

# THE OUTREACH

**A People of Hope. A Culture of Grace.**

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**BETHEL**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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When I was a student at Virginia Tech, I had the good fortune to study Civil War history under one of the preeminent Civil War scholars of our time, Dr. Bud Robertson. Dr. Robertson once devoted an entire class to "Love in the Civil War." He read love letters that soldiers and wives exchanged as they longed to be reunited with one another. Dr. Robertson said that love was probably stronger back then, simply because of the culture. Many husbands and wives spent nearly all day together, often within earshot of one another as they worked on their farm or homestead. There weren't the distractions of the internet, television, or radio. To illustrate the depth of love these couples had for one another, Dr. Robertson noted that there were several documented cases of a wife dying within a few hours of receiving the news that her husband was killed in battle. Simply put, the wife died of a broken heart. I have a friend who told me a similar story about a couple in his church. The couple had been married for over 70 years and the husband had been sick and in hospice. The afternoon that the husband died, the wife told

their daughter, "I've had a wonderful life, but I'm ready to leave." The wife died the same afternoon. This past month I saw for myself what it looks like when someone dies of a broken heart. We had to say "Goodbye for now" to Bob Hale last month. Bob died just six weeks after his wife Barbara passed away. If you saw Bob during those six weeks you could see loss written on his



face. The two met and married in college and were married for almost 57 years. How badly did Bob miss Barbara? After Barbara died, Bob found a number of pictures of Barbara that were stored away. He took the pictures out of storage and placed a picture in every room of the house. In some rooms he placed multiple pictures so that he could see his

Continued next column

Barbara from every vantage point in the room. He also took a favorite sweater of hers and sprayed her favorite perfume on the sweater and placed it on her pillow to have it close to him at night. At one point I believe Bob finally said to himself, "I have had a wonderful life, but I'm happy to leave."

I've been thinking about the love that Bob and Barbara had for each other. Hollywood tries to tell us what love is like and we all love a happy ending when the guy finally gets the girl at the end of the movie and they ride off into the sunset. That's a nice story, but I think a better story is Bob and Barbara's story. I remember speaking to a gentleman who was having marriage problems and he said, "At the wedding, we said our vows and I remember saying for better or worse, richer or poorer, in sickness or in health. Then everyone pats you on the back, gives you gifts, and everyone's celebrating. No one stops to think about worse, poorer, or sickness. Marriage is hard!" Bob and Barbara's love held them together through 57 years of better or worse, richer or poorer, in sickness and in health.

As I reflect on Bob and Barbara passing away within weeks of each other, I believe their love gives us a smidgen, an infinitesimal glimpse of the love Christ has for us. In 1 Corinthians 13 Paul gives us a definition of love. The very first word Paul uses to describe love is "patient." Some Bible translations translate the word "long-suffering." To love someone is to suffer with someone, or for someone. Earlier I said I believe Bob died of a broken heart. Just as Bob suffered a broken heart, Christ suffered a much greater burden. It's humbling to think that Christ's heart was broken by the love He has for you and me. It's too much for my mind to fathom that Christ loves us enough to suffer for us. We speak of Christ's suffering on the cross as "His Passion." We call the crucifixion narratives in the Bible the "Passion Narratives." Easter week, or Holy week, is also called "Passion week." The Latin origin of the word passion is "pati," it means to "suffer." Maybe we don't like to associate love and suffering, but love and suffering are two sides of the same coin, as is love and grief. I will often say at funerals that "You will grieve much, because you have loved much." Christ grieved over our sin, our

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lostness, and then he took that sin upon Himself and suffered for us. Christ's heart was broken by His love for you. What do we say about all of this? I say, "Thank you Lord. Thank you for loving me enough to die for me. Thank you for showing me the depth of your love." I am humbled by God's love. I'm searching for the right words to express how I feel. I'm overwhelmed by this knowledge. How do we respond to Christ's love? Simple, just be with Him. Bob wanted nothing more than to be with Barbara. That's what Christ wants as well, just to be with us. I pray that we can respond to Christ's love by being more intentional about our prayer life. I pray as we go through our days that Christ might be top of mind, all the time. I pray we might honor His suffering, by giving Christ the best gift we can give, our time, our attention, our lives. Lord, may your passionate, long-suffering love, transform our hearts and minds. May your love refine us and define us. We ask all of this in Christ's name. Amen.

May God bless the Hale family and may God bless our Bethel Church family. Amen.

*Todd*

## Welcome New Members



Charles Martin  
Joined: May 1, 2022



Sharon and Tom Kenney  
Joined: May 22, 2022



Jordan and Katlyn Boze  
Joined: May 22, 2022

Please meet our newest members. Remember to reach out to them and introduce yourself when you get a chance.

## Note from Our Parish Nurse

Happy 4th of July! Summer is here, don't forget to stay hydrated and use your sunscreen.

COVID 19 numbers are on the rise, below are some helpful links to stay well informed. These links show community outbreak for the area you select, a symptom checker, how to get free home test kits, quarantine guidelines and much more.

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov>

<https://coronavirus.providence.org/>

May you all have a blessed month and stay safe.  
Cindy Luck



## Men's Fellowship Lunch July 7, at Noon



The Men's Fellowship will meet for lunch on July 7, at noon at the Italian Delight Restaurant in Powhatan. If you have any questions, please call Bruce Lewis at 804-467-2886.

## Ladies Fellowship Lunch July 28, at Noon



*You're Invited!*

The Ladies Fellowship Luncheon will meet Thursday, July 28, 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.

## 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.



### **"Stepping Boldly into the Horror"**

There is no denying that an increase of violence is occurring in the United States and in the world in general. Just turn on your television or open your newspaper and you will read about unbelievable horrors. Time and space prohibit me from mentioning all of these, but one news report stood out to me and as I have processed this report, I have thought about it through the lens of these two questions: *What can I do? Where is God in this?*

#### ***What Can I Do?***

In Orlando, Florida on New Year's Day 2021, a waitress, named Flaviane, took notice of a young boy who had cuts and bruises on his face. He was sitting near his family, but the step-father did not order food for the 11-year-old. The step-father excused this by saying that the boy would eat later at home. The waitress felt that something was terribly wrong, so she wrote a note on a napkin that only the boy could see, asking if he needed help. The boy nodded that he did. The waitress then called the police. Flaviane boldly stepped into what can only be described as a horror and acted.

#### ***Where Is God in This?***

On June 7, 2022, this step-father was found guilty of abusing and torturing the 11-year-old. His sentencing will occur in August. What would have happened if Flaviane had not reacted to this situation? According to the lead investigator of the case, he said that this child "was destined to be killed." The boy was 20 pounds underweight, was subjected to doing planks for thirty minutes each day, and was severely beaten if he failed to do this strenuous exercise. In a recent interview, Flaviane, said, *"I was used like a tool from God to help him. We need to pay attention for the ones that are in need, and step forward to do something to change the situation."* Clearly, Flaviane paid attention to the signs of trouble surrounding this little boy and became the hands and feet of Christ as she moved into action into a dangerous and, at the very least, an uncomfortable situation (foxnews.com).

A reporter asked Flaviane if she had been worried that the police might not get there in time before the family left the restaurant. Flaviane replied that she had thought about that and had decided that she would have grabbed the boy if the police had not arrived in time. Even then, she had a back-up plan to boldly step in and rescue the 11-year-old.

As I mentally put myself in Flaviane's shoes, I wonder if I would have noticed the 11-year-old boy's cuts and bruises. I wonder if I would have had the courage to make contact with him.

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I wonder if I would have called the police. I wonder if I would have planned to grab the boy if the police had not gotten there in time. I would like to think that I would have done so. I would like to think that I would have relied on the power of the Holy Spirit to give me the courage and boldness to step out of my comfort zone and into the horror of that little boy's situation. But something that I know that I have to do, indeed, we all *must* do, to prepare for challenging situations is *to pray for boldness, to recognize when something does not look quite right, and to step forward boldly* when the hands and feet of Christ are required. That is the only way that you and I can do our part to combat the horrors in our world.

The early Christians recognized that this characteristic did not originate within themselves. They relied upon the Holy Spirit to guide their words and actions. We see this in their prayer in Acts 4: 29-31: *"... grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness."*

May we follow their example (and Flaviane's) to rely upon the power of the Holy Spirit to embolden us as we move through this broken world.

## **Many Thanks**

I would like to thank you all as my church family for welcoming my granddaughter with open arms and hearts and taking such good care of her as a young Christian as she was baptized last month. You are all such a blessing to me and I thank you all very much for your continued support. Todd I thank you for helping her along on her journey.

Have a blessed day,  
 Carrie Persichini

Blessings! Thank you so much for the wonderful Hope Boxes. They will certainly be a blessing for the little ones that will receive them. I know God is already preparing their hearts to receive them. Thank you for your faithfulness and for partnering with us to bring hope to Appalachia.

God Bless,  
 Pastor Mike (Hope for Appalachia)



## 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.

## Rocky Railway Coming Soon Mon. July 18 thru Thurs. July 21



Join us for our Vacation Bible School starting on Monday July 18, thru Thursday July 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. each night. We will climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Each day our kids will learn relevant Bible points making it easy to apply well after VBS is over. One of the best parts about Rocky Railway VBS is the award-winning music! Fun songs your kids will want to listen to again and again—sure to become a new family fave!

So join us!! ALL ABOARD! Rocky Railway is on the Way!



## 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 meets in the Salt and Light Classroom 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.

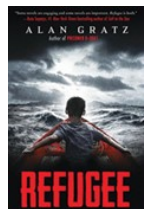
The zoom link is:

<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.

## 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

## Missions News by Frances Morris

**Women's Missionary Union Meeting**—The monthly meeting of the WMU will be held on Monday, July 11, at 10 a.m. in the People of Hope Center. The meeting has been moved to the 2nd Monday due to the 4th of July holiday. 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](http://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.



## Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 4th in observance of the holiday.



JUST FOR FUN by Gayle Taylor

## Summer Travels: The World's Natural Wonders

If you were to travel around the world, you would see unique scenery that God has created. You might even visit the designated "7 Natural Wonders of the World." See if you can match these wonders with their geographical location. The answers are in the box below.

- |                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Victoria Falls           | A. Brazil                     |
| _____ 2. Grand Canyon             | B. Mexican state of Michoacán |
| _____ 3. Great Barrier Reef       | C. Northern hemisphere skies  |
| _____ 4. Harbor of Rio de Janeiro | D. Southern Africa            |
| _____ 5. Mount Everest            | E. Arizona                    |
| _____ 6. Paricutin                | F. Himalayas in Asia          |
| _____ 7. Aurora Borealis          | G. Australia                  |

- Swedish and Finnish Lapland, Scotland, Siberia, Canada and Alaska.
- sky in the northern hemisphere: Norway, Greenland, Iceland.
- (C) Spectacular, colorful display of light commonly seen in the night Mexico City.
- near the city of Urupapan and about 322 kilometers (200 mi) west of
- (B) Cinder cone volcano located in the Mexican state of Michoacán, sub-range of the Himalayas in Asia.
- (F) Earth's highest mountain above sea level in Mahalangur Himal
- (A) World's largest bay Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Queensland main land, Australia
- (G) World's largest coral reef system off the east coast of the
- (E) Steep-sided canyon carved by the Colorado River in Arizona
- (D) Waterfall on the Zambezi River in southern Africa

ANSWERS

## 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.



## July Birthdays



1 Ben Doughtie	17 Dona Carlson
2 Linda Harris	17 Samuel Ferebee
2 Janice Jones	18 Elaine Bradley
2 Bonnie Toibin	19 Ramon Bookman
3 Cathy Marshall	19 Kevin Gilbert
3 Ciara Hale	19 Rob Camden
3 Ora Smith	20 Glenna Chenault
3 Keith Bradbury	21 Ricky Evans
4 Margaret Gillis	21 Everett Maine
5 Amy Powell	21 Cindy Walton
6 Dolly Smith	24 Wendy McClellan
6 Terri Worthy	24 Lauren Rogers
7 Marie Justis	26 Bill Florence
7 Don Laslie	26 Stacey Elam
8 Tammy Bell	26 Ann Powell
9 Debbie Walmsley	27 Waylon Mead
9 Ruby Waller	27 Austin Moseley
9 Charlie Stump	27 Karen Wooldridge
10 Kayla Patteson	29 Steve Lewis
12 Matthew Riley	31 Tommy Justis, Jr.
13 Trevor Moseley	31 Gene Gwaltney
13 Cody Loving	31 Cindy Luck
14 Ken Martin	31 Megan Luck
14 Carolyn DeNoon	31 Thomas Maine
16 Mike Rider	

## Charlotte's Pantry Schedule

### Upcoming pantry schedule:

July 13, 5 to 6:30 p.m.  
 July 22, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
 August 10, 5 to 6:30 p.m.  
 August 26, 9 to 11 a.m.



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

## Wednesday Night Programs in July



July 6 — Sacred Circle—6:30 p.m. Zoom  
 July 13 — Sacred Circle—6:30 p.m. Zoom  
 July 20 — No Sacred Circle (Vacation Bible School)  
 July 27 — Sacred Circle—6:30 p.m. Zoom

## 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 (on hold due to Covid)

## Koinonia 7 Group

The Koinonia 7 group will meet on Zoom on Monday July 11, Monday July 18, and Monday July 25. Meeting time is 7 p.m.



Have a great





# July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Circle of Truth—5 pm	2
3 Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	4 <b>4th of July</b>	5 Boy Scouts—7 pm	6 Sacred Circle—6:30 pm Zoom Youth Group—6:30 pm No Choir Rehearsal	7 Men's Lunch—Noon AA Meeting—5:30 pm Girl Scouts—6 pm (Downstairs)	8	9
10 Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	11 Sharing & Caring—9 am WMU—10 am Koinonia Group—7 pm Zoom	12 Boy Scouts—7 pm	13 Charlotte's Partry—5 to 6:30 pm Sacred Circle—6:30 pm Zoom No Youth (Passport Camp) No Choir Rehearsal	14 AA Meeting—5:30 pm	15 Circle of Truth—5 pm	16 VBS Decorating Day
17 Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	18 Sharing & Caring—9 am Vacation Bible School—6 to 8 pm Koinonia Group—7 pm Zoom	19 Vacation Bible School—6 to 8 pm	20 Vacation Bible School—6 to 8 pm No Choir Rehearsal	21 AA Meeting—5:30 pm Vacation Bible School—6 to 8 pm Girl Scouts—6 pm (Downstairs)	22 Charlotte's Partry—9-11 am	23
24 Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH	25 Sharing & Caring—9 am Koinonia Group—7 pm Zoom	26 Boy Scouts—7 pm	27 Sacred Circle—6:30 pm Zoom Youth Group—6:30 pm No Choir Rehearsal	28 Ladies Lunch—Noon at Mabels AA Meeting—5:30 pm	29	30
31 Sunday School—9:30 am Worship—10:30 am—POH						

**Bethel Baptist Church**

1100 Huguenot Springs Road  
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Change Service Requested

**WORSHIP TIMES**

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



For more information, please call Heather Kerns at 804-794-8590  
or go to our website at [www.bethelbaptistpreschool.com](http://www.bethelbaptistpreschool.com).

