg	28	Kelly Grubbs
13	Lisa Hardy	29	Barbara Breschel
14	Katie Beltz	29	Dennis Marshall
14	Beth Saxton	29	Paul Sherwood
14	Tommy Stagg	29	Diane Roper
16	Travis Brock	30	Louis Blanton
17	Anne Brandon	31	Wray Brown
18	Linda Call	31	Carolyn Turner
18	James Painter	31	Robert Watkins

Charlotte's Pantry Schedule

Upcoming pantry schedule:

August 10, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

August 26, 9 to 11 a.m.

September 14, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

September 23, 9 to 11 a.m.

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



Wednesday Night Programs in August



August 3 — Sacred Circle—w/Dr. Spencer 6:30 p.m. Zoom
 August 10 — Sacred Circle—w/Dr. Spencer 6:30 p.m. Zoom
 August 17 — Sacred Circle—w/Dr. Spencer 6:30 p.m. Zoom
 August 24 — No Sacred Circle—Summer Break
 August 29 — No Sacred Circle—Summer Break

Opportunities for:

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
- 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 Shirley Lewis)

Fellowship/Discipleship

- Men's Fellowship Lunch 1st Thursday of each month at noon (See Bruce Lewis)
- Women's Fellowship Lunch last Thursday of each month at noon (See Shirley Lewis)
- Youth Group Meetings every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. Sacred Circle 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)
- Sharing & Caring Group meets every Monday at 9 a.m. in POH

Church Council Meeting August 8, 7 pm on Zoom

Sharing and Caring Monday Small Group



The "Sharing and Caring" group meets every Monday at 9 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. For more information, please contact Bruce Bartlam at 804-739-2936.

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> Sharing & Caring—9 am WMTU—10 am	<i>2</i> Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>3</i> Sacred Circle—6:30 pm Zoom Youth Group—6:30 pm No Choir Rehearsal	<i>4</i> Men's Lunch—Noon AA Meeting—5:30 pm Girl Scouts—6 pm (Downstairs)	<i>5</i> Circle of Truth—5 pm	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>8</i> Sharing & Caring—9 am Church Council 7 pm Zoom	<i>9</i> Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>10</i> Charlotte's Partry—5 to 6:30 pm Sacred Circle—6:30 pm Zoom Youth Group—6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Resumes—7:30 pm	<i>11</i> AA Meeting—5:30 pm	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>15</i> Sharing & Caring—9 am	<i>16</i> Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>17</i> Sacred Circle—6:30 pm Zoom Youth Group—6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal—7:30 pm	<i>18</i> AA Meeting—5:30 pm Girl Scouts—6 pm (Downstairs)	<i>19</i> Circle of Truth—5 pm	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>22</i> Sharing & Caring—9 am	<i>23</i> Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>24</i> No Sacred Circle—Summer Break Youth Group—6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal—7:30 pm	<i>25</i> Preschool Open House Ladies Lunch—Noon at Mabel's AA Meeting—5:30 pm	<i>26</i> Charlotte's Partry—9–11 am	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	<i>29</i> 1st Day of Preschool Sharing & Caring—9 am	<i>30</i> Boy Scouts—7 pm	<i>31</i> No Sacred Circle—Summer Break Youth Group—6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal—7:30 pm			

Bethel Baptist Church

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Midlothian, VA 23113

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Change Service Requested

WORSHIP TIMES

9:30 am Sunday School | 10:30 am Worship

We're Going Back To School



Bethel Preschool starts back August 29, 2022

Powhatan County Schools start back August 22, 2021

Chesterfield County Schools start back August 22, 2022

For information about our preschool, please contact preschool
director Heather Kerns, at 804-794-8590.