



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

April 2023

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday

April 2

Palm Sunday recognizes the contrast of Jesus' entrance into the holy city with crowds excited at his arrival – only to turn on him in just a few days. We will wave palm branches to honor the beginning of this sacred week.

9:00AM FirstLight

11:00AM Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday

April 6

This special service reflects upon the night of Jesus' meal with his disciples and his arrest. Together, we will participate in a reverent worship service with special music and communion.

7:00PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday

April 9

A joyful service to celebrate that Jesus has risen! We are proud to feature brass and timpani in our 11AM service. Come prepared to sing praises!

7:00AM Sunrise Service in Town Square

9:00AM FirstLight Service

10:00am Easter Egg Hunt for children (ages 2-10) on the playground

11:00AM Sanctuary Service

- Overflow seating will be available in the narthex during the 11:00 service
- A cross will be placed outside for families to bring flowers and, if you desire, take a family picture
- Childcare is provided during the 9:00 and 11:00 services
- We encourage fully-abled members to park farther away, allowing spaces for visitors and those with special needs.

APRIL

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

Sunday	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1 10a Choir rehearsal
2 Palm Sunday 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 11a Worship Service 12:15p Grief Share	3 2:30p Earth Care Team	4 PW Circles (see page 5) 1:30p Staff Mtg 7p Prophets	5 11:30a Fellers Lunch 5:30p One Great Story 6p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal	6 5p Karate with Tanner 7p Maundy Thursday Service	7 12p Good Friday Service Montreat Pres, Upper Anderson 6p Girl Scouts	8 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul 10a Choir rehearsal
9 EASTER 7a Sunrise Service in Town Square 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 10a Easter Egg Hunt 11a Worship Service	10 office closed	11 12p Book Club 1:30p Staff Mtg 6:30p Lydia Circle 7p Prophets	12 11:30a Fellers Lunch 11:30a One River, Many Wells 3:30p RAD! 5:30p One Great Story 6p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal	13 5p Karate with Tanner	14	15 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
16 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 11a Worship Service 12:15p Grief Share 2p Youth 3p Geocaching 4p Finance 5p Family Fellowship	17 5p Congregation Life Strategic Team 5:15p Worship Team 5:30p Property 7p Faith Formation, Hospitality & Welcome, Mission, Personnel Teams	18 1:30p Staff Mtg 5:30p MLK Planning 7p Prophets 7p Mama's Group	19 11:30a Fellers Lunch 11:30a One River, Many Wells 3:30p RAD! 5:30p One Great Story 6p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal	20 3p Book Group with Ina Hughs 5p Karate with Tanner	21 6p Girl Scouts	22 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
23 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship Service 12p Discovery Class 12:15p Grief Share 2p Youth	24 6p Session	25 1p PW Bible Study 1:30p Staff Mtg 2:15p PW Coordinating Team 6:30p Lydia Circle 7p Prophets	26 11:30a Fellers Lunch 11:30a One River, Many Wells 3:30p RAD! 5:30p One Great Story 6p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal	27 5p Karate with Tanner	28	29 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
30 EARTH CARE 9a FirstLight Worship 10a Faith Formation 11a Worship Service 12:15p Grief Share 2p Youth	<p>SAVE THE DATE! Asheville Tourists baseball game – Friday, May 19 Tickets are \$9/per person and the game starts at 6:30 p.m. You can register on our website: bmpcnc.org</p>					

Deadline for the May Window newsletter Monday, April 17

The BMPC Endowment Fund Celebrates 25 Years!

In March 1998 the Session of the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church established the Endowment Fund as a vehicle for members and friends of our church to give to our ministry beyond their life.

Imagine what it might mean if you were able to fund one of our church's most important ministries. Sound impossible? Don't tell Josephine McCoy! Josephine McCoy was a member of our church and during the 1940s and 1950s she was a math teacher at what was then known as the Black Mountain High School. One of her former students, Craig Cooley, remembers her: "she's one of those teachers you didn't mess with!" She and her husband had no children, but she was deeply committed to the needs of youngsters in the Swannanoa Valley. In 1998 her estate funded college scholarships for Owen High graduates and set up our first "named" endowment fund to support the operation of our weekday school. Just during the last 10 years earnings from the McCoy Fund in support of our Weekday School have totaled more than \$76,500. These funds have paid for teacher and parent resources, playground upgrades and fencing, audio visual equipment and much more. Because of Mrs. McCoy's generous gift, our Weekday School has served hundreds of children with outstanding early childhood education. We have nurtured and



loved these preschoolers and their families through the years, teaching them and showing them God's love.

What will be the future of our Endowment Fund? Might you and your family be part of strengthening our ministry into the coming decades? Might YOU be the "Josephine McCoy" of the 2020s or 2030s?

Your Endowment Board would love to share your dreams and visions for the work of our church.

Libba Fairleigh • Rosie Johnson • Jim McDowell • Gayle Petty-Johnson, *moderator*
Mary Katherine Robinson, *ex officio* • John Snell

Think Treasure Hunt with a Twist

Have you ever heard the word “geocaching”? Well, I hadn’t until Stephen Smith from our church explained it to me. Basically it’s being led to a “treasure” (cache) via the coordinates on a GPS. It is somewhat like a game of Hide and Seek. Someone hides a cache in a given location and then puts the coordinates on a geocaching app. Using a GPS or smartphone, you are led to an area where the cache is hidden, usually within about 30 feet of the object. Unfortunately, the treasure is not silver or gold. A cache might be a toy car, keychain, marble or small Tupperware container. Not only is it small but you have to put it back! In 2019 there were about 444,513 in the United States. However, the more relevant information is that there are quite a few of them in Black Mountain and one that is about ½ mile from our church.

Why all this information about geocaching? Because Stephen Smith is going to lead a churchwide geocaching adventure. Everyone who wants to join the hunt will meet at the church house at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 16**. Stephen will then spend about 20 minutes talking about fun facts involved with geocaching and answer any questions. He will then use his GPS to lead the group to the first geocaching location. Then the hunt begins. You’ll look high and low. Does anything look suspicious or out of place? You might be the one in the group to find the treasure.

This fun event is intergenerational. Anyone seven or older can join – come by yourself, come as a family, come with friends. If you enjoy walking and socializing with your church family, please join us. How many caches to be discovered that afternoon will be determined by how long it takes for someone to find a cache. An estimated guess is that the hunting will take about two hours. And then what? Anyone who wants to can go to the Grange to socialize with each other and maybe eat to put back some of the calories you’ve just burned.

Be adventuresome, try something new.
Stephen, our fearless leader, has gone geocaching all over the United States, Australia and most recently Ecuador. You may too become addicted.

Gay Ferguson
chair, Congregational Life



Aging Well

Koinonia class coming soon
Sunday mornings at 10:00

Discovery Class at the church house Sunday, April 23, 12-2pm

lunch provided

Register on our website: bmpcnc.org

Family Fellowship Night at the Foothills Grange Thursday, April 27, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Come have dinner and fellowship time with other families. The Grange has a great outdoor space and a play area for kids!

Drop in or stay the whole time.

Mama's Group at the church house Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

All preschool/elementary moms are welcome! We will discuss chapters 5-6 in *Atlas of the Heart* by Brené Brown.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

*All women
are invited
to any circle.*



Tuesday, April 4

DORCAS 10:00 a.m., CR1

PRISCILLA 10:00 a.m., Church House

ESTHER 10:30 a.m., Alice McDowell
336 Natures Bend, HF

RUTH 1:30 p.m., Marketing Room at
Highland Farms

NAOMI 3:00 p.m., Church House

Tuesday, April 11 & 25

LYDIA 6:30 p.m., Church House

Tuesday, April 25

Bible Study 1:00 p.m.

Coordinating Team 2:15 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 16, 5:00 p.m.
**Spring Gathering at
Cragmont Assembly**

Earth Care Team celebrate its **10th** anniversary on Earth Sunday, April 30!

Takeaways from the Lenten Book Study

When we began, we had no idea how many people might participate. We planned for four groups with 6-12 people per group, or 24 to 48 total, but we exceeded expectations with over 60 participants! We filled pages of newsprint with lists of things we are doing at home to reduce fossil fuel use.

WHY LENT? In the season of fasting, prayer, alms giving and reflection before Easter, it seemed fitting for our community of faith to tackle the predicament our living world is in by reading and discussing a book together, Dr. Katharine Hayhoe's *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World*. She led us to look at this thorny topic from four angles – Facts, Feelings, Actions, and Hope.

FACTS Our shortest explanation of the problem: Coal, oil, and natural gas are the fossilized remains of ancient forests, which captured the sun's energy for millions of years. We are burning this energy all at once, in our lifetimes. Hayhoe says we have three choices: "We can reduce the heat-trapping gas emissions that are causing climate to change; we can build resilience and prepare to adapt to the changes that we can't avoid; or we can suffer. We're going to do some of each. The question is what the mix is going to be." (p113)

FEELINGS We discussed feelings of anger, fear, shame, and guilt, which many of us have felt. Group members especially named "depression." It is heavy news for every age group to learn that our lifestyle, our daily habits, are causing such a problem. Hayhoe says, "Acknowledging these emotions is the first step to action. People say, 'I feel like my actions are insignificant. And I don't know where to start.' But accepting who you are and what you feel is a first step. The next is to connect with others, support one another, and raise your voices together." (pp 126-7) This is exactly what our groups have tried to do.

ACTIONS Two major ways we can help the earth immensely:

- 1** Talk about it. Find common ground.
- 2** Practice simple living in every way possible.

HOPE Hayhoe says, "Real hope doesn't usually come knocking on the door of our brains uninvited. If we want to find it, we have to roll up our sleeves and go out and look for it. . . And then we have to practice it. I make a practice of hope. I search for and collect and share stories and good news about people who are making a difference. . . I participate in events and partner with organizations that share my values and promote advocacy and action. And I look to my faith. . . The research I do is clear: it is not too late to avoid the most serious and dangerous impacts. Our choices will determine what happens." (pp244-5)

RAD!

RECREATION ART DRAMA FUN

WEDNESDAYS

@BMPC



Generosity Theme for 2023

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know our theme for the 2023 campaign: **Generosity: My Response to Grace**. All of us have experienced God's grace in our lives and in the lives of others. We feel it, we see it and we are very grateful for it. But God's grace often moves us to a desire for more than simply being grateful. For each of us, God's marvelous grace can kindle a heartfelt personal yearning for more tangible action. Sometimes, that action may be using our time and talents to help in a particular situation. At other times, it may include using our financial gifts to help. Being generous with our gifts will always benefit someone else, and to paraphrase Jesus, "whatever you do for someone else, you also do for me." So, we believe that this theme can speak to each of us personally and move each of us toward an action response out of gratitude for God's grace.

This year, we want to put a slightly different emphasis on the campaign. Instead of focusing only on total giving for the campaign, we'd like to put a spotlight on the number of giving estimates received. We have been averaging about 70% of potential giving units who provide a giving estimate and we'd like to see that percentage go up to at least 80% this year. Although our total giving will still be important since it provides for our 2024 budget, we think an increase in the number of estimates will greatly impact that total. So, you will see that percentage highlighted in the campaign.

As you know, we like to include everyone, even young children, in the campaign. We will be providing opportunities for children to give us a giving estimate in a special way. For very young children, that may be as little as \$1/month. As they get older and are able to earn some money from things they do for their parents and then as teens perhaps from a part time job, they can increase this giving to \$2/month, \$5/month, etc. More details on this later, but this can give parents the chance to start talking about giving and generosity with their kids at a young age.

Finally, we plan to work more closely with the Endowment and Finance committees to coordinate efforts. We think this can set the stage for the long-term financial health of BMPC.

Let's all remember to give thanks for the grace in our lives and respond to that grace through our generosity.

Dave Johnson and Mike Begley
Generosity Team co-chairs

APRIL YOUTH Calendar



We have had fun-filled fellowship at our Sunday events with trivia, trampoline park, gameday with St. James and a Chopped cooking competition. If you are a MS/HS student who would love for you to join us for any Wednesday or Sunday event!



SUN 2 No youth group

SUN 9 No youth group

WED 12 Small Groups
6:00-7:30

SUN 16 Hiking & Ice Cream
2:00-4:00pm

TUE 18 High School Dinner
6:00pm

WED 19 Small Groups
6:00-7:30

SUN 23 Games at
Welch Field with
St. James' Youth
2:00-4:00pm

WED 26 Small Groups
6:00-7:30

SAT 29 Adventure Day
at Camp Grier
10:30am-6:30pm

Support our
youth by
providing a
meal for a
Wednesday
night.





MARION MEDICAL MISSION

The well program not only provides safe drinking water, but also the necessary knowledge, skills, and tools to manage and maintain the protected water source, so that safe drinking water continues in future years. Where wells have been built, waterborne diseases are eliminated.

**Thank you
from a
few of our
mission
partners**

SWANNANOVA VALLEY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY



Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

Thank you for your donation to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry! Because of your support, SVCM can impact our neighbors' lives in so many life-giving and life-changing ways. When you give to SVCM, you are supporting a ministry of compassion and presence, where we love and care for our neighbors as friends through whatever life has thrown at them.

BOUNTY & SOUL



Thank you so much for the loving donation to Bounty & Soul. This contribution returns as fresh food, given away with love and dignity to those who need it most in our community.



THIS CHILD HERE

I am writing from Ukraine where this nation is fighting a war against the Russian invasion. Words cannot express my gratitude for the donations that have come our way since this war began. On the edges of this conflict, we work with displaced families arriving in Izmail, Ukraine. Our aim is to help families heal from the trauma of this war. Every day we meet families who have come from places where the war has destroyed their homes and former lives. Most of our work is with mothers and children, and every day they get better: more likely to linger and talk, and more apt to make hopeful statements about the future as they are supported by our staff, the friends they have made, and the activities in the programs we run.

April birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 Betty Hill
Catherine Farish | 18 Camryn Davidson
Pearl Hall |
| 3 Bridget Leary | 20 Carla Sperry
Margaret Waterstradt |
| 4 Brittany Williams | 22 Mary McElrath
Xander Dodd |
| 6 Bill Gilliland | Jonah Atkins
Isaac Black |
| 8 Devin Carswell | 23 Karen Smith
David Hana |
| 9 Ann Herring
Ginny Lindsey
DC Horne | 24 Patrick Davidson
Margaret Fouse
Jayne Vaughan |
| 10 April Roy
Graham Roy
Melzer Morgan
Lily Morgan
Bob Hendershott | 25 Susan Hensley |
| 11 Susan Jumper
Chad Williams
Joy Pulido
Rylan Van Note
Josie Cullen | 26 Samuel Baraki
Mary Katherine Robinson |
| 12 Norman Carswell | 28 Harriette Fulton |
| 13 Dwight Stobbs
William Holmes | 29 Ken Farmer
Maya Fleagle |
| 14 Cathy Skeen
Connie Button
Robert Sway | 30 Connie Schimpf
Ayden Mohr |
| 15 Dale Culpepper | |
| 16 Edward Smith | |
| 17 Nancy Ruppert | |



You Are Important

Black Mountain Counseling Center, one of our mission partners, believes that mental wellness should be available to everyone. They provide emotional and behavioral counseling to children, adolescents, adults, seniors, couples, and families within Western North Carolina. As the only nonprofit mental health organization in the Swannanoa Valley, they work with you to get the help you need. Are you under-insured or fear you can't afford counseling? That's okay! BMCC works directly with you regardless of financial situation.



**Black Mountain
COUNSELING CENTER**

There are many ways to give.
Visit blackmountaincounseling.org

Beginning Sunday, May 28, we will begin our summer worship schedule.

BMPC will have a 9:00 a.m. service only. We will partner with Montreat Conference Center for their 10:30 a.m. service held at Anderson Auditorium. The 11:00 a.m. services will begin again at BMPC on Sunday, August 13.

You can add information to your profile in our database, *Realm*, at any time and find phone numbers and addresses of your BMPC friends. Contact Brittany or Sam for help with this. If you prefer a paper copy of the directory, stop by the church office.



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

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Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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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



Easter Egg Hunt!

Join us on the Church playground on Easter Sunday, April 9,
at 10 a.m. for an Easter Egg Hunt! For children ages 2-10 years old.

No Family Worship on Sunday, April 9.

