



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

May 2021

This is an exciting time to be part of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, which has blessed generations of people both inside and outside our doors and which will, under God's grace and providence, continue to do so for generations to come.

We invite you to join us

in our capital campaign, **Sowing the Seed: Planting our Future**, to raise the necessary funds to allow our church facilities to thrive and serve as a mission station for years to come! Everything we do inside of our church:



worship, faith formation, fellowship, and small group ministry all lead us out to serve God's people! And we want our church building to reflect the vibrancy of the people it nurtures and serves.

For this campaign to be successful we need every member to

contribute. The size of the gift doesn't matter; your commitment does! Please pray in the coming weeks to see how you and your family can dig deep in our Sowing the Seed campaign for the future of BMPC!

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 16

Celebration Event

We will celebrate the vital mission and ministry of our congregation in worship.



MAY 23

Commitment Sunday

We will dedicate our campaign pledges.



JUNE 6

First Fruit Offering

We will bring the first installment of our pledged gifts to the campaign.



JUNE 20

Announcement Sunday

We will announce and give thanks for the total commitments received so far.



MAY 22 Prayer Walk

Concurrent with the Youth Car Wash, Saturday, May 22, 10 a.m. – noon, you are invited to pray your way through our church building and grounds, pausing especially where renovations are proposed, that every aspect and activity of our church be steeped in prayer.

Join us for Sunday morning worship in person at 11:00. Reservations are required since there will be limited seating (135 seats) in the sanctuary, narthex, and fellowship hall. Social distancing and masks are required. **Sign up here** or call the church office, 669-2725, by noon on Fridays.

SUNDAYS

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool Church on Zoom**
A time to connect and hear a story
- 9:45 a.m. Becomers Class on Zoom**
[George Thompson](mailto:George.Thompson@revdr3george@gmail.com) (revdr3george@gmail.com)
We will study Colossians
- 10:30 a.m. Biblical Explorations on Zoom**
[Austin Brown](mailto:Austin.Brown@austin.brown.c54@gmail.com) (austin.brown.c54@gmail.com)
After Easter, we'll start an 11-week study of the book of Job
- 11:00 a.m. In Person Worship Service (sign up above)**
- 3:30 p.m. Mental Health Support Group on Zoom**
1st & 3rd Sundays [Bunny Alexander](mailto:Bunny.Alexander@bunny6alexander@gmail.com) (bunny6alexander@gmail.com) or 317-517-0334
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group** (we will not meet on May 2 & 9)

MONDAYS

- 8:00 a.m. Sacred Circle on Zoom**
[Beverly Thompson](mailto:drbeverlythompson@gmail.com) (drbeverlythompson@gmail.com)
Contact Beverly if you are interested.
- 1:00 p.m. Earth Care Book Series** with Pastor David
Nature's Best Hope by Douglas W. Tallamy, begins April 12
email [Jackie](mailto:jackie@bmpcnc.org) (jackie@bmpcnc.org) for Zoom link

WEDNESDAYS

- 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Matthew Bible Study on Zoom**
[Lewis Galloway](mailto:Lewis.Galloway@lewisgalloway1951@gmail.com) (lewisgalloway1951@gmail.com)
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Leadership Group**

THURSDAYS

- 7:00 p.m. Men's Group**
- 8:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting** with Bob Tuttle, 1st & 3rd

SAVE THE DATE!

**BBQ & Bluegrass
Sunday, June 6**

after 11:00 worship service
in the south parking lot
**to honor our
graduating seniors.**

HAPPY FEET!



The pantry shelves are full, but we can still support our neighbors through SVCM. In the spring and summer, tennis shoes (sneakers, athletic shoes, etc.) and socks of all sizes, children through adults, boys and girls, women and men, are in great demand. New or gently used, from your or your neighbors' closet or your local thrift store, are welcome. There will be a Happy Feet display in the narthex for your donations through June 6.

Our generosity can give a bounce to the summer for those who may be on the road, at work, or at play.

Blessing Box needs volunteers!

Please sign up to help with our Blessing Box. We need volunteers for July through December. [Use this link](#) or call the church office to sign up. This is a family friendly mission opportunity. All that is required is keeping the box clean and stocked for one week (or more). Preferred foods are those that DO NOT require milk or butter or other ingredients (like mac and cheese). Cans that have pop tops that don't require can openers are better and with warmer weather, bottled water and snacks are good to include. Personal care items are always helpful: deodorant, toothpaste, laundry detergent, bug spray, sunblock. Please no books or clothing. Call Debbie Bailey or Patti Pyle with questions.

Preparation for the new Black Mountain Counseling Center satellite office at the Old Fort Presbyterian Church



A HUGE thank you to church members and the Presbytery Youth Council (during the PYC Day of Service) for helping the Black Mountain Counseling Center prep for the opening of the new satellite office at Old Fort Presbyterian Church. It is exciting to partner with the Old Fort Presbyterian Church and help to serve the community at large in Western North Carolina. Thanks to BMPC folks David Carter Florence, Betsy Ray, Max Cogbill, Sara Owen, Mistie Cogbill, and Matt Begley. Special thanks to Maggie Ray and Art Lindsey for stopping by and encouraging all of us.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Saturday May 22

Are you Covid-weary? Are you people-starved? Do you like to eat? Do you like surprises? Will you be fully vaccinated by Saturday, May 8?

Sponsored by your Congregational Life team, **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** will take place on Saturday, May 22, at 6:00 p.m. These dinners are an effort for adults to get to know each other in a casual group with six to eight people. You may sign up to host or you may come as a guest.

Hosts will be responsible for opening their home and providing the main dish and beverages. Signing up as a guest will be for those who just like to eat – and are willing to bring a side dish. Hosts will be given the names of their guests in advance and will be in touch with them about what to bring (side, salad, or dessert), find out dietary restrictions and answer any questions.

What guests won't know is who the other guests are which will only be revealed when you arrive. That's the surprise!

If you would like to be a part of this fun event, look for the sign up sheet in the narthex on two Sundays: May 9 and May 16. Or call or email: Trudy Winstead (828-357-5275, gswinstead@aol.com) or Gay Ferguson (704-451-3097, gwenflfe@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

The pleasure of your company is requested!

Remember: you must have been fully vaccinated by Saturday, May 8.

Presbyterian Women Hip, Hip, Hooray!

Presbyterian Women are going to be able to celebrate our Spring Gathering in person at church (with social distancing and masks of course). **We will meet for our Birthday celebration and program on Tuesday, May 11, at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.** We will install our new officers and recognize those receiving Honorary Life Memberships in PW. We are sure looking forward to being together and celebrating this past year!

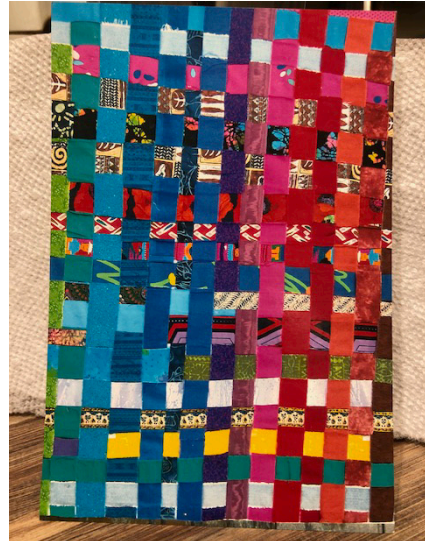


Carol Cauthen and Becky Jo Sumner at the “Eggs-traordinary” event in March.

Priscilla Circle will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 4, in the church parking lot on the south side of fellowship hall. Please bring a chair.

Lydia Circle will meet on Tuesday evening, May 18, from 6:30-8:00 in the narthex. Annamarie Arens will lead our lesson, Chapter 8. Come join us!

WOVEN TOGETHER AT PENTECOST



Pentecost Sunday, May 23, is a time we celebrate the birth of the church, found in Acts 2 when the wind and fire of the Holy Spirit empowers disciples to continue the mission of the resurrected Jesus. On May 23 we will gather in-person in church to celebrate Pentecost, to relish our fellowship with each other, and to pledge our gifts to the church’s Capital Campaign.

As an expression of our togetherness and communion as a congregation, the Worship and Arts team has proposed an exercise symbolizing our reunion. With your participation, we will create a weaving of many colored fabric strips. **In May we are asking that you please bring to church strips of fabric, about 2-3 inches wide, and 2-3 feet long, and drop them in a designated basket in the narthex.** You may provide fabrics from ties, scarves, torn baby blankets, clothing or table linens, clergy stoles – perhaps something meaningful to you. On Pentecost Sunday, a weaving will begin with the donated strips in the narthex. Church artists and members of the Worship and Arts team will do the actual weaving, but we depend on all of you to make the weaving work.

So, start finding, tearing, or cutting pieces of cloth to make strips to express our being woven together as a congregation, and bring them to church in May!

Reduce Lawns. Plant Natives. Prevent Extinction.

When biologists warn about extinction, it's because the extinction problem they see is snowballing, causing severe consequences in the natural world. For example, North America has lost 30 billion birds in the last 30 years. Entomologist E.O. Wilson, who studies ants, says that the looming mass extinction is so urgent that we must return half the surface of the Earth to nature, establishing wildlife corridors.

However, Douglas W. Tallamy, professor of entomology and wildlife ecology, argues in *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard*, that a more practical approach is to convince millions of ordinary homeowners to establish our own wildlife corridors. He asks us to do two things in our individual yards: reduce the amount dedicated to lawn by half, and plant native species. Tallamy says that "every square foot dedicated to lawn is a square foot that is degrading local ecosystems." The best rule of thumb is to reduce your lawn by half, then increase the abundance and diversity of native plantings.

- **Lawns replace the rich biodiversity that was once there; they are the least productive of our plantings.**
- **More than 40 million acres of lawn have replaced diverse native plant communities across our country.**
- **Lawn irrigation consumes on average more than eight billion gallons of water daily – 30 percent of all water used during the summer in the East.**
- **Forty percent of the chemicals used by the lawn-care industry are banned in other countries because they are carcinogens. Pets, children, and wildlife are most at risk of contracting cancer from these chemicals.**

Spring migrating and nesting birds rely on the insects in our lush deciduous forests to give them the energy to travel long distances and raise their young. Fall migrating birds depend on high-energy fruits from flowering Dogwood, Spicebush, and Virginia Creeper. Beech, Oak, and Hickory trees provide a great nesting habitat and important nuts and acorns for a variety of wildlife. In the winter, evergreen trees like American Holly, White Pine, and Hemlocks provide important shelter and food.

ashevillebotanicalgardens.org

Plant only native species. Tallamy and his granddaughter once inventoried trees in two neighborhoods of Portland, Oregon. After identifying 1,176 trees, they found that only 100 were indigenous to the Pacific Northwest. Others were Asian (Bradford pears, ginkgos, and zelkovas); European (Norway maple, little-leaf linden, horse chestnut); and trees from eastern North America (sweetgum, red oak, and sycamore). As a result, during bird breeding season, it is a silent city.

When we choose imported plants only for their beauty, our landscape is dead to most native wildlife. E.O. Wilson says: "Ornamentals disrupt the chain of life, because local insects are not adapted to them, and then the birds and other critters lose their food source."

Tallamy explains further, "By far, the most important and abundant specialized relationships on the planet are the relationships among the insects that eat plants and the plants they eat." Most insect herbivores are diet specialists – "host-plant specialists that are restricted to eating one or just a few plant lineages." A familiar example is the monarch butterfly, whose caterpillar only eats milkweed.

Library News

Are you aware that the library has a classification known as BMPC authors? There is a full shelf devoted to writers who have BMPC connections. In addition, there are books in other classifications which were written by people associated with this church. Noted theologians and professors, such as Lamar Williamson and Patrick Miller, have volumes in the Commentary section. Then there is a unique book found in the Devotional section, *Love's Letters*, by George Gunn, which consists of letters written to family and friends, along with poignant photographs and George's paraphrase of I Corinthians 13. It is likely that there are additional books by BMPC authors in other sections of the library about which I do not know.

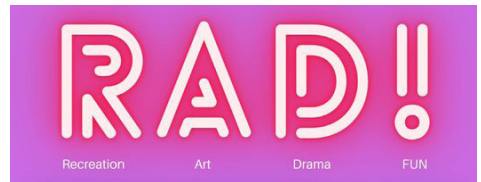
Since there is no way that I can review all the titles in the section designated for those with connections to this church, I am going to dedicate the month of May to BMPC authors by putting as many of the more than fifty-five titles on the display shelves to the right as you walk in the door. Because several of our authors have multiple titles, probably there will be only one book by this person. However, I will highlight here a few works which demonstrate the variety of topics encompassed in this section.

A former pastor, Kevin Frederick, has written *Cradled in Grace*, which consists of prayers and poems throughout the church year and includes not only prayers for the specific seasons but also prayers for the memorial services of members who are named. They are all beautiful and inspiring, but what moved me the most was the haunting poetry. He is truly a gifted and creative writer. Another gifted and creative writer with ties to this church is David LaMotte. While he is probably best known as a musician, he has also written a powerful book called *World Changing 101*. In this work he describes ways to challenge the myth that we are powerless to make changes for the betterment of humankind. David uses a story approach to impart a great deal of practical wisdom.

At various times BMPC has been home to a number of missionaries with inspiring stories to tell. One of these was Mariella Talmage Provost. The recollections of her amazing life are contained in *I Gave You to the Lord*. Although much of the account is quite serious, Mariella displays her sense of humor occasionally, as when she describes how she met her husband. He was in the hospital where she was serving, and she says that he could not get away. The text is accompanied with many interesting photographs. And for those of you who do not own a copy, the library has *The First Chapter: Early Montreat Homes 1897-1917*, compiled by Henrietta Wilkinson and Bluford B. Hestir. Whether you have been acquainted with Montreat your entire life or are a relative newcomer as I am, this is a fascinating account of the homes and people who first inhabited this place some of us call "Presbyterian Heaven."

These are but a sample of the rich literature created by those who at some time in their lives have called Black Mountain Presbyterian Church home.

— Sally Woodard



RAD! is in full swing on
Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.
through May 19.

Bread For The World

Call 800-826-3688 or write to your members of Congress. Urge them to make permanent the 15 percent SNAP increase and the summer EBT program, and to invest \$20 billion for the global response to the pandemic. Visit bread.org/act to take action today!

May Birthdays

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Gene Witherspoon | 18 Mary McMahill |
| 2 Mistie Reising-Cogbill
Daniel Cappelli | 19 Anne Moseley |
| 3 Dick Hobson | 21 Ann Carr Adkins |
| 4 Candy Donnell
Jim Davies
Cindy McDaniel | 22 Barbara Gaw
Ruth Duckworth
Beth Gunn |
| 5 Brian Parada | 23 Austin Edwards
Mary Carroll Dodd
William Hana |
| 6 Susan Dannenberg | 24 Elizabeth Turk |
| 7 Mike Begley
Leo Cappelli | 25 Bruce Gunn |
| 8 Jim Elam
Beth Farmer | 26 Helen Smith
Jean Chamberlain |
| 9 Richard Nygren
Andy Banzhoff | 27 Davis Campbell |
| 12 Shannon Ingersoll | 28 Beau Van Note |
| 14 Tanner Pickett
Lindsey Banks | 29 Allen Webber |
| 15 John Walker
Paul Ginther | 30 Judy Williams
Karen Boyd |
| 16 Stan Skeen
Kitty Kelly
Rachel Beaver | 31 Ethan Kadau
Lillie Chilton |
| 17 Blair Holladay | |



SAVE THE DATES

Summer Events for Youth

(Middle and High School)

June 21-25

Presbytery of WNC Mission Camp

Local service in our town! Gardening, permaculture, river clean-up see details on back page

July 20-23

Backpacking Trip up Mt. Mitchell

Nine slots open for hiking trip from Montreat to Mt. Mitchell co-led by East Brentwood Presbyterian from Nashville

August 1-6

Montreat Youth Conference "Called to Connect"

High School students – rising grade 9 through 2021 graduates

HOLD YOUR SPOT!

Contact David: 404-550-2115 or david@bmpcnc.org

March 2021 Financial Highlights

- YTD Revenues of \$253,680 are higher than the \$229,419 budgeted by \$24,261.
- Revenue includes pre-paid pledges of \$78,741 for March 2021.
- YTD Expenses of \$212,417 are lower than the \$229,419 budgeted by \$17,002.

Expenditures from Restricted Funds

- Capital Campaign Contributions (Horizons consultant fee) \$10,795
- LERF (virtual learning lab teacher) \$1,184

Expenditures from Endowment Funds

- Bell Tower signage \$1,992
- A/V equipment \$756
- Streaming service \$20

2018 Presbyterian Investment and Loan Status

The current balance of the PILP loan initiated in 2018 is now listed on the balance sheet under current liabilities. The monthly balance including principal and interest, is captured within the property budget.



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

117 Montreat Road, PO Box 39
Black Mountain, NC 28711
828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727
www.bmpcnc.org

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 36

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



an Earth Care Congregation



BMPC Child Protection Policy
providing a safe environment for children & youth



PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

ROOTED & REACHING

SUMMER MISSION CAMP

O Lord, our Lord, how magnificent is your name in all the Earth.
Psalm 8:1



Explore how God calls us to be stewards of the Earth at PWNC's Rooted & Reaching Summer Youth Mission Camp! Through the lens of faith, rising 6th graders through 12th grade youth will engage with local gardens, learn about sustainable farming practices, consider the impacts of food insecurity, and work to clean up pollution in the Black Mountain community.