

The Lamplighter

Staunton Church of the Brethren
1615 North Coalter Street
Staunton, VA 24401

(540)886-8655
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April 2024

Worshipping Christ with Joy, Living Together in Peace,
Serving the World with Love

Sunday School 10am
Worship 11am

The Church Board approved the calling of Pastor Rebecca House on March 5 as Associate Pastor for the Staunton Church.

On April 20th, Pastor House will have a meet and greet with the children of the church from 3-4 p.m. and the youth from 5-7 p.m.

On Sunday, April 21st, there will be coffee time/brunch during the Sunday school hour, followed by her trial sermon. After the trial sermon, the congregation will vote on the candidate and the terms of the call.

SCOB STAFF

Beth Jarrett
Pastor

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Gaylon Hevener
Organist

Larry Simmons
Board Chair

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Beth Jarrett & Shirley Maust
Webmasters

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR APRIL

April 7

Here's My Heart
Scripture: John 21:1-19
Worship Leader: Nancy Bowman
Children's Story: Puppets

April 14

Guest Speaker: Mark Lane
Scripture:
Worship Leader: Delmer Botkin
Children's Story: Scott Shomo

April 21

Guest Speaker: Rebecca House
Scripture:
Worship Leader:
Children's Story: Rebecca House

April 28

Choosing the Lord's Table
Scripture: Daniel 1:1-8
Worship Leader: Sally Shomo
Children's Story: Pastor Beth



FROM THE PASTOR



"If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith."

– 1 Corinthians 15:14

What we believe about the resurrection is crucial to our faith. Resurrection says that death does not have the final word. Evil does not have the final word. Injustice does not have the final word. Resurrection means that we worship a savior who died but was raised to life again and is still living. Paul explains in a number of his letters that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in you and in me! That's resurrection. That's our hope and faith.

Yet if we are honest with each other, it's a stretch! At least it was for Mary and the disciples that day. What I absolutely love about the resurrection accounts is how each person handles it differently and how regardless of their initial reaction, Jesus continues to appear in their lives until they finally get it.

Take Peter for example... Peter walks into the tomb.... Looks around and sees that Jesus isn't there. He sees the grave clothes folded up on a bench and he even notices that the head shroud is folded up separately and laying on the bench next to the other clothes. And then...he goes home, seemingly unaffected by the whole thing.

But don't worry about Peter... he'll meet Jesus again on the beach and finally get it.

And then there's the "other disciple". He walks in, sees the exact same thing as Peter did...only he believes. But believes what? Mary's story? Because John goes on to say:

"They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead."

– John 20:9

Other disciples will eventually get it later in John when Jesus walks through the door and shows them the holes in his hands and feet...

Then there's Mary. It's almost comical. There she is chatting it up with two angels when Jesus appears and asks her why she's crying. Her reaction? She thinks he's the gardener. And she goes on to tell Jesus the whole story of how he died and how someone stole the body and so on.

Isn't it good to know that Jesus meets us where we are, pursues us until we get it? I wonder how many of us have met Jesus along the way and didn't recognize him or chatted with angels not knowing it?



Save the date! On April 11, our dear mother Cleo Simmons, the oldest member of our congregation, will attain her 100th birthday. We know she is going to make it because she said she is. And we know when she says something, she means it. Seriously, the good Lord willing, she will reach that milestone few see. We hope to recognize this event with a light lunch reception in her honor on April 6 in the church fellowship hall from 12 – 2 p.m. We would be grateful if you could join us to reminisce, maybe even bring a card (but nothing else!) and enjoy the fellowship. If you are unable to attend, we covet your prayers for her.

April 6, 12 – 2 p.m. Hope to see you then.

Jenna and Larry



The Mary Martha Circle will be meeting on April 2nd for lunch at Cracker Barrel in Staunton at 11:30. Hope to see many of you there for a time of fellowship and discussion concerning future plans for the year!



APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Notice our pinwheels that bring attention to child abuse and how we can prevent it. The month of April is set aside each year to inform and equip us to deal with this tragedy. Find ways to become aware of the dangers and ways you can help. Look in our bulletins this month for suggestions!

SCOB MEETINGS AND REMINDERS

Monday, April 1 - 5:30 p.m. - Stewards and Nurture Commission Meeting
 7 p.m. - Witness Commission meeting
 Tuesday, April 2 - 11:30 a.m. Mary/Martha Circle at Cracker Barrel
 5 p.m. - Worship & Fellowship Commission meeting
 Wednesday, April 3 - 5:30 p.m. - First Wednesday
 Tuesday, April 9 - 7 p.m. - Executive Committee
 Wednesday, April 17 - 12 noon - Sr. Adult Program and Meal
APRIL 15 - NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE IN CHURCH OFFICE
 Saturday, April 27 - 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Spring Festival/Chicken BBQ
 Thursdays 9:30 a.m. - TOPS
 Thursdays 6:30pm - Contemporary Chorus
 Thursdays 7:30pm - Choir rehearsal

FIRST WEDNESDAY

We will meet on Wednesday, April 3 at 5:30. Bruce Bowman will be presenting a program on "International Children and Their Toys". The meal will consist of pizza, salad, and dessert. The children of the church and their families are invited to attend this First Wednesday evening.

The Sr. Adults will be meeting on Wednesday, April 17 at 12 noon for a carry in meal and program. The program will be Kathy Boyer playing the bagpipes.



THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES IN APRIL

3	Claude & Sue Simmons	1971
9	Steve & Dawn Hurst Stultz	1994
26	Justin & Cynthia Shomo	2003
27	John & Katrina Huerth	2013
29	Rob & Janet Longacher	1967

Please Keep in your Prayers and Thoughts



Pray for Alice Patler, Delmer Botkin, Melba Cline, Cleo Simmons, Sue Whisman, Phyllis Lunsford, Charlotte Kennedy, Carrie and Jamie Smith, Norma Shoemaker, Judy Cook, Cindi Spitzer, Fred Wilkerson, Jr., George Sullivan, A.J. Sandridge, Jr., Nancy Gehr, Mary Seay, Shirley Maust, Chris Washington, Feral Quick, Fred Wilkerson, Sr., Dors Wampler, Barbara Herndon.

Please remember in prayer the family of Stanley Shackelford, who passed away on February 26. A graveside service was held on March 5 at Augusta Stone Presbyterian Church cemetery.

*Please contact the church office or the Pastor if you would like to add someone to the prayer list or to remove a name.



THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

1	Camryn Herz	15	Maddie Nolley
3	Heather Landes-Hypes		Julie Sanger
5	Amy Farthing	16	John Fultz
	Lee Showalter	21	Will Hamblet
7	Scott Shomo	24	Delmer Botkin
8	Dixie Daniel		Bill Abshire
	Cindi Spitzer	27	Fred Wilkerson
9	Bob Weiss	28	Steve Ballew
	Don Crickenberger	29	Janet Cline
10	Timothy Melton	30	Isaac Sanger
11	Cleo Simmons		Melba Cline
	Teresa Showalter		

Financial Report

January 1, 2024 through February 29, 2024

Actual Income

Envelope Giving:	\$ 65,620.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 993.00
Interest Income	\$ 25.20
Pastor's Housing Allowance:	\$ 12,000.00
Total Income:	\$ 78,638.20
Total Expenses:	\$ 60,668.47
Budget Income over Expense:	\$ 17,969.73

Capital Campaign Fund

Donations	\$ 2,650.00
Capital Fund Withdraws	
Total	\$ 2,650.00
HVAC Expenses	
Solar Expenses	\$ 500.00
Loan Payments	
Total	\$ 500.00

Project Income over Expenses \$ 2,150.00

Thank you for your continued support of the church and our ministry.

Our Appreciation to Our April Helpers

Ushers: Larry & Joani Layman and Steve & Faith Ballew

Counters: Sue Simmons and Nancy Bowman

Nursery Helpers:

April 7: Nancy Ralston & Frank Allman

April 14: Donna Wells & Amanda Elsea

April 21: Christina Frederick & Phyllis Lunsford

April 28: Debbie Clark & Amanda Simmons

Staunton Church of the Brethren
Called Church Board Meeting
March 5, 2024
7:00 p.m.

Members present: Larry Simmons, Nancy Bowman, Faith Ballew, Nancy Ralston, Alan Shull, Chris Washington, Amanda Elsea, Debbie Clark, Larry Layman, Joani Layman, Claude Simmons, Sue Simmons, Wallace Clark, Bob Armbruster, Scott Shomo, Chandra Lane, Pastor Beth Jarrett, Katrina Huerth, Sally Shomo

Larry Simmons opened the meeting with prayer.

Chair of the Trustees, Scott Shomo updated the Board of the work regarding the loan for the HVAC project. Five local banks were asked for quotes for the loan. The best quote for the project was City Bank and steps will be taken to secure the loan. The Trustees are asking that the church get a financial review, with an agreed upon procedure with an accountant. According to the Constitution, this should happen during the first quarter, but we are asking that it be done by May. The Stewards will oversee this process.

Chandra Lane, Chair of the Search Committee for Associate Pastor reviewed the actions of the committee. The Search Committee followed the guidelines from the Shenandoah District in regards to securing an Associate Pastor and recommend to the Board that we call Pastor Rebecca House for a trial sermon and vote on April 21, 2024. On April 20th, Pastor House will have a meet and greet with the children of the church from 3-4 p.m. and the youth from 5-7 p.m.

On Sunday, April 21st, there will be coffee time/brunch during the Sunday school hour, followed by her trial sermon.

A motion was made by Nancy Bowman, seconded by Candy Smith that we are in favor of the call of Rebecca House to our Associate Pastor role, and to have a trial sermon and meet and greet weekend with the congregation on April 20-21. After the trial sermon, the congregation will vote on the candidate and the terms of the call. Vote passed.

Upcoming meetings: The board meeting scheduled for April will be cancelled due to the called meeting in March. The executive committee will meet on April 9. There will be a called Congregational Business Meeting following worship service on the April 21st.

The Spring Congregational Business Meeting scheduled for April 28, 2024 will be delayed due to recent activities.

Money that has come in for the Air Conditioning fund will be rolled over into the HVAC fund.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Shomo, Clerk

Approved: March 13, 2024



CHURCH KEY LIST – The church office is updating the church key list for the entrance doors. If you have a church key, please print your name and the number that is imprinted on your key on the pad located on the table in the Narthex. **It is the larger number on your key. (It is not #137).** You can also email the church office or call with your number. If you can't find your number, please see Shirley.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Interested in help affording college? Check out the SCOB Scholarship information on the church website. Submit your application to the church office!

A huge THANK YOU to each person who helped in any way with the Children's Easter Egg Hunt. We had donations of money, food, and most of all time. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Easter with the kids and youth, parents, and grandparents! Much appreciation for our wonderful volunteers!

The Nurture Commission

BRETHREN WOODS NEWS

SPRING FESTIVAL - APRIL 27

Brethren Woods is excited to announce that the Spring Festival will be held at camp on Saturday, April 27th! This is a day filled with fun, fellowship, and lots of ways to support camp's ministry! Don't miss all the Spring Festival classics including the trout fishing contest, yard sale, pancake breakfast, Hike-a-Thon, hay rides, petting zoo, zip line rides, pedal boat rides, Dunk the Dunkard booth, activities for all ages (like games, crafts, treats, emergency vehicles, mini golf, and more!), Kiss the Cow, the auction, and (of course!) lots of delicious food! Plus, enjoy new activities like the climbing tower and an inflatable bounce house and obstacle course. Come hang out with us on this beautiful day and don't forget to bring a friend!

DISASTER AUCTION - GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Shenandoah District Disaster Auction is scheduled for the weekend of May 17-18. The auction opening golf tournament is scheduled for 8:30 a.m., Friday, May 17 at the Heritage Oaks course in Harrisonburg. In response to feedback, we've made some changes to registration fees for golfers. Sponsor fees remain as in previous years.

As usual, the success of our tournament is dependent upon attracting both players and sponsors. Our faithful partners of the past have enabled us to provide significant resources so that those suffering natural or man made disasters experience a better chance at restoring their lives. District volunteers were able to travel to Dawson Springs, Kentucky to work in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity to restore lives. Our own volunteers were there in the fall. Dawson Springs was hard-hit by tornadoes 2 weeks prior to Christmas 2021. Brethren Disaster Ministries reported the Kentucky Governor was able to hand out 5 sets of keys to new homes based on Habitat and BDM work there last year. But the work goes on into 2024.

All past players and sponsors are being contacted to renew their support of BDM through the Shenandoah District Disaster Auction. But we know we will lose some so there is **room** and **need** for new **players** and **sponsors**. Please contact Larry Simmons or Bob Armbruster to see how you can help. Through your financial support you can be 'Jesus in the Neighborhood' without driving a single ball.

RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES



SACRA - Donations of hygiene items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, shampoo, etc can be placed in the cart the located in the Narthex 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month.

VALLEY MISSION - Donations of non-perishable food items can be placed in the cart located in the Narthex the 3rd and 4th Sunday of each month.

SHOES FOR KENYA - Bring gently used shoes and place in the bin in the south hallway. The shoes are sold and the proceeds benefit widows and their children with land and homes.

BATTERIES - Bring your dead batteries for recycling, placing them in the bucket in the north hallway.

EYEGASSES AND MEDICINE BOTTLES - Place your old eyeglasses and plastic medicine bottles in the box in the south hallway for donation to the Lion's Club.

BULLETINS/PAPER - A recycling basket is provided in the Narthex for old bulletins and paper. There is a tote in the church office for paper to be recycled as well.

Quilts on Display



The Dresden Plate Quilt, completed in 2006, has been on display in the Rebecca Room, January through March. Those dresden plate blocks were made by Ada Smiley and given to Kitty Kurtz who gave them to Stitch and Chat. This group has enjoyed working together to make quilts, sold at Dunker's Day.

Cleo Simmons has enjoyed making quilts, and celebrating her 100th birthday, she is sharing one of the many quilts she has made through the years.

These quilts are displayed on a rack made by Larry Layman from an old church pew.

STAUNTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



SPRING FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 27, 2024
7 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Pancake Breakfast

Chicken BBQ

Bake Sale

Plant Sale

Yard Sale – sponsored by the Witness Commission



Food & Drink
and much more



*Yard Sale – Rent a table with rent proceeds going to the church.
Anything you sale for the yard sale is yours to keep.

Proceeds to go toward the HVAC System for the
Staunton COB

APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5:30 p.m. Stewards Commission & Nurture Commission 7 p.m. Witness Commission	2 11:30 a.m. Mary/Martha Circle meets at Cracker Barrel in Staunton 5 p.m. Worship and Fellowship Commission	3 5:30 p.m. First Wednesday	4 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	8	9 7 p.m. Executive Committee	10	11 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	12	13
PASTOR BETH ON VACATION - APRIL 8TH - 14TH						
14 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	15	16	17 12 noon Sr. Adult meal and Program	18 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	19	20
21 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	22	23	24	25 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	26	27 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Spring Festival/ Chicken BBQ
28 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	29	30				

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Please note: All events shared in this newsletter are non-profit events.

