



# BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

July 2021

## Cultivating Congregational Life

My position as Pastor of Congregational Faith Formation offers the joys and challenges of working with all the members and guests who are a part of this congregation and community! Sounds a little unwieldy? Kinda like when I was a teenager and my father and I delivered solid mahogany high boys with delicately carved trim on Christmas Eve. Unwieldy, but worth the effort to be like Santa.

Let's bring this down to earth. Most folks think of church as worship, praising God at 9 and 11 on Sunday morning with scriptures, a sermon, and prayers – baptisms and the Lord's Supper occasionally. Mary Katherine, Bob, Alice, Mike, Jackie, Brittany, Sam and I support all these things with the elders and deacons. But we all know that there's a lot more that we want out of our church and that our personal faith and spirituality are not limited to the list above. If I make a list of what "congregational life" is, it won't make things too much clearer because we don't work in silos and in isolation. Our leadership is all about collaboration and teamwork – inviting, engaging, equipping and sharing in faith formation – all acts of growing in discipleship and Christian community. We work in teams, and all the teams overlap. So at the risk of being reductionists, let's remember some well loved aspects of congregational life that are returning this summer and fall!

A group of women who meet regularly in circles and all together to study, pray, support one another, and serve through mission and outreach – **Presbyterian Women**

Five classes with a variety of approaches to faith each Sunday morning at 10 a.m. – **Sunday School**

Four groups that create beautiful art for worship – Chancel Choir, Prophets, Bell Ringers, RAD, and children's music – **Music and Arts program**

Support for over 30 service agencies – **Outreach and Global Mission**

Stewardship and energy education, green practices, study and gardening for the poor – **Earth Care**

Visitation to our homebound members, to Highland Farms and other retirement communities – **Pastoral Care**

Faith Growth with our families with children 0-18 – **Children, Youth, and Family ministry**

Fellowship, support, and affinity Groups – **Small Groups**

Addressing racial justice issues – **Racial Equity Task Force**

Teams that work to keep the church building, operations, and programs running – **Session and Team Leadership**

As Presbyterians, we don't isolate our devotional life from our daily actions in community, it's all related to our being a child of God in God's gathered church. Congregational life is a welcoming, resourceful, part of being a faithful community that share the love, justice, and grace of Christ. It is a joy to be connected to so many of you who are a part of renewing our life together!

*David*

# JULY

Sunday	M	T	W	Th	F	S
<p><b>SAVE THE DATE!</b>  <b>Annual BMPC All Church Picnic</b>  <b>at Camp Rockmont</b> <small>375 Lake Eden Road, Black Mountain</small>  <b>Monday, September 6, 1-6 p.m.</b></p>				1	2	3
<p><b>4th of July</b>  <b>9a</b> FirstLight  <b>11a</b> Worship</p>	<p><b>5</b>  <b>OFFICE</b>  <b>CLOSED</b></p> <p>registration                      deadline for VBS</p>	<p><b>6</b>  <b>2p</b> Staff Meeting</p>	7	<p><b>8</b>  <b>6p</b> Men's Group</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b>  <b>9a</b> FirstLight  <b>11a</b> Worship  <b>12p</b> Playground Picnic  <b>4p</b> Finance Team</p> <p>BACKPACK BUDDIES                      collection begins</p>	<p><b>12</b>  <b>8:30a</b> Sacred                      Circle on Zoom    <b>6:30p</b> Mission                      Team</p>	<p><b>13</b>                      Youth backpacking trip up Mt. Mitchell  <b>1p</b> Book Club  <b>2p</b> Staff Meeting  <b>4:30p</b> Congrega-                      tional Life  <b>6p</b> Faith                      Formation</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b>  <b>1:30p</b> Blood Drive    <b>8p</b> Deacons</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>18</b>  <b>9a</b> FirstLight  <b>11a</b> Worship</p> <p><b>5:30</b> VBS Compassion                      Camp</p>	<p><b>19</b>  <b>8:30a</b> Sacred                      Circle on Zoom  <b>8:30a</b> Weekday School Summer Camp</p>	<p><b>20</b>  <b>2p</b> Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>21</b>  <b>3:30p</b> Generosity                      Team</p>	<p><b>22</b>  <b>1:30p</b> Child                      Protection                      Training</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b>  <b>9a</b> FirstLight  <b>11a</b> Worship</p>	<p><b>26</b>  <b>8:30a</b> Sacred                      Circle on Zoom    <b>6p</b> Session</p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>2p</b> Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>

**Deadline for the  
 August Window newsletter  
 Thursday, July 15**

# VBS 2021

SUNDAY, JULY 18 - THURSDAY, JULY 22

REGISTER NOW! <https://bmpcnc.org/vbs>

registration deadline: July 5



**5:00 p.m.** – bring a picnic dinner and we will eat and enjoy fellowship **5:30-7:30 p.m.** – VBS

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**

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**David and Mary Katherine are pleased to announce that the Rev. Betsy Ray has been hired as the interim youth director for BMPC.** In the past Betsy served BMPC as the Sunday School teacher for high schoolers, an elder, the chair of the Personnel Committee, and a board member for the Weekday School. BMPC walked with Betsy through her seminary journey at Union Presbyterian Seminary (Charlotte) and celebrated her ordination in the fall of 2018.

Betsy is bi-vocational and serves both the students of Asheville Middle School as a math/science teacher and the Presbytery of Western North Carolina as the stated pastor of Old Fort Presbyterian Church and as an advisor on the Presbytery Youth Council.

Betsy is excited about the opportunity to support the youth at BMPC. She will be designing and leading all youth ministries alongside David. They will be collaborating with the youth themselves, their families, the Faith Formation team, and the congregation as a whole. Please reach out to her with any questions that you may have: [betsy@bmpcnc.org](mailto:betsy@bmpcnc.org).



**Rev. Betsy Ray**  
**Interim Youth**  
**Director**



## Montreat Women's Connection 2021

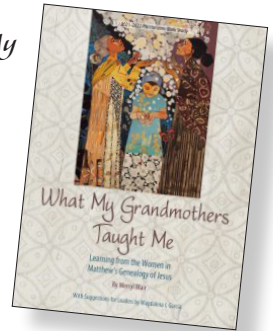
Word Wise: Encountering the Word that Draws Us In and Sends Us Out  
**August 13-15**

This gathering draws women from all over the country who seek inspiration, fellowship, and spiritual growth. **The lineup of speakers and leaders is impressive and includes Margie Stansell and Lisle Gwynn Garrity from BMPC!** Workshops include sessions on spirituality in the home, arguing with scripture, coping with grief, centering prayer, how to lead Bible study, and many more.

**Childcare is available.** We are hoping a strong group from our church will attend. Patti Pyle is offering lunch and dinner at her Montreat home on the Saturday of the event, walkable from the venues and no standing in lines or rushing to busy restaurants. **Registration is \$237 for commuters if you register before July 2.** Partial scholarships are available, confidentially, by contacting Mary Katherine. Check out this link to register, <https://montreat.org/events/wc2021> and call Patti (262-573-8242) to let her know you'll take her up on the meals. This is an amazing opportunity for growing in faith!

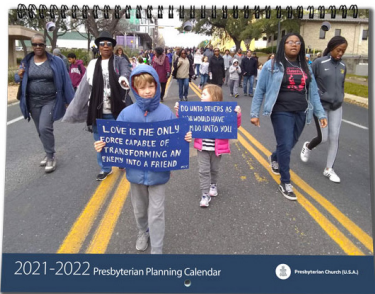
*Thank you, PW, for electing me to be your moderator for the next two years. I am so excited that we will be resuming circle gatherings in the fall! It will be such a joy to study, serve, and have fellowship after such a strange year of not being able to be together.*

*The study for next year is titled "What My Grandmothers Taught Me, Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus." It will be an opportunity to learn about some Old Testament women that we may not know well.*



*YOU are invited to be a part of a circle starting in the fall. It is such a good way to be connected to other women in the church. If you participated in a circle 2019-21, you will remain in your same group. (We are not changing assignments and moderators are remaining the same.)*

*I encourage those of you who have not participated in PW to consider joining us. There is a place for you! For more information contact Connie Schimpf, vice moderator, at 828-669-1931 or me at 828-777-6970.  
- Ginny Soll*



## The new 2022 PCUSA Planning Calendars are available to order.

To order a calendar, please contact the office at 828-669-2725 or email Brittany at [brittany@bmpcnc.org](mailto:brittany@bmpcnc.org). The calendars are \$14.50 each which can be paid by cash or check when you pick it up. Please order by Friday, July 30. We will contact you when the calendars arrive at the church.





# THANK YOU from some of our mission partners...



Asheville  
Buncombe  
Community  
Christian  
Ministry



Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

Thank you so much for everything you help accomplish in outreach to our community and beyond.

Cheryl Wilson  
*Executive Director*



Many thanks for your faithful and generous support. Together we are saving lives as we house, “shelter in place,” and serve our most vulnerable homeless neighbors. We are in pre-development for re-purposing the Days Inn on Tunnel Road into 85 apartments for chronically homeless individuals.

Together, we can provide homes for those who need them most. Thank you for sharing Homeward Bound’s value that housing is a human right for all.

Jim Lowder  
*Strategic and Major Gifts Officer*

Thank you for your generous gift for the Medical Ministry. ABCCM’s Medical Ministry has the most dedicated doctors.

At our recent Clinic Board meeting, a story was shared about how the physician worked for over an hour on helping to stabilize a patient’s blood pressure and treat some underlying conditions that would allow him to go back about his life and job in a couple of days. Not giving up on bringing healing and hope to someone’s life is what our volunteers do each day.

There are many more stories of renewal and restoration. They tell us how God moved and made things happen at just the right time. Thank you for listening to God moving you, to share your gift at just the right time, to share your heart for renewing lives through ABCCM. We thank God for you and make mention of you often in our prayers!

Reverend Scott Rogers  
*Executive Director*



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Your recent gift filled me with gratitude. During this global pandemic, you are a voice of compassion for the most vulnerable among us. Thank you for all you’re doing to help end hunger.

Blessings,  
Kari, *Bread For The World*



I wish you could see the view from my office window this afternoon. You would see children riding bicycles, swinging at the playground, racing from tree to tree, and simply talking with siblings and friends. For many of them, this is the first time they've had a safe home where all they have to worry about is being a child. Thank you for helping make that possible.

After a year of quarantines, safety precautions, and virtual learning, spring has brought us hope for a better future... and HOPE is so important. That's what your gift means to the children entrusted to our care. From newborns to college age and beyond, you are helping to ensure that they have a safe, loving home and the resources they need to heal, grow, and thrive.

Thank you so very much for glorifying God by caring for children. We are grateful to count you as part of our ministry family.

Tom Campbell  
*President*



Thank you for your gift to Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity to build and repair affordable homes in Buncombe County. We are grateful to have your support as we work towards a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Your generosity helps families like Belinda's who purchased a Habitat home. When Belinda was approved for her home purchase, she told us she longed to pay a mortgage instead of renting – and to have reasonable and predictable heating and cooling costs. As a Habitat homeowner, Belinda has said good-bye to the exorbitant electrical bill, and hello to a bedroom with a door!

Thank you for your partnership in helping more people like Belinda move Home.

Andy Barnett  
*Executive Director*



Thank you very much for your gift given to the Ludhiana CMC Board, USA.

Your generosity at this critical time is extremely important and will help fund a variety of equipment especially for the care of COVID-19 patients at the CMC Hospital.

Your support of the vital health services offered by the hospitals and clinics of the Ludhiana Christian Medical College is much needed and appreciated particularly now. The pandemic has complicated the process of providing care to those who are in desperate need and made our support more vital than ever.

Cate Whitcombe  
*Executive Director*



Thank you for your outpouring of support and for continuing to hold Montreat in your heart. Prayers for you, for your family, for your community, for our world and the difference that each of us makes in it.

Seth Hagler  
*Vice President for Development*

## FROM THE EARTH CARE TEAM

“We must learn to acknowledge that the creation is full of mystery; we will never entirely understand it. We must abandon arrogance and stand in awe. We must recover the sense of the majesty of creation, and the ability to be worshipful in its presence. For I do not doubt that it is only on the condition of humility and reverence before the world that our species will be able to remain in it.”

– Wendell Berry, *The Long-Legged House*

## Green Burial: An Alternative for Laying Loved Ones to Rest

Carolina Memorial Sanctuary, located south of the Asheville Regional Airport, is a conservation and green cemetery that offers “a peaceful and contemplative environment in which to lay loved ones to rest.” The Sanctuary offers a third alternative, in addition to embalming or traditional cremation, that uses no harmful materials. According to the website, the Sanctuary is available for the natural burial of humans, pets, or cremated remains at one-half to one-third the cost of contemporary burials.

Each year, an estimated 20 million board feet of wood (77,000 trees), 4.3 million gallons of embalming fluids, 1.6 million tons of reinforced concrete, 17,000 tons of copper and bronze, and 64,500 tons of steel are buried in American cemeteries. At the Carolina Memorial Sanctuary, burial containers are completely biodegradable and chemical-free. Choices include a basket, a simple linen or cotton shroud, a strong box of cardboard, or an unadorned, untreated wooden box, preferably pine.

A family can choose a burial site in woodlands, a meadow, or creekside. Land restoration is ongoing in all of these areas, and land is protected from development in perpetuity. Grave markers are of native stone originating on site, which may be selected, taken for engraving, and then placed at the grave.

Visit <https://carolinamemorialsanctuary.org/>. Individuals or groups may arrange a tour, phone 828-782-7283.

Two other sites in the Asheville area are certified by the Green Burial Council. Green Hills Cemetery on New Leicester Highway and Forest Lawn in Candler are defined as “hybrid” cemeteries, “which offer conventional burials in some sections but in other areas prohibit vaults, embalming, and non-natural burial containers.”

Warren Wilson Professor Mallory McDuff has a new book to be released in the fall titled *Our Last Best Act*, about environmentally responsible end-of-life planning.

**Mark September 30  
on your calendars!**

## Demystifying Solar Panels for Homeowners

Originally planned for April 2020, and postponed due to Covid, the Earth Care Team has now scheduled “Demystifying Solar Panels for Homeowners” for **Thursday, September 30, 7:00-8:30 p.m.**, in fellowship hall.

The team is in the process of contacting speakers from two solar installation companies (*Sugar Hollow Solar* and *MB Haynes Corporation*) and one from *Duke Energy*. People who already have solar will also be present to join in the discussion and answer individual questions after the program.

### Topics to be covered include:

- What solar technology is now available for homeowners?
- What should we know about costs – state and/or federal tax rebates, other incentives or rebates, buying vs. renting the panels. How does the billing from Duke Energy work?
- What is the process for exploring whether solar will work for you, and what factors determine whether this is practical for you?



# From your Director of Operations

Wow. Just wow. What exciting news Bill Waterstradt and Mary Carol Dodd had to share with us regarding the amount of money that has been committed to the **Sowing the Seed Planting Our Future** campaign!

I want you to know that our church's finance ministry team and I have been hard at work creating a system for managing these campaign funds that is accurate, reliable, and uniquely transparent. For the church house renovation/rebuilding, all invoices will go first to Wayne Mullis, our rock-star volunteer project manager. Once Wayne approves the invoices, I, Sam, will consult our budget and account balance to ensure we have enough funds, and that the payment is within the scope of work we expected. Checks will be reviewed and signed by our volunteer team of approved check signers. All of this is being tracked digitally and with hardcopy, and any congregant with questions on campaign finances is welcome to set up a time with me to review the books, including paid invoices, account balance, cash flow statements, and more. As always, individual contribution information will be held in the strictest confidence.

I am so excited that we are breaking ground with renovations, and for the possibilities that await us in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. Thank you all, once again, for the amazing generosity you show through your time, your talents, and your financial contributions to the work and mission of this church.

Yours in Christ,  
Sam Webber



# A Healthy Weekday School Year!

Wow! I can't believe summer is upon us and another school year has come to an end. What a year it has been! With all the uncertainty last summer, we were not sure we would actually have school. However, we pushed through and did a lot of research and were able to successfully open with a slightly reduced staff and child count. We made it the entire nine months with no Covid cases in our staff or children!

Plans are under way for the fall. We will return to full capacity in September with 11 staff, 68 children, and a long waiting list for each class.

Thank you for supporting us through the use of your Ingles Advantage cards. With the funds that we earned, we were able to purchase \$2,400 in supplies and equipment this year. All card links are cancelled out at the end of May so in August we will have to relink our Advantage Cards as we begin the new school year.



Many thanks to everyone in the congregation. Your love, concern, prayers, and financial support of this vital ministry mean so much to the staff and families of our church and community. This year we had six families on scholarship and gave out a total of \$8,200.00 in scholarship monies

to families. As more and more families in our area are having difficulty, we see a growing need for scholarship assistance. We are thankful for the congregation members who have blessed us with donations to our scholarship fund. Without your generous donations, these families would not be able to afford for their child to receive this quality early childhood education. Thank you for understanding the importance of these young members of our congregation and community.

It is such a blessing to continue to serve this congregation and community in my position as director of preschool ministries. May God bless you for all that you do here at BMPC and beyond.

– Alice Patton

# Library News

This month I want to remind everyone of some services the library has in addition to lending out books, as well as to make a request. First, remember that the library has a cart with FREE BOOKS. Even if you have already looked at the cart, books are continually added as we receive more duplicates of our collection. Also, the library still has jigsaw puzzles which people can take out and return when finished with them. Look for them on the checkout cart and on a shelf on the right side of the room.

The request has to do with books that you bring to the library. If a book is one which you have checked out, simply put it on the cart located immediately inside the door. However, if it is a book which you are donating, please put a note to that effect with the book. If it is a book or Bible which is used for a Sunday School or other Bible class, please note that too. At the moment there are several volumes which I have placed on the lower shelves with no indication where they belong. Thank you to all who continue to use the library and to those who graciously donate. If you are a donor, please also indicate whether you would like the book returned if it is a duplicate or if you would like it to be placed on the free cart. Lack of space precludes the addition of duplicates.

**Happy reading for the summer!**

– Sally Woodard

# July Birthdays

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>2</b> Arlene Brandon<br>Janine Spiller  | <b>13</b> Pat Tuttle<br>Bunny Alexander  |
| <b>3</b> Polly Miller<br>Levi Bannerman<br>Milo Parker                               | <b>14</b> Alice Smith<br><b>15</b> Hal Scheidler<br><b>16</b> Courtney Stiles                |
| <b>4</b> Terry Soll<br>Will Chilton<br>Holly Sosebee                                 | <b>18</b> Joan Kline<br>Marrion Ward<br>Parker Davidson                                      |
| <b>5</b> John Murphy<br>Bill Arens<br>Ed McDaniel<br>Maia Cogbill<br>Jonah Lehman    | <b>19</b> Iris Parker<br><b>20</b> Carl Franklin<br>Mary Jo Adams<br><b>21</b> Andrew Bowman |
| <b>6</b> Charlotte Corn<br><b>8</b> Alida Grady<br>Andrea DeWitt<br>Bradley Campbell | <b>22</b> Margo Smith<br><b>23</b> Jean Holder<br>Brad Rachman<br><b>24</b> Elizabeth Riley  |
| <b>9</b> Martha Henegar<br>Gay Mothershed  | <b>25</b> Hank Richey<br>Grace Martin  |
| <b>10</b> Linda Caldwell<br>Alan Belsches<br>Tyler Scouten                           | <b>27</b> Aidan Schneider<br><b>28</b> Kristy Beaver<br><b>30</b> Camilla Goins              |
| <b>11</b> Jane Belsches<br><b>12</b> Jennifer Richey                                 | <b>31</b> Keaton Williams  |



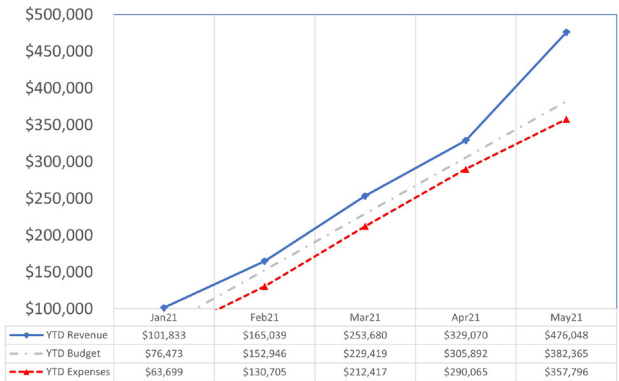
## name tags

If you ever need a name tag, simply email [jackie@bmpcnc.org](mailto:jackie@bmpcnc.org). Thank you!

# May 2021 Financial Highlights

- YTD Revenues of \$476,048 are higher than the \$382,365 budgeted by \$93,683.
- Note that revenue includes pre-paid pledges of \$77,587.50 for May 2021.
- YTD Expenses of \$357,796 are lower than the \$382,365 budgeted by \$24,569.

JAN21 - APR21 YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL SUMMARY



## Contributions to Restricted Funds

- Capital Campaign \$127,059 individual contributors
- Memorials \$50 contributions in memory of Ann Weeks

## Expenditures from Restricted Funds

- Capital Campaign \$109,028 consultant fees; architecture/drafting/construction fees; campaign expenses
- Local Emergency Relief Fund \$1,204 Virtual Learning Lab teacher; moving labor for member in need
- Faith Formation \$600 Yoga for Lent series
- Personnel Reserve \$300 consultant fees





# 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)

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.**



an Earth Care Congregation



**BMPC Child Protection Policy**

*providing a safe environment for children & youth*



## Work Begins on the Church House!

Thanks to the following persons that worked to clear out the church house so that renovations can begin: David Carter Florence, Sam Webber, Brittany Williams, Alice Patton, the Weekday School teachers, Mike Ballard, Paul Ginther, Dave McClintock, Tommy Wilkinson, E.T. Thomas, Ken Kelly, and Wayne Mullis.

Some items were donated to the Habitat Restore and SVCM. All of the metal, including the radiators, went to metal recyclers. The rest filled a large dumpster. The house is now empty and ready for the demolition of the interior walls down to the studs. This will allow for new and safe wiring and plumbing. All new drywall will be hung.

*- Facility Task Force*