



# BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

May 2024

**This summer, BMPC will delve into...**



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. You can always watch the film at home on your own. 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! There is a basket 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!**

# MAY

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

Sunday	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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**Communion** is served on the first Sunday of the month in all three services. If you would like Communion served in your home on Sunday, May 5, or another time, please contact your deacon.

**1**  
**11:30a** Fellers Lunch  
**3p** RAD! Wednesdays  
**5p** Spaghetti Dinner  
**6p** Corrie Greene Class  
**6:30p** Youth Group  
**6:45p** Joy Circle  
**7p** Choir Rehearsal

**2**  
**6p** Deacons

**3**

**4**  
**9:30a** Bounty & Soul Yoga  
**10:30a** Tai Chi  
**11:30a** New Member Cookout

**5**  
**8:45a** FirstLight  
**9:45a** Faith Formation  
**10a** Family Worship  
**11a** Worship  
**2p** Handbells

**6**  
**1p** Earth Care Book  
**2:15p** Earth Care Team

**7**  
**PW CIRCLES**  
**1:30p** Staff Mtg  
**6p** Women's AA Mtg  
**7p** Prophets

**8**  
**11:30a** Fellers Lunch  
**3p** RAD! Wednesdays  
**5p** Spaghetti Dinner  
**6p** Corrie Greene Class  
**6:30p** Youth Group  
**6:45p** Joy Circle  
**7p** Choir Rehearsal

**9**  
**1:30p** Red Cross Blood Drive  
**6p** Mens' Group

**10**

**11**  
**9:30a** Bounty & Soul Yoga  
**10:30a** Tai Chi

Deadline for the June Window newsletter is Wednesday, May 15

**12**  
**MOTHER'S DAY**  
**8:45a** FirstLight  
**10a** Second Sunday Family Programming  
**11a** Worship

**13**  
**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.

**14**  
**1:30p** Staff Mtg  
**5:30p** Girl Scouts  
**6p** Women's AA Mtg  
**6:30p** Lydia Circle  
**7p** Prophets

**15**  
**11:30a** Fellers Lunch  
**3p** RAD! Wednesdays  
**5p** Spaghetti Dinner  
**6p** Corrie Greene Class  
**6:30p** Youth Group  
**7p** Choir Rehearsal  
**8p** Men's Prayer Group

**16**  
**3p** Book Club with Ina Hughs  
**5:30p** PW Spring Gathering

**17**  
**6:35p** Asheville Tourists Baseball Game

**18**  
**9:30a** Bounty & Soul Yoga  
**10:30a** Tai Chi

**19**  
**9:45a** Faith Formation  
**11a** Children's Worship  
**2p** Handbells  
**5:30p** Youth Family Night

**20**  
**1p** Earth Care Book Study

**21**  
**1:30p** Staff Mtg  
**6p** Women's AA Mtg  
**6:30p** Lydia Circle  
**7p** Prophets  
**7:30p** Mama's Group

**22**  
**11:30a** Fellers Lunch  
**3p** RAD! Wednesdays  
**5p** Spaghetti Dinner  
**6p** Corrie Greene Class  
**6:30p** Youth Group  
**7p** Choir Rehearsal

**23**

**24**

**25**  
**9:30a** Bounty & Soul Yoga  
**10:30a** Tai Chi  
**3p** Fifth Graders Tea Party

**26 NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS**  
**9a** Worship  
**10:30a** Family Worship

**27 MEMORIAL DAY**  
 office closed

**28**  
**1p** PW Coordinating  
**1:30p** Staff Mtg  
**2:15p** PW Bible  
**5:30p** Girl Scouts  
**6p** Women's AA Mtg  
**6:30p** Lydia Circle  
**7p** Prophets

**29**  
**11:30a** Fellers Lunch  
**6p** Corrie Greene Class  
**6:30p** Youth Group  
**7p** Choir Rehearsal

**30**  
**5:30p** Fellowship Night at The Railyard

**31**  
**4p** Youth Yard Sale Set Up

**Montreat Worship in Anderson Auditorium Sundays at 10:30 a.m. May 26 – August 4**

# Spiritual Journaling

This new offering will be led by BMPC member Anna Griffen. Spiritual journaling is a sacred practice of intentionally writing in a journal to explore and reflect on your inner landscape in relationship to God and others. This

spiritual journaling group will meet once a week to share insights and thoughts regarding our individual and group spiritual journaling experience.

The cost of registration is \$18 and includes a journal book, *More Than Gratitude: 100 Days of Cultivating Deep Roots of Gratitude Through Guided Journaling, Prayer, and Scripture* by Korie Harold.

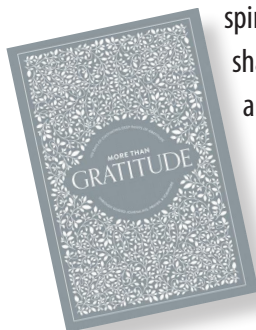
This 100-day journal will provide daily scripture

and writing prompts to journal specifically about gratitude, kindness, forgiveness, growth, prayers, and any highlights of your day. Weekly group time may also include other writing prompts, readings, art, or pieces of music to share and discuss with one another.

Sign up at [bmpcnc.org](http://bmpcnc.org) or by calling the church office at 828-669-2725.

Please contact Anna Griffen at 678-463-0935 if you have any questions.

This Spiritual Journaling group will meet from 10:00-10:45 a.m. on the following Wednesdays in the parlor: May 15, 22, June 5, 12, 19, July 10, 24, 31, August 7, 14, 21, 28.



## Interested in being part of a group traveling to Scotland in fall, 2025?



Please join us at one of these

Interest Group Meetings:

**Wednesday, May 15**

**6:00PM in the library**

**Sunday, May 19**

**10:00AM in the library**

Bring your questions and thoughts and let's get this show on the road!

**Our Earth Care team was awarded a \$1,000 grant by the Black Mountain Beautification Committee.** The funds will help us renew the plantings outside the sanctuary, focusing on native plants and pollinator favorites.

*Thank you for making Black Mountain a little more beautiful! Good luck with your project!*

Jean Chamberlain, *chair*  
Beautification Seed Money Committee



# The Case Against Doing Nothing

Have you ever been told by someone that your small efforts to help the Earth are not enough? You drive a hybrid car? Then why didn't you go for a full electric vehicle? You have solar panels on your roof? Someone says that you have undone all the good of those panels by flying to London. You mention that you have switched to grass-fed beef, and someone informs you that you should have given up meat entirely. Your dryer balls have cut down on energy use? Well, a clothesline would use no energy at all.

The point of people who shame others for doing good seems to be that the Earth is doomed anyway, so why should we even try to save the planet? Specifically, why should they pitch in and help? Well, this is no way to inspire more goodness. Will not using dryer balls help the Earth more than using them? No! Doing nothing is exactly what the other side – the Koch network, the NRA, the fossil fuel industry – is already doing.

Which leads me to think: what if Black Mountain Presbyterian Church members had never formed an Earth Care Team? We would not have saved a single kilowatt-hour of energy. What if we had not hosted a conference on "Debunking Solar for Homeowners?" - or participated in Presbytery events on solar – inspiring others to put up panels? More kWh saved. What if we had not stopped using paper plates, plastic cups, and other products? Many trees saved. What if we had not set up displays in the narthex at last year's Earth Care Sunday, demonstrating new products like bamboo toilet paper, weightless laundry detergent, clothes drying racks, and more?

Thanks be to Jim Layman and David Kaylor all those years ago for getting us started and helping us reach countless people.

– Jeannie Franklin, with thanks to Margaret Renklm NYTimes columnist.

## Solar Panel Report

In late March a representative from MB Haynes Electric found the broken wire at the church that allowed the solar panels to communicate with us. Then we found that two of the eight rows of panels were not working properly. The other six are doing fine. For a week the tech at Haynes Electric tried unsuccessfully to solve the problem from his office, so now he is gathering a list of other solar problems to fix in the area. Soon a person will climb on the roof of the church to try to fix the problem, so we can capture all the energy from the sun that is possible.



## Through 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 if you are viewing this online.



# Annunciation House

A member of our church, Jessi Stitt, just returned from a two-week volunteer stint at Annunciation House in El Paso. This was Jessi's third time volunteering in this capacity and she stayed busy as they were somewhat short-handed. Annunciation House was founded by a group of young Catholics from El Paso, the majority of whom identify as Hispanic or Chicano(a). Annunciation House serves migrants and immigrants coming over the southern border and provides a place to rest, get clothing, get a meal and get help with ongoing travel arrangements to reunite them with family in the U.S or for other destinations. Many have been traumatized in various ways. Most, though by no means all, are Spanish speaking.



## CURRENT NEEDS AT ANNUNCIATION HOUSE

- new socks
- new underwear for all ages and for both male and female clients. (please, no extra large)
- sturdy carryalls (such as the permanent grocery bags you can buy at Ingles and other grocery stores) for migrants to pack their goods in for travel

**BMPC will collect these items during the month of May. The most efficient way to donate is via your personal Amazon account directed to: Mary Bull, 1003 E. San Antonio Ave, El Paso TX 79901 This would save on postage and transport fees. However, these items can also be brought to the church.**

If you have often felt helpless about the situation at our southern border and want a tangible way to help, this is one opportunity to be involved in. Annunciation House wants volunteers to embrace the philosophy that “service is a relationship between equals: our service strengthens us as well as others. Fixing and helping are draining, and over time we may burn out, but service is renewing. When we serve, our work itself will renew us.”





*Drying racks for the coffee beans.*

## Calling All Coffee Drinkers!

For the past year, 31 BMPC households have supported Timoteo Minas, a Guatemalan coffee farmer, who lives near Antigua through monthly coffee subscriptions. This guaranteed monthly income has been a part of improving his life in several ways. Timoteo sent us these photos to show how he has been able to streamline his coffee production process and make it much more efficient.



*A new machine to remove the coffee fruit (pulp) from the seed.*



*New buildings for his family's coffee business.*



**YOU can be a part of this change for Timoteo and his family by resubscribing or beginning a new coffee bean subscription before May 31.**

Timoteo and his family grow, process, and roast the coffee. He will provide a 15 oz. bag of roasted coffee beans that is shipped directly from his farm to Black Mountain church members and friends each month. The cost of the subscription is \$15 per month for a total of \$180 yearly. Additional bags can be added to a subscription if desired. There will be a choice of medium, Full City (medium/full) or dark roast. Subscriptions may be paid to Suzane Churchman on a recurring monthly basis that can be set up on Realm or paid for by a one time check for \$180, the full annual amount. The \$15 will cover the price of the coffee, shipping, and any administrative costs, with no profit going back to our church. A Sunday pickup date will be set each month, and pickup will be in the church office/narthex area. For those unable to arrange for a pickup on that date, the leftover coffee will be kept in the church office for pickup during the week. Annamarie Arens and Jane Belsches will be in charge of the recordkeeping for the subscriptions, and Katherine Holman will coordinate the delivery process. Signups for the coffee subscription service will be on Sunday, May 5, 12, and 19 between 9:45 and 10:45 and after the 11:00 worship service in the church office area. If you are unable to sign up on a Sunday, please contact Jane Belsches (janebelsches@gmail.com) or Annamarie Arens (originalgrit@hotmail.com) to make other arrangements.



**BREAD FOR THE WORLD SUNDAY  
MAY 19 AT BMPC**

**We will write letters to our  
representatives to advocate for  
hungry people.**

### **Pass a Family-Friendly Farm Bill**

The impact of the farm bill is significant. It not only affects the agriculture and food sectors – it can play a huge role in reducing food insecurity and hunger in the U.S. and abroad.

Congress is still working to renew farm bill programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and international food aid programs. Among the measures that should be included are strengthening nutrition security in domestic and international programs, creating a more equitable SNAP program, and increasing food systems sustainability.

Tell your senators and representative it's time to get the job done and pass a family-friendly farm bill.

### **NC Senators and Representative**

#### **Ted Budd**

304 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

#### **Thom Tillis**

113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

#### **Chuck Edwards**

1505 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**you can send a letter anytime at  
[bread.org/ol](https://bread.org/ol)**

# BMPC YOUTH Friends are welcome!

I cannot say thank you enough to our amazing youth advisors. They have been so supportive to myself and all of the middle and high schoolers.

**Elizabeth Ayscue**  
**Andrew and Sadie Ginn**  
**Taylor Morris**  
**Kent Patton**  
**Jessi Stitt**  
**Sam and Hannah Webber**  
**Jody Welker**  
**Ann White**

Sincerely, Katie

**in MAY**

**SAT 4** Adventure Day at Camp Grier, 10-7pm  
**WED 8** Small Groups, 6:30-7:30pm  
**SUN 12** No Youth – Happy Mother’s Day!  
**WED 15** Small Groups, 6:30-7:30pm  
**FRI 17** Tourist Game, 6:35pm  
**SUN 19** Family Night Potluck, 5:30pm  
**WED 22** Small Groups, 6:30-7:30pm  
**SUN 26** No Youth – Happy Memorial Day!  
**WED 29** Small Groups, 6:30-7:30pm  
**FRI 31** Yard Sale Set up, 4-6pm

BMPC youth are having a yard sale on June 1 to raise money for conferences, retreats, service projects, and fellowship opportunities. We are looking for donations starting on Sunday, May 19, before worship until May 31 during office hours.

**Thank you for your support!**



**We are welcoming rising sixth graders to our recreation events to get to know our older youth and advisors.**





**RAD!**  
 RECREATION ART DRAMA FUN  
**WEDNESDAYS**  
**@BMPC**

**April 10 through May 22 – 3:00-5:30 p.m.**

We are learning about Fruits of the Spirit and preparing for Children’s Worship on Sunday, May 19.



**CHILDREN'S**  
 SUNDAY, MAY 19 AT 11:00 AM  
**WORSHIP**  
*The Fruits of the Spirit*

Join us in the Sanctuary as the children of BMPC lead the worship service for Pentecost Sunday and share about the fruits of the Spirit.

## A commentary on Dr. Corrie Green and her Wednesday night series from Stephanie Wilder

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church has been sponsoring Wednesday evening talks by the remarkable Dr. Corrie Greene this winter and spring. Corrie was a professor at Montreat College until the school took a sharp turn to the right and required teachers to sign certain testimonies, and Corrie said no, and left teaching. As a comment on how miserably teachers are paid, Corrie says she makes more money as a manager at Blue Ridge Biscuit than she did at Montreat!

The first series we went to was about the physical, religious, and social burden of chivalry on masculinity. Corrie tracked these burdens into the twenty-first century exploring how the chivalric code can still be a burden, especially here, in the south. She explored theories of class, race, religion, and gender in her sessions.

The next series we attended was about the influence of friendship, war, women, and beer on C.S. Lewis and Tolkien and how each influence benefitted the writing of the other. Corrie enhanced our knowledge of both these iconic writers and explored their attitudes towards spirituality, love, and warfare.

Now we are attending a series on Avarice and how it is the sin that feeds all other sins. As a medievalist, Corrie loves Chaucer and used *The Pardoner's Tale* as an illustration of how slippery avarice can be. I have taught *Canterbury Tales* at Country Day and at the Juvie facility but wish I had had the benefit of Corrie's insights to make the book come into more vivid focus for my students. It's clear that she is a huge Chaucer fan and she communicates well why we, her students, should be fans as well. Her enthusiasm and intensity bring medieval literature to life and it becomes relevant in today's world. Corrie has recently returned from Britain where she did research in Oxford and Wales, and she has handled some of the rare volumes she talked about. Ordinarily I would be only remotely interested in handling a dusty book even by Chaucer, but imagining that book through Corrie's eyes, the information made me so jealous!

Corrie's presentation skills are so good that she could make even the most disinterested student sit up and pay attention. I love it that Black Mountain Presbyterian Church offers programs like these. The church feeds parishioners in so many ways. On Wednesday nights spaghetti supper is offered for the whole church. The church feeds its members and anyone else who cares to attend physically, intellectually, and spiritually. I am not a member of this church but feel profoundly welcomed every time I show up. Thank you, Black Mountain Pres!

## Presbyterian Women

**Circles meet**

**Tuesday, May 7**

**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.

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**Wednesday, May 8**

**Joy**

6:30 p.m. CR2

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**Tuesday, May 14 & 28**

**Lydia**

6:30 p.m. Church House

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**PW Spring Gathering  
will be on Thursday,  
May 16, at 5:30 in  
fellowship hall.**

The deadline for attendance is  
Thursday, May 9. Please email

**Barbara Brinson**

**bbrinson51@gmail.com**

if you have not yet registered through  
your circle but plan to attend.



# May birthdays

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1</b> Alice McDowell  | <b>17</b> Blair Holladay<br>Chaley Munn                                       |
| <b>2</b> Mistie Reising-Cogbill<br>Daniel Cappelli                   | <b>18</b> Mary McMahon<br>Lucy Reiley   |
| <b>3</b> Dick Hobson   | <b>19</b> Anne Moseley  |
| <b>5</b> Roan Kirkpatrick<br>Jim McDowell                            | <b>21</b> Ann Carr Adkins   |
| <b>6</b> Susan Dannenberg  | <b>22</b> Ruth Duckworth<br>Barbara Gaw<br>Beth Gunn                          |
| <b>7</b> Mike Begley<br>Henry Wilde<br>Leo Cappelli                  | <b>23</b> William Hana<br>Mary Carroll Dodd<br>Jody Welker<br>Paola Navarrete |
| <b>8</b> Beth Farmer<br>Nancy Shelton                                | <b>25</b> Bruce Gunn  |
| <b>9</b> Drew Banzhoff<br>Dick Nygren                                | <b>26</b> Jean Chamberlain  |
| <b>12</b> Carla Black  | <b>27</b> Davis Campbell<br>Patty Keith                                       |
| <b>13</b> Jack Kirkpatrick   | <b>28</b> Maggie Decker<br>Beau Van Note                                      |
| <b>14</b> Lindsey Banks<br>Tanner Pickett<br>Juniper Garrity         | <b>29</b> Erskine Clarke  |
| <b>15</b> John Walker<br>Paul Ginther                                | <b>30</b> Judy Williams   |
| <b>16</b> Kitty Kelly<br>Stan Skeen<br>Rachel Beaver<br>Janet Martin | <b>31</b> Ethan Kadau<br>Jackie Kerr  |



Join us for a fun night at the Asheville Tourist baseball game on Friday, May 17, at 6:35 p.m.

We have 50 tickets reserved for this game against the Rome Braves. The seats are covered, It's Dollar Dog Night, and we will be able to enjoy fireworks after the game.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity! Reserve your tickets by Wednesday, May 8, at [bmpcnc.org](http://bmpcnc.org) or call the church office 828-669-2725. **See you at the ballgame!**



## Church Fellowship Night

Don't want to cook or maybe just want to socialize? Come to The Railyard on Thursday, May 30, at 5:30 p.m. There's no program and we encourage everyone to come – families, singles, couples, and anyone else. Food and drinks are available for purchase.

**Hope to see you there!**





# BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

117 Montreat Road, PO Box 39  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727  
[www.bmpcnc.org](http://www.bmpcnc.org)

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

**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*



**MATTHEW 25**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 5:30-7:30pm**

**SUMMER  
KICKOFF PARTY!**

**FOOD • MUSIC • GAMES • AND FUN!**

**BLACK MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
117 MONTREAT ROAD**