



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

April 2024



SOWING THE SEEDS HARVESTING THE FRUITS

In response to the glorious news of Easter, Black Mountain Presbyterian Church's session is excited to announce a final season to our capital campaign! **Sowing the Seeds: Harvesting the Fruits** is an investment in the future for our church and beyond. This is the bold vision that began at Black Mountain in August 2020 as we first began to raise funds for our capital projects – and continues today as we celebrate and harvest the fruits of all the glorious changes our renovations have brought us.

As we enjoy our mission and ministries in our updated church facilities, we believe this is the right time to complete the work started four years ago with *Sowing the Seeds: Planting our Future*. At that time, BMPC committed itself to raising most of the project's costs upfront through the *Sowing the Seeds* campaign – which was done through the extraordinary generosity of all of you.

With the physical space complete, it is time to


focus on securing our financial future. The goal of this final phase is \$550,000, which will retire the debt we incurred due to rising building costs, unforeseen change orders, and creating more accessible spaces in the sanctuary and bathrooms. Paying off the debt will enable us to grow and continue to thrive for the next forty years.

Harvesting The Fruits will pave the way for BMPC's vibrant future and empower the congregation to continue to be a thriving presence in our community for generations to come. On April 21, our co-chairs for *Sowing the Seeds*, Mary Carroll Dodd and Bill Waterstradt, will publicly kick off phase three in worship, and on May 5, we will dedicate our commitments at all three of our worship services.

How wonderful it will be to head into our summer season knowing that we, as a congregation, will have commitments in hand to pay off our debt by the end of 2025!

APRIL

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

Sunday	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1 Office Closed Weekday School spring break all week	2 PW Circles 1:30p Staff Mtg 5:30p Girl Scouts 6p Women's AA Mtg 7p Prophets Rehearsal	3 11:30a Old Fellers Lunch 6:30p Youth Group 6:45p Joy Circle 7p Choir Rehearsal 8p Men's Prayer Group	4	5	6 9:30a Bounty & Soul Yoga 10:30a Tai Chi 2p Art DeJong Memorial Service
7 8:45a FirstLight 9:45a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 2p Handbells 2p Youth Group	8 1p Earth Care Book 2p Worship Team 4p Cong. Life Team 5:15p Faith Formation 5:30p Property, Strategic Planning 7p H&W, Misn., Pers.	9 1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Women's AA Mtg 6:30p Lydia Circle 7p Prophets Rehearsal	10 11:30a Old Fellers Lunch 3p RAD! Wednesdays 5p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth Group 7p Choir Rehearsal	11 6p Mens' Group	12 5:30p Kids Night In	13 9:30a Bounty & Soul Yoga 10:30a Tai Chi
14 8:45a FirstLight 9:30a Festival of Gifts in Fellowship Hall 11a Worship 2p Youth Group 5:30p Sunday Night Live	15 1p Earth Care Book Study	16 1:30p Staff Mtg 5:30p Girl Scouts 6p Women's AA Mtg 7p Prophets Rehearsal 7:30p Mama's Group	17 11:30a Old Fellers 3p RAD! Wednesdays 5p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth Group 7p Choir Rehearsal	18 3p Book Club with Ina Hughs	19	20 9:30a Bounty & Soul Yoga 10:30a Tai Chi
21 8:45a FirstLight 9:45a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 12p Discovery Class 2p Handbells 3p Route 45/Youth	22 1p Earth Care Book Study 6p Session	23 1:30p Staff Mtg 6p Women's AA Mtg 6:30p Lydia Circle 7p Prophets Rehearsal	24 11:30a Old Fellers 3p RAD! Wednesdays 5p Spaghetti Dinner 6:30p Youth Group 7p Choir Rehearsal	25	26	27 9:30a Bounty & Soul Yoga 10:30a Tai Chi
28 8:45a FirstLight 9:45a Faith Formation 10a Family Worship 11a Worship 2p Handbells 2p Youth Group	29 1p Earth Care Book Study 7p Beer and Hymns at White Horse	30 1p PW Coordinating 1:30p Staff Mtg 2:15p PW Bible Study 5:30p Girl Scouts 6p Women's AA Mtg 7p Prophets		<h2>Discovery Class – Sunday, April 21</h2> <p>12:00 p.m. in fellowship hall Lunch provided and child-care available upon request. Sign up at bmpcnc.org</p>		

Deadline for the May Window newsletter is Monday, April 15

Sunday Night Live Spring Bird Migration in Western North Carolina

On Sunday April 14, at 5:30 p.m., the Congregational Life Team is sponsoring a potluck dinner followed by a fascinating presentation by James Poling. The title of his program is "Spring Bird Migration in Western North Carolina." Dozens of tropical birds come through western North Carolina in the spring. Some nest in our mountains, and some continue their journey to the northern U.S. and Canada. April and May are peak times to observe the colorful plumages of the breeding cycle. Since retirement, in 2008, James has become a Blue Ridge Naturalist and is a member of the Blue Ridge Audubon Society, and the Western Carolina Botanical Club. He will share some of his bird photography of recent years.

James is a member of our church. He spent his career as a pastor, professor, scholar, and writer, most recently at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

This is a program that has been praised for its beauty and educational value. It is one that both children and adults will love.

Faith & FILM

Throughout the summer, BMPC will delve into a series we're calling Faith & Film. On Wednesday evenings in June and July, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., we'll be showing a motion picture in our fellowship hall. Because of the length of some of the films we'll start shortly after 5:30 p.m. and run the movie until its conclusion. Then, we'll have a few minutes for group discussion about how the film can speak to our faith. We recognize the time might fall during some members' dinner time, so we encourage you to feel free to bring dinner with you. We will have light refreshments. Our pastors will be preaching on the theological and faith connections of the film on the following Sunday!

During the month of April we will have a box in the narthex where members can submit movie titles you'd especially like to see and hear more about. We look forward to this exciting series this summer!

Festival of Gifts

Sunday, April 14 – Fellowship Hall

Stop in from 9:30-11:00 a.m. and 12-12:30 p.m. to learn more about the work of the different church Ministry Teams and how you can get involved and share your gifts. No Faith Formation programming on this day.



Bob Tuttle's Sabbatical

May 25-July 28, 2024

Message from the Personnel Committee

Parish Associate Bob Tuttle is in his seventh year of service at BMPC. And it is time for Bob to take a sabbatical! We all appreciate Bob for the tremendous ways in which he leads us in member care. We are extremely grateful for his service to our deacons as well. Bob will take a two month sabbatical this summer from May 25 through July 28. The sabbatical is in line with the rules spelled out in the BMPC personnel manual.

The Personnel Committee is excited to extend this opportunity to Bob. While away on sabbatical, Bob will travel, rest, refresh, spend time with Pat, and enjoy his children and grandchildren. Pastor and Head of Staff, Mary Katherine Robinson, will be leading our member care with our deacons this summer.

What if I need to reach Bob during his sabbatical?

Bob's sabbatical begins on May 25 and he will return to the church on August 1. He will not be checking email during his sabbatical and he will not read emails from the time he is away. All emails sent during his sabbatical will be deleted prior to his return. Bob will also not be answering texts. He will not be attending any BMPC worship services, as well as any church functions.

Please remember to reach out to pastors, Mary Katherine and David, staff members, session and deacon members with questions, especially with any pastoral concerns you may have.



Spaghetti Dinners
Wednesday
Nights

April 10-May 22
5:00-6:15 p.m.

Help is needed with set-up, cooking, serving, washing dishes, and clean-up. Suggested donation is \$5/per person, \$3 for children three and under, or \$20/per family. However, it is a pay-what-you-can event and everyone is welcome. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are available. Please RSVP weekly online, on the sign-up sheet outside fellowship hall, or by calling the office (669-2725). Or click the image above if you are viewing this online.

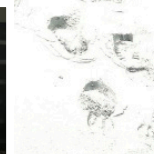
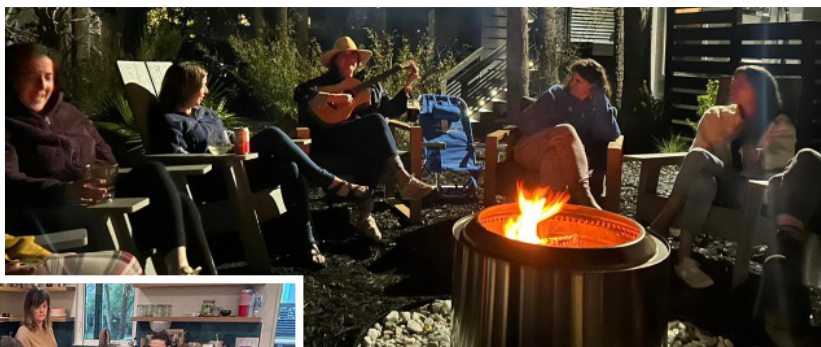


Hope for Tomorrow

Our efforts to refurbish the SVCM Hope for Tomorrow unit continue as many have donated needed items to set up household for a new family. We hope to have the home complete by mid April, and your kind donations are making this possible. Special thanks to the Lydia Circle, the BMPC Mission team, and all who have added to the Hope For Tomorrow Hope Chest. The Sign up Genius online and the paper list next to the donation site will indicate the last bits and pieces still needed. Thanks to all for your generosity and care for the family who will be given a chance for a new life in a comfortable home.

MAMA'S GROUP

a time of fellowship and deep discussions about parenting, marriage, and faith that meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the church house.



BMPC YOUTH

March 31 – April 7
No Youth Group

in APRIL

WEDNESDAY 10 – Small Groups, 6:30-7:30pm

SUNDAY 14 – Donut Olympics 2-4pm

WEDNESDAY 17 – Small Groups 6:30-7:30pm

SUNDAY 21 – Nerf or Nothin' 3-5pm

WEDNESDAY 24 – Small Groups 6:30-7:30pm

SUNDAY 28 – Field Games Welch Field 2-4pm



Duct Tape Fun



Youth had their second annual Chopped Cooking Competition

Beginning April 21, rising sixth graders will be invited to get involved with youth group during our recreation events. This will help them transition and be comfortable as we move into summer and fall programming.

Friends are welcome!

Scavenger Hunt in downtown Black Mountain



Small Groups Cross Activity



Thank you
for all the
support
with our
Egg My
Yard
fundraiser!

Food and Fellowship – SAVE THE DATE You Can't Beat It

Don't want to cook or maybe just want to socialize?
Come to Foothills Grange on Monday, May 14, at 5:30 p.m.
There's no program and we encourage everyone to come
– families, singles, couples, and anyone else. Grange has a
special every Monday – a burger, drink, and fries for \$12.

We hope to see you there!

Men's Groups at BMPC

Old Fellers

Weekly Lunch Fellowship

Wednesdays 11:30-12:30 p.m. at designated restaurant

Contact Mike Ballard 828-775-3850

Men's Fellowship

Monthly Fellowship and Discussion

Second Thursday of the month 6-8 p.m. at designated location

Contact Ken Kelly 828-772-1128 or Mike Ballard 828-775-3850

Men's Prayer Group

Weekly Prayers

Wednesdays 8:00-9 p.m. at the Church House

Contact Ken Patton 828-713-9715

Dad's Fire Circle

Monthly Fellowship and Discussion

First Wednesday of the month 7:30-9:00 p.m.
at designated outdoor location

Contact David Carter Florence 404-550-2115



Presbyterian Women

**Circles meet
Tuesday, April 2**

Dorcas

10:00 a.m. Church House

Esther

10:30 a.m. Highland Farms
Margaret room in Brookside bldg.

Naomi

3:00 p.m. Library

Priscilla

10:00 a.m. CR1

Ruth

1:30 p.m. Highland Farms
Margaret room in Brookside bldg.

Wednesday, April 3

Joy

6:30 p.m. CR2

Tuesday, April 9

Lydia

6:30 p.m. Church House

For more information, contact:
Barbara Brinson (716) 307-9054
Ann Wilde (713) 851-5418

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

www.presbyterianwomen.org

Springtime brings anticipation

as the new growing season cranks up! BMPC and First Baptist Church look forward to seeing how our joint garden patch will grow healthy vegetables for our neighbors who struggle to feed their families.

The garden began in 2004 in the backyard of one of the members of the Baptist Church, but in 2007, needing more space, members plowed up a space 90' x 90' on the church property, in the space where the playground for the Donald Collins early learning center is now located.

In 2012 the Earth Care Team from Black Mountain Presbyterian Church began partnering with the Baptist Church, and the project became the Black Mountain Ecumenical Garden. In 2018 construction at the Learning Center forced the garden to relocate, where it is now a 60' x 20' plot at the corner of Midland Avenue and First

Street. The mission of the garden is "to be good stewards of the land and to provide healthy fresh vegetables to our neighbors in the Swannanoa Valley with God's help."

When vegetables are harvested they are usually distributed through Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry and Bounty & Soul.

This year the garden needs more help as members of the gardening team have grown older and experienced health issues. People are needed to perform the different planting, weeding, and harvesting tasks. Gardening is a great activity for families to do together and a basic life skill for young people to learn alongside older adults. Typically, work days ("garden parties") are flexible and built around volunteer schedules, growing season, and the weather. A "garden party" might begin in the early morning or early evening to avoid the heat, and last less than an hour depending on volunteer availability. There are also ways volunteers could come on their own time to help with weeding, mulching, and harvesting. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own garden tools, gloves, protection from the weather and water to drink. — Jeannie Franklin, Earth Care team

Solar Panel Report

We are sorry to report that there has been no communication between the solar panels and solaredge.com, the app that lets us know our energy imported from the sun, since February 2. Haynes Electric tech has told us the wires to try, in order to restore communication, but we have nothing to report yet for this month.



Many thanks to Abigail,
owner of Bloom WNC,
for providing beautiful
flowers in the narthex on
Sunday mornings.

If you have met a visitor at church and weren't sure what to say, here are a few ideas.

Try these starter questions as you navigate milling in the sanctuary before and after worship, or during fellowship time:

- My name is XYZ – what's your name?
- What keeps you busy during the week?
- How did you find this church?
- Do you know anyone who attends this church?
- How long have you been in the area?
- (After an interest or expertise arises in the conversation) Have you met (name of a person in the congregation who shares the interest or expertise)?

Library News *from Sally Woodard*

Welcome to a new volunteer for the library – MeLisa Pressley. I am especially grateful for Melisa's offer to assist me, especially with the cataloging of a box of books on Creation Care. These were generously donated by Carl and Jeannie Franklin and were previously located in CR1. Since BMPC has a special interest in preserving the resources of our planet, these volumes are a great addition to our collection. If you are on the Earth Care Team or simply want to be a good steward of the earth which God has given us, please stop by and browse the shelf labeled CREATION CARE.

Of course, the library contains many other

topics of interest. For those who are serious about Bible study, there are commentaries, as well as Bible dictionaries, atlases, and a variety of translations. All of these may be found on the shelves at the left as you come into the library. If you have not been in the library since renovation, do stop by to see the new furniture and the refurbished shelves. The first comment that I have heard as members have dropped by is "How beautiful!"

Again, heartfelt thanks to MeLisa, who will be helping in many ways to keep the BMPC library a very good resource for the congregation.

April birthdays

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

Mission Update Towel Collection

Thanks for the many generous gifts of towels for AHOPE Day Center in Asheville. Eleven large bags and two packed boxes (over 150 towels and washcloths) were delivered Tuesday, March 19. Your contributions will give comfort for those who otherwise have few luxuries in their lives.



pre-youth program for fourth and fifth graders

Sunday, April 21

3:00-5:00pm

We will join the MS/HS youth for a Nerf battle in fellowship hall!

Please note the time change for this event.

Dear Black Mountain Presbyterian Church Family,

Thank you for the generous contribution to our Dr. Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund. The students who receive scholarships are most grateful. We hope to see you next year at our annual event. There were choir members from your church who sang and we are grateful Aaron Price played the piano.

Come join our next meeting if you are interested on Tuesday, April 2, at 5:30 at Mills Chapel.

Sincerely,

MLK Event Team – Barbara Gaw, *Board Member*



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

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www.bmpcnc.org

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Monday through Friday
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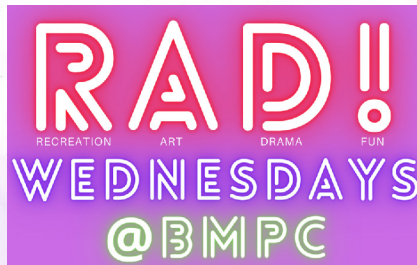
an Earth Care Congregation



BMPC Child Protection Policy
providing a safe environment for children & youth



MATTHEW 25



April 10 through May 22 – 3:00-5:30pm

We will learn about Fruits of the Spirit and prepare for Children's Worship on Sunday, May 19. Children age four through sixth grade are welcome. Our church bus picks up at BMP, BME, and ArtSpace.

Register at bmpcnc.org