

The SPOTLIGHT

Bridgewater Presbyterian Church

SEPTEMBER
2023

Address: 110 East College Street, Bridgewater, VA 22812
Phone: 540-237-2120
Email: Bridgewaterpresbychurch@gmail.com
Website: www.Bridgewaterpc.com

On Facebook & YouTube as
Bridgewater Presbyterian Church



I WILL FULFILL TO YOU MY
PROMISE AND BRING YOU
BACK TO THIS PLACE.
FOR SURELY I KNOW THE
PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,
SAYS GOD, PLANS FOR
YOUR WELFARE AND NOT
FOR HARM, TO GIVE YOU
A FUTURE WITH HOPE.
+ JEREMIAH 29:10-11

A message from the Stew-

ardship Team:

Mary Kay Adams,
Jim Enterline,
Tom Mizell,
Judy Rees.

Inside this Issue:

- 2...Roof update
- 2...Finance/Treas.
- 2...a QR Code!!!!
- 3...Stewardship
- 4...Committee News
- 5...Anniversaries
- 5...Birthdays
- 5...Groups
- 5...Volunteers
- 6...Calendar & more!

This year's stewardship theme is *A Future With Hope*. As we journey together through September's stewardship season, let's remember that God has promised to be with us at all times, that He wants us to be in community with each other, and that He has plans that will benefit all of us. What a wonderful assurance of hope we have for our future!



What Does Stewardship Mean to You?

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

The Bible urges us to respond to our faith out of generosity, joyfully giving back a portion of what God has given to us. Your stewardship team encourages you to renew your relationship with Christ and reassess your commitments of time, talents and treasures to Him through the ministry of BPC; reflect on His abiding, unconditional and abundant love; and make intentional choices that express your gratitude and help you to live into what God has called you to be. Together we will take a meaningful walk of faith this month to consider who and what we want to be in the future. Special

☞
Next Session
meeting is
Thursday,
September 21st,
6:30 p.m.
☞

*Transitional
Pastor:*

Rev.
**Kate
Rascoe**



We Have a Gift for You!!

Each local BPC household will soon receive a gift bag that contains a variety of important and fun items. Look in the Fellowship Hall September 3rd or 10th and find more details on page 3.

Stewardship Celebration Meal!

To conclude the stewardship season, we invite you to stay for a celebratory potluck lunch after worship on October 1st. Sign up on the kiosk (or ask Sally) to indicate what food you are bringing. And if you cannot bring a dish, please join us anyway!

We look forward to having you with us this month and celebrating with you
October 1st – Commitment Sunday and Stewardship Celebration!

Building & Grounds + Resource

Update on the New Roof

On August 17, 2023, the Session approved awarding contracts to Valley Roofing & Exteriors to:

- Replace the existing roof with a GAF Timberline HDZ Architectural shingle roof, color – Oyster Gray.
- Replace the EPDM flat roof over the exterior steps to the basement with a TPO roof.
- Add two new gutter downspouts on the north end of the sanctuary, tying into the new storm water drainage piping.
- Total \$52,284

I asked the Session for an allowance of \$2,000 to cover problems that may be identified.

- Grand Total \$54,284

I met with Valley Roofing’s project manager on August 28th to review the project. **Tentative Schedule – Start on September 5th** and probably finish everything, except the gutter work, by the end of that week.

—Carroll Chewning

Finance Reports: prepared by Bev Carver, Disbursement Treasurer



Account Balances as of July 31, 2023	Operating	Money Market	Payroll	Tax	Ed. Jones (stock gifts)
	\$31,486.13	\$58,180.90	\$1,942.95	\$864.67	0



Totals as of 7/31/2023	
Income	\$61,469.96
Expense	\$78,744.92
Difference	\$17,274.96

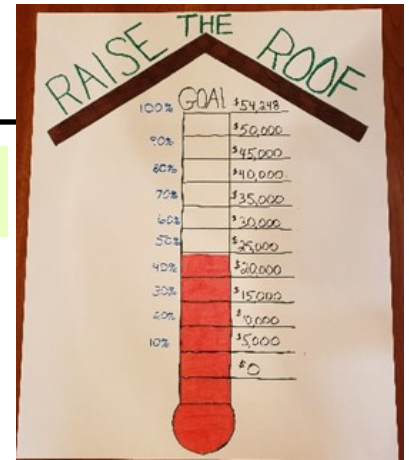


Fund Balances as of July 31, 2023	
■ Youth Event Fund: \$5,291.93	(monies reside in Money Market)
■ Backpack Ministry Fund: \$1,377.49	(monies reside in Operating)
■ Memorial Fund: 38,663.97	(monies reside in Money Market)
■ Raise the Roof Fund: \$14,225.*	(monies reside in Money Market)

Interest Earned in Money Market Account: The Money Market account has only earned 0.01% interest for some time. Banks are seeing an increase in interest rates and as of July 5, 2023, our Money Market account began earning 2% interest. The July bank statement showed an interest earnings of \$73.14.

***Raise the Roof Fund:** A new fund (separate from the Memorial Fund) to track donations for the new roof was created in July. From August 1–20, an additional \$10,320 has been donated. So the balance in the Raise the Roof Fund as of August 20th is \$ 24,545.

Church Credit Card: BPC now has a credit card from Truist with a credit limit of \$10,000. “Authorized Users” of the credit card listed with Truist are Beverley Carver, Sally Smith, and Jyl Gamble. The credit card statement will be reconciled monthly in Quickbooks. Authorized Users must submit a voucher form with the receipts attached so that the Disbursing Treasurer can document all purchases on the monthly credit card statement.



Thanks to your generosity we are ready to Raise the Roof!
 In a little less than two months this congregation has raised nearly 46% of the cost of the new roof! That’s amazing! The Session is challenging the congregation to raise the ENTIRE cost of the roof - \$29,703 in addition to what has already been received. We are optimistic that with your generosity, we can reach that goal by the end of this year.

To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

MOBILE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE!

Powered by the Presbyterian Foundation through Vanco.
 You can contribute to BPC anywhere, anytime right from your devices.
 Try this QR code, create a profile, and let Sally know about your experience.
 More information / giving options coming soon!



October 1 – Commitment Sunday and Stewardship Celebration!

We Have a Gift for You! Each local BPC household will soon receive a gift bag that contains a variety of important and fun items. Find yours in Fellowship Hall September 3rd or 10th. Discover inside:

- a letter inviting you to participate in stewardship season.
- a commitment card to indicate your 2024 financial commitment; another card to indicate your 2024 time and talent commitment. **Please return both on Oct. 1st, Commitment Sunday, when all cards will be blessed.**
- a Giving Prayer card, to be read daily during September.
- a giving chart that shows some monthly giving options, based on percentages of monthly income.
- several surprises (think edible and noisy)! Bring the noisy ones back Oct. 1st!

Out-of-town households will receive a mailing. Commitment cards returned by October 1st will be blessed with all the others.

Three Stewardship Reflection emails will be sent to help prepare your heart and mind for this spiritual journey. Pastor Kate's sermons will guide our thoughts September 10, 17 24 and October 1; and Judy, Tom, and Jim will offering important messages during the first three services.



JOY IS THE
SIMPLEST FORM
OF GRATITUDE.
+ KARL BARTH

We learn in the Bible that **“tithing is a spiritual discipline.”** A tithe is 10% of our income. God urges us to give a tithe of our first fruits – right off the top of our income and abilities – the best of what we have. If you are already a tither, we encourage you to continue at that level or to move beyond. If you’ve never tithed before, consider increasing your giving by a percentage or two toward a tithe. Put this matter in God’s hands and, through prayer, let him help you make a decision that is right for you and is a true reflection of your gratitude for all that He has done for you.

Mother Teresa said **“We cannot do great things, only small things with great love.”** As you consider your financial and personal commitments to the Lord and to the work of BPC, keep her message in mind. Though none of us can provide all the financial and personal resources necessary to carry on BPC’s ministry alone, each of us can give what we are able – out of our abundance, so that, together, we can preserve and build on the things we love so much about this church and assure that BPC’s impact in our own lives, our community, and the world will continue. This congregation is a gift to us and to the world. God has a plan for us. Let’s fulfill His promise through the 2024 commitments we make.

The major portion of our Operating Budget funds our ministry, which includes our staff salaries. Your 2024 pledge to the budget helps the Session plan for our future in ministry – **A Future With Hope**. We thank you in advance for dreaming ahead with us while continuing to support current needs, such as Special Offerings and the Raise the Roof Campaign. If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask. The Session aims to provide clarity on all of BPC’s endeavors.

I LIE IN BED AT NIGHT,
AFTER ENDING MY
PRAYERS WITH THE
WORDS, “ICH DANKE DIR
FÜR ALL DAS GUTE UND
LIEBE UND SCHÖNE.”
(THANK YOU, GOD, FOR ALL
THAT IS GOOD AND DEAR
AND BEAUTIFUL.)

+ ANNE FRANK

DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN,
BY ALL THE MEANS YOU CAN,
IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN,
IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN,
AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN,
TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN,
AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN.

+ JOHN WESLEY

PRAYER: My Jesus, I love you. I pour out all my adoration as oil upon your feet. All my gratitude. All my joy. I come hoping to receive from you the food I need. Fill me with your very self, that I may live as one satisfied, and able to nourish and care for others with the kind of sustaining love you have for me. Amen.

—KateBowler.com Copyright ©2022 All Rights Reserved

Member Care

Notes to Note:

Gracie Florence says, "I want to thank everyone for the prayers, calls and goodies I have received during my adjustment to a new hip. Bill and I are **especially** appreciative for the **prayers for patience!**"

Nancy Spencer writes, "Sending love and prayers to the congregation of my home church."

Cheryl Burke writes, "Chris, Ryn, and I would like to thank all of you for your support through prayers, cards, phone calls, and the work that was put into the gathering of friends and family. Knowing that I had my church family to support me through Mike's treatments and death was and is a comfort."

Dear Bridgewater,

Thank you for allowing the Presbytery to use your fellowship hall for the Stewardship Workshop. You are a blessing!

- **Rev. Dr. Nancy Meehan Yao**



We express deepest sympathy to Cheryl, Christopher, & Ryn on the death of Mike Burke. A gathering in his memory was held August 26th. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.



Mission & Outreach



Backpacks for Food Insecure Students at JWES:

We welcome Tom Mizell and Steve & Pat Humphreys to the BPC Backpack Team. We thank Larry Elkins and family for the many years they were involved in this mission. We begin deliveries on September 14th. We appreciate the continuing support from the congregation for this vital ministry to the most vulnerable in our community.

2¢ in August
totalled \$98.50
The next Pour-In
is November 12

Share Peace; Bring Comfort:

The Peace & Global Witness Offering will be received on October 15th instead of the traditional World Communion Sunday. We will be sharing 25% with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's response to the victims of the wildfires in Hawaii. The other 75% is used by PCUSA at the Synod and level and around the world. Use this link if you want to see PDA is doing: [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \(pcusa.org\)](https://www.pcusa.org)



Spiritual Life

The Choir is Back!

ALL voices are welcome! No prior experience or music reading ability is required. We practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.



Christian Education

Sunday School Starts in September!

Joe Crockett requests that anyone considering teaching Sunday School get in touch with him ASAP.

Click this link for the newest issue of the Presbytery Newsletter. [Shen Press September 2023 \(constantcontact.com\)](https://www.constantcontact.com)



To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

Birthdays

Parker Sellers
 Kyle Eichlin
 Alexandra Meslovich
 Thomas Adams
 Matthew Heatwole
 Judy Rees
 Kitty Armstrong
 Bill Carver
 Samuel Gardner-Oldman
 Norie Smith
 Jackson Simon
 Katie Enterline
 Ragan Walker



Book Group

We hope everyone will come to our kickoff gathering on **Monday, Sept. 25th, 7:00 p.m.**, at the home of Beth Smith. This will be a social time to catch-up, make welcome any new reading enthusiasts, and to choose a book for October.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us — more book lovers are always welcome!



If you have questions, reach out to Judy Rees, Mary Kay Adams, or Gracie Florence.

Men

Meet for Breakfast

All males are invited to breakfast at The Village Inn on the **3rd Saturday** of each month at 8:30 a.m.

All ages and guests are welcome. Our next date: **Sept. 16th at 8:30 a.m.**

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



Anniversaries

5 Carroll & MJ Chewing (°)
 7 Ragan Walker & Teja Vadlamudi (°)
 11 Tom & Karen Leigh (°)
 18 Matthew & Lydia Heatwole (°)
 27 Larry & Anne Elkins (°)
 30 JC & Carla Enterline (°)



Worship at White Birch

Sunday, Sept. 10th
 at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.



Our Building as a Blessing

A reminder that others use our facility during the week:
 - **TOPS** meets every Tuesday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and
 - **Friends Café** is gathering at the park while it is warm.



Meet at Smiley's
 Thursday, Sept. 14th
 at 4:00 p.m.

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



Office News:

- The **office is closed** Sept. 4 for Labor Day holiday.
- **Pastor Kate is away Sept. 11—13** attending a Synod event **AND Sept. 25—29** to participate in a Stewardship Conference. If you need pastoral care, contact Sally during office hours or Bev Carver, Clerk of Session.
- Due to the **Roof Construction**, the office *may be* closed a day or two the week of Sept. 5—8. The workers will be here from 7 am to 7 pm. Use caution if you come around.

	Ushering and Greeting share duties with one at each door	Acolyte/ Bell Ringer	Lay Leader	Highlight /Flowers
3	David & Charlette McQuilkin	Phoenix	Charlette McQuilkin	<i>Challenge of the Gospel finale</i>
10	Emily Heatwole & Merrill Simon	Emory	Emily Heatwole	Flowers by Simon/Eichlin family
17	Steve & Pat Humphreys	Phoenix	Carroll Chewing	Stewardship #2
24	Carroll Chewing & Mary Kay Adams	Emory	MJ Chewing	Stewardship #3
10/1	David & Judy Rees	Phoenix	Mary Kay Adams	Commitment Sunday/Communion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 2
<i>The Challenge of the Gospel - Finale</i> 3 10:30 Worship	4 Office Closed Labor Day	5 4:30 TOPS	6 7:00 Choir	7	8 Office Closed	9 Big Event at Mass. Springs
<i>1st Stewardship</i> 10 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 All Church Chat 1:30 Worship at White Birch	11 (see below!)	12 4:30 TOPS	13 Backpack deliveries resume 7:00 Choir	 14 4:00 at Smiley's 6:30 Spiritual Life	15 Office Closed	16 8:30 AM Men eat at Village Inn
<i>2nd Stewardship</i> 17 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	18	19 4:30 TOPS	20 7:00 Choir	21 6:30 Session	22 Office Closed	23
<i>3rd Stewardship</i> 24 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	25 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Book Group at Beth's	26 4:30 TOPS	27 7:00 Choir	28	29 Office Closed	30

ROOF REPLACEMENT— use caution in the construction zone! 7am-7pm

Pastor Kate is away

Pastor Kate is away all week

OCTOBER 1 — Commitment Sunday and Stewardship Celebration

9:30 Sunday School
10:30 Worship with Communion; special music; blessing of the 2024 Commitments
Bring the commitment cards and the noisy item(s) found in your gift bag!
Potluck Meal follows—sign up on the kiosk or call Sally in the church office.



**September 10th,
after worship
All Church Chat**

**A visit with
Dr. Corey
Schollosser-Hall**

Deputy Exec. for
Vision & Innovation at the
Presbyterian Mission Agency



A Message from Mary Kay Adams:

Gary and I invite you to join us and the Bridgewater Retirement Community team for the annual

**Walk to End Alzheimer's
Thursday, Nov. 2, 2:00-3:00
at BRC's Oasis Pavilion**

We would also appreciate your financial support for this walk. Donations provide research funds for all types of dementia and resources to help affected families navigate their difficult journey. To donate online or to download a mail-in form, use this link:
<http://act.alz.org/goto/mkadams>



Thank you for your prayers
and your generosity!