



Press-byterian

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

*"To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"
Equipping Saints since 1893*

September 2021

A Dream Realized

Dreams are still a great mystery to most scientists. All they have are very loose theories to try to explain the nightly phenomenon. The top dream theories are: To consolidate memories, process emotions, express our deepest desires, and/or gain practice confronting possible dangers. In the Bible God uses dreams quite often to prepare those whom He is about to use.



When I heard the call God placed in my life to be a pastor, I was asleep. First as a young wife, mother, and college student. And again, in the same manner three years later, a calm steady voice speaking into my sleeping ear "Rachael, you are a pastor." The first time the voice was easy to dismiss in the moment because the idea was too disconnected from our reality. Yet, I have to say that when the voice came again, that little spark of hope and excitement in my soul became a flame I could not ignore. It did not matter our reality. It was a calling from God and we just had to obey.

Now, that dream, that calling is becoming reality and "it all feels like a dream," as the saying goes. Immense gratitude, elation, excitement, and peace are just the few words that I can use to describe what it is like to step into this new place, this new season, this calling realized.

As we all begin this new season together, I invite you all to dream. Quiet your mind and soul and allow the Holy Spirit to fill you with God's big, beautiful, and powerful mission that He is asking you to be a part of. Some dreams, some callings take more time than you could ever imagine to come to fruition. So, I am not asking you to do anything wildly out of character, rash, or immediate. Rather, I am asking you to realize that God is desiring to use us and nothing is too big, too joyful, too impactful for our Lord.

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church has a Big Impact for Christ in its DNA. From day one, no possibility was too big to become reality. As we are coming to a close in our stewardship season, I ask you to take some time with God and say: God use what you have given me. Create through me your big beautiful dreams for your creation. Here I am, Lord.

Here we are Lord. Thank you for bringing us all here in this place and time. May our hearts and minds be open to the dreams and callings that you have for us. Amen.

Rachael McConnell

Opportunities to Learn and Grow

Faith Seekers Sunday School Class News



The Faith Seekers Adult Sunday School class meets at 9:30 AM Sunday mornings in the upstairs classroom or Zoom is available for those who can not meet in person.

The first week of September will be taught by Steve Bender, completing his study of women in the New Testament. For the other weeks in September, Martha Williams will be teaching from a book entitled *How to Be a Christian Without Being Religious*, using the book of Romans as the foundation for the study.

Nominating Committee Update

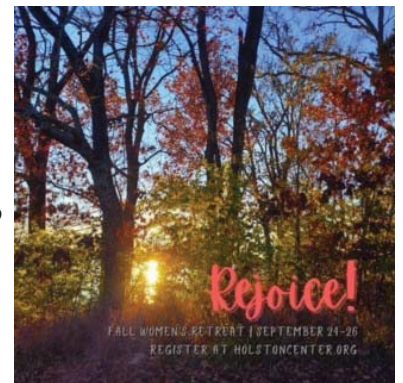
The BEPC Nominating Committee has begun the process of seeking congregation members to serve as our next class of Elders. Over the next few weeks, please look for an opportunity in your bulletin to let the committee know who would be effective to serve on Session. If you have any questions about serving as an Elder, please contact one of your Nominating Committee members:

Lyndsay Ennis
Luana Anderson
Steve Bender
Nancy Owen
Ann Swinkola



Holston Presbytery Camp is hosting a Fall Women's Retreat September 24 @ 7:00 pm- September 26 @ 11:00 am

September is a beautiful time in the Blue Ridge Mountains as the leaves start to turn a bright array of colors. This is an ideal time to gather together and celebrate the bountiful gifts God has given us. Together we will sing, laugh, dance, worship, and enjoy God's glorious creation. You can join for the whole weekend and stay in Guenther Lodge, or plan to attend Saturday only. For more information or to register, visit <https://holstoncenter.org>



Shepherds Needed!



Calling All Shepherds! The Congregational Care Committee is asking for volunteers to help with our Shepherd program! Volunteers are asked to Shepherd with a partner for a one-month commitment. This is a very meaningful way to serve our congregation! For more information, please contact Deka Tate at 828-898-9203 or volunteers may sign up in the church office. If anyone has a need or errand or is homebound, please call your monthly shepherd to assist you.

**We have one person signed up for November but still need another person to help.
We have no one signed up for December so please consider being a Shepherd for December!**

Guatemala Scholarships

Children's Scholarship Program with Our Sister Church in Guatemala - Arca De Noé



This hugely successful program began in 2006 and runs for three-year cycles. We are very pleased to launch a sixth cycle to continue this worthy mission of helping to educate the youth in Morelia, Guatemala, so that they can contribute to the development of their community and their nation.

The success of the program has been chronicled every year through the receipt of the children's report cards, notes of gratitude, letters, as well as reports from the Arca de Noé sessions. Over the 14 years of the program, more than 200 students have benefited. One young man, Dany Iván Gonzalez whose academic career began as a primary-school scholar in 2006, has graduated from university with a degree

in business administration. His college expenses were fully met by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina through its Building HOPE campaign. Without the help he received from our BEPC program, he would never have been able to shape the solid educational foundation that enabled him to become a university graduate. Our entire congregation shares pride in his accomplishments and in the successes of so many others.



Once again, we are asking members and friends of BEPC to support this program with a three-year commitment. This program is an equal partnership between the two churches. The Scholarship Program provides one-half of the educational expenses and the families or their church provide the balance. The session of Arca de Noé administers the program by selecting worthy recipients and managing the expenditures. As in the past, regular progress reports are provided to both partner churches.

- The minimum goals for this three-year cycle are:
- 20 scholarships for primary-grades students at \$25/scholarship per year
 - 18 scholarships for secondary-grades students at \$50/scholarship per year
 - 6 scholarships for trade-school students at \$150/scholarship per year

Successes exemplified by Dany and many others who have begun careers in their fields are a direct result of sharing our resources and the determination of those young people to have a better life for their families, their community and their country. Our benevolence can often be thought of as charity, but the BEPC Scholarship Program is an investment in the future of individuals, a community, a nation and our world.

If you would like further information, please contact Barbara Hosbein (bandb1977@gmail.com or 828-898-7218) or Kathy Ward (kathyward610@gmail.com or 305-393-3917).

I would like to sponsor at least one child's education for the next three years. I commit to:

- _____ one primary student @ \$25/year for 3 years = \$75 total
- _____ one middle school student @ \$50/year for 3 years = \$150 total
- _____ one trade school student @ \$150/year for 3 years = \$450 total
- _____ general donation to help with a scholarship (amount \$ _____)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Please return this form and your check to the church office by October 1, 2021. Your contribution may be made in three annual payments or one single payment for the total amount. Checks should be made out to *Banner Elk Presbyterian Church*, (address for mailing: PO Box 158, Banner Elk, NC 28604), with *Guatemala scholarship* noted on the check's memo line.

Comfort Makers

September Dedication - BEPC Music Program

The Comfort Makers joyously dedicate their September blanket to the music program. Banner Elk Presbyterian has been blessed by fine music for many years, but COVID tested our resolve. We have David Soyars to thank for his beautiful accompaniment, his direction of the men's choir and, with Mark File, the coordination of special music for the summer. We also thank Suzie Fisk for direction of the Hand Bell program. With refurbished bells, the group looks forward to many special "rings" in the future. Adding to that, Nina Allbert will be directing the choir and will initiate a children's music program. We are excited and thankful for these amazingly talented people and look forward to the enrichment their music will bring to worship.

The dedicated blanket will be on display in the hallway for the month of September, and then be given to a worthy cause.



Lees-McRae College Williams Physical Education Center

The renovation of the McNair & Debi Tornow Court in the Williams Physical Education Center by SCS by Floor Action, Inc. with the installation of an Acer's ReClaim II subfloor with maple grade wood has now been completed.

"The McNair & Debi Tornow Court project continues to show Lees-McRae College's commitment to making the student-athlete experience excellent," said Vice President for Athletics and Club Sports, Craig McPhail. "Our floor looks beautiful. Working with SCS by Floor Action, Inc. was great as we looked at the floor project, the design, and the process to give us our best version. I am ecstatic for our volleyball and basketball student-athletes and coaches who will practice and compete on this state-of-the-art court."



After weeks of removing the previous floor, which was last resurfaced in the early 1980s, installing the new playing surface, and hand-painting the logos, the McNair & Debi Tornow Court will now have a softer, more friendly feel to the floor, creating better recovery as well as performance. The ReClaim II subfloor is an MFMA-PUR compliant floor and was installed with SCS by Floor Action, Inc.'s excellent workmanship, top quality materials, and durable finished products.

Lees-McRae will officially open the new floor on Wednesday, Sept. 22 as the women's volleyball team hosts Conference Carolinas opponent Converse at 7 p.m. McNair and Debi Tornow have been beloved members of Banner Elk Presbyterian Church for many years.

The Great Sock Challenger—and the Winner is.....!



The first ever Sock Off Competition took place Sunday August 29th! On Pastor Deck's last Sunday, he challenged people to compete with colorful socks...the winner is Rob Toler who was over the top with his garter!!!

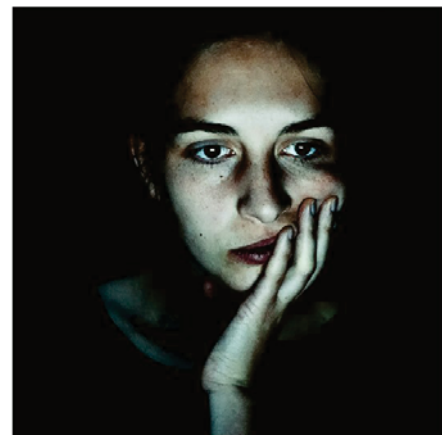


Stephen Ministry

Are You Experiencing Pandemic Fatigue?

Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like . . .

- Isolation and loneliness
- Anxiety over health
- Grief due to many different kinds of losses
- Tension from juggling work, childcare, and schooling
- Financial strain or job loss
- Uncertainty about the future
- Other unexpected life challenges?



If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support. It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call our church office.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

BEPC Receives New Members



We welcome six new members who joined our church family August 29.

"Deck Guess is the reason I wanted to join this church," said **Sherrell Fischer**. "He led me to want to connect to this congregation." Sherrell is a part-time resident of Beech Mountain and lives in Melbourne, FL, when she's not in the mountains.



Jodie Kettle, a retired media specialist, is especially interested in church outreach and says she's already been recruited by Don Hilsmier to work in that area. She's been coming to Beech Mountain for 30 years and appreciates the varied church backgrounds of our members and already loves this church. When not in Beech Mountain, she lives in Plantation, FL.

Now living part-time on Sugar Mountain, **Gloria and Mike Marshall** from Panama City Beach, FL, have long enjoyed vacationing in our area. Originally they came here to ski with their family. They've been married for 40 years and have three daughters and nine grandkids. They are eager to get involved in the church and community.



Chrissey and Julian Clark from Savannah, GA, became interested in our church through conversations with McNair Tornow. They are living in an apartment in High Country Square but plan to build a home in Bear Run. Julian is a retired Coast Guard rescue swimmer, and Chrissey works with Wellcare NC, which assists with in-home healthcare needs.

Welcome to Banner Elk Presbyterian Church! We look forward to serving with you and getting to know you better.

BEPC Preschool

The 2021-2022 Preschool Year is off to a great start! I am happy that we are keeping the same experienced staff as last year. Mrs. Martie and Mrs. Britt are teaching our youngest class called the Busy Bees. Mrs. Lucy and I are teaching the middle-aged pre-k class called The Cool Cats. And Mr. K is leading our oldest students under the name Jr. Bobcats.

As a part of our preparations for the new year, we all received a negative COVID-19 test and updated our CPR/First Aid Training- safety first! The classrooms were deep cleaned, rugs shampooed and furniture washed. We've also adapted to a new set of rules and regulations in regard to the pandemic and feel confident that we will have another wonderful year ahead of us. We currently have twenty five wonderful students enrolled with some room to spare in our oldest class.

Our first day of preschool was Monday, August 16th. The first week's theme was "School Rules & Friends". We focused a lot on finding new routines with our classes, getting to know our new friends, communication and manners. It is very important that we all find a consistent daily schedule to help the children adapt to their new classes. We loved exploring new educational materials, decorating the walls with our beautiful art, learning new songs and getting an understanding of daily expectations. The weather certainly wasn't the best with Hurricane Fred coming through but we still found time for fresh air, walks around the church and time on our beautiful playground. The theme for the second week is "All About Me" and we are excited to learn more about ourselves, our bodies, our friends and families. My staff and I feel truly blessed to start a new year with such a wonderful program and church, where we can guide and teach the young children in our community.

A.C. Marriott, Director





September Birthdays

- 3 Roger Wiedeback
- 4 Barbara Hosbein
- 4 Allen Speer
- 8 Tommy Council
- 9 Travis Henley
- 9 John Williams, III
- 10 Jacque Butler
- 14 Judy King
- 16 Julian Clark
- 17 Joe Stapleton
- 19 Michael Marshall
- 20 Amy Terrant
- 21 Martha Burns
- 21 Elaine Curtis
- 26 Ginger Toler
- 27 Philip Myers
- 28 Sandy Stoudemire
- 29 Amy Jones
- 29 Sam Kohler

On-Line Worship

We welcome you to our services with Christian Love. In an abundance of caution as COVID cases rise, we encourage you to wear a mask in the sanctuary. Another option is to 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. Thanks for your flexibility during challenging time.

Church Happenings



Men's Lunch Group Invites You!

The Thursday Men's Lunch Group (ROMEOS) are enjoying friendship and food at various area restaurants each week. All men are invited to attend. Come to the church at 11:15 to carpool or meet at the restaurant at 11:30.

- Sept. 2 Famous Louise's, Linville Falls
- Sept. 9 Ridgewood BBQ, Bluff City, TN
- Sept 16 Sorrento's, Banner Elk
- Sept. 23 Grandview, Foscoe
- Sept. 30 Banner Elk Café, Banner Elk
- Oct. 7 Dunn's Deli, Banner Elk



Dear BEPC Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, calls, texts, visits and love sent our way when Piper broke her leg. She is doing well at this time and hopes to be out of the cast within the next two weeks!

Much love,

The Henley family (Travis, Lindsey, Pepper & Piper)

Church Office

Our Shepherds for the month of September are Judy Hilsmier and Susan Blalock.

August 2021 Financials

August 2, 2021	\$ 7,155.00
August 9, 2021	\$ 8,510.00
August 16, 2021	\$ 4,339.00
August 23, 2021	\$ 3,969.00
August 30, 2021	\$ 6,036.00
TOTAL	\$30,009.00

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@bannerekpresbyterian.org.

Thank you!

Lees-McRae College

Lees-McRae College Move In Day August 13, 2021

Our “welcome back” tent with goodies and friendly smiles was a big hit with parents and freshmen who were moving to Lees-McRae’s campus Friday. Shown sharing BEPC hospitality are Donna Dicks, Cheryl Kirkpatrick, Bob Blalock and David Soyars on the first “shift”. Others who also participated in the morning’s activities were Mark File, Mike Scipione and Gail Miller. Many thanks to all, especially the Outreach committee.

Be on the lookout for some of these students at worship!



Words of Thanks from Finnbar Maloney

As one of the first recipients for aid from the brand-new Lees-McRae College Emergency Financial Aid Fund, Finnbar Maloney spoke to our church family recently to express his grateful appreciation and to tell everyone a bit about his background and circumstances. An incoming freshman, Finnbar was going to receive an athletic scholarship to play lacrosse (goalie), but due to COVID and budget cuts there wasn't enough to cover room and board expenses.

Several unexpected events occurred in Finnbar’s family including his father’s position being down-sized, his younger brother diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, resulting in amputation of part of his right arm, and losing their home due to medical bills. In spite of these tragic events, his family remained committed to finding a way for Finnbar’s dream of attending Lees-McRae a reality. When he spoke to the congregation, he mentioned how important his mother’s faith has been during this difficult time. He is inspired by her unwavering faith and commitment to God, modeling it in his own life.

After visiting Lees-McRae as a high school junior, Finnbar applied and was accepted to begin his studies this fall, counting on scholarship monies; unfortunately, these were negatively affected by COVID. Because this congregation generously donated to the new financial aid fund, he has received the needed aid to begin classes on schedule and is working to fulfill his dreams. He is majoring in Criminal Justice, with a minor in Wilderness Medicine, hoping to become a national park ranger or work in wildlife conservation.

Without the funds he has received, he would not be here at Lees-McRae. Without the donations YOU made, Finnbar and other students would not have this chance to achieve their educational dreams. He is excited to be here, overwhelmed with gratitude at this unexpected blessing, and already considers our church family his second home.

We are glad to have you here, Finnbar...have a great school year!





An Update from PWNC Regarding the Flooding Situation in Canton

The flooding in Canton, NC and surrounding communities on Tuesday, August 17, was swift and devastating. There has been loss of life, homes, and property in the area.

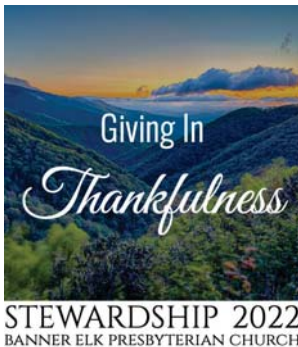
Please know that Esta Jarrett, the pastor of Canton Presbyterian Church, greatly appreciates your concern, prayers, and willingness to assist in the recovery and rebuilding of this beloved community. Presently, the local congregations and community groups are assessing immediate needs and pooling resources to deliver medium and long-term aid while providing support to first responders. More than enough clothing and household items have been donated at this time, and they cannot process anymore. However, monetary donations are greatly needed and appreciated. The Community Kitchen, one of Canton Presbyterian's chief ministry partners and recipient of several Hunger Grants from the Presbytery's Five-Cents-A-Meal program, sustained major damage.

Donations may be made to BEPC with "Flood Relief" on the memo line of a check. You may also write a check to Canton Presbyterian Church with "Flood Relief" in the memo (mail to Canton Presbyterian Church, PO Box 784, Canton NC 28716)

Please pray that the Holy Spirit may provide comfort to the people of Haywood County who've lost loved ones, homes, and property. Also, pray that the Holy Spirit may continue to bind us together in concern and action over the coming months and years of recovery and rebuilding.



Stewardship 2022 Campaign Update!



We give thanks for your generosity and continued support of Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. We are well on our way to achieving our goal for the 2022 Stewardship campaign. To date, we have received 62 pledge cards for approximately \$213,310.

If you missed Consecration Sunday on August 29th, you may turn your pledge card in to the church office or mail it to BEPC, P.O. Box 158, Banner Elk, NC 28604. Pledge cards are available in the church office or you may go to the website and pledge on-line. We are grateful for your pledge.

Dorothy Pullease

Lees-McRae College Emergency Financial Aid Fund



Lees-McRae College Emergency Financial Aid Fund is off to a good start! We have received \$7,000 which has been sent to the proper office on campus. This means that these funds are now available for students this semester and beyond! Thank you to all who responded so generously.

If you would like to contribute to this new, special fund, you may do so by making a donation to our church or directly to the college. Please note Emergency Financial Aid Fund on the memo line. Questions? Please contact Don Hilsmier or Donna Dicks. Thank you!

Walking with Shadows

Walking with Shadows began with people who have mentally challenged friends and family. It has branched into other areas and is a time when people come together to discuss how to handle life issues that need outside discussion and prayer. The sessions are led by a Stephen Minister. Contact Janet Speer if you are interested. Speerj@lmc.edu



Statement of Faith

I believe in God; Powerful, Wonderful Creator. God's design has given us the wonders and beauty of the universe we inhabit, and of the heavens we have yet to see. God's wisdom brings forth all good things, for whom all the honor and glory are given. From God, all good things are birthed.

God Creator, God the Father, desires to bring forth good things and to be in relationship with creation. God is the God who hears, bears us up on eagle's wings, goes ahead of us in battle, who is making us like the number of stars. God is love.

I believe in Christ, the redeemer, who brought forth grace. Both fully human and fully God. He was there at the beginning and sits at the right hand of God. Because God is love, Christ was sent to be love that dwelled among humanity. Born of the virgin Mary and baptized by his cousin John, Jesus lived a life of obedience to God. He fed the hungry, healed the sick, raised the dead, spoke to the educated, wealthy, those in power, and those who had none, who were outcasts, in pain, and unclean. He cared for the desperate with nowhere else to turn; foreigner and centurion, man and woman. In triumph over death and sin, he rose again. Tearing the veil, our brother Christ healed that which had been broken between Creator and us. In the resurrection of Christ, there is redemption, an act of forgiveness and healing, which is available to all who proclaim it. When sin and evil hurt and seek to destroy; goodness, and mercy will prevail through Christ. Christ will come again; with the fullness of the kingdom of God brought through Christ, the new earth will have no death, darkness, injustice, tears, and sin.

I believe in one baptism in recognition of the forgiveness of sins, which welcomes us into the family of God. As Christ was presented as the beloved Son in baptism, God's love is poured out on us in our own. In the breaking of bread and pouring of wine, we remember and welcome Christ to the table and into our lives. We gather at the table as he instructed, to remember in community his great sacrifice, triumph over death, and life everlasting.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who was with the other two members of the Trinity at the beginning. The Holy Spirit is dynamic and active. Quiet when needed. Fire when needed. The Spirit is our advocate, interpreter, and counselor. The Spirit is the unifier that binds together Christ's Church. The Holy Spirit is a catalyst, who came upon Mary, descended upon Jesus, giving us power to continue the repairing work of Christ in the world. The Spirit is present in the proclamation of God's Word and active all over the world.

The Scriptures are the Word of God, Gospel proclaimed. I believe the Scriptures are God-breathed, worthy of being taught, in equipping and redirecting the saints in righteousness for their service to God's mission in the world.

I believe in the Trinity, in the oneness and divinity of God, Christ, and Holy Spirit. The Trinity is the source of creation, grace, and love. Amen.

Rev. Rachael McConnell



Prayer Ministry



The Prayer Ministry Team is comprised of dedicated, discerning individuals praying daily not only for church and world-wide concerns, but also for every church member throughout the year. Five family groups/individuals are selected from the church directory to be the focus of weeklong prayer, ensuring that every congregant will be covered in prayer at some point over the year. Any additional prayer concerns can be addressed by filling out a "prayer request" card in the pew or an email to one of the team members. It is our hope to meet the prayer needs of individuals and families of Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. Please keep the prayer ministry team in your prayers as we keep you in ours.

Emily Garrett El Wilson Alice Johnson Chris Zimmer Donna Bender Marsha Jones

Session Review - September 2021

- Approved Technology Plan improvements to be completed by Rigid AV
- Vacation Bible School enrolled 17 children with many volunteer helpers
- The Second Sunday Brunch is being put on hold
- With the SOTTIE bus on hold, the \$2,000 Budget amount has been moved to the Avery Schools Clothing Closet and Backpack Program
- The Nominating Committee will begin work in September
- Approved developing a BEPC Staff Policy for vaccinations
- Each Committee continues working on the 2022 Budget
- Approved following requests received for moving cremains from Columbarium



Choir Interns Join the BEPC Choir!



Please welcome our four Choir Interns from Lees-McRae! They will serve as section leaders in our choir this school year while they pursue degrees in Musical Theatre. The BEPC music scholarship program provides a stipend for students to share their talents in worship. We look forward to learning and growing together!

Lillian North (top left) is a senior, pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre and a minor in Technical Theatre. She is from Yadkinville, NC. This summer, she played Martha Stuart in the 69th season of "Horn in the West" outdoor drama in Boone. Look for her in Lees-McRae's spring musical "9 to 5" as Violet Newstead!

Brooks Jackson (top right) is a junior working toward a BFA in Musical Theater. He was in music from a very young age, since his father was a church music minister for 12 years. He has always been surrounded by music, and he says that music strengthens his faith. In his free time, he enjoys spending time in theatre productions and the e-sports team.

Dustin Trafton (bottom left) is a freshman, recently arriving in Banner Elk from Tampa, Florida. He has recently been cast in the college's production of 9 to 5 as Mr. Hart. He hopes to use his experience at college to go into the theatre industry professionally.

JoBeth Hilton (bottom right) is a junior pursuing a BFA in Musical Theater. She is originally from Wytheville, VA. She performed with Lees-McRae Summer Theatre this summer in the Norman Rockwell Story musical, and she is contracted for Matilda for next summer. This spring, watch her as Doralee Roberts in the college's production of "9 to 5"!



From the Back Pew.....

and The Permanent Funds Ministry



Who'd have thought that the world would slide so easily into yet a second dreadful year of a deadly pandemic—some 635,000 US deaths, and counting!

Who'd have thought the ramifications of this pandemic—stressed health-care workers in overflowing health care settings, referring to the "battle" in which they are engaged, and the call to action—to arms, if you will—for significant new resources to deal with the enemy!

Who'd have thought of the struggles of businesses to find enough employees to keep their doors open to provide vital goods and services? Who'd have thought of the workforce housing mess, exacerbated by lost jobs, evictions—and the lack of folks able to fix construction and condition problems. Who'd have thought the basic need for food would be so desperate? And who'd have thought that Mother Nature would continue to offer her multiple disasters of earthquakes in Haiti, floods in Tennessee, fires in the West and tornadoes in the Midwest.

Immigrants and refugees are lined up at our door steps, and helping organizations of all sorts have hands out for financial assistance. Surely our church and our church members will be further impacted by yet-unknown future needs. How prepared will our future congregants be to face these unknown issues? How much can you afford **not** to help? That's why we have a Permanent Funds Ministry.

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
PO Box 158
Banner Elk, NC 28604

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BANNER ELK, NC 28604
PERMIT NO. 8



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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 2:30 pm



CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Moderator: Rev. Rachael McConnell
Clerk of Session: Susan Carter Preschool

Class 2021

Bob Blalock Membership/Outreach
Carol Larson Missions
Lyndsay Ennis Communication
Bob Todd Buildings & Grounds

Class 2022

Luana Anderson Fellowship & Nurture
Murry Haber Personnel
Don Hilsmier Membership & Outreach;
 Liaison to Finance
Deka Tate Congregational Care

Class of 2023

Donna Dicks Christian Education
Rick Garrett Buildings & Grounds
Alice Johnson Missions; Preschool
Janet Speer Worship

Clerk of the Works: Larry Zimmer
Permanent Funds Ministry: Jesse Pope
Treasurer: Dorothy Pullease
Asst Treasurers: Allen Clark,
Ron McGowan, Bruce Pendergast,
Debi Tornow

Church Staff

Rev. Rachael McConnell, Pastor
rachael@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
David Soyars, Interim Organist
Alisa Ballard, Office Administrator
alisa@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
Office Manager: Dedy Traver
dedy@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
Housekeeping: Margaret Trivette
BEPC Preschool: A.C. Marriott, Director
acmarriott@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

In-person or livestream

8:30am Worship - traditional
11:00 am Worship - traditional