

# BMPC Window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter



April 2018

## A More Meaningful Easter

Do you ever feel like you're going through the motions of life? You know you are doing what is right, or at least trying to, but more because it's the next thing on the list. You are trying to accomplish some set of expectations that you have made up in your mind, all the while not feeling much of anything... all the while making "going through the motions" what life is about – and forgetting (or not ever really knowing) how to live?

Throughout this Lenten season when I've been intentional about keeping Sabbath, I've realized how often my life feels like I'm in some rat race spinning in a wheel that I can't get off! To all external measures, I am being a faithful woman; I am doing it all fairly well. I am responsible; I am caring and loving. I am following the "agenda" of the day and making things happen.

Even as an adult, I have a tendency to respond to Easter in the same way, by "going through the motions." The Flowering of The Cross, the beautiful Sunday morning dresses worn by our children, the joy and celebration and the beauty of the day can sometimes seem hollow to me. Often I find myself asking these questions: How can I awaken to the real meaning of Easter? How can I make Christ's resurrection truly mean something in my life? How can I be changed?

Even as we witness the power of resurrection in people and events, extending

from Christ's time to ours, and as we feel the stirring of new life as it invades the dead places, the "going through the motion" places of our souls, we face a new hurdle: our own reluctance to receive it.

So, what does it mean to live as Easter people, fully alive and awake to God's resurrecting news in our lives? It does not mean that we are here on Easter Sunday morning to maintain a tradition or to remember a dead guy from the past. This Jesus is loose in the real world and he connects to real people. He wants us to know him, to see him, to engage him outside the tombs of hopelessness or meaningless – where the facts say he's not there. Jesus is at work in the lives of real people. Christ is eager to break free, yet again, from the tomb and create again the resurrection joy of Easter in our lives. This is good news indeed!

As we respond to the good news of resurrection in our lives, do not respond with reluctance but throw yourself whole heartedly into being alive! Christ is risen! The mortality that at times defines us, the losses that haunt us, the shadows that loom before our way, are rolled away with the stone. May God bless us on our Easter journey of discovery and commitment. We are free to live our lives as Easter people.

Thanks be to God!

*Mary Katherine*

# APRIL

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1 EASTER</b> <b>8:30a</b> FirstLight <b>9:30a</b> Easter Brunch <b>11a</b> Worship	2 Church Office Closed  <b>7p</b> Earth Care	3 PW Circles	4	5 <b>1:30p</b> Red Cross Blood Drive	6	7
<b>Weekday School Spring Break</b>						
8 <b>8:30a</b> FirstLight <b>9:40a</b> Church School <b>9:40a</b> Inquirers' Class <b>11a</b> Worship  <b>5p</b> Bells	9  <b>6:45p</b> Ministry Teams	10  <b>7p</b> Guatemala <b>7p</b> Prophets	11 <b>1:30p</b> Stewardship  <b>5:30p</b> Potluck Bible Study <b>7p</b> Choir	12 <b>1:30p</b> Sewing Ministry	The deadline for the <b>May Window newsletter</b> <b>Monday, April 16.</b>	
15 <b>8:30a</b> FirstLight <b>9:40a</b> Church School <b>9:40a</b> Inquirers' Class <b>11a</b> Worship <b>3p</b> Parent/Youth Opiod <b>5p</b> Bells	16 Window Deadline	17  <b>7p</b> Prophets	18  <b>5:30p</b> Strategic <b>5:30p</b> Potluck Bible Study <b>7p</b> Choir	19  <b>5:30p</b> Thursday Night Live	20  HS Youth leave for Camping Trip @ Table Rock	21
22 <b>8:30a</b> FirstLight <b>9:40a</b> Church School <b>9:40a</b> Inquirers' Class <b>11a</b> Worship <b>4p</b> MS Youth/SkyZone <b>5p</b> Bells	23  <b>6p</b> Session	24 <b>1p</b> PW Bible Study <b>2:15p</b> PW Coordinating  <b>7p</b> Prophets	25  <b>5:30p</b> Potluck Bible Study <b>7p</b> Choir	26 <b>9:30a</b> Widow's Tale Retreat  <b>1:30p</b> Sewing Ministry	27 <b>7a</b> HS Youth Breakfast Club	28 <b>10a-7:30p</b> MS & HS Youth Presbytery Adventure Day @ Camp Grier
29 <b>8:30a</b> FirstLight <b>9:40a</b> Church School <b>11a</b> Worship <b>3:30p</b> Guatemala <b>5p</b> Bells	30  <b>7p</b> Child Safety Meeting					

This photo is from our nursery on Palm Sunday. We are averaging about 15 children each week. A huge thank you to all the volunteers that are helping out. **We are always looking for volunteers.** Please speak to Alice Patton if you would like to be a part of this great team!

# HOPE FOR TOMORROW

The Mission Ministry Team is partnering with SVCM in the “**Hope for Tomorrow**” project along with many other local churches. You may have seen the small housing units under construction just outside the Montreat Gate on the left side of the road. This project is designed to provide transitional housing and support services for homeless women and their children. There will be eight one-bedroom and two two-bedroom apartments with one of the one-bedroom apartments to be occupied by a resident manager. SVCM is currently working on an application process and with the help of Owen District guidance counselors, will identify appropriate clients. None of the apartments will be occupied, however, until all ten units are finished. Occupancy is scheduled for May or June.

We have been asked to provide “soft furnishings” (bed linens, kitchen and bathroom supplies, etc.) for a one-bedroom apartment. We will store collected items in the church house. There may be opportunities to

donate furniture as well. Stay tuned, as this is a work in progress! We may also need some strong hands and backs to help move or load heavy items.

A table will be set up in the narthex on two Sundays, April 8 and 15, where you can ask questions about donating items and/or make monetary donations. Go to <http://bmpcnc.org/hope/> on the BMPC website where you can pledge to bring certain items. We ask that if you donate used items they be very gently used and personal items such as sheets and towels be new. Any money donated will be used to purchase items for which we have not yet gotten pledges.

There is great excitement among the churches who are participating in this project! For more information, questions can be directed to any of these team members: Scottie Cannon (273-1015), Grace Stitt (669-9492), Michele Rhoten (208-329-9040) or Betsy Murphy (707-8736) as well as members of the Mission Team.

## Inquirers' Classes

**Sundays, April 8, 15, and 22, 9:40 a.m.**

Are you interested in becoming more involved in the life of this community? Would you like to know more about the core beliefs of the Presbyterian tradition? Do you have questions about our life together that you'd like to discuss?

Please call or email Mary Katherine if you are interested in participating, or have any questions (669-2725, ext. 1111, or [mk@bmpcnc.org](mailto:mk@bmpcnc.org)).

## Thursday Night Live

**April 19, 5:30 p.m.**

**“No Way to Treat a Child:  
Palestinian Children and  
Israeli Occupation”**

presenter, David Kaylor

Meal cost \$8 (Pepperoni's Pizza)

**Please sign up in the narthex or  
by calling the office, 669-2725  
by April 16.**

# A Widow's Tale Retreat

Here at BMPC

Thursday, April 26, 9:30-4:30

Led by Donna Marie Todd, grief recovery specialist and member of BMPC.

Cost \$25. Registration due April 15.

Forms in the narthex. For more info see or call Ginny Soll, 669-2725.



## From the Earth Care Team...

Many of us heard Eileen Shea, retired NOAA scientist, lead a response to a documentary on climate change at Thursday Night Live last fall and her MCCALL class, titled "Climate and Society," this winter. Ms. Shea, whose career encompassed providing services in climate science, climate adaptation, community resilience, sustainability, and public policy, urges people not to become paralyzed by thinking "It's too late. There's nothing I can do."

She and other scientists agree that if we were to stop burning all fossil fuels today, the earth will continue to warm for the next 40 or 50 years. However, our immediate sacrificial efforts to conserve will impact the future. It is possible to start moving the needle in the other direction, slowing and eventually stopping the rate of warming. This is good news! Everything we do now to save energy will make the future better. BMPC is on the right path, using solar power and installing energy-efficient lighting.

## LIBRARY NOTES

**Black Mountain Presbyterian Church is very blessed to have so many talented members.** Some people are preachers and teachers, some are cooks and dishwashers, some are seamstresses and maintenance workers, some are greeters and ushers, some are artists and musicians,



and many are volunteers and organizers. Furthermore, some folks are writers. The featured books this month are all written by people in our church. Peruse these books to see the various types and topics. Also, if anyone else has had a book or books published and is willing to have a copy placed in our collection, we all would be delighted.

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## Tuesday, April 2 Circle meetings

### Dorcas

Carol Cauthen – 10:00 a.m.  
6 Wagon Trail, Highland Farms

### Esther

Dee Cox – 10:00 a.m.  
23 Wagon Trail, Highland Farms

### Hannah

Linda Stroupe – 10:00 a.m.  
Library at church

### Naomi

4:30 p.m.  
Library at church

### Priscilla

Pat Newbold – 10:00 a.m.  
D-59, Highland Farms

### Rebekah

2:30 p.m.  
The Lodge, Highland Farms

### Ruth

1:30 p.m.  
CR1 at church

## Tuesday, April 24

1:00 p.m.

Bible Study, Library

2:15 p.m.

Coordinating Team, CR1

## In our 2018 February/April Presbyterian Women Quarterly Newsletter,

our National PW Moderator wrote, “As women of PW, we are called to make a commitment to worship and study, service and mission, advocacy and peace, building inclusive caring community and supporting the PC(USA).” This is basically the PW purpose, paraphrased. She went on to quote Hillary Mohaupt’s words that women used to describe their PW, “passionate, generous, loving, prayerful, stubborn, creative, sustaining, hope-giving, faithful, effective, caring, serving, brave, courageous.” As Moderator of BMPC Presbyterian Women I can say that these words describe the Circles of our church. There are so many blessings in participating in a Circle. – *Connie Schimpf*

## MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Gene Schimpf and Ronald Vaughan will join a group on a Kairos prison ministry April 26-29 at Marion Correctional Institute. The ministry allows us to convey that every person incarcerated is a child of God worthy of love and grace. **There is an opportunity for BMPC members to help without actually going into the prison.** Pray for the Kairos weekend, the participants and team members. The link for the Prayer Vigil is: <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=14257&commid=1474>. A special closing is open to the public. If anyone wants to visit the closing service on Sunday, April 29, at 2:00 pm at the prison, let me know, so I can make arrangements with the prison. If you have any questions how you can help please call Gene Schimpf at 669-1931.

## Facebook Sharing

Are you sharing your Easter pictures with family and friends on Facebook? Are you excited about the Mission trip and sharing pics? Maybe just catching up with a friend at Wednesday night Bible Study? Now you can frame your picture with a BMPC frame. Anyone that has liked BMPC on Facebook can find the frame under effects as they are preparing the picture to post! This is a great way to share the amazing family that we have at BMPC and welcome visitors.

## *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*

By Kate Bowler

*Professor of Religion at Duke Divinity School*

What happens when life is going your way with your dream job, your loving spouse, and your young son, and you are diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer? “Kate realized that she had been tacitly subscribing to the prosperity gospel, living with the conviction that she can control the shape of her life with a ‘surge of determination.’” What does it mean to die in a society that says everything happens for a reason. Where is God? How does this all work? Kate tells the story of how she is learning to live with dying and to see life in a whole new way. She gives us a window into how we can live and walk faithfully during the hard times.

**Ellen McClintock, Betsy Murphy, and Pat Tuttle will co-facilitate this book on April 8, 15, & 22 in the Faith Builders class in the Parlor at 9:35 a.m. Please join us.**

You can learn more about Kate Bowler at [katebowler.com](http://katebowler.com). Please order your book through ways you like to order. Amazon has both the book and the Kindle edition. Jane Bannerman also has books at Montreat General Store. Share a book with someone, but read it, and lets get started with our discussion.



## **April** Adult Church School

There will be a brunch at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday (no Church School)

**Becomers Class** meets in Library

- 8** Matthew 9, *Jesus and the Undesirables*
- 15** Matthew 10, *Twelve Sent on a Missionary Trip*
- 22** Matthew 11, *John the Baptist Doubts*
- 29** Matthew 12, *Breaking the Law*

**Bible Exploration** meets in CR-2

study of book of Timothy I & II

**Biblical Perspectives** meets in CR-1

- 8** Gene Schimpf, *Serving Christ in Prison*
- 15** Rick Hughes, *My Life and Ministry*
- 22** Cam Murchison, *Caring for the Earth*
- 29** TBA

**Faith Builders** meets in Parlor

- 8** Book Study Part 1 of 3 (*see column on left*)
- 15** Book Study Part 2 of 3
- 22** Book Study Part 3 of 3
- 29** Florence Shelor shares her faith journey

## **Life-giving water flows for this village.**

This new well was installed October 23, 2017 in the village of Kaboneka, Malawi and will serve 280 people. To learn more, talk to Jessi Stitt who helped make this happen with Marion Medical Mission, or see brochure on the kiosk in the narthex.

## Bread for the World

Sunday, May 6, we will have copies of letters for you to write or sign as the 2019 budget needs to protect the programs that are now in place.

See **breadfortheworld.org** for information about world hunger.

## APRIL birthdays

- |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|
| 2  | Betty Hill  | 17 | Helen Sheorn  |
| 3  | Bridget Leary   | 18 | Brianna Beupre<br>Pearl Hall<br>Camryn Davidson               |
| 4  | Brittany Williams   | 20 | Carla Sperry<br>Margaret Waterstradt<br>Ann Bell<br>Jake Rash |
| 5  | Kiersten Edwards<br>Ethan Banks   | 21 | Vance Stiles  |
| 6  | Bill Gilliland<br>McCain Farish   | 22 | Mary McElrath<br>Ally Gudeman<br>Xander Dodd                  |
| 7  | Frances Kennedy<br>Bill Mohr  | 23 | Glenn Bannerman<br>Karen Smith<br>Thomas McElwee              |
| 8  | Jane Collins<br>Devin Carswell  | 24 | Margaret Fouse<br>Jayne Vaughan                               |
| 9  | Tommy Hay<br>Ann Herring<br>Ginny Lindsey   | 25 | Susan Hensley   |
| 10 | Mike Morse<br>Melzer Morgan<br>April Roy<br>Lily Morgan<br>Graham Roy             | 26 | Samuel Baraki<br>Mary Katherine Robinson                      |
| 11 | Susan Jumper<br>Chad Williams<br>Grace Drummond<br>Joy Drummond<br>Rylan Van Note | 28 | Chloe Stiles  |
| 13 | Dwight Stobbs   | 29 | Ken Farmer<br>Shay Parker<br>Maya Fleagle                     |
| 14 | Cathy Skeen<br>Diana Soileau  | 30 | Connie Schimpf<br>Emma Bell<br>Ayden Mohr                     |
| 16 | Edward Smith  |    |   |

## Thank You

Dear friends,

My entire family is so very grateful for your love and care during this time of grieving and celebrating the life of my mother, Gin Pharr. The gifts of food, cards, flowers, hugs have been a huge support.

Thank you for being such an amazing church family that cares deeply and knows how to show it.

Love,  
Ginny Soll

## Red Cross CPR First Aid Class



Eight church members completed the Red Cross Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED course on Sunday, March 11. These folks will be part of the emergency response team here at BMPC. If you would like to be a part of the team, contact Dr. Rick Hughes. Thanks to Rick for organizing this effort!

## Not getting BMPC emails?

Check "spam" and "junk" folders. Let us know if your contact information has changed. Call Jackie in the church office, 669-2725 or email [jackie@bmpcnc.org](mailto:jackie@bmpcnc.org)

# Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

117 Montreat Road, PO Box 39  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727  
bmpcnc.org

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an Earth Care Congregation



**BMPC Child Protection Policy**

*providing a safe environment for children & youth*



## BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church has recently received a very generous gift of \$50,000 to finally establish our Property Fund. The same donors are challenging our congregation to pledge an additional \$50,000 gift in 2018, which the donors will match with an additional gift of \$50,000. This will bring the total of our Property Fund to \$150,000.

Challenging God's people to give and care for a place of worship is rooted in the traditions of our reformed faith. In Exodus 35 the Israelite people were told to build a place of worship. These former slaves met the challenge and gave so generously that they went beyond what was needed. The Endowment Board is asking you to match this generous gift, and maybe like the Israelites go beyond our goal!

If you have not seen our brochure with more information, please pick one up in the narthex. It contains a form to assist in your giving.

**“For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable  
according to what one has.” – II Corinthians 8:12**