



Bethesda Presbyterian Church | Aberdeen, NC | June 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear members and friends of Bethesda Presbyterian Church, I pray you and your families are well. It's summer time and no doubt many of you have vacation plans on the horizon.

Summer isn't exactly a liturgical season in the life of the Church. In fact, judging by attendance during these months, sometimes it feels like the opposite! But as we move into summer, many of us will spend more time outside, enjoying time in creation.

That said, it's a good time to remember, wherever you find yourself, the meaning of this wonderful world around us. John Calvin called it a "theatre of God's glory." In other words, it's a place where we can intuit and proclaim the praise and character of God.

So, whether you find yourself enjoying the shade of a tree, sitting by a lake or the ocean, or rising early to beat the heat of the summer sun, remember what the angels sing, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

Blessings,

Rev. David Priddy

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June Birthdays



Congratulations to the 2026-2027 Scholarship Recipients

Thank you to the Scholarship Committee for their discernment. They distributed \$17,800 in scholarship funds to the following applicants:

Maddie Gorba, Trinity Andersen, Justin Andersen, Natalie Patton, Sally Noyes, Tucker Martin, and Nate Ardinger all received the McKeithen Scholarship.

Maddie Gorba received the Burlingame Scholarship

Trinity Andersen received the Mona Kahl Scholarship

Congratulations to all the recipients and God's blessings on the coming school year. Please remember to submit your financial aid office information and student ID to the church office as soon as possible.

1	Michelle Martin
	Mia Smithson
2	Avery Adams
4	Elias Ough
8	John McInnis
11	Sandy McLaughlin
14	Liz Wilson
15	Harper Jessup
18	Christian Crumpton
	Teresa Numbers
19	David McNeill
21	Jimmy Donathan
25	Peggy Jones
28	Julie Formanski
	Kara Patton
29	Cynthia Leach
	Lori DeSpain
30	Evelyn LaPoint



Congratulations Graduates

High School and Early College Graduates

Addison Painter is graduating from Pinecrest High School. Addie is attending Sandhills Community college in the Fall, studying Early Childhood Education. She then plans to attend a university to receive her Bachelor's degree.

Maddie Gorba is graduating from Pinecrest High School. She will attend East Carolina University in the Fall to study Criminal Justice with a minor in Criminal Law and Legal Process. She intends to join the East Carolina Marching Pirates, campus faith programs, and to study abroad at ECU Tuscany.

Trinity Andersen is graduating from SandHoke Early College High School. She is also graduating from Sandhills Early College with my Associate of Science. She plans to attend Appalachian State University in the fall where she will major in Park Recreation and hopes to get a job as a park ranger.

College and University Graduates

Cullen Martin graduated with honors and election to Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society from Randolph Macon College with a BS in Biology and a minor in Asian Studies. He plans to accept a position in either medical sales or healthcare manufacturing in NC or VA.

Charlie Hill graduated from NC State with a BS in Civil Engineering. He has accepted a position with HW Lochner Engineering in Raleigh starting in June.

Rebecca Hill graduated from Appalachian State with a BS in Political Science with a concentration in Public Administration. She currently has an intership with the town of Troy.

Mason Roth - graduated with highest distinction and honors from UNC Chapel Hill with BA in Political Science. She plans to take a year to decide which graduate school to attend.

Connor Morgan - graduated from the University of NC at Charlotte with a BS in Biology and plans to go on to study to be a Physicians Assistant.

Christian Blue graduated from Appalachian State University with a BS in Geological and Environmental Sciences.

Theo Ardinger graduated from the University of San Francisco with a BA in Design and Minor in UX. He plans to stay in San Francisco and work in his field.

Brandon Wilson graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Poultry Science from NC State. He will be working for Perdue Farms

Brian Wright graduated with a Masters Degree in Homeland Security from Colorado Tech.

Graduate Photos

Clockwise from top left: Trinity Andersen, Addie Painter, Maddie Gorba, Theo Ardinger, Christian Blue, Charlie Hill, Mason Roth, Rebecca Hill. Brandon Wilson is in the center.



Merry Hearts

THAT'S A WRAP... on another year at Merry Hearts Preschool at Bethesda Presbyterian Church. Thank you to our wonderful teachers and families for making it such a successful year. Their graduation theme was *"Dancin' in the Streets."* You can watch the video of the Graduation/Promotion Ceremony here:



Music Notes



The choir is taking a well deserved rest for the summer. I hope that you will take time to seek out a member and let them know how much you appreciate their work. I have truly enjoyed working with them and watching them embrace the different genres of music that we have sung. Pentecost Sunday's anthem was an excellent example of their ability to switch "gears" in one song. The calypso rhythm was maintained by the piano but the voices changed from the smooth, legato melody to the syncopated rhythm of the calypso and then back again. That is a challenge for any choir and they did a beautiful job. Many thanks to all who helped make this liturgical year a blessing through music.

Earlene



June 7 - Youth/Graduation Sunday

June 14 - Bethesda Presbyterian Women Birthday Lunch/Offering

June 22 - Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall 10 am-2:30 pm

July 6-10 - Vacation Bible School

There will be no Sunday morning breakfast or children's Sunday School during the summer months. The Parlor Class is also on hiatus. Nursery will be available for the worship service only.



Adventure awaits at Bethesda Presbyterian Church's Rainforest Falls VBS!

Step into a world bursting with colors, creatures, roaring waterfalls, and towering trees! At Rainforest Falls VBS, every day is a brand-new expedition filled with excitement, fun, and unforgettable discoveries. Kids will explore powerful Bible stories, grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and dive into hands-on activities that make learning about God an unforgettable journey.

Grab your gear, invite your friends, and join us for a week of faith, fun, and adventures you won't want to miss!



Bethesda Presbyterian Church
1002 N. Sandhills Blvd.
Aberdeen, NC 28315

DINNER WILL BE SERVED!

Enjoy dinner, a Bible story, music, crafts, games, STEM activities & more!



REGISTER NOW:

<https://bethesdapres.church>



Register online: <https://bethesdapres.church> or call the church office, 910-944-1319 for a hard copy.

VBS is for children age 3 yrs - 12th grade. Nursery is available for children 2 yrs and under. An adult VBS is also offered. Call the church office for details.



<https://bethesdapres.church>
910-944-1319

The Sign-Up for food for VBS can be found clicking this link.

The Amazon wish-list for supplies can be found here.

Presbyterian Women

2026 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Birthday Offering

"May the God of hope
fill you with all joy
and peace in believing,
so that you may
abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit."

—Romans 15:13*



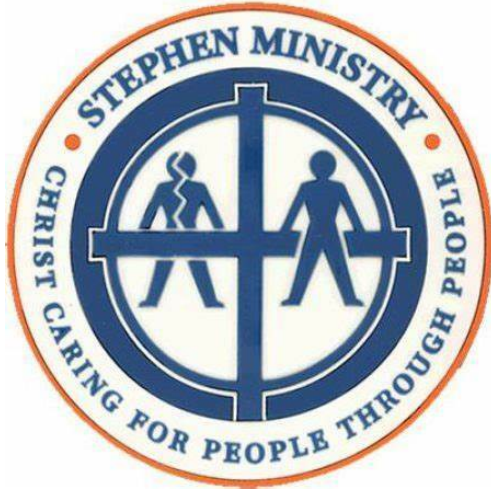
Learn more about the Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women by visiting presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.

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The women of the church will host a luncheon of quiche, salad, and fruit (pb&j sandwiches will also be available) for the annual Birthday Offering after church on **June 14th**. The offering supports missions of the Presbyterian Women. We will also hold a bake sale at the same time to fund our local efforts. Please consider making a baked item, and having lunch with us for a time of fellowship and giving.

Stephen Ministry



As we enter the the Time after Pentecost, or Ordinary Time, the church focuses on spiritual growth, applying the teachings of Christ to everyday life, and the mission of the Church. For the Stephen Ministry, these are some of our bedrocks.

As we provide caring support, both our care givers (Stephen Ministers) and our care receivers (those hurting) experience spiritual growth. The Bible teaches that spiritual growth is not a solo journey. Believers are called to support, encourage, and serve one another.

- **Ephesians 2:8-10:** For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift —not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.
- **Ephesians 4:15-16:** Discusses how the whole body grows and builds itself up in love when every member works together.
- **Hebrews 10:24-25:** Urges believers to meet together to spur one another on toward love and good deeds

Providing support to our care receivers is applying the teachings of Jesus Christ. Jesus' teachings emphasize that providing for the needy and hurting is a fundamental expression of faith and love. He commanded followers to share resources, give generously without seeking recognition, and view care for the vulnerable as direct service to Him, ultimately linking eternal life with compassion for the needy and hurting.

- **1 Timothy 6:18:** Commands them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.
- **Mathew 25:34-40:** Frames caring for "the least of these" (the hungry, thirsty, and hurting) as a direct service to God Himself.
- **Luke 10:30-37:** In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus demonstrates that true neighborliness means actively caring for the physical and financial needs of hurting strangers.

Over 2,000 verses urge the church and believers to defend the vulnerable, provide for the needy, and practice active compassion. As you reflect on these Scriptures, consider how God might be calling you to respond to those in need, especially our hurting Christian family members.

As a final note, the standard liturgical color for vestments and altar cloths during this season is green, symbolizing growth, hope, and new life in Christ -**Our Goal for our care receivers.**

Mission/Evangelism

Thank you to everyone who came to our Mission/Evangelism Luncheon on Pentecost Sunday. For those who couldn't make it, we talked about our service and support to missions locally and abroad.

Internal Service

Merry Hearts Preschool

Date Night

Preschool Sunday

Lunch and Art Show



Bethesda Cares Fund

Catechism Study

Lemonade/Hot Chocolate on the Lawn



Fall Auction



Local Benevolences and Service

Faith Church

Page UMC – Good Samaritan Fund Managers

Friend to Friend

Family Promise

Changing Destinies Ministry

Moore Free Clinic

The Food Bank of NC

Transient Fund

Northern Moore Family Resource Center

Pinecrest High, Crains Creek

Middle, Southern Middle Schools

Tambra Place

Camp Monroe

Habitat for Humanity

Community Thanksgiving Lunch



Mission/Evangelism

Worldwide Missions - Malawi

Malawi, Mpambadzi Chipangano
In the rural village of Njumbula

Pastor Peter Kanjaye

Y-Malawi Missions – Walk with a
Village Church Program



Worldwide Missions – United Arab Emirates

Dubai Mission

Forrest Strickland and Family

Seminary teaching to send
others out into the world to
share the Gospel in their native
countries



Ways you can help:

Be an evangelist by sharing the Gospel with those in your life.

Invite someone to church.

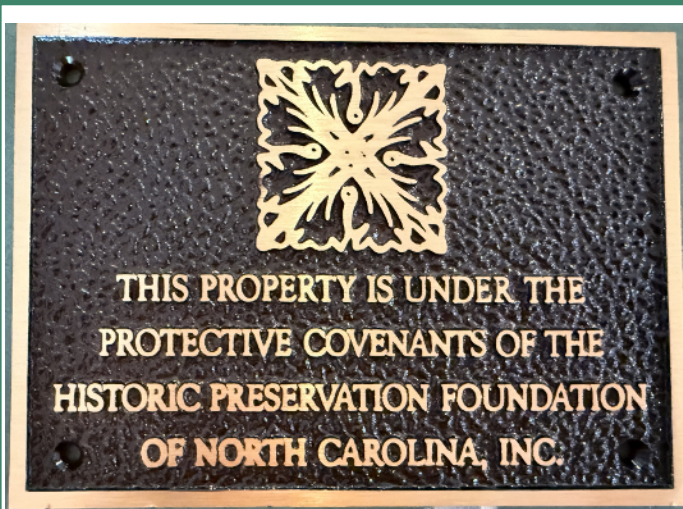
Pray for our local missions and service workers.

Pray for our global missionaries and those teaching and sharing the Gospel in the world.

Volunteer to serve at local organizations.

Give to the mission fund at Bethesda to support local and worldwide benevolences.

Faith Church



As we indicated in last month's newsletter, the Friends of Faith entered into an agreement with Preservation NC to place a preservation easement on the property, building, and architectural elements of the historic Faith Church. The Deed has since been filed. This property will now be protected in perpetuity. Along with the easement, we received a grant through Preservation NC from the 1772 Foundation which helped us complete the necessary work on the foundation.

In other big news, Friends of Faith, Inc. was selected by the Marion Stedman Covington Foundation to receive a grant that will help us put a new roof on the building. Both of these grants were answered prayers and will allow us to complete two of the biggest cost items of restoration.

There is still much work to do at the church including exterior painting, pew refinishing, ceiling repair and painting, and floor restoration. If you'd like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the continued efforts to restore this historic church, please make checks payable to Friends of Faith and send to Bethesda's church office, or you can place your check to Bethesda Church in the offering basket with the designation in the memo line for Old Faith Church. Online donations may also be made, contact me for details.

Blessings and peace,
Julie



Aberdeen, NC 28315

<https://bethesdapres.church>

[Facebook.com/bethesdapres](https://www.facebook.com/bethesdapres)

BPC28315@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule

10:00 Adult Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

See our calendar on our website for days and times of youth events.

