

# Beckley Disciples News

July-August 2019

A Global Mission Church

## Gone Fishin'

Our summer has gotten off to a great start. We shared in worship with Heart of God Ministries on June 9, and it was truly inspirational. The music was uplifting, and Bishop Simms sermon was powerful. Our celebration continued with table fellowship. What a great way to commemorate the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost.

Then we ended the month with our annual Church Picnic & Outdoor Worship at Little Beaver. Thanks to Yvonne and Becky for leading the music that day. How great it is to take time to be together in God's creation. It is a visible reminder that our God is great, and greatly is He to be praised.

It is easy to think that this should be a down time for the church. However, we need always be busy about the Lord's work. As we have the oppor-

tunity to share Jesus' story, we must do so. As He presents us "the least of these my brothers," then we must respond in service. This is what it means to be church.

The world will lament our efforts, because too often it wants to blame the marginalized and dispossessed for their own problems. This helps assuage guilt and rationalize the problem. However, God reminded His people: "There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land." (Deut. 15:11)

When I get frustrated and cynical, Jesus reminds me of His words to Paul, "There are many of **MY** people in this city..." This is no different in



Beckley in 2019, than it was in Corinth in the 1st century. There are people who need to hear and experience Good News, and it is up to us to share it.

If we do our part as faithful laborers for Christ; plant and water Gospel seeds in people each and every day; then, we God can and will give the increase.

Faithfully,

DRS

## Operation Backpack

Despite some technical difficulties, we had a great kick-off for Operation backpack with our Day of Pancakes in May. We collected \$255 as well as a Wal-Mart gift card. We now begin collecting items for the backpacks themselves: ruled paper, pencils, crayons (16 or 24 count) pencil box, glue sticks, erasers, and, of course Backpacks. Our goal this year is to fill 20 Backpacks for Mabscott Elementary School. If you would prefer, you may continue to make monetary donations. These are going to be used primarily to provide the supplies desperately needed in each classroom: hand sanitizer, facial tissues, and disinfectant wipes. These will be appreciated as donations as well. We will be collecting these items throughout the summer, and boxes will be located outside the office and in the narthex. Will collect until August 4, so everything can be ready for the beginning of school.



## Youth Yak

It was great to have the kids help with distributing the Father's Day gift this year. It is always good when they can be part of our worship service, and particularly as they listen intently to Mike Vaughan's Children's moment.

We will be collecting for Operation Backpack throughout the summer. Boxes will be placed outside the church office, and in the narthex for your contributions. We need pencils, crayons (16-24 count), glue sticks, erases, paper, pencil boxes and back packs. Our goal this year is 20 backpacks. Financial contributions will go toward this

goal, as well as purchasing items such as hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, and facial tissues for the classrooms.

Encourage your college age young people to be in worship on August 11. We will host Dr. Tamara Rodenberg, President of Bethany College. She will share her vision for Bethany during worship, then be available to answer questions during our dinner following worship. Even if these students aren't from our church, this is a wonderful opportunity to interact with Dr. Rodenberg and learn more about Bethany. Don't let the cost scare you, as financial



aid is available.

Finally, don't forget, students, to apply for the File Scholarship, which has shifted to the fall term now. Applications are in the office, if interested.

*Tammy*

## Music Notes

We are at that point of the year where our choir is taking a break, and we rely on special soloists for our Sunday morning worship. Thank you to Christina Crouch, who provided the special music for June 23.

In July we will be blessed to host *Westward Road* on the 28th. They will come with their special blend of Southern Gospel music, and lead us for worship that day. We are having a picnic on the grounds following the service, so

make plans to join us for the day.

On August 11 we are hosting Dr. Tamara Rodenberg, President of Bethany College. This will be a special day for our church, and we are planning a worship that will call us to our Disciples' heritage in celebration of our faith.

Finally, the choir will begin a new year of music ministry on August 28, with our annual Kick-off picnic at the parson-



age. We are grateful for Don and Nancy to host this for us. The hamburgers, buns and drinks will be provided. We ask all choir members to bring a side dish or dessert. Have a blessed summer

*Yvonne*

## Dr. Tamara Rodenberg visit

We are pleased to host the newly installed President of Bethany College—Dr. Tamara Rodenberg—here on Sunday, August 11. Dr. Rodenberg will deliver the morning message that day, so come and hear here vision for the College.

Dr. Rodenberg comes to Bethany from Brite Divinity School. She brings great

energy and vision to the College, as higher education faces unique challenges for the future. Her husband John is also an ordained Disciples minister.

We will have a churchwide dinner following the service in the Fellowship hall. Everything will be provided for the meal. This will not only provide an opportunity for great



**Bethany**  
A Small College of National Distinction

table fellowship, but also an additional opportunity to interact with Dr. Rodenberg. Invite someone to join, especially prospective students.

# News for the Pews

## Change for Life

There continues to be great need amongst our brothers and sisters in Beckley. Your extra contribution of loose change on July 7 and August 4 helps providing funding so that we can help meet this need. It is not the individual amount that matters, as much as we all reach in our pockets and drop in the offering plate whatever change we might have that day.

## Carpenter's Corner

During the summer months there is an increased demand at the Carpenter's Corner. Children are out of school, and many of them in our neighborhood receive free breakfast and lunch at school. We will be serving July 12 & 13 and August 9 & 10, and need plenty of help to share God's love with neighbors in need. Just show up and give of your time. Remember, if you want to serve in the kitchen you must have a Food Handler's Card from the Raleigh County Health Department.

## General Assembly

The biennial Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) gathers in Des Moines, IA, July 20-24. Don will be attending, and our church is entitled to two voting delegates. If you are interested in attending it is imperative that you let John File know, and register online for the event. Credentials will be verified at the event. In addition to the business items and reports, there are a variety of workshops, as well as the opportunity to catch up with old friends. For more information visit our denomination's website, or call the church office.

## Westward Road

We are pleased to welcome to First Christian Church on July 28 *Westward Road*. This Southern Gospel group brings their distinctive style to help us praise the Lord and celebrate our faith.

We will receive a love offering following the service to support their ministry. Following worship, we are having a Picnic on the Grounds in the Fellowship Hall. There will be burgers, coleslaw, macaroni & potato salad, cookies and drinks. Everything will be provided. Please plan on being in worship that day, you will be blessed, and invite someone to join you for the day.

## Beckley Day of Worship

Instead of a Beckley Day of Hope in 2019, we are having a Beckley Day of Worship on Friday, August 16, at the Raleigh County Arena. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m. There will be a variety of music to help us celebrate our faith, and the Rev. Jonathan Falwell (Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, VA) will be our guest preacher. Mark the day on your calendar, and plan on joining us. Not only will we praise the Lord, we will send a visible message to our community that the church is alive, well and united in our service to the Lord.

## General Board Meeting

The next General Board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 18, following worship. We will gather in the Fellowship hall, and light refreshments will be available. We will have a variety of reports to hear, receive and update on the church finances, and other items of business. All Elders and Deacons should plan on attending this meeting. While Don is away on July 21, the Rev. Richard Flowers will be filling the pulpit.

## Addie Lanier File Scholarship

The proceeds from the Addie Lanier File Scholarship are available to all post-secondary students, who are members of First Christian Church. Applications are available in the church office, and the deadline for submitting them is August 4. The scholarship amount is determined by the number of applicants and funds available. If you have questions, please see either



Tammy or Don for more information.

## Choir Picnic

The choir wrapped up their season on June 16, and are enjoying some much deserved time off during the summer months. The choir will gather at the parsonage on Wednesday, August 28, at 6:00 for their annual picnic. The burgers, buns and drinks will be provided. Choir members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. We will spend time visiting with one another, and discussing the upcoming choir season. Spouses/significant others are welcome to join us, and especially prospective new members. Choir practice will resume on September 4.

## Office Notes

Nancy is still recovering from her eye surgery, and making good progress. She is off at least until July 8 (her next doctor's visit). In the meantime, Barbara is in the office on Monday and Thursday. Once Nancy is cleared for work, the normal schedule of Monday (Barbara), Tuesday & Thursday (Nancy) will resume. Don has also begun his speech therapy sessions, these will last through early August. Most will be scheduled in the early morning. He will always be available via his cell phone during the day. Finally, he and Nancy plan on being on vacation over Labor Day weekend (August 29 though September 2). If there is a pastoral need during this time, please be in touch with John File, Elder's chair.

**First Christian Church**  
*(Disciples of Christ)*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Church Staff:**

Donald R. Snyder, Senior Minister  
Tammy Runion, Director of Youth and Education  
Yvonne Seay, Music Director  
Becky Leach, Organist  
Nancy Snyder, Office Assistant  
Barbara Adkins, Bookkeeper  
Angelo Martin, Custodian

**Sermon Scriptures**

July 7	Galatians 4: 23-26
July 14	Ephesians 4: 4-7
July 21	Rev. Richard Flowers
July 28	<i>Westward Road</i>
August 4	2 Corinthians 2: 14-16
August 11	Dr. Tamara Rodenberg
August 18	1 Thessalonians 1: 4-7
August 25	2 Timothy 1: 6-7

**Serving in July**

**Elders:** 7—Chuck & Carolyn Turner; 14—John & Lee File; 21—Bill File, III & Nancy Snyder; 28—Mark Tredway & Pat Freeman.

**Deacons:** William Clarke, Garret & Tammy Runion, Conrad Cooper, Ed Crouse, Paula Shrewsberry, Carol Cooper (upstairs)

**Communion Prep & Clean-up:** 7 & 14—Mark & Ashley Tredway; 21 & 28—Sandra Palen & Kay Gaigall.

**Worship Leaders:** 7—Yvonne Seay; 14—Michal McClure, 21 & 28—Paula Shrewsberry.

**Lead Usher:** Mark Tredway

**Outside Communion:** Yvonne Seay

**In the Hospital in June**

Pat Freeman, Eugene Leach

**Prayer Concerns**

Fulfilling Jesus' command to "Love one another," means that we have genuine concern for our sisters and brothers if faith, and especially lift them up to the Lord in prayer.

Randy Adkins, Susan Bailey, Mary Joyce Bragg, Gaynell Crouse, Ciela Cox, Woody & Patty Dacal, Kevin & Susan Fry, Sammy Hampton, Airlene Jarrell, John Jordan, Nancy Kittle, Donna Jean Poleck, Meg Prince, Derek Ross, Nancy Snyder, Pat Trader, Gloria Tucker, Kevin Winfree, Zachary Wood.

**In the heart of Beckley, with a heart for the Gospel.**