

THE CHALLENGE

Bethlehem Methodist Church

Volume 13

Issue 5

May 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

*There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:*

*a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8



Bethlehem Methodist Church

**Our Mission at Bethlehem Church is
to share the love and spirit of Christ,
be a welcoming fellowship for all,
nurture followers of Jesus and send
them, as servants, into the world in
need of God's grace.**

Pastor

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Church Office

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Gloria Austin

Pianist

Laura Cranfill

Childcare Director

Erica Shanahan
336-674-9879

Custodian

Ovido Sorbito

Webmaster

Kylie Russell



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Visit our Website at

bethlehemmethodist.org

STEWARDSHIP REPORT-March 2025

Budget – Revenues & Expenses

\$594,095.33 Total Budget's Fund Balance as of March 1, 2025

+ 30,827.89 Money Received in March

- 20,491.58 Money Spent in March

\$604,431.64 Budget's Fund Balance as of March 31, 2025

For the month of March, 2025, the Church Budget received \$10,336.31 more than it spent. For the year, the Church Budget received \$17,324.89 more than it spent.

Designated Gifts

Major Maintenance & Repair Fund – this designated money will be used to pay for major maintenance or repair projects to the Church building, parsonage or parking lot. The Board of Trustees must recommend all expenditures from this fund to the Church Council, and the Church Council must approve all expenditures from this fund. This is a perpetual fund and a minimum balance of \$2,500.00 shall be maintained at all times. This fund was created by a vote of the church council on March 13, 2011, and was established with \$12,000.00.

\$151,718.62 MM&RF Money Available March 31, 2025

Other Designated Gifts – occurs when the Church receives money for a designated purpose and the Church shall only spend this money for the purpose that it was given.

Camp Tekoa	\$ 781.88	Arbor Fund	\$ 863.43
Food Pantry	\$ 1,279.68	Handbells	\$ 160.52
Discretionary Fund	\$ 1,481.95	Scholarship-Religion Ed	\$ 1,983.22
Records & History	\$ 581.56	Missions-Undesignated	\$ 17,108.37
Alpha & Omega Youth	\$24,832.82	Cemetery Fund-Maint.	\$ 37,074.31
Children & Family Ministries	\$ 4,049.47	Choir Fund	\$ 286.26
Helen Grady Endow.	\$ 800.00	Flowers	\$ - 7.00
(\$800 History)			

Total Other Designated Gifts \$91,276.47

Total Designated Gifts Collective Fund Balance as of March 31, 2025 \$242,995.09

Trust Funds

\$101,800.00 Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund

In order to plan and provide the necessary funds for the care and upkeep of our cemetery, a Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund was created. This fund was a non-expendable trust fund in which the principle (donations) cannot be spent but the interest earned on the principle can be spent for the care and upkeep of the cemetery. The Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund was capped as of March 17, 2016 by the Church Council and is no longer taking donations.

\$64,043.68 Helen Grady Endowment Fund

The money was donated to our church from the estate of Helen Grady in 2007 to be used for improvements to the church, community, or the development of an individual. The money is at the United Methodist Foundation of WNC, Inc. and the amount that can be spent annually is 5% of the last three (3) years average end-of-year balance.

Frank Willis, Stewardship Ministry Chair



May Wordsearch

S	R	E	W	O	L	F	A	O	W	R	G	R	R
V	I	T	N	E	V	I	T	A	E	R	C	G	E
E	O	F	U	S	M	S	Y	E	A	M	S	L	M
T	E	R	R	T	R	A	A	D	E	F	P	P	E
E	R	E	T	A	E	O	U	M	D	O	R	O	M
R	I	E	U	I	E	A	O	A	E	I	I	W	B
A	P	D	R	W	T	R	C	D	T	P	N	R	R
N	S	O	E	I	I	L	D	H	T	U	G	E	A
S	N	M	O	A	O	R	E	L	E	U	I	A	N
T	I	N	L	F	A	M	I	L	Y	R	O	T	C
G	A	R	D	E	N	D	S	O	S	R	S	H	E
N	U	T	E	A	D	R	M	O	T	H	E	R	S
R	F	W	E	I	H	O	N	O	R	P	N	A	N
M	R	G	S	I	X	T	Y	P	L	U	S	S	D

MEMORIAL
OUTDOORS
INSPIRE
FLOWERS
FREEDOM
NURTURE
MOTHERS
GARDEN
SIXTY PLUS
WREATH
GRADUATION
HONOR
FAMILY
REMEMBRANCE
SPRING
CREATIVE
VETERANS
TEACHERS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8278895/>



Lauren Haywood's Exercise

Classes

DANCE, SCULPT, & STRETCH

What to expect - 30 minutes of our original low impact / high intensity cardio "DANCE SCULPT" followed by 15 minutes of targeted SCULPTING, and 15 minutes of STRETCHING. With this combo we will be able to torch fat, tone muscles, and release tension ALL in one hour together!

Mondays - 5:30-6:30 p.m. @ Tabernacle (Sculpt-Core focus)

Wednesdays - 6:30-7:30 p.m. @ Bethlehem (Sculpt-Glute focus)

All classes \$5 or \$20/5 classes punch cards available at Bethlehem [only]. Please bring your own mat, bottled water, 1-5 lb. weights (optional), & sweat towel. Open to ALL fitness levels! Zero experience needed. New members WELCOME!

Questions - contact Lauren 336-686-4192 or laurenmstarr22@gmail.com



Save The Date

The Secret Pal reveal is almost here! It's scheduled for June 8th and there will be a reception afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.





Friendly Club

Friendly Club will meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 am on Tuesday, May 13th to get on the bus and head to the Franklinville Diner. After a good lunch and conversation, we have been graciously invited back to Helen Waugh's home to see her landscaping, paintings, etc. For those who missed the tour of her home last year, you will have another opportunity to see Helen's beautiful home and how talented she is concerning her paintings. THANK YOU HELEN!!



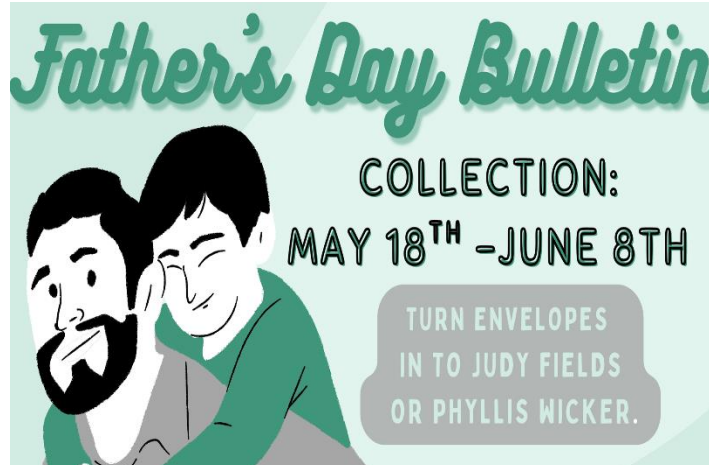
Childcare Spotlight

Graduation for our Childcare is coming up! It will be Thursday, May 22nd at 6:30PM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us and support our kids as they take another step in their journey of growing up.



If you're interested in reading to our preschool children please come to read, sing and enjoy books with them here at Bethlehem. Pick out a book or two and sign up to come on Tuesdays at 10:30AM to the church library. Themes for May include farm, plants, insects, God's creation, and in nature. The sign up sheet can be found in the Narthex.

Also a big thank you to Guilford County UMC for the chairs they donated to our childcare!



Memorials & Honorariums

Since the last newsletter publication, the following gifts have been made in memory/honor as listed. Bethlehem Church gratefully acknowledges each gift received.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of **Joyce Oliver**
By Alice Jones

In Memory of **Jodi Weatherly**
By Bob Weatherly (x3)

In Memory of **Jimmie Jones**
By Alice Jones

In Memory of **Clem Royal**
By Margaret Royal

In Memory of **Keith & Charles Parks**
By Evonne Parks

In Memory of **Ruby Hockett**
By Larry & Lynne Causey

In Memory of **Robbie Monnett**
By Margaret Royal

In Memory of **Chuck Rowland**
By Sheila & Wayne Moser

HONORARIUMS

In Honor of **Missions Team**
By Jerry & Karon Monnett

In Honor of **Kelsey Garrett**
By Phala Garrett

In Honor of **Dale Austin, Buddy Fields, Terry Franklin, Todd Garrett, Russell Hill, & Byron Dahl**
By The Arlene Stokes Circle

In Honor of **Susan Davis**
By Jane Williams

In Honor of **Graduates**
By Jerry & Karon Monnett

In Honor of **Wayne & Phyllis Alley, Jerry & Karon Monnett, & Phyllis Wicker**
By Wayne & Sheila Moser

In Honor of **Ruth Rowland**
By Sheila & Wayne Moser

In Honor of **Jane Reddick**
By David & Laura Cranfill

In Honor of **Joe & Phyllis Garrett**
By Dottie Tew

In Honor of **Helen Waugh**
By Jeff & Allison Eanes
By Sid Fields

Prayer LIST

Those in Need of Prayer

Active Duty Military

Our Church

LeeAnne Curtis

The Family of Doug Downing

Cory Fields

Kelsey Garrett

Donald Rose McGhee

Carlie H.

Clyde Land

Jerri Ramsey

Barbara Riddle

Sammy Wall

Frank Willis

Our Homebound & Shut-ins

Our printed prayer list includes church members and close family and friends of church members.



May

5/1 Allison Eanes
Russell Hill

5/5 Lore Lambert

5/6 Mark Wilkinson

5/7 Wendi Martin Lowe

5/8 Tim Parrish

5/9 Jana Fields
John Holder
Shirley Kinne
Barry Norris
Alan Wilkinson

5/13 Jeannie Suggs

5/15 Anna-Grace Fulk

5/16 Kelly Fields

5/17 Caleb Windsor

5/19 Kelsea Owens

5/22 Eutha Bowman
Nancy Golden
Brittany Ingold
Taylor Martin

5/26 Adam Garrett
Todd Ingold
Lowell Suggs

5/27 Faye Fields
Debbie Waugh
Londa Parks

5/28 Gilbert Suggs

5/29 Christal Owens
Karen Barbone

5/31 Mike Hinshaw



June

6/1 Judy Fields
David Peele

6/2 Asher Garrett

6/4 Betty Fields
Jenahlee Young

6/5 Elaine Bowman

6/6 Ashton Allen
Bradon Allen
Sid Fields
Marguerite Fields
Amanda Fields

6/9 Chad Garrett
Joyce King

6/10 Sherri Bowman

6/12 Margaret Royal

6/13 Doug Nance

6/14 Phillip Jones
Deena King
Dale Austin

6/17 Glenn Getner

6/20 Michelle Hinshaw
Reagan Owens

6/21 Carol Fields
Cindy Fields
Jennifer Young

6/22 Brenda Fields




6/23 Fran Getner
Craig McClintock

6/26 Jonah Owens

6/28 Kennedy Waugh Pavatt



May 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10AM Child. Chapel (Sanct.) 4PM Child. Chapel (Sanct.) 7PM Trustees Meeting (Parlor)	2	3 8AM Bibles & Biscuits @ Climax Firehouse #35 11AM 60+ Set Up
4 3rd Sunday of Easter Peanut Butter & Oatmeal Sunday 9:15AM SS 10AM Worship-Communion- MOTHER'S DAY BULLETIN DUE 5PM Omega Youth 5PM Alpha Youth 6PM 60+ Dinner	5 Walking Group (Time Varies)	6 10:30AM StoryTime	7 Walking Group (Time Varies) 6:30PM Exercise (FH) 7PM Choir Practice	8	9	10 11AM FH Reserved
11 4th Sunday of Easter <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:15AM SS 10AM Worship	12 Walking Group (Time Varies)	13 10:30AM StoryTime 11AM Friendly Club (Bus Reserved) 	14 9:30AM Bookmobile Walking Group (Time Varies) 6:30PM Exercise (FH) 6:30PM Childcare Meeting (Sunshine Classroom) 7PM Choir Practice	15 10AM Child. Chapel (Sanct.) 4PM Child. Chapel (Sanct.)	16	17 10AM FH Reserved
18 5th Sunday of Easter 9:15AM SS 10AM Worship -Noisy Offering- 12PM FH Reserved FATHER'S DAY BULLETIN BEGINS 5PM Omega Youth 5PM Alpha Youth	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Walking Group (Time Varies)	20 10:30AM StoryTime	21 Walking Group (Time Varies) 6:30PM Exercise (FH) 7PM Choir Practice	22 6:30PM Childcare Graduation	23 Bus Reserved 	24
25 6th Sunday of Easter 9:15AM SS 10AM Worship	26 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED 10:30AM Arlene Stokes Circle (Parlor) Walking Group (Time Varies)	27 10:30AM StoryTime	28  Wonderful Wednesday (Bus leaves at 9:40AM) Walking Group (Time Varies) 6:30PM Exercise (FH) 7PM Choir Practice	29	30	<h1 style="text-align: center;">June</h1>

GREETERS:

5/4 Debbie Brady
 5/11 Maysa & Aubrey
 5/18 Elaine Bowman
 5/25 Cheryl Bazhaw

ALTAR FLOWERS:

5/4 Susan & Andrew Coward
 5/11 Becky Windsor
 5/18 OPEN
 5/25 OPEN

ACOLYTES:

5/4 Quart Fulk
 5/11 Bradon Allen
 5/18 Ashton Allen
 5/25 Aubrey Wilson

USHERS:

Dale Austin
 Tim Fields
 Glen Getner
 Greg Wicker

MAY OPENER:

Dale Austin

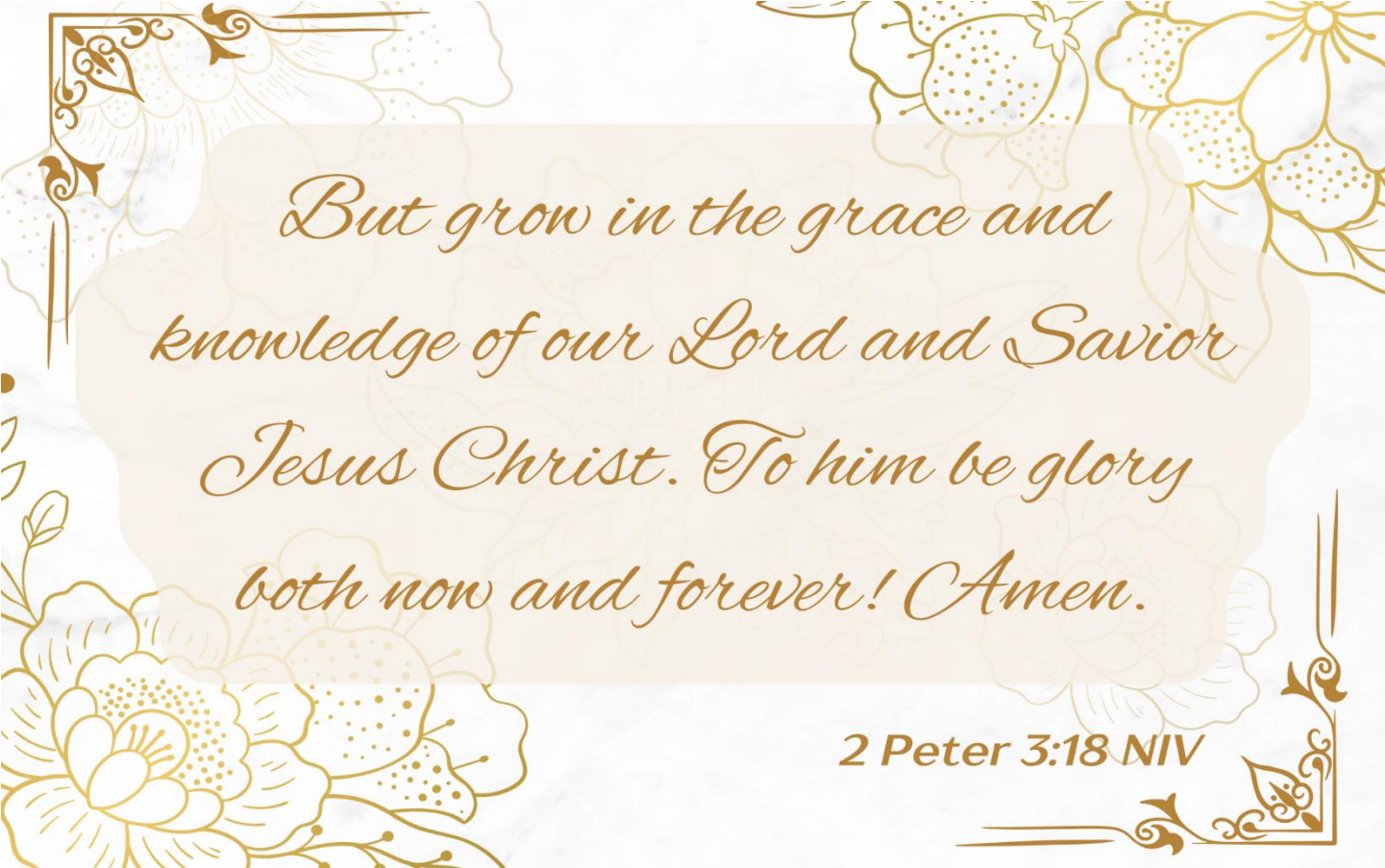
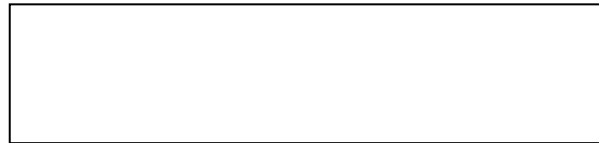
MAY CLOSER:

Phyllis Wicker

Bethlehem Methodist Church
P.O. Box 56/6103 Appomattox Road
Climax, NC 27233

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*But grow in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ. To him be glory
both now and forever! Amen.*

2 Peter 3:18 NIV