

June 2026

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*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



Saints,

Maycember (as we parents have come to call the hectic final month of school and the myriad of programs, parties, and engagements) has come to a close and with June comes our summer days. With this change in seasons comes excitement, along with a certain amount of uncertainty.

As many of you know, the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) recently shared the disappointing news that the candidate they had been pursuing has withdrawn from the process. I know this has been discouraging for many in our congregation and may leave us feeling weary as the search begins again. Seasons of waiting are never easy, especially when we deeply desire clarity about the future. The PNC could really use our continued prayers for tenacity and wisdom, as they continue their important work.

And yet, even in moments of disappointment, God continues to be faithful to Bethesda.

This summer is filled with meaningful opportunities for worship, growth, and service together. From Vacation Bible School on June 15–19 to our youth mission trip to West Virginia on July 20–25, we are continuing the important work of forming disciples, serving others, and sharing the love of Christ across generations.

I'm also excited that beginning June 14, we will start a new summer sermon series titled "*Psummering in the Psalms*". Each week, we will take a deeper look at one Psalm and discover how these ancient prayers continue to speak to our modern lives with honesty, hope, comfort, and encouragement.

The Psalms remind us that God welcomes every emotion we bring whether joy, frustration, grief, praise, doubt, or trust. They teach us that faith is not pretending everything is fine, but learning to bring our whole hearts before God.

As we continue through this season together, my prayer is that Bethesda would remain grounded not simply in plans for the future, but in the faithful presence of God with us right now. God is still at work among us, and there is still good ministry ahead.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Patrick
Transitional Pastor

Bethesda Announcements

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD JUNE SHOEBOX ITEMS



pencils/sharpeners
pencil cases
pens
notebooks
glue sticks
deflated soccer balls with pumps
old t-shirts to use to make jump ropes

JOY CLUB TRIP

On Sunday, June 28th, we will travel to First Baptist Church in Columbia for a “Carolina Celebration of Liberty”, commemorating America’s 250 years of independence.

Tickets are free and seating is limited!!
Please call Jane Clyburn or the office no later than June 1st to reserve your spot.
Everyone is invited and welcome.

SUMMER CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

A great opportunity is available this summer! Kershaw County Parks and Recreation is having a Summer Church Adult Slow pitch League. We are hoping there will be enough interest to form a Bethesda team! The team size should be 12 to 14 players. You must be 16 years old or older to participate. Games will be held on Monday nights beginning June 8th. Game times will be 6:30pm, 7:30pm, and 8:30pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cathy Floyd at 803-420-9399 or cbfloyd95@gmail.com.



VBS WORKDAYS

Monday, June 1st 11:00 – 1:00
Wednesday, June 3rd 11:00 – 1:00
Thursday, June 4th 11:00 – 1:00
Monday, June 8th 11:00-1:00

VBS WISH LIST

Tropical trees, plants, and greenery
Tropical stuffed animals (parrots, frogs, monkeys, etc.)
Large umbrella (broken is fine)
Brown cross body bag
Large butterfly net
Boxes
Toilet paper rolls and paper towel rolls

ALTAR FLOWERS

Covenant Partners, if you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office for availability and instructions.

HOLY



COMMUNION

SUNDAY, MAY 7TH

VBS SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MAY
21ST

FROM BRENT...

What a wonderful, special, and memorable month of May here at Bethesda Presbyterian Church! The 2025-2026 school year is officially over and so it is on to a busy summer. Here are just a few of the exciting things our church family experienced this month...

We recognized and honored our Bethesda mothers and mother figures on **Mother's Day**, we had wonderful fellowship at our monthly **Men's breakfast** (third Tuesday of every month), our monthly **BETHESDA BINGO** (third Thursday of each month), and our weekly Monday mornings **Adult Bible Study**.

YOUTH BLAST (Wed. after school program) finished the school year by **delivering meals** to many of our homebound members - BIG Thank You to all the youth who showed up to deliver meals and visit with our homebound member on a weekly basis. **BLAST End of the School Year party** for our elementary school children was a trip to the movies to see the Movie – **DAVID**. Thank you to all the BLAST teachers and leaders for a successful year. The **BYG YOUTH End of the School Year party** at Linda & Bobby Parnell's house - Thank you Linda and Bobby for being excellent hosts!

Bethesda Christian School Graduation ceremony was held on May 14th. Thank you to Mrs. Neely Allen (Director) and all the BCS teachers for another successful year here at BCS!

We will recognize, honor, and celebrate our Bethesda high school and college graduates during **Graduate Sunday** this Sunday, May 31st in the worship service. Congratulations to all of our graduates! There were many more activities, events, programs, etc. that happened, but these were just a few that took place this month. To God be the Glory!

Vacation Bible School preparations are in full swing up with several **VBS workdays** coming up. Thank you for all the work many of you have (and or will) put in to make this year's VBS a success!

Now we enter a busy, hectic, fun-filled summer with all kinds of events and activities. Many of us have plans this summer which include graduations, family vacations, Vacation Bible School, camps – church camps, sports camps, various other camps - trips to the beach, lake, and/or mountains. Some will be running children and/or grandchildren to ballfields, parks, swimming pools, and any number of destinations. In fact, I am (as well as 23 youth and adult chaperones) getting ready for our annual youth summer camp **FUGE** at Southern Wesleyan University on June 8-12. Followed by **Vacation Bible School** June 15th – 19th, with a special VBS Worship Service on Sunday, June 21st in Westminster Hall.

With all that said, I hope we all make sure one "destination" remains on our busy schedules - Bethesda Presbyterian Church! While we all enjoy a "sabbatical", let's not take a whole summer "sabbatical" away from Bethesda Presbyterian Church. We need each other! All of us are a part of the body of Christ. May we continue to meet on a regular basis (Hebrews 10:24-25) to worship our great God, to fellowship with one another, to minister to each other and serve others. May we all strive to faithfully serve our God, Church, and others throughout the summer. I look forward to seeing our Great and Loving God do wonderful things in and through His Church here at Bethesda - YOU and ME!

Summer Sunday Morning Schedule

9:45am - Fellowship/Coffee/Light Refreshments in McArn Hall

Sunday School 10:00am; Worship Service 11:00am

1) ONE ADULT Sunday School Class – The class will meet in **Middle School Youth Room**. Our Curriculum is **"How NOT to Read the Bible"** by Dan Kimball. This class will be led by Stephanie Batten.

2) ONE YOUTH (6th – 12th grades) Sunday School Class – The class will meet in the high school youth room.

3) ONE CHILDREN (Pre-school – 5th grades) Sunday School Class – The class will meet in the Pre-school room. Ellen Stephenson will be the teacher. Curriculum – **"The Fruit of the Spirit"**.

FUGE YOUTH SUMMER CAMP @ SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY - JUNE 8-12
Our BYG Students in 6th – 12th grades will join hundreds of other students at Southern Wesleyan University (near Clemson, SC) for 4 nights and 5 days of awesome recreation/games, outrageous activities, fantastic fun, delicious food, encouraging fellowship, powerful worship, dynamic discipleship, make lots of great memories...and get a cool T-shirt!

I am asking our wonderful Bethesda Church family to keep us in your thoughts and prayers this week of youth camp...specifically for God to do amazing and wonderful things in the lives of our youth (and adult chaperones).

*June 7th - Asking all FUGE students, parents, and chaperones to attend the 11:00am worship service as Pastor Patrick will be commissioning us at the end of the service. Immediately following the service, we will have a very brief but important FUGE youth / parent / chaperone meeting. We are asking all YOUTH, PARENTS, and CHAPERONES to please attend. Bring insurance cards and final payment.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – June 15th–19th

Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God – Children will embark on an exciting adventure discovering what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God. Register today by contacting Cathy Floyd (803-420-9399 or cbfloyd95@gmail.com) or by visiting our church website. Volunteers are also needed! Please contact Cathy Floyd.

CLARITY PROJECT FINDINGS PRESENTATION

Sunday, May 31st - following the worship service

Everyone is invited to Westminster Hall for a very important presentation regarding the Clarity Project and the work being done by Pastor Patrick and our Transformation Team. Light refreshments will be provided to hold you over for lunch. Please make every effort to attend.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Dear Ladies,

I had a wonderful time at our final gathering of the year. The lunch at Sam's House of Pizza was delicious and the company even better! I had the privilege of presenting Cara Mock with the Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. Cara joined Bethesda in 2001. The very next year she started helping with the Children's Choir. She has taught Sunday School for the preschool and elementary children. She was installed as Elder in 2007. While she was on Session, she chaired the Member Care Committee and has served as the VBS director. Currently she is serving on the PWCT, Session, and Home Communion Coordinator. She is also the proud Mom of Anna! She is such a blessing to Bethesda and so deserving of this award. Congratulations, Cara!

Even though we are not meeting again until September, please don't forget to continue to contribute to the Shoebox ministry. In June, we will collect pencils/sharpeners, pencil cases, pens, notebooks, glue sticks, deflated soccer balls with pumps, and old t-shirts to use to make jump ropes. Thank you for your continued support in spreading God's love all over the world!

Lisa Woolard
Moderator

JOY CLUB TRIP MCLEOD'S FARM AND MR. B'S



BINGO!

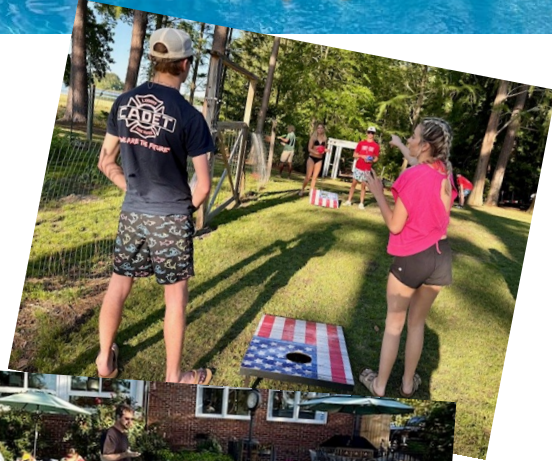


**A HUGE
THANK YOU
TO EVERY-
ONE THAT
HELPED
GET READY
FOR VBS!!!!**





END OF YEAR PARTY!



YOUTH MEAL MINISTRY



2026 GRADUATES



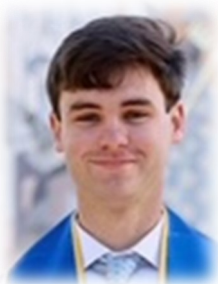
Cole Douglass Whitehouse

Graduated from: South Carolina Connections Academy

Attending: Lander University

Future Plans: To obtain a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science.

Favorite Bible Verse: *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."* Joshua 1:9



Julian Vander Blank

Graduated from: University of Notre Dame

He will be employed as a Project Engineer for Walsh Group in Wisconsin.

Favorite Bible Verse: *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"*
Psalm 119:105



Grace Floyd

Graduated from: Columbia College

She double majored in Forensic Criminal Justice & Disaster & Emergency Management. She plans to continue working as an Engineer at Camden Fire Department.

Favorite Bible Verse: *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding".* Proverbs 3:5



Banks Munn

Graduated from: Gardner Webb University.

Commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in Army National Guard

Received a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science. He will be working in the Cardiac Rehab Center at MUSC-Camden.

Favorite Bible Verse: *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".* Jeremiah 29:11




Eliza Reames

Graduated from: Wofford College

She double majored in English and Art History. After graduation she will be moving to Washington D.C. to work as a personal assistant for a private family.

Favorite Bible Verse: *"He says, "Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the Earth"* Psalm 46:10

JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	11:00 VBS Workday 1:00 Congregational Care	11:00 Worship Committee 4:00 CE	11:00 VBS Workday 6:00 Outreach	11:00 VBS Workday		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
COMMUNION 9:45 Fellowship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship	FUGE CAMP 					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:45 Fellowship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship 1:30 Session	VBS 9-12pm	VBS 9-12pm	VBS 9-12pm	VBS 9-12pm	VBS 9-12pm	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
FATHER'S DAY 9:45 Fellowship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship/VBS Sunday						
28	29	30				
9:45 Fellowship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship 3:00 Joy Club trip						

Please check your weekly bulletin for changes to each week's activities

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2. Linda Parnell | 18. Brenda Isaacson |
| 4. Lex Bates | Neal Blank |
| 5. Susan Boykin | Paula Bordner |
| 6. Dede Sheorn | 20. Serena Ogburn |
| 7. Vicki Clarke | 22. Nancy Tucker |
| 8. Michael Conley | 24. Avary Rae Barnett |
| 9. Betsy McLeod | 28. Matthew Palmer |
| Leigh Thomas | Kathryn Jones |
| Amy Banks | 29. Stephanie Batten |
| 13. Jimmy Stokes | 30. Grainger Kornegay |

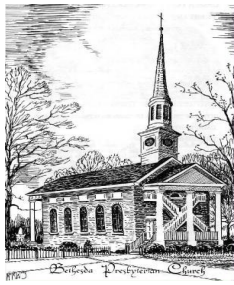


PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS: Susan Marshall, Baynard Boykin, Carol Meckstroth, Judy Martin, John Shaylor, Ken Mays, Sally Huntley, Erline Vaughan, Jennifer Barfield, Art Delperdang, Roland Windham, Ellen Williams, Barbara Cross

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Anna Vaughn Manly (cousin of the Thomas'), Judy McAbee (Lisa Woolard's mother), Barbara Cecil (Carolyn Drake's sister), Diane Alexander (friend of Mike Eddings), Clint Baxley (Stephanie Batten's brother), Betty Carges (family friend of Jim & Jo McLeod), Huntley Duryea (The Windham's nephew), Nina Bell (Doug Bell's sister-in-law), Collette Hearon (friend of the Floyds), George Carder (Jo McLeod's cousin), Mike Mays (Bob Mays' son), John Kennelly (friend of Angie & Lindsay Guy), Rory Gaffney (Tommy & Elizabeth Gaffney's grandson), Nick Lindsay (Karen Lindsay's brother), Susan Didato (friend of the Deals), Betty Coffee (friend of Bethesda), Joe Floyd, Karen Huntley (Sally Huntley's daughter), William Deemer (friend of Sally Huntley), Jim West (Bobby & Linda Parnell's son), Travis Hughes (son of Kathleen & Jerry Hughes), Bett Huggins (friend of the Deals), Kyle Asti (relative of the Bates), Bill Ogburn (Beverly Sheorn's brother)

MILITARY: Hamilton Matthews (friend of Marc & Kathryn Jones), Matthew Palmer, Clay Higgins (Grandson of Emily Jones, nephew of the Deals and Joneses), Jonathan & Laurie VanEtten (Pam & Bill Nettles' daughter and son-in-law)



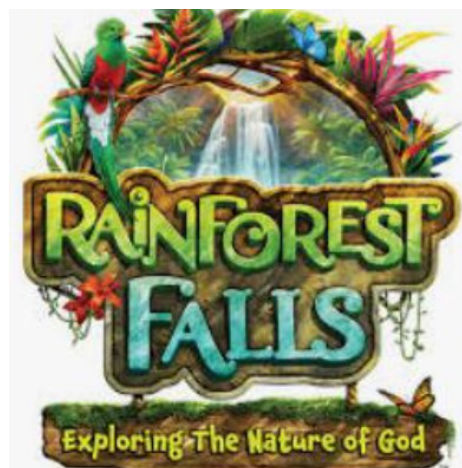
Bethesda Presbyterian Church
502 DeKalb Street
Camden, SC 29020

Return Service Requested

June 2026

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

JUNE 15-19



9am-12pm

Registration is open for participants and volunteers!
Register your 3 year old through completed 5th grader at the
VBS link on the church website. Registration closes June 1st.
Volunteers can sign up online also!