



# BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

April 2021

## Holy Week

### **Palm Sunday, March 28**

Palms will be placed alongside the banks of the church lawn for you to pick up.  
Premiere on YouTube and Facebook, 8:30 a.m.

### **Maundy Thursday, April 1**

We will recall Jesus' final hours with his disciples and celebrate communion at your home tables (Zoom event).

### **Good Friday, April 2**

**Stations of the Cross** walk downtown. We will meet under the portico at noon.

### **Saturday, April 3**

#### **Eggstra Special Delivery for children**

Pastors, Staff, and Youth will deliver and hide eggs at children's homes, 3:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, April 3 and Sunday, April 4**

**Flowering of the Cross** – Please bring flowers to enhance our Easter Palm Cross outside.

### **EASTER SUNDAY, April 4**

#### **Sunrise Service**

beside the Dr. John Wilson Community Garden on the river's edge, 7:00 a.m.

#### **Easter Worship**

Premiere on YouTube and Facebook, 8:30 a.m.

#### **Vespers**

in the parking lot outside the sanctuary, 5:00 p.m.



**We are so excited to announce that the session has approved our return to in-person worship for a limited number of attendees beginning Sunday morning, April 11, 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 will be required. [Sign up here](#) or call the church office, 669-2725, by noon on Friday, April 9.

## 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:revdr3george@gmail.com)  
More on "Hearing 'The Story' in the Psalms"  
– Psalms 78, 105, 106, 135, and 136
- 10:30 a.m. Biblical Explorations on Zoom**  
[Austin Brown](mailto:austin.brown.c54@gmail.com)  
After Easter, we'll start an 11-week study of the book of Job
- 3:30 p.m. Mental Health Support Group on Zoom**  
1st & 3rd Sundays [Bunny Alexander](mailto:bunny6alexander@gmail.com)  
([bunny6alexander@gmail.com](mailto:bunny6alexander@gmail.com)) or 317-517-0334
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group**

## MONDAYS

- 8:00 a.m. Sacred Circle on Zoom**  
[Beverly Thompson](mailto: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](mailto:jackie@bmpcnc.org)) for Zoom link]

## WEDNESDAYS

- 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Matthew Bible Study on Zoom**  
[Lewis Galloway](mailto: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, April 8 and 22

## Capital Campaign News

The leadership team for the capital campaign has come together and we are meeting and planning for BMPC's future. Look for the vision brochure that will arrive in your mailbox which includes the theme of the campaign and the vision.



The BMPC sewing ministry team has been busy sewing baby quilts, lap quilts, and new hospitality bags for us to use when we reopen. The above photo is Aiden Muston, one of our new Weekday School babies, enjoying his beautiful gift! If you enjoy sewing the team would love to have you join them. Please contact Ruth Duckworth for more information.

# RAD! Wednesdays are BACK!!!

Want a time for your kids to connect and play? Join us for RAD! Wednesdays – which will be a time of recreation, arts, and drama! This is for all children in grades K-5th Grade. We will meet weekly on Wednesdays, April 14–May 19, from 3:00-5:00 PM. Registration is required and can be accessed by going to [bmpcnc.org](http://bmpcnc.org). All children attending will need to have a water bottle and mask that will be



worn at all times when we are indoors.

**Please email Brittany at [brittany@bmpcnc.org](mailto:brittany@bmpcnc.org) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with this program.**

Click on the image above to register (or visit our website if you are reading a printed version).

## RAD SCHEDULE

### 3:00-3:25 – Drop-off and snack

Parents will need to enter the front of the church and sign-in their child and fill out any missing paperwork. This is also where we will do temperature checks.

### 3:25-3:40 – Gathering

Gathering together for prayer, a story, and music.

### 3:40-4:40 – Breakout Stations

Each station (Arts & Crafts, Recreation & Movement, Drama & Music) will host a group for 20 minutes.

### 4:40-5:00 – Playground Time!

Parents will pick children up from the playground unless there is inclement weather when we will be in the Fellowship Hall.

# Morning Has Broken

I want to take this opportunity to let you know about our theme for the annual Generosity campaign for this year: **Morning Has Broken**. For 2020, our theme of “Fearless Generosity” proved to be predictive of our church’s spirit. In spite of the many obstacles that 2020 put before us, we opened our hearts to provide a record amount for giving.

This year, we believe that we can put 2020 behind us and look forward to a new day. With vaccines becoming more available and with continued precautions, we may finally put the pandemic behind us by the end of this year. As you have already heard, the Session has approved moving forward with a capital campaign. This campaign can allow us to expand our ministries out into the community even more than we are doing at present by providing the facilities for those missions.

The team has many ideas of ways we can utilize our theme throughout the year, and you’ll be hearing more about those during the spring and summer, leading up to the fall campaign.

With this in mind, the Generosity team believes that the theme of *Morning Has Broken* fits perfectly for 2021. It can give us the positive outlook that we so desperately need to overcome the obstacles we have faced. There is one verse from the hymn that particularly speaks to that vision:

*Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God’s recreation of the new day.*

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/embed/2wzMQtbubzs> for a beautiful version of this hymn.

Let us all look up together, see the new morning, see the sunlight, and move forward into our future.

Dave Johnson  
*Generosity Team Chair*

# Library News

Something new is in the library. Jigsaw puzzles – yes, a large number have been donated and are ready to be checked out. They are on the table with a sheet where you may sign your name and the name of the puzzle. Keep it for as long as it takes you to solve. There is a wide variety of types and subjects. Puzzle lovers, take note!

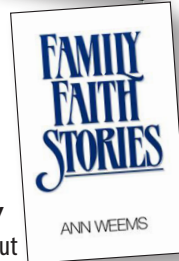
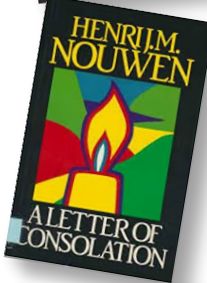
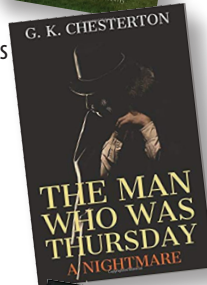
Many authors are known for writing in only one genre or on one subject, and it surprises us, at least it has surprised me, to find that they did occasionally produce something other than the familiar. The library has examples of those. One that amazed me most was a novel by well-known contemporary theologian Marcus Borg. On the back of **Putting Away Childish Things** is this description: “A novel of Faith, Hope, and College.” The plot revolves around a professor of religious studies at a small college, Kate Riley, who encounters and explores many of the issues which Borg raises in his nonfiction. This is not, however, a pedantic book; it has interesting characters and an intriguing plot. Even if you are not familiar with Borg's other works, you might find this enjoyable.

One of my favorite theologians is Presbyterian minister Frederick Buechner, who has a delightful way of writing about religion, especially Biblical characters. He is noted for both his revealing autobiographical works and more general books of theology. Therefore, it was a surprise to find **Speak What You Feel** on the library shelves. This has the subtitle: *Reflections on Literature and Faith*. In it he examines Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*, Chesterson's **The Man Who Was Thursday**, Shakespeare's *King Lear*, and Hopkins' sonnets in light of the way their works show how they encountered the dark side of life and survived it. This is a fascinating study by an engaging writer.

Catholic priest Henri Nouwen is known for his inspirational devotional works, which often are based on his experiences. One of his books, **A Letter of Consolation**, is very personal. It consists of a letter to his father, which Nouwen began six months after the death of his mother and wrote during Lent, ending at Easter. It is a beautiful expression of the pain and sorrow of loss and the hope and comfort of Resurrection. It has been perfect reading during this time of pandemic and Lent.

Finally, one of my favorite poets Ann Weems has a book of prose, **Family Faith Stories**. Anyone who is familiar with her *Psalms of Lament* knows about the untimely death of her son Todd. The first chapter recalls some memories of Todd and the grief she still felt after two years. From there she begins to tell of her ancestors and other more recent stories of her family. Being a poet, Ann had to put a poem at the end of each chapter. This is another gem from an inspirational Presbyterian author.

– Sally Woodard



# Presbyterian Women

Join us Tuesday, March 30, between the hours of 10:00-noon or 1:00-4:00 p.m. to visit our Easter Egg Tree in the south parking lot garden area at the church and receive a special “Eggs-traordinary” Easter meditation for you to enjoy.

## stimulus check giving ideas

### BMPC Weekday School

Whenever possible, the Weekday School assists families with their tuition – \$1,400 pays for ten children to attend for a month.

### Capital Campaign

Our capital campaign kicks off this spring with a vision of exciting changes for our church to further our mission.

### LERF

Our Local Emergency Relief Fund can assist members in times of crisis who need help with expenses.

Call the church office or email [sam@bmpcnc.org](mailto:sam@bmpcnc.org) for assistance.

**Don't forget the free books available. More have been added.**



# Attenborough: How To Rewild the World

*Conservation biology [is] a discipline with a deadline.* – E.O. Wilson

Biologist E.O. Wilson says we must dedicate fully half the surface of the Earth to wilderness to save 80 percent of existing species. Natural history filmmaker Sir David Attenborough joins Wilson with his own fervent plea to save the natural world. In his splendid documentary and book titled *A Life on Our Planet: My Witness Statement and A Vision for the Future* (2020), after showing us the Garden of Eden we once had, he offers 100 pages of suggestions, under seven major headings, on how to “rewild the world.”

**Moving Beyond Growth** — This is a tough one. “We have taken everything we have directly from the living world, while ignoring the damage we have done.” We must reach a “mature plateau” based on other measures. Successful examples include the Amazon rainforest, which has lived for millennia without getting bigger; and the government of New Zealand, which has dropped the GDP and developed its own measure of economic success.

**Switching to Clean Energy** — Three nations (Iceland, Albania, and Paraguay) generate their electricity without using fossil fuels; eight more generate their electricity using only 10 percent fossil fuels. Attenborough says, “We may yet pull off a miracle and move to a clean energy world by the middle of this century.” When it’s safe, BMPC will host a workshop for homeowners interested in learning about solar panels.

**Rewilding the Seas** — Attenborough proposes protecting the high seas, international waters, as the world’s largest wildlife reserve. “No-fish zones encompassing a third of our ocean would enable fish

stocks to recover and supply us with fish for the long term.” Currently, “we waste too much, we fish everywhere. There is nowhere in the ocean left to hide.”

**Taking Up Less Space** — “Conversion of wild habitat to farmland has been the single greatest direct cause of biodiversity loss during our time on Earth.” We must increase yields, regenerate degraded land, reduce eating meat, address food waste. “All of that freed farmland is needed to rewild the land, increase biodiversity, and capture carbon.”

**Rewilding the Land** — “The Earth’s last forests, rainforests, wetlands, grasslands, and woodlands are, in fact, priceless.” They are the carbon stores that we cannot afford to unlock. They are also the homes of species that we can’t live without. Carbon capture and storage, while extremely important, “won’t stop the sixth mass extinction.” Landowners must be encouraged to place land in conservancies, to increase biodiversity in any way they can, in order to fight climate change and secure the natural life support systems we all depend on.”

**Planning for Peak Human** — We are fast approaching the Earth’s carrying capacity for humanity. The best way to reduce family size would be a strong multinational effort to educate women at least to the fifth grade. Education of women directly leads to a lower birth rate, improves the lives of everyone, and reduces population growth.

**Achieving More Balanced Lives** — “A revolution in sustainability, a drive to rewild the world, and initiatives to stabilise our population would realign us as a species to harmony with the natural world” and God’s creation.

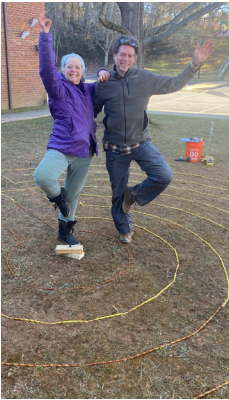
**The ecumenical garden** has been plowed and we’ll be planting soon. Watch for updates. If you are interested in helping with the garden, contact Karen Austin.



We've been recertified as an **Earth Care Congregation** for the sixth consecutive year.

# Lenten Labyrinth

Ellen and Stephen Phillips constructed a temporary labyrinth on the church lawn for Lenten contemplative practice. Beginning with the Ash Wednesday imposition of Ashes and continuing with Wednesday morning prayer, the labyrinth has been a prayer and meditation path to use like a mirror for where we are in our lives with God.



## February 2021 Financial Highlights

- YTD Revenues of \$165,039 are higher than the \$152,946 budgeted by \$12,093.
- Revenue includes pre-paid pledges of \$60,412 for February 2021.
- YTD Expenses of \$130,705 are lower than the \$152,946 budgeted by \$22,241.

## Contributions to Restricted Funds

- Local Emergency Relief Fund (LERF) (individual contributions) \$1,325
- Music (given in memory of Sara LeVan and Pat Miller) \$500
- Bill Hollins Memorial Fund (designated for Endowment) \$200
- Nurture Fund (for tumblers) \$40
- Friends of Creation/Earth Care (Zoom event registration fee) \$10

## Expenditures from Restricted Funds

- Capital Campaign Contributions (Horizons consultant fee) \$4,875
- LERF (bill paid on behalf of family in need) \$1,196
- Associate pastor discretionary (Weekday School teacher appreciation) \$11

## We need your photo

Since *Lifetouch* (the church directory company we have used in the past) will no longer be offering church directory services, we are working on finding an alternative option. In the meantime, we want to encourage members to send in a photo – either individual, family, or both – and we will update photos in the Church Life profiles. Please email your photo(s) to [brittany@bmpcnc.org](mailto:brittany@bmpcnc.org), including your first and last name. You can also come by the church during office hours and Brittany, Sam, or Jackie can take a photo to be uploaded.

# April Birthdays

- |                                                                                 |                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2</b> Betty Hill<br>McCain Farish                                            | <b>18</b> Margaret Peery<br>Pearl Hall<br>Camryn Davidson               |
| <b>3</b> Bridget Leary                                                          | <b>19</b> Joy Minnick                                                   |
| <b>4</b> Brittany Williams                                                      | <b>20</b> Carla Sperry<br>Margaret Waterstradt<br>Ann Bell<br>Jake Rash |
| <b>5</b> Kiersten Edwards<br>Ethan Banks                                        | <b>21</b> Vance Stiles                                                  |
| <b>6</b> Bill Gilliland                                                         | <b>22</b> Mary McElrath<br>Ally Gudeman<br>Xander Dodd<br>Jonah Atkins  |
| <b>7</b> Frances Kennedy<br>Bill Mohr                                           | <b>23</b> Karen Smith<br>David Hana<br>Thomas McElwee                   |
| <b>8</b> Jane Collins<br>Devin Carswell                                         | <b>24</b> Margaret Fouse<br>Jayne Vaughan<br>Patrick Davidson           |
| <b>9</b> Ann Herring<br>Ginny Lindsey                                           | <b>25</b> Susan Hensley                                                 |
| <b>10</b> Mike Morse<br>Melzer Morgan<br>April Roy<br>Lily Morgan<br>Graham Roy | <b>26</b> Samuel Baraki<br>Mary Katherine Robinson                      |
| <b>11</b> Susan Jumper<br>Chad Williams<br>Joy Drummond<br>Rylan Van Note       | <b>28</b> Chloe Stiles<br>Clay Jones                                    |
| <b>12</b> Norman Carswell                                                       | <b>29</b> Ken Farmer<br>Shay Parker<br>Maya Fleagle                     |
| <b>13</b> Dwight Stobbs<br>Brad Holmes                                          | <b>30</b> Connie Schimpf<br>Emma Bell<br>Ayden Mohr                     |
| <b>14</b> Connie Button<br>Cathy Skeen                                          |                                                                         |
| <b>15</b> Dale Culpepper                                                        |                                                                         |
| <b>16</b> Edward Smith                                                          |                                                                         |
| <b>17</b> Nancy Ruppert<br>Helen Sheorn                                         |                                                                         |

Happy  
Birthday



## One Great Hour of Sharing

For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

You can give at <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/oghs/>





# BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

117 Montreat Road, PO Box 39  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727  
[www.bmpcnc.org](http://www.bmpcnc.org)

return service requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
P A I D  
BLACK  
MOUNTAIN, NC  
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*



Many thanks to Jean and Doug Chamberlain who have worked with bluebird restoration for years – building houses, installing and maintaining “trails” which are part of the bluebird recovery. They built two new houses for two bluebird families to use each year. Our children and youth will be monitoring, feeding, and maintaining these homes for these great insect eating birds. The two bluebird houses are located beside the parking lot on the south side of the church (near White Horse) and near the church house and the playground.

– *David Carter Florence*