

COURAGE IN DARK TIMES

A woman in a long, flowing dress stands in the center of a row of seven arched openings. The arch she is in is brightly lit from within, creating a strong silhouette of her. The other arches are dimly lit, and the background is dark, creating a dramatic contrast.

ESTHER 3

Bethesda Presbyterian Church
Aberdeen, North Carolina
Founded 1788

*“Glorifying God by proclaiming the gospel of
Jesus Christ through love, faith, prayer, and service.”*

Service for the Lord's Day

July 12, 2026, 11 o'clock

Ordinary Time

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude

~Bringing in the Light of Christ~

†Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 119

Leader: God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

People: We come to follow God's guiding light with willing hearts.

Leader: The Lord teaches us wisdom and strengthens us in every trial.

People: We choose to walk in God's ways with joy and devotion.

Leader: Let us worship the One who sustains us and keeps us steadfast.

People: With grateful hearts, we praise the Lord, our faithful guide.

†Hymn #726

Will You Come and Follow Me

†Call to Confession

†Prayer of Confession

O Lord God Almighty, you have revealed the depth of your love to us in your Son, Jesus Christ, and yet we have failed to love you, enjoying your blessings without thanksgiving, and knowing your commandments without obedience. Pardon us of our sin, Lord, and pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may live for your glory, through Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

†Assurance of Pardon

†Sharing of the Peace

†Congregational Response #582

GLORY TO GOD

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. (2x)*

VBS Showcase

The Lord's Prayer

Maher

Moment with Young Disciples

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Esther 3

Pg 446 in the front of your pew Bible

Sermon

“Esther 3”

†Hymn #216

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

†Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell*. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into
heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(*Sheol or place of the dead; see Psalm 16:10)

**In this context, the word catholic is defined as the universal Christian church)

Offering & Offertory

Who You Say I Am

Lingertwood

Mikaela Priddy & Children's Choir

†Offering Response Hymn #606

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

†**Closing Hymn #687v1-5** *Our God, Our Help In Ages Past*

†**Charge and Benediction**

†**Benediction Response Hymn #687 v6**

Postlude

† Please stand as you are able.

Announcements

Flowers today are given to the glory of God in gratitude for the life of Earlene McLamb: wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. From her family.

VBS - thank you to all of our planners, workers, teachers, leaders, decorators, donors, cooks, servers, and everyone who volunteered and attended this year's vacation Bible school. It was a HUGE success! **Note from our Directors:** To our Bethesda Family, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your time, energy, enthusiasm, creativity, donations, prayers and support with Rainforest Falls VBS. We had the privilege of welcoming 89 children to our program! The kids had a blast! We are blessed to have so many willing and able members to help. It truly takes a village to make VBS a success and we have one of best villages there is! Thank you for helping make this week such a special and memorable week for so many children. ~ Brittany Driggers & Mary Katherine White

Family Promise: our next opportunity to serve Family Promise is July 27th through July 30th. Please contact LoJuanna if you'd like to help!

The Flower Chart is in the narthex. Sign up to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday. If you have a vase that you wish to recycle, please bring it by the church office for use on future Sundays.

Last Week's Numbers

Worship Attendance: 119 Sunday School: 19

	May	YTD
Revenues	\$38,041	\$158,624

Expenses	(\$32,765)	(\$175,261)
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Net	\$5,276	(\$16,637)
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July Birthdays

1	Sarah DeSpain	18	Laura Hill
2	Amy Hand	20	LoJuanna Pages
3	Somer Lee		Bill Ficklin
7	Evelyn Patton	24	Doug Williams
8	Terry Carpenter	25	Sharon Fogleman
9	Earlene McLamb		Leah Proctor
12	Jacques Wood	27	Taylor Wynn
13	Hugh Joyce	28	Molly McCain
	Cullen Martin		Reggie Smith
15	Rick Noyes	29	Sadie Ransdell
	Hannah Ough		Susan McNeill
17	Cathy White		

Celebrations and Concerns Prayer List

Members

Tom and Harriet Mueller	Earlene and Larry McLamb	Hester Combs	
Mary Lawrie	Peggy Jones	Jim Thomas	
Mary Ann Ward	Frankie Holt	Andy White	The Moon Family
Ashtyn Adams	Betty Lou Stewart	Shaw Ray	
Sherry Wright	Robert Maloubier	Ann Frank	

Members in Facilities

Ellen Heckman- Penick Village

Members to Keep in Prayer

Kitty Kuzminski Nancy Clark

Sara Swartout Karen Robertson

Friends and Family (new additions in bold)

David Bailey and family (friends of Bethesda)

June Bosley (cousin of Sue Wiener)

Robert Burns (friend of Bethesda)

The Byerly family (niece of Ann Woodfield)

Sally Conlon (friend of Connie Atwell and Ron Schuch)

Tommy Crane (Vance Crane's son)

Kyle Donohue (Kitty Kuzminski's niece)

Stephanie Dutton (friend of Laura Hill)

Lisa Eaton (Ann Woodfield's daughter)

Keith Gaines (relative of Pastor and Mrs. Mueller)

Samantha Garrison (former member of Bethesda)

April Graf (friend of Ann Woodfield)

Melissa Griffith (friend of Amy Hand)

Morgan Hill (friend of Nancy Dearborn)

Harold and Mary Ann Hogan (Henry's Parents)

Jesse Joyce (friend of Bill and Linda Parke)

JoAnne Ladd (friend of Paula Caddell)

Timothy Liles (friend of Leigh Baggs)

Michelle Marley (friend of Richard and Jane McInnis)

David McLenden (friend of Judy Heffner)

Glenn Miller (friend of Rick and Jane McInnis)

Carol and Alan Monroe (friends of Bethesda)

Kacey McDonald (cousin of Al McDonald)

Neil McKenzie (friend of Jane and Rick McInnis)

Patrick McLaughlin (son of Pat and Sandy McLaughlin)

David and Peter McLenden (friends of Judy Heffner)

Judy Melendez (friend of Nancy Dearborn)

Matt Morgan (friend of Sue and Dan Wiener)

Jeanne Muse (friend of Mary Ann Ward)

Mike Norton (friend of Francisco)

Carrie Peterson (friend of the Noyes family)

Jan Phillips (Julie Formanski's mother)

Jennifer Pinkston (Gloria Crane's daughter)

Tom Pinkston (Gloria Crane's son)
Alexander Deaton Riley (Great-grandson of Kitty Kuzminski)
Mark Simmons (friend of Rick and Lisa Noyes)
Ed and Linda Stallings (friends of Jane McInnis)
Chad Stambaugh (Carolyn Moore's Nephew)
Floyd Strupe (Mary Katherine's father)
Buddy Vandiver (Rick Noyes' Uncle)
Kathy Walker (friend of Kitty Kuzminski)
Kathy and Dale Weston (Nancy Dearborn's cousin)
Avalene Wright (daughter of Becky and Brian Wright)

Bethesda Officers
Elder of the Month for July is Craig Fogleman
Elders:

Class of 2026: Davis Clark, Craig Fogleman, Laura Hill
Class of 2027: Leslie Champion, Marsha Southers, Ron Schuch, Jamie Clarke
Class of 2028: Kristy Ransdell, Nancy High, Janet Peele

Deacons

Class of 2026: Jane McInnis, Terry Hardison, Carolyn Moore, Pat McLaughlin
Class of 2027: Curt Proctor, Kelly Clark, Jane Long, Susan McNeill
Class of 2028: David Keith, Grant Martin, Christi Conley, Sherry Wright,
Jesse Andersen - Youth

STAFF

Pastor	David W. Priddy	revdpriddy@gmail.com	phone: 944-1319
Administrator	Julie Formanski	BPC28315@gmail.com	phone: 944-1319
Music Director & Organist	Earlene McLamb	velmc49@yahoo.com	phone: 281-3231
Director of Student and Family Ministry	Christi Conley	ChristiConleyLMFT@gmail.com	
Merry Hearts Preschool Director	Scarlett Roth	scarlett@merryheartspreschool.com	phone: 944-1319

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am–2:00 pm
Friday, 9:00 am–12 noon
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