



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

October 2022

Choose Generosity: A Way of Life

When I was on sabbatical, I would wear my blue BMPC t-shirt everywhere I went.

“Changing the world with lovingkindness. Black Mountain Presbyterian Church.”

I was so proud of carrying our church's love and generosity of spirit with me all around the world. And when people would stop and ask me about my shirt, I wouldn't hesitate to share. I'd mention our work with refugees during the pandemic, our missional dollars and volunteer hours that go into making a difference at SVCM, Bounty & Soul, and other nonprofits in Black Mountain, our support of our mission partners in Madagascar, Taiwan, and now Ukraine, and the special offerings we have sent to Presbyterian Disaster Relief. Our LOVE, KINDNESS, AND GENEROSITY is CHANGING THE WORLD.

And we're also changing lives with our in-reach in the church. Paying our employees on staff and at the Weekday School a living wage, offering four worship services on Sundays all last year to meet the needs of our young families but also to allow fewer people in our worship spaces. (Yes, Covid called for that!) Providing fellowship and faith formation that really speaks to our growing congregation!!

But why do we choose generosity in a world that tells us to hold on tightly to our money?

- Generosity keeps us from placing ourselves at the center of our universe.
- Generosity invites us to shift our security from what we can keep to what we can give.
- Generosity compels those who have a little and those who have a lot to share.

- Generosity shapes our sense of community by causing us to come to grips with the persistent needs of others all around us.



Generosity truly is a spiritual discipline, and spiritual disciplines are commitments made to implement and practice behaviors that align our actions with our faith commitments. If we are truly made in the image of God, then generosity is God's watermark. So, in times of uncertainty and fear: Generosity teaches us that our security

comes from God. Generosity connects us with the needs of others and our capacity to resolve those needs. Generosity squelches the knee jerk reaction to hold back and hold on. Generosity challenges us to place our security in God's kingdom, not our own!

Everyone can be generous.

It can be as simple as a smile, a phone call, or a note of thanks. It can be sharing what we have to eat, to wear, or a place to stay. It can be shifting our time to be available to invest in others. It can be releasing financial resources to accelerate ministry impact. There is no better response for the people of God in times of uncertainty and fear than to be generous. Thank you, BMPC, for being a force for good in the world! Let's do it again this year as we choose to be generous each and every day! It's our way of life.

Mary Katherine

OCTOBER 2022

Sunday M T W Th F S

Discovery Class for New Members – Sunday, Oct. 16, 9:45 a.m.

Discover more at BMPC and what membership looks like!

1 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul					
2 COMMUNION 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 11a Worship Service 1p Blessing of the Animals 2:30p Youth Rally @ Montreat	3 11:30a Words on the Word 1:15p Earth Care Book Study 5:30p Hospitality & Welcome Team 7p Earth Care Team	4 PW Circles (see page 4) 1:30p Staff Mtg 7p Prophets	5 8:30a One River, Many Wells 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! Wednesdays 5:30p Dinner 7p Choir Rehearsal	6 5p Karate with Tanner Pickett	7 6p Girl Scouts
9 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship Service 2p SVCM Walk For Your Neighbor	10 11:30a Words on the Word 1:15p Earth Care Book Study 1:30p Worship Team 6:30p Mission Team 7p Personnel	11 1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Strategic Planning 6:30p Lydia Circle 7p Prophets	12 8:30a One River, Many Wells 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! Wednesdays 5:30p Dinner 7p Choir Rehearsal	13 5p Karate with Tanner Pickett 5p Men's Group	14 15 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul 2p Gene and Barbara Witherspoon Memorial Service
16 9a FirstLight Worship 9:45a Discovery Class 10a Faith Formation 11a Worship Service 2p Youth Group 3p Sabbath Tea	17 11:30a Words on the Word 1:15p Earth Care Book Study	18 1:30p Staff Mtg 3:30p Congrega- tional Life Team 6p Faith Formation Team 7p Prophets	19 8:30a One River, Many Wells 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! Wednesdays 5:30p Dinner 7p Choir Rehearsal	20 3p Book Group with Ina Hughs 5p Karate with Tanner Pickett 7p Thursday Night Live (details on p. 5)	21 6p Girl Scouts
23 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship Service 12p Potato Lunch	24 11:30a Words on the Word 1:15p Earth Care Book Study 6p Session	25 1p PW Bible Study 1:30p Staff Mtg 2:15p PW Coordinating Team 6:30p Lydia Circle 7p Prophets	26 8:30a One River, Many Wells 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! Wednesdays 5:30p Dinner 6p Deacon Meeting 7p Choir Rehearsal	27 12:30p Lunch with Mary Katherine 5p Karate with Tanner Pickett	28 29 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
30 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Ministry Team Fair (see back page) 11a Worship Service 2p Trunk or Treat	31 11:30a Words on the Word 1:15p Earth Care Book Study	<p style="text-align: center;">All are welcome to join us for Wednesday Dinners Fellowship Hall – Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. through November 16 Our weekly menu will be spaghetti, salad, vegetable, bread, and a dessert. We are asking for a donation of \$5/per person or \$20/per family. Please sign up online at bmpcnc.org or in the narthex by Monday each week.</p>			



Join Mary Katherine for lunch!
in the fellowship hall at 12:30 p.m. on
Thursday, October 27, as she shares insights,
stories, and photos from her sabbatical!
Lunch will be provided for \$10 per person.
RSVP at bmpcnc.org or call the office.





ALL WOMEN

are invited to a Sabbath Tea
in fellowship hall
Sunday, October 16, at 3:00 p.m.
TREATS • FRIENDS • FUN



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CIRCLES in September

Tuesday, October 4

DORCAS – Moderator: Barbara Brinson
10 a.m., Conference Room One (CR1)

PRISCILLA – Moderator: Gayle Shelton
10 a.m., Church House

ESTHER – Moderator: Karen Smith
10:30 a.m., 144 Lake Eden Road

RUTH – Moderator: Andrea DeWitt
1:30 p.m., Highland Farms Marketing Room

NAOMI – Moderator: Karen Austin
3:00 p.m., Church House

Tuesday, October 11

LYDIA – Moderator: Patti Pyle
6:30 p.m., Church House

**All women are invited to any
circle – just show up or call
Ginny Soll, 828-777-6970.**

**Please support this fundraising event which
provides crucial support to our neighbors in need.
We are all in this together!**



**Sunday, October 9th, 2022
Walk starts at 2:00 pm**

WALK FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR

**FUNDS RAISED
WILL HELP OUR
NEIGHBORS:**

- WITH RENTAL ASSISTANCE
- KEEP THEIR LIGHTS OR WATER ON
- WITH FOOD FOR THE FOOD PANTRY
- AND SO MANY OTHER NEEDS OUR NEIGHBORS ARE FACING

First Baptist Church Black Mountain
130 Montreat Road,
Black Mountain NC 28711

Sunday, October 9th
Registration will begin at 1:00
Walk begins at 2:00

*5% of contributions will go to Black Mountain Counseling Center and 5% to Food Connection



ingles
LOW PRICES...
LOVE THE SAVINGS!

Advent Health
Hendersonville



DONATE TODAY



FOR MORE INFORMATION

☎ 828-669-9404
✉ svcmdirector@gmail.com
🌐 svcmblackmountain.org

Worship is central at BMPC

You can be an important part of the support and preparation for each Sunday's worship service. Here are a few of the important tasks:

- Assist in setting the worship space for FirstLight and 11:00 services
- Take turns doing such things as making certain the fonts are filled and the offering baskets are in place
- Make certain the Communion supplies are stocked and ready
- Make certain the doors are open.

These may seem like small tasks but they are mighty important.

If you are interested in being part of the support-for-worship team, please let Ellen Phillips know (ecphillipsartist@gmail.com or 404-915-6307).

Sign up for this opportunity to serve God and make certain we all can enjoy a smooth and meaningful worship experience.

Gun Violence: A Survivor's Perspective

Thursday, October 20

7:00 to 8:30

Fellowship Hall

John Owens, co-leader of **Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America**, North Carolina chapter, will present a program on gun violence. John has given numerous talks about his experience as a gun violence survivor and will also show the documentary, **A Hole in My Heart**. The video was produced by two members of *Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in Western North Carolina* and performed by local community theater actors. Representatives of our local organization, **Swannanoa Valley Neighbors for Gun Safety**, will also be present and light refreshments will be served.

Why is it so important to talk about this subject?
Take a look at these statistics of gun violence that have happened already this year.

GUN VIOLENCE ARCHIVE 2022

Evidence Based Research

PUBLISHED DATE: September 25, 2022

Total Number of GV Deaths - ALL Causes ⁴		32,639
Homicide/Murder/Unintentional/DGU ¹		14,951
Suicide ³		17,688
Total Number of Injuries ¹		29,218
Mass Shootings ²		496
Mass Murders ²		20
Number of Children (age 0-11) ¹	Killed	238
	Injured	546
Number of Teens (age 12-17) ¹	Killed	978
	Injured	2,774
Officer Involved Incident ¹	Killed	54
Officer Killed or Injured	Injured	257
Officer Involved Incident ¹	Killed	1,038
Subject-Suspect Killed or Injured		646
Defensive Use ²		882
Unintentional Shooting ²		1,166
Murder/Suicides Incidents ²		505

Gun violence and crime incidents are collected/validated from 7,500 sources daily – Incident Reports and their source data are found at the [gunviolencearchive.org](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org) website.

Footnotes

¹Number of source verified deaths and injuries

²Number of INCIDENTS reported and verified

³Calculation based on CDC Suicide Data

⁴Actual total of all non-suicide deaths plus daily calculated suicide deaths

All numbers are subject to change or incidents recategorized as new evidence is established and verified.

METHODOLOGY & DEFINITIONS AVAILABLE AT:

<https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/methodology>

The Wonderful BMPC Picnic at Camp Rockmont

After two years of being unable to gather, the BMPC annual picnic is back! It was so good to come together again at Camp Rockmont. We had lots of fun at the waterfront and enjoyed some delicious food at our potluck dinner. We are already making plans for the annual picnic next year!



Faith Formation

In Faith Formation classes for all ages, small groups, and fellowship activities, our goal is to nurture a kind of learning that compliments our congregation's personal and spiritual growth in a way that is deep, enduring and relational. As we study, play, and worship together, we find that our learning is not compartmentalized, like a traditional catechism, but is integrated in all facets of our church experience. When we learn to work with the Bible and our theology, worship, music, and outreach have a purpose far beyond striving to be a good person. Church Community (koinonia) becomes a place to make meaning, and grow in faith and self understanding. Our identities are shaped by this whole experience of the self in the community and the world. We build a consciousness that enables us to grow into the image of Christ and be open to engaging the world in a loving way – seeking justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God.

RAD!
RECREATION ART DRAMA FUN

WEDNESDAYS

3:30-5:30 p.m.
Every Wednesday
through November 17

Kids 4 years old through 6th Grade

Register anytime!
bmpcnc.org for more information
and registration



Pastor MK joined the kids at RAD! for some digging in the dirt and gardening. The RAD! kids always enjoy music with Mr. Aaron. He knows how to make learning fun! Thank you for all the support of the youth car wash on Saturday, September 2, when youth raised over \$600 for future trips and conferences!

Activities

- Bring your own dishes! After the well attended Picnic at Camp Rockmont on September 11, all the dishes, cups and utensils were hauled back to the church and washed, dried, and put away that night, a real labor of love. BMPC has successfully changed from using throw-away dishes and utensils to washable ones, but this year's goal is to form a new habit: Bring your own tableware from home, take it back home and wash it after events involving food. Look for more reminders!
- Members of the Earth Care Team attended the August meeting of the Asheville City Council and spoke supporting a resolution to ban single-use plastics (bags and Styrofoam cups) in the city.
- Members of the Earth Care Team attended the September meeting of the Black Mountain Town Council and spoke supporting a thoughtful proposal brought by the Givens Highland Farms Sustainability Committee. The proposal urged the Black Mountain Town Council to adopt a Climate Action Plan, emphasizing three points: 1) retrofit new and existing buildings; 2) purchase/replace all new/existing vehicles with electric vehicles; 3) update infrastructure with renewable options.

Earth Care Book Study, Mondays, 1:15-2:15

Read and discuss classic and current environmental writings that guide us in our practices and understanding of eco-theology, economics, activism, and community. Led by David Carter Florence and other members of the Earth Care Team. We meet outside whenever possible.

Earth Care According to St. Francis of Assisi

The Earth Care Book Group has launched a year-long study of *American Earth: Environmental Writing Since Thoreau*, edited by Bill McKibben (*Library of America*, 2008). This month, along with our Blessing of the Animals with St. James Episcopal Church on October 2, we are sharing a passage about St. Francis of Assisi by Lynn White of Stanford University. Professor White, who believed that “the seeds of environmental destruction lie in the Christian worldview: that man should hold dominion over nature,” agreed with St. Francis, who believed in the equality of all creatures, including man.

From *The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis* by Lynn White, (Science, March 10, 1967):

“The greatest spiritual revolutionary in Western history, Saint Francis proposed what he thought was an alternative Christian view of nature and man’s relation to it: he tried to substitute the idea of the equality of all creatures, including man, for the idea of man’s limitless rule of creation. He failed. Both our present science and our present technology are so tinctured with orthodox Christian arrogance toward nature that no solution for our ecological crisis can be expected from them alone. Since the roots of our trouble are so largely religious, the remedy must also be essentially religious, whether we call it that or not. We must rethink and refeel our nature and destiny. The profoundly religious, but heretical, sense of the primitive Franciscans for the spiritual autonomy of all parts of nature may point a direction. I propose Francis as a patron saint for ecologists.”

Solar Panel Report - Energy Captured in August, 2022

- Energy captured from the sun - 2130 kWh
- Money saved at 11 cents per kWh - \$234
- CO2 saved from going into the atmosphere – 1,811 pounds (almost one ton)

Trunk -or- Treat

Sunday, October 30

2:00-4:00pm

BMPC parking lot

If you would like to participate please sign up at bmpcnc.org or contact Brittany Williams.

Join us for **Trunk-or-Treat** in the church parking lot. This is a free community event and all are welcome so come dressed in your Halloween best! This year it will not be a drive-thru event.

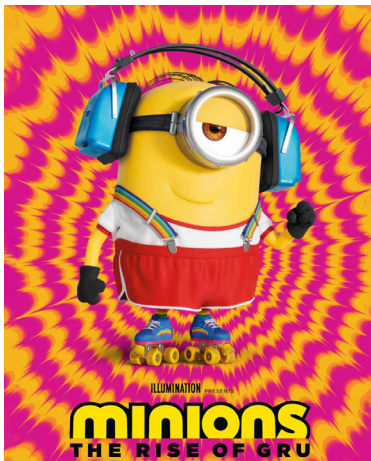
Here's how you can help:

CANDY DONATIONS

Last year we had over 400 children receive candy and prizes in our drive-thru event! Please consider dropping off a bag (or two, or three!) in the box in the narthex before Friday, October 28.

VOLUNTEERS

Join us to help with set-up and decorating, traffic control, or come and decorate your car (or table) in the BMPC parking lot and hand out candy and prizes from 2:00-4:00pm.



Outdoor Movie Night

Friday, October 7
7:00pm
in the courtyard

Featuring
Minions: The Rise of Gru

October YOUTH Calendar

SUN 2 Youth in Worship

SUN 2 Montreat Youth Rally
2:30-6:30pm

TUE 4 Breakfast Club
7:00am

WED 5 Small Groups
5:30-7:30pm

SUN 9 SVCM Hunger Walk
1:45pm

WED 12 Small Groups
5:30-7:30pm

SUN 16 Paint Wars
2:00-4:00pm

TUE 18 Breakfast Club
7:00am

WED 19 Small Groups
5:30-7:30pm

SUN 23 Potato Lunch
12:00pm

WED 26 Small Groups
5:30-7:30pm

SUN 30 Trunk or Treat
2:00-4:00pm

Do you have a favorite translation of the Bible? Many people in my age bracket often say that they still love the KJV. It is what they heard in church in their very youngest years. Others like the RSV, which was published in the early 50's. That was, for me, the first time I had heard or read Scripture in what seemed to me to be the way the average person talked. Since the advent of the RSV, there have been a number of other translations or paraphrases, which employ more current expressions of the English language. The BMPC library has many of these on the shelves.

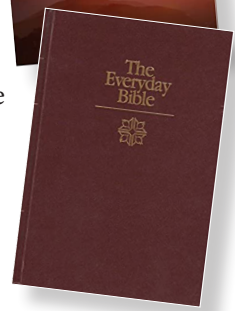
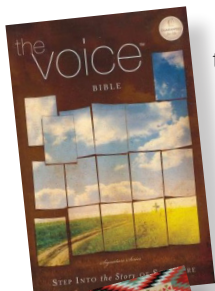
Recently, the library has acquired two newer versions, both of which have been published in this century. *The Voice* is the title of a translation of the Ecclesia Society. The most outstanding characteristic is probably the way that passages with dialogue are structured. Those sections look more like a dialogue for a play than what we are accustomed to seeing. *The Voice* contains a number of study aids, some of them around the chapter itself, many others in the back. As one might expect, the language sounds ordinary to our ears.

The other recent acquisition is *First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament*. In the introduction, the editors offer a prayer that this version of Holy Scripture may bring healing to First Nations, who have suffered so much “under the dominance of colonial governments who, with the help of churches and missionary organizations, often took our land, our languages, our culture, and even our

children.” A feature of this translation that may, at least at first, appear to be disconcerting, are the names for Deity (with the exception of Creator and Great Spirit, which are apparent), human beings, and places. Jesus is often referred to as Creator Sets Free; John the Baptist is Gift of Goodwill; Peter is Stands on the Rock; Seed Planter Village is Galilee; and Land of Promise is Judea. There is no need to be concerned that the reader will forget who or what each name designates; the editors put the familiar names in parentheses each time. While this may not be the best study Bible, it is an intriguing translation and one which may enlighten us more about our indigenous neighbors.

Among the other versions available in the library are some which are very familiar, such as the NRSV and NIV (also the TNIV with somewhat less formal language). Eugene Peterson's very popular *The Message* is still one of my several favorites, and there is one with which I was not very familiar, *The New Century Bible*. The copy in the library is called *The Everyday Bible*, probably because the first pages contain daily Scriptures for every day in a year. If you are looking for a daily devotional resource, this would be a good one.

This list does not exhaust all of the different translations of Holy Scripture that are in the library, but during the month of October, you may look on the display shelves to the right as you enter and find differing versions. Reading God's word in more than one translation is excellent for study, as well as for devotional practice.



October birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Nick Murphy
Mary Knight
Mary Scott Robinson
Will Chilton
Sarah Berglund | 19 Allen Bell
Aidan Nalley
Ella Farish
Steve Riley
Rick Bailey |
| 3 Eleanor Landers
Stephen Smith | 21 Carol Cauthen |
| 4 Jesse Lehman | 22 Linda Stroupe
Olivia Tyson-Warren
Donna Drake |
| 6 Grace Stitt
Tonia Allen | 24 Mary Brueggemann |
| 7 Lewis Galloway | 25 Ellen McClintock |
| 8 Craig Cooley
Delores Spielman | 26 James Huggins |
| 9 Dave Johnson | 27 Ken Scott
Hugh Mayronne
Bill Janes
Reid Pomeroy
David Hekking |
| 10 Gayle Shelton | 28 Olivia LaMotte
Betty Becker
Jonathan Donnell
Max Cogbill
Libba Fairleigh
Caleb Ford |
| 11 Daryl Fisher
Kristi Morgan
Renee Sandy | 30 Leslie Carreiro |
| 12 Arthur Lindsay
Bill Waterstradt
David Carter Florence | 31 Billy Banks
Susie Watson Burns |
| 13 Barbara Massey
Paul Willison
Josie Munn
Anna Carter Florence | |
| 14 Lucy Dusthimer | |
| 16 Hannah Webber | |
| 17 Mary Standaert
Kyle Holt
Gayle Petty-Johnson
Autumn Hollifield | |



POTATO LUNCH

Sunday, October 23, noon

Fundraiser for youth to participate
in trips and conferences

Faith in Action – The Blessing Box

We know our free pantry is a resource for the hungry in our community. It is often emptied out the same day it is filled up by our faithful members and friends. Please consider signing your family up at bmpcnc.org and follow these simple guidelines: add your choice of shelf stable foods especially protein rich items and nothing that requires a microwave or hard to buy ingredients like butter and milk. Water, juice boxes, and individually wrapped snacks work well. Self care items are also useful. Please no fresh food, no clothing, no literature. Keep the box shelves clean and space out your donations across your week. Do not be dismayed if everything you put in disappears quickly. It is okay if the box is empty on some of your assigned days. Your help in this ministry is another wonderful way we prove that we truly are a Hunger Action Congregation of the PCUSA! Sign up today!

The Power of Prayer

BMPC has an interest group of dedicated members who share their spiritual gift of intercessory prayer. The Prayer Chain is handled entirely via email and provides a quick response to urgent prayer needs even before we read about them in Sunday's bulletin. Many times these prayer requests might also be from individuals who don't want their need publicized widely but do want for this small number of prayer warriors to pray on their behalf. Might you be interested in being part of this very important ministry? Just email prayerchain@bmpcnc.org describing your interest and the coordinators will add you to the mailing list. That same email can be used by anyone to submit a prayer request. Please note that confidentiality around these prayer needs and permission from the individuals involved is essential. If you have questions, please contact Gay Ferguson or Patti Pyle.



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

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Black Mountain, NC 28711
828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727
www.bmpcnc.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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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



Learn more about BMPC Ministry Teams
Ministry Team Fair
Sunday, October 30, 10:00 a.m.