

The Newsette

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
5400 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225-2513
(804) 233-1066 and (804) 233-9515

bethanychristiandoc@gmail.com / www.bethanyccdoc.org / www.facebook.com/bethanyccdoc

August, 2025

Volume 64, Issue 8

Our Vision: Bethany Christian Church is committed to worshipping God, deepening our faith, spreading the gospel, and serving where Christ leads.

Rev. Jaclyn Twedell Woods

Senior Pastor

Donna Wicker

Financial Secretary

Duane Toole

Director of Music

Carol Molinares

Pianist

To submit information for the
Newsette, call (804) 233-1066
or send an email to
bethanychristiandoc@gmail.com

We are still broadcasting our Sunday
service online on Facebook for those
members and friends who choose to
worship at home.

AUGUST TEAMS

If you are unable to serve on the
date(s) assigned, please arrange
for a replacement.

PROPERTY OPENER and CLOSER

Christopher Gangloff

COMMUNION PREPARATION

3 – Barbara Ozlin & Sheila Thayer
 10 – Jo Anne & Ross Dorneman
 17 – Stephanie Lewis
 24 – Sue Marion
 31 – Geoff Gangloff

USHERS - all month

Scot Hawthorne

WORSHIP LEADERS

3 – Sarah McLillard
 10 – Kristin Wolfe
 17 – Stephanie Lewis
 24 – Sarah McLillard
 31 – Sue Marion

DEACONS

Jo Anne Dorneman
 Sue Marion

ELDERS

3 – Becky Murrell
 10 – Becky Murrell
 17 – Becky Murrell
 24 – Becky Murrell
 31 – Becky Murrell

ELDER SERVICE TO HOMEBOUND

Ray Crawford & Kim Gangloff

OFFERING COMMITTEE

Jo Anne Dorneman & Karen McClain

NOTE 1: The Into Action AA group will be meeting in our Youth Center: •Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. •Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

NOTE 2: Crown and Joy Presbyterian Church meets in our main building: •Sundays at 1:30 p.m. •Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
and other times as coordinated with us

THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH



August reminders:

- taking a break is productive
- boundaries are healthy
- you can do what you set your mind to
- changes are painful but worth it
- someone loves you for who you are
- good energy attracts good people

~ OurMindfulLife.com

The month of August had turned into a griddle where the days just lay there and sizzled. ~ Sue Monk Kidd

Though you have many plans, my purpose will be fulfilled.

~ Proverbs 19:21

STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

Stewardship report as of June 30, 2025 (50% of the year)

Income received year-to-date\$72,372.41 (46.70% of annual budget)

pledged donations; "give-as-I-can" donations;
transient, Sunday School, budgeted special offerings and
receipts; budgeted facility donations; budgeted
interest/dividend income

* also YTD, we have received and disbursed through Misc Special Offerings: \$860 to CrossOver Ministries, \$500 to ACTS

Total operating expenses year-to-date.....\$92,754.33 (43.35% of annual budget)

For 2025, we:

- accounted for \$400.00 donation to the church for a funeral of a Seventh Street member
- accounted for \$8,854.18 miscellaneous donation to the church
- accounted for \$19,386.45 gain in the value of our Perpetual Endowment Fund

Information on our accounts as of June 30, 2025

Truist Checking Acct	\$ 63,196.27
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Truist Business MM Acct	\$ 637.44
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Truist CD (matures 10-5-2025 – original principal \$25,000)	\$ 25,881.47
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Truist CD (matures 3-27-2026)	\$ 50,000.00
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Christian Church Extension Fund CD for Loving & Caring Endowment

(principal cannot be used - matures 11-14-2025)	\$ 10,000.00
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Perpetual Endowment*	\$ 406,094.14
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*principal.....	\$ 237,855.59
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*dollars available as directed by designated gifts from members/friends.....	76,010.46
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*income available for general church needs as directed by the General Board.....	92,228.09
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CONGREGATIONAL LIFE DEPARTMENT



Please join us for our 4th **"Combined Sunday School"** event of the year on **Sunday, August 3**, starting at 9:15 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

WORSHIP | SPIRITUAL GROWTH | COMMUNICATIONS (WSC) DEPARTMENT

Pastor Jackie's **Bible study** on the Sermon on the Mount has been wonderful. Conversations and fellowship have been meaningful and enjoyable. Sessions will continue on Wednesdays from 9:45 to 11:00 a.m. through August 27. Hope you will consider attending.

July 30 – Oaths, An Eye for an Eye, and Love for Enemies (Matthew 5:33-48)

August 6 – Giving to the Needy, Prayer, and Fasting (Matthew 6:1-18)

August 13 – Treasures in Heaven, and Do Not Worry (Matthew 6:19-34)

August 20 – Judging Others, and Ask, Seek, Knock (Matthew 7:1-12)

August 27 – Narrow and Wide Gates, A Tree and Its Fruits, and the Wise and Foolish Builders
(Matthew 7:13-29)

We look forward to gathering again on **Saturday, August 2**, at 9:00 a.m. for another **prayerful walk**. We will gather at the Wetlands Park Entrance – 3340 Landria Drive.

The **Adult Vacation Bible School** was spiritually enriching, fun and crafty. Thanks to everyone who helped and to those who attended. We made 22 fleece blankets which were delivered to Children's Hospital.

PRAYER CONCERNS – *Please notify the church office when this information changes.*



●Acute – examples are: a surgery and release, an accident, a procedure, a hospital stay and release, etc.
Carolyn Moore

●Ongoing – examples are: rehabilitation and recovery, new treatments, waiting on tests results

Mark Kimmel Ed McCann Eliana Oatman Pat Rende Sheila Thayer

●Members of our church family who may be struggling with chronic health issues, sadness, loneliness, and other burdens or who might just need a “prayer hug” to include

Merrily Baber Dee & Jim Evans Ann Hasty Jean McNeely

●Extended Church Family – family and friends of church members

Adia Clelland Hazel Heider's 8-yr-old great-granddaughter

Art John Shell's brother-in-law

Rev. Alice Clarke Sarah McLillard's friend

Nicole Craig Barbara Ozlin's niece

Harrison Gradwell Penny & Brian Gradwell's grandson

Odell Ingram John Shell's mother-in-law

Susan Lowe Mary Lowe's sister

Michael McNeely & April Gray

Doug Reeves Carol Molinares' father

Geraldine Russell Penny Gradwell's mother

Karen Peregoy Dee & Jim Evans' daughter

Penny Walker Pastor Jackie's grandmother

Heather White Diana Case-Foster's cousin



Please pray for those who suffer from natural disasters and war; for all of our men and women in the military and their families; for our country, its leaders, and peace in our world; and for our church.

EVANGELISM | OUTREACH DEPARTMENT



Bainbridge Community Ministry box in the hallway near the Chapel is always open for your donations of non-perishable food (and there is a box for paper bags with handles). Tim Skeens, from Bon Air Christian Church, is always so kind to deliver our food donations.

● *things to think about when donating to the food bank: cans with pop tops (no can opener required); smaller portions not oversized boxes; items that don't require ingredients not in the box (i.e., some mac & cheese requires milk and butter); cooking oil, sugar, and spices are needed also*

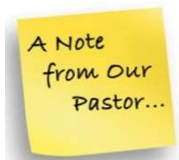
The **WHOA Foundation** offerings will be collected at Bethany on **Sunday, August 3, and Sunday, August 10**. WHOA Foundation has identified housing insecurity as one of the largest social determinants of health impacting our clients and the community we serve. Through planning and program expansion of the WHOA Foundation, we hope to address numerous social determinants of health, primarily safe housing, opportunities to develop skills, assessing barriers to financial literacy, job readiness, access to food, and nurturing an environment that promotes inclusivity and advancement. Building Blocks is the WHOA Foundation's vision to establish two “step-up” homes in the city of Richmond where male and female clients can reside for three to nine-month admissions. These admissions will follow psychiatric hospital discharge and a week-long admission to WHOA's crisis housing program.

Building Blocks will give participants opportunities to create safety within their circumstances by providing safe housing, access to food, and mental health support. This program will allow participants to explore areas such as financial literacy, job readiness, resource navigation, and case management to develop life skills to alleviate future crisis hospitalizations. Participants will be able to focus on building a foundation of safety for themselves during their admission and on developing skills to sustain a more independent lifestyle upon program completion. Building Block's goal is to reduce crisis situations in our community such as homelessness, unmanaged psychiatric conditions, and the epidemic of addiction.

WHOA Foundation is seeking funding to support our Building Blocks program. Funding support would include staffing to ensure participant safety, group therapy, case management, and overnight support. Funding would additionally support the monthly maintenance for the Building Blocks step-up houses. Maintenance would include rent and insurance on the buildings, electricity, routine home upkeep, and stocking nutritional/hygienic necessities. Funding would also be used to furnish our homes to ensure participants have an appropriate environment to heal.

If you have any questions about this foundation, please reach out to Sarah McLillard. Make your checks payable to "Bethany Christian Church" and put "WHOA Foundation" on the memo line.

FROM PASTOR JACKIE TWEDELL WOODS



The first signs of "Back-to-School season" are always in those big box stores – Target and Walmart. A whole corner of their stores is taken over by pens and paper and crayons and binders and backpacks. Then, there are the TV advertisements, encouraging us to buy a new outfit to wear on the first day of school. And then there are the Back-to-School community events and churches blessing backpacks. It is all so fun and exciting!

I have always loved watching the Back-to-School anticipation! So much hope and preparation goes in to getting ready to go back to the classroom – preparation on the part of the schools, teachers, families, and children. This year, I get to participate in all the Back-to-School excitement, as Amelia promotes up to the Tots room when the fall term starts later this month at her Preschool! What a wonderful adventure it will be!

So as I send my little one off to school, and we send our students and teachers back to school, we send them all with our blessing and with our prayers. I wanted to share this prayer with you...a prayer for this exciting...and nerve wracking Back-to-School time...that speaks to those who go to school...and those whose school days were long ago...

O God, who calls us to keep learning – to keep learning about God and our faith...to keep learning about one another...to keep learning about our community – we pray that we will be open to Your teaching. As we experience a new school year, we know that even when things are new and uncertain, You are there. We can count on You.

We ask, O God, that you will bless our students, teachers, parents, office staff, cafeteria workers, student aides, custodians, bus drivers, volunteers, and everyone else who helps make learning possible. We ask that You will protect them, be with them, and give them peace in a time that is full of new possibilities.

And help us all to see the good in one another, the good in this world, the good in ourselves, and most of all, the good in You, O God. Help us to reflect Your love to everyone we meet, and just like the bags we carry into school, may we carry You wherever we go. In the name of Your son we pray. Amen.

And join us in worship on **Sunday, August 10**, as we bless our students and teachers...sending them back to school with our prayers.

~ Blessings, Pastor Jackie

DIRECTORIES AND NEWSSETTES

In a blurb in the July Newsette, we asked for your thoughts on not listing maiden names, birthdays, and anniversaries in our Directories, Newsettes, and Bulletin Boards going forward to protect your information. We received very few responses.

So, continuing to try to be responsible stewards of your private information, we are going to try a different approach to address this issue:

- Do you want your maiden name along with your married name in our church publications?
- Do you want your birthdate in our church publications (MMDD)?
- Do you want your birthdate on a bulletin board (MMDD)?
 - if "NO", do you want to be listed on a bulletin board for the month of your birth without the day
- Do you want your complete anniversary date in our church publications (MMDDYY)?

Each person must respond to all applicable questions **by August 15** with a YES or NO to each question by calling or emailing the church office. Failure to answer constitutes a NO to each question.

Please note that the church office will maintain the records if you have a need for a date for someone that you haven't already written down. Scammers have become quite savvy, and we want to be proactive in guarding your information.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 "morning walk with God" 3340 Landria Dr 9:00 am
3 WHOA Found Offg combined Sunday School 9:15 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:30 pm	4	5 AA-YC 7:00 pm	6 Bible study 9:45 am	7 AA-YC 7:00 pm	8	9
10 WHOA Found Offg Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Blessing of Students and Teachers Crown & Joy 1:30 pm	11	12 AA-YC 7:00 pm	13 Bible study 9:45 am	14 AA-YC 7:00 pm	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:30 pm	18	19 AA-YC 7:00 pm	20 Bible study 9:45 am	21 Theology on Tap at Little Nickel 7:00 pm AA-YC 7:00 pm	22	23
24 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:30 pm • Sep Newsette deadline	25	26 AA-YC 7:00 pm	27 Bible study 9:45 am Crown & Joy 6:30 pm potluck dinner & study	28 AA-YC 7:00 pm	29	30
31 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:30 pm		Notes: AA: Alcoholics Anonymous C&J: Crown & Joy Presbyterian DWF: Disciples Women's Fellowship FH: Fellowship Hall YC: Youth Center			© 2019 Vertex42 LLC Calendar Template by Vertex42.com	