



# The Bethany Banner

Bethany Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church  
1454 Highway 161N Clover, SC 29710  
Pastor's Study (803) 222-9897 Cell: (601) 577-1359  
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July 2018

## ***A Word From the Pastor's Study***

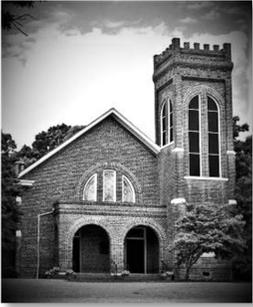
Hospitality is a Christian virtue. It is however one of those things that has kind of fallen by the wayside in this era of very busy lives, seemingly unending tasks, and constant activities.

Most of us can remember, and many of you can still testify of this reality, how Sunday used to be the day of family gatherings, usually lasting all day. But hospitality is more than a weekly family meal, though that is a blessing in and of itself. It is a lifestyle which sees the home not as a castle, or a citadel in which to hide from the world, but as a place of refuge and fellowship for the lost as well as brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Book of Acts is central to witnessing to what this kind of loving openness looks like. Remember the story of the day that Lydia came to saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? After the Holy Spirit opened her heart

one of the first things she did was open her home to these travelers who had shared with her the good news of redemption through the blood of the lamb. She not only made them welcome, but shared of her blessings for all of their benefit.

This is the kind of thing noted in the passage at the end of Acts 2. This was not an early example of communism as some erroneously believe. It was, however, a picture of the kind of hospitality the Jews had always been called to (c.f: Lev. 19:9-10, 32-36, Ruth 2, etc...). A large part of accepting our new life in Christ is understanding that we no longer are our own, but belong body and soul to our Savior, and to this family which the Bible calls the Church. It is a life of service and sacrifice for our friends. It is an opportunity to open our homes and hearts to our brothers and sisters in Christ and our neighbors. (Lev. 19:18).



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## Sunday Preaching Schedule

July 1 Guest Minister, Rev. Ken McMullen  
July 8 John 17:17-19  
July 15 John 17:20-23  
July 22 John 17:24-26  
July 29 Exodus 34:1-9

## Bible Reading Plan for Month

July 1 – July 7 Psalm 1-7  
July 8- July 14 Psalm 8-14  
July 15 – July 21 Psalm 15-21  
July 22 – July 28 Psalm 22-28

## Important Dates for July

Appalachia Mission June 30-July 6  
Deacon Meeting July 1  
Homecoming July 8  
Session Meeting July 12  
Music Conference July 8-13  
*No Mugs and Muffins in July*  
Rev. Glaser D.Min Class July 16-20  
Family Bible Conf. July 23-27  
Camp Bonclarken July 15-20, 22-27  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Psalm Sing- Hopewell July 29

## Larger Catechism Question

### **WLC Question #82**

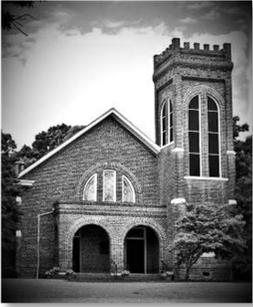
**Q. 82 – What is the Communion in glory which the members of the invisible Church have with Christ?**

**A -** The communion in glory which the members of the invisible Church have with Christ, is in this life, immediately after death, and at last perfected at the resurrection and day of judgment.

## Missionary of the Month

This month in our missionary prayer I want to introduce you to the family who will be our mission focus in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter this year. Rev. Goodman will preach for us on **August 12<sup>th</sup>**.

The Goodman's are serving in Barry, Wales for church planting at Barry Evangelical Presbyterian Church ([barryepc.org](http://barryepc.org)). Please pray for the preaching of God's word, the strengthening of the church, and for visitors and evangelism. A new children's outreach will be established in the fall. Drew will be accompanied by his family to teach a course at RTS in Charlotte in August and at the African Bible University (Uganda) in January.



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## Youth Corner Announcements

Our Appalachia mission team will be in Sneedville, TN from Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> through Friday July 6<sup>th</sup>. Your prayers for safe travels, good health, and open hearts are appreciated as well as all of your support! We look forward to sharing our week with all of you on Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm!

Music Conference is July 6<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>. Make plans to attend their concert Friday evening! We are blessed with a great group of talented youth. ☺

- Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday Tucker! (on the 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday Michaela! (on the 28<sup>th</sup>)

Operation Christmas Child shoebox items for the month of July are **socks**. Please place donations in the box upstairs beside the bulletin board.

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit."*

-- Matthew 28:19

## Session Report

The session met Thursday June 14<sup>th</sup>. On the agenda was Rev. Glaser's pastor's report for May, heard details from the Christian Education committee, piano committee, approved a new policy for the non-member benevolence fund, and held prayer for several situations in the life of the congregation.

## Deacon's Report

The Deacon's had an unofficial meeting June 3<sup>rd</sup> before Sabbath School. They received the Treasurer's report; spoke about several projects on tap for the summer including new speakers for the nursery, mulch for the side of the church and other preparations for VBS and our upcoming Homecoming event.

## Christian Education Report

In June, the Christian Ed committee in a meeting after worship received word of a couple new openings for service with the Wednesday night youth group and a new teaching prospect for Sabbath School. If you are interested in helping out in this way please see Fred Faulkner.

## Wednesday Prayer Meeting

In July we will not meet for Wednesday night prayer meeting either July 4<sup>th</sup> or July 18<sup>th</sup>. We invite you for a time of refreshing and learning about God's Word and opportunities to pray for one another in the mercies of Jesus Christ!



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## Monthly Prayer Requests

We will continue to be in prayer for a presbytery and nation that we will covenant to prayer for through this month. We are going to highlight Canadian Presbytery, and the nation and people of Colombia.

### **Prayer Needs:**

Dollie Douglas, Hayes Faulkner, Sarah Faulkner, Janice Patterson, Betty Campbell. Winifred Callister, Peggy Wells, Theodore McClure, Garland Davidson, Geneva Smith, Bible Release Time, Appalachia mission and the children of Sneedville, TN, Good News Club, Andrew Brunson, Rose Knight, Kenneth Moses, John Bailey, and Samantha Johnson. Spiritual warfare, the President, end to abortion, missionaries, church planters, and all our members and friends.

## Devotional Verses

“How lovely are your tents O Jacob!  
Your dwellings O Israel! Like valleys  
that stretch out, like gardens by the  
riverside, like aloes planted by the  
LORD, like cedars beside the waters. He  
shall pour water from buckets, and His  
seed shall be in many waters. His king  
shall be higher than Agag, and His  
kingdom shall be exalted.”

– Num. 24:5-7

## Psalm of the Month

“Then I will go to the altar of God,  
to God my exceeding joy; and on  
the harp I will praise You, O God,  
my God. Why are you cast down, O  
my soul? And why are you  
disquieted within me? Hope in  
God; for I shall yet praise Him, the  
help of my countenance and my  
God.” – Psalm 43:4-5

## FAMILY RETREAT NEWS!

Our committee which oversees the Fall Family Retreat is glad to report that we have a speaker and theme ready for our time of spiritual growth & rest at Camp Cherokee in Kings Mountain State Park!

This year's speaker is Rev. Mark Miller,  
Pastor of Clover ARP Church.

This year's theme is “Running the Race of Faith: the Means of Grace in the Life of the Believer” and the four sessions will cover: the Word of God, Prayer, Praise, and the Daily Walk of Faith.

The dates for this year's retreat are:

**November 9-11**

Be on the lookout for more info!