



The Bethany Banner

Bethany Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
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March 2018

A Word From the Pastor's Study

This last Lord's Day we heard from Micah 4:1-5 some of the most precious words in all of the Holy Bible. These promises of the LORD that look forward both to the coming of Jesus Christ as well as the peace that shall be evident in the lives of the believer are wonderful to contemplate and should move us to continue to love more and more our awesome and perfect God.

One of the key parts of this advance in faith is where that growth takes place. In the first psalm David writes that the righteous man is planted by the river, and we understand that stream to be the living water noted by Jesus Christ in His words to the lady at the well in John 4. It is important to understand that the believer, when we are brought into the Kingdom of God, is made a member of something real and tangible. When we're baptized into the covenant family as an infant or an

adult we are made members of the visible Church. This baptism flowers in faith in Jesus Christ because of the feeding of the Sheep in the body of Christ. This is a large part of its calling.

The command where we get this saying (feeding sheep) has Peter asking Jesus what He would have him to do. The context of both this teaching and the Great Commission is in the Church as it exists in this world. When we see men and women come to faith through the preaching of the Word they are baptized and disciplined into something. You cannot say you are a believer and not be an active member in the local church. The Bible knows nothing of lone Christians who only worship in private. We need each other! The house of God should be a place of peace and comfort for all Christians to bear with one another and to rejoice with us all in the good of Christ Jesus!



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Sunday Preaching Schedule

March 4 Micah 4:6-13
March 11 Micah 5:1-5a
March 18 Micah 5:5b-15
March 25 Matthew 26:47-56

Bible Reading Plan for Month

February 25-Mar. 3 1 John 1-5
March 4-10 2 John and 3 John
March 11-17 James 1-5
March 18-24 Hebrews 1-6
March 25-31 Hebrews 7-13

Important Dates for March

Deacon Meeting Mar. 4
Session Meeting Mar. 8
Bible Release Pancake Dinner Mar. 10
Mugs and Muffins Mar. 11
Catawba Presbytery Meeting Mar. 13
Good News Club Celebration Mar. 17
Senior Citizens Luncheon Mar. 24
Easter Egg Hunt Mar. 31

Larger Catechism Question

WLC Question #155

“How is the Word made Effectual to Salvation?”

A. The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching of the word an effectual means of enlightening, convincing, and humbling sinners; of driving them out of themselves, and drawing them unto Christ; of conforming them to His image, and subduing them to His will; to strengthen them against temptations and corruptions; of building them up in grace, and establishing their hearts in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation.

Missionary of the Month

The church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a missionary church, seeking to grow the Kingdom by the means of grace. This month we would like to highlight the ministry of Jeff and Sheila Osbourne. While they are not actively on the field Jeff has experienced a number of health issues that need your prayers. Please be in prayer for the Osbourne's and for his healing so that they can continue to serve the Lord our God in their particular calling and ministry.



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Youth Corner Announcements

- Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, **March 31st** at **11am**. Parking will be on the school side of the church. Each child is asked to bring a basket/bucket for collecting their eggs. **PARENTS: Please do not arrive before 10:45** as "hiding" will be under way and some eggs will be visible as you arrive so **NO** collecting as you walk into the church!
- Happy 7th Birthday Lela! (on the 17th)
- Happy 20th Birthday Mitchell! (on the 28th)
- Operation Christmas Child shoebox items for the month of March are **toys**. Nothing military related- stuffed animals, action figures, games, deflated balls with air pumps, and baby dolls are all great suggestions! Please place donations in the box upstairs beside the bulletin board.
- It is time to start planning for our 2018 Appalachia mission trip! Registration will be due to Mrs. Kelly Gordon by **March 4th**. Participants must be 14 years of age or in the 9th grade. Please see Kelly for a registration packet or if you have any questions.

Our verse for this month is:

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and
renew a right spirit within me."* –
Psalm 51:10

Session Report

The session met Thursday Feb. 8th at 7:00pm for their regularly scheduled meeting. Items taken up included the Treasurer's Report and Deacon's Report. They went over pastoral & prayer needs in the congregation and approved a new communicants class

Deacon's Report

The Deacon's met Feb. 4th before Sabbath School. Due to weather most work has been postponed until March.

Christian Education Report

The Christian Education Committee has approved new age breakdowns for the Wednesday Night youth meetings. Age 2 through 5 meet with Mrs. Margaret Rhyne, Grade K-4 with Mrs. Kelly Gordon, Grade 5-8 with Miss Michaela Carroll, Grade 9-12 with the Lowery's.



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Wednesday Prayer Meeting

In March at 6:30pm we will complete our time in "The Bruised Reed". Beginning in April we will start a new Bible Study through a book TBA.

We warmly welcome all to come!

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 Virginia Presbytery, and the nation and people of South Korea.

Prayer Needs:

Dollie Douglas, Hayes Faulkner, Sarah Faulkner, Janice Patterson, Betty Campbell, Winifred Callister, Peggy Wells, Theodore McClure, Crystal Costner, Geneva Smith, Bible Release Time, Good News Club, Andrew Brunson, Rev. George Bush, John Bailey, and Samantha Johnson. The President, end to abortion, our church planters, missionaries, and the Bethany ARP Church.

Psalm of the Month

"LORD, I cry out to You; Make haste to me! Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You. Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, To practice wicked works with men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies." -- Psalm 141:1-4

Quote of the Month

"The world needs the principles of the ARP Church. There never was a time when the conservative principles of our church which is proverbial for producing solid character, Puritan religion, and stable manhood were needed more than now. In this day of commercialism, of luxury, of pleasure loving, fashion following, of restlessness and novel seeking, let the principles, if not the name of the ARP Church ever live to hold men close to the Word of God, and exert their conservative influence far and wide." -- Rev. R.G. Miller (1903)