



The Newsette

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
5400 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225-2513
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June, 2025

Volume 64, Issue 6

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.

JUNE TEAMS

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

PROPERTY OPENER and CLOSER

David Walls

COMMUNION PREPARATION

1 – Sue Marion
 8 – Pentecost: Geoff Gangloff
 15 – Jo Anne & Ross Dorneman
 22 – Brian & Penny Gradwell
 29 – Kathy Rende

USHERS - all month

Pat Rende
 David Walls

WORSHIP LEADERS

1 – Sarah McLillard
 8 – Pentecost: Kim Gangloff
 15 – Tyler Hawthorne
 22 – Linda Grubb
 29 – June Sears

DEACONS

Kathy Rende
 Christie Rolston

ELDERS

1 – Johnny Grubb
 8 – Pentecost: Kim Gangloff
 15 – Ray Crawford
 22 – Linda Grubb
 29 – June Sears

ELDER SERVICE TO HOMEBOUND

Johnny & Linda Grubb

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



Hello **June!** June finds you when you **Understand** your value and **Nourish** your need **Even** when it feels hard. ~OurMindfullLife.com

In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different. ~ John Steinbeck

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. ~ Acts 2:1-4

STEWARSHIP INFORMATION

Stewardship report as of April 30, 2025 (33.33% of the year)

Income received year-to-date \$48,106.40 (31.04% 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: \$670 to CrossOver Ministries, \$500 to ACTS

Total operating expenses year-to-date \$61,036.02 (28.52% 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 \$2,834.08 loss in the value of our Perpetual Endowment Fund

Information on our accounts as of April 30, 2025

Truist Checking Acct	\$ 70,587.81
Truist Business MM Acct	\$ 634.88
Truist CD (matures 5-3-2025)	\$ 25,465.30
Truist CD (matures 3-27-2026)	\$ 50,000.00
Christian Church Extension Fund CD for Loving & Caring Endowment (principal cannot be used - matures 11-14-2025)	\$ 10,000.00
Perpetual Endowment*	\$ 381,454.33
*principal.....	\$ 237,855.59
*dollars available as directed by designated gifts from members/friends.....	73,111.69
*income available for general church needs as directed by the General Board.....	70,487.05

THANK YOU

Dear Bethany Church Family, thank you so much for hosting Mom's surprise 90th birthday luncheon and a very special BIG thank you to the wonderful kitchen committee. I couldn't have pulled it off without ALL your help. Everything turned out great and we were so happy to share the celebration with our dear church friends. Mom was so surprised and appreciated the opportunity to be with you all for her birthday. We both send our heartfelt "thanks" to you all! ~ Love, Ellen Cottom & Gwyn Cottom Parrella

SYMPATHY

We express our Christian love and sympathy to the family of **Hazel Heider** who died on May 2, 2025. Her celebration of life service will be on Friday, June 6, at 11:00 a.m. at Elpis Christian Church in Maidens, VA and to Diana Case-Foster on the death of her cousin, **Kinsley Justice**, on May 21, 2025.

ELDERS EMERITUS

On **Sunday, May 25**, in the Worship service, we recognized DeLois "Dee" Wooldridge Evans and James "Jim" Howard Evans as moving to Elder Emeritus status. Afterwards, Barbara Ozlin and Pastor Jackie went to their home and presented their pins to them since they were unable to attend church.



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.

Carol Browder Mark Kimmel Ed McCann Penny Walker (Pastor Jackie's grandmother)

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

Pat Rende

•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

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

Michael McNeely & April Gray

Doug Reeves Carol Molinares' father

Geraldine Russell Penny Gradwell's mother

Karen Peregoy Dee & Jim Evans' daughter

Story Sims Dee & Jim Evans' great-granddaughter

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.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE DEPARTMENT



Please join us for our third "Combined Sunday School" event of the year on **Sunday, June 1**, at 9:15 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. ALSO, we have arranged for representatives from AA to come to this fellowship hour to tell us about their program and talk about their experiences. Please plan to attend.

FATHER'S DAY LUNCH



Everyone in this congregation has/had a father. We will be gathering on **Sunday, June 8**, in the fellowship hall for a "Celebration of Fathers" for all of them immediately after our Worship service. Please join us. Lunch will be provided by the Congregational Life Department.

WORSHIP | SPIRITUAL GROWTH | COMMUNICATIONS (WSC) DEPARTMENT

Walks with God – We continue our monthly series of walking prayerfully together, seeking inspiration and refreshment in God's creation. Following the walk, we will enjoy a brief discussion and reflection time with drinks. Come meet at 10:00 a.m. outside the Wetlands Park entrance: 3340 Landria Drive. The remaining walk dates will be:

- Saturday, **June 7**
- Saturday, **July 12** (due to July 4 holiday)
- Saturday, **August 2**
- Saturday, **September 6**

Please don't hesitate to contact Stephanie (stephblewis@gmail.com) if you have any questions!

Vacation Bible School for Adults – Put these dates on your calendars: **Wednesday, June 25, Thursday, June 26, and Friday, June 27**, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dinners will be provided. Retired Pastor Glenna Tibbs will lead us in our lessons each night. Her theme is "Chaos to creativity. How creativity can come out of chaos". Pastor Tibbs has planned interesting discussions and activities for us. We hope you will attend and bring a friend. Sign up will begin Sunday, June 8. Our craft this year will be making fleece blankets for the Children's Hospital.

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*



Pentecost offering days are **Sunday, June 1**, and **Sunday, June 8**. The Pentecost Offering supports Disciples new church development. Planning, nurturing, and sustaining of new congregations is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports the specialized ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs. Gifts for this offering are divided equally between the region in which they're given and the New Church Ministry. Make your checks out to "Bethany Christian Church" and put "Pentecost" in the memo.

FROM PASTOR JACKIE TWEDELL WOODS

A Note
from Our
Pastor...

Pentecost is one of my favorite days in the life of the church! Each year, on Pentecost, we read the familiar scripture from the second chapter of Acts and remember the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the gathered disciples. In some of the most evocative scriptures in the Bible, we read about God's presence made known by tongues of flame, a violent rushing wind, and people speaking and understanding languages different from their own! And in the midst of it all, Peter interprets all these things as God pouring out God's Holy Spirit upon all people!

I love how big Pentecost feels. The fire and wind as images of God's spirit is a beautiful reminder of the amazing and powerful work of the Spirit, which descended upon all of them. But God's Spirit does not always make itself known in such a vivid way...sometimes it is much more like a gentle breeze, a small, sudden realization, or a simple breath.

As we approach Pentecost (next Sunday, June 8th), I've been thinking about the presence of the Holy Spirit...and how it is moving amongst us at Bethany Christian Church. I can feel it! I can see it! I can feel it in the ways the Spirit is continuing to bring us together in new and exciting ways. I can see it in the ways the Spirit is guiding us to get to know Crown and Joy Presbyterian Church as we share our space. I can feel it in the ways the Spirit is comforting us, and reminding us of its presence with us – always.

In preparation for Pentecost, I invite you to look for signs of the Holy Spirit. Can you feel it moving around you like the wind? Or is it giving you the strength to make a big decision? Do you see the Spirit's presence in the stories shared on the news or in your newsfeeds? Or do you feel it in the connection made around tables? Can you see its movement? Can you feel its presence?

My hope is that the more we are all looking for signs of the Holy Spirit, the more we will see it. Because the Spirit is always moving amongst us – quietly, steadily, surprisingly, unexpectedly, mysteriously – if only we can recognize it.

As we anticipate Pentecost, let us all pray for God's presence, made known to us through the Holy Spirit. May that Spirit move amongst us...and inspire us...and challenge us in big and small ways. Come, Holy Spirit, make yourself known to us, we pray.

Blessings, Pastor Jackie



WHAT IF ...

What if we followed the lead of an eight-year-old boy ... as his mom was buckling him into the back seat of their car, he asked, "Is it okay to throw the confetti in my pocket?" "No, not in the car! Why do you have confetti in your pocket?" "It's my emergency confetti. I carry it everywhere in case there is good news."

~ No Matter What: 90 devotions for Experiencing Joy in Tough Times by Jill Baughan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pentecost Offg combined Sunday School 9:15 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:00 pm	2	3 AA-YC 7:00 pm	4 C&J-upstairs 6:30 pm	5 AA-YC 7:00 pm	6	7 "morning walk with God" 3340 Landria Dr 10:00 am
8 Pentecost Pentecost Offg Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Celebration of Fathers lunch noon Crown & Joy 1:00 pm	9	10 AA-YC 7:00 pm	11 C&J-upstairs 6:30 pm	12 AA-YC 7:00 pm	13	14
15 Father's Day Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:00 pm	16	17 AA-YC 7:00 pm	18 Church World Svc PU between 9:00-10:00 am C&J-upstairs 6:30 pm	19 Juneteenth Theology on Tap at O'Toole's 6:30 pm AA-YC 7:00 pm	20	21
22 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:00 pm • Jul Newsette deadline	23	24 AA-YC 7:00 pm	25 Vacation Bible School for Adults 5:30 pm	26 Vacation Bible School for Adults 5:30 pm AA-YC 7:00 pm	27 Vacation Bible School for Adults 5:30 pm	28
29 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Crown & Joy 1:00 pm	30					
		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