

New Bethel News



NEW BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR...

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Spring Cleaning will be during the month of May**
- **Decoration Day & New Bethel Cemetery Offering May 28**
- **Pentecost Offering June 4**
- **PW Birthday Offering June 25**
- **The Title Wave Summer Library**

At Montreat College, there is a small chapel known as the Chapel of the Prodigal. In the Chapel of the Prodigal there is a beautiful fresco painted by the world renowned artist Ben Long. It is said that in every work of Ben Long, he uses imagery and symbols to give a stronger picture for those who see his work. His work at Montreat College is no different. In the fresco in the Chapel of the Prodigal at Montreat College there is a long red cloth hanging from a balcony to signify the pouring out of Jesus' blood as well as many Crosses painted throughout the painting. It is

no shock that imagery, signs, and symbols are used all around us to help us grow our faith and help us remember who Christ was, who Christ is, and who Christ will always be.

A constant symbol in our faith is clearly the sign of the Cross. It is a never changing part of what we see but some things do change for our benefit. Have you ever noticed the colors changing in the sanctuary on the pulpit, the Bible, the stole on my robe, and now the draping on the Cross? Have you ever looked at them and wondered, "Why do we use these colors or why do we do

this in the first place?" If you have been curious about this and not known the answer to this question, well today is your lucky day!

In the church there are four seasons of year that we celebrate: the redemptive works of Jesus Christ (white), the season of penitence and preparation (purple), ordinary time for when there is no specific church season we are celebrating (green), and the works of the Holy Spirit (red). We use specific colors to recognize the special uniqueness of these times of the year.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pastor: Rev. Eric Spoon
 spoon1283@gmail.com
Clerk of Session: Teresa Wright
 telemusic53@aol.com
Treasurer: Larry Smith
 treasurer@newbethelpres.org
Choir Director: Teresa Wright
 choir@newbethelpres.org
Dir. Of Children: Katie Wright
 ozfanwright@aol.com

Church Session

Moderator
 Rev. Eric Spoon

Church Ruling Elders

Class of 2017
 Mary Lynn Barnes
 Chuck Courtney
 James Shepherd

Class of 2018

Colby Torbett
 Marcia Torbett

Class of 2019

Dwight King
 Larry Smith
 Teresa Wright

May

(Offering) Linda Smith
 (Offering) Dwight King
 (Communion) Larry Smith
 (Communion) Rick Brademeyer

June

(Offering) Rusty Shepherd
 (Offering) Jim Wright
 (Communion) Linda Smith
 (Communion) Dwight King

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
MAY - JUNE

Birthdays
May

- May 1 Debbie Thomas
- May 3 Karisa White
- May 5 Sharon Ramsey
- May 8 Sally McPeak
- May 9 Martha Crussell
- May 10 Carolyn Byrd
- May 13 Marcia Torbett
- May 21 Teresa Wright
- May 28 Sydney Thomas
- May 28 Peggy Torbett
- May 31 Mark Procopio

June

- June 4 Ron Reed
- June 4 Ashley Thomas
- June 10 Mary Dobrovolc
- June 12 Donald Ramsey
- June 19 Robert Pierce
- June 30 Eva Jones



Anniversaries

May

- May 6 Rodney & Kassie Smith
- May 13 Rick & Sherry Brademeyer

June

- June 11 Lee & Vickie Parker
- June 16 Daniel & Michelle Fuller
- June 18 Graham & Peggy Hodges
- June 21 Daniel & Vanessa Smith
- June 29 Phillip & Jennifer Orr

Spring Cleaning

May 1 - 5 (Let Eric Know)
May 6 (8:00am - 12:00pm)
Our annual Spring Cleaning of New Bethel will be the week of May 1 - 6. You can come any day of the week but are encouraged to come on Saturday. A signup sheet is in the Narthex.

**THE TITLE WAVE
SUMMER LIBRARY**

Summer vacation is right around the corner, and we are getting ready to make some waves in Piney Flats! New Bethel is bringing The Title Wave Summer Library for Kids to our community this summer. The Title Wave is a free mobile library ministry project that seeks to improve student access to books over summer vacation. Since the fall, you have shown your overwhelming support by donating over 1,100 books to the library. Thank you!

We are also excited that Food City in Piney Flats has graciously agreed to host the library on the sidewalk right in front of the store. We will set up The Title Wave at Food City on **Mondays** and **Thursdays** starting after Memorial Day through the end of July. Our hours will be **4:30 PM – 6:30 PM** so that we can make the library convenient for families that may not have time to go to a traditional library. We will have books available for

children of all ages - from toddlers all the way to teenagers, and we will issue library cards to any child, age 0 through 12th grade.

Now is the time to consider how you can help. Volunteering is easy and there are jobs for people of all ages and talents. You can sign up to help once or as many times as you like. We hope you'll come "catch a wave" with us. Help us serve our community and share God's love this summer!



Decoration Day

May 28, 2017

11:00am

We hope to make Decoration Day this year a special one you will not soon forget. Weather permitting, worship will be outside at 11:00am and will include Communion. Rev. Eric Spoon will be preaching. At the end of the worship, we will celebrate the history of this church with a delightful outdoor picnic.

**Building for the
Future Fund
\$14,008.00**

Average Weekly Budget Needs:
\$1,674.00
Average Weekly Budget Gifts:
\$1,400.00
Average Standing Per Week:
-\$242.00
Total Standing for Year:
-\$3,388.00

*In Memory of Haven White
Ann and Jerome Mettetal*



FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Budget

As of April 8, 2017

Memorials Received

Given to the Building Fund

50¢-A-Meal Offering

Our next 50¢-A-Meal offering will be:

July 2, 2017

MISSION NEWS - SPECIAL OFFERINGS

NB Cemetery Offering

May 28, 2017

Help support the upkeep of the cemetery and honor those who have gone before us.

Pentecost Offering

June 4, 2017

40% goes for youth locally.

60% goes to the

Presbyterian Mission Agency.

PW Birthday Offering

June 25, 2017

This offering is used to support:

1. First-Hand Aid's Rural Clinic Development Initiative serving rural communities in Cuba
2. Safe Haven for Victims of Domestic Violence, South Carolina
3. Navajo Water Project, New Mexico

5¢-a-Meal Offering

July 2, 2017

Help our children change the world. Continue to collect your change to fill their pots.

Building for the Future Offering

July 30, 2017

Give to this offering and help support and sustain the future of New Bethel.

Underwear and Sock Drive

June - July 2017

Please bring new underwear and socks to donate to students and those in need in the area. We need men's, women's, and children's sizes and styles.

PASTOR'S NOTE CONTINUED

So why do we use the colors we use? Let me first say, they are not just arbitrary colors that are chosen. Each one has special and significant meaning in the life of the church and the Christian faith. According to scholars:

White for Christmas and Easter. *It represents the innocence and purity that comes with Christ. White is the "base" color, in that white (or cream/natural) is what fabric looks like without any dye included. It reminds us of the natural way we are without the stain of sin, and what Christ is without sin being his.*

Purple for Advent / Lent. *It is the color of penitence and prayer. It comes also from the color of royalty, during Jesus's days. Purple (or crimson) was particularly difficult to make and keep, so it was often reserved for those of a particular wealth, who could afford it. When the church took it as the color, it remembered the richness of this color and reserved it to the darker days of the church, when it is looking ahead to something great.*

Green for Ordinary Time. *While there really is no such thing as Ordinary Time, the green represents the verdant life that comes to us in the ministry of Christ Jesus. Some churches will use a lighter green color in the first Ordinary Time between Epiphany and Lent and then a darker green during the season between Trinity Sunday (post-Pentecost) and Christ the King (the last Sunday prior to Advent). Of course, any other color is particularly effective in dealing with life, but... what many people don't always know... green was the color of marriage, as well (before white became the accepted color). So the green reminds us of the marriage of the church to Christ, as we hear his words.*

Red for the Spirit. *The color invokes fire or a particular image that has long been associated with the Spirit. If it is used during Passion Sunday, the red also reminds us of the blood of the Passover Lamb, who is for us Jesus of Nazareth. As it is the color of the Spirit, we use it also for ordination.*

So why do I tell you about this now? I tell you this because we will soon hit the summer months and things might feel a little slower going in the church but faith never stops. It continually changes. It continually grows. It continually develops. The colors, signs, and symbols of the church help us remember to continue to allow our faith to continue to go, to change, to grow, and to develop. During the summer months, let your faith be as big and bold as it is has ever been.

Peace in Christ,

Erie



WWW.NEWBETHELPRES.ORG



NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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Mission Statement
**To know Christ and
make Christ known!**

New Bethel Presbyterian Church is a community of believers who have served God and His people for over 230 years and continue to seek to know Christ and to make Him known in a fellowship of love, worship, and service.

If you are interested in learning more about New Bethel, check us out on our website:

www.newbethelpres.org

Or come and visit us on Sunday mornings at 9:45am (Sunday School) and 11:00am (Worship) and Tuesday mornings at 10:00am (Bible Study)!

Come and see all that is available and make

New Bethel your new church home!

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

May 2017

Tuesday, May 2

Men's Prayer Breakfast
Adult Bible Study

Sunday, May 7

Communion

Sunday, May 14

Mother's Day

Wednesday, May 17

PW Meeting

Sunday, May 21

Session

Sunday, May 28

Decoration Day
New Bethel Cemetery Offering
Communion

June 2017

Sunday, June 4

Pentecost Offering
Communion

Tuesday, June 6

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, June 11

Session

Sunday, June 18

Father's Day

Wednesday, June 21

PW Meeting

Sunday, June 25

PW Birthday Offering

July 2017

Sunday, July 2

Backpack Packing for Sullivan
County During Sunday School
5¢-A-Meal Offering

Tuesday, July 4

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, July 9

Communion
Homebound Communion

Wednesday, July 19

PW Meeting

Sunday, July 30

Building for the Future Offering

