

BETHANY HIGHLIGHTS

August 2014



Ben's Pen

Our Christian pilgrimages incorporate many memories from our learning about God's love incarnate in Jesus; to our decision to accept God's offer to us; and our many ups and downs and God's unfailing support every step of the way. For most of us our baptism is a vivid memory, whether it was a few years ago or a few decades ago. I well remember being a nervous 7 year old wading into that (seemingly) huge baptistry in front of all those people. Rev. Dickey's calm voice soothed my nerves as he spoke those now familiar words "Upon your profession of faith in Christ, I baptize you my brother..." What a door that opened. This month we have a great opportunity to celebrate the decision of six sisters and brothers who have made that choice. Let us support and worship with them on August 10th. It is an indelible memory.

I will begin a series of sermons this month on how God helps us overcome the circumstances in our lives. The issues of betrayal, temptation, being forgotten, hard times, bitterness and our earthly culture will each be addressed. All of us face issues that hinder our relationships and cloud our lives, yet God regularly works in the lives of His followers to overcome things that would otherwise cripple us. Let us examine God's word and put His promises to work in our lives daily.

Invite Your Neighbor to Church Sunday is August 3rd. Most of us started coming to Bethany because a family member brought us or a friend invited us. Have you invited anyone lately? On August 3rd the Deacons are hosting the event, but they need your help. Invite someone to come to worship with you and stay for lunch. The Deacons and a few volunteers will provide lunch for us all. Who are you going to invite? They are welcome in worship and we have their dinner on the grill.

In Christ's Love,

Ben

Our annual senior adult trip will be on August 14th this year. We are going on a Rappahannock River cruise. We will gather at the church and head to the river at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served on the cruise and the lower level of the boat is air conditioned! It promises to be an exciting day. The cost for the cruise and lunch is \$15. Contact Bobby Orrock if you have any questions.

We will be celebrating baptism with six new members on August 10th in worship. Matthew & Andrea Carter and their daughter, Rebecca; Bob & Lil Girsham and Caroline Thomas will each profess their faith in Jesus as Lord by following his example in baptism. Let us support them in their decision.

Our PRIME TIMERS meet on Wednesday, August 13th at 12 noon. The theme will be the "good old summer time." Bring your food contributions and join them for food, fun and fellowship.

The Church Council will gather on August 11th to finalize the calendar for the remainder of this year. Each committee and ministry is asked to get your plans to the council for inclusion.

VBS Report – Our *Weird Animals* VBS was an exciting place to be! With 43 children registered, an average of 36 children attended each night, led by 28 different adult and teenage volunteers. Thank you for your support! Continue to pray that the seeds planted during the week will help the children to grow in Jesus' one-of-a-kind love.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Ben Thomas, Pastor

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Bethany Baptist Church

PO Box 408

Thornburg, VA 22565

August 2014

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------|----------|
| 31 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm PROMOTION DAY | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Lunch 12:15 pm INVITE YOUR NEIGHBOR DAY | 4 Men's Ministry 7:00 pm | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship & Baptism 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm | 11 Church Council 7:00 pm | 12 | 13 PRIME TIMERS 12:00 pm | 14 Senior Riverboat Trip Leave church @1030 am Deacons 7:00 pm | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm | 18 Food Bank Ministry @ Massaponax BC | 19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm | 25 | 26 Business Meeting 7:00 pm | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

August Birthdays

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 – Darlene Grimm | 17 – Tracey Prater |
| 6 – Linda Ambrose | 17 – Elizabeth Thomas |
| 8 – Dixie Bettis | 18 – Caroline Thomas |
| 10 – Alice Allen | 19 – Brittany Hutchinson |
| 12 – Ramona Morris | 21 – John Mann |
| 12 – Evan Newberry | 24 – Nancy Corthon Jones |
| 12 – Max Newman | 25 – Danny Lee |
| 13 – Gary Grimm | 26 – Chris Taylor |
| 15 – Mike Johnson | 28 – James Lee Bowles |
| 17 – Morgan Hutchinson | 31 – Catherine Mathis |

August Anniversaries

29 – Janet & Mark Irving

Healthcare Center Prayer List:

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Grace Anderson | Nell Durrett |
| Scarlett Blanton | Violet Henshaw |
| Mike Brooks | Douglas Jones |
| Betty Butler | Violet Payne |
| Brenda Cannon | Frank Williams |
| Bobby Carnahan | |

Deacons

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Alice Allen | (804) 448-3292 |
| Al Baker | (804) 448-3345 |
| Mike Johnson | (540) 582-6788 |
| Danny Lee (acting chairman) | (540) 582-8213 |
| Emmitt Marshall | (540) 582-5381 |
| Harry Newman (on military deployment) | (804) 448-1502 |

Deacon of the Month:

Emmitt Marshall

The mission of Bethany Baptist Church is to make a positive impact for Jesus Christ with people who live in our community by sharing the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ and by growing together as the family of God.

Just a thought...*If we are not willing to change what is, we will never become what can be.*