

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

Celebrating 128 years of commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior



Equipping Saints since 1893

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Traditional 8:30 a.m.

Traditional 11:00 a.m.

September 19 2021

Rev. Rachael McConnell, Pastor

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Celebration Of The Lord's Day

SEVENTEENTHSUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Gathering of God's Family

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors, we welcome you and are honored to worship with you. Please pass the Friendship Register and provide contact information so that we may greet you and welcome you further. Your presence is a blessing and is more important than your mode of dress.

PRELUDE

The Peaceable Things

C. Christianson

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Hear my prayer o God, give ear to the words of my mouth!

P: God is my helper, the upholder of my life

L: I will give thanks for your name, o Lord, for it is good!

P: For God has delivered me from every trouble

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENO

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Praying in Unison*)

Lord of Hosts, you see into my heart. You know when I allow voices other than your wisdom to guide me. I turn their volume up over your wisdom. Forgive me when envy and selfish ambition begin to come forth from my tongue. When fear of the day to come drives me to keep for myself and keep to myself. Drive from my disposition the need to create conflict, rather than sow peace. I trust in your son Jesus Christ for his mercy and his transformation.

(A moment of silent personal confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

L: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting! I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. The good news of the gospel, is for you and for all. Whatever you have done, whatever you have failed to do, whoever you are, whoever you wish you were but are not: You are accepted, you are welcomed. You are washed clean, you are raised up. You are forgiven, you are set free. Amen.

Engaging the Word

ANTHEM 8:30am

Instruments of Your Peace
Men's Ensemble

Kirk and Deby Dearman

11:00am

This Little Light Of Mine
Callie Toler and Ginger Toler, soloists

arr. M. Patterson

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN 11AM

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION 11AM

May the Words of My Mouth

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Proverbs 31: 10-26

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

James 3:13-4:8

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN IN RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE 11AM

Listen To the Word

HYMN 455

SERMON

Born of Wisdom

REV. RACHAEL MCCONNELL

Responding to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (**UNISON**)

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death. "Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption." (I Cor. 1:30.) As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order...that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance. Amen.

(Excerpts from The Theological Declaration of Barmen, within The Book of Confessions PC(USA))

*HYMN 702

Christ Beside Me

BUNESSAN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Create In Me A Heart Of Love

T. McKibben

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

ASSURANCE

Following the Word into the World

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun

arr. Noel Rawsthorne

*Congregation please stand, if able

Liturgical Color: Green

Note to hearing aid users: BEPC is equipped with a T-Coil Hearing Loop system. Many hearing aids have a special setting that connect directly to such systems; check with your audiologist!

Lyrics for Offertory

Create in Me a Heart of Love

Create in me a heart of love and cleanse my soul from sin.

Renew my spirit from above and make me whole again.

Please check the board in the bell tower narthex if you have recently requested name tags.

COVID Policy: Bear with one another in love (Colossians 3:13-14). In any community, there are different opinions about how to go about doing things. We know that some folks wish we had more restrictions, while others wish we had fewer. We seek to be a community in Christ bound together in his unity. In Christian love and charity we want to welcome our children and immunocompromised to worship in person, so we ask that all who attend the 11:00 am service wear a mask and we can provide one for you if needed. If you do not wish to wear a mask, you may worship with us at 8:30am. We want to extend a welcome to all to hear the Gospel and worship God. We seek to listen for God's wisdom and these policies will be revisited and revised as needed.

We welcome you to our services with Christian Love. If you are not yet comfortable attending worship services in the sanctuary, you can view the 11 AM worship service on our YouTube channel each Sunday after 1 PM: www.BannerElkPresbyterian.org/videos. Also watch weekly devotionals for children and mission features. Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bannerekpresbyterian> to enjoy videos of special music and get other updates from the church. These links are "live" on the website. Another option is to listen live to either worship service from the parking lot on FM 106.7. Also, the 8:30 service offers more social distancing. Thank you for your flexibility during challenging time.

Stewardship 2022 Many thanks to those of you that have turned in a pledge card. To date we have received 83 pledges for a total of \$271,210 for 2022. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card please consider doing so. Pledge cards can be found in the pews or in the office. You can also enter your pledge online through our website. Your pledged commitment not only supports BEPC, it supports so many of our missions and ministries. Together in Christian love we do change lives.

Confirmation 2022: We are looking forward to welcoming the Confirmation Class of 2022, to be confirmed in May 2022. If your middle school-high school aged child/grandchild has been wondering about where is the next step in their faith in Jesus Christ and their place in the church. We invite them to consider being a part of our confirmation class! Please contact Pastor Rachael, rachael@bannerekpresbyterian.org if your child interested in joining us by October 3rd.

Lees-McRae College has recently established a new Emergency Financial Aid Fund to assist students who need help in meeting expenses. It is open to any student with pressing and immediate needs. If you are interested in making a difference in a student's life by donating to this fund, please make checks to Banner Elk Presbyterian Church with "Emergency Financial Aid Fund" on the memo line. You may also donate directly to the college. Contact Don Hilsmier or Donna Dicks.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS WITH HYMNS ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR ASSISTANCE. LARGE PRINT BIBLES ARE IN THE NARTHEX.

NURSERY: Children up to four years old may attend our nursery which is located on the main floor behind the Sanctuary. If you are in our Sanctuary and facing the Cross, the door to the right will lead you to the nursery. It is located in **Room 105**.

WORSHIP BAGS: Worship bags are available for children who remain during the worship service. The bags provide reading material, writing pads and crayons to give children a quiet activity during the service. Children's worship bulletins for ages 3-6 are in the bags. The worship bags are located in the Narthex.

WELCOME

Welcome, Visitors! We are pleased you have chosen to be with us today and pray this time of worship will be a blessing to you. BEPC is a PCUSA congregation filled with people of many different backgrounds. Whatever your tradition, we invite you to participate in the activities of the congregation while you are here.

If you want to know more about Banner Elk Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian denomination or membership, see an Elder or the Pastor. We would welcome you as a member by Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith, or Transfer from another church. If you are in town for only part of the year, you might consider Affiliate Membership. We would love to have you as a part of our loving church family!

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday:

- 8:30am - Worship Service
- 9:30am - Adult Sunday School Class
- 9:30am - Children's Music (outside)
- 10:00am - Children's Sunday School Class (outside)
- 11:00am - Worship Service

Monday:

- 9:00am - BEPC Preschool
- 2:00pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry -1st & 3rd Mondays
Contact Alice Johnson 979-219-2104

Tuesday:

- 9:00am - BEPC Preschool
Habitat for Humanity - contact Steve Bender (828) 898-8271

Wednesday:

- 9:00am - BEPC Preschool
- 10:00am Comfort Makers in Classroom 213 contact Debi: (828) 387-4914
- 4:00pm - Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday:

- 9:00am - BEPC Preschool
- 11:15am - ROMEOS - meet at church
- 6:30pm - Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday:

- 9:00am - BEPC Preschool
Feeding Avery Families - Newland - contact Dick Larson - (828) 260-5389



The Adult Vocal Choir returns and it's an exciting time to join. Our new Choir Director, Nina Allbert, and Accompanist, David Soyars, invite anyone who loves to sing to become a part of this fun group. Nina has a beautiful selection of anthems waiting for singers. Weekly rehearsals are on Thursdays, 6:30-8 PM. The choir also gathers in the choir room at 10:30 AM on Sundays for a recap of the anthem. Please let us know if you would like to join us! Email Nina Allbert at Ninaallbert@icloud.com or David Soyars at david@davidsoyars.com. They will be delighted to answer any questions.

As our seasonal residents begin leaving Banner Elk for the winter, we would appreciate very much if you would contact the church office to ensure we have your correct contact information for the winter. You may call the church office at 828-898-5406 or email office@bannerelkpresbyterian.org.

OUR PRAYERS

“Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.” Psalm 1

Prayer Concerns

- Diane & Alfred Earwood as they mourn the death of Diane’s mother, Alice Eads, Sept. 13
- Andrew Muehleisen, nephew of Bill & Sue Ferguson, recently diagnosed with brain cancer
- Barbara Ross (PWNC staff member) as she mourns the death of her uncle, David Ross, Sept. 8
- Michelle Kregge Burnop (Roy & Marion Kregge’s daughter) recovering from surgery
- The Mendez family of Arca de Noé for multiple members gravely infected with Covid and the death of daughter Yesenia, age 25, who leaves three small children.
- Judy Roeling recovering from four surgeries for kidney stones
- Jean Kohler recovering from a Whipple procedure surgery on 9/7/21.
- Marsha McManus as she mourns the death of her brother Tommy Humphreys Aug. 25
- Lisa Shook recovering from surgery and begins physical therapy
- Carolyn West in hospice care. Prayers for comfort and strength
- Libby McGowan with ongoing health concerns
- Betsy Hill recovering from eye surgery and cancer treatment
- Ashley Smith back in A-fib and still experiencing back pain.
- Those who are home-bound or in assisted living: John Balmer, Lee Councill, Marianne Gore, Larry Kennedy.
- Our partner institutions: Arca de Noé (partner church in Guatemala), Lees-McRae College, Grandfather Home for Children, Cannon Memorial Hospital
- Hui and Gordon Causby, teachers in China
- Hebron Colony & Bethel Colony ministries
- R. Clemmer Benevolent Fund recipients
- Those with on-going health concerns: Isaiah Bender, Hugh Clark, Erika Deal, Mary Dickinson, Emily Koski, Phil & Julie Myers, Jose Palacios, Roxanna Nicholes, Ted Nye.

If you have a prayer concern or celebration to include in the bulletin, please communicate it to the church office, preferably via email, no later than first thing Thursday morning. Always check to ensure the person being considered approves of the inclusion in the bulletin. Per the Communications Committee, prayer requests will remain on the weekly emails until the end of each month; at which time they will be removed. If prayer is still needed, please contact the church office to have the person added back to the list for an additional month.

BEST WISHES AND BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS: Sept. 19: Michael Marshall; Sept. 20: Amy Terrant; Sept. 21: Martha Burns, Elaine Curtis.

ROMEOS: The men’s lunch group, known as the ROMEOS (retired old men eating out) enjoys good food and good fellowship each Thursday. Anyone can meet at the week’s restaurant at 11:30 or meet at church at 11:15 to carpool. You do not have to be “retired” or “old” or male to attend. We hope many will join us.

TODAY

USHERS: 8:30 am: Mark and Pat Polderman
11:00 am: Rick and Nancy Owen
Hampton Owen & Deka Tate

MEDIA: 8:30 am Mark File
11:00am Mark File

SEXTON: Eric Hillestad

NURSERY STANDBY:

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER PICKUP: El Wilson

SEPTEMBER ELDER OF THE MONTH: Murry Haber **ASSISTANT:** Rick Garrett

SEPTEMBER SHEPHERD: Judy Hilsmier & Susan Blalock

NEXT SUNDAY

Jim and Marsha Jones
Chuck Dickinson & Nancy Clark
McNair and Debi Tornow
Mark File
Mark File
Rick Garrett

Luana Anderson

FOR THE RECORD

Worship Attendance:	8:30 am	11:00 am	Total
September 5:	43	120	163
September 12:	46	98	144

Elders for Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

Class 2021

Bob Blalock
Carol Larson
Lyndsay Ennis
Bob Todd

Class 2022

Luana Anderson
Murry Haber
Don Hilsmier
Deka Tate

Class 2023

Donna Dicks
Rick Garrett
Alice Johnson
Janet Speer



Stephen Ministry Congregation

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rachael McConnell 512-966-0384

rachael@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

Dedy Traver, Office Manager/Bookkeeper: dedy@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

Alisa Ballard, Office Administrator: alisa@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

Nina Allbert, Choir Director

David Soyars, Pianist/Organist

Margaret Trivette, Housekeeping Staff

A.C. Marriott, BEPC Preschool Director: acmarriott@bannerelkpresbyterian.org