

Bedford Presbyterian Church

105 West Main Street, Bedford, Virginia

From 1844 to 2023 (179 Years)



Week of June 18th

We will continue sending out this combination of the newsletter and bulletin to keep you up to date on announcements, prayers, needs and scheduled activities.

Included will be the usual newsletter information along with prayers, scripture and a sermon.

We hope that you can utilize this format to keep up to date while being away from actual services, meetings, activities and watching the online sermon.



A Biblically & Prayerfully Guided
Christian Family of Disciples
Loving God & Serving Others

Bedford Presbyterian is a Biblically and

Prayerfully Guided Christian Family of

Disciples, Loving God and Serving Others

THE APPROACH TO GOD

One: The peace of Christ be with you

All: And Also with you

Prelude

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

arr: by Joel Bennett

Words of Welcome

***Call to Worship**

One: Come, Lord God, to receive our worship. Come, Lord Jesus, to receive our praise. Come, Holy Spirit, to receive our thanks. Come, eternal three-in-one as we, Your body, gather in unity to celebrate Your love.

All: We share one faith and are of one soul and one mind, which belong solely and wholly to You.

One: We are baptized with one baptism; eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

All: We confess one name above all other names; we are obedient to one Lord, who frees us from the tyranny and hatefulness of the world.

One: We share one hope, one comfort, one goal.

All: We are one people, united—despite any noticeable differences—by our faith in You, Lord Jesus.

One: We are one people, united by Your love and mercy to stand against any power that would try to tear us apart.

All: We are one people, united in blessing and in suffering, united in joy and in sorrow, united in strength and in weakness. Receive our praise!

***Hymn**

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

Hymn 148

*** Prayer of Confession**

O God, we yearn to be a community of believers, united in Your Spirit. And yet we are often fraught with divisions: denominational, political and theological. We are weighed down by tensions and the things that break us apart. You are three-in-one and one-in-three, yet all too often we are every man and woman for ourselves. Help us to learn to live in community, loving one another, in spite of our differences and respecting one another in everything that we do and say. Help us to be the fulfilment of Your prayer that we might be one, even as You and the Father are one. Only through Your grace can we achieve this. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Through Jesus Christ, we have been born again to new life.

***Gloria**

"Glory to the Father"

Bill Rutledge

Children's Time

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Introduction to Scripture

Scripture

Joshua 1: 10-18

Praise Medley

“Hine Ma Tov” and “Awesome God”

Sermon

One for All and All for One

Rev. Philip Parker

All of us have heard this declaration, or one very similar to it—“One for All and All for One.” It was popularized by Alexandre Dumas, the famous French author who wrote a number of well-known novels such as *The Three Musketeers* and *The Count of Monte Cristo*. If you have ever read *The Three Musketeers*, or seen one of the movies based upon this novel, you know that it’s a swashbuckling tale about three superb swordsmen who reluctantly welcome a fourth member to their inseparable friendship as they defend the King of France against the plots of a villainous Cardinal Richelieu. First published in 1844, the novel was an immediate success and remains so today. Along with all of the difficult situations and dangerous circumstances in which these musketeers find themselves, this story is a vivid portrait of the inestimable value of true and genuine comradeship. “One for All and All for One,” simply means that we’re in this together. We have a common goal, a single purpose that compels us to work together without any thought of personal gain or glory.

The legendary coach, John Wooden, was well aware of this idea of “one for all and all for one,” when he took over the basketball program at the University of Los Angeles. He wasn’t interested in coaching a bunch of stars who wanted to show-off on the basketball court. In fact, he suggested that some of the most highly recruited players might not want to play for his team, especially since they wanted to hog all the action. He was interested in creating a team who knew the value of team work. They were a single unit working together for a common goal—being the best they could be both on and off the basketball court. How well did this strategy work? The results are impressive. Under his leadership, UCLA won ten national championships in just 12 years, a record that no other team has even come close to beating.

Although Joshua never played basketball, I suspect that he was well aware of the importance of creating a spirit of unity and common purpose when he took over the reins of leadership from Moses. He had seen what happened when there was strife and discord in the camp. He was aware of all those past accusations—“you have led us out into the desert to die”—and on several occasions there was even an open revolt against Moses’ leadership. There was simply no way that he could lead a divided and grumbling people into a new land where they would face determined resistance from well-armed enemies in fortified cities. He knew that the fighting men of the tribes who had settled on the eastern side of the Jordan, who had already taken possession of their inheritance, could not be excused from what was about to take place. They too were to cross the Jordan and join forces with their fellow countrymen. In other words, they were to be like the three musketeers “one for all and all for one.”

Now, what does this mean for you and me as we look forward to the future right here at Bedford Presbyterian Church? Simply stated, **UNITY** is essential for any great endeavor. **First of all, UNITY requires a clear understanding of what needs to be done.** Joshua was well aware

of this as he prepared the people of Israel to enter into the Promised Land. He said to them, "In three days you will cross the Jordan River and take possession of the land the LORD your God has given you" (Joshua 1:11). It was vitally important for everyone to know what was about to happen. Clarity of purpose was an absolute imperative. There could be no confusion or discord regarding what they were about to do. The same is true for us. We need a clear understanding as to what needs to be done as we look to the future. And what is that mission and purpose to which we have been called? It is to find the person who will be the next pastor of our church. Now let me be very clear. Our purpose is not to find the person that we want to be our pastor. We must find the person that the Lord desires for us to call as our next pastor. The Old Testament account of Samuel's search for a new king is an unmistakable example of this important Biblical principle. God told Samuel to go to the home of Jesse in Bethlehem and select one of his sons to be the next king. When he got there he found seven strong, vigorous good looking young men. Naturally he started with the eldest assuming, that he was the most likely choice. However, he was wrong. "The LORD said, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart'" (1 Samuel 16:7). As you will remember, it was the eighth son, David, the youngest one, who was out in the fields taking care of his father's sheep that the Lord had selected to be the next king.

Having worked with two churches who were looking for a new pastor, I can tell you that finding the right person can be an exhausting endeavor. It involves a lot more than just looking over a few potential candidates. In one instance we received over 150 resumes from individuals who were interested in becoming the pastor of that particular church. One by one we had to review the resumes, selecting the top ten candidates, then the top five and finally the last two. One had already taken the pastorate of another church. The second agreed to visit the church where I was serving as the interim pastor. Just before the date of his visit, however, he contacted us and said that he was withdrawing his name from consideration. What were we to do? We thought it meant starting all over again until out of the blue we received a new batch of five resumes. Among them was the name of a young man living near here in Roanoke. We contacted him and almost immediately we knew that he was the right person, the God ordained individual, who had been chosen to be the next pastor. Happily, I can tell you that he is still faithfully serving that congregation on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. What the Lord did for that church, He can do for us. We just need to make sure that we are looking for His choice, not our own.

Second, UNITY is essential for any great endeavor because it requires the desire and the determination to work together. Joshua told the people that no one was exempt from what needed to be accomplished. He said to those who were already settled on the eastern side of the Jordan, "Your wives, your children, and your livestock may stay in the land that Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, fully armed, must cross over ahead of your brothers. You are to help your brothers until the LORD gives them rest, as He has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them" (Joshua 1:14-15). The same is true for us here at Bedford Presbyterian. If we are to be successful during this time of transition, there must be a spirit of willing cooperation that is present throughout our church family. Let me share an illustration out of my own life and ministry.

When I became the pastor of the church where I served for thirty years, it was at the end of the summer in 1980. I knew what that meant. We would have to start nominating people to serve in the various offices of the church for the coming year. The church family had experienced some difficult times and there had been some disagreements among the membership. With that in mind I addressed the church's Nominating Committee. I said to them, "We've got a challenging task before us as we select those who will be serving on our church's various committees and organizations in the coming year. Some of them are discouraged and perhaps reluctant to continue serving. So here's what I want to ask you to do. Ask them to continue serving in their present capacity for one more year, so that we can get our church back on track. If we are to turn things around, unity, working together in one accord, is essential." Without exception every person who was contacted agreed to continue serving and that was the beginning of a new day in the life of that church.

Fortunately, our church is much more unified. We have a wonderful group of people who are serving this congregation. In the months to come, like my former pastorate, we will be going through the process of selecting leaders and committee members for the coming year. So here's what I want to share with you this morning. Working together is vitally important, whether it is serving on one of the church's committees or organizations, or simply making a promise to the Lord that you're going to do your best to be present when we gather together for worship. Your presence and participation in the life of our church is a declaration of unity. Just like Joshua, that is what I'm asking you to do. Let's be honest. During the summertime it's easy to slip away and say, "They won't miss me." But in fact they will. In fact, we will. A church filled with a congregation praising the Lord is a whole lot more winsome than a nearly empty sanctuary with just a handful of worshippers. In 1 Corinthians 3:9 we find this admonition, "We are laborers together with God." Let this become our motto as a church family. Let it express our desire and the determination to work together.

Finally, UNITY is essential for any great endeavor because it requires that we guard against strife and discord. The people of Israel remembered the strife and discord which had almost destroyed them during the forty years that they had wandered in the wilderness. Over and over again they had almost been obliterated because they couldn't get along with one another, or the Lord. In fact, the entire generation of people who had left Egypt under Moses' leadership, were dead, buried in the desert, except for Joshua and Caleb. Their children, who were now gathered before their new leader, Joshua, didn't want what had happened to their parents to happen to them. So in response to Joshua's call to arms, all of them, even those from the eastern side of the Jordan, cried out with one voice, "Whoever rebels against your word and does not obey your words, whatever you may command them, will be put to death" (Joshua 1:18). That was a forceful declaration and I think they meant it because unity is impossible if there is strife and discord among God's people.

Saint Paul was also aware of this undeniable truth. Writing to the Christians in the church at Corinth, he said, "I appeal to you brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, 'I follow Paul', another 'I follow Apollos', another, 'I follow Cephas', still another, 'I follow Christ'" (1 Corinthians

1:10-12). This kind of disunity was tearing the church apart and Paul had to personally intercede to stop it. The Christians in Corinth were arguing over who was to lead the congregation, whose guidance and principles of ministry were to direct its life and future. That's a recipe for disaster that should never find its way into the life of a local church, especially when that congregation is looking for a new pastor. I have seen churches torn apart because more than one candidate was presented to a church family for consideration. So let's avoid that possibility by entrusting the selection process into the care of our Pastor Nominating Committee, in the assurance that they will find the person that the Lord has chosen to be our next pastor.

And in the meantime, let us all join together in declaring, like those three musketeers, "**ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE!**"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

Worship Song

"Bind Us Together"

Bob Gillman

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. On the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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

Doxology

"Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow"

Hymn 34

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to You. Through Your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious and Generous God, we give You thanks and praise for the good gifts You see fit to give Your children. Today we return a portion of those gifts and ask that You bless them and use them as You grow Your kingdom among us. We ask this in Christ's holy name. Amen.

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***

"They'll Know We Are Christians"

Hymn 595

THE SENDING FORTH

**Benediction*

Postlude

“Come, Thou Almighty God”

arr: by Joey Hoelscher

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor and celebration of Dave Stetson's birthday, by Lori Stetson.

Joys- June 18th

Joy- Paul Gillespie's 50th year member anniversary

Joy- Patty Meyers' family thanks church for their support

Joy- Christy Boone thankful for church family

Joy- Wonderful sermon on transition, thank you Philip

Concerns- June 18th

Avery: Tinkie, hospice care, passing of Frank

Barnes: Kim Hedrick- (friend) cancer

Ruth (sister) broke back, surgery

Benton: Tracey Thomas- (daughter's friend) having problems with transplant

High school friend- prayers

Sister-in-law, breast cancer

Tom Wilson- (friend) melanoma

Prayers for family on passing of uncle

Blair: Larry (John's brother) heart attack, 2 stents, home

Steve Arrington- (friend) not doing well

Marshall Dunlap- (friend) cancer

Ecumenical youth group

Callahan: Mary Jane (friend) cancer

Clarke: Weebie- hospice care

Compter: two brothers- unbelievers

Prayers for friends to come to the Lord

Bob- (friend) Parkinson's

Michael Compter- (brother) heart failure

Steve & Mary- (friends) Steve disabilities

Zoey Foster- (child) injury to abdomen, doing well

Vicky- (friend) recurring lymphoma

May- (friend) breast cancer

Travel mercies as they visit Larry's brothers

Cram: Winslow's-(friends of Sally) family & medical problems

Janice Campbell-(friend) under hospice care

Ryan- (grandson) searching for faith

Lory Graham (friend) health issues, Carolyn, wife caretaker

Creasy: Walker Wright (Elizabeth's brother) stroke

DeHart: Dawn's mother radiation treatments

DeWitt: Gerald's father in rehab, then assisted living

Easter: Ruby Key (friend) cancer

Foster: Ron- (brother-in-law) to get out of hospital and into home

Howard & Lynn (brother) difficulty with legs, wife dementia

Tom- breathing problems

Prayers for everyone on dialysis

Goodman: travel mercies for family

Grigg: Beth Falwell- starting cancer treatments

Grubb: John- heart issues

Heinrich: Steven - (grandson) autoimmune disorder

Barbara Lore- (Helen's sister) heart problems

Kuhn- Kibbey: Dot- idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, wet macular degeneration

Dick- macular degeneration, taking shots

Dick's sister (Kibbey) - dementia, Washington state

Mauser: Joyce Reese- (friend) health problems
Steven-(son's boss) going blind
Barbara-(Al's sister-in-law) intense headaches
Gayle-doing better

McManis: Ken- seeing neurosurgeon

Meyers: Prayers for family on passing of Patty
Bill (Brother) – daughter medical problems

Morris: all law enforcement, firefighters and all other first responders
Families of those who serve
Kyle Coble- (cousin) leukemia
Rev. Pam Ledbetter, auto-immune, diabetes
For our church as we go through transition
James Morgan (cousins husband) spot on lung
John Hargett (friend) woke up paralyzed

Narwid: Ed- not doing well

Nichols: for family who doesn't know the Lord

Saunders: (Ronnie) Colin Bridges- (grandson)
Scott- (son-in-law) terminal brain cancer

Scheurer: Jim Hedrick- (friend) cancer
Bob Lindell-(friend) prostate cancer
Sonny (son) doing well

Schubert: Gerda- multiple strokes

Smith: Dorothy Smith- (John's mother) pray she comes to the Lord
Marcus (Sonya's brother) waiting on biopsy results

Stetson: Clay Ramsey- thyroid cancer
Nick, Tiffany & Savannah- 2 surgeries, in Pediatric wing

Stevens: Jackie Landis- heart problems
Sharon Johnson (daughters co-worker) loss of husband

Van Dyke: Donna Mannel (friend) MS
Rick Anderson (niece's husband) home recovering

Winberry: Chris- severe heart issues, improving
Tom & Dee-(brother) COPD, maybe hospice, prayers for family

Prayers for our nation and our President

Prayers for those dealing with loneliness

Prayers for healing the divisive spirit among our leaders/nation

Russian invasion ends and not resort to nuclear weapons.

Nations to stand up for freedom.

Prayers for new residents to come to worship with us

Prayers for our constant responders

Prayers for Ukraine

Pray for World Peace

Tornado destruction across country

June 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 <i>10 am Worship Communion Retirement Potluck Prayer Time</i>	5 <i>Cub Scouts</i>	6	7	8 <i>Deacon's 3:30 pm</i>	9	10
11 <i>10 am Worship Rev. Philip Parker 5¢ a Meal Prayer Time</i>	12 <i>Cub Scouts</i>	13	14	15	16	17 <i>Bedford Hiking Club</i>
18 <i>10 am Service Rev. Philip Parker Happy Father's Day Prayer time 3pm Ecumenical Youth</i>	19 <i>Cub Scouts</i>	20	21	22 <i>Cancer Support</i>	23	24
25 <i>10 am Service Rev. Philip Parker Prayer Time</i>	26 <i>Cub Scouts</i>	27	28	29	30	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Activities for week of June 18th

Sunday: 10 am Worship, Rev. Philip Parker
Happy Father's Day!
Prayer time following service

Monday: Cub Scouts

Sunday: June 25th

10 am Worship, Rev. Philip Parker
Prayer time following service

June Birthdays

Hugh Saunders - 19

Betty Salley - 25

June Anniversaries

Jim and Joy Barefoot - 21

David & Kathy Grigg - 21

Philip & Sherry Parker - 28

BCMA FOOD PANTRY MOST NEEDED ITEMS **CHILDREN'S ITEMS ARE THE PRIORITY FOR SUMMER**

CAPRI SUN OR KOOL-AID JAMMERS

POP TARTS

CEREAL BARS

CANNED TUNA

CANNED SPAGHETTI PRODUCTS

FRUIT SNACKS

PEANUT BUTTER OR CHEESE SNACK CRACKERS

SINGLE SERVE COOKIES (COME IN LARGE CONTAINERS)

SINGLE SERVE CHEESE ITEMS (WHALES OR GOLDFISH)

FRUIT CUPS, PUDDING CUPS OR JELL-O CUPS

CLEANING ITEMS FOR FIRST-TIME CLIENTS

.(These items can be found more reasonably priced at Dollar Tree)

LAUNDRY DETERGENT

DISH DETERGENT

BLEACH

INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED TOOTHBRUSHES

NEEDS ON A REGULAR BASIS

TOILET PAPER (LARGE PACKAGES)

SUGAR

COFFEE

A TIME OF TRANSITION

During the remaining Sundays in June and the first Sunday in July, we will be taking a look at the Old Testament book of Joshua. Like our own congregation, the people of Israel were facing new challenges as well as some new expectations. Their beloved leader, Moses, was no longer with them. Furthermore they were preparing to cross over into a land that was far different from where they had spent the last 40 years. Although we are not moving geographically, we are most assuredly moving into a future that will be markedly different from the past. This will be a time of transition for us as we begin our search for a new pastor. So together let's see what the people of Israel experienced during their journey into the land that the Lord had promised to them. In many respects it will be like the journey upon which we too have embarked as we seek to secure the blessings that God has in store for us.

- June 18—"One for All and All for One"—Joshua 1:10-18
- June 25—"Spying Out the Land"—Joshua 2:1-24
- July 2—"The Rest of the Story"—Joshua 24:14-15 and 25-27

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PRESBYTERIAN MEN

The Presbyterians Men's Conference will take place
July 21st through the 23rd at Massanetta Springs Conference Center
in Harrisonburg.

Registration is open, please go to www.midatlanticmen.org
to register and you can join Ron Morris for a
weekend of inspiring workshops, challenging
keynotes and recreational activities like zip-lining,
golfing and a cave tour.

Space may be limited, so please if you are
interested, register soon.

If interested, please contact Ron Morris.

Joshua Sermon Series

Crossing the Jordan and entering into the Promised Land was a time of transition for the people of Israel. By taking a look at the book of Joshua in the Old Testament, we can learn some valuable lessons to guide us as we move forward during this time of transition in the life of our church. Join with us on line or in person for this brief sermon series that will conclude on the first Sunday in July. And if you have never read the book of Joshua, this would be a great time to do so. It's an exciting account.