

# BMPC Window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter



June 2018

## A Summoning Question

I've always loved that bold and assertive question that ends Mary Oliver's poem **The Summer Day**: *Tell me what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?*

With the completion of our "**Holy Conversation**" listening sessions, our strategic planning committee and elders have wasted no time in getting excited about the ministry that **takes place** in and through **Black Mountain Presbyterian Church**. And we've all been pondering the question: *Tell me what is it you plan to do with this one wild and precious church?*

In February, **your leaders** gathered with Mark Tidsworth of Pinnacle Leadership to consider the **SHIFTS** that are happening in our world and in our churches. In early spring, the strategic planning team took the findings of our holy conversations and created a **mission study** that was approved by the session and WNC Presbytery in late Spring in preparation to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. Here's what we know for sure: people of all ages need the **good news of Jesus** Christ through this community, as we worship, love, serve, study and grow together. And after a season of listening and discernment, we as a **congregation** are ready to **look ahead**.

Please plan to join us at **10:20 in the Fellowship Hall on June 10** for a **congregational meeting**. We will vote on our elders and deacons for the Class of 2021 and the **Associate Pastor Nominating Committee**. There will also be a report from the Strategic Planning Team on the findings of our Holy Conversations. We will also honor our **graduating seniors** on June 10 as well.

**Faces of Faith** will be our worship theme throughout the summer. We will spend time in sermons on **ordinary people of faith** – those doing what they can with what they have to make a difference. This summer, we'll dig deep into the **bold and untold stories** of those often overlooked in our **biblical narratives**, hoping these characters remind us that we all play a role in shaping God's story of redemption and grace.

Who knows what God has in store for this *wild and precious congregation*! As we enter into a different rhythm which summer affords, come to worship in God's presence even as our programs slow down. Make a commitment to Sabbath worship and rest in this season of our church's life. See you next Sunday!

Faithfully,

# JUNE

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 10, 10:20 a.m.</b>					1	2
						
3 <b>9:15a</b> FirstLight <b>11a</b> Worship	4  <b>7p</b> Earth Care	5	6  <b>1:30p</b> Stewardship	7  <b>1:30p</b> Blood Drive	8	9
10 <b>9:15a</b> FirstLight <b>10:20a</b> Congregational Mtg. <b>11a</b> Worship	11 Weekday School Summer Camp  <b>9:00a</b> Finance	12	13  <b>5:30p</b> Potluck Bible Study	14  <b>11:00a</b> Cooking For One  <b>1:30p</b> Sewing Ministry	15  Window Deadline →	16
17 <b>9:15a</b> FirstLight <b>11a</b> Worship	18	19  <b>6:30p</b> CE	20	21  MS Youth at Massanetta	22	23 →
24 <b>9:15a</b> FirstLight <b>11a</b> Worship No Highland Farms Bus  MS Youth return from Massanetta	25	26	27	29  <b>11:00a</b> Cooking For One  <b>1:30p</b> Sewing Ministry	30  <b>Wednesday Potluck Bible Study Summer dates: June 13, July 11, August 8</b>	

## Librarian Retiring

Thank you to **Nancy Beaver** for her years of serving as our librarian. She has spent many hours adding new books, evaluating donations, keeping the card catalog straight, making displays, writing reviews for the newsletter. Our library is in great order because of her dedication. It is time for these duties to be passed on to other folks. The CE ministry team is looking for several volunteers to serve as a team. Speak to Jane Bannerman or Ginny Soll to find out more!

# Black Mountain Counseling Center SUPPLY DRIVE

We will be collecting supplies in the narthex for the Black Mountain Counseling Center **June 3-15**. There will be a box in the narthex for the supplies. Over 50% of the Centers' clients qualify for discounted or subsidized sessions and 40% are at or below poverty level.

## Supplies Needed

HEALTHY SNACKS for kids  
(*granola bars, protein bars, whole wheat crackers and cheese, etc.*)

COFFEE • BOTTLED WATER

TAPE • PAPER TOWELS

NOTEPADS • TOILET PAPER

## THOUGHTS ON TITHING

Price H. Gwynn III, Moderator, 202nd General Assembly  
*Submitted by Gay Mothershed, Stewardship Committee Member*

We can never know when and how God will speak to us. Paul found God when he was blinded on the road to Damascus. Two disciples found God in Jesus while sharing their grief on the Road to Emmaus. Elijah heard God in the still small voice following the storm and God spoke to Moses through a burning bush. Each time, God was unexpected. Each time, persons were ready to hear God.

Faithful Christians know the importance of preparing for the Spirit of God. We join Bible study groups. We learn the patience of meditative prayer. We join in the ministries of compassion and justice, for we find the Spirit of God in service to others. Whatever our style, we know that opening ourselves and becoming receptive to the Holy Spirit takes time and happens best when we are regular in our practice.

Tithing is one easy way we can practice spiritual discipline. It is, first of all, a discipline. Tithing means regularly setting aside a portion of our income to be used in support of ministries in the church and in the community. It is built on commitment and practice.

Usually, a tithe is one-tenth of an individual's or family's income, following the practice of the early Hebrew people. Some people, however, can afford to set aside fifteen percent or more, while others cannot afford ten percent. Whether we set aside a portion of each week, every month, or every three months, the discipline of tithing is a constant reminder that we are God's people and stewards of a divine creation.

Through our tithes, we join God's work of creating a new humanity. Thus tithing becomes a spiritual discipline. The discipline of setting aside a tithe reminds us that all we have (life, wealth, food and shelter) comes from God's providential care. Proportionate giving – tithing – reminds us that we are God's people and that God's love enfolds us.

Setting aside a portion of our wealth is not guaranteed to bring God to us. As a spiritual discipline, however, it helps us prepare to see and hear God when the Spirit comes. Just as worship and Bible study are important to a life of faith, so also tithing can be an invitation to the Spirit to enter our lives.

# Have an Extra Car?

As we update our cars or decide to let someone drive for us, consider the possibility of making an unwanted car a vehicle for mission.

**Working Wheels**, an Asheville based non-profit, turns donated cars into working wheels for working families giving access to education, employment opportunities, and overall improved quality of life. Working Wheels partners with many of our mission partners including Homeward Bound, Helpmate, Habitat, and ABCCM.

**Their Mission:** At Working Wheels, many of the vehicles donated are repaired and placed with people who need them. When this happens, the donor is able to claim a tax deduction equal to the retail value of the car. Cars that are in good condition, but not used as program cars, are repaired and sold in a retail setting – also bringing fair market value to the donor as a tax deduction.

There are some cars that cannot be repaired. These cars are used as 'organ donors' – providing vital parts for other vehicles that will be repaired. In some cases, vehicles that are beyond repair are sold in the wholesale market to create proceeds to support the Working Wheels mission. **For more information, visit the Working Wheels website, <https://workingwheelswnc.org/>** (the source of this information).

# Children's Book Drive

Part of our summer food program at Ridgeview Trailer Park involves supporting literacy. Children get to choose a book along with lunch each day we serve. Your donation of used books in good condition for preschool through middle school will help us get books in the hands of children who may not be visiting the library this summer. Please drop off your donated books in the narthex before June 18. Cash donations for new books will also be appreciated. Help us keep our book box full!

# Art in the Sanctuary

The Worship and Music Ministry Team is inaugurating a new mode of artistic expression for our worship spaces this month. We are placing special artwork in our worship spaces instead of flowers. For many years floral arrangements were the norm for our congregation. However in recent years the committee has discerned a marked drop in the number of persons interested in providing flowers for worship, and have questioned the stewardship of using God's creation in this way, as well as the wisdom of using budget funds to provide something that is becoming less meaningful for many in our congregation. Many Sundays you will notice green plants adorning our worship spaces. But on certain Sundays you will discover compelling pieces of art intended to reflect the tenor of worship or the liturgical season. The church will continue to maintain a flower calendar for those who wish to donate flowers on specific dates not claimed by the committee but will not "fill in" Sundays not claimed by members with floral arrangements. The committee welcomes suggestions about appropriate artwork to install for worship. Speak to Ina Hughs or Mike Barker with questions.

# Youth looking forward to summer trips to MASSANETTA & MONTREAT



**Both the middle school (below) and high school (above) youth had a wonderful year filled with fun and fellowship... from climbing Mt. Pisgah to end-of-year parties.**



## LIBRARY NOTES

**Our library has expanded!** There have been many donations from individuals and the newly closed Presbyterian Resource Center in Montreat. Sally Woodard, who volunteered in the center, has written reviews of three of these books.

Aging, disabilities, death, prejudices – these are all issues experienced in the daily lives of most of us. Several of the books new to the library address these problems. ***Moving Miss Peggy*** is one such book. Robert Benson's tender portrayal of his mother, the Miss Peggy of the title, details the struggles he and his siblings faced as they worked with professionals to help their mother go into assisted living.

In ***His Name Is Joel***, Kathleen Bolduc shares grief, frustration, and eventual acceptance she and her husband Wally experienced as they worked through each stage of their son Joel's growth as a brain-injured child. Kathleen is heartbreakingly honest about her feelings of anger, guilt, despair, and yes, even joy as the family learns to live with the disability in one whom they love dearly. She begins each chapter with a Scripture and ends with a prayer, which enables the reader to see how her faith has impacted her ability to cope with this daunting situation.

Bobby had a secret. He was gay. Afraid to tell his family, who belonged to a denomination that preached damnation for homosexuals, Bobby denied his orientation and tried to change. Finally accepting who he was when his family could not, Bobby committed suicide. ***Prayers for Bobby*** is a recounting of his life and of his mother's journey as she attempts to understand her son and to reconcile who he was with the Scriptures she had heard in church. This book gives an insightful look into a still controversial issue.

# Presbyterian Women

The Spring Gathering dinner was held May 8 with the theme, "Welcome to This Place." The recipients for the 2018 Birthday Offering were: Cottage Village, Cottage Grove, OR, Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health, Tegucigalpa, Honduras and The Dwelling Place, Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN, these groups will share the Birthday Offerings from all PWs in the PC(USA). Guest speaker was Mollie Moore. Recognition of outgoing and continuing PW officers were part of the program. Gay Mothershed installed our new officers. An Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Deb Mullis for her contributions to PW and other organizations.



## Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT) Established

The session (through Nurture Ministries) has established a Medical Emergency Response Team. A plan, program, and procedures are in place for medical emergencies that occur while people are in the church building.

**How?** Medical equipment and supplies are located in the Narthex under the officer mailboxes. This includes an AED (automated external defibrillator)

**What is an AED?** It is a device that is used during a sudden cardiac arrest that delivers an electric shock through the chest into the heart. The AED has the ability to analyze a person's heart rate to determine if they need an electric shock.

**Who uses the AED?** All medically trained church members and those who have been certified in CPR and First Aid may use this equipment when needed. A committee has been formed (see below) that will check medical equipment and offer opportunities to congregation members for training.

### The Committee

Dr. Rick Hughes; Dr. Ashley McClary; Julie Moore; Kim Reece RN; Ginny Soll, staff

# MISSION SPOTLIGHT

Art Ross reminded us, during his stewardship sermon last fall, that as a church, we can do anything we want, but we can't do everything. Of course, we recognize that our stewardship allows us to be a vibrant, serving church, but what we sometimes forget is that stewardship goes beyond our monetary giving. While money is important, the stewardship of time and talent provides the tangible evidence of our commitment.

BMPC has been blessed with leadership in all areas of our mission, and evidence of this blessing is **Mary Carroll Dodd** who plays an important role in leading BMPC's mission to Guatemala, July 25-Aug 1. Mary Carroll has deep experience and enthusiasm for our Guatemalan partnership. She is part of the Presbytery Guatemala leadership team which visits Guatemala each January, and this summer's trip will be Mary Carroll's second Guatemalan trip with BMPC. However, she has been involved with international mission since she served as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) in Argentina following her graduation from UNC Chapel Hill (where she met Berry French).

Inspired by her work in Argentina, Mary Carroll has found ways to actively promote international understanding through meaningful travel. A biology/Spanish major in college, Mary Carroll is fluent in Spanish and taught in Charlotte in a private school in New Bern where she became the director of their Global Education program. Their Spanish immersion included Mary Carroll's leading six to eight international trips a year, including trips to Guatemala for all ninth graders. They visited families on coffee farms and lived for a week doing everything from marketing to cooking to working in the coffee fields with their Guatemalan hosts.

Mary Carroll retired from the New Bern post to move to her aunt's home in Black Mountain with husband Griffin, and since then, sons Xander and Gavin. She grew up coming to Black Mountain in the summer to gather with relatives, and she enjoyed working with her grandfather in his garden.



She says, they often had student gardens when she was teaching, and she has always been interested in starting an organic farm. Griffin, a math teacher at AB Tech, was excited to go along with the plan and according to Mary Carroll "is good at following instructions." They now farm on the land where she gardened with her grandfather.

Mary Carroll's long experience with international service and her fluency in Spanish make her an ideal leader for the Guatemalan mission trip. Of the eleven people participating, four have been on previous BMPC trips to Guatemala, and Mary Carroll is excited to continue relationships that they have fostered. She is also enthusiastic about those who will be coming for the first time.

Our sister church, EbenEzer in San Antonia, Guatemala, is also looking forward to the visit with the BMPC group. Those who have been on earlier trips have maintained relationships through letters and a Facebook group, and Mary Carroll expressed hope that some from EbenEzer may be able to travel to Black Mountain in the future.

Our stewardship to BMPC allows for personal relationships among brothers and sisters in Guatemala as well as other areas throughout the world. However, individual stewardship also expects that each of us find the ways we can use our talents and energy to serve wherever we find ourselves. We are blessed to have Mary Carroll Dodd use her considerable talents and experience to lead in mission. Her example leads each of us to examine how we can apply what we know and what we can do to serve God's people.

## Would you like to take a fun, creative Bible Journaling class?

New member Holly Sosebee is interested in teaching a Bible Journaling class here at BMPC. Learn how to stamp, make a collage, basic simple coloring-painting techniques, and add photos to your Bible or hymnal. This is art and there is no right or wrong way to be creative! If there is a Saturday in July that you would like to spend a morning, afternoon, or all day with a meal provided, contact Mary Katherine, [mk@bmpcnc.org](mailto:mk@bmpcnc.org) or Holly, [hollyberry815@gmail.com](mailto:hollyberry815@gmail.com).

## New Administrative Assistant

When Lisbet Chrisman retired as Office Administrator, the administrative staff was restructured by consolidating 2½ positions (Office Administrator, Dir. of Communications, and Finance Secretary) into two full time positions: Dir. of Communications (Jackie Kerr) and the new position of Church Business Administrator (Jen Thorstad). The Personnel Ministry Team now realizes these two positions are not enough to support the growing administrative needs of the church and will be hiring a part-time Administrative Assistant. We are accepting applications for a person who will not only support the BMPC office and membership, but will also be a hospitable presence for our Weekday School, Presbytery partners in ministry, and the community at-large. The person will also take on the administrative aspects of Ginny Soll's position after she retires and coordinate our office volunteers. Please keep this person, whomever and wherever they may be, in your prayers as the Spirit leads them to join this amazing place we call Black Mountain Presbyterian Church!

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# BUILDING OUR FUTURE

*“But do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”* – Hebrews 13: 16

Our church buildings serve our congregation and the community every day providing space for mission, worship, celebration, and reflection. Regrettably, over the years we have not always had the resources and money to properly care for our facility. Congregations before us built this church home and it is our responsibility to maintain such a special place for future generations.

The Endowment Board is engaged in a campaign to raise \$50,000 which will be matched one-to-one by a generous couple from our Congregation.

Challenging God's people to give and care for a place of worship is rooted in the traditions of our reformed faith. Our PW Ruth Circle has expressed their commitment to caring for this place by remembering one of their long time members Mary McMurray with gifts in her memory. This is just one an example of the generous spirit of this congregation, but we need all of our members to help us reach our goal.

**Endowment Board:** Scott Roy, *Chairperson*; Travis Childs; Jim Layman; Cain McClary; Ellen McClintock; Gayle Petty-Johnson; Pat Tuttle



# Cooking for One

Beginning on June 14 and going for six sessions at the Chestnut House in Montreat (237 Assembly Drive), dietitian, Jean Norris, is offering a workshop for people interested in cooking for one. Jean will talk about what to buy, how to cut down a recipe, how to plan healthy and interesting menus and answer questions you may have. Plan to share cooking, recipes, and tips. Help with recipe modification, nutrition information and menu planning will be available. There will be a \$25 fee to cover expenses.

The Leader of the workshop is Jean Norris who is a dietitian nutritionist, an anthropologist, a social epidemiologist and a nutrition counselor with a lifelong deep interest in cultures and cultural foods. She knows a lot about foods and techniques for cooking and menu planning. Call her to sign up: 828-357-5009. Mary Brueggemann will be her helper and dishwasher. Plan to join this interesting learning experience. There will be times when you need to bring your own pans and utensils.



**Wednesday Night: Divine Fellowship of the Giggly Kind**  
*These girls always have fun at the Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study. We will be meeting once a month through the summer: June 13, July 11, August 8.*

# Coming This Fall!

## Parenting Class on Sunday mornings and monthly Speakers Sunday evenings

The CE Visioning Team has been dreaming of ways to support parents of children and youth. Two subgroups have been formed to work on two ideas.

On Sunday mornings, during the church school hour, we will be offering a class based on the book *The Pearls of Love and Logic for Parents and Teachers*.

Once a month on Sunday evenings (5-7 p.m. during youth group) special speakers and panels will lead discussions on topics of concern to parents.

**Help is needed** to care for children during both of these events. You can support parents by offering to be a second hand. Please consider holding a baby in the nursery or playing games with children during these events. The support of the congregation is needed to move forward. To volunteer, please talk to Chandler Guess, Alice Patton, or Jane Bannerman.

## CareNotes

Display Rack in Narthex  
*(near the windows)*

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

# Tips for Summer Earth Care

Here are three things you can do to reduce fossil fuel use and heal the Earth this summer:

**1** Install a clothesline, drying clothes with wind and solar, or use an indoor rack. Picture the cumulative energy saved over our lifetimes, if many families dry clothes this way. If you already use a clothesline, or if you install one, please let the Earth Care Team know (Jean Franklin: [bookbabe103@bellsouth.net](mailto:bookbabe103@bellsouth.net) or 828-669-5205). If you live in a community that prohibits clotheslines, the first step is to lobby for a rule change!

**2** Grow something that you eat, even if it's simply a few herbs in a pot on the deck or windowsill. Kentucky farmer/author Wendell Berry says that connecting ourselves to the source of our food in this way is "the first step in fixing what is wrong with us." Also, volunteer a few hours in the Cross Culture Garden, a joint project between our church and First Baptist. For more information, contact Bill Janes: ([bjanes@bellsouth.net](mailto:bjanes@bellsouth.net) or 828-669-0604).

**3** When landscaping, get rid of exotic ornamental plants and use native species. According to renowned entymologist E.O. Wilson, this is the one thing that everyone can do to slow the extinction of species. Ornaments disrupt the chain of life, because local insects are not adapted to them, and then the birds and other critters lose their food source. (For information about native species, contact the Botanical Garden, the NC Extension Service, or Google NC Native Species.)

— *The Earth Care Team*

## The THREE'S Plant Trees

On April 27, the three-year-old class from the Weekday School gathered eagerly in three groups to plant little dogwoods near the church's north parking lot. Teachers Laura and Kristin corraled them to dig,



with reminders about roots and stems. One of the dads, Ben, an arborist, guided each group to settle their tree in its hole. Photos were taken and the children were off to the playground! Wayne Mullis (Property) and Robin Stiles (Earth Care) arranged the April planting to let the children experience taking care of the earth.



# JUNE birthdays

- |    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| 2  | Donn Handy<br>Ellen Begley<br>Sarah Wren Robinson                | 17 | Ruby Begley<br>Elizabeth Rand<br>John Knight   |
| 3  | Joseph Rand<br>Liesl Case  |    | Margie Stansell<br>Powell Winstead   |
| 4  | Kurt Shaffer<br>Tanya Banks                                      | 19 | Keithie Knowles<br>Randy Shaffer   |
| 5  | Alex Hutcheson<br>Bradley Garrison                               | 20 | Ruth Janes<br>Jim Layman<br>Laura Farish   |
| 6  | Taylor Morris<br>Moses Lehman                                    | 22 | Thomas Stiles<br>Joe Lehman<br>Griffin Dodd  |
| 7  | Carter Douglas   | 23 | Phil Garrison  |
| 8  | Kent Patton  | 24 | Julie Moore<br>Noah Holladay   |
| 9  | Franklin Harris<br>Debbie Bailey<br>Ameliah Davidson             | 25 | Paul Drummond  |
| 10 | Spring Patton<br>Lauren Nalley                                   | 26 | Pat Thrailkill<br>Charlotte Sprawls<br>Jennifer Mohr<br>Sandy Shaffer<br>Mattie Lehman<br>Gavin Dodd |
| 11 | Faith Bradley<br>Cory Partlow<br>Kelly Peterson<br>Ruth Carswell | 27 | Jack Wynn<br>Jeannie Maidment<br>Alex Farmer<br>Caroline Roy<br>Abby Lehman                          |
| 12 | Peter Mudge<br>Katherine Neville<br>Isabella Hile                | 28 | Carolyn Cordell  |
| 13 | Henry Copeland<br>Melissa Wilson<br>Summer Kirkpatrick           | 29 | Bob Headley  |
| 15 | Lisbet Chrisman<br>Bill Bale                                     | 30 | Bob McMurray<br>Wyatt Campbell   |

Happy  
Birthday



We were saddened to hear of the recent death of **Susie Wood**. It was only three months ago when **Fred Golding** died, and these losses deserve our notice. Susie and Fred were both residents of the Marjorie McCune Center and attended

BMPC for at least 20 years, thanks to all the faithful drivers who transported them week after week.

Susie and Fred were blind and had their own personalities. They almost always sat on a back row with their driver of the day. Susie asked anyone who drove or spoke to her for band aids and cough drops. Fred rocked his way happily through the services and his booming voice could be heard throughout the sanctuary during any familiar unison prayer or response. He had a steel-trap memory for names and dates. And no one who heard Fred play the piano during one of our church talent shows could forget his enthusiastic and joy-full playing.

The reserved parking sign for Fred and Susie that graced our front driveway for years during the 11:00 service will be retired. This is the end of an era in our 110-year-old church, and I for one am grateful to the many volunteer drivers who made it possible for Susie and Fred to grace our sanctuary on Sunday mornings for so long. — *an anonymous church member*

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**Gene Schimpf** was Team Leader for Kairos 17 at Marion Correctional Institute in May. Volunteers went into the prison to assist "participants" in creating an ongoing Christian community. This program is one of several Kairos International events designed to minister to youth offenders and their families. **Kairos thanks Gene and BMPC for leadership and support.**

# Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

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bmpcnc.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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MOUNTAIN, NC  
Permit No. 36



an Earth Care Congregation



**BMPC Child Protection Policy**

*providing a safe environment for children & youth*



## Community Sing

Our church family and the whole Black Mountain community are invited to a community sing on **Sunday afternoon, July 22, at 5 p.m.** at White Horse Black Mountain. We will sing together familiar songs of the folk tradition, popular hymns, spirituals and other American-tradition songs. The event is free to all but bring a can of food for SVCM. Shower voices and opera voices are all welcome; no music-reading skill is expected. This bridge event is built on the premise that singing together is good for the individual's body and spirit, and for the greater good of our community and world. Contact Mike Barker for more information, [michaelb@bmpcnc.org](mailto:michaelb@bmpcnc.org)

