

SUMMER
IS TIME FOR WARM NIGHTS
WATERMELON
BARE FEET AND BARBEQUES
SWEET CORN SUNFLOWERS
RIP EPICNICS CAMPFIRES
TOMATOES LEMONADE
LIGHTENING STORMS LOVE

Beulah and Monterey eNewsletter

June 31, 2022

Pastor's Letter for July

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³ 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



I spent most of last week at the Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference. 250 Middle School youth along with about 25 Senior High "Advocates" and numerous adult leaders and chaperones all living together, studying God's Word, practicing God's Word. It was a truly energizing experience!

I have not been to such a youth event in many years. I used to attend Montreat Youth Conferences, Trienniums and Presbytery youth events on a regular basis. I was involved with several of the earliest Middle School Conferences at Massanetta many years ago. I found that attending such events connected me to other Presbyterians from a wide variety of backgrounds. There were urban folks, suburban folks, and rural folks. There were people of color, people who spoke with different accents, and, of course, people of all ages. The music reflected the diversity, the conversations, reflected the diversity, the teaching reflected the diversity. It was a great way to be reminded that the children of God are each unique but also share a lot of commonalities.

The words that Jesus spoke were radical back then and they are radical today. The feeling of those in power were that the powerful are blessed. The rich are blessed. The well-fed are blessed. The popular are blessed. Jesus turned that upside down. The folks all the way at the other end of the spectrum are the ones truly blessed. And blessing is not about having stuff, it is about being in right relationship with God. Most of the time the "stuff" we have gets in the way of a right relationship. Not because it has to, but because we allow it.

The Church is the body of Christ. Because Christ was regularly pointing out how upside down the world is the church needs to be doing that also. That is not an easy role. It is not a popular role. But somebody needs to provide a moral compass in a world that seems to have run amok. The best compass I have found is Jesus Christ. In the month of July we will be taking a look at how that might work. Hopefully that will inspire you to join in the challenge. It will not be easy. One of my favorite verses in the Bible is from Jeremiah 12:5



If you have raced with foot-runners and they have wearied you,
how will you compete with horses?

Jeremiah was complaining to God about how difficult his job as God's prophet was. God didn't seem to have much sympathy. Instead God said that things were going to get even harder.

We need to keep at it, no matter how difficult it gets. Our most powerful tool is hope. God is still at work in the world. Working through you and working through me. Stay with it!

Your pastor, Rick

BIRTHDAYS

July 4 - Eli Moore
July 5 – Ethan Moore
July 9 – Carol Furr
July 12 – Levi Warner
July 13 – Jim Swecker
July 22 – Mike Humphries
July 23 – Jim Sherman and Kim Bird
July 29 - Julia Blanchard

ANNIVERSARIES

July 6 – Joe and Ruby Simmons

PRAYER LIST – Keep Ardis Stephenson, Linda Frye, Mike Armstrong, Sandie Stinnett, Lola Sestrap, Mike Humphries, Garland and Lillian Dever, Ray Mueller, and Carol Roberts and Mike Gonzales in your prayers.

Lorraine White will once again be making a mission trip to Guatemala. This time the team will be helping women build cooking stoves. Please keep Lorraine and the mission team in your prayers as they do God's work.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT at BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022
8:00 TO 11:00 P.M.**

- **SNACKS/BEVERAGES PROVIDED**
- **MOVIE WILL BE SHOWN OUTSIDE ON SIDE OF CHURCH**
- **BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS, BLANKETS, COATS/JACKETS/SWEATERS**
- **MOVIE STARTS AT 9:00 P.M.**
- **IF WE HAVE INCLEMENT WEATHER, THE MOVIE WILL BE SHOWN INSIDE**
- **THIS EVENT IS FREE**

Beulah Sunday School will meet in-person and via WebEx this Sunday at 10:30 using the link below, studying Lesson #5, "The Creating Word Becomes Flesh".

<https://pianotuning.my.webex.com/meet/rasimms2000>

MPC Adult Sunday School meets at 10:00 am. The lesson this week will be from The Wired Word. *"The recent ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court has agencies and churches who minister to those considering or medically in need of an abortion working to decide how to continue their services in the new legal climate the ruling has established. As Christians, we too have the responsibility to love our neighbors, regardless of changed circumstances. Our next lesson will give us an opportunity to consider what that means for how we help those struggling with unplanned or complicated pregnancies. The lesson is not about abortion per se, but about ministry, service and loving our neighbor."* A copy of the lesson is included with the eNewsletter.

If you find yourself in Monterey one day with time to kill, or you want a little outdoor activity, the front of the Monterey Church can always use some old fashioned weeding. We prefer not to use carcinogenic sprays to protect both the earth and the person doing the spraying.

There is a plan to add additional flowering plants in pots, but for now plan is to weed before we put down more mulch and flowers.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, July 3– Communion will be celebrated at Beulah and Monterey during the worship service. Elder in Charge of Communion at Beulah is Holmes Stephenson and Mike Humphries at Monterey.

2nd ANNUAL STORY TELLING EVENT – The 2nd Saturday event for July will feature four members of our church family, Rick Hill, Jim Sherman, Bucky Reynolds and Norma Reynolds. Sponsored by the Highland County Arts Council, you can listen to their stories at the Jones House at **7:00 pm on July 9**. In case of inclement weather it will be moved to the Highland Center.

STATED SESSION MEETING

Thursday, July 14: Beulah and Monterey Joint Session Meeting at Monterey 7 pm.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Thursday, July 14 at 1:00 – Regular monthly meeting

FAREWELL DINNER

Sunday, July 24: A Joint Beulah/Monterey PC Farewell Dinner will be held at Beulah PC in honor of Pastor Rick Hill. Everyone is asked to gather in the sanctuary at **4:00 p.m.** for a Recognition Service. Following the Recognition Service, a plated dinner will be served at no charge. We want to be sure to have enough food for everyone so **PLEASE sign up by July 17, 2022**. A sign-up sheet is located in Beulah's vestibule and on the side entrance bulletin board at Monterey PC. Write your name or family's name and the number of meals needed on the sign-up sheet.

STATED SESSION MEETING

Wednesday, August 10, 2022 – Beulah's Session will hold a Stated Meeting at Beulah PC at 7:00 p.m.

DEDICATION SUNDAY

Sunday, September 18 – MPC will be dedicating the restored stained glass windows, pavilion, front garden and new roof during the worship service, followed by lunch. Reverend Bronwen Boswell, General Presbyter, Shenandoah Presbytery, will be leading worship that day. The congregations from both churches are invited to attend the worship service and stay for lunch. More details to come.

Check out the Beulah/Monterey joint website, it is growing with information - (beulahmontereypres.org).

If you have church related announcements/news you would like to share on the website, please contact Holmes or Ardis Stephenson at stephensonh@htcnet.org or call 540-468-2454 if you have Beulah information, or Tomi Herold, tomiherold@gmail.com.

From time to time, photos/videos are taken at our events and activities and shared on the website. We do want to respect people's privacy while showcasing the life of our church. **If you prefer for you and/or your child not to be photographed, please send a written request to Holmes Stephenson at stephensonh@htcnet.org or tomiherold@gmail.com.**



Our local Food Pantry is in need of paper goods. MPC will be collecting paper products this Sunday, July 3, in the back of the church. This will be followed by another "drive by" paper drive in the pavilion in August. More on the August event to come.

Paper goods, include toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, and napkins.



It is bear season and once again they are popping up all over Highland, so keep your eyes open and your bird feeders high. This hefty fellow showed up at Betty Gail and Jeff Hiner's house off of Rt. 220.



Momma and 2 cubs have decided to take up residence in Tate's yard.

Order of Worship

June 26, 2022

Main idea: We meet the triune God in the Lord's Supper

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLE LIGHTING and TIME OF CENTERING

OPENING SCRIPTURE - Psalm 105:1-6

L: ¹ O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

C: ² **Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.**

L: ³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

C: ⁴ **Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.**

L: ⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered,

C: ⁶ **O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

HYMN: "Gather Us In" #649, W&R Used with permission under One License #a-737445. All rights reserved.

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 12:17-23

THOUGHTS – The Third Space

HYMN – "Guide Me, O thou Great Jehovah" #501, W&R; #634, WC

TIME WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH – Instructions

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 22:14-23

THOUGHTS – A New Twist

SONG – "Come to My Table" words and music by Richard Hill

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

THOUGHTS – Created, Redeemed, Sustained

SONG: "I Come With Joy" #706, W&R; #768, WC Used with permission under One License #a-737445. All rights reserved.

STATEMENT OF FAITH (from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

OFFERING -

SONG OF THANKSGIVING – "We Praise You, O God" #726, W&R

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator

In grateful devotion our tribute we bring

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you

We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

PRAYER

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer of Repentance – Augustine

Assurance of God's Love

Response – "I Come With Joy" #706, W&R; #768, WC, 1st verse

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Meal

Song – "Let Us Break Bread Together", #699, W&R; #776, WC

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN: "We Come As Guests Invited" #702, W&R; #784, WC

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE