

Bedford Presbyterian Church

105 West Main Street, Bedford, Virginia

From 1844 to 2024 (180 Years)

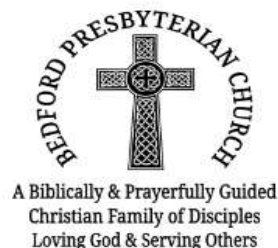


Week of May 26th

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.



*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

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Faye Lopez

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, filled with His Holy Spirit, and blessed by God, our Heavenly Father,

All: We come to worship one Holy God.

One: O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.

All: Your majesty is the music of the starry skies, yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

One: To You, great Three in One, may Your praises forever be.

All: May we see Your sovereign majesty and for now and all eternity, love and adore You.

Hymn

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Hymn 148

***Prayer of Confession:**

Your glory surrounds us, Triune God, but in our rush, we miss it, failing to stop for the wonder of the miracle of a human being coming into the world, or the vast expanse of the heavens stretching as far as the eye can see.

You have redeemed us from the brokenness of our humanity, but we continue to wade through the mire of sinfulness instead of celebrating the grace you pour out upon us, freeing us from the constraints of our past.

Your Spirit breathes new life within and around us, hovering over us as He did in the beginning, but we fight Him, choosing stagnation and rebellion over transformation. Forgive us, we pray, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and lead us into Your promise of new life.

***Assurance of Pardon (responsive)**

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”

Rutledge

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Introduction to Scripture

Scripture

Acts 5: 12-16, James 5: 14-17

Anthem

“Holy Spirit, Hope and Healer”

John Carter

Sermon

A HEALING CHURCH

In 1982 Pastor Gary Folds was on his way to a preaching point in southern Tanzania. He was a member of a short term mission team from the United States. Before he and the translator arrived at the place where he was to preach, they were stopped by a large crowd. Inquiring what they desired, the translator said that two men in their village were desperately ill. Could they stop and provide medical treatment. Pastor Folds explained that he was not a doctor, but that he would go the village and pray for the two men. Praying by the bedside of these two men, he realized that both were gravely ill. One, in fact, was at death's door. Pastor Folds prayed earnestly and told the men that they would be remembered in the prayers of the people later that night at the meeting. He and the translator then got back in their jeep and drove to the open air service. Half way through the sermon, there was a noisy commotion at the back of the gathering. They stopped the service and inquired as to what was going on. The two men for whom Pastor Folds had prayed were standing among the awestruck crowd. Both had been completely healed.

From the earliest days of the Christian Church, healing was an important part of its life and ministry. Filled with the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, Peter healed the crippled beggar a few days later on his way to the Temple. Later it was his prayers that raised Tabitha from the dead, a woman who had devoted her life to doing good and helping the poor. Even Peter's shadow falling upon the sick was seen as a sign for the potential healing of those who were ill. Later during the missionary journeys of Paul, he too was blessed with the power to heal. We are told in the book of Acts that "God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them" (Acts 19:11-12).

Without a doubt, healing was a vitally important ministry of the early church. It is for that reason that James provides us with these insights regarding healing. If anyone is sick, he encourages that person to seek out the elders, the spiritual leaders of the church. He then describes a plan of action that involves prayer, anointing with oil, faith and confession of sin. Let's take a look at each aspect of this healing process. The first, of course, is prayer. Prayer puts us in touch with the source of all healing, the presence and power of God. That is why James names the elders as the ones who should pray. Hopefully they are spiritually mature Christians who can ask for and receive permission to be the channel through whom God's healing presence flows into the life of the afflicted individual. God is the one who heals. We are merely the ones through which that healing makes its way into the life of another person. A plaque in a hospital I visited years ago forcefully declared, "We dress the wound. God heals the wound."

Anointing a sick person with oil is something which seems a bit strange in our day and time. Administering medications falls within the realm of doctors, not elders or spiritual leaders in a church. What did the anointing signify? In the first century it was frequently the only medicine available. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Samaritan dressed the wounds of the man who had been beaten and robbed with oil and wine (Luke 10:34). Oil, probably something like olive oil, was the antiseptic cream of the ancient world and it very well may possess some curative properties. But there is more to this than just applying a soothing lotion. When David was chosen to be the king of Israel, Samuel, Israel's last and greatest judge, anointed him with oil. This is what the Scriptures tell us, "So Samuel took a horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power" (1 Samuel 16:13). The anointing was a declaration of God's blessings and empowerment. The same holds true with regards to healing. Anointing with oil expresses the desire to experience God's blessings and to access His life giving empowerment.

The third thing that James mentions in this portion of his letter is faith. Faith is believing that God can and will do something to help us. It is a vitally important part of the healing process. Jesus was well aware of that fact. On more than one occasion He asked those who desired to be healed if they had faith in His

ability to make them well. Without faith His ability to heal was severely limited. When He visited His home town of Nazareth that is precisely what took place. The people were offended when Jesus spoke in their synagogue and doubted the source of His wisdom and miraculous powers. Commenting on this incident Mark tells us in his Gospel, “He (Jesus) could not do any miracles there, except to lay His hands on a few sick people and heal them. And He was amazed at their lack of faith” (Mark 6:5-6). Faith was crucial to healing. The same is true even with regards to modern day medicine. If a person does not believe their doctor, the successful prognosis is doubtful.

Lastly, James talks about confessing our sins to one another. He says, “Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed” (James 5:16). Now to be perfectly honest, how many of us have associated sinfulness with healing? When someone comes down with an illness, we don’t ask that person, “Alright what sin have you committed that needs to be confessed?” However, once again if we examine the healing ministry of Jesus, we will discover that He not only healed people, but that at least on one occasion included forgiveness of sin as a prerequisite for healing. When some men brought a paralytic to Jesus, a man who could not walk, He said to the man, “Take heart, son, your sins are forgiven” (Matthew 9:2). Having served as a pastor for many years, I have seen on more than one occasion that unconfessed sin is like a cancerous tumor embedded in a person’s life. In today’s world, many people don’t like to even hear the word “sin,” especially if it might have something to do with how they are living. Nevertheless, there are times when we need to find a trusted friend and confess a sin that is standing in the way of our emotional and even our physical well-being.

Having taken a look at what James has said in these concluding verses of his letter, what conclusions can we draw for our own day and time. First of all, healing is still a valid ministry for God’s people. Yes, there have been excesses, especially in various TV ministries over the years and in Protestant congregations there has been a real reluctance to follow the guidelines provided by James in his letter. Every Sunday we pray for people who are ill, but rarely do we follow that up with an anointing or any of the other things that James says. That’s a shame because when we fail to follow James’ inspired counsel, we become like a doctor only prescribing a small portion of what is needed for genuine recovery.

Second, healing involves more than just our physical well-being. It involves the sum total of who we are—body, soul and spirit. Writing to the Christians in Thessalonica Paul concluded his letter with these words, “May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Here’s what he is saying. You are a soul, a living being filled with a whole host of thoughts and feelings, residing in a human body that was made spiritually alive when you became a Christian. When your life here on earth comes to an end, your spirit will become the new vessel for your soul so that the sum total of who you are will be welcomed into the presence of Christ. But what does that mean with regarding to healing. It means that there are times when our bodies, our minds and our emotions, as well as our spirits need healing. When a person receives Christ as their Lord and Savior, they have experienced spiritual healing. When a person seeks pastoral care for a mental or emotional issue that is troubling them, they are seeking healing for their souls. When we pray with a person who is physically ill that too is a part of the healing that Christ offers unto us.

Finally, healing does not always come in the way that we wish, but it does come directly and personally from the hand of God. Let me share an example with you. The children of one of the members of the church I was serving years ago came to me in a state of panic. Their mother was beside herself in anguish and all-consuming fear. She had just been diagnosed with cancer. The doctors had told her it was incurable. I visited with her and we prayed for her physical healing, but I also told her there were some other kinds of healing she needed to experience, emotional healing and spiritual healing. She needed to calm down so that she could experience the peace of God. No matter what happened she needed to

know beyond a shadow of doubt that the Lord would take care of her and would also watch over her family. That's what we prayed for and that prayer was answered. The other prayer for physical healing was not. But fortunately she came to the place in her life where she could accept that decision. She slipped away into eternity with the assurance of God's love watching over and protecting her, which is, of course, the greatest and the most wonderful kind of healing that we will ever experience.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

Worship Song

"Healer"

Guglielmucci

Affirmation of Faith New Members

Doxology

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymn 34

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the unity and love that You share in the Trinity is far beyond our ability to understand. In Your love for each other, You chose to draw us into fellowship with You, so that we might enjoy all the blessings that You have known since before time began. We can never thank You enough. Bless these gifts that we offer. May they help spread your blessings to a world of hurt and need; in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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.

****Hymn***

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

Rodgers & Wyse

THE SENDING FORTH

Benediction

Postlude

"Glory Be to the Father"

Samuel Wesley

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our husbands, Sally Cram and Jan Easter.

June 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 <i>Men's Breakfast</i>
2 <i>10 am Worship Communion Session</i>	3	4	5 <i>Something More, 3 pm</i>	6 <i>D-Day ringing of the bells 6:44pm</i>	7	8
9 <i>10 am Worship 5¢ a Meal BCM collection</i>	10	11	12 <i>Deacons 1pm Something More, 3pm</i>	13	14	15
16 <i>10 am Worship</i>	17	18	19 <i>Something More, 3pm</i>	20	21	22
23 <i>10 am Worship</i>	24	25	26 <i>Something More, 3pm</i>	27	28	29
30 <i>10 am Worship</i>						

Joys- May 26th

Joy- Christy Boone's daughter found job and Christy's surgery went well

Concerns-May 26th

Avery: Tinkie, hospice care

Barnes: Kim Hedrick- (friend) cancer

Eunice- fell broke wrist

Benton: Tracey Thomas (daughter's friend) more surgery

Judy (friend) son in critical condition

Blair: Ecumenical youth group

Boone: Daughter- unemployed

Rosalind Reynolds, (friend) upcoming surgery

Callahan: Mary Jane (friend) in remission

Steve Chaffin (friend) blood clots

Compter: two brothers- unbelievers

Prayers for friends to come to the Lord

Michael Compter- (brother) heart failure

Steve & Mary- (friends) Steve disabilities

Vicky-(friend) recurring lymphoma

May- (friend) breast cancer

David- came through surgery

Joe- (friend) successful surgery, long recovery

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

Garrett Winslow – struggling, autism

Janice Campbell-(friend) under hospice care

Ryan- (grandson) searching for faith

Lory Graham- (friend) health issues, wife caretaker

Brenda Wilkerson- UVA- seizures

friend in CO, second surgery

DeHart: Dawn's mother gall bladder surgery

Michael Rutter- septic shock, amputation

DeWitt: assistants husband broke leg using roto tiller

Easter: Ruby Key (friend) cancer

Fleming: Dominick (Ann Marie's brother) heart surgery successful recovery is continuing

Carmen Trombecky- Afib

Foster: Ron (brother-in-law) in home

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

Tom

Prayers for everyone on dialysis

Ellen possible kidney transplant

Donna- (friend) husband in hospital, surgery went well

Goode: prayers for Eunice, health issues

Rodney & Connie Groggins (husband's cousins) Connie Alzheimer's, Rodney caregiver,

Cynthia- (friend) physical therapy

Those held hostage in Gaza

Larry (brother-in-law) heart attack

Cousin- advanced cancer, hospice care

Goodman: for those impacted by Midwest storms

Grigg: Beth Falwell- starting cancer treatments

Chris Mays- diabetic complications

Heinrich: Steven - (grandson) autoimmune disorder

Barbara Lore- (Helen's sister) heart problems

Mauser: Joyce Reese- (friend) health problems

Steven-(son's boss) going blind

Barbara (Al's sister) intense headaches

Gayle- doing better

McManis: Charlotte

Morris: all law enforcement, firefighters and all other first responders

Forensic scientists who deal with crime

Rev. Pam Ledbetter

James Morgan (cousins husband) spot on lung

Monk: Libby's mother, Mary Duncan stroke, Oakwood

Narwid: Ed- not doing well

Riley: Christine, stroke, Elks Home

Saunders: (Ronnie) Colin Bridges- (grandson)

Scott- (son-in-law) doing well

Scheurer: Jim Hedrick- (friend) cancer

Bob Lindell-(friend) prostate cancer

Sonny (son) doing well

Smith: Dorothy Smith- (John's mother) that she comes to the Lord

Stetson: Nick, Tiffany, Savannah- Savannah, back home

Stevens: Jackie Landis- heart problems

Two firefighters who suffered falls

Deputy Chief Matt Scott spot on kidney

Russell- recovering from surgery

Weeks: Edith- home, continued healing

Prayers for our nation and our President

Prayers for healing the divisive spirit among our leaders/nation

Russian invasion ends and not resort to nuclear weapons.

Prayers for new residents to come to worship with us

Prayers for Ukraine

Pray for World Peace

Prayers for Israel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Activities for week of May 26th

Sunday: 10 am Worship

Monday: Memorial day- office closed

Wednesday: 3 pm Something More

Sunday: June 2nd

10 am Worship

Session

Communion

May Birthdays

Venus Gould -28

June Birthdays

Dot Kuhn – 7

Gloria Saunders- 11

Dave Stetson - 12

Hugh Saunders - 19

Betty Salley – 25

June Anniversaries

BJ & Heather Poindexter - 11

Jim and Joy Barefoot - 21

David & Kathy Grigg - 21

Philip & Sherry Parker - 28

Last Sunday we began a three part sermon series from the book of James (chapter 5, verses 13-18) about the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. The first sermon was a "Singing Church." It was a wonderful service filled with beautiful music. This Sunday the sermon is "A Healing Church." Today as in the past we need God's healing touch upon our lives. On June 2nd we will conclude this sermon series with a reminder that we always need to be a part of "A Praying Church."

The Bedford Boys Tribute Center is requesting that all churches in Bedford County join with other churches around the world in ringing their church bells for 1 minute on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at precisely 6:44pm to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the World War II Normandy, France D-Day Invasion on 6 June 1944.

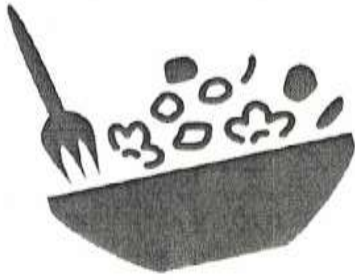
Bedford Boys Tribute Center will be hosting its 4th Annual Wreath Laying at the Bedford Boys Memorial Stone on the West lawn of the County Courthouse on E. Main Street, downtown Bedford on Thursday, June 6th. The ceremony will begin at 6:15pm and end at 7:00pm. When your church bells are ringing for 1 minute, the County Courthouse Bell will be struck 19 times in respect to each one of our 19 Bedford Boys lost. This ceremony is open to the public



Welcome New Members David and Donna Henderson

Thank you for your continued support

BPC Financial Snapshot						
General Operations Contribution Income				General Operations Expense		
	Forecast	Actual	YTD Ahead/(Behind)	Monthly Expense Target	Actual Expenses	YTD (Over)/Under Spent
Apr 2024	\$ 16,320.00	\$ 21,975.30	\$ 9,030.34	\$ 17,034.05	\$ 12,087.10	\$ 21,527.36



BEDFORD AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL



**June Topic:
Brain Health Habits
for Dementia Risk
Reduction**

Senior Lunch and Learn

What:

A free lunch social and educational presentation for area Seniors.

When:

June 21st
11:30 am-
1:00pm

Where:

Bedrock
Community
Church
402 East Main
St, Bedford



Sponsored by:

