



Bethesda Beacon

“Glorifying God by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through love, faith, prayer, and service.”

1002 N. Sandhills Blvd. Aberdeen, NC 28315
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“Follow the Light...”

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105)

Eugene Peterson translates Psalm 119:105 like this: “By your words I can see where I’m going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path.” To grow as disciples of Christ it’s extremely important to be reading the Bible reflectively, which means allowing God to “read our lives” while we are reading the Scriptures.

Where and how can we do this? Spending time in God’s word individually is an excellent spiritual discipline. Journaling about what we have read helps us bring God’s words into conversation with our lives, relationships, decisions and priorities. Studying the Bible in a group is also eye-opening, as we hear what God says to other people through the same Scripture and encounter other peoples’ insights and questions.

The Fresh Air Sunday school group will continue to meet in the upstairs Upper Room classroom across from the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 AM as we begin a new study based on *What Do You Seek? The Questions of Jesus as Challenge and Promise*, by Michael J. Buckley. We will study the questions that Jesus posed to those who followed him in the Gospel of John. And we will also take time to respond to Jesus’ questions as they relate to our lives and circumstances.

A Catholic Church in Pittsburgh posted this advice on their electronic billboard: “Beware of the barrenness of too-busy lives.” If we are too busy to read, study and reflect on God’s words for our lives and families, it may be time to say “no” or “let go” of what is blocking the light.

In John 12:35-36, Jesus encouraged his disciples to: *“Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.”*

As we move towards the summer months, when there are more hours of sunlight, let’s take the time to immerse ourselves in the light of God’s Son in whom we live and move and have our being!

Grateful to be partners on this journey!

Sue & David

Pastor Sue Hudson & Pastor David Hudson

Music Notes

Many Thanks! On April 2, the Bethesda Bells played the beautiful 'Pie Jesu' by Faure...a lovely prelude for the 5th Sunday in Lent. The Carol Choir added a lively 'Somebody's Knocking at Your Door' and the Chancel Choir's 'Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross' focused us on our Lenten journey. Thank you.

On April 6, we had a Service of Wholeness of prayer and Taizé music led by Steve McKenzie, guitar and Emily Braun, violin. Thank you.

'Come to the Cross and Remember' by Pepper Choplin was received with gracious compliments on Palm Sunday. Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Joyce Robinson & Barbara Velat for this powerful presentation and to Gloria Crane and Larry Arnold for the beautiful duet as prelude.

Elizabeth Kane & Moneen Bethea added a moving 'Were You There' at our Maundy Thursday service. Moore Brass always adds excitement and flair to our Easter worship. Thank you to Moneen Bethea, Gloria Crane, and Larry Arnold for your leadership each Sunday.

April 30th brought a fresh sound to our worship service. Thank you to Emily Braun, Kelly Clark, Jimmy Greene, Steve McKenzie, Samantha Taylor & Larry Arnold for your leadership. A special thank you to Larry Arnold for coordinating and arranging music for this service.

Mark Your Calendars! On June 4th following worship, our **Carol Choir** will present 'Oh Jonah!' directed by Nancy Arnold in the fellowship hall. A luncheon will be served. The children have been working hard to share this delightful musical. Please join us!

2017 Montreat Worship & Music Conference will be held the week of June 18th. It's not too late to join the group. Registration is still open.
——— Nancy Arnold



Nancy Arnold

Music Director

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910.944.9378



May Ushers

Craig Fogleman
Peggy Jacobs
Joyce Robinson
Doug Lawrie

Greeters

Jim Mack
Bob Armswood
Barbara Velat

Nursery Volunteers

May 7: Georgia Proctor
May 14: Sandy McLaughlin
May 21: Somer Southers
May 28: Nora Andersen



Youth Scoop!

Bethesda Youth Group (BYG) is for youth in grades 6-12 & meets on Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00-7:00 PM.

\$50 payments for Montreat and Massanetta summer Conferences due!

Final balances are due June 4!



& Confirmation Day - Sunday, May 21



Samantha Taylor

Director of Christian Ed & Youth

scunningham.taylor@gmail.com

****NEW PHONE NUMBER****

910.691.4007

Join us as BYG hosts our annual youth-led worship service at 11:00 AM and welcome Bethesda newest middle & high school confirmands. We will celebrate together with a luncheon in the fellowship hall following worship.

Important dates:

- June 22-25 – Massanetta Middle School Conference
- July 16-22 – Montreat Youth Conference (High School)
- September 23 – Church Variety Show!



Vacation Bible School is on the calendar for June 12th-16th. Bring your friends to Mega Sports Camp at Bethesda! 5:30-8:30 PM. Dinner included.

Why I Like Bethesda... Out of the Mouths of Babes

"I like B.P.C. because I love Mrs. Sue & Mr. David and I love Mom and she got marid here and I'm hopen to get marid here." --Love, Jordan McNeill

"I like the people and the food and the fun and the love and the carring for the poor and the love for Jesus and the carels and the songs and storys." --Trinity Andersen

"I like Bethesda because all the people here are always connected and the people always care for each other and the pastors are awsome." --Madelyn Gorba

BYG Schedule

May 7:

Dinner – Sumner

Devo – “Henster” Hogan

May 14:

NO BYG (Mother’s Day)

May 21:

Dinner - _____

Devo - _____

May 28:

NO BYG (Memorial Day Weekend)



Family Promise will again be hosted by Bethesda Presbyterian May 15th through May 18th. Volunteers are needed! Family Promise

is the Sandhills area's shelter for homeless families of women and children. Bethesda is one of the area churches who volunteers on a rotating basis to prepare evening meals and to stay overnight in their beautiful new home on Saunders Boulevard in Aberdeen. If you have an interest in preparing a meal (in a group or individually) or if you have an interest in staying overnight (a female must be present), please contact LoJuanna Pages at 638-1866 or call our church office.



Lectionary Readings for May

4th Sunday of Easter – May 7

Acts 2:42-47
 Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-35
 John 10:1-10

5th Sunday of Easter – May 14

Acts 7:55-60
 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
 1 Peter 2:2-10
 John 14:1-14

6th Sunday of Easter – May 21

Acts 17:22-31
 Psalm 66:8-20
 1 Peter 3:13-22
 John 14:15-21

6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
 John 17:1-11

The Sunshine Club enjoyed dining at the Women's Exchange on Wednesday April 5th. There were 13 in attendance. As always there was



wonderful fellowship and delicious food. The next outing is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th to the Sandhills Children's Center and lunch following at Valenti's. The van will depart the church parking lot at 9:30 AM and return at 1:00 PM. Please call the church office or Dell at 944-2567 to reserve a seat in the van. If you plan to drive and meet us there, we will need to know.



A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt." His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"




Congratulations to Michael and Emily Bean on the birth of their son, Michael Dale Bean, Jr.! Proud sister is Brooklyn Bean and proud grandmother is Mary Lynn Sutphen. Welcome to the family, MJ!



May Birthdays

- 1 Nicole Clark Williams
- 2 Ian Blue
Kitty Kuzminski
Mary Lawrie
- 4 Becky Mac Brown
- 9 Daniel R. Black
- 10 Rebekah Hudson
Catherine Neill
Logan Taylor
Rebecca Watts
- 11 Amanda Dworak
Georgia Proctor
Ron Shuch
- 12 Tammy Clarke
- 14 Tom Blue
- 16 Tristan Matthews
Julian Wilson
- 17 Mary Jessup Gooden
Paula McKenzie
Frank McNeill, Sr.
- 19 Jakob Gorba
- 21 Lisa Keith
- 23 Jimmy Gorba
Carol Prevatte
- 24 Jean Snively
- 25 Tony Garren
- 26 Trinity Andersen
Chuck Dearborn
- 27 Krista Snively
- 28 J. David Keith
Jackson Smith
- 29 Sam Smithson
- 30 Mike Pace
- 31 Mehera Ardinger
Michael Miller

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Merry Hearts 6:00 Scottish Dance	2 Merry Hearts 10:00 Circle #4 10:00 - 1:00 FH in use 6:30 Martha Circle	3 Merry Hearts 9:00 Assistance Team 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Adult Handbells 6:30 YANA 7:30 Choir	4 Merry Hearts 2:45 CALL Tutoring	5 Merry Hearts	6 2017 Backyard BBQ & Craft Fair 
7 11:00 Worship with Communion 5:00 Carol Choir Youth Group	8 Merry Hearts 10:00 Friendship Circle 6:00 Fellowship Hall in use	9 Merry Hearts 5:30 Youth Council 7:00 Evangelism	10 Merry Hearts 9:00 Assistance Team 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Adult Handbells 6:30 YANA 7:30 Choir	11 Merry Hearts 2:45 CALL Tutoring	12 Merry Hearts	13
14 Mother's Day 11:00 Worship 4:00 Fellowship Committee 5:00 Carol Choir Deacons	15 Merry Hearts 6:00 Scottish Dance	16 Merry Hearts 6:00 Fellowship Hall in use 5:30 Christian Education	17 Merry Hearts 9:00 Assistance Team 9:30 Sunshine Club to SCS 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:30 Volunteer Luncheon 4:00 Stephen Ministry 6:30 Adult Handbells 6:30 YANA 7:30 Choir	18 Merry Hearts 1:30 Assistance Team Meeting 2:45 CALL Tutoring	19 Merry Hearts 6:00-8:00 Faith Weaving Friends	20 1:00-5:00 Fellowship Hall in use
21 11:00 Youth Sunday Worship & Confirmation Day 12:00 Fellowship Luncheon 5:00 Carol Choir 6:00 Worship Committee 7:00 Session	22 Merry Hearts	23 Merry Hearts 2:00-6:30 Red Cross Blood Drive	24 Last Day of Merry Hearts 9:00 Assistance Team 10:00 Preschool Graduation Staff Meeting 6:00 Men of the Church 6:30 Adult Handbells 6:30 YANA 7:30 Choir	25 2:45 CALL Tutoring	26	27
28 5:00 Carol Choir Youth Group	29 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	30	31 9:00 Assistance Team 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Adult Handbells 6:30 YANA 7:30 Choir			

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The Merry Hearts Preschool presented the 2017 Zoo Phonics Parade for their families on April 28. Each child dressed up as an animal representing a letter of the alphabet, from Allie the Alligator to Zeke the Zebra!

BETHESDA BEACON

Editor: Samantha Taylor

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