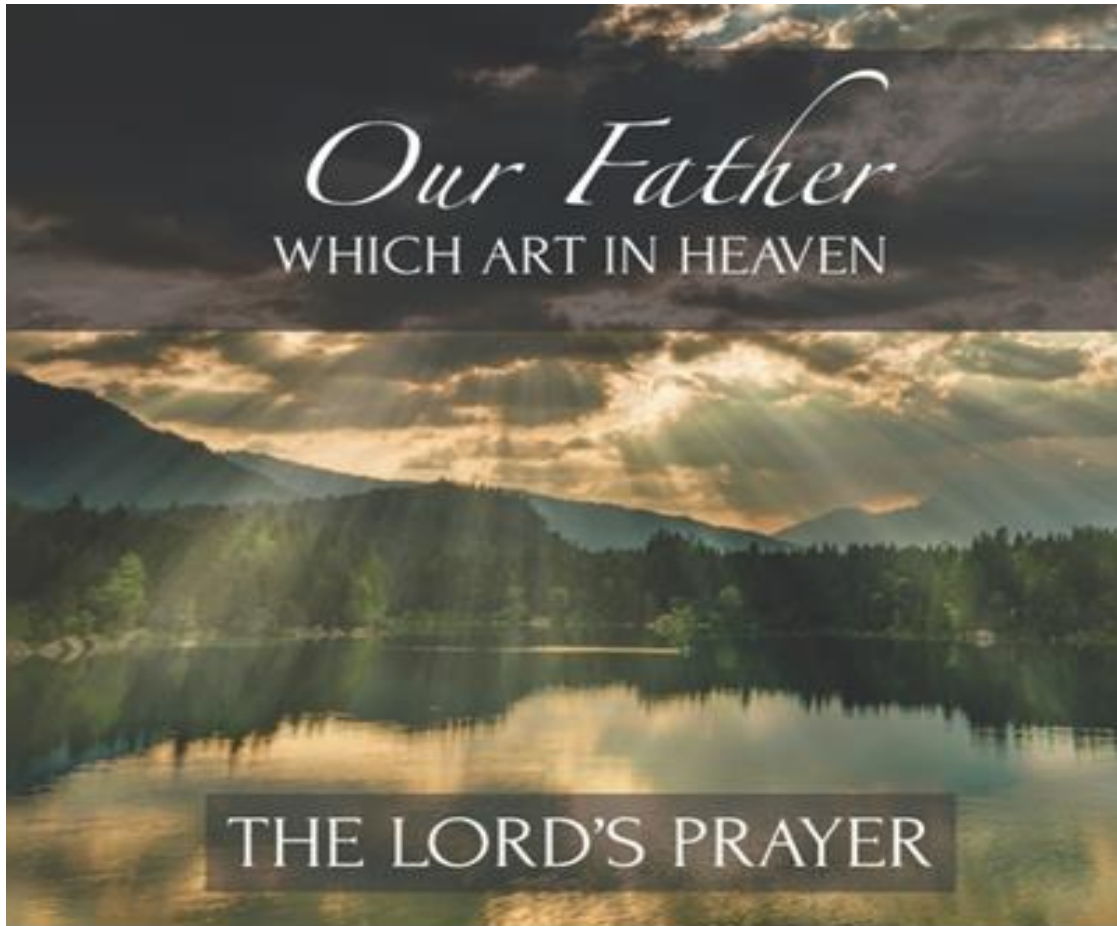


Bedford Presbyterian Church

105 West Main Street, Bedford, Virginia

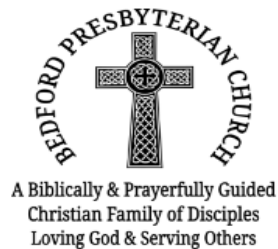
From 1844 to 2025 (181 Years)



Week of September 14, 2025

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

Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ Be With You

All: And Also With You

Prelude

"On Jordan's Stormy Banks"

arr: Mark Hayes

Words of Welcome

Minute for Missions

Five18

Amy Foster, Richard Day

Call to Worship

One: As we gather today, we call You Heavenly Father

All: Our Father, who art in Heaven.

One: As we gather today we bow in worship to honor Your name.

All: Hallowed be Thy name.

One: As we gather today, we seek Your will and not our own.

All: Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done.

One: As we gather today may the Lord be enthroned on the praises of His people.

All: Father in heaven, we worship and praise You with all our hearts. Your kingdom come, Your will be done in our lives today.

Hymn

"Abba Father, We Approach Thee"

Hymn to Joy

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Father in heaven, we confess that we have not always hallowed Your name, and our actions have not always reflected the reverence Your name deserves. Your kingdom is meant to come, but we often hinder its progress by not seeking first Your kingdom and by not believing that through prayer Your kingdom can actually become a reality in our lives, in the lives of our families, in our churches and in our communities. Father, forgive us. May this be our desire: that Your kingdom and Your will may be increasingly established on the earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

***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 Patri**

"Glory to the Father"

Bill Rutledge

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Isaiah 55: 8-9

A Time for All God's Children

Hymn

"This is My Father's World"

arr: Tommy Walker

Sermon

Our Father in Heaven

The Lord's Prayer: A Disciple's Compass

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

By: Pastor Ben Banner

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Series Big Idea:

The Lord's Prayer is a daily compass, pointing not to a place we are going, but to a person we are becoming.

Sermon Big Idea:

If we want to BE like Jesus, we have to SEE like Jesus.

1. FATHER

Learning to SEE God as Father: God's Fatherhood is a disciple's true North.

If our understanding about God ever contradicts the idea that He is a good Father, we are, without a doubt, misunderstanding Him.

Read

Matthew 6:9-13 (slowly) / Romans 8:15 / John 14:9

"The writers of the Old Testament only referred to God as Father fourteen times in all thirty-nine books — and always in reference to the nation, never individuals. But Jesus — the One who reveals God to us perfectly — addressed Him only as Father. He never used any other term, except when quoting Psalm 22 on the cross. No one in Israel's history had ever spoken or prayed like Jesus. No one!" (PTWC, paraphrased)

Reflect

- What images or ideas about God do you usually carry with you into prayer?
- How does seeing God as Father change how you relate to Him?
- What difference does it make to start with Father first — rather than Judge, King, or Creator?

Respond

- This week, begin each prayer by saying slowly: "Father...my good and loving Father."
- Ask the Spirit to help you receive God's love as His child.

Pray

- *"Heavenly Father, thank You for adopting me as Your child. Help me to see You more and more as the deeply loving Father You are. Amen."*

2. OUR

The Lord's Prayer is not MY compass, but OURS.

Learning to SEE each other as siblings: If God is Father of all, we are siblings of all.

Read

- Ephesians 4:6 / Romans 8:29 / 2 Corinthians 5:18

Reflect

- Who in your life is hardest for you to think of as a *sibling* in God's family?
- How might remembering that God is *their* Father too affect your attitude and actions toward them?
- What would it mean for you to engage in a *ministry of reconciliation* this week?

Respond

- Choose one relationship in which you can pursue reconciliation, this week (i.e. offering kindness, patience, sacrificial love, or forgiveness).
- Pray for someone you find frustrating, asking God to help you see them as He does.

Pray

- *"OUR Father, help me see others as my brothers and sisters, and empower me to be Your faithful (and perhaps even joyful) minister of reconciliation, this week. Amen."*

3. HEAVEN

Learning to SEE from God's perspective and admitting that we can't: God always sees MORE & BEFORE.

Read:

- Proverbs 3:5-6 / Isaiah 55 (especially vv. 8+9)

Reflect

- When have you looked back and realized God saw more than you could see in the moment?
- In what ways do you still try to lean on your own limited perspective?
- How does remembering that God sees "more and before" build your trust? And how might it change your prayer life?

Respond

- Each morning this week, pause to acknowledge God's greater perspective.
- When facing uncertainty, pray: *"Father in heaven, I trust that You see more and before, so help me follow Your lead."*

Pray

- *"Father in Heaven, help me to trust and obey you wholeheartedly. Align my head and heart with Your will and keep me steady on Your path. Amen."*

Follow Through

- What was the most impactful part of this study?
- What is one way you could apply God's Word to your life, this week? (i.e. ...pursue becoming more like your rabbi, Jesus.)

For the Week Ahead

Read:

- Matthew 6:9–13 daily, aloud (KJV, the version we recite at church).

Reflect:

- Which word or phrase stands out each day? Keep a short journal.

Respond:

- Pray the prayer slowly, phrase by phrase, inviting God to direct your thoughts, words, and actions, like a compass.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

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.

Worship Song

"God Our Father"

Sam Hargreaves

Affirmation of Faith

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 shall 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 Blessings Flow"

Hymn 34

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude and praise for Your endless love and faithfulness. Thank You for being our Heavenly Father and for calling us Your children. You are the giver of every good and perfect gift. We give this offering today with the prayer that many others may come to know Your Father's heart. Amen

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Hymn

"The Truth of God is Greater Far"

Ellacombe

THE SENDING FORTH

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude on "Ellacombe"

Jason D. Payne

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor
of John Grubb's birthday by Linda Benton.

September 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6 <i>Men's Breakfast 9 am</i>
7 <i>10 am Worship Communion</i>	8 <i>Scout kick-off 5:30 pm</i>	9	10 <i>Something More 3 pm</i>	11	12	13
14 <i>10 am Worship 5¢ a Meal BCM collection</i>	15	16	17 <i>Something More 3 pm</i>	18	19	20 <i>Centerfest Yard Sale</i>
21 <i>10 am Worship Session</i>	22	23	24 <i>Something More 3 pm</i>	25	26	27 <i>Women's Bible Study, 10 am</i>
28 <i>10 am Worship</i>	29	30				

Joys- September 14th

Joy- Eunice Barnes was joyful for beach time

Joy- Ronnie Saunders was thankful Tim his son was in church with him

Joy- James Fleming thanks David Griig for cooking for Men' Breakfast, with a great turnout

Joy- Tiffany Banner thanks church for all the welcome gifts they received

Concerns- September 14th

Barnes: Shannon Sledd (niece) 3rd surgery

Jerry Dillon (nephew) health issues

Jay's grandniece, husband pancreatic cancer surgery

Benton: travel mercies for daughter

Prayers for family on passing of sister-in-law

Blair: Dr. Cohen stroke

Bill Dwyer complications from knee surgery

Brunot: Jim's brother Bill, completed chemo

Jim's mother fell

Cindy's brother- health issues

Uncle Dave is in ICU

Callahan: Mary Jane (friend) doing better

Steve Chaffin (friend) blood clots

Compter: Jeannie, Seth (both friend) health issues

Bob (friend) doing better

Laurie- mother has cancer

Michael (brother) home

Jean (friend) family having strife

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

Garrett Winslow – struggling, autism, abandoned

Ryan- (grandson) searching for faith

Lory Graham- (friend) health issues, wife caretaker

Brenda Wilkerson- UVA seizures

Wayne Cocke- neighbor – in hospital

DeHart: Lucile Kesterson (Dawn's mother) aging memory issues

Julian Kesterson (Dawn's stepdad) nursing home, multiple falls

DeWitt: Nick and Maggie as they start college

Dwyer: Bill recovering from knee replacement

Easter: Jim (brother) now cancer free

Fleming: Dominick (Ann Marie's brother) heart surgery successful,

Michael Kay (friend) last stages of lung cancer

Prayers for 85 yr old sister caring for 59 yr old son with Downs syndrome

Harold Jackson- health issues

Friends cousin- serious car accident, injured eye

Foster: Lynn (sister-in-law) dementia

Goode: Prayers for goals with Christmas boxes

Sandra Grover- breast cancer

Heber Himmelwright was just diagnosed with Guillain–Barré

Lindsey Blanton is battling leukemia again.

Goodman: Grandson traveling to Brazil for mission work

Grigg: Chris Mays- diabetic complications

Grubb: son-in-law health issues

Harris: Jim, back pain

Judy- sister-in-law has cancer

Heinrich: Steven - (grandson) autoimmune disorder
Barbara Lore- (Helen's sister) heart problems
Hopkins: son-in-law health issues
Kuhn-Kibbey: David Rutledge, (son) remission, doing well
Dot- not feeling well
Mauser: Joyce Reese- (friend) health problems
Steven-(son's boss) going blind
Barbara (Al's sister) intense headaches
McManis: for grandson leaving USMC
Morris: all law enforcement, firefighters and first responders
Forensic scientists who deal with crime
Rev. Pam Ledbetter
Ron- reaction to medication, Richmond Hospital
Nichols; Gracie Murphree blood pressure, multiple strokes
Palmer: Lynn still struggling with Covid
Rutledge: friend in Hawaii health issues
Prayers for Singing school
Saunders: Ron, fell broke all right side ribs, doing better
Son-in-law, cancer not spreading
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
Marcus Walker (Sonya's brother) prostate cancer
Stetson: Nick, Tiffany & Savannah- home doing well
Morgan (nephew) life decisions
Stevens: Jackie Landis- heart problems
Matt- lung cancer, still suffering
Chief Hops not doing well
Wilkes: prayers for extended family

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 September 14th

Sunday: 10 am Worship, Rev. Ben Banner

5¢ a Meal Offering

BCM donations/collections

Wednesday: Something More 3 pm

Saturday: Centerfest- Yard Sale

Sunday: September 21st

10 am Worship, Rev. Ben Banner

Session

September Birthdays

Deanna Rutledge -16

Dick Kibbey -17

Harold Neal -19

Barbara Saunders- 20

Dick Diddams- 21

Ron Morris - 24

Jay Barnes- 29

September Anniversaries

Gerald & Tammy DeWitt-19

The Annual Centerfest Yard Sale is a month away- Saturday, September 20th!!!

If you have anything to donate, please wait until Monday September 15th to bring to the church,
NO CLOTHES PLEASE.

Any funds raised will be used to defray costs for Operation Christmas Child.

Bedford Ride is in need of volunteer drivers, if interested, please call 540-587-3315.

BCM needs 2 volunteers to work on Fridays in the household and clothing section.

If you can help, please let BCM know.

On September 28th Bedford Presbyterian Church will host a "Meet and Greet" after the service to introduce a Samaritan's Purse volunteer who is a Pastor from Burkina Fasso, a small country in West Africa to hear about his love of spreading Christ's Gospel in a country that is 63.8 % Islamic and 26.35 Christian% (20.1% Catholic and 6.2% Protestant). Lunch will be provided, but please sign up if you can stay after the service to hear Pastor Timothee and his hostess while in Lynchburg, Betsy Stout, owner of WOW Supplies and founder of Building Communities Near and Far.org. Betsy is also the Samaritan's Purse coordinator for Thomas Road Baptist Church and will be donating items for our shoeboxes. Donations for our shoeboxes, either in monetary gifts or in items purchased such as personal items for girls and boys ages 2-4 or 10-14 will help us reach our goal of 200 packed boxes this year. Sign-up sheets for lunch will be in the church sanctuary and on the table outside the church office.