

BMPC Window



Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

February 2020

Join in a celebration of mission!



Bring in your donation for Souper Bowl of Caring on **Sunday, February 2**. There will be large pots in the narthex for collection of money or soup cans. The pots will have logos for the two teams going to the

Super Bowl, the San Francisco 49ers and Kansas City Chiefs, and we encourage you to make your prediction on who will win with your donation! All monetary and can donations will be given to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry. This mission season is a good time to renew our commitment to keeping SVCM's pantry shelves stocked with non-perishable items to answer food emergencies. We can continue to demonstrate our ongoing concern for the food insecure in our community every time

we come to the church by bringing **A CAN IN EACH HAND**.

Potato Lunch

Plan to celebrate youth mission, **February 2**, by having a hardy potato lunch served by BMPC Youth. The proceeds will help fund youth mission throughout the year.

FLAGS

For years we have placed flags of nations where our congregation has mission interests in our worship spaces. We will be doing that again this month. New this year though, are paraments from those nations. For several years, Mike Barker has asked traveling missionaries from our congregation, and a few others, to return with fabric swatches from the places they visit and work. We have enough at this time to create banners and paraments using those fabric pieces. Be sure to take a moment to get a closer look at this textile representation of our mission work around the world!

Minute FOR Mission

Each Sunday in February during worship, Minute for Mission will highlight mission in our community and in the world.

Expect to hear about Jessi Stitt's most recent trip to install clean water wells in Africa, the work of Bounty and Soul, and SVCM's mission among the homeless.


Members of the Mission Team will be at the Hospitality Table each Sunday. If you see yourself in service, be sure to let one of them know!

Thursday Night Live

A highlight of Mission month will be a Thursday Night Live, **February 20, 5:30-7:00**, catered by Ole's Guacamoles. The program will be presented by a representative of Pisgah Legal Service, a nonprofit that provides free civil legal aid to the most vulnerable people in WNC: disadvantaged children, seniors, at risk families, domestic violence victims, and refugees. As we seek social justice, our knowledge of and support for Pisgah Legal puts us in partnership to care for those who may feel powerless in a complicated world. Taco Bar \$8/pp12 and older, under 12 eats free/child care available if requested in advance. **Please sign up in the narthex or <http://bit.ly/Feb2020TNL>**

FEBRUARY

Many other groups meet here, but mostly BMPC events are reflected on this calendar.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <p>Sunday, February 2 – There will be large pots in the narthex for collection of money and soup cans for SVCM. Each pot will have a logo of a team playing in the Super Bowl, either the San Francisco 49ers or the Kansas City Chiefs. We encourage you to predict who will win with your donation!</p>						1
<p>2</p> <p>8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Faith Formation 11a Worship 12p Potato Lunch 5p Bells</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8a Weekday School registration 5:30p Racial Equity TF 7p Facility Task Force</p>	<p>4</p> <p>PW Circles 7p Prophets</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10a Bible Study 4p Nurture 7p Choir 8:30p Men's Leadership</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7a AARP Tax prep 1:30p Sewing</p>	<p>7</p> <p>3:30p Youth @ Bounty & Soul 4p Bounty & Soul Market</p>	8
<p>9</p> <p>8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Faith Formation 11a Worship 3p Creativity Class 5p Bells</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:45p Ministry Teams</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9a Generosity Team 5:30p Faith Formation 6:30p Lydia 7p Prophets</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10a Bible Study 5:30p Family Round The Table 7p Choir 8:30p Men's Leadership</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7a AARP Tax prep 6p Men's Group</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4p Bounty & Soul Market</p>	15
<p>16</p> <p>8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Faith Formation 11a Worship 12p New Members 3p Creativity Class 5p Youth Sunday prep 5p Bells</p>	<p>17</p> <p>WINDOW DEADLINE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7p Prophets</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10a Bible Study 1:30p Sewing 7p Choir 8:30p Men's Leadership</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7a AARP Tax prep 1:30p Sewing 5:30p Thursday Night Live</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4p Bounty & Soul Market</p>	22
<p>23</p> <p>8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Faith Formation 11a Worship 3p Creativity Class 5p Bells</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6p Session</p>	<p>25</p> <p>1p PW Bible Study 2:15p PW Coordinating 7p Prophets</p>	<p>26</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY 10a Bible Study 6:30p Worship 7p Choir 8:30p Men's Leadership</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7a AARP Tax prep</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4p Bounty & Soul Market</p>	29

Deadline for the March Window newsletter Monday, February 17

BMPC will join with Montreat Presbyterian Church for **Ash Wednesday worship on February 26**.

This contemplative service, which includes the Imposition of ashes, will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Upper Anderson in Montreat. Mary Katherine and David will be part of leadership with Keith and Vivian Grogg.

Facing Our Challenges and Overcoming Stigmas

**February 2, 9, & 16, 9:40-10:40 AM
in Fellowship Hall**

hosted by
the Biblical Perspectives Class

Everyone is welcome

Embracing our diverse brains and supporting family and friends with autism, dementia, and substance use disorder: Leaders Mr. John Snell, Rev. Dr. Kathryn Johnson Cameron, and Ms. Anne Seaman will guide us through their years and fears as advocates for those who experience life when one's brain takes a different course.

FEB 2 John Snell invites us to walk with justice, loving-kindness, and humble forgiveness when our reasoning and memory change. For the past seven years, John has been the Navigator and Social Worker at Highland Farms.

FEB 9 Kathryn Johnson Cameron, parent of two exceptional children, both gifted, one with autism. Kathryn is a pastor and teacher, past Board Member of the North Carolina Autism Society and guest speaker around the world.

FEB 16 Anne Seaman advocates for effective and compassionate medical treatment for those suffering from substance use disorder, especially the uninsured. Her 30-year-old son was fatally poisoned in 2017, after struggling for 12 years with this disease.

Faith Builders Parlor

Discernment as a Spiritual Practice

February 23 & March 29, 9:40-10:40 AM

Everyone is welcome

As people of faith, we are often grappling with how we discover the leading of the Spirit in our daily lives. Over and over again we hear the term "discern," but we take little time to know what that truly means or how we are to approach discernment, which is in reality, holy listening. Classes led by Rev. Dr. Beverly Thompson.

The Weekday School

**Registration time for the
2020-21 school year!**



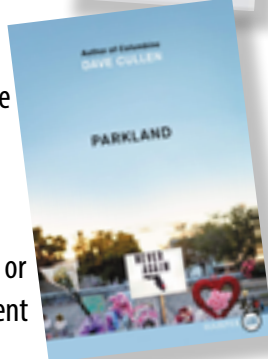
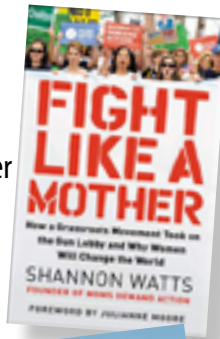
We will hold our registration for currently enrolled children on **Monday, February 3, at 8:00 a.m.** We will then move on to children and grandchildren of current active members of BMPC and then siblings of our currently enrolled. If you have a child or grandchild that you are interested in becoming part of our program, please call Alice Patton at the church 669-2725. Registration forms will be available through the Preschool Office beginning January 15.

Library News

Now that the Christmas celebrations are over, perhaps the New Year is a good time to settle down and read. The BMPC Library has a number of recent additions, as well as some books already on the shelves, which will provide stimulation and/or information in the coming days. For instance, if you saw the display which the newly formed Swannanoa Valley Neighbors for Gun Safety Committee had in the narthex on December 15, you may have seen some books related to that issue. One was ***Fight Like A Mother***, written by the founder of Everyday Moms, or ***Parkland***, an account of how the movement by those Florida high school students was begun. The daughter of a woman killed at the Mother Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston has told of her anguish and her efforts to combat gun violence and racism, as well as her efforts to forgive the young man who murdered her mother, in ***For Such a Time as This***.

Change of Heart has a slightly different focus in that it concentrates on a woman's attempts to forgive the teenager who shot and killed her pregnant sister and her sister's husband. It does, however, emphasize the tragedy of accessibility to guns by those who have no right to them.

Look on the display shelves to the right as you come in the door to the library for these and other good reads, as well as peruse the shelves. Curl up with a book this winter.



The AARP Foundation's free tax preparation program, TaxAide, is coming to BMPC

From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each Thursday in February, TaxAide volunteers will prepare and e-file straightforward tax returns at no charge (for March and the first two Thursdays in April, the program will be back at its regular site at the Black Mountain Public Library on Dougherty Street which is in use for early voting during February). The program is open to all taxpayers whose returns do not involve complex issues beyond the volunteers' training. Their training is quite wide, so if you are in doubt you could come anyway and they will tell you if your return is "in scope." Assistance is on a first-come-first-served basis, so do be prepared to wait. Bring social security cards (not copies) for all family members, picture ID for yourself and spouse, all your tax documents for 2019, such as IRS Forms W-2 and 1099-R and details of any self-employment income & expenses, and a paper copy of last year's return. Married couples who are filing jointly should both be in attendance. The site is busiest in February, so waiting until March at the Library is an option for those not in a hurry.

Facility Use Feedback Opportunity

Over the next few months the Facility Use Task Force will be collecting information from various classes, committees and groups within the church. This information will be collected somewhat formally via a form and for the intention of guiding us where we can improve our facilities for all who use it as well as future generations. The Task Force would also like to collect information informally and anonymously through a comment box that will be located in the Narthex. Please take this opportunity to share any dream, grievance, idea, opinion or any other feedback regarding our church facilities including the church house. Your input is greatly appreciated and needed for us to be good stewards of our resources for the years to come!

A Spiritual Path To Higher Creativity*

taught by Ellen Cavendish Phillips

beginning Sunday, February 9

in the Parlor 3:00-5:00 p.m. for 12 weeks

During this twelve week course, we will reawaken our creative selves, by studying Julia Cameron's book, *The Artist's Way*, and playing with a variety of art forms. We shall meet together for the first hour and discuss the week's chapter and the second hour will be spent in a time for process oriented experimentation (that means "to have fun") with all sorts of art forms. Each week will be a new surprise. The results of this study are dramatic and for many of us, life changing. The cost for the 12-week course is \$150.00. Call the church office to sign up 828-669-2725.

**The Artist's Way, by Julia Cameron*

Presbyterian Women



Circles

Tuesday – February 4

Dorcas

10:00 a.m. – BMPC Parlor

Esther

10:00 a.m. the home of Dee Cox
23 Wagon Trail, Highland Farms

Naomi

4:30 p.m. – BMPC Library

Priscilla

10:00 a.m. the home of Cathy McMillan
102 Spring View Dr, Highland Farms

Rebekah

2:30 p.m. – Limbert, Highland Farms

Ruth

1:30 p.m. the home of Margaret Fouse
carpool from church at 1:00

Tuesday – February 11

Lydia

6:30 p.m. – BMPC

Tuesday – February 25

Bible Study

1:00 p.m. in the Library

Coordinating Team

2:15 p.m. in CR1

Ask Me About my NC Mission Trip Experience



The dawning of 2020 prompted me to reflect on the multitude of blessings I received in 2019. High on the list was my participation on the Presbytery of WNC-coordinated mission trip to Lumberton, NC last May. One of four such opportunities in 2019, this trip focused on helping repair homes of neighbors in the eastern part of our state that remain severely damaged after hurricanes Matthew (2016) and Florence (2018). I served alongside nine wonderful and dedicated team members from across our Presbytery. Our team performed demolition and rebuild of interior walls, floors and ceilings at two residences. The tasks at each site were flexible to fit the skill/experience profile of our particular team.

We were told that after applying for assistance, our homeowner clients had waited

many, many months and were notably overjoyed when our team at their home to begin work. These clients were gracious hosts and extremely thankful for and very complimentary of our work. It was especially powerful to pray with them daily during our time at their home. Chestnut Street Methodist Church in Lumberton served as the week's base camp where we showered, slept on bunk beds set-up in Sunday School rooms, prepared our meals in the church kitchen and shared great fellowship. I learned there is a close working relationship between the Presbyterian and Methodist denominational disaster relief organizations. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has the lead on the eastern NC hurricane relief and still had over 450 approved repair sites wait-listed and awaiting volunteer teams to be assigned. The need is real, the distance is not that far, the work is rewarding, the team fellowship is amazing, and the clients are wonderful and remain patiently waiting. I checked with our Presbytery and there are two trips already calendared for 2020.

- ♥ March 22-28, 2020 New Bern, NC. Team size max of 10. Cost of \$100/person, which will cover your lodging and your food for the week.
- ♥ May 3-9, 2020 Wilmington, NC. Team size max of 16. Staying at First Presbyterian Church. Cost of \$100/person.

I encourage you to consider joining me in stepping forward and declaring, "Here I am ... send me." – *Russ Spiller*

Youth Sunday Coming Up – February 23

BMPC Youth plan for Youth Sunday at the beach



On January 17-20, Our High School Youth embarked on a journey to Tybee Island, Georgia, to deepen our relationships and plan out the coming Youth Sunday (February 23) where the youth will lead both church services. Seniors will preach! We studied scripture, prayed, sang, learned about the history of the island, and played games on the beach. We took a “slave’s perspective” tour in Savannah. A great time was had by all!

UPPER LEFT: Our group enjoys a low country boil prepared by Mike & Yvette Ballard. Plenty of sausage, shrimp, and Old Bay seasoning!

BOTTOM LEFT: Pastor David leads the boys in a polar bear plunge - it was quite cold.

RIGHT: Frances Holladay prepares to board the church bus to take a walking history lesson in Savannah, GA.

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

Nursery & Preschool first floor education wing
Nursery, room 6; Toddlers, room 7; Three-, Four-, and Five-year-olds, room 8

Elementary (grades 1-5) second floor education wing, room 11
Brittany Williams, lead teacher

Middle School second floor education wing, room 14
Kent Patton, lead teacher

High School second floor education wing, room 14
Sam Webber, lead teacher

Parent Discernment Group second floor education wing, rm 10
David Carter Florence, facilitator

Becomers Library
In February, we will read and discuss Matthew 2 and Luke 2. What are the distinctive themes that these two Gospel writers develop about Jesus' first years? No prior knowledge or preparation is necessary, so anyone is welcome to join the study, in the library, on Sundays after FirstLight service.

Biblical Perspectives Conference Room 1 (CR1)
We seek to grow in Christian fellowship, faith, and practice. Members and guests share and hear stories of life and ministry and address current issues in church and society together through the study of the Bible. **See page 3 for February classes.**

Faith Builders Parlor

Discernment as a Spiritual Practice

Rev. Dr. Beverly Thompson, February 23 and March 29
As people of faith, we are often grappling with how we discover the leading of the Spirit in our daily lives. We hear the term "discern," but we take little time to know what that truly means or how we are to approach discernment, which is in reality, holy listening.

Bible Exploration Conference Room 2 (CR2) first floor education wing – We welcome anyone wishing to join a small group for Bible Study.

Wednesday Bible Study

continues (on Wednesdays)
through February 26

10:00-11 a.m in the Parlor

Encountering Jesus in the Gospel of Mark

led by Lewis Galloway with
Mary Katherine Robinson

The gospels were written not to be historical documents or biographies of Jesus, but to be living stories through which we encounter Jesus as our Risen Lord in the personal stories and experiences of our own lives today. As the first gospel, Mark invites us to join in a mysterious and fast-paced journey in which the written word of Mark becomes the living word for us today.

Dr. Lewis Galloway, a creative and dynamic preacher and teacher, is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Presbyterian Seminary (D.Min; Th.M.) who recently retired after serving in Indianapolis for fourteen years as the Senior Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church. Lewis has also served in North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina. He has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Union Presbyterian Seminary and is currently on the Boards of Montreat and Davidson College.

From the Earth Care Team

Climate Grief Is Now a Part of Life

Please check out Martha Jane Petersen's bulletin board on "Climate Grief" (located in the hallway between the kitchen and offices). We hope you might visit it prayerfully, in gratitude for these wondrous species that still exist and must be fought for while there is still time.

The term "climate grief" came into use to describe the feelings of scientists who have labored since 1970 to sound the alarm about the planet's warming, but who have been met by well-financed resistance and denial.

Scientists have been asking church people – who deal in emotions, love God's creation, and proclaim hope – to help them "animate the conscience of the nation." Jim Antal, in *Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change* (2018), passionately urges churches to do more: "For religious people, the environment until fairly recently was a second-tier problem: for liberal Christians it was secondary to the 'real' issues of hunger and war." And yet, he argues, climate change is already amplifying every issue of social justice – hunger, homelessness, racism, immigration and refugees, conflicts and war, economic inequality.

Now "climate grief" is spreading throughout the population, from teenagers to senior citizens, and in our congregation. Writer Cara Buckley, reporting on a workshop titled *Cultivating Active Hope: Living with Joy Amidst the Climate Crisis*, says that pain for what is happening is the other side of the coin of our love for the world; that "feeling depressed about the crisis is actually a sane, healthy response." The key is not to brood alone, but to channel our feelings, through everyday actions or joining wider movements. "That is where the spiritual component comes in – to find a way to move to a place not of tacit acceptance but of fierce, roaring compassion." One psychologist writes, "There's nothing more powerful than a broken heart, as long as you have a spiritual container to hold it."

Here is where the church comes in. There are kindred spirits here, from our pastors and staff to members of the Earth Care Team to caring people throughout the congregation. We aren't alone.

Save The Dates

Kids Night In & Parents Night Out

Saturday, March 14 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for kids who are 1 year old through 5th grade. This program of fellowship, a pizza party, games, and a movie (with parents meeting at a restaurant) is to build a community of friends among our children and parents. There is a suggested donation of \$5/per child. Be on the lookout for more information, including registration dates.

Family Round the Table

Wednesday, February 12 at 5:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share There will not be a Family Round the Table on Wednesday, February 26, due to Ash Wednesday when we will join with Montreat Presbyterian Church for worship at 6:30 p.m. in Upper Anderson in Montreat.

Godly Play

for grades 1-3 will begin on Sunday, March 8! This program will take place during 11:00 worship, after Faith Sharing with Children. Godly Play is a method of Christian Education and spiritual direction. The goal of Godly Play is to teach children the art of using religious language – parable, sacred story, silence, and liturgical action – to help them become more fully aware of the mystery and wonder of God's presence in their lives.

Cultivating an Anti-Racist Community

with

Tyrone Greenlee and David LaMotte



Sponsored by the BMPC Racial Equity Task Force

RACIAL EQUITY
TASK FORCE >>>

Sunday, March 22

12:15-2:45 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

(lunch included)

All are welcome!

This two-hour workshop will provide a space in which to deepen your understanding of issues around race and racism. You will be offered a chance to engage in conversation and connect with others who are interested in making our community an even better place to live for every one of us! Expect to develop a broader perspective, deeper empathy, and a clearer framework and common vocabulary around issues of race and racism. There will also be discussion around next steps for creating a more racially equitable community. The conversation and workshop will be led by Tyrone Greenlee and David LaMotte.

Adults interested in a trip to Iona, Scotland in October? Make an appointment with David Carter Florence.



MLK Prayer Breakfast



Each year our community gathers to celebrate diversity. Our differences make our community richer. Please join us at the 20th annual

Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast on February 8, 9 a.m.-12 noon at Camp Dorothy Walls.

Mary D. Williams, a Duke University Professor, will be performing her gospel songs as she weaves them in giving us the history of African -American folklore as they connect to slavery and Negro spirituals during the Civil Rights Era.

The money raised for this event goes to a scholarship fund for local high school graduates. You May volunteer to help or be a sponsor and/or mail a check to The Swannanoa Valley MLK Jr. Memorial Corp., PO Box 1613, Black Mountain, NC 28711. See Barbara Gaw for tickets – \$15/adult \$10/child. Visit the website at www.svmlk.com

Come break bread together with your neighbors!

FEBRUARY birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 Bobbi White | 15 Charles Massey |
| 3 Torey Todd | Ernie Banzhoff |
| 4 Ina Hughs | Joe Covert |
| Jean Hood | Sam Webber |
| David Wheeler | Cole Roy |
| 5 Lynn Jostes | 16 Tanner Kelly |
| Pat Newbold | 17 Cain McClary |
| Nettie Solomon | Chloe Munn |
| Rebekah Hewitt | 18 Lolly Copeland |
| Jillian Munn | Sylvia Bassett |
| 6 Dee Cox | Clay Hile |
| 7 Robert Turk | Sarah Akin |
| Evelyn Bannerman | 19 Caroline Patton |
| Betty Walker | 20 Calvin Barker |
| Gracyn Farish | 21 Leila Cox |
| Parker Donaldson | Libby Barker |
| 8 Jo Majka | Mark Allen |
| Maureen Ben-Davies | Alexandria Carver |
| Skylar Hollifield | Cody Duckworth |
| 9 Bill Hollins | Charlie Cappelli |
| Guy Campbell | 22 Austin Brown |
| 10 Rock Ward | Jolie Atkins |
| Carson Campbell | 23 Rosie Dougherty |
| 11 Jack Beaver | Mylo Morgan |
| 12 Charles Sandy | 24 Art De Jong |
| Gay Ferguson | Fox Watson |
| Kay Salmon | Sue Cauthen |
| Matt Begley | Ashley McClary |
| 13 Campbell Cauthen | River Edwards |
| 14 Dan Turk | 25 Frank Mullis |
| Henry Griffin | Dan Davis |
| Bebe Watson | 27 Andy Gwynn |
| Michael Ballard | Paul Scouten |

many thanks

Dear BMPC family,

I had a good report from the doctor on January 8. My lung and ribs are healing. I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, thoughts, well wishes, and cards following my truck accident. I had a wonderful surprise in the hospital. Bob Tuttle brought me a beautiful yellow quilt made by the BMPC sewing ministry. Thank you so much. It cheered me up!

God bless!

Helen Davies

As Mary Katherine so poignantly illustrated in her recent sermon, the church of Christ scoops up lost souls from the depth of despair.

Our church community has done just that for the Drummond Family. You all have helped us in our healing and recovery and we are eternally grateful.

We know that we will always have a hole in our hearts, but you have walked with us as we have taken the first steps forward in our new reality.

Anne, Paul and Joy Drummond



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www.bmpcnc.org

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm
Friday, 9am-noon



an Earth Care Congregation



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



Summer is coming!

Massanetta registration
MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

Montreat registration
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Don't forget to sign up with Sam Webber
sam@bmpcnc.org