## PALM sunday | April 10

Palm Sunday recognizes the contrast of Jesus entrance into the holy city with crowds excited at his arrival – only to turn on him in just a few days. Children will wave palm branches to honor the beginning of this sacred week.

9:00AM FirstLight 11:00AM Sanctuary 5:00PM Taizé



## **MAUNDY** THURSDAY

| April 14

This special service reflects upon the night of Jesus' meal with his disciples and his arrest. Together, we will participate in a reverent worship service with special music and communion.

7:00PM in the Sanctuary



## **EASTER sunday** | April 17

A joyful service to celebrate that Jesus has risen! We are proud to feature brass and timpani in our 11 AM service. Come prepared to sing praises!

6:30am Sunrise Service | 9:00am FirstLight Service | 10:00am Fellowship time with Easter Egg Hunt for children | 11:00am Sanctuary Service

Overflow seating will be available in the narthex during the 11:00 service • A cross will be placed outside for families to bring flowers and, if you desire, take a family picture • Childcare is provided at 9:00 and 11:00 • We encourage fully-abled members to park farther away, allowing spaces for visitors and those with special needs.

## **APRIL 2022**

Sunday	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			The last mee Lenten small on Wednesd We invite you even if it is yo Find class de and times at	tings of the groups are ay, April 6. u to attend our first class. scriptions	1	2 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
3 9a FirstLight 9:45a Church School	4 8a Sacred Circle 9a AARP tax help	5 PW Circles meet (see page 9)	6 11:30a Old Fellers Lunch	<b>7</b> <b>8:30a</b> AARP tax help	8	9 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
10a Family Worship 11a Worship 12:15p Confirmation 1:30p Youth	1p Earth Care Book Study 5:30p Hospitality & Welcome Team 7p Earth Care	1:30p Staff Mtg 7p Prophets	3:30p RAD! 7p Chancel Choir	May	Deadline for the Window newslo Friday, April 15	etter
10 Palm Sunday 9a FirstLight 9:45a Church School 11a Worship 12:15p Confirmation 1:30p Youth 2p Choir Rehearsal 5p Taizé Worship	11 8a Sacred Circle 9a AARP tax help 1p Earth Care Book Study	1:30p Staff Mtg 6:30p Lydia 7p Prophets	13 11:30a Old Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! 5p HS Girls 7p Chancel Choir	14 Maundy Thursday 8:30a AARP tax help 7p Maundy Thursday Service	15 Good Friday Church office closes at noon 1p Knitting Group	16 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
17 EASTER 6:30a Sunrise Service 9a FirstLight 10a Fellowship Time 11a Worship	18 Church office closed	1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Faith Formation Team 7p Prophets	20 11:30a Old Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! 6:30p Strategic Planning 7p Chancel Choir	3p Ina Hughs Book Group	22	23 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
24 Earth Care Sunday 9a FirstLight 9:45a Church School 11a Worship 12:15p Confirmation 1:30p Hike 5p Take Five @ 5	25 8a Sacred Circle 1p Earth Care Book Study 6p Session	26 1p PW Bible Study 1:30p Staff Mtg 2:15p PW Coordinating Team 6:30p Lydia 7p Prophets	Fellers Lunch <b>3:30p</b> RAD!	28	<b>6:30p</b> Tourists Game	30 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul

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## A Summer of Sacred Spaces & Belonging

In the fall of 2021, on recommendation from the Personnel Ministry Team, Session voted to approve a sabbatical experience for our church and our pastor and head of staff, Mary Katherine Robinson, in the summer of 2022. It's a common practice in Presbyterian churches for pastors and churches to engage in sabbatical as a mutual time of rest and renewal. The Presbytery of Western NC guidelines for full-time called and installed pastors provide that pastors have "sabbatical leave during the seventh year of service for at least three months." Mary Katherine will be entering her eighth year of service this May 2022.

The goal of a sabbatical, for both pastor and congregation, is to spend a set period of time away from one another, so that both may be renewed and refreshed for ministry together going forward.

Sabbaticals are intended for healthy pastors and healthy congregations. If the pastor is burned out or the congregation is in crisis, it is not the right time for sabbatical.

While the pastor is the one who steps away, the sabbatical is for both the pastor and congregation. Both need time for rest and renewal. It is a "clean break" – during the sabbatical, the pastor does not engage in Sunday worship, funerals, pastoral care, or any church-related work. Arrangements are made for those duties to be covered by others.

Sabbatical is not an extended vacation. The difference centers on the intent. Vacation focuses on relaxation; sabbatical focuses on renewal. The church continues paying the pastor their full salary and benefits during the sabbatical. And a gift will be given to Mary Katherine to help pay for her travel expenses.

### **Sabbatical FAQs from Mary Katherine**

### How long will you be away?

My first day away will be Wednesday, June 1. I'll be back in the office on Thursday, Sept. 1.

### Are you really away?

Yes. The spirit of a sabbatical is to honor a true "clean break." During that time you won't hear from me through any church channels. I won't be preaching, providing pastoral care, or performing funerals or weddings. I recognize it'll feel weird to be disconnected from me for three months – and if I'm honest, it'll feel weird on my end to be disconnected from you!

### What will you do on your sabbatical?

Since sabbaticals are not extended vacations and instead involve some intentionality to them, I'm focusing on traveling to sacred spaces of belonging, interviewing pastors and visiting churches in these places, resting, and making my family a priority. There will be other things, but that's it in a nutshell.

### What about worship?

Lewis Galloway will be leading worship for five weeks in the summer along with David and Bob and special guest preachers.

## Will we have to wait until you return to make important decisions in the life of the church?

Nope! As a Presbyterian church the big decisions almost always fall to session, not the pastor. Should any important decisions need to be made, we have a strong leadership team in session to make whatever decision is needed.

## Why are you going on a sabbatical now? Isn't it weird to do this right after the pandemic?

The presbytery requires congregations and pastors to take a three-month sabbatical in their seventh year of service, which was last summer, but it wasn't the right time. While it may not be ideal to be gone as things are finally returning to some type of normalcy, the truth is that everything that would happen with me here will still happen with me gone. If churches waited for the "perfect time" for a sabbatical they'd likely be waiting a long time!

### Are you excited?

I am, for both of us. Sabbaticals are for healthy congregations and healthy pastors. It is a good thing that we are able to experience this together!



## Let's help build a house!

Volunteers are needed for the following days: April 29, May 14, May 17, June 23, June 25, and July 1.

Workdays are 8:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m., except on Fridays which are half days. No experience is necessary. Volunteers can be as young as 16 years old, and all volunteers must complete a waiver form. The jobsite location is 32 New Heights Drive, Asheville 28806. Carpooling is required. Please park at the Goodwill, 1616 Patton Avenue, and ride to the jobsite together.

Please sign up early so dates that are not filled can be shared with other churches.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094aa5a82fa4fb6-habitat

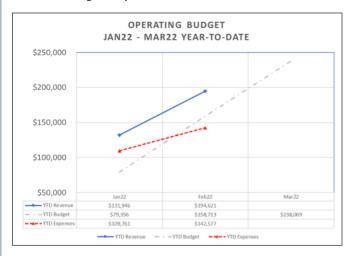
## Contact Paul and Diane Ginther with questions. gintherhome84@gmail.com



## BMPC Financial Highlights FEB 2022

### **Operating Fund**

- YTD Operating Revenues of \$194,621 are higher than the \$158,713 budgeted by \$35,908.
- YTD Operating Expenses of \$142,577 are lower than the \$158,713 budgeted by \$16,136.



### **Capital Campaign**

Progress continues on the church house with an expected completion date of June 1. Drywall is complete and the interior walls and ceilings have been primed. Volunteers will begin painting the interior in late April or early May.

The Facilities Task Force reached a consensus that our phase two efforts should focus on interior renovations before making any final decisions about exterior additions. Efforts are underway to finalize the decisions about what will be included as part of the interior renovations.

Capital Campaign As of End			
Pledges to Date	\$1,764,082.79		
Spent to Date	\$610,999.16	34.64%	
Cash Balance	\$415,186.06		
Cash received	\$1,026,185.22	58.17%	
Cash needed to finish churc	\$133,033		
Cash on hand after church h	\$282,153		
Remaining amount pledged	\$737,898		
Grand Total amount on han	\$1,020,051		

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"From the heron, to the mountain, to the grandmother, to the monarch, to the stranger, to the child, to the starry night sky, to the creek bed... may we strive to love creation fully, as God does."

- Sarah Ogletree, M.Div., Creation Care Alliance Director

## **Ever wonder what the Earth Care Team does?**

Here are highlights from the March minutes

- The EC book group is reading Our Last Best Act: Planning for the End of Our Lives To Protect the People and Places We Love by Mallory McDuff, Environmental Education Professor at Warren Wilson College;
- Planning for Earth Care Sunday on April 24, with Mallory McDuff
- Planning for Earth Care participation in worship on October 2, World Communion Sunday;
- Replacing disposable plastic communion cups with glass ones, plus dishwasher racks;
- Working with Mission and Session on possible approval of the upcoming Overture to General Assembly, "The time Is now to cherish creation, cut carbon, and speak up";
- Addressing need for improved insulation, weatherstripping, tightening up doors and windows. Sam Webber has an app for measuring heat loss and is doing that;
- Meeting with Sugar Hollow Solar to learn where future solar installations might be possible on our property;
- Renewed our church's Earth Care Certification for this year;
- Planning with First Baptist about spring planting in the joint community garden; need to increase publicity;
- Working on plans for re-landscaping related to the planned fellowship hall/kitchen renovations.

## JOIN US!

For more information, contact Karen Austin, atltreehugge@gmail.com

## **Plastic-free tips for Lent**

- Avoid the big four: plastic bags, plastic straws, take-out coffee cups, plastic water bottles.
- Bring containers to a restaurant and pack your own leftovers.
- Try bar soap instead of liquid hand soap.
- Buy dishwasher detergent that comes in a box.
- Avoid pre-cut, prepackaged vegetables. Buy them whole.
- Store leftovers without plastic wrap. Use beeswax or place a plate on a bowl as a lid.
- Say farewell to all those pre-packaged meals in grocery stores.

Presbyterians Today, March/April 2022

## **Plastic-free for Easter**

- Have children pick a basket or bowl and leave it out for the Easter bunny to fill.
- Avoid plastic Easter grass. Use shredded paper, a bandana or cloth napkin to line the basket
- Put a child's favorite fruit in the basket.
- Include a small plant or package of seeds.
- Use food coloring and vinegar rather than egg dyeing kits.

## FROM THE EARTH CARE TEAM



### 1. CHECK YOUR EMAIL

Open your email with the subject line "{Your Name}, Your BMPC Realm Invitation...'



### 2. CLICK THE LINK

Each link is unique to each person. Everyone with an email in our system will get a different link to setup your own account profile in Realm.

### 3. CREATE/UPDATE ACCOUNT

There are a few steps that you will need to follow inorder to set-up your account. We want to make sure only you have access to your account.





### DOWNLOAD THE APP!

Search for "Realm Connect" in the app store on your phone or tablet. Download the app and login with your email and password.

## QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP?

If you did not receive an invitation email, we may not have your information correct. Please contact the Church Office and we can add you and help with any other issues you are having with Realm.



## **LUNCH AND LEARN**

Thursday, April 21 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Join Sam and Brittany to get connected and learn more about our online church database – Realm.

If you have any of the following questions, this program is for you:

- What is Realm?
- Why is it important?
- How do I set up an account?
- How do I find my groups?
- How do I change my contact information?
- How do I add a profile picture?
- Where is the online directory?

A boxed lunch will be provided for a suggested donation of \$15. Please register online or by calling the office (828-669-2725) by Thursday, April 20.

### Here is the link to register:

https://onrealm.org/BlackMountainPr/
PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=Y2Q5NTQyOGQtN
TNiMi00OWI4LTg5N2QtYWU2MDAxNDg0YzYx

## **Help Ukraine**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is primarily supporting refugees in transit with food, hygiene items, potable water, baby supplies, first aid, psychosocial support and more. Use this link if you would like to donate.

https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/ukraine/

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# Sunday Evening Worship Services

5:00-6:00 p.m.

## **Taizé Worship**

**April 10** and thereafter on the second Sunday of each month through June. We will meet in the sanctuary, outdoors, or in the fellowship hall.

## **Take Five @ 5**

**April 24** and thereafter on the fourth Sunday of each month through June. This is a time for poetry, innovative scripture and music in the sanctuary.

# Adult Church School Sunday mornings: 9:45-10:45

**BECOMERS** in the library and on Zoom
Rev. Dr. George Thompson continues to lead a close reading and exploration of the gospel of Mark. We believe that our spiritual growth is dependent on our understanding of the good news of Jesus Christ revealed in the Old and New Testaments. We encourage adults of all ages and levels of knowledge to join us.

**BIBLE EXPLORATIONS 2.0** upstairs Bible reading, mostly from the Gospel of John

### **BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES** in CR1 and on Zoom

We seek to grow in Christian fellowship, faith, and practice by sharing and hearing stories of life and ministry from members and guests, by addressing current issues in church and society together through the study of the Bible as we are led by the Holy Spirit. We warmly invite you to join us! Led by John Van Osdall

### **FAITH BUILDERS** upstairs

Led by Ellen McClintock, Susan Jumper, Pat Tuttle

## Mallory McDuff in Fellowship Hall, April 24

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Mallory McDuff, the author of *Our Last Best Act*, will be leading a discussion of planning the end of our lives and how we can protect the



people and places we love while doing it. Mallory is a professor of Environmental Studies and Outdoor Leadership at Warren Wilson College. This is the book we are reading in the Earth Care book study.

### Black Mountain Presbyterian Church,

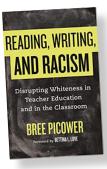
Congratulations on another year of certification as an Earth Care Congregation! Thank you for your commitment to caring for God's earth.



## Library News from Sally Woodard

Three new books for the library! Not just new to the BMPC library but all published in 2021 – contemporary looks at racism, theology, and personal spirituality. Two of the three authors also have other works on our shelves.

One of the topics which we have seen debated this past year has been CRT, Critical Race Theory. Should it be taught in classrooms or not? Bree Picower, a professor at Montclair State University, tackles the



subject in Reading, Writing, and Racism: Disrupting Whiteness in Teacher Education and in the Classroom. Picower not only gives examples of the ways educators often choose texts that reflect their own biases, but she also provides helpful suggestions for building racial justice into the curriculum across the spectrum of education.

This is definitely a timely commentary on one of the controversial issues of our day.

Diana Butler Bass, who has a doctorate from Duke University, is a popular speaker for conferences and

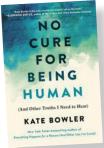
workshops in both churches and the academic world. She has been a presenter at the Montreat Conference Center in the past. One of her main topics is the church of today and the faith that she sees expressed in the theology, as well as the actions of Christianity in the twenty-first century. Her newest work is entitled



Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence. If this sounds like an erudite theological treatise, it definitely is not. Instead the book is an account of how over the years she became acquainted with Jesus in each of these contexts. Her style of writing makes this an enjoyable, as well as thought-provoking, read.

Many women in the congregation may remember

Kate Bowler, who was keynoter for the Women's Conference at Montreat a few years ago. Even more recently, David quoted from her latest book in one of



his sermons. Kate, an associate professor of North American Christian history at Duke, was diagnosed with cancer when she was thirty-five. Her earlier work, Everything Happens for a Reason (and Other Lies I've Loved), describes the initial shock of hearing the diagnosis and the attempts to come to terms with the possibility of dying at an early age. In her more recent book, No Cure for

Being Human (and Other Truths I need to Hear), she continues to describe how she is learning to live with the reality that being human brings limitations and difficulties. In the process she wrestles with what she calls "the exhaustive positivity" of much of our culture. Far from writing a dour and bitter reflection, Kate employs a sharp wit and a relentless faith which make the book hopeful.

The PW Bible study for 2022-23 is written by Carol Bechtel, author of a previous study on Jonah. She also is the keynote speaker for the Spring Gathering of the PW of WNC Presbytery, April 9, at Upper Anderson in Montreat. The library has two of her books that contain short devotional Bible studies: Glimpses of Grace and Life After Grace. Carol, who is professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI, was also Professor of Old Testament at the former PSCE in Richmond (personal note: one of the best Bible teachers I have ever had). I want to recommend these two books as good devotional reading. Each volume contains thirty short discussions of a Bible passage. Some of the titles illustrate that these readings are not dull and stuffy. Here are a few examples: "When God Steps Off the Screen," "What Pirates and Christians Have in Common," "Mrs. Job: A Woman of Few Words," and "Elijah Sees an Analyst." The devotions are insightful and enjoyable. Stop by the library and "check it out."

## Presbyterian Women



## **Circle Meetings**

Tuesday, April 5

### **DORCAS**

10 a.m. in CR1

### **PRISCILLA**

10 a.m. in the Parlor

### **ESTHER**

10:30 a.m. at the home of Nan Higgins

### **NAOMI**

4:30 p.m. in the Library

### **RUTH**

1:30 p.m. in the Library

## Tuesday, April 12

### **LYDIA**

6:30 p.m. in the narthex



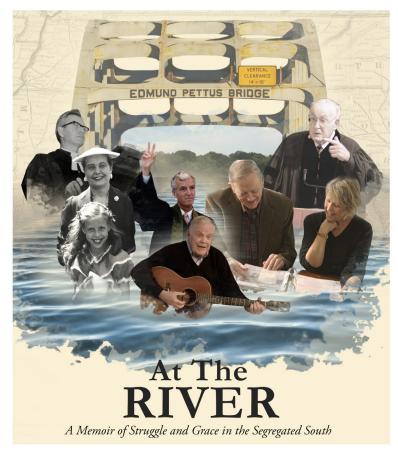
### **PW Leaders**

Tuesday, April 26

Bible Study 1 p.m. in the Library Coordinating Team 2:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

# SAVE THE DATE Thursday Night Live, May 19, 6:00 p.m.

a screening of Carolyn Crowder's new film:



To learn more, go to: <u>attheriverfilm.com</u>
There will also be a screening at Highland Farms on
Wednesday, June 1, at 6:00 p.m.

## You are invited to the PW Spring Celebration Gathering Tuesday, May 10, 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

new officers installed • honorary life memberships awarded • Birthday Offering received

followed by a reception outside, weather permitting

## **CHURCH HOUSE progress**







# VOLUNTEERS needed to paint the church house

We are seeking volunteers to paint the interior of the church house. We anticipate that the work will begin in late April or early May. Volunteers should have some experience with interior painting. Our job will include painting the walls, trim, and interior doors. The walls will be primed and the ceilings will be primed and painted before we start.

# If available, volunteers are asked to bring the following:

- · A good quality brush
- roller frame and handle
- · canvas drop cloths
- roller trays and paint pails/buckets

The roller covers will be provided so that we all use the same nap size for rolling the walls.

If you would like to volunteer, please email Wayne Mullis. (waynenc54@gmail.com)

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## **April** birthdays

- 2 Betty Hill Catherine Farish
- **3** Bridget Leary
- **4** Brittany Williams
- 5 Joseph Frith Ethan Banks
- 6 Bill Gilliland
- **7** Frances Kennedy
- 8 Jane Collins Devin Carswell
- **9** Ann Herring Ginny Lindsey
- 10 April Roy Graham Roy Melzer Morgan Lily Morgan Bob Hendershott
- 11 Susan Jumper Chad Williams Joy Drummond Rylan Van Note
- 12 Norman Carswell Linda Bryson
- 13 Dwight Stobbs
  William Holmes
- 14 Cathy Skeen Connie Button Robert Sway
- **15** Dale Culpepper

- **16** Edward Smith
- 17 Helen Sheorn Nancy Bell Ruppert
- **18** Camryn Davidson Pearl Hall
- 20 Ann Bell Carla Sperry Margaret Waterstradt
- 22 Mary McElrath Xander Dodd Jonah Atkins
- 23 Karen Smith David Hana
- **24** Patrick Davidson Margaret Fouse Jayne Vaughan
- **25** Susan Hensley
- **26** Samuel Baraki Mary Katherine Robinson
- **28** Harriette Fulton
- 29 Ken Farmer Maya Fleagle
- **30** Emma Bell Connie Schimpf Ayden Mohr



## MEET & EAT

## small groups come together







117 Montreat Road, PO Box 39 Black Mountain, NC 28711 828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727 www.bmpcnc.org Non-Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC Permit No. 36

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.







## Take me out to the ballgame!

We have reserved 50 tickets for the Asheville Tourist baseball game on April 29 when they will be playing the Winston-Salem Dash. The reserved seats are in a section that is covered and there will be fireworks after the game!

Friday, April 29 – Game starts at 6:35 p.m.

Reserve your ticket on Realm