

# BMPC Window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter



May 2018

## Dear BMPC Family,

I want to share some exciting and happy news with you. In late August, I will be retiring and ending my time as your Director of Christian Education and Nurture.

I realize that some of you may be surprised because you think I am so young! But, I am definitely old enough. Terry and I have been praying over this decision for some time and my extended family fully supports this decision.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your educator. Thank you for loving me through cancer. Thank you for loving me through the loss of both of my parents. I am so very grateful.

We came to Black Mountain in June of 2000, eighteen years ago. What a wonderful long expanse of time to be in ministry here through many transitions! The most amazing privilege has been to watch children grow in faith and to build deep friendships with so very many of you.

I love being a member of this congregation. Terry and I are not moving away. We will take a few months to travel, but then we will be back volunteering in new ways.

In peace and deep gratitude,

In this season of Easter, as we decipher how we will respond to God's resurrection and grace in our lives, we each find ourselves in a time of discernment. After a period of deep Sabbath reflection over Lent, as followers of Christ we must ask ourselves the question: How can we best live out our lives as Easter people?

The best answer for me has always been a life of gratitude! And so, in this season of Easter, I come filled with gratitude for the work and faith of Ginny Soll. Ginny has served BMPC and shaped our congregation in such beautiful and life affirming ways as Christian Educator for eighteen years! I pray that in the next four months we may truly celebrate Ginny and the gifts that she has brought to this congregation. While our gratitude is mingled with sadness, I know all of you join me in wishing Ginny a joyful retirement as she and Terry begin this exciting next chapter in their lives.

The good news in the midst of this bittersweet moment is that Ginny shared her news with the Personnel and Strategic Ministry teams a few months ago and we have actively been preparing for her retirement. We are working on an exciting new staff structure that is aligned with our strategic goals and we are on the cusp of being able to share this plan with all of you.

Ginny's retirement does not mean that we will not see her or Terry as their current plans are to remain in Black Mountain and be members of our church. On Sunday, August 19, we will celebrate all that is wonderful, bright and lovely about Ginny! Please join me in giving thanks for the abundant years of ministry that Ginny has served in ministry with all of us here at BMPC.

In Gratitude to God,

# MAY

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<p><b>See page 6 for the May YOUTH calendar</b></p>		1 PW Circles  7p Prophets	2  5:30p Potluck Bible Study 7p Choir	3	<p>The deadline for the June Window newsletter Tuesday, May 15.</p>		
		6 New Members Join 8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Church School 11a Worship 12:15p Playground Picnic 5p Bells	7  5:30p Evangelism 7p Mission 7p Earth Care	8 9a Endowment  5p PW Dinner 7p Guatemala 7p Prophets	9  1:30p Stewardship 5:30p Potluck Bible Study 7p Choir	10 1:30p Sewing Ministry	11  6p New Members & Inquirers Cookout
13 Mothers Day 8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Church School 11a Worship  5p Bells	14  6:45p Ministry Teams	15 Window Deadline  7p Prophets	16  5:30p Strategic  7p Choir	17  6:30p Hymn Sing			
20 8:30a FirstLight 9:40a Church School 11a Worship  5p Bells	21  6p Session	22  7p Prophets	23  6:30p Youth Advisors Dinner 7p Choir	24  1:30p Sewing Ministry			25
27 9:15a FirstLight 11a Worship	28 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	29  7p Prophets	30  7p Choir	31  Wednesday Potluck/Bible Study In May: May 2 and 9 Summer dates: June 13, July 11, August 8			

## Summer Worship Hours begin Sunday, May 27

Church school breaks for summer and FirstLight begins at 9:15 a.m.

11:00 Worship will remain at 11:00 a.m.

# BUILDING OUR FUTURE

If you attended worship on March 18 you heard Scott Roy share the good news of a very generous gift of \$50,000 to finally establish our Endowment Property Fund. The same donors are challenging our congregation with an additional \$50,000 gift if matched by our church family this year. We are well on our way to this ambitious goal. As of April 18, nearly \$20,000 has been pledged or given by 19 individuals or families. Have you made your gift?

Our church home is an important asset entrusted to our care and stewardship. With this generous gift and challenge we are ensuring our building's future, and building a better future for our church family and the community we serve.

Your Endowment Board is asking our Church community to match this generous gift, and maybe like the Israelites go beyond our goal! Each person, each household, is challenged to seek God's will in determining a personal commitment.

“For if the eagerness is there,  
the gift is acceptable  
according to what one has.”

– II Corinthians 8:12

You can follow the link [bmpcnc.org/online-giving](http://bmpcnc.org/online-giving) or pick up a brochure and donation card in the narthex.

**Every gift matters and every gift will be doubled.  
We are Building Our Future. Thank you!**

## Endowment Ministry Team

Travis Childs; Bill Hollins; Jim Layman, Ellen McClintock, Gayle Petty-Johnson; Mary Katherine Robinson, ex-officio member; Scott Roy, chair; Pat Tuttle



*Alice Smith volunteering in the Giraffe Class in the Weekday School*

Not your  
typical  
HYMN Sing

**Thursday, May 17  
6:30 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

Come eat a yummy dessert then enjoy singing some of your favorite hymns. You will have a chance to request your favorite and will also hear some inspiring stories about a few hymns and their composers. Sponsored by the Nurture Ministry Team

# Your Letters Can Help End Hunger

## Bread For The World Sunday is May 6

Last year your letters and emails from our church and hundreds of others in the USA helped persuade Congress to fully fund key hunger and poverty programs. Handwritten letters are still the most effective way to make your voice heard in Washington, D.C. and your letter will be amplified by the tens of thousands of letters written by others as part of Bread for the World's 2018 Offering of Letters.

Please hand write a letter to the following Congress members listed regardless of your party. Your letters, emails, and phone calls provide possible support for anti-hunger and anti-poverty programs.

See sample letter on the right. You can bring your letters to church on May 6 or write letters on that Sunday as we will have paper and envelopes for you. Please know that a few minutes of your time can help feed the hungry globally just as Bounty and Soul, SVCM Ministry, and Open Table feed folks right here in Black Mountain.

## THANK YOU!

## Sample Letter

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ (senator or representative)

As Congress works on the fiscal year 2019 budget and spending bills, I ask you to invest in and protect key programs that will reduce hunger and poverty.

Our country and the world have made progress against hunger and poverty in recent decades. I want you to continue to invest in programs like SNAP and tax credits for low-income workers. Continued funding for programs that reduce hunger and poverty around the world are also important to me.

My faith calls me to urge you to make public investments that will move us toward the end of hunger.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_ (your name and address)

**Senator Thom Tillis**

185 Dirksen Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**Senator Richard Burr**

217 Russell Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Rep. Patrick Henry**

160 Midland Ave.  
Black Mountain, NC  
28711

## Tips for Writing Your Letters

1. Write your own letter and personally sign it.
2. Tell why you personally care about an issue.
3. Be specific. Identify the legislation you're writing about.
4. Thank your member of Congress when you approve of his or her actions.
5. Put your return address on the letter as well as the envelope.

See [breadfortheworld.org](http://breadfortheworld.org) for information about world hunger.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**Tuesday, May 1**  
**Circle meetings**

### **Dorcas**

11:00 a.m., carpool from  
church 10:40 a.m.

Gladys Brooks, 113 Mecklenburg Circle

### **Esther**

10:00 a.m., Gay Ferguson  
9 Rhododendron Road

### **Hannah**

10:00 a.m.

Jo Majka, E-2 Lynx Drive

### **Naomi**

4:30 p.m.

Library at church

### **Priscilla**

10:00 a.m.

The Lounge at church

### **Rebekah**

2:30 p.m.

The Lodge, Highland Farms

### **Ruth**

12:30 p.m.

Glenda McDaniel, CR1 at church

## All women of the church are invited to the **Presbyterian Women** **Spring Gathering/Birthday Program** **May 8, 5:00 p.m.**

Special Guest Speaker • Installation of Officers

Honorary Life Memberships awarded

Catered dinner – call church for reservations by May 3

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## Time to sign up for the **2018 Summer Nutrition** **Program**

### **What is the Summer Nutrition Program?**

It is a federally sponsored program that provides nutritious lunches to children during the summer months when school is not in session.

### **What can our church do to help?**

Sign up to show up two Tuesdays this summer around noon (exact time will be coming soon) between the dates of June 18 through August 17. Each time you serve, you will go to the Ridgeview Trailer Park near the Owen pool and spend about an hour and a half handing out bag lunches and talking to delightful children who are very glad we are there. Three volunteers are needed for each date.

### **What's next?**

Contact Susan Jumper  
at [susanjumper@charter.net](mailto:susanjumper@charter.net)  
to sign up for a great  
summer experience.



# What Stewardship and Mission Mean to Me

Dave Johnson, *BMPC Stewardship Ministry Team*

Stewardship and Mission: when I heard these words as a child or young adult, they reminded me of specific images. Stewardship always caused me to think of the process of contributing to the church. It was always associated with a fall campaign and how much we could afford to give. It was a “keep the lights on and pay the bills” concept. Mission led me to think of missionaries in faraway Africa or South America helping the people in small villages to build houses, schools or hospitals. Neither of these images related well to the small towns or rural communities where we lived and to the people I saw every day.

Since my retirement, our move to Black Mountain, and my involvement with BMPC, I have acquired a different and more meaningful vision of what Stewardship and Mission can be. Stewardship is now much more than a “pay the bills through a once/year gift” and Mission now has a more local community meaning for me. Perhaps it’s because in retirement I have the time to get more involved in the local missions of the church so that I can relate to them on a more personal level. Let me describe my favorite example of this “local” mission.

On Tuesday mornings, I spend about an hour and a half with the five-year-old “giraffes” class at the Weekday School. I’ve always enjoyed reading to our grandchildren, but they are all far enough away that I only see them a few times per year. It seemed like it would be enjoyable to read to the children at the school one morning a week, so when we joined the church, I volunteered for that activity.

I never imagined how much I would love the time with these kids and how much they seem to love to see me each week. The school has exceptional teachers, who do an amazing job of helping prepare these kids to be ready to do well in school the following year. The kids are all so well behaved and clearly enjoy being there, with a rare tear when missing mommy. They are learning to interact positively with other kids, to share, to get up in front of the class for certain activities, to raise their hands when they want to speak in the group and to develop self-esteem. The teachers foster the environment that allows the kids to grow in these areas.

But one thing I’ve noticed: the teachers and helpers are all female. There is no male role model for the kids in this environment. So for at least a part of one of the weekdays at the school, I try to provide this for the kids by talking to them, helping them play, reading and whatever else they’re doing that day. I think it’s important for the kids and certainly rewarding for me.

It may not seem to be directly related to Stewardship and Mission, but I’ve come to understand that for me, it is all about those two concepts. I can give my time, attention and effort to these kids and help support the Weekday School mission as part of BMPC.

So when you think about Stewardship and Mission, maybe you will also be lucky enough to find something like the Weekday School where you can make a difference.



# LIBRARY NOTES

*I thought of you today, but that is nothing new.  
I thought of you yesterday and days before that, too.  
I think of you in silence; I often speak your name.  
All I have are memories and your picture in a frame.  
Your memory is a keepsake from which I'll never part.  
God has you in His arms; I have you in my heart.* –Author Unknown

We at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church have just participated in meaningful services for Lent, Easter, and the Resurrection. The daily devotional booklet, *These Days*, has had a week-long series on Grief. Furthermore, we have experienced the deaths of several of our church members. At this time, these books in our library may be helpful in our personal life journeys.

*Being Mortal*, Atul Gawande

*Children and Grief*, Joey O'Connor

*The Cure for Sorrow*, Jan Richardson

*Death: The Final Stage*, Elisabeth Kubler Ross

*From Grim to Green Pastures*, Richard L. Morgan

*Healing into Life and Death*, Stephen Levine

*I Will See You in Heaven*, Friar Jack Wintz

*A Letter of Consolation*, Henri J. M. Nouwen

*Life After Death*, Anthony C. Thiselton

*Light in the Shadows*, Hank Dunn

*Love and Death*, Forrest Church

*Markings on the Windowsill*, Ronald J. Greer

*Mrs. Hunter's Happy Death*, John Fanestill

*Night Falls Fast*, Kay Redfield Jamison

*On Life After Death*, Elisabeth Kubler Ross

*Our Greatest Gift*, Henri J. M. Nouwen

*Standing in the Circle of Grief*, Blair Gilmer Meek

*Stories from the Edge*, Greg Garrett

*A Widow's Prayer*, Nell E. Noonan

*A Window to Heaven*, Diane M. Komp

## Changes at Black Mountain Home for Children

Supporters of Black Mountain Home for Children have received a letter from BMHC asking for our help to support the "Caring Home and Improved Lives for Dependents (CHILD) Act"\* (HR4983) which attempts to "remove the negative impact to 'cottage homes' caused by the Family First Prevent Services ACT (FFPSA)"\* as a result of the changes included in the Continuing Budget Resolution. "The Bill included language that will have significant, course altering, impact on the residential care services provided at Black Mountain Home," and therefore an impact on

children and youth in need of alternatives to intact families.

As each of us prayerfully considers his or her own stands on public policy, BMHC asks us to consider their work and the need for funding to continue serving large sibling groups difficult to place with a single family, teens and young adult wishing to transition out of care, and youth who have experienced multiple failed placements.

For more information about BMHC visit [www.BlackMountainHome.org](http://www.BlackMountainHome.org).

\*Material quoted from April 2, 2018, letter from BMHC

# SAVE THE DATE

**August 26, 2018, 2-5 p.m.**

BMPC is committed to keeping all children safe. Since our child safety policy was approved in 2013, 100-plus volunteers and staff in ministry have been trained. All folks who work regularly with our children and youth as well as Session members become Approved Adults by going through training and a background check. According to our policy, a refresher training is required every five years which includes about 50 people who were trained in 2013. We are planning a two-tiered training event on **August 26, 2018, from 2:00-5:00 p.m.** for those who will be renewing their commitment as well as an initial training for new volunteers and staff. Also, there will be an internet safety training for all from 4:00-5:00 p.m., and parents will be invited to attend. Watch the newsletter for updates. For more info, contact a committee member: Andy Banzhoff; Ellen Begley; Karen Davis; Deb Mullis; Kim Reece; Mary Katherine Robinson, *staff*; Pat Tuttle, *chair*.

## CareNotes

Display Rack in Narthex  
*(near the windows)*

*Provided by your BMPC Deacons. Take any you find to be helpful.*

**Topics include**  
*(these and more)*

Health Care

Spirit Care

Counseling

Aging

Bereavement

Anger Issues

Depression



## Does anything here belong to you?

Please pick up your belongings from this table in the office by May 15.  
After this date, we will donate unclaimed items. Thank you!



Your participation in Massanetta Springs ministry through your Covenant Church gift equips high school youth with Christian leadership skills. It lets middle schoolers experience the connectional nature of our church as they meet other like them who are growing in faith. We are grateful for all the ways you are helping us reflect on ministry completed and vision toward a new year of ministry to come.

Clayton Rascoe, Executive Director, Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center

## Adult Church School in May

### Becomers Class

meets in Library

- 6** Matthew 13  
*Parables of the Kingdom*
- 13** Matthew 14  
*Death of John the Baptist*
- 20** Matthew 15  
*Clean/Unclean Discussion*

### Bible Exploration

meets in CR-2

study of book of Timothy I & II

### Biblical Perspectives

meets in CR-1

- 6** Clay Fouse  
*VA Chaplaincy and CPE*
- 13** Mike Begley  
*Journey of Faith*
- 20** Dr. John Rogers  
*Pentecost*

### Faith Builders

meets in Parlor

- 6** Study of Psalms
- 13** Study of Psalms
- 20** Study of Psalms

## YOUTH in MAY

### Middle School

- 6** **Mt. Pisgah Day Trip**, 9:45a-3p, bring a bag lunch and \$ for ice cream
- 20** **End-of-Year Party**, 5-7p, watch e-news for location

### High School

- 6** **Outdoor Games @ Welsh Field**, 5-7p
- 20** **End-of-Year Party**, 5-7p @ the Beaver's
- 25** **Breakfast Club**, 7-7:45a @ the Gunn's

# Black Mountain OPEN TABLE

Community outreach providing a place  
for friendship and food for all

Every Wednesday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
First United Methodist

## MAY birthdays

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Gene Witherspoon   | 19 Anne Moseley            |
| 2 Daniel Cappelli    | 20 Ramsay Hopkins Williams |
| 3 Dick Hobson        | 22 Stratton Peacock        |
| 4 Candy Donnell      | Nancy Murray               |
| Cindy McDaniel       | Barbara Gaw                |
| Jim Davies           | Ruth Duckworth             |
| 5 Brian Parada       | Beth Gunn                  |
| Roan Kirkpatrick     | 23 Austin Edwards          |
| 6 Susan Dannenberg   | Mary Carroll Dodd          |
| 7 Anne Campbell      | Lorris Parker              |
| Mike Begley          | 24 Elizabeth Turk          |
| Leo Cappelli         | 25 Bruce Gunn              |
| 8 Jim Elam           | 26 Helen Smith             |
| Beth Farmer          | 27 Davis Campbell          |
| Kara Peterson        | 28 Beau Van Note           |
| 9 Drew Banzhoff      | Maggie Decker              |
| 12 Shannon Ingersoll | 30 Judy Williams           |
| 14 Tanner Pickett    | Karen Boyd                 |
| Lindsey Banks        | 31 Jan Donnell             |
| 15 John Walker       | Jennifer Chilton           |
| 16 Stan Skeen        | Lillie Chilton             |
| Kitty Kelly          | Ethan Kadau                |
| Rachel Beaver        |                            |
| 17 Alice Schweitzer  |                            |
| Kent Smith           |                            |
| Blair Holladay       |                            |
| 18 Mary McMahill     |                            |

Happy  
Birthday

## Thank You

We cannot express in words the gratitude of both Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry and those we serve. This community takes to heart the call to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you for being a part of SVCM which provides not only help, but hope to so many of our neighbors.

Hope for Tomorrow will be completed this year, thanks to all who have come together to help establish this new housing and support program. We will assist homeless children and their mothers by providing stability, and necessary life skills to successfully live independently once they have completed the program.

We are so blessed by all you do in support of our Ministry. We are extremely excited to begin Hope For Tomorrow!

Cheryl Wilson, *Executive Director*  
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

## 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

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**P A I D**  
BLACK  
MOUNTAIN, NC  
Permit No. 36



an Earth Care Congregation



**BMPC Child Protection Policy**

*providing a safe environment for children & youth*



## Narthex Art Gallery

It's not much, but it speaks volumes. A single wall in our narthex is frequently used to display art by members of our congregation. Often for month-long periods, we can view and reflect upon the artistic expressions of some of the visual artists in our congregation. Cooperating with other groups in our congregation (Weekday School for their Spring Art Show; Alternative Giving display before Christmas for example), and under the coordination of the scheduler, the Worship and Music committee plans use of the display wall throughout the year. Susan Wilkinson, a new member in our congregation has begun scheduling

installations in the narthex gallery space this month. She inherits this job from Alida Grady who has faithfully done so for several years. In the best spirit of celebrating creativity, the committee does not expect that all of the art displayed in the narthex be "religious" though it is always appropriate. We welcome all levels of ability and any media that can fit in the space available. Many times the works displayed are available for purchase from the artist; speak to them directly for more information. If you would like to know more about the gallery space, speak to Susan Wilkinson, any member of the Worship and Music committee, or Mike Barker.