

GOOD NEWS @ Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church

July/August
2009



SUMMER AT BLUE RIDGE

Summer is in full swing at Blue Ridge Church! Vacation Bible School, a new Blue Ridge Coffeehouse concert series, a mission trip to Southwest Virginia, well-loved pastors preaching in August, the Youth praise band adding their notes to worship, and Tuesday's Table. There will even be a summer church school session on John Calvin, founder of our Presbyterian and reformed tradition.

Summer 2009 at Blue Ridge Presbyterian opens a new Lighthouse, a new place and new space that shines the light and love of God into our community. God has given us, out of his abundance, new resources and spaces for our ministry of welcome and love.

Vacation Bible School is set for mid-July –evenings from Tuesday July 14'til Friday July 17—with a multi-faceted ministry for children, and the adults who nurture their faith. It's Camp EDGE. I bet someone invited you to Vacation Bible School once in your life; now is the time to return the favor and invite a child from your street, neighborhood or from among your friends or colleagues at work. Betsy Martin is a terrific and innovative director and she has gathered a fantastic staff of volunteers.

Our summer worship features a series, "The Kingdom of Heaven Is Like. . ." Scripture readings, messages, music, hymns and even some fantastic worship art created by Shelley Anderson will open up Jesus' Kingdom of Heaven for us all. Worship will be at 10:00 AM from July 5 – August 16th and our focus will be on the parables of sowers, mustard seeds, lost coins, lost sons and more. In August, the Rev. Hal Horan and the Rev. Diana Brawley will return while I'm away recharging my pastoral batteries.

Late July will see a big gang of folks from Blue Ridge head to Southwest Virginia for a week of service and worship, following Christ into some dark places to bring light and hope. More than 10 people from BRPC will join a team at work improving shelter in Dickenson County in southwest Virginia. Another gang will join hands to serve a big meal at Tuesday's Table on July 28th—you could help!

There will be Youth Ministry events with a campout and trip to King's Dominion, and some fireside gatherings for the whole Blue Ridge family.

School's out, but Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church isn't!

Peace!

Jay Sanderford



Nathan Jordan assists Don Willock in laying the front patio leading to the Lighthouse.



Cameron Bailey (left) and John Whitlow (not pictured) accompanied David M. Bailey (right) at a recent Blue Ridge Coffeehouse Concert.

Summer Worship Series

The Kingdom of God Is Like This

The winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, began her orphanage in India with a vision of what the kingdom of God would be like. She told her superiors, "I have three pennies and a dream from God to build an orphanage."

A dream and three pennies represented resources as small as a mustard seed, just like the one Jesus described in Mark's gospel. "Mother Teresa," her superiors chided gently, "you cannot build an orphanage with three pennies...with three pennies you can't do anything."

"I know," she said, smiling, "but with God and three pennies I can do anything."

The parable of the mustard seed reminds us that God's beginnings may be small, but God's results are great for God works from the small to the large. The task of the church is to look for the signs of the kingdom which may be no larger than a mustard seed; to live and love with a new perspective; and to offer that perspective in the name of God to men and women caught in the bondage of disappointment about life and in prisons of negative thinking.

Jay Sanderford
Pastor

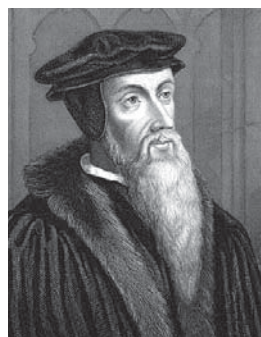


Experiencing & Discovering God Everywhere!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JULY 14-17, 6-8:30 PM

Would you like to spend four days this summer camping on the edge, complete with extreme adventures, exciting challenges, great music and hours of fun? Bring a friend and join in an incredible week of adventure and growing in God's love at Camp E.D.G.E.:
EXPERIENCE + DISCOVER GOD EVERYWHERE!

To register or volunteer, contact Camp Director Betsy Martin. 985-8861 or email bmartin@greencountyschools.com.



**Sundays in July at 9am:
Meet John Calvin, More Than Just a Pointy Beard!**

Lutherans adore Martin Luther. Methodist hearts are strangely warmed by John Wesley. Anglicans even have a sardonic fondness for Henry VIII. But Presbyterians are uncertain about John Calvin and his legacy. Calvin is not a Reformed idol. John Calvin would have been pleased by our reluctance to revere him. In order to discourage veneration,

he specified that he be buried in Geneva's common cemetery in an unmarked grave. Contemporary visitors to Geneva may stumble upon Rue Calvin, but his house no longer stands, and no one even knows where it was.

John Calvin (1509–1564), is the father of the Reformed tradition, the theological tradition that gave birth to our Presbyterianism. John Calvin was a French lawyer who became convinced that Luther's protest against the Roman Catholic Church was right. Calvin spent the rest of his life in Geneva, where he preached weekly, led the Protestant church and offered pastoral care. Calvin is best known for The Institutes of the Christian Religion, his commentaries on the Bible, and the songbook of psalms that were used in worship. John Knox — who would become the founder of the Church of Scotland — was shaped by Calvin in Geneva. It is from these English and Scottish churches that we get American Presbyterianism.

On Sunday mornings July 5, 12, 19, 26 and Aug 2, from 9:00 to 9:45 am in the classroom (and then in the LIGHTHOUSE!) the Rev. Jay Sanderford will teach and speak about John Calvin and our Presbyterian tradition.

Be Generous To Your Church This Summer!

In late June, gas prices have rocketed upwards again, the stock market is still reeling, prices for food are on the rise and news of home foreclosures still abound. The morning news shows are gloomy, with predictions of worse to come. Family budgets are stretched and consumer confidence is way down.

Sounds to us like a time when the Church is needed now more than ever. Sounds like a time to come together, to band together, share in the generosity of God's care and to lift one another up. This is a time to grow strong in the weak places, the places of stress and anxiety.

God is at the core of our lives and is the strong basis of our community, and is always real, close, and present in the people and ministries of Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church. God is eternal, solid, permanent, and trustworthy and does not fail. Be confident in God!

And please remember to count your church, Blue Ridge Presbyterian, as a priority in your financial commitments this summer.

Remember to give regularly and generously.

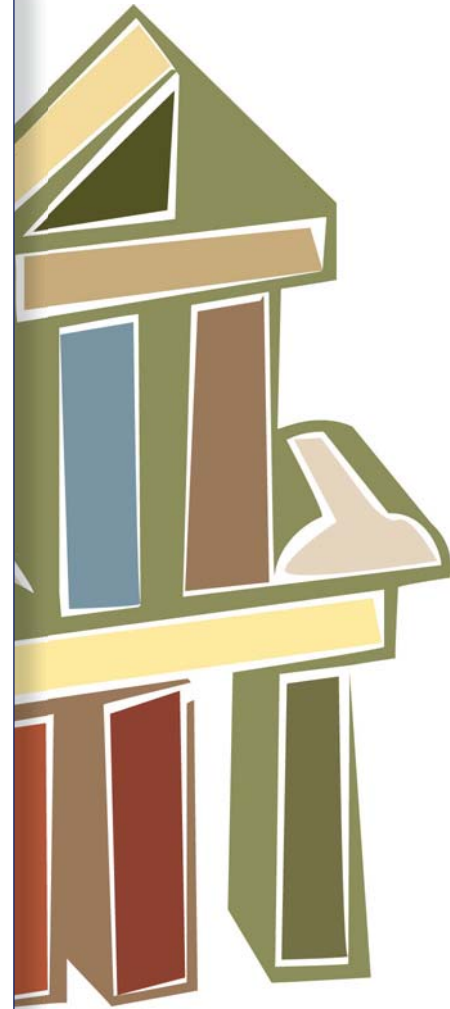
Donate weekly or monthly, whatever is your practice as steward of the richness of God.

Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church depends on the consistent and generous support of our members and guests to operate our expanding ministry. Already, we have pared our spending trying to be good stewards. To date, our giving remains steady. Our other stakeholders—area Presbyterians and our Presbytery of the James—provide a portion of our support as a new church, but that degree of support is rapidly declining as a measure of our growing independence. So even a small drop in our giving affects our ministry greatly.

So this summer, and into the fall, give generously and often, in response to the gifts that God has given us, and in response to the many, many places in Blue Ridge Presbyterian where God's presence is evident and felt. God is with us, even in tough times.

C. Forrest McKay
Finance Team

Jay Sanderford
Pastor



Christian Education News

—Wendy Williamson

Would you be willing to spend one hour on a Sunday every other month (6 hours a year) with the laughter and giggles of our youngest church family members?

Volunteers are needed to build our new Children's Church program.

Share God's Love

Join the Sunday School Teaching Teams that help guide our studies of God's word! Teams share teaching responsibilities for youth and adult classes. The benefits are:

- ✦ New classrooms and space!
- ✦ Share your faith and talents
- ✦ Get to know fellow members.

Contact Wendy Williamson, Christine Peterson, Gail McKay, Margaret Ramsey, Betsy Martin or Kristi Strait for more information about these opportunities.

**A New Year of Leadership:
July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010**

Elders/Session

Class of 2010

Rea Culpepper
Wendy Williamson
Sue Wormington

Class of 2011

David Bailey
Forrest McKay
Carole Peters

Class of 2012

Melissa Clarke
Jen Hill
Kirk Jordan

Deacons

Class of 2010

Shelley Anderson
Bill Ramsey

Class of 2011

Carole Stipe
Jan Troutman

Class of 2012

Siska Makmuri
Christine Peterson

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*Thank you to Carole Stipe
and Siska Makmuri for
their help in assembling
the newsletters in May
and June!*

*Note: We will publish a
short electronic newsletter
in early August. Look for
the September newsletter
to come out in late August
in time for the Lighthouse
dedication and back-to-
school events.*

*The deadline for the September
newsletter is August 13.*

brpcnews@embarqmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church offers prayers for:

- Shawn Hill, recovering after surgery.
- Jill Williamson, recovering from an athletic injury.
- Joan Titus, recovering from a fall.
- Walter Kanack, Carole Peters' father, recently hospitalized.
- Reba Dewyea, friend of the BRPC community, hospitalized recently.
- Charles & Carol Chapman, recovering.
- Our missionaries to Ethiopia, Bruce & Lora Whearty, PC(USA) Mission Workers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, who returned to the United States. Bruce had heart surgery April 3 in Louisville, KY and is now recovering at home.
- Marty Whitlow, recovering from surgery.
- David M. Bailey, undergoing treatment for brain cancer at both UVa and Duke University Medical Centers.
- Women, men and families in our community and nation who are suffering the loss of jobs and opportunities for advancement in the face of the economic woes of the nation.
- Our Presbytery of the James and our Presbyterian Church (USA) as together, Presbyterians do vital ministry in many places and in diverse ways.
- People of Pakistan suffering the ravages of war and dislocation.
- Women and men serving in the US Military here in the US and around the world.
- Joey Barbara, US Navy, son of Pat Barbara, stationed in San Diego, CA.

Call or email the BRPC Office with requests for prayers.(434) 985-8820 or
officebrpc@embarqmail.com

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A church garden

First, plant five rows of peas:

Presence
Promptness
Preparation
Purity
Perseverance.





Next to these, plant three rows of squash:

Squash gossip.
Squash criticism.
Squash indifference.

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for meetings.
Turn up with a smile.
Turn up with new ideas.
Turn up with determination to make everything count for something good and worthwhile.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10 am Staff Mtg	2	3 Church Office closes at 1 pm	4
5 Communion 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship Ordination of Deacons	6 7 pm Finance Committee Mtg.	7 7 pm Worship Committee Mtg. 7 pm Christian Ed Committee Mtg.	8	9	10 Youth Group Campout	11 Youth Group Campout
12 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship	13	14 6 - 8:30 pm Vacation Bible School: Camp Edge 	15	16	17 	18
19 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship 3-5 pm Grace Board Meeting at BRPC	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship SW Virginia Mission Trip 	27 Office Help Needed	28 Office Help Needed	29 Office Help Needed	30	31	Aug 1 
2 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship	3 7 pm Deacon's meeting 7 pm Finance	4	5	6	7	8
9 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship Rev. Diana Brawley	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 9 am Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am Worship Rev. Hal Horan	17	18	19	20	21 7:30 pm Coffee House Jan Smith and Jeff Vogelgesang (admission)	22

Sunday August 23rd: Return to two worship services, 8:28 and 11 am



GRACE Update

Although our financial requests have slowed down, our family services requests are up. We have had many requests for furniture, mainly bedding and dressers. We also have a need for anyone willing to deliver items to families. At this time, we have had requests for the following items:

- 4 twin mattress sets and bed/bed frames
- 1 full size mattress set and bed
- 1 queen size mattress set and bed
- 2 sleep sofas
- 4 dressers
- 2 kitchen tables with chairs
- 2 refrigerators
- dryer

If you have any of these items or other furniture or appliances that you would like to donate, please contact the GRACE office at 985-6792. We do give receipts for donated items. We do have some volunteers that are able to pick up these items.

Continue to save those brown paper grocery bags. Every bag makes an impact and it is greatly appreciated!!!

Our next big program is our Back-to-School Program, so please keep that in mind as you are out and about this summer. We will work to get that information out to you as soon as we can.

As always, thank you for your support!

God Bless,
Rhonda Oliver

Southwest Virginia Mission Trip

From July 26 - August 1, a group from our congregation will travel to the heart of coal country in Dickenson County to work together, do house repairs, and worship in Christ's name. Rev. Sanderford and Greg Govan from Olivette Presbyterian are the leaders. Please remember to keep the team in your prayers that week, and we look forward to photos and the stories they will bring back!

**Habitat for Humanity:
Americorps Program Recruiting**

Habitat AmeriCorps is looking for enthusiastic service-minded people who want to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Charlottesville for a year to help us meet the housing needs of low-income families in our area. Construction experience is desirable, but not required. Participants receive a living allowance, health insurance, child care and an Education Award. To access the on-line application, log on to CvilleHabitat.org and click on the link under "Current News."

Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser

Saturday, July 4th 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
(Immediately after the Town of Stanardsville 4th of July parade)
Stanardsville United Methodist Church (SUMC)
25 Court Street
Stanardsville, Virginia
BBQ, coleslaw, baked beans, potato salad, dessert and a beverage.
The cost of the lunch is \$8.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children from ages 2-6, and free for children under 2 years old. Tickets are available at the door.



July 18	Cal Ramsey	July 25	Elisha Howe
July 24	Hunter Martin	July 29	Patricia Culpepper
July 15	Rick Worrell	July 30	Siska Makmuri (Jee)
July 22	Stuart Worrell	August 15	Allan Anderson
		August 15	Chris Johnson
		August 28	Janet Worrell
		August 30	David Chonoles

July Lectionary

7/5 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalms 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

7/12 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalms 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

7/19 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalms 89:20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

7/26 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalms 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

August Lectionary

8/2 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalms 51:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

8/9 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalms 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

8/16 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

8/23 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43

Psalms 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

8/30 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalms 45:1-2, 6-9

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Youth Campout: July 10-11

The youth group will have a campout Friday night July 10. We'll start with a pool party at the home of Jan and Harley Troutman, then return to our church grounds for a campout!! Call Wendy Williamson for more information, 985-8642. Be sure Mrs. Williamson has your current email address so you can keep up with the activities planned for the rest of the summer.



TRAVEL BY DAY OR NIGHT

The way people travel has changed over time, but one thing has not changed — God was with people in biblical times just as He is with you and your family as you travel during your summer vacations.

Count the number of letters for each name, and then write the name in the spaces next to the verse that matches. (Hint: Besides counting the number of letters in the name, also pay attention to whether the person is from the Old Testament or New Testament.)

NAMES Paul Moses Joseph The Israelites Abram crowds
Samaritan Jesus Naaman Angel of God

VERSES

“The _____ had been traveling in front of Israel’s army” Exodus 14:19

“And _____ went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt.” Genesis 41:46

“Go in peace,” said Elisha. After _____ had traveled some distance” 2 Kings 5:19

“_____ traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem.” Genesis 12:6

_____ “traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece.” Acts 20:2

“_____ traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.” Luke 8:1

“Large _____ were traveling with Jesus.” Luke 14:25

“_____ traveled to the plains of Moab and camped along the Jordan across from Jericho.” Numbers 22:1

“_____ led Israel from the Red Sea For three days they traveled in the desert” Exodus 15:22

“But a _____, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.” Luke 10:33

Answers: Angel of God; Joseph; Naaman; Abram; Paul; Jesus; crowds; The Israelites; Moses; Samaritan

Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church
6566 Spring Hill Rd
Ruckersville, VA 22968
434-985-8820
www.brpcva.org

Jay Sanderford, Pastor
jsandbrpc@embarqmail.com

Kris Cushman, Music Director
music@brpcva.org

Leslie Bailey,
Church Administrator
officebrpc@embarqmail.com

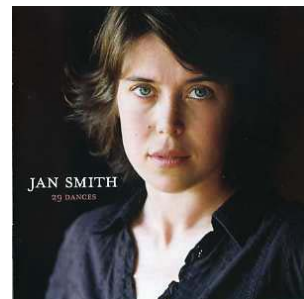
Newsletter Submissions:
brpcnews@embarqmail.com
Next deadline is August 13th

Sign up for electronic delivery-
Send an E-mail to:
brpcnews@embarqmail.com



BLUE RIDGE COFFEE HOUSE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 ST, 7:30 PM

\$10 suggested donation, includes coffee!



Jan Smith and Jeff Vogelgesang

Jan Smith is a breed cut from the cloth of Adrienne Young and Tim O'Brien and the handful of musicians who capture the "real" side of country music—the one which eschews black trench coats and piles of amps and Ford trucks for what country music should be but what it mostly isn't: Truth. —*Acousticmusic.com*

Joining Jan will be her husband, mandolin/guitar player Jeff Vogelgesang. We're looking forward to a great evening of entertainment!

THANK YOU !! to everyone who made the first two concerts such a great success: Diane Biesecker, Laura Troutman, Sisaka Makmuri, Craig Wilson, Rae Culpepper, Betsy and Mark Martin, Mike Wormington, John Whitlow, and Karen Howe. Special recognition goes to Jan Troutman and Linda Robinson for their first-rate baking!
Peace, David Bailey and Sue Wormington



Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church
6566 Spring Hill Rd.
Ruckersville, VA 22968

