



# Bethesda Banner

## Bethesda Presbyterian Church

4858 McConnell's Hwy.  
York, SC 29745  
803-328-1360

Sunday School  
9:45  
Worship Service  
11:00

*One Spirit ~*

*One Body ~*

*Many Gifts*



This is a publication of the  
people of Bethesda  
Presbyterian Church

York, South Carolina

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It's hard to believe that the beginning of the 2017 - 2018 school year is right around the corner. Everyone, including teachers, parents, family members, church members, coaches, scout leaders, and the list could go on, who interacts with children will impact their young lives in either a positive or negative way. May our words and actions always reflect the sound wisdom of this anonymous poem.

### Children Learn What They Live

If children live with...

criticism, they learn to condemn.

hostility, they learn to fight.

ridicule, they learn to be shy.

shame, they learn to feel guilty.

tolerance, they learn to be patient.

encouragement, they learn confidence.

fairness, they learn justice.

security, they learn to have faith.

approval, they learn to like themselves.

acceptance and friendship, they learn to find love in the world.

**God's commandant to love must be ever present in the Christian's mind and heart. Without love we fail as Christ's witnesses. Without love, our faith is a sham.**

## *An Important Day at Bethesda - August 13*

On August 13th Bethesda's **Guatemala Mission Team** will lead the morning worship service to share with us their recent experiences in Guatemala. Come hear their inspiring stories of how God is working in their lives and the lives of the people of La Mision!

Also, on July 13th a **Congregational Meeting** will be held immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect 3 members from the congregation to the Elder Nominating Committee. If you would like to nominate someone to this committee, please make sure you discuss it with them before the meeting.

## *A Note from Our Treasurer*

The following is a note from our Treasurer, Faye Boyd:  
 In January when the Board of Trustees asked if I would allow myself to be re-elected as treasurer for 2017 I agreed to serve. Although the treasurer does not have to be a member of Session, at that time we also discussed would I remain as treasurer after I rotate off of Session on December 31st. I told the Board I would make that decision early enough in this year to allow it plenty of time to seek a qualified replacement in the event I wished to decline. I made my decision a couple months ago that I did not desire to be re-elected in 2018 and informed the Board accordingly with a resignation effective date of September 30. Why September 30? This would allow time for me to help with orderly transition of authorized signature(s) on all of our church financial/investment accounts while still a member of Session with authority to have access to those files while chairing the Administrative/Stewardship Committee.

It has been an honor for me to serve as your church treasurer. I greatly appreciate and thank you for the trust shown in me to allow me to serve in this capacity. It is a working position and we have during my tenure made many changes in office procedures dealing with the church's finances to make the office function as what it is, i.e., a business office. I am confident in the election of my successor these will be continued and look forward to assisting our newly elected and incoming treasurer, Todd Russell, in any way possible for an orderly transition of duties. Our church is very fortunate to have someone as qualified as Todd to assume oversight and reporting responsibility for the church's finances in the future since we, the members of Bethesda, as well as Session will be assured of always getting a very clear and accurate report of the church's financial position, thus allowing us to make wise decisions for its financial future.

### *July Attendance*

	Worship	Sun.	School
July 2	65		40
July 9	55	.	38
July 16	66		41
July 23	73		38
July 30	70		48

### *Elders on Duty – August*

Faye Boyd  
 Karen Percival  
 Stacy Russell



## *Bethesda Ladies Will Hold Annual Meeting and Salad Supper*

**The Bethesda Presbyterian Women will have its annual meeting and covered dish Salad Supper** on Sunday, August 27 at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Each officer will give a brief year-end report. Officers for PW year 2017-18 which begins in September will be recognized. There are still some officer positions available. If you are interested in serving, please contact Gayle Dickson.

A special part of the program will be the presentation of the Honorary Life Membership. This award is given every two years to a woman who demonstrates outstanding service to the church.

Ladies, please bring your special salad and join us for the PW annual meeting August 27 at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Salads are delicious and fellowship is great!

**Circle meetings begin a new year in September.** The Evening Circle meets the first Monday of each month in the Session Room. They will study Conversations on the Porch by Rev. Beth Templeton. The Morning Circle meets the first Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. This circle will study Twelve Ordinary Men.

## *Property Committee Needs Your Help*

Recently the church's storage building was broken into and several items were stolen. The value of the items amounted to less than the deductible for our insurance to cover. If you would like to make a monetary donation to help cover the replacement cost or if you have an item in good condition that you no longer need and would like to donate, please contact Trey Amick (803)322-6863 or the church office. The following is a list of equipment that needs to be replaced: backpack sprayer needed to clean leaves and debris from walk ways and parking lot, impact drill, chain saw, weedeater, two heavy duty drop cords (one 25 feet and one 150 feet). All of these items totaled well over \$1500.00. Thank you for your support in helping us replace these much needed items.

## *Office Hours Change*

Our Session has approved the request of the Administrative and Stewardship Committee to **change the church office hours during July and August.** The new hours are:

9:00 - 11:00 am Staff working but the office will be closed to visitors

11:00 - 1:00 pm Staff working and the office will be open to visitors

The office phone will go to the answering machine daily when the office is closed, or calls will be taken by Rev. Blaikie Tuesday - Friday when he is in the office during this time.

Church Office 803 - 328 - 1360      Manse 803 - 329 - 6441

**Got Knowledge?**

**Got Understanding?**

**Got a Thirst for God's Word?**

**Thursday Night Bible Study  
with Pastor Doug Begins  
August 17.**





**Child Development Center**

A Ministry of Bethesda  
Presbyterian Church

### *CDC Will Hold Preschool Open House in August*

School days are here again! Bethesda CDC will be doing our final field trips on the week of July 31-August 4th. Public schools will begin August 17th, so if you will be needing after-school care, please be sure to sign-up at the front desk asap.

**We will hold our annual preschool Open House for 2yr old, 3yr old, and 4K classes on Tuesday, August 15th at 6:45 pm.** A lot of important information will be covered for the new school year, so please try to attend. Annual fees will be due September 1.

Our center will be closed Monday, Sept. 4th in observance of Labor Day. We would like to congratulate and thank **Ms. Linda Adkins** for her 25 years of service at Bethesda CDC. We pray for a wonderful and safe 2017-18 school year for all!

### *Our Team Returns from Guatemala*

**Our Guatemala Mission Team** returned safe and sound on July 22. **A huge Thank You** to all who supported our mission through prayer, encouraging words, and/or financial support! We had a wonderful week working with Dr. Tito and the La Mision team, being the hands and feet of Jesus and shining His love into the lives of the Guatemalan people. We can't wait to share our experiences with you in worship on Sunday, August 13th in the Family Life Center.



## Carrying Our Banner

The Oxford Dictionary states that a banner is “A long strip of cloth bearing a slogan or design, carried... or hung in a public place.” While the Bethesda Banner is not a strip of cloth but a collection of articles and graphics, it does bear the slogan or design of Bethesda Presbyterian Church. It is sent out to our congregation and taken into public places where it makes a statement about the people of faith here. It should reflect our desire to grow in our relationship with God and our fellow man. Our Banner is more than a newsy publication and calendar. It is our banner to the world, specifically the York, McConnells and Rock Hill communities. It is a message of inspiration, celebration, and hope that should motivate us and others to worship and serve our Lord. First

and foremost, it must carry the message of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

If you could choose a slogan to write on Bethesda’s Banner, what would you choose? How Great Thou Art? The Church is One Foundation? A Mighty Fortress Is Our God? Amazing Grace? He Shall Reign Forever and Ever? Victory Belongs to Jesus? Where would you take our Banner?

If you could write a slogan or quote on your own personal banner, something inspirational or thought-provoking, what would you write? Where would you carry your banner and with whom would you share its message?

## August

### A Thought to Ponder A Message to Carry

*The following quote is written at the entrance to Monterey Bay Aquarium in CA. While it expresses a sobering truth about our environment, it can also be a powerful motivation to teach the next generation our faith with commitment and passion and a sense of urgency.*

*“In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we have been taught.”* —Baba Dioum

What will we **conserve**? Who or what do we **love**? What do we **understand**? What are we **teaching** and **to whom** are we teaching?

If you would like to share your “Thought to Ponder,” you may submit it for the September edition of the Bethesda Banner to [bethesdabanner@comporium.net](mailto:bethesdabanner@comporium.net).

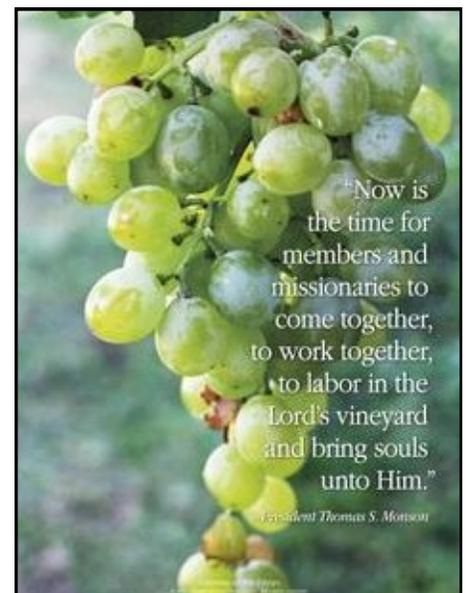
## An Update from the Matias Family

Laura, Felipe, Sophia, Jessie, and Josiah Matias safely arrived in the United States from Sao Paulo, Brazil on Tuesday, June 27. Many thanks for all the prayers and well wishes for safe travels and for Josiah’s recovery from his recent serious illness. Josiah’s health is greatly improved and he is once again a smiling, bouncy, happy ten month old baby boy.

They spent their first week in the US visiting with family, taking care of the multitude of necessary details related to an extended stay in the US, and adjusting to the culture shock that always accompanies a transition from Brazil to the US. The family left for Raleigh on July 6, where they will spend the rest of the summer visiting in churches in the Raleigh area to share

about their ministry, returning to the Rock Hill area mid August for the girls to enter school.

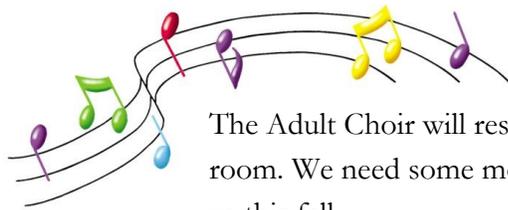
While in the US they will be available to share about their mission work or share from God’s Word at worship services, Sunday Schools, small groups, gatherings, or events. If you know of a church, school, or other organization that would like to receive a presentation from them, they can be reached at [laura.felipe.matias@gmail.com](mailto:laura.felipe.matias@gmail.com). They look forward to seeing their many friends and supporters over the next few months while they are in the US. Again, thank you for your prayers and support.



1 Chay Williamson  
Seth Williamson  
4 Darius Alexander  
6 Hope Dover  
7 Teresa King  
8 Ellen Dewey  
10 Peggy Adkins  
11 Jim Bell  
Nancy Smith  
14 Vic Adkins  
Hildegard Bell  
14 JD Hibbard



Robert Messer  
Lennie Teska  
15 Geraldine Blackmon  
20 Hart Teska  
21 Abby Smith  
22 Lisa Faris  
Nancy Moore  
23 Betty Jo Alexander  
Rebecca Simpson  
27 Barbara Thompson  
29 Kim Mitchell



## Music Ministry

The Adult Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 23 at 7:00 in the choir room. We need some more voices to join us. Please pray about this and consider joining us this fall.

The Children's Choir will sing for the worship service on September 3.

Voices of Grace will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00 in the sanctuary. We would love to have some more voices join the VOG.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to the following youth who attended Sunday School every Sunday during the month of July:

Carolann Bull  
Elizabeth Bull  
Reagan Hall

## A Note of Thanks

Thank you to all the people who helped make the beautiful blanket you gave to Cayden. It is very special to us and we really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Lauren Medley and Matthew McDaniel

## School Days Don't End on Fridays

September isn't the beginning of a new year, but it is the beginning of a new school year. Families with children may need to adjust their schedules and/or become familiar with new places and new faces as they settle into new routines. Hopefully, the transition from summertime to school time will be a smooth one for all.

Because school days may be hectic and demanding for both parents and children, on Sunday mornings we may hear that small voice that tells us, "Take a break. Rest. Recharge. You've earned it."

Sunday is the Lord's Day. It is a day different from all the other days of the week. It is a day to rest and recharge. More importantly, it is a day of worship, praise, and thanksgiving. It is when we as a church family can come to School together, learn and pray together. In doing so we ingrain in our children's impressionable minds that church is a place where we go to learn about God and his love. It is not just a place to worship, but a place of learning in the midst of kind and loving people. It is a place where adults and children learn "What a fellowship, what a joy divine ... what a blessedness, what a peace is mine." It is where we learn that it's ok to lean on the everlasting arms of Jesus every day of the week.

# August 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Youth Mission Trip - Thornwell Children's Home July 30 - Aug 5		1	2	3 Holy Conversations Comm. meeting 7:00-8:30 SR	4	5
6 Worship Committee Meeting 4:00 SR CE Committee Meeting 6:30 FH	7 Boy Scouts Fellowship Hall 7:00	8	9	10	11	12
13 Cong Life Meeting 4:00 Admin Comm Meeting 6:00 SR	14 Boy Scouts Fellowship Hall 7:00	15 CDC Preschool Open House 6:45 pm	16	17 Bible Study 7:00	18	19
20 Session Meeting 7:00	21 Boy Scouts Fellowship Hall 7:00	22	23 Choir Practice 7:00	24 Bible Study 7:00	25	26
27 PW Salad Supper 5:00 FH <b>RALLY DAY</b> PATH collection	28 Boy Scouts Fellowship Hall 7:00	29	30 Choir Practice 7:00	31 Bible Study 7:00		

### *Remember in Prayer*

**At Bethesda**

Geraldine Blackmon  
Edna Pinson  
Bill Dover  
Ethan Hose  
Jimmy Neely  
Michelle Melton  
Jonathan Lauckner  
Robert Jones  
Steve Rawdon  
Irvin Jones

**Homebound**

Nancy Moore  
Amelia Simmers

**In the Community and Beyond**

Larry Rockholt  
Pat Jones Reeves  
Lilly Davis  
Christine Roberts  
Dorothy Hazard  
Sandra Honeycutt  
Jennifer Simmons

Audrey Branch  
Beverly Sledge  
Mary DeSantis  
Gene Carter

Woody Percival  
Laney Allen  
Chris Brackett  
Melvin Collins  
Erline Henderson  
Natalie Bentos-Pereira  
Reed Wagner  
Laura Ross

Elsa Carabello

Martha Costner  
Leigh Sanford  
Charles Panter family  
Betsy Johnson family  
Tony Hyatt family (Linda Adkins'brother)

**Our Global Mission Partners**

Matias Family  
Palacios Family  
Driggers Family

*One Spirit ~ One Body ~ Many Gifts*

## Bethesda Presbyterian Church

*4858 McConnells Hwy.  
York, South Carolina 29745*

*Phone: 803.328.1360*

*Email: [bethesda@comporium.net](mailto:bethesda@comporium.net)*

*Website: [www.bethesdapres.org](http://www.bethesdapres.org)*

### Our Pastor:

Rev. Doug Blaikie

### Our Elders:

Ralph Adams

Darius Alexander

Trey Amick

Liz Blackwell

Ernice Bookout

Faye Boyd

Debbie Darby

Cheryl Forlines

John Nettles

Stacy Russell

Todd Russell



Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

### Our Mission

We celebrate the sharing of the Good News of Jesus Christ who is the head of the Church. Through the leading of the Holy Spirit, we are God's servants dedicated to the nurturing of all people in faith, service and fellowship; providing service to those in need; comforting the bereaved; ministering to the sick; offering solace to the troubled; and always seeking the lost.

We invite all believers in the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to share the communion loaf and cup of communion as symbols of our unity and service to the Risen Lord.



Established 1760

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### Bethesda Presbyterian Church Staff:

Secretary/Bookkeeper - Pat Jones

Director of Music Ministry - LaRayne Hall

Director of Children/Youth Ministries - Sarah Childers

CDC Director - Cindy Jackson

Caretaker - Mike Percival

Sexton - Donna Hagler