


"Finding the Way of Christ at the Crossroads."



Bethany Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) Arapahoe, North Carolina

PO Box 156
Arapahoe NC 28510-0156

At the Crossroads
8126 NC Hwy 306 S
Arapahoe, NC 28510

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. FEES AND POSTAGE PAID
ARAPAHOE NC 28510
PERMIT NO. 1

April 2021

The Bethany Beacon

"All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had."

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510
Bethanyarapahoe.org

April 2021



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Ora-Torrie Rev. Torrie Osgood

REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Weekly
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:45 am;
Worship, 11:00 am
Wednesday Chancel Choir **TBD**
Jericho Ringers **6:30**

Monthly
1st Sunday: Elders, BH, 8:00 am;
Official Board, FH, 6:00 pm.
3rd Sunday: CWF/CMF, FH, 5:00 pm.
5th Sunday: Covered Dish Dinner, FH,
following worship service. **TBD**

*Any changes to regularly scheduled activities and events will be noted in the calendar below.

**BH=Bethany Hall; FH=Fellowship Hall;
PL=Parking Lot; S=Sanctuary**

History, Appreciation, Witnessing, Endowing

Last night at the April board meeting of Bethany Christian Church, our leadership decided to start what I hope will become a snowball rolling downhill throughout the Christian Church (DoC) in North Carolina! This will be the first snowball composed of bricks.

As you may remember from my March Oratory, the memory paver bricks at Camp Caroline can be purchased for \$100 each. I proposed that we buy bricks to remember those members of Bethany Christian Church who have done significant work out at the camp over the years. This accomplishes four tasks. We can save the names of many workers for historical perspective. We show our appreciation for the work they have done and still do. We can witness to one another our support of the camp. And, of course, this allows us to give money to Camp Caroline at a time when their ability to do business is reduced.

I do not consider this list finished and welcome any suggestions of Bethany's members or former members who have spent considerable time working out at the camp. Here is our list so far (alphabetically): John & Christine Beeman, Libby Bennett, Steve Bennett, Susan Bisette, Doug Branson, Jerry Burton, John & Cassie Cowell, Roger & Shirley Ensley, Caroline Cowell Godwin, Hannah Lou Hargett, James Hardison, Emily Harper, Mac Harris, Rex & Carol Horne, Ted Jennings, Roland Jones, Phil & Nora Kennel, David Latham, John & Ella Latham, Davis Lee, Eva Lee, Jack & Gladys Lee, Ruth Lee, Dave & Sandy Netting, Torrie Osgood, Pat Parvin, Casey Perry, Glenn Savage, Arnold Schofell, Richard Stevens, Jewel Lee Styron, Elbert Vendrick, Chris Watson, Merritt & Linda Watson, and Beth Burton Williams. That's 35 bricks, so far.

Serving in

April	May
Elders	
Doug Cahoon	Chris Watson
James Hardison	Doug Brinson
Preparing Communion	
Emily Harper	Margaret Harrell
Audio Visual	
Chris Watson	Buck Jones

April Birthdays

2	Janci Cahoon
4	David Bailey
6	Beth Jones Mitchell John Kistler
8	Bryan Jones
11	Jenny Fischer David Turner
14	Tommy Banks
16	Margaret Harrell
20	Tiffany Bennett Christy Beach
21	Patrick Spencer Jack B Brinson Jack Lee

Please Remember in Your Prayers:


Prayer Concerns

Annette Aldridge	Mildred Harper
Lou Alligood	Sylvia Heath
Christie Arrington	Frances Brinson Holt
Lenn Banks	Beverly Holton
Velna Bennett	Judy Hardison Jones
Barbara Benton	Bob Kennel
Letha Benton	Gracie Lee Knowles
Tara Benton	Bob La Fogg
Angela Boyd	Jack & Gladys Lee
Barbara Boyd	Kent Lee
Betty Boyd	George Lupton
Betsy Bratcher	Dot Mallard
Keith Bratcher	Terry McCotter
Mike Bulware	Frank Maroni
Patsy Cahoon	Paul Matson
Richard Canning	Diana Midgette
Shirley Canning	Austin Pipkin
Patti Chance	Maverick Powers
Colt Cowell	Isaac Rodriguez
Anthony Cutler	Amy Sasnett
Nic Day	Sarah Smith
Nancy Early	Teresa Spivey
Guyans Ensley	Richard Stevens
Declan Fish	Lovie Stille
Casey Fisher	Lisa Tedder
Terry Gatlin	Rachel Vendrick
Hal Gordon	Dylan Vick
Mary Grant	Ann Watson
Nyoka Grimes	Tonya Worthington
Ellie Guthrie	
Jane Haley	
Sandra Hardison	
Margaret Harrell	

CWF sponsors Anna's House, A Part of True Justice International

The ladies of CWF are happy to sponsor Anna's House, a restoration home which provides hope and healing for survivors of human trafficking. Recently, Shirley Ensley and I delivered donations from the ladies consisting of paper products, clothing, hygiene items, cooking supplies, and monetary gifts. We will continue to partner with True Justice Int'l on a quarterly basis.

Susan Bisette



The Hardison cousins at Easter—circa mid 1950
L-R James, Judy, Susan, Freddie, Joel, Jennie, Abby, Fran & Harvey

May Birthdays

2	Eric Harper	Betty Lee
10	Chris Jones	Elaine Kennel
11	River Suggs	
13	Jenny Jones	Prayers for Military
	Emily Acuna	Jaden Briley
14	Christine Beman	Brie Kiely
		Ryan Kiely
17	Ashleigh Deditch	Hannah Metts
18	Annette Aldridge	Emilie Metts
20	Sandy Netting	Troy Wald
	Brenda Hardison	Timmy Keating
21	Carol Bey	
22	Lora Stroud	
24	Mike Acuna	
26	Hunter Vega	
	Cameron Lassiter	
31	Gail Johnson	

Cont. from page 1
the prayers. The vigil led into the Maundy Thursday Service that began at 7.

In the Life of the Church

APRIL

1	Prayer Vigil	6:30 am—6:30 pm
	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00
2	Good Friday	
4	Easter Sunrise Service	6:30
5	No Bible Study	
7	Bell Practice	6:30
11	Elders Meeting	8:00
	Board Meeting	6:00
12	Roger's Bible Study	10:00
	BethComm Meeting	12:00
14	Bell Practice	6:30
15	Game Night in FH	7:00
17	Regional Assembly Virtually	9:30
18	Fishes and Loaves Collection	
	CMF/CWF meets—CWF snack	5:00
19	Roger's Bible Study	10:00
21	Bell Practice	6:30
25	Worship Committee meets	3:00
26	Roger's Bible Study	10:00

This year **Camp Caroline** will be operating at 50% registration. There is still time and space to register for these events. The five camps of this year are CYF, Chi Rho, Junior, Created to Be Me (8th grade), and Uno (K-2nd grade). Contact Rev. Osgood about registration. The church will certainly help with camp scholarships.

These people served in a variety of roles at camp Caroline: camp manager, kitchen staff, volunteer workers, camp directors, camp counselors, summer staff, financial benefactors, and a host of other jobs. Bethany's service to this ministry of the Christian Church in North Carolina stretches from its very inception to what is taking place on those campgrounds this very moment. These contributions must be acknowledged and commemorated. In doing so, we will challenge other congregations to do likewise with their own members, past and present, to acknowledge and preserve their church's contribution to the camp.

Again I would say if you know of others from Bethany's past or present that should be so honored, please call me and share the name. The hours Of Labor contributed by Bethany and other churches is beyond value. It must be honored and remembered. The camp would not have continued without those gifts!

Our church board has stepped forward in faith. This undertaking is already \$3500 of unplanned an unbudgeted experience. It is, however, an opportunity to do so much for so many that it cannot be ignored. We would invite you to make a gift over and above your pledged or planned giving for 2021 to help cover these expenses. The gift given by these individuals is too valuable to ignore or forget, so we must remember!

Rev. Torrie Osgood

Regional Assembly 2021	Prayer Vigil
This year's assembly will again be a virtual event. It will take place on April 17 th . Music begins at 9:30 am. The actual meeting begins at 10:00 o'clock AM. Dr. Wil Wilemon will be the featured speaker. The annual business meeting will take place also. There will be a time in which honors are given out to five individuals. These include Jack and Gladys Lee of our congregation. Also included will be Mrs. Cassie Mae Coppage and Mr. Bob Kennel, both formerly of Bethany Christian Church.	Bethany Christian Church held a twelve-hour long prayer Vigil on Thursday April 1. It began at 6:30am and ended at 6:30pm. The church was open only to those coming to pray and was open only for the purpose of prayer and worship. The building opened back up at 6:30 for the arrival of people for the Maundy Thursday Service. Rev. Osgood provided prayer prompts using our windows for those who desired a framework for their prayers. Melissa created a pamphlet of the windows and prompts for anyone who wished to take home and continue with

Board Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2021

Attendees: Christine Beeman, John Beeman, Susan Bissette, Doug Brinson, Janci Cahoon, Doug Cahoon, Clara Ensley, James Hardison, Mac Harris, Renee Midyette, Randy Beeman - treasurer, Melissa Watson - board clerk, Chris Watson- chair, Torrie Osgood - minister

The Board of Bethany Christian Church held its regular monthly meeting a week later than usual due to Easter being on the first Sunday. It met at its regularly scheduled time of 6:00 p.m. with board chair, secretary, and treasurer all present. Chris Watson welcomed everyone and lit the Christ Candle. He asked Rev. Torrie Osgood to offer the opening prayer.

BOARD REPORTS

Melissa Watson, board clerk, read the minutes of the March 2021 meeting which were approved with one correction to the OVB portion of the minutes as noted on the March Minutes. Randy Beeman read and provided the treasurer’s report. Randy gave the income, expenses, and checkbook balance. He also reported on the amount offered for lilies, \$510.00. There was \$100.00 given in an Easter Special contribution

Elders

Chris Watson reported for the elders. They met today (also a week later than usual) and discussed prayer needs of the community. The elders added people to the prayer list. The paver fund that is being launched by Camp Caroline was also under discussion. James Hardison added that they also discussed ways to reach people who were still unable to attend church in person.

CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

CWF Report:

Christine Beeman reported in the absence of the CWF president - Christy Beach. Christine said that Shirley Ensley and Susan Bissette delivered toiletries and other needed items to True Justice International, a non-profit group providing aid to survivors of human trafficking, in New Bern. They were very appreciative

CMF Report:

John Beeman reported that the men had met and enjoyed themselves and enjoyed the snacks provided. James Hardison later reported that the group had discussed donating bricks in honor of people to brick the path to the columbarium here at Bethany.

Standing Committee Reports

Worship:

Melissa Watson reported that the group had met (Palm Sunday, March 25) and continued to discuss the upcoming services for Easter and to assess the past services. Palm Sunday went very well, and the committee felt that it was a very beautiful service, and it worked very well to process into the sanctuary and lay the palms on the communion table around the base of the cross. The worship committee also planned out the prayer vigil. The sunrise service and Easter service were also planned. The committee will meet again April 25, 3:00.

Christian Education:

Melissa Watson, chair of Christian Ed, reported that the committee had not met but that Christine Beeman had delivered a wonderful Easter activity pack-

et to three of our young families. CE will meet again in May.

Outreach

Chris Watson reported that Fishes and Loaves would love to have additional volunteers. If anyone is interested, let him know.

Scholarship

Chair Chris Watson reported that Blake Harrell had graciously accepted the position on the scholarship committee. The committee will meet soon.

Operation Veggie Box

Mac Harris reported that OVB will plant corn this week.

Property

John Beeman reported that a light had water in it causing a problem. Also he fixed the lock in the door under the portico that was not locking from the inside. A/C is working well.

Housekeeping Activities:

Renee Midyette said all is going well.

Communications

Bethcom will meet on this Monday (April 12) at noon.

Activities

Janci Cahoon reported that game night for March had been moved to the fourth Thursday due to inclement weather. This month’s game night is April 15.

Unfinished Business

Torrie Osgood spoke on the Camp Caroline brick program (The Paver’s Fund) reading many names of people associated with Bethany who offered their time and/or resources to the camp. Each brick is \$100.00 and can be given in honor of a person from Bethany who worked/volunteered at Camp Caroline. John Beeman moved that we move forward with the brick program. James Hardison seconded the motion. Christine Beeman asked if the motion could be more specific. Mac Harris asked that the motion be amended to a maximum of 37 names. John Beeman accepted that. There was discussion. Torrie said that 100% of the money donated to this project went to Camp Caroline. The checks should be made to Bethany Christian Church, and the church would then write one check for the program. The vote was called and the motion carried.

Mac Harris, communications director, submitted a proposal to the board regarding the \$25,000.00 borrowed by communications from the general fund of the church to pay for new A/V equip-

Bethany office phone number
252-249-0266
Office hours
Mon.—Thurs. 9:00—1:00

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ment. Mac read the proposal in the form of a motion asking forgiveness for the loan. James Hardison (and Janci Cahoon) seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding the typed proposal submitted by Mac. In last month’s board meeting (March) Mac had said that communications wouldn’t be forgiven for the balance of the borrowed money minus 20% to be retained by communications for other ministry opportunities. The motion was amended, the vote called, and the motion carried.

New Business

Minister’s Report :

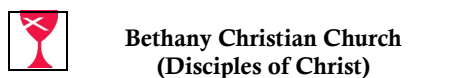
Rev. Osgood went through his report for the board, again highlighting that some of his scheduled meetings were virtual and at his home. Torrie also brought to the board’s attention that he would not be in the pulpit on April 18 because he was going to see his son, Clay, who would be in North Carolina. Rev. Roger Bennett will be preaching on April 18. Torrie also discussed the upcoming Regional Assembly on April 17, a virtual assembly.

Comments for the Good of the Church

It was wonderful to see Mr. Jack and Ms. Gladys Lee and Mr. Kent Lee today during the worship service.

John Beeman thanked Chris Watson, Parker Watson, Casey Perry, Carlie Metts, Liam McCarthy, James Hardison, and Randy Beeman for assisting with the parking at Camp Don Lee for the Easter Sunrise Service. John also thanked Del and Susan Lee for providing their golf cart as a source of transport.

Chris Watson complimented the worship committee and Rev. Osgood and thanked them for



- Minister**
Rev. Torrie Osgood
- Associate Minister**
Rev. Roger Bennett
- Church Secretary**
Melissa Watson
- Board Chairperson**
Chris Watson
- Choir Director/ Accompanist**
Dawn Metts
- Bell/Chime Choir Director**
Roger Bennett
- Communications Director**
Mac Harris
Communications@bethanyarapahoe.org
- Editor**
Jennie Kennel Adams
jenniekadams@gmail.com
- Rev. Osgood’s cell**
252-838-2598
252-249-6101 home

Vision and Mission Statement

Our highest aspiration is to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Our mission is to enable people to know Christ and to strengthen their personal relationships with Him.

Bethany News and Views

Easter Sunday Children’s Church

planning and having such a wonderful prayer vigil. He said, “It was really nice.”

The Craven Consort will be playing at the Bank of the Arts in New Bern on Saturday, April 17 at 3:00.

Chair Watson adjourned the meeting at 7:00 and the board gathered for the prayer circle. Rev. Osgood offered the closing prayer.

Submitted by,
Melissa Watson - clerk
Chris Watson - chair

THE WORD



Since Covid, we have all been spending a lot more time at home...and away from each other. This may be making you feel lonely or lacking in spiritual connectedness. Bethcom has been brainstorming some ways to help us feel

more connected to each other (Through our Desktop Worship that we have been doing.) and ways to lift us up spiritually (Also Desktop Worship but something new too). Bethcom met Monday and is excited to be providing an opportunity for the congregation this summer. I don’t want to say too much right now because the details are still in the works, but we believe it will be spiritually rewarding and something that can be done at home if you still feel that is the best place to be right now. Here’s a hint. The power is in The Word. Melissa Watson

We were so blessed to have nine children at church on Easter Sunday. Meredith enjoyed her time with Hattie Jones in the nursery while Christine provided some activities for the rest of the group (varying ages).

Our first activity was to draw around our hands on green paper to provide grass for the scene on the bulletin board. (The “He Lives” bulletin board is being provided by the Children’s Church group for the month of April.) We talked about our hands and how useful they are for many things like making many different images – grass, flowers, animals, etc. Our hands are also useful in providing ministry and for serving others. Having enough of the hand tracing, the children opted for a different activity. As a result, Meredith and Christine provided the handprints later for the lilies at the base of the cross for the bulletin board scene.

Our next activity was a mini Easter Egg Hunt. There was one purple egg which each child was instructed to find. This egg was empty representing the empty tomb. Another egg that each child was to find was shaped and colored like a stone with the words “He is Risen” on the outside. Inside we found a small stuffed Jesus. We talked about Jesus being risen from his tomb (the stone egg) reminding them the tomb was empty and that “He is Risen!” One of the other eggs contained a cross craft which some of the children figured out right away. And, of course, what is an Easter Egg hunt without candy! Some of the other plastic eggs had candy inside for the children to enjoy. Unfortunately, some of the eggs with chocolate candies inside had been exposed to the glorious, wonderfully warm weather and so were rather soft and mushy.

After the ‘egg’citement, we ventured back outside for a nature hunt. We were going to use these nature items to create a picture in the shape of an egg. Church ended too soon for us to complete this project, however. I will share that one of the nature items found was a small dead snake. We left that nature item outside!

We thank you, God, for all items in nature, but we are thankful that the little snake was not alive! We are, however, especially thankful for Your Son and our Savior, Jesus and that “He is Risen!” Children in attendance on Easter Sunday – Finley Cowell, Wyatt Cowell, Hattie Jones, Kanon Jones, Lawton Jones, River Morris, Emma Parrish, Jackson Parrish, and Fitz Trayner.

Christine Beeman



Holy Week Review

What a difference a year makes! Holy Week of 2021 will be remembered fondly as the year we celebrated with other people, AGAIN! We started with Palm Sunday on March 28. The congregation processed from the parking lot into the sanctuary waving palm leaves which we laid on the communion table in remembrance of the Triumphant Entry. These leaves will be saved and used to create next year’s Ash Wednesday ashes.

Bright and early on Thursday morning we began a 12-hour prayer vigil in the sanctuary. Prayer prompts were providing using the stained-glass windows as a focus. Shortly after the prayer vigil ended, Shirley Ensley began an organ prelude. At 7:00 pm the Maundy Thursday celebration of the Lord’s Supper was held, reminding us of the events in the Upper Room.

On Easter morning the community Sunrise Service began at Camp Don Lee at 6:30 am. Bethany was host congregation again this year. Approximately 75 participants gathered to sing, pray, hear scripture, and hear a sermon, all with the gorgeous backdrop of the sun rising on the Neuse River.

We gathered for the 11:00 am worship at Bethany, starting with our own tradition of “flowering the cross.” This year’s version did not disappoint. Special music was provided by both the Jericho Ringers and Dawn Metts. ALL these events happened with actual people present, making each one grander! Torrie Osgood

Bethany Communications Committee Projects 2021

Originally tasked with reimbursing the Bethany general fund for the \$25,000 paid to install new audio-visual equipment in the sanctuary, Bethany Communications (BethCom) asked the general board to release the committee from that obligation, primarily because the equipment that was installed benefits the entire congregation.

The board granted the request on the condition that the money raised for that purpose so far, around \$9,000, be paid to the general fund, less 20% to be retained by BethCom for future projects.

One of the projects being planned by BethCom is a Thank-You Takeout Luncheon to be held May 16 to thank members of the congregation for supporting our past projects. There will be no fee for the luncheon. Only 65 plates are planned, so those wanting a lunch should call the church office to make a reservation. When 65 plates are reserved, no other reservations can be accepted. The Thank-You Takeout menu includes fried chicken drumsticks and other sides.

Another project is being planned, about which there will be further details provided later. Mac Harris

Reverend Osgood will be out of town on Sunday, April 18. It’s a good news event as his son Clay Osgood will be in North Carolina on a business trip. Reverend Roger Bennett will preach that day in his stead.

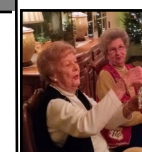
Remembering Our Loved Ones

This last month saw the passing of three good friends. Sarah Brinson and Betty Lee of our congregation both passed away. Elaine Kennel of Covenant Christian Church, but a longtime friend of Bethany Christian Church, also passed away.

Sarah Brinson’s graveside service was held at Amity Christian Church. It was very well attended! Sarah and her beautiful smile will be sorely missed by everyone, especially the Jericho Ringers.



Betty Lee was buried in Greenville at a graveside service. It was also very well attended. We will certainly miss Betty and her charming, inviting demeanor.



Elaine Kennel had a small funeral for family members in Cary. Plans are being made for a memorial service here in Pamlico County later. She and Bob were certainly a welcome addition each time they could come to Bethany and to Kennels Beach.

