



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

August 2020

What's Next, BMPC?

As children of God, we are made for fullness of life, to live in our belonging, connected to God and each other. In our normal rhythm of congregational life together, we pause and rest regularly in order to remember that and return to it, and hopefully take that awareness into the rest of our week, so that it might shape our lives.

As we enter our fifth month of pandemic waiting, I have been asking how can we let this much-longer-than-anticipated pause help us remember and return to our true belonging and life meaning? Can we actively wait trusting that God comes in, that God is already here, and that our lives, our world, our nation, our communities, can be and are the place God is bringing salvation, in small and big ways, even every day?

This pandemic waiting is longer than anyone thought it would be, and it's going to go on a whole lot longer. Waiting only for the waiting to end is torture. So, to be a people who wait in hopefulness and not despair, we have decided to introduce some new things into our congregational life together at BMPC.

August 2 Memorial Service

We have lost four wonderful members of our congregation since April. And we have not been able to gather to give thanksgiving to God for their lives and to remember the abundant ways in which they have shaped our congregation. So, we are devoting our normal worship service on August 2 to pause and give thanks to God for the lives of Carl Murray, John Knight, Pat Miller, and Lamar Williamson. We will also hear some wonderful bluegrass music by Rhiannon and the Relics.

The Gathering Place

Sunday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

If you'd like an opportunity to gather with other church members to chat and check in with one another, this is the place for you. Lots of things can happen in this time together: talk about the sermon; share with others what is bringing you hope; discuss any philosophical or theological ponderings you've been having; or just join us to see church member's faces! We will end with a time of prayer together. The Gathering Place starts on August 2 and will be facilitated by Mary Katherine Robinson and Beverly Thompson. If you'd like to sign up, email Jackie at jackie@bmpnc.org and she'll send you the Zoom link.

May we be a people who actively hope and wait together!

We hope you'll join us in worship on Sundays starting at 8:30 a.m. on YouTube.

SUNDAYS

9:30 a.m. **Preschool Church on Zoom** (breaks during summer)

9:45 a.m. **Becomers Church School Class on Zoom**
currently studying the speeches in the book of the Acts.
What do these speeches tell us about how the early Christians connected their proclamation to the one great story of the Hebrew Scriptures? **Newcomers are always welcome to the class!**
George Thompson (revdr3george@gmail.com)

NEW
3:30 p.m. **Mental Health Support Group on Zoom** 1st & 3rd Sundays
Bunny Alexander (bunny6alexander@gmail.com) or 317-517-0334

5:00 p.m. **The Gathering Place on Zoom** with Mary Katherine and Beverly Thompson [email Jackie (jackie@bmpcnc.org) for Zoom link]

MONDAYS

8:00 a.m. **Sacred Circle on Zoom**
Beverly Thompson (drbeverlythompson@gmail.com) If you are interested in joining a Sacred Circle, please let Beverly know.

1:00 p.m. **Earth Care Series on Zoom** with Pastor David

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

11:00 a.m. **Children's Storytime on Facebook**

WEDNESDAYS

9:00 and **Matthew Bible Study on Zoom**
11:00 a.m. Lewis Galloway (lewisgalloway1951@gmail.com)

THURSDAYS

9:00 and **Poetry and Language of Faith on Zoom** June 18-August 27
11:00 a.m. Lewis Galloway (lewisgalloway1951@gmail.com)
(These classes are full – stay tuned for future classes)

BMPC office hours

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



The BMPC Annual Picnic at Camp Rockmont – has been canceled due to the continued spread of Covid-19.

Check out this Well-Being page on our website.

It contains resources that could be helpful. <https://bmpcnc.org/resources-pandemic>

School supplies needed for Hand In Hand to distribute to students

We are collecting school supplies in the narthex through August 9 for Owen District school students. Supplies will be gathered and delivered to Tabernacle United Methodist Church which is the Hand in Hand delivery point. Volunteers will sort and deliver the items to each of the six Owen District schools. Hand in Hand is a local faith-based nonprofit working with local churches and businesses to help the children and teachers at the Owen District schools. We are blessed to be a mission partner with Black Mountain Presbyterian Church. Our valley students need our help to be successful in school and this is a big part of that success. Questions? Contact Jennifer Holt at 828-230-8613 or Kyle Holt at 828-606-0631 or Admin@HandInHandSV.org.

Supplies needed:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Pencil boxes | Copy paper |
| Glue sticks | Boxes of tissue |
| Rulers | Poster boards |
| Magic markers | Backpacks: all sizes |
| Sharpies | Hand sanitizer |
| Crayons | Tri fold presentation boards |
| Scissors | White board markers |
| Index Cards | Stitched composition books |
| Pocket folders | Spiral notebooks: all sizes |
| Pencils | Notebook dividers |
| Pens | USB thumb drives |



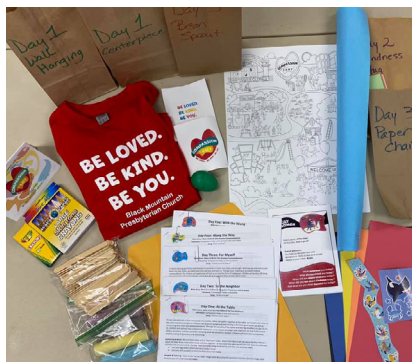
“We loved Compassion Camp today! River and Camila have been recreating the story with the puppets over and over again. We loved the shakers with the song. It's so fun! I can definitely see alot of love, time and care went into making this happen. I needed to take a moment and say thank you.” WILL, CHELSEA, RIVER & CAMILLA



“Day 1 went much better than I had imagined. The two grandkids who said they didn't want to participate ended up enjoying most of it. They liked the opening video and played the match game. They also acted out the story as I read it and then changed props and told the story themselves. They all loved the yoga and a couple of them who like to color got into it. They enjoyed the seek and find activity. I'm encouraged for Day 2.”

KITTY FOUICHE

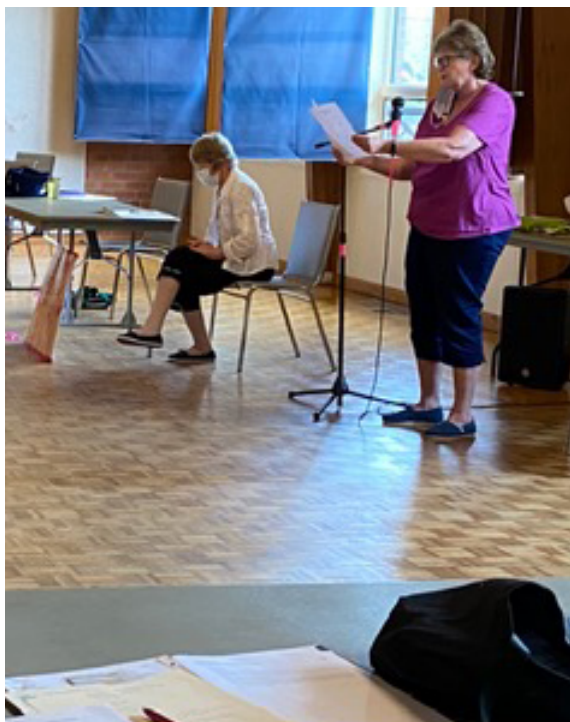
52 children signed up for Compassion Camp – BMPC's virtual VBS. We are so excited about connecting with these children and their families. Thank you to all the volunteers who came together to help staff make this happen!



BMPC Presbyterian Women – still on the job



In June, members of the PW Coordinating Team gathered together for a meeting in fellowship hall (physically distancing and wearing masks). We caught up with each other and discussed what Bible Study and Circle meetings may look like in the Fall.



We're excited about our new Bible study *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. Circle Moderators and Co-Moderators are keeping up with their members and we all are anxious to be together again, whether it's with Zoom, outside meetings, or however we can meet safely. In the meantime we want to be here for all our members whatever way we can.

We hope you enjoy the new PW newsletter: **Postmark: PW**

Please contact Patti Pyle (pyle.patti@gmail.com) if you have not received your copy.

Summer Nutrition Program Going Well

Fifteen volunteers from Black Mountain Presbyterian Church supported the county summer nutrition program again this year, despite the challenges of COVID-19. Susan Jumper, Rosie Johnson, and Diane Ginther provided supervision for the program again this summer.

Every Tuesday from June 9 to August 11, three BMPC members handed out 50 bagged lunches and breakfasts to families in the Ridgeview Trailer Park, near Owen Middle School. Some children came alone, some in large family groups, but all left with smiles on their faces and food in their hands.

BMPC members also donated over 70 books for the summer program. Children could select a book to take home and keep, to help support their reading skills over the summer. Many children seemed so excited to be allowed to select a book of their very own.

Any excess meals were taken to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry, although on Tuesdays we often gave out all the meals on site.



Can in Each Hand

We continue collecting canned food and other non-perishables in the north corner of the front entrance. Each week our donations are taken to SVCM to help stock their shelves. While we stay separate, we can still drop off food for the many who are facing financial struggles during this stressful time. If you are unable to get out, you might contact a more mobile friend who could pick up your donation from your front porch to leave at the church. We persist in living our faith through mission and commitment to God's people.

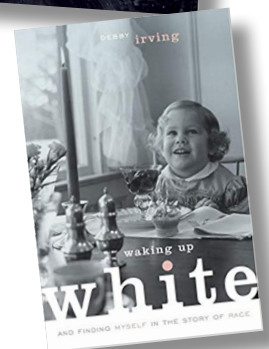
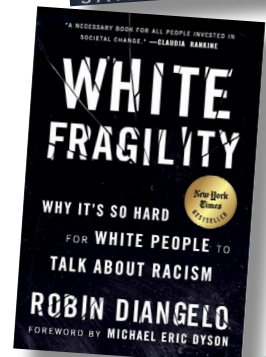
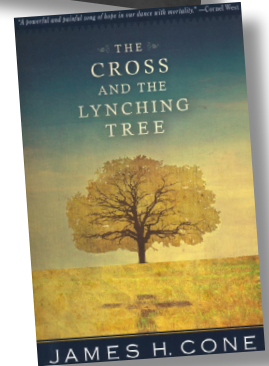
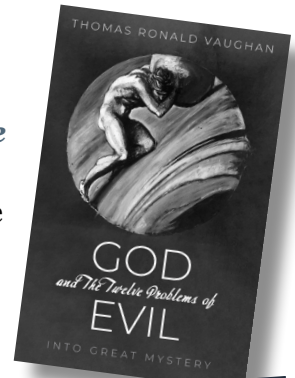


Library News

There are several new arrivals in the library. One is written by BMPC's own Ronald Vaughan and is entitled *God and The Twelve Problems of Evil*. Lest one think this is a long involved theological treatise, be assured that it is short and is very accessible to lay people as well as pastors. It is especially designed for those who confront questions about God and evil from others (pastors, counselors, teachers, etc.). Dr. Vaughan obviously does not attempt to answer every idea and/or query on the subject, but he does provide much food for thought, in addition to assistance to aid those who are struggling with questions of why there is evil and how an all powerful God can allow it. Perhaps the greatest confirmation that the reader will take away from this book is that in the end God is love and is in control. This slim volume is well worth reading.

The Racial Equity Task Force has graciously donated three more books to add to our Social Justice section. One of these, written by the late distinguished theologian James Cone, is *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. As the title indicates, Cone compares the sacred symbol of the Christian faith to the symbol of white supremacy, the most gruesome and hideous manner of punishment of blacks. This book is very graphic in its details of numerous lynchings of both men and women. It may surprise many readers that women also were condemned to death in this manner. One of the really horrific occurrences described involved the lynching of a pregnant woman. *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* is difficult reading, or ceratinly should be, for those of us whose skin is white. However, it is necessary for us to know these truths in order to understand the racial situation in our nation, even today.

A New York Times bestseller, *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, has received a great deal of notice. The subtitle reveals why this book is also a necessary one for white Christians to read: *Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*. This is especially important for white people, like me, who believe that we have outgrown any racial prejudice which we might have had at one time. A definition of "white



fragility” may help us to understand the underlying feelings that we do not realize we possess. “Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence.” Painful as this book may be, it can enable readers to “see their whiteness for what it is and to seize the opportunity to make things better now” (Michael Eric Dyson).

Waking Up White by Debby Irving is a memoir to which many white people can relate. Irving tells that although her background was in a white suburban neighborhood, she never realized how little she knew about persons of color or the history and circumstances of their lives until she took a class that opened her eyes to facts about the black experience, both startling and upsetting her. Learning about redlining and the GI Bill, which primarily benefited veterans of World War II, awakened her to the reasons that so many people of color had not progressed as well economically or educationally as their white counterparts. It also propelled her to be not only more sensitive to racial prejudice but also more proactive in combating it.

The Library Committee is very grateful for these donations and would be happy to share information with other groups or individuals about areas where the library could use more resources. There already exists a list of children's books which the children's ministry would like to add. You may contact Sally Woodard at sallygwoodard@gmail.com if interested.

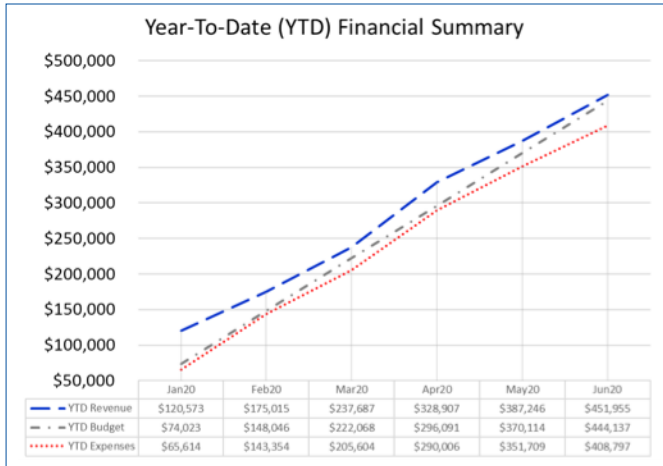
FROM THE Ecumenical Garden



A total of 124 pounds of green beans have been harvested this season from the Ecumenical Garden (across the street and behind the Baptist church) along with two pounds of okra. All has been well received by Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries who distribute the vegetables grown to folks who need it most in our community. On Thursday, August 6, starting at 9:00 a.m., we will pick beans and okra again. Come out to the garden and help us feed our community with fresh food.

June 2020 Financial Highlights

- YTD Revenue from all sources is \$7,802.75 higher than budgeted
- Note that revenue includes pre-paid pledges of \$76,675.58
- YTD Expenses are \$33,894.19 less than budgeted



Contributions to Restricted Funds

- LERF: \$1,025 response to COVID-19 plea
- Guatemala Scholarship: \$600 individual contributor
- Memorials: \$50 received in memory of Ruth Brandon
- Music: \$9,190, Carillon Fund \$7,170, Hymnal \$20, instrumentalists \$2,000
- Youth Fund: \$150 individual contributor
- Faith Formation: \$4,200, Internship \$1,200, Racial Equality Task Force \$3,000
- Stimulus Gifts: \$660

Expenditures from Restricted Funds

- Music: \$4,000 Carillon deposit
- Youth Participation Fees: \$360 Massanetta Registration refund to youth
- Faith Formation: Racial Equality Task Force \$200 honorarium for vigil event speakers

Expenditures from Endowment Funds

- Transfer to Operating Fund: \$438.81
- Faith Formation - GaGa Ball Pit supplies

Expenditures from SBA/PPP Loan small business

- Administration/Paycheck Protection Program: forgivable loan of \$121,900
- Salaries/Benefits: \$41,574.76
 - Utilities: \$1,947.58

Faith Formation Programs

We are planning for a virtual and hybrid Fall program, adjusting each week as we monitor the state of the virus. Watch for emails, texts, and website updates.

Sunday Hikes resume with physical distancing on August 23. Time TBA.

Young Adults will gather in small groups for hikes and service events beginning in August. Contact Sam Webber or David Carter Florence.

Confirmation meeting for 8th and 9th graders and their parents on August 23 at 5:00 p.m. to preview the Confirmation program for 2020-21. Contact David.

Middle School and High School Youth will kick-off Fall on August 30 with a meeting at the Montreat Kickball Field from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Contact Sam.

Elementary Kids Church School on Zoom will begin on Rally Day – September 13. Contact Brittany Williams.



Tools For Schools

The Weekday School receives over \$900 worth of supplies each year from this program! To link your Ingles card to our school, you can sign up at your local Ingles grocery store, on line at ingles-markets.com, or call Alice Patton (828-669-2725). Our school code is 10820. Even if you have signed up in the past, you will need to relink your card for this new school year.



A small group of children attended The Weekday School Summer Camp the week of July 20-24. The campers were so excited to be together and play with their friends while the teachers were happy to see and hear the children laugh and play. Camp allowed us to work through the new cleaning regulations which we will be using in the fall when school reopens. The Summer Camp program helps to raise money for our Weekday School Scholarship Fund.

WEEKDAY SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP



Comfort Corner

Many thanks to Nettie Solomon for submitting this story and recipe.

“This broccoli lasagna recipe is one of our family’s favorites. I started making this when our son was young and would not eat vegetables. I added broccoli to the recipe and he doesn’t even know it has broccoli in it. He loves it, since my family loves this comfort food I make it more often.”

Broccoli Lasagna

Ingredients

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2-3 tablespoons olive oil | 1/4 teaspoon black pepper |
| 2 jars of marinara sauce | 1/2-1 teaspoon garlic powder |
| 1 15-ounce container ricotta cheese | No-boil lasagna noodles |
| 12-ounces cottage cheese | 2 small bunches of fresh broccoli (trimmed and cut into small pieces) |
| 2-3 eggs | 2-1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt | |

Directions

- Heat olive oil in a pot and bring marinara sauce to a boil, then simmer for 15 minutes. (You can add a little water if it is too thick)
- Combine ricotta cheese, cottage cheese, eggs, salt, pepper, and garlic powder
- Pour 3/4 cup of marinara sauce into bottom of a 13x9 inch baking dish
- Arrange a layer of noodles over sauce and spread 1/3 of the cheese mixture over noodles. Sprinkle some of the broccoli over the cheese sauce and spread some of the marinara sauce then sprinkle 1/3 of the mozzarella cheese. Repeat twice.
- Cover tightly with foil and bake at 400 degrees for 40-45 minutes then uncover and bake for 15 more minutes or until top is golden brown. Cool 10 minutes, then serve. Enjoy!

We would love to hear from you about a recipe you enjoy.

Email Jackie (jackie@bmpcnc.org) your recipe with a brief story about it. THANK YOU!

Second Loaf came to a close on Saturday, July 25, until next summer. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, only unopened and sealed food was collected for the SVCN pantry. Volunteers wore masks and gloves and exercised appropriate social distancing, but the food was collected with the same loving spirit that has driven Second Loaf for over thirty years. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped in any way. Special thanks to Margo Smith who puts her heart and soul into making Second Loaf successful year after year.



AUGUST birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 Jeannie Franklin
Dave McClintock
Weston Hall | 21 Bob Tuttle
Leslie Applewhite
Walt Applewhite
Matthew Baraki |
| 4 Connor Burns | 23 Joe Walker
Gladys Brooks |
| 5 Andy Banzhoff | 24 Chelsea Goins
Kali Fleagle |
| 6 Maggie Shaffer | 25 Denise Geiger
Adlai Boyd |
| 7 Barb Griffin
Anne Straughan
Will Goins | 26 Katherine Holman
Will Nelson
Taylor Owen |
| 8 Emily Munn | 27 Melissa Kadau
William Neville
Emily Cappelli
Eva Schneider |
| 9 Jack Cordell
Kitty Fouche
Wendell Begley | 28 Betsy Reimer |
| 10 John Gibson | 29 Mike Beaver
Jesse Danneberg
Eli Hile
Melissa McElwee |
| 11 Cathy McMillan
Penny Mayronne | 30 Wade Burns
Phil Cogbill |
| 12 George Gunn | |
| 13 Jacob Allen | |
| 14 Travis Reece | |
| 15 Phillip McDaniel | |
| 16 Cheryl Wilson
Erica Campbell | |
| 17 John LaMotte | |
| 18 Ginger Neustadt
Marc Begley | |
| 19 Jan Griffin
Carol Aho | |
| 20 John Snell | |



Bob Headley celebrating his birthday with his great granddaughter, Charlotte.

If any of you are making face masks, we would be happy to distribute them to folks in the congregation who need them and The Weekday School teachers, who return on August 20. You can bring them to the church during office hours which are Tuesday through Thursday, 9am to 1:30pm.

THANK YOU!



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

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MOUNTAIN, NC
Permit No. 36



an Earth Care Congregation



BMPC Child Protection Policy

providing a safe environment for children & youth



The bells are back!

The church has been able to purchase a new carillon to replace the system that stopped working some time ago. We are thankful for everyone in our congregation who contributed funds to make the purchase possible. We are delighted that we can share a bit of music with our community in this way. Much as in years past the electronic carillon will chime the quarter hour using the familiar Westminster chime. The new system uses the same speakers as the old system. They point roughly north, east, and south of the church facility. We would very much like to know how far our sound reaches. When you hear the chimes, send Mike Barker an email (michaelb@bmpcnc.org) to let us know how far the sound is reaching.

