



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

September 2023

Welcome Back Sunday!

Sunday, September 10

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

FirstLight Worship 8:45 Family Worship 10:00 Worship 11:00



illustration by Jack Williams

Annual Picnic at Camp Rockmont

2:00-5:00 p.m.

Waterfront

5:00 p.m.

**Congregational Meeting
to elect deacons and elders**

5:15 p.m.

Potluck Dinner and Music

We encourage you to bring your own tableware. The Earth Care Team will be giving away (first come, first serve) several dozen cloth bags suitable for shopping or for carrying tableware to and from the picnic.

Faith Formation

Youth – see page 5

Adult classes – see page 6

SEPTEMBER

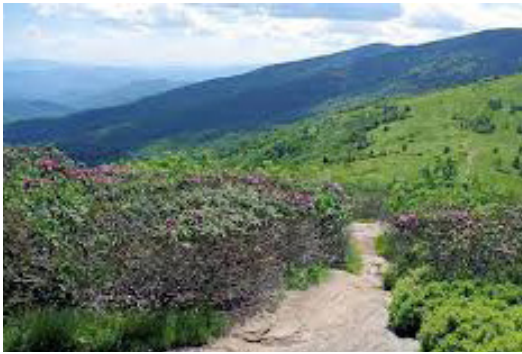
Many other groups meet here, but mostly BMPC events are reflected on this calendar.

Sunday	M	T	W	Th	F	S
<p>Red Cross Blood Drive schedule an appointment at redcross.org Thursday, September 7 1:30-6pm Fellowship Hall</p>			 		1	2 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
<p>3 8:45a FirstLight Worship 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 2p Handbells</p>	<p>4 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>5 PW Circles (see p4) 11:30a Staff Mtg 2p Charlotte Sprawls at Highland Farms 6p Women's AA Mtg 7p Prophets</p>	<p>6 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! 5:30p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 1:30p Red Cross Blood Drive 5p Karate with Tanner</p>	<p>Deadline for the October Window newsletter Friday, September 15</p>	
<p>10 Welcome Back Sunday! 8:45a FirstLight 9:45a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 2p Handbells 2p Annual Picnic</p>	<p>11 1p EC Book Study 2:15p EC Team 4p Worship 5p Cong. Life, Strategic 5:30p Property 7p Faith Form., H&W, Mission, Personnel</p>	<p>12 1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Women's AA Mtg Lydia Circle 7p Prophets Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! 5:30p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14 5p Karate with Tanner 6p Mens' Group at Phil's BBQ</p>	<p>15 Fall Youth Retreat through Sunday 9/17</p>	<p>16 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul</p>
<p>17 8:45a FirstLight Worship 9:45a Adult Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 2p Handbells</p>	<p>18 1p Earth Care Book Study</p>	<p>19 1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Women's AA Mtg 7p Mama's Group 7p Prophets Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! 5:30p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>21 3p Book Group with Ina Hughs 5p Karate with Tanner</p>	<p>22 Dad's Retreat through Sunday 9/24</p>	<p>23 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul</p>
<p>24 8:45a FirstLight Worship 9:45a Adult Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 2p Handbells</p>	<p>25 1p Earth Care Book Study 6p Session</p>	<p>26 1p PW Bible Study 2:15p PW Coordinating Team 1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Women's AA Mtg 7p Prophets Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 11:30a Fellers Lunch 3:30p RAD! 5:30p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth 7p Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>28 5p Karate with Tanner 5:30p Fellowship Night at The Railyard</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul</p>

Wednesday Night Spaghetti Dinners return!

Wednesday, September 6, 5:30 p.m.

All are welcome! Suggested donation is \$5/per person or \$20/per family. There are vegetarian and gluten-free options available. You will need to sign up each week online, on the sign-up sheet outside of fellowship hall, or by calling the church office (669-2725).



BMPC Dads' Retreat with Dan Davis

Friday night through Sunday afternoon, September 22-24

Camp at Roan Mountain State Park and hike sections of Carvers Gap to Highway 19E, one of the most popular hiking trails in North Carolina, full of grassy balds with panoramic mountain vistas of 6,000-foot peaks. There are plenty of climbs and descents on our hike and we will hike at a pace that is slow and steady. We will have water, snacks, and meals that will support a healthy and fun experience. The hikes are planned to be no longer than around four miles. Contact David@bmpcnc.org for further information and to sign up!

BMPC window

Sign up for a week to keep our Blessing Box stocked

Sign up for a week (or more) to maintain the Blessing Box and make sure it is clean and stocked with nonperishable food and personal care items. Check it during the week and space out your donations so the shelves are not bare. Weeks run Sunday-Saturday. There is a box in the parlor for Blessing Box items so feel free to use them. Sign up at bmpcnc.org.



BMPC would like to extend our gratitude to local boy scout Rylan Baker, who regularly participates in the Wednesday afternoon RAD program here at the church. Rylan reached out via his father to the church's director of operations, to inquire about an opportunity to complete his Duty to God in Action requirements as part of earning his Arrow of Light award. Under the guidance of his father, Rylan cleaned and refinished the Blessing Box that was installed by the mission ministry team two years ago. Rylan also spent time cleaning up trash and debris in the wooded patch directly behind the blessing box on church grounds.

Congratulations and many thanks to you, Rylan.

The Presbyterian Church USA has adopted as its overarching vision the message of Matthew 25: 35-40 where Jesus describes a scene of judgment before his throne in heaven:

"I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me."

In answer to those who ask when they did these things for Jesus, he replies:

"I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me" (CEB).



MATTHEW 25

As a congregation of the PCUSA, enthusiastically endorsed by our Session, we embrace this vision and seek to live following its message. The three main

elements in the Matthew 25 Mission – building congregational vitality, eradicating systemic poverty, and dismantling structural racism – reflect our congregation's tradition of mission and outreach.

At BMPC as we enter a new era, with improved facilities and space thoughtfully designed for broader service and inclusion, the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has been working to plan and nurture ways to mindfully incorporate the spirit of Matthew 25 into all aspects of the church's mission, reinforcing BMPC's tradition of worshipful service and study. Additionally, the SPC will work closely through the Session, staff and members to provide opportunities for deeper understanding of what living the Matthew 25 message means in our fragmented world for which the church remains a beacon of hope.

With the denomination's commitment to Matthew 25 come resources such as curriculum, prayer guides, and shared worship emphasis ideas, along with collaboration and inspiration from other churches and the rich gifts of the connectional church.

You will begin to notice the Matthew 25 logo appearing in BMPC's posted, written, and web communication tools, serving to remind us of the tenets of Matthew 25, as well as providing a springboard to discussion.

Joining with the denomination's intentional statement to love our neighbors invites all to renew our commitment to service, study, worship, and dedication to caring for those in overt need and any who hunger for meaning and direction.



Presbyterian Women

**PW Circles meet
Tuesday, September 5**

Dorcas

10:00 a.m. Church House

Esther

10:30 a.m. Karen Smith
144 Lake Eden Road

Naomi

3:30 p.m. Church House

Priscilla

10:00 a.m. Church House

Tuesday, September 12

Ruth

1:30 p.m. Highland Farms
Assembly Room

Lydia

6:30 p.m. Church House

For questions or more
information, contact

Barbara Brinson (716) 307-9054
Ann Wilde (713) 851-5418

***Putting faith in action
is what we do!***

www.presbyterianwomen.org

Generosity Campaign for 2024

Now that we're all back from our summer vacations and school fall semesters have begun, it's almost time for our fall Generosity campaign. As you may recall, our theme for the 2024 campaign is Generosity: My Response to Grace. We all have experienced God's grace in our lives. We respond by giving of our time, talent, and treasures. Although our campaign focuses on the giving of our financial treasures, the gifts of our time and talent to help others should not be forgotten.

The campaign will kick off on Sunday, October 8, and Dedication Sunday will be on October 29. As in previous years, you can pledge on-line on the church website, provide your pledging information to Suzane Churchman through e-mail (finance@bmpcnc.org) or pick up your pledge packet at the church and return your pledge card by the 22nd. For those who are unable to pledge on-line or pick up pledge information, the packet will be mailed to your home address.

This year, we want to emphasize two aspects of our financial giving. First, as in other years, we would like to see an increase in our total pledged. As we all see in other areas of our lives, costs for many things have increased and the church is not immune to those increases. To maintain and hopefully expand our ministries requires more financial support. As part of the package for this year's campaign, we will provide you with a step chart, so you can see where you are with respect to other members of the congregation and consider taking the next step up the chart with a small increase in your giving.

Second, we'd like to see an increase in the percentage of members who pledge from our typical 70% to at least 80%. If you have not pledged in the past, please give this request your serious consideration and help us move that percentage toward the 80% figure. Even a small pledge of \$10-20 per month will help us reach both the percentage goal and the total giving goal. As part of this effort, we are offering families with children an opportunity for the kids and youth to be involved in pledging and will provide both a kids and a youth pledge card. There will also be a family chart of how and where each family member gives of their time, talent and treasure. We hope this will help with a family discussion of giving and pledging and as a reminder of how each family member responds to God's grace. Finally, we will be offering regular participants in the life of the church who are not yet members the opportunity to pledge. Packets will be available for those participants and they can return their pledge in the same way members can return theirs.

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

Dave Johnson & Mike Begley, *Generosity Team Co-Chairs*



Generosity
my response
to grace



**Church Fellowship Night at The Railyard
Thursday, September 28 – 5:30 p.m.**

Let's relax together and enjoy a meal!



Healthy Food Drive!

During the month of September, Bounty & Soul is conducting a community Healthy Food Drive. Our church will partner with Bounty & Soul in helping to provide healthy food for those in need in our area. All donations may be left in the designated area in the parlor. Please do not bring any items that are perishable or require refrigeration. Bounty & Soul is very specific in what they donate to their clients in regards to sugar content so please read food labels carefully for cereals, nut butters, snacks and beverages. Thank you for your support of this community drive.

Thank you for supporting our community!



www.bountyandsoul.org

Healthy Food Drive items

Thank you for helping us nourish our community with healthy, nutritious food!

Canned or Dried Beans: black, kidney, garbanzo, navy, white northern

Dried Lentils: brown, red, green

Canned Vegetables (low sodium): corn, beans, peas, spinach, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, coconut milk

Grains: quinoa, brown or black rice, oats (old fashioned), whole grain or gluten-free pasta, whole grain or gluten free bread

Plant Proteins: tofu, tempeh, hemepeh, plant-based yogurts (almond, coconut, etc)

Soups/Broth: soup (organic, if possible), vegetable broth

Condiments: extra virgin olive oil, unrefined coconut oil, raw apple cider vinegar, balsamic vinegar, salsa, whole grain or dijon mustard, olives

Snacks: gluten-free crackers, trail mix, nuts, seeds, low sugar granola bars (less than 8 grams sugar/bar), dried fruits

Nut Butters: almond butter, natural peanut butter, tahini, sunflower butter (limited ingredients, no sugar added)

Beverages: shelf-stable unsweetened non-dairy milk (almond, coconut, flax, soy, etc), seltzer water, low sugar coconut water (less than 10 grams/serving)

Cereals (void of high fructose corn syrup): whole grain, less than 8 grams sugar/serving,

Optional: Organic/Gluten Free

September birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Ron Botsford | 15 Deb Mullis |
| 2 Betty Lou Jeffrey | Anne Drummond |
| 3 Rita Cruse | 18 Carly Campbell |
| Ava Banzhoff | 22 Wilma Leary |
| 4 Samuel Edwards | Kevin Baker |
| 8 Yvette Ballard | 23 Helen Davies |
| Billy Robinson | Luke Hewitt |
| Tania Griffin | River Goins |
| 9 Nancy Poling | 25 Holly Childs |
| 10 Betsy Ray | Nancy Ellington |
| 11 Karen Austin | 26 Gracie Corn |
| Maddie Pomeroy | Rick Spielman |
| Tommy Wilkinson | 27 Jerone Herring |
| 12 Jane Bannerman | Steve Coward |
| Wink Ingersoll | Elizabeth Hunnicutt |
| 13 Grace Hunnicutt | 28 Sue Smith |
| Nan Clarke | 30 Cindy Hile |
| 14 Rosie Johnson | Bill Cox |
| Anthony Lee | Julie Culpepper |
| Larry Berglund | Laura Robinson-Long |

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH Co-sponsored by Black Mountain Counseling Center

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

TEENS & SUICIDE PREVENTION

Thursday, September 7

6:00-7:30 p.m. in the nave at St. James

Join us during Suicide Prevention month with
professional key note speakers:



GEORGE RINKER

MS, MDiv, LPC

Staff Counselor at Black Mountain
Counseling Center, Pastor,
Former Youth Minister



BUFFY WEATHINGTON

LPC and Owen Middle School
Guidance Counselor

Facilitated by:
The Rev. Judith Whelchel

SVCM Donations

Fall is a good time to recommit to regular SVCM donations. Our traditional "Can-in-Each-Hand" has evolved with the needs of the SVCM community to personal items – "a bar of soap in each hand?" Needs include all sorts of items, like toothbrushes and toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo (family size), laundry soap (pods are easy to distribute) and other hygiene items that allow people to maintain their health and dignity.



Extended Communion

Would you like Communion brought to you or a family member because they have been unable to get to church lately? Just let your deacon or a pastor know!

BMPC is bringing back a program of extending the sacrament on a Sunday that we celebrate Communion. When requested, deacons will make an appointment for that day (or another day if more convenient) and you will be served by intinction in your home.

If you have been unable to gather with us in person, we understand, but we miss you! Contact your deacon or a pastor if you would like the Lord's Supper and it will be a privilege to bring it to you!



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

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828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727
www.bmpcnc.org

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

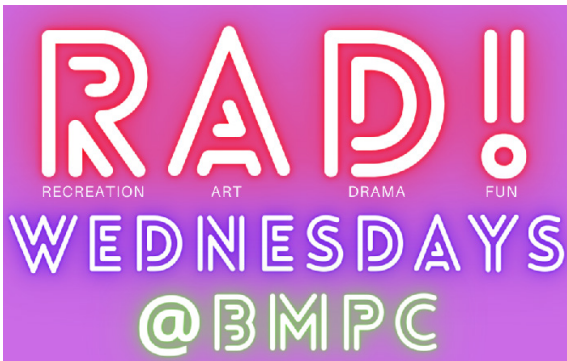


an Earth Care Congregation



BMPC Child Protection Policy

providing a safe environment for children & youth



Want a time for your
kids to connect and
play? Join us for
RAD! Wednesdays
September 6–November 8

This is a time for recreation, arts, drama, music, fellowship and more! This program is for children four years old through fifth grade. We will meet weekly on Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Our focus will be learning the story of Noah's Ark.

Church bus transportation will be provided for children who attend Black Mountain Primary/Elementary and Art Space Charter School. **Register at bmpcnc.org** and please indicate in the registration if your child will be riding the bus and which school they attend.