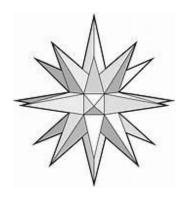
The Bethania Gazette



Bethania Moravian Church

Serving God and Serving You Since 1759

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09/25/2025 King, NC

Tonight, I sat in the parking lot of my local grocer, regrouping after a rehearsal. Staring off into the sky, a slowed, steadied movement caught my eye. I divert my gaze and notice that it is a woman of approximately 80 years of age, her body twisted from her years of life; her back so bent that she stared directly at the ground as she pushed her buggy to her car, her head barely any higher than the handles of the cart.

"I hope she has someone at home who loves her. I hope she has someone at home who HELPS her. I pray that God grant her comfort in the midst of her infirmity." A series of thoughts ran through my head as if they were strung together like an old bead necklace.

The latest decorations in my house? They don't matter. The latest, shiniest, most well equipped car? It doesn't matter. The really cool jewelry, or wood carvings, or pottery, or magnets I buy while abroad? They don't matter. The place of honor and position I hold within my community? It doesn't

matter. The level of achievement I hold within my vocation. It ultimately doesn't matter.

What matters is *people*.

One day, my life will come to an end. I will be cremated, and my ashes will be placed in the family plot of my hometown. My belongings will end up in a Good Will, or a church, or even in the landfill. I will be another name on a lichen-covered stone in a nondescript cemetery in a nondescript town. My belongings will not sing of my ethics. Or my morals. Or my small, little blurb in the great chasm of eternity.

What will survive is the loving-goodness I can give to another human being. The hope, the joy, the peace that I can bestow upon an almost-crippeled woman inching across a nondescript parking lot in a nondescript town. All of that, the love, peace, joy, and hope that I can give her, or someone else, will ripple through time. She will share that with someone else. Then they will share that with someone else, and so on.

You are not your job. Or your position within your community. Or your station in life. You are hope, joy, peace, and love, exactly as you were fashioned to be.

Share that with someone today. And tomorrow. And next week.

When you see someone struggling, be present. When you see someone falter, be present. When you see someone lose their breath, be present.

Be present.

Br. Joshua Whitt



Be thankful for all God provides. Be content with what God provides. Be faithful in using what God provides. Be available to respond when God puts a need in your path.

- Andy Stanley



<u>Bethania Walkers</u>

Bethania Walkers will again walk in Reynolda. We are planning to walk on September 13, meeting at the boathouse at 8:30. Maybe go to a local coffee shop after the walk. The weather is getting cooler and much nicer to walk, come join the group for a time of exercise and fellowship.



Technology Upgrades at our Church

We now have a Square Account which allows us to accept credit card payments at events, chicken pie sales, or any other occasion where we may need it. Vendor invoices are being paid via square for the Bethania Art & Community Festival. We will be able to take credit card payments for food and drinks we sell at the event, and also for chicken pies and bake sale items. It has been said that people know to bring cash and many do, but there is no real way to know how many people just walk by and say nothing if cash is the only payment option.

Something else you will see for the first time is the ability to donate to the church via Cash App or Venmo. We will have signs placed around the festival indicating this event is hosted by Bethania Moravian, and if one would like to donate any amount, no matter how small, to the church, they may take a picture of these QR codes. When someone does this, they will be taken to our church account, and they can send the church a donation at that moment. The amount is completely up to them. This will allow us to assign a specific amount to a QR code for special events, ticket sales, etc. The younger the attendee, the more likely they are to use Cash App or Venmo on a regular basis. It has become quite common as many of you may already know.

We Have Wi-Fi in the Building!

We now have Wi-Fi in Fellowship Hall, the Sunday School Building (where Linda's office is) main floor, second floor and the old kitchen and meeting room downstairs. These two areas (each) have a limit of 25 connections at once which should handle most any need we have.

We are considering WIFI for the sanctuary. It would not too hard to put basic service in the sanctuary but having a high number of connections available at once is more expensive. Usually 25 connections is very easy to accomplish; above that, is challenging and is more expensive. If you have a reason you would like to have an internet connection in the sanctuary let the church office, any board member or myself know.

Mike Todd Chair of the Board of Trustees

Upcoming Dates to Remember



September 20th: Bethania Arts and Community Festival – 10:00-4:00

October 4th: Youth Sponsored Square Dance, 5:00-8:00

November 2nd: Time Goes Back One Hour

November 30th: First Day of Advent

October 5th: World-wide Communion – 11:00 AM

October 18th: Trunk-r-Treat, Set up at 3:00, Function 4:00-6:00 November 16th: Jesus the Chief Elder Holy Communion – 11:00 AM

December 21st: Congregational Lovefeast - 11:00 AM

December 23rd: Joshua, Alex, Adam, and choir rehearse with strings.

December 24th: Community Christmas Eve Lovefeast - 5:00 PM

Our Youth!



On Sunday, August 31st, our youth lead us in worship. They gave the scriptures, sang all of the hymns, and offered all of the special music. We left worship with our hearts full and a smile on our face. We love our youth, and we support and encourage them in their spiritual growth and faith journey. They are such an important part of Bethania Moravian, and we are so blessed to have them present. Note: be sure to see their flyer below where they will be sponsoring a provincial-wide youth hoe-down!!!

Also, we are grateful for their leaders. Being a youth leader is not an easy job. Thank you all for your time, dedication, and hard work. The time you spend helping to shape our youth is truly invaluable, and we love you!



Sept. 2nd: Loretta Hooks Sept. 2nd: Emma Ogburn Sept. 8th: Richard Mock Sept. 9th: Darrel Flippin Sept. 9th: Renee Martin Sept. 12th: Chloe Spiler Sept. 18th: Richard Hamby Sept. 20th: Ruby Furches Sept. 21st: Johanna Brown Sept. 27th: Kimberlee Swaim Sept. 29th: Anthony Bricca

Sept. 30th: Dennis Ford

With Your presence, Lord, our Head and Savior, bless them all, we humbly pray; our dear heavenly Father's love and favor be their comfort every day. May God's Spirit now in each proceeding favor them with His most gracious leading; thus, shall they be truly blessed both in labor and in rest. Amen.

(Any omission from this list is purely accidental. If your name was inadvertently left off, please contact Joshua to let him know. Our system sometimes misses names.)

The Bethania Arts and Community Festival!!!

Help also greatly appreciated! Please contact Beth Spieler or Mike Todd!



Youth Sponsored Hoe - Down!!!



Trunk- R- Treat!!!

October 18th - 4:00-6:00

Set up at 3:00

Donations of candy, cars, and decorations very much appreciated!

