

The SPOTLIGHT

Bridgewater Presbyterian Church

May
2023

Address: 110 East College Street, Bridgewater, VA 22812
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On Facebook & YouTube as
Bridgewater Presbyterian Church



Photo by Bill Gamble

Join us for the cantata

Healing Waters

*a collection of anthems exploring
the theme of water in the Bible*

*with spiritual, contemporary Christian,
gospel & standard anthems*

Performed by the
Bridgewater Presbyterian Church Choir

Sunday, May 14th at 10:30 am
Bridgewater Presbyterian Church
110 East College Street

Lacey Johnson, conductor & piano 4-hands
Alaina Pfeiffer, choir accompanist & piano 4-hands
Jon DeVier-Scott, speaker
Christa Hoover & Phoenix Johnson, violins

*Bonus performance on Saturday, May 13th at 11AM
in the Alexander Mack Room of the Houff Center on the campus
of Bridgewater Retirement Community. Open to the public.*

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Next Session
meeting is
Thursday, May 18
at 6:30

Transitional
Pastor:

Rev.
**Kate
Rascoe**

~ Pentecost Sunday, May 28th:

The "birthday" of the church, when we recount the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples with tongues of fire, rushing wind and many languages. Like them, we are called to share the Good News with all pilgrims.

- ~ Wear red.
- ~ Communion will be shared by intinction.
- ~ The Pentecost Offering for Children at Risk, Youth and Young Adults will be received.
Get all the details on page 2.



~ Wildwood Park Sunday, June 11th:

It begins with a Carry-in **Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.** followed by **Informal Worship at 10:00 a.m.**

- ~ bring a dish to share; table service & drinks provided.
- ~ bring a lawn chair if you wish.
- ~ invite family, friends & neighbors!




Member Care

~ *We express our deepest sympathy to Judy Rees* and family on the death of her father, Norris Miller.

~ *We are in the process of planning* several summer activities. If you have any ideas or suggestions, contact Pam Bailey.



Mission & Outreach

 **The Pentecost Offering is received on May 28th.** Our 40% will be shared with The Collins Center, a sexual assault response and advocacy organization that serves Rockingham and Page Counties, the City of Harrisonburg, and surrounding communities. For over thirty years, Collins Center has offered support to victims, survivors, and their loved ones through many programs and services, crisis support and advocacy, prevention and education, and trauma-informed counseling. Our nationally accredited Child Advocacy Center (CAC) works collaboratively with community partners to provide a proactive and thorough response to child victims of abuse and their non-offending caregivers. They have a 24-hour crisis hotline and are located on Liberty Street in Harrisonburg.

The other 60% is used by PCUSA in three ways:

- ~ 25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer experiences, engaging in mission at 13 sites in the U.S. & around the world;
- ~ 25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12—18, and those called to accompany them. Endeavors include a daily digital devotion and the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.
- ~ 10% supports the “Education a Child, Transform the World, national initiative. The goal is to motivate and inspire Presbyterians to better the lives of children to ensure equitable, accessible, quality public education so that all children may grown into the fullness of life.

The One Great Hour of Sharing received on Easter Sunday totaled \$513

The next

2¢

happens May 14th
 ~ 25% of your coins go to Bridgewater InterChurch Food Pantry;
 ~ 75% helps fund Hunger Action around the region through Shenandoah Presbytery.

To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

Spiritual Life

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Lent, Holy Week, and Easter worship experiences. We hope you found our weeks of “seeking” enriched your spiritual journey. The Flower Cross was stunning, the music inspirational and the messages memorable. The Spiritual Life Committee created a moving Maundy Thursday worship. Thank you Linda, Emily, Gracie, Betsy, Judy and Kate.

If you haven’t done so, please complete the request for feedback on Lent/Holy Week/Easter soon.



Christian Education



Sunday School is winding down. All classes will be on hiatus during June, July and August. The Adults are going to complete “Jesus is the Question” this month and the Youth are finishing a unit on Peter. **THANK YOU** to everyone who provided leadership, ideas, discussion and more these past few months. See you in September!



To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

Birthdays



Katie McElroy
Kendall West
Jacquelyn G. Boshart
Gretchen Collins
Bryce Carter
Blaze Johnson
Suzanne Mizell
Aubrie DeVier-Scott
Bill Gamble
Lois Thompson
James Enterline
Dana Eichlin
Isaac Edwards
William Heatwole
Emory Johnson
Joe Price
Ashely Armstrong
Brett Johnson

Our Building as a Blessing

A reminder that two groups & one member use our building during the week:

- **TOPS** meets every Tuesday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and
- **Friends Café** (formerly *Memory Café*) gathers Tuesday, May 9th at 11:30 a.m. RSVP to Ginny Joseph
- **Katie McElroy** gives piano lessons on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:00.

For everyone's safety and privacy, whenever possible do not come to the building during their designated times.

Anniversaries



14 Ben Gardner & Meg Oldman (°)
24 Mike & Emily Heatwole (°)
25 Mike & Gretchen Collins (°)

Book Group's Next Read

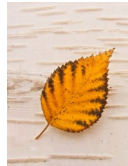
"The Paris Seamstress"
by Natasha Lester
Gather for discussion & snacks on **Monday, May 22nd at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Judy Rees.



Backpacks

The last order for backpacks this school year has been made! Special thanks to the congregation and the Dagen family for the continued support of this mission!

Worship at White Birch



Sunday, May 14th
at 1:30 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.

Shenandoah Presbytery meets in-person on Saturday, May 20th at Staunton Third. Mary Kay Adams will be our Elder Commissioner.



Smiley's

Wednesday, May 17th
at 3:30 p.m.
Bring a friend!!

Men Meet for Breakfast

All males are invited to breakfast at Bob-a-Rea's on the **3rd Saturday** of each month at 8:30 a.m.

All ages and guests are welcome. Our next date:

May 20th at 8:30 a.m.

If you need a ride, or can provide one, contact
Carroll Chewning

VPAS Café in Bridgewater

When: 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Where: Houff Community Center at Bridgewater Retirement Comm. (Blue Ridge Room)

Who: anyone age 60+

What: programs, lunch and exercise; do all or some
New programs each month.

Registration is required:
Call VPAS at 540-615-5341 and check online at
www.vpas.info/calendar



"You shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." —Maya Angelou

	Ushering and Greeting share duties with one at each door	Acolyte/ Bell Ringer	Lay Leader	Highlight /Flowers
7	Steve & Pat Humphreys	Phoenix	Mary Kay Adams	
14	David & Charlette McQuilkin	Emory	Betsy Glendye	Cantata; 2¢-a-Meal Offering received; Mother's Day observance
21	Mary Kay Adams & Merrill Simon	Phoenix	Judy Rees	
28	Tommy & Betsy Glendye	Emory	Gracie Florence	Day of Pentecost; Communion; Pentecost Offering received

To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

Resource



Finance Reports: prepared by Bev Carver, Disbursement Treasurer

Account Balances as of March 31, 2023	Operating	Money Market	Payroll	Tax	Ed. Jones (for stock gifts)
	\$37,162.03	\$57,935.43	\$1,126.21	\$2,036.51	\$17.90



Totals as of 3/31/2023	
Income	\$22,960.00
Expense	\$34,421.59
Difference	\$11,461.59 (deficit)

Fund Balances as of March 31, 2023

- Youth Event Fund: \$6,150.93 (monies reside in Money Market)
- Memorial Fund: \$51,784.50 (monies reside in Money Market)
- Backpack Ministry Fund: \$1,082.49 (monies reside in Operating Account)



Building & Grounds

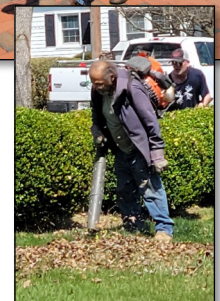
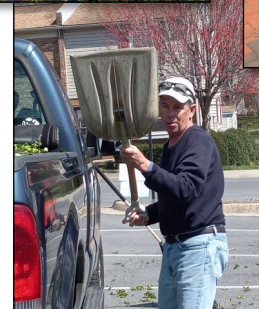
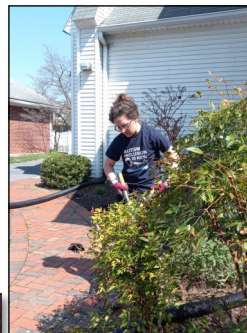
Storm Water Drainage Upgrade Project

For some time we have had a problem with water intrusion into the basement. The cause is the failure of our existing underground pipe system to carry away water from our roof gutter downspouts. A contractor has been hired to rework the drain pipes on both sides of the sanctuary; properly sized and sloped solid pipe will be installed, and an addition branch line will be installed for a future additional downspout on each side of the sanctuary. The swale on the west side will be reworked to better handle surface runoff. If you would like to know additional details, contact Carroll Chewing



Weather permitting, the contractor plans to start work on May 8 or 9. The gas company has already marked its underground piping. Other utilities may be marked in the coming days. Please do not disturb these markings.
-Carroll & Merrill, co-chairs, Building & Grounds

Spring Clean-up Day — March 30.
 Many thanks to Emily and Pam for planning & organizing a very productive day.





An Update on the Transition... Rev. Kate Rascoe

The primary purpose of interim ministry is to provide a congregation leadership during a transition period during which evaluation and discernment will take place regarding ministry goals, resources, and leadership and staffing. The interim pastor will work closely with the Session, the Congregation, and with the presbytery to assure that the next phase of the congregation’s work and worship will be entered with clarity, flexibility and energy. The primary goal of the interim pastor is to assure that the congregation begins its next pastoral relationship with spiritual maturity, grace, and eagerness to be led into something new.

Although it is difficult for me to believe, May brings us to the 18 - month mark of our transitional relationship. I am SO PROUD of the work that has been done by the session and congregation. So many of you have shown up to be a part of the conversations that are vital to the evaluation and discernment process. You have proved yourselves to be “game” for a lot of creative, fun experiences! Together we have decompressed. We leaned into leadership development and procedural clarity at the session level. We have done some assessment of BPC’s staffing that led to some minor changes and an eye for long range plans. Our discernment work has involved exploring ministry styles, leadership competencies, and the resources needed and available for a pastoral search. Those conversations have been rich and very thought provoking. Soon, we will be better educated on the logistics of the search process. There is still some very important financial discernment to be done at the session level. With better clarity there, I think BPC will be ready to begin a formal search for its next pastor. I will remain here to keep things moving in the right direction for as long as the session needs me. As always, I ask you to keep us in your prayers...

Thank you to all who participated in the Easter Egg Hunt or donated candy. Dana Eichlin & Jyl Gamble stuffed the eggs and Alex McElroy was the hiding expert! We had 16 happy hunters.



Open Doors meal was served at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren on April 1st. We owe Mary Kay Adams a huge thanks to for coordinating the effort and to the many volunteers that helped to make food and serve. This was a wonderful outreach event and the guests and staff of Open Doors were very thankful.





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 4:30 TOPS	3 7:00 Choir	4	5 10 AM LFL KIDS	6
<i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> 7 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	8	9 11:30 a.m. Friends Café 4:30 TOPS	10 7:00 Choir	11 6:30 Spiritual Life meeting at Smileys	12 Office closed	13
<i>Mother's Day</i> 14 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship CANTATA 1:30 Worship at White Birch	15	16 4:30 TOPS	17 3:30 Everybody Meet at Smiley's! 7:00 Choir	18 6:30 Session	19 Office closed	20 8:30 AM Men eat at Bob-a-Rea's <i>Presbytery at Staunton 3rd</i>
<i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> 21 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	22 Newsletter Deadline	23 4:30 TOPS	24 7:00 Choir	25	26 Office closed	27
<i>Day of Pentecost</i> 28 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Wear Red Pentecost Offering Received	29 Memorial Day Office closed	30 4:30 TOPS	31 7:00 Choir	JUNE 1	2 Office closed	3
JUNE 4 10:30 Worship	5	6 4:30 TOPS	7 7:00 Choir?	8	9 Office closed	10

A Few Items from Sally in the Church Office:

We were honored to supply a group of 2nd graders from Blue Ridge Christian School with tasks around the church for their annual Give Back Day of Service. They created bookmarks for the Little Free Library, pulled weeds and picked up sticks from around the shrubbery, and replaced/sharpened all the pencils in the pews.

Their request to come was last minute. I deeply appreciate Pastor Kate and MJ Chewning jumping in to help. I am not gifted with the ability to lead or teach children so I was out of my element—until the end... I had them each ring the bell! They left with big smiles!



SAVE THE DATE
Vacation Bible School (several churches)
JUNE 20–22 (evenings)
at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren
Watch for details & opportunities to participate!