



PRESS-BYTERIAN

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

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



August 2022

This month I invite us all to pray. Pray where we are, pray for whatever season you are in. Let us pray for ourselves and one another.

A Prayer For When We've Lost Our Way Again by Enuma Okoro

Merciful Lord,
sometimes it seems like we can't help but lose our way
again and again.
Our hearts long to follow you
but you know the way of the human heart.
You know how in our misguided longings we veer off our journeying to you
and begin to chart our own ways
by false stars and distorted visions.
Forgive us.
Forgive us for all the times we are tempted by the hints of light
instead of remaining steered by the assurance of Light.
Forgive us when we forget
that we are already claimed by you,
loved by you,
and purposed for you.
Forgive us when we allow ourselves
to shape and be shaped
by voices and words that do not bring life,
create life, nurture life, sustain life, or resurrect life.
Merciful God,
help us find our way again.
Turn us back towards the road
spotted with your other pilgrims, wayfarers, and repentant servants.
Remind us that your Way is the way of returning.
Guide us by your Spirit and by your Light.
Make us remember the Power of the Spirit within us.
Make us remember the gifts of our minds, our hearts, and our bodies that you have bestowed on us,
that we would use them to honor the directives and the invitations you lay upon us.
We know that our ways are not your ways.
And we thank you for this.
Help us trust your ways over our ways.
Remind us of your faithfulness as you forgive us our short memory.
In your immeasurable love, grace, mercy, and wisdom, do not abandon us
regardless of how often we lose our way.
Place your wounded hands upon our broken hearts and turn us towards you.
Lord of Light, Lord of the Life, Lord of Resurrection.
Amen.



Blessings,

Pastor Rachael

Opportunities to Learn and Grow

Sunday Morning Bible Study

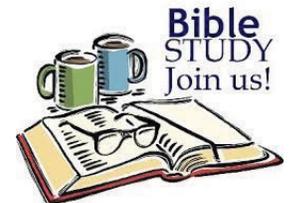
“Digging Deeper into Scripture”, a class with Rev. Rachael McConnell, meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the upstairs Margaret Tate Parlor. Participants will explore the lectionary texts on which each Sunday’s sermon is based. Plan to join this group for good discussion and in-depth study.

Proper 14 (19)
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 7, 2022
Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

Proper 15 (20)
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 14, 2022
ER Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82 Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

Proper 16 (21)
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 21, 2022
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6 Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8 Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

Proper 17 (22)
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 28, 2022
Jeremiah 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14



Come One, Come All to the Annual BEPC Picnic in the Park!

A warm invitation is extended to the congregation of Banner Elk Presbyterian Church to attend the Annual Picnic on Monday, August 22 from 5-7, in the Banner Elk Park Pavilion directly behind the BEPC Fire Department.

Our guests that evening will be the Fire Department as a kick off for the Fund Raiser sponsored by the church and featuring Nina Allbert and her one woman show, “Always Nina”. Accompanied by David Soyars, Nina will sing a few selections to entertain everyone.

The menu will feature pulled pork and barbequed chicken, buns and various sauces, catered by Sugar Mountain Food Services, the folks who operate the famous Caddy Shack Grill. The church will provide drinks. Guests are asked to contribute any side dish that compliments the meat portion and any dessert which is a family favorite.

Please contact Luana Anderson if you have any questions. We will need some volunteers to set up a few tables for serving and someone to pick up the food and help with clean up. Looking forward to a great evening of togetherness.

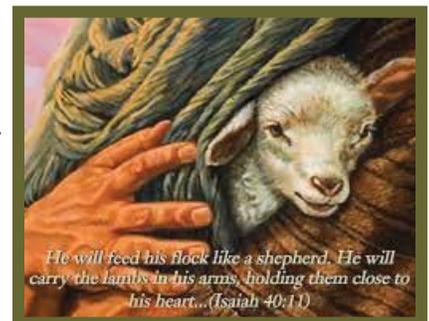
Luana Anderson

Shepherds Needed!

Volunteers are needed for the remainder of this year. You may choose a month and work with a partner or alone. The phone calls, cards, or emails that you send are so appreciated. Please call Deka Tate at 828-898-9203 or there is a sign-up sheet in the church office. Thank you for taking time to help with this most important ministry of BEPC.

“Like a shepherd, he will tend his flock.” Isaiah 40:11

Our Shepherd for the month of August is Trish Dethlefs.



A New Banner for the Sanctuary

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16 Bible (King James Version)

According to some sources on the web, the Bible verse that is most often known by heart, most often chosen to memorize, and the one verse most loved is John 3:16. This verse is also the one verse that sums up everything that Christianity is all about. It tells of God's love for all and gives us assurance of a way for eternal life with God. To put it in simple terms, ALL who truly believe in Jesus Christ can have eternal life with God. Presbyterians believe in a Trinity: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit who is with us and within us at all times to help us and guide us if we allow Him to do so.

This banner was made as a reminder of the wonderful message this verse contains. The banner also includes some symbols that are associated with the Christian faith:

The Latin Cross: to the earliest members of the Church, the cross represented their master, Jesus Christ, His death for man, and the life and death of man in Christ. The Latin Cross is probably the actual form of the cross upon which our Lord was crucified. The empty cross signifies the resurrection.

The Celtic or Irish Cross: one of the loveliest and most familiar forms of the cross, as well as one of the most ancient, especially found in Great Britain, Ireland, and Scotland. The circle is an emblem of eternity, suggesting the eternal quality of the Redemption and eternal life. This cross is often found on the roof or tower of church buildings, church doors, altars, hymnals, and on tombstones in church cemeteries.

The Crown: symbol of victory and sovereignty; there are many Bible references and hymns to our Lord as "King of Kings," and the "King of Glory"; the "Crown of Life," an emblem of Easter, and of the Ascension

The Chi Rho: the first two Greek letters of the word "Christ" traces back to the Emperor Constantine who caused Christianity to become the religion of the state

Alpha and Omega: (the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet) "I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord." (Revelations 1:8, 1:11, 21:6, 22:13)

The Vine: John 15:1-17 (5) "I am the true vine, and ye are the branches. . without me ye can do nothing"

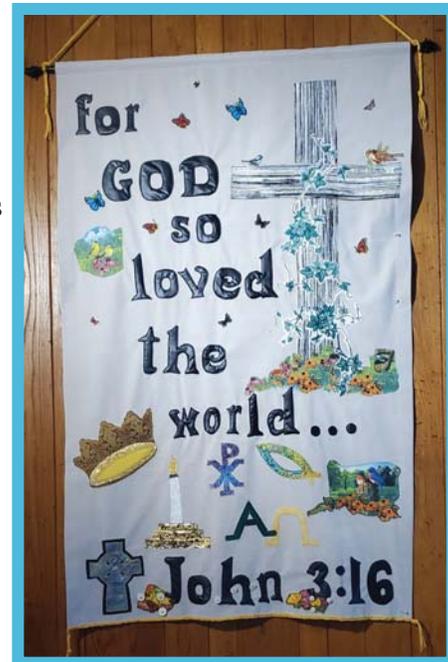
Butterfly: There is no reference to butterflies in the Bible, but Christians often use the butterfly as a symbol for the resurrection, both of Christ and of the faithful. The three stages of a butterfly's life become symbols for a believer's journey: the larva suggests the lowly conditions on earth, the chrysalis represents a person's dead body in the grave, and the butterfly is the symbol of the glorified life destined for eternal life. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25)

Candle: representing Jesus as the "Light of the World." John 8:12 (the light is also referred to in the first chapter of John) a symbol representing a search for knowledge of God's word, that brings fuller understanding and wisdom.

Fish: represents Jesus and his disciples as being "fishers of men," God's son, and Saviour of the world. The fish is a very ancient symbol for Christ as savior, coming from the 5 Greek letters for fish, the word stands as a symbol for "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour" In early times when Christians were being persecuted the fish was used as a symbol for Christians to identify themselves to one another. The fish also represents the Sacrament of Holy Baptism (a fish must live in water) and is a symbol for regeneration.

Birds and Flowers: these were used in the banner to represent the glory of God's creation and for us to remember how lovely the earth He made for us is. We truly live in a beautiful area. (Psalm 84:3 "Yea the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young") (Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary, and they shall walk, and not faint.") (Isaiah 40:8 "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forever.")

May this banner be a blessing to you and remind you how very much God loves you.



Martha Burns



Stewardship 2023 - A New Beginning for BEPC

For the last two years we have all experienced the changes caused by COVID 19 pandemic. Hopefully, those days are over. It is exciting to look to 2023 for us to secure a healthy and thriving church with worship and music programs and support our benevolence and mission programs. Our Stewardship and Finance Committee is leading an ambitious campaign to accomplish our goals for 2023.



Spread The Good News! Be A Part Of Our Team - Children and Youth Coordinator

We are hiring a Children and Youth Coordinator! The purpose of this position is to guide the young minds of our church and of the community. We want to reach children ages preschool-high school by organizing, developing, and using volunteers to implement social activities while meeting the spiritual and emotional needs of the children and overseeing youth staff and volunteers as they interact with the children and youth of the church. The Coordinator is a member of the Christian Education Committee and is supervised by the pastor. This is a 10 hour a week part-time position, compensation is salaried at \$150.00 a week. Contact the church office if you are interested in applying 828-898-5406 or office@bannerelkpresbyterian.org



Nursery Assistant Needed

We have a wonderful nursery worker, Tristan Hall, who faithfully serves the youngest members of our church family; however, we need to have a second person in the nursery each week for safety and liability issues. Tristan currently serves each Sunday morning, caring for our children under four by providing a safe, happy environment.

We hope to have enough folks sign up to volunteer as a nursery assistant that it will be an occasional, but regular, commitment. This assistant would be needed from 10:30 am-12:15pm on Sunday mornings. If you would like to be on a rotating volunteer schedule to help in this way, please contact Alisa, our



Stephen Ministry

Remember that there are Stephen Ministers in our church who can help you through a difficult time. This is how it works: Contact the church (or Janet Speer at speerj@lmc.edu) if you would like to have a Stephen Minister. Janet will contact you to help you make connections to a minister who has been trained to help you through your difficulty. A minister will meet with you once a week (in person, via Zoom or phone) to talk for about an hour, with you taking the lead on the discussion. Sessions continue until you decide you are ready to end them.



Prayer Ministry

In the past year, the prayer team has sent letters to 288 families (members) twice. Please note that in addition to those families, private prayer requests are received and added to our weekly prayers. At any time, if you need prayer, please contact one of the team members and you will be included in our prayers.

Your prayer needs no eloquence, just honesty."

Max Lucado

Emily Garrett El Wilson Alice Johnson Chris Zimmer Donna Bender Katy Fletcher Judy King

Always Nina: a Tennessee Story and Songbook

If you are like me, you grew up hearing family and community stories, learning history, laughing until your sides hurt at the dinner table, as part of family and friend gatherings. Have you ever thought those stories could be a musical? Well, neither did I! While I lived in the northeast, my friends loved and were fascinated by my stories of growing up in the south, and would often beg for more! When my friend, Joan, who wrote the music and lyrics for *Always Nina*, suggested collaborating and turning the stories of my crazy family, being a biker missionary, church musician, and others into a musical, I thought she had lost her mind.

Joan is a brilliant composer who graduated from the Eastman School of music. For two years, she had me tell her stories, and chose the stories we should use. THEN she wrote music and lyrics to link the stories together. We finished and polished and have performed this show in TN, FL, CT and NY. This will be our NC debut and we hope you will come out and support the Banner Elk Fire Department. Joan and I hope this will make you ponder and remember YOUR family stories and share them or create your own show!!

Performances are August 25 at 7:00 pm; August 26 -27 at 2:00 pm in the church sanctuary. Admission is free but donations will be collected by the fire fighters. All proceeds will benefit the Banner Elk Fire Department!



Some Highlights from PCUSA General Assembly Meeting

Israel/Palestine

The General Assembly voted 266-116 to approve a “Recognition that Israel’s Laws, Policies and Practices Constitute Apartheid Against the Palestinian People.” It declares that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) “recognizes that the laws, policies, and practices of the government of Israel regarding the Palestinian people fulfill the international legal definition of apartheid.”

Fossil fuel divestment

General Assembly approved calling for divestment from five oil and gas companies: Chevron, ExxonMobil, Marathon Petroleum, Phillips 66 and Valero Energy. The assembly said the companies were not doing enough to slow global warming.

Immigration

By a vote of 340-25, the General Assembly approved allowing the church to declare itself a “Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church.” The assembly’s Immigration Committee says the decision sends a message that the church is committed to working for justice in U.S. immigration policy.

Gun violence

General Assembly approved a motion that the church renew its commitment to end gun violence by developing a 10-year campaign, the Decade to End Gun Violence (2022 – 2032).

Ukraine

The assembly also voted 374-1 to approve a commissioners’ resolution condemning the Russian military invasion of Ukraine and crimes against humanity, and calling for a cease-fire and the immediate resumption of internationally mediated negotiations.

Race and gender justice

Commissioners and advisory delegates approved several items of business including “A Resolution Addressing the Lack of Installed. Pastoral Leadership in People of Color Congregations in the PC(USA) and “On Offering an Apology to African Americans for the Sin of Slavery and Its Legacy.” The assembly also approved calling for a new special committee to expose white supremacy within the denomination and make recommendations for improvement. In addition, the assembly approved directing the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation to “create educational resources for congregations to identify and interrupt practices and policies that perpetuate the adultification of Black girls and criminalization of adolescent behavior.” Commissioners and advisory delegates passed a resolution, RGJ-14, denouncing violence against Asian women and Pacific Islanders.

For more information go to the website <https://oga.pcusa.org>

BEPC Preschool

It is hard to believe that summer is rapidly coming to a close and our school year is just around the corner!

We have had a very successful and full summer camp at our preschool. Through our eight weeks, our 15+ campers were able to explore the ocean, music, sport, space, Christmas in July, the circus, camping and digging for dinosaurs all through the eyes of Dr. Seuss! Our daily schedule included: play, activity, snack, carpet & reading time, outside play, lunch, and, of course, a dance party!! Each activity was based on the week's theme!

As we look to the future, our first day of our new preschool year is set for Monday, August 15th 2022. We will be welcoming our new and returning students at our Preschool Open House Thursday, August 11th from 5:00 – 7:00pm. This will give parents and students an opportunity to come visit their teachers and classroom for the year.

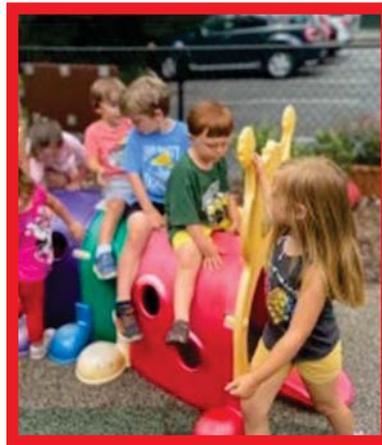
Enrollment is still open for our upcoming school year. Please e-mail me for more information.

Thank you for your continued love and support for our precious preschool.

“Mr. K”

Jarrett W. Koski, Interim Preschool Director

jkoski@bannerelkpresbyterian.org





AUGUST

August Birthdays

- 2 Gordon Causby
- 2 Donna Holscher
- 3 Allen Clark
- 8 Mary Easter
- 9 Debi Tornow
- 9 Linda Olsen
- 10 Charles Dolab
- 11 Libby McGowan
- 12 Jodie Kettle
- 18 Chappie Petree
- 20 Cliff Williams
- 24 Sarah Quayle
- 26 Martha Doshier
- 28 Dennis Owens
- 28 Ben Vergara
- 29 Bob Todd
- 29 Linda Williams
- 30 Don Hilsmier
- 30 Mike Jones
- 30 Joe Ward
- 30 Rylee Kirkpatrick
- 30 Scott Miller
- 31 Kayla Davis

Church Happenings

ROMEO's Men's Lunch Group Invites You!

All men are invited to join friends at the Thursday men's lunch gatherings at 11:30 (or meet at the church at 11:15 to carpool).

- August 4 - Valle deBravo, Tynecastle
- August 11 - Christa's, Pineola
- August 18 - The Bayou, meet there 12 noon
- August 25 - Pedalin' Pig, Tynecastle



David Tate New President of the Banner Elk Chamber of Commerce

Bill and Carol Seitz working the Banner Elk Thursday night concert with newly elected Chamber President David Tate.

Congratulations, David!



Dear BEPC Family,
I would like to humbly thank my church family for all the prayers, flowers, cards, phone calls and the much-appreciated meals that I received during my recent surgery recovery. The Meal Train out did themselves not only with delicious meals, but their visits were "food for the soul" as well. I hope to be back in the pews as soon as my back will allow it.

In Christ,
Martha Misenheimer



Say it all with flowers!!!

Celebration, Honor, Praise, Memorial, Love, Faith, Hope, Surprise, - everyone loves flowers, even Jesus in His house! Sign up in the reception area. Please contact Deka Tate at 828-898-9203.

Ushers & Greeters



SUMMER USHERS NEEDED!

We need ushers for both 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. If you are willing to welcome all attending and assist with ushering, please contact Debi Tornow, 336-971-1884, or Alisa Ballard, 828-898-5406. This is such a vital part of Banner Elk Presbyterian, Church. We thank you for considering this service to our beloved church.

Church Office

July Financials

July 3, 2022	\$ 4,569.00
July 10, 2022	\$ 6,842.00
July 17, 2022	\$ 7,598.00
July 24, 2022	\$12,388.00
TOTAL	\$31,397.00

The Raleigh Ringers



The Raleigh Ringers will present a free concert in Banner Elk on September 10, 2022, 7 pm in Hayes Auditorium on the Lees-McRae College campus. The internationally acclaimed, community handbell choir dazzles concert audiences with unique interpretations of sacred, secular and popular music, including famous rock 'n' roll tunes arranged just for handbells. They will also host a free workshop that afternoon. Both events are sponsored by Banner Elk Presbyterian Church.

Under the direction of David M. Harris, The Raleigh Ringers has released seven CDs, and two DVDs of holiday concerts. Two one-hour concert specials were created from the first DVD and broadcast on over 250 American Public Television stations in 45 states. A new, one-hour holiday special based on the second DVD aired over 400 times in 38 states in its first year of national distribution.

The group has performed in 39 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, England and France during its tours, and plays two dates each year at a major venue in Raleigh. The Raleigh Ringers also sponsors an annual festival for adult ringers, an annual festival for youth and less experienced ringers, biannual sight-reading sessions for those interested in new handbell music, a biennial performance experience for advanced ringers, and handbell techniques classes several times a year.

The Raleigh Ringers performs on one of the most extensive collections of bells and bell-like instruments owned by any handbell ensemble in the world. The current grand total is 35 octaves composed of 377 individual pieces of equipment. Each individual handbell set has its own unique sound. By mixing the sounds of these instruments, members of The Raleigh Ringers are able to create contrasting moods and highlight melodic lines, bringing richness and depth to the music they perform.

The concert will be held in Hayes Auditorium, at Lees-McRae College, 191 Main Street West, Banner Elk, NC 28604. No advance tickets or reservations are required. Parking is free, available on campus or at Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. Go to <https://bannerelkpresbyterian.org/ringers> for more information.



Comfort Makers



August Dedication - Carol Tuggle

The comfort makers dedicate their August blanket to Carol Tuggle. She almost single handedly made Christmas for the Grandfather Children. All of them received bicycles and the cottages were provided with new televisions. Carol was very instrumental helping us build our new parking lot. In addition, many of the flowers you see in front of the sanctuary come from her. We also enjoy her offering to buy flowers at odd time when we don't have a volunteer. The flowers donated by Carol have been beautiful.

Thank you so much, Carol!



Project Ruth in Romania

Long-time friends of Pat and Carolyn Anderson recently shared information with our church family on Project Ruth. Oti and Cami Bunaciu founded this program in the 1990's in Romania which is primarily a school that provides nourishment for the body and soul to poor and marginalized children, particularly Roma (Gypsies). Altogether, the goal is to erode the social factors – divorce, alcoholism, child trafficking, poverty and low literacy rates – that contribute to the Roma's misery.

They never thought that in 2022 their largest neighbor, Ukraine, would be invaded, sending terrified, hopeless refugees to all their neighboring countries. As the capital city of Romania with many embassies, Bucharest became a desirable destination. Project Ruth opened its facilities to temporarily house them, something they had not planned for.



Pastor Oti & Cami Bunaciu Pat & Carolyn

They developed a network of partner churches and, using WhatsApp, finds volunteers to greet the refugees at the Ukraine-Romania border as they clear customs and take them to Bucharest, taking care and support every step of the way. Then, they are fed, housed, clothed, and medically cared for at Project Ruth as they navigate the daunting challenge of getting to and from embassies.

Also, volunteers have discovered the plight of many refugees who cannot get across the border due to sickness and other issues. In response, they prepare boxes of food to feed a family of four for seven days (boxes are labeled 4:7). These are transported to the border where Ukrainian church members distribute the boxes.



This ministry is “on the fly” and unplanned. Gas is \$9.00 per gallon, utility rates have tripled, and the purchase of food, transportation, and the purchase of appliances to wash clothes and bedding, cook, and assure sanitation have been costly. For more information, or if you wish to contribute to this ministry, go to www.Project-Ruth.org

Prayer and Meditation

LAMENTATIONS

An Elder in our church is sharing a page from their private journal of “lamentations” this month.

In the midst of a world so dark with problems, so sad with overwhelming needs, with so many people who are deeply, deeply suffering, I come as a person of riches and privileges. I come as one whose home is like paradise in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. I come as one whose family has plenty to eat, safety, and education. But I want to come as a person of wisdom, a person with healing to offer others. I want to come as a true follower of Jesus, a person who would give anything I have to make others safer, happier, and sustained with good health and living opportunities.



I feel helpless because I am part and parcel of a system that keeps me well supplied and keeps my family filled with no real concern for those outside my bubble. I feel desperate about the world with its violence and such overwhelming needs. I am extremely anxious about climate change, for instance, but what do I do? Where do I start? Somehow in this ugliness and unhappiness and destruction of other people's lives, I want to be generous and kind and helpful – but a whole lot more than that. I want to give more, say more, reach out in all the ways that God would have me do. I want to be a faithful Christian who lives for those who need my help. But these things seem so lacking in real time. Where is my faith if I'm still living in luxury and going about my daily life in the same ways I always have? Why should I live in such beauty and peace when I have done nothing to deserve it?

My best moments at this season of life seem to be my times of private meditation. This surprises me. I seem to need to just stop— stop thinking, stop being anxious, stop feeling guilty. It works best when I tell myself the verse from Psalm 46: “Be still and know that I am God”. I need these moments, and I use them often, but they seem to be all I can muster energy-wise. There was a time when I could go and do things. And, yes, of course, I know the words “Old people can still pray”, but that phrase seems irksome to me, so limiting. I don't know how to pray about the world situation. Or even how/what to pray about our local problems. I have no idea where God is in all of this. I just have to trust that there is a Spirit far beyond anything I can understand and yet as close as my own breath. I want to always be close to that Spirit. Breathe on me, and on all of us, Breath of God.

Blessings of the Backpacks



It's time for school to begin! Join us on Sunday, August 14 for a "Blessing of the Backpacks" for our children as they head off to a new year. The blessing will occur during the 11:00 worship service, followed by a pizza lunch for the children and their families. An afternoon of fun is planned with games, crafts and an inflatable, all coordinated by AC Marriott.

Please be sure that your children are present for this special service and activities (11:00-3:00). Feel free to invite friends to join us; please let us know if you can come so that we know how to plan for food and games. Don't forget to bring your backpack to church!

BEPC Kitchen and Ice Maker

Maintenance and Clean Up of Fellowship Hall Kitchen

Recently, we have been noticing that coffee pots and other kitchen items are being left out and not put away, in hopes that the kitchen elves will take care of clean-up.

We don't have any kitchen elves, a kitchen cleanup crew/committee, nor is it Margaret Trivette's responsibility to come in after events held in the fellowship hall to see that it is put back in order.

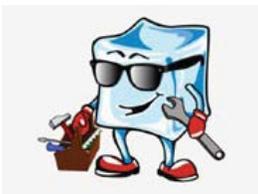
Occasionally, we have groups that come to use the church and they are responsible for leaving things as they found them on arrival. Coming into a kitchen with week-old coffee in a pot is quite embarrassing.

Please, if you use the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings to make a pot of coffee, or hold special meetings and lunches, make sure that everything is clean and put back in the cabinets where they belong, and the dishwasher emptied. You can come back later that day or the next day if you don't want to wait for the dishwasher to finish.

Thank you for your cooperation in seeing that our church kitchen is maintained and clean for the next group to use.



BEPC Ice Machine



The ice machine in the fellowship hall has been inoperable recently and the decision has been made to purchase bag ice to take care of the ice needs in the kitchen. Bags of ice will be found in the freezer in the kitchen area or in the freezer in the large equipment closet off the fellowship hall. Please notify Alisa in the church office 828-898-5406, if you have need of more than 10 bags of ice for any event.



Greater Banner Elk Heritage Foundation Banner House Museum

A Foundation favorite event is back! A new route further afield takes us to Plumtree, an idyllic area with specific ties to Banner Elk and a rich history all its own. Comfortable 30 person coach buses will depart from the Banner House Museum at either 2:00 or 2:30 to chauffeur you to Plumtree with interesting sights pointed out along the way. \$35 per person (\$30 for current Patrons) includes a locally authored book about Plumtree for your further reading. Limited seating, pre-paid reservations strongly suggested. For more information, contact Meredith Olan, Museum Director at meredithholan@gmail.com



June Session Review

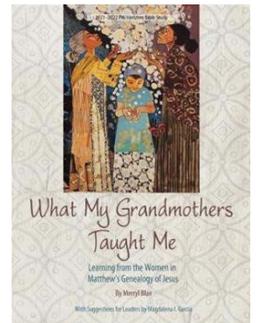
- Reported: nine (9) new members in June
- Needed: Youth Coordinator
- Approved: donation to Crossnore School
- Approved title change: Office & Finance Manager (Dedy)
- Approved title change: Church Administrator
- Approved: purchase of Zoll unit defibrillator
- Report: financial offering is lower than budgeted expenses
- Consecration Sunday, August 28
- Approved: Annual Picnic in August with catered meat provided
- In progress: consolidated church information brochures
- Reported: Rev. Rachael had successful time in Montreat
- Reported: PCUSA and General Assembly has on-line access to meetings taking place the first weekend of July. There will be revisions to the Book of Order.



Women's Weekly Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study continues to meet on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-3:00, through September 1. The group meets in the adult Sunday School room adjoining the Margaret Tate Parlor on the top floor of the education/office building.

The study is the 2021-22 Presbyterian Women's Horizons Bible Study selection, "What My Grandmother Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus". Any class participant who wishes may take a turn facilitating the class during the 9-week period. If you have not joined the group and are interested, please join us - we will catch you up on earlier lessons!



From the Back Pew



From the Back Pew... .. And The Permanent Funds Ministry

Several weeks ago Dick Larson introduced us to a famous lady in the history of church music, Fanny Crosby. We sang her hymn, "To God be the Glory," that Sunday.

Dick told us that Fanny was the author of more than **8,000** hymns and gospel songs! This "Queen of Gospel Song Writers" lived to the age of 95, and in addition to all those hymns and gospel songs, she wrote poetry, and was noted as a speaker and a Christian rescue worker. She was also blind from childhood.

Talk about giving back! What she gave to the future can hardly be debated, but her contribution to our life in the church today is certainly everlasting.

What are you giving back, back to the future? Fanny and lots of modern Christian musicians might have music covered. Michelangelo and Da Vinci might cover art, and presumably good deeds are a way of life for most good Christians. Our Permanent Funds Ministry allows this church and its members also to have a significant impact on the future. What you give now, or as an estate gift, will give back, back to the future. You might not provide Fanny's joy of music, but you will provide for a benevolence need that only the future will recognize.

You can have the joy of giving now, for the needs of tomorrow.

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
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Banner Elk, NC 28604

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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 2022

Luana Anderson Fellowship
Murry Haber Missions
Don Hilsmier Membership
Deka Tate Congregational Care

Class of 2023

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

Class 2024

William Dethlefs Communications/Outreach
Chappie Petree Stewardship & Finance
Jesse Pope Permanent Funds
McNair Tornow Personnel

Clerk of the Works: Larry Zimmer
Permanent Funds Ministry: Jesse Pope
Treasurer: Chappie Petree
Asst Treasurers: Allen Clark,
Donna Dicks, Ron McGowan, Debi Tornow

Church Staff

Rev. Rachael McConnell, Pastor
rachael@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
David Soyars, Organist
Nina Allbert, Choir Director
ninaallbert@icloud.com
Alisa Ballard, Office Administrator
alisa@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
Office Manager: Dedy Traver
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Housekeeping: Margaret Trivette
BEPC Preschool: Jarrett Koski, Interim Director
jkoski@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

In-person or livestream
8:30am Worship - traditional
11:00 am Worship - traditional