

Berryville Presbyterian Church



www.berryvillepresbyterian.org

June 2017

IT IS JUST THAT EASY, AND IT IS JUST THAT HARD

A half a life time ago, or at least it feels that way, I chaperoned a group of teens at the Montreat Youth Conference. The theme for the week focused on heeding the call of Christ. The speaker did an excellent job of walking us through both the challenges and joys of seeking faithfulness. He had a key phrase that he kept coming back to when talking about faithfulness, "It is just that easy, and it is just that hard." From time to time I find myself reflecting on the phrase when it comes to our calling in Christ and just how true those words often ring.

In so many ways the work that our savior calls us to do is startlingly simple. "This is my command that you love one another." It does not get any easier than that. Our central call in Christ is to care for the people around us, recognize their need, offer ourselves, our time, our energy, and our talent in response to that need. In doing so we recognize the innate value of the other that comes from being one of God's creations. In doing so we recognize the gifts and resources that have been given to us for the purpose of sharing. Put these two together and good things can happen. Put these together and good things will happen. It is just that easy.

Faithfulness is also just that hard, though. It requires a bit of risk. It means stepping out, getting noticed and facing the unknown. If we offer help, sometimes people are going to take us

up on the offer and who knows what will happen after that. Seeking faithfulness also means giving up a little bit of control for in making it our goal we recognize that there is a will, and intention for our lives that is not our own. Faithfulness requires giving ourselves over to that will. Faithfulness requires trust and both of these can be hard at times.

Faithfulness it is just that easy—as easy as looking around in worship and noticing who hasn't been there in a while and then going home and picking up the phone and letting that person know that they are missed. And faithfulness is just that hard because in doing so God might begin to open doors that will take us out of our comfort zones and move us forward as individuals and as a community. Friends, may we daily seek faithfulness doing the easy things that are hard and the hard things that are easy all to the Glory of our God.

Peace

Jonathan

Mark Your Calendars!

- **Men's Breakfast June 3rd @ 8a**
- **Communion & Confirmation Sunday June 4th**
- **Hooks & Needles moved to second Friday of each month, June 9th @ 10a**
- **Father's Day, June 18th**
- **July/August Signpost deadline June 22nd**
- **Community Supper at DMUMC, May 22nd @ 5:30p**
- **Women's Circle May 26th @ 10a**
- **For more, see inside!**

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SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

All the Sunday School students - both adults and children - have been enjoying the nice weather of spring and getting some much needed sunshine! The adult class has been busy but would absolutely welcome new folks to the class - it's never too late to continue and strengthen your faith journey by joining a class. If you'd like to know more about what adult classes offer, just ask Karla Atkins, the class leader, or Jonathan. You can always just show up any Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. and see for yourself!

The children have been busy with springtime and all the fun it brings. In case you haven't noticed, we have new playground equipment to play on! This is very exciting for the kids and we encourage you to take a look in back of the parking lot and see how exciting it really is! A big, big thank you from all the kids to the folks to made it happen!

Don't Miss Our Year End Celebration & Teacher Appreciation!

On June 11th at 9:30 a.m. the Christian Education Committee will celebrate the commitment and effort of our precious Sunday School teachers. Without their dedication, we would not be able to offer nurture and encouragement to grow in faith. Join us for a covered dish breakfast and help us say thank you. Once again Jonathan will be whipping up his world-famous French Toast on site. Come share in the fellowship and fun.



THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all the people who helped get our new playground ready. We couldn't have done it without you! It truly was a group effort! So thanks especially to Mark and Philip Shenk, Steve Dickey, Randy and Lynn Tuohig, Jonathan Bunker, Camilla Welsh, Kyle and Wally Gardiner, Andrew Gardiner, Karla and Caroline Ghaffari, Al Dunsmore, Gerald Dodson, Keith, Keith, Thomas, and James Dalton, Owen and Michael Swisher, Bruce Elmore, and anyone else I've missed! Thank you all for a well done job! They play equipment is amazing!

Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School! July 10th-14th

We will be welcoming the children of our community to share in the promise of God's love and grace. Your job now is to pray for this ministry and to INVITE, INVITE, and INVITE folks to come be a part of our celebration of God's redeeming love. Your next task is to join us throughout the week from 6:30-8:45 p.m. as we share in the joy and wonder of all that God has done for us. It is not too late to sign up to help. Call Cathy Dickey at 539-2056 or speak with Jonathan. **Most of all spread the word and invite families you know to join us and maybe even do something radical, invite some family you do not know, who knows, today might be the day.**



WOMEN'S CIRCLE: OUR FINAL LESSON

Encore! Encore! Encore! As our lessons draw to a close, I don't want our time together to come to an end! I think I speak for us all when I say we have experienced an enlightening, expanding and blessed faith journey as we have explored the question, "Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes."

I'm grateful and amazed at the scope of knowledge and information assembled for us in our workbooks by Judy Yates Siker and Patricia Lynn Miller. In particular, I have appreciated the inclusion of information about Judaism and Islam and on the importance of understanding the context and perspective of both the Gospel (and non-canonical) writers as well as the readers/interpreters.

During our summer hiatus, I hope we will continue to remember these life-changing teachings, which we have uncovered together, as we continue to answer Jesus's personal question, "But who do you say I am?"

In closing, there could be no more perfect a blessing than this one by Jan Richardson:

That you may have
the wisdom to know the story
to which God calls you,
the power to pursue it,
the courage to abide its mysteries,
and love in every step.

*Jan Richardson, In the Sanctuary of Women
(Nashville: Upper Room Books, 2010), 58.*

submitted by Patti Washington



"Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations,

I am exalted in the earth."

~Psalm 46:10

BOOK CLUB

The book club has been busy with reading *You Can't Take It With You*. In May, we attended the play at the Winchester Little Theatre in Winchester where our own theater guru, Betsy Arnett, was the stage manager. The play was very enjoyable! Our next regular meeting is scheduled for June 21st at the home of Cathy Dickey. We just finished reading *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion. Next up is *Tiny Beautiful Things: Advice on Love and Life from Dear Sugar* by Cheryl Strayed. Please feel free to join the group - it gets you reading "outside your box" and is great fellowship and fun.

Tiny Beautiful Things: Advice on Love and Life from Dear Sugar by Cheryl Strayed
Life can be hard: your lover cheats on you; you lose a family member; you can't pay the bills—and it can be great: you've had the hottest sex of your life; you get that plum job; you muster the courage to write your novel. Sugar—the once-anonymous online columnist at *The Rumpus*, now revealed as Cheryl Strayed, author of the bestselling memoir *Wild*—is the person thousands turn to for advice.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
Synod of the Mid-Atlantic



2017 Summer Gathering

June 15-18, 2017

*Let us run with perseverance the race
marked out for us.
Hebrews 12:1*



Featuring

The Rev. Denise Anderson
The Rev. Lynn Miller



Massanetta Springs
Camp and Conference Center
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801
www.massanettasprings.org

tiny beautiful things
Advice on love
and life from
Dear Sugar

Cheryl Strayed
Bestselling author of *Wild*

"Let yourself be guided. Let it open you. Start here."

Berryville Presbyterian Church

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Sunday Church Schedule

8:30 am Worship
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Fellowship
11:00 am Worship

Church Administrative Office Hours:
Tues.—Fri. 1pm–4pm;

Staff & Leadership

Rev. Jonathan Bunker, Pastor
jonathan@berryvillepresbyterian.org

Beth Rogers, Administrative Assistant
beth@berryvillepresbyterian.org

Marie Mawby, Music Director/Organist

Katy Cox, Bell Choir Director

Session

Stephanie Lederhouse, Clerk of Session/Worship
Cathy Dickey, Christian Education
Emily Braithwaite, Christian Education
Betsy Arnett, Long-Range Planning
Jim Green, Stewardship
Marna Swisher, Witness

Deacons

Nancy Duke, Service
Mindy Lindsay, Finance
Philip Shenk, Property
Camilla Welsh, Fellowship
Charles Wakeley, Ushering
Sue Windisch, Technology/Security

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Articles for the July/August double issue of “Signpost” are due in to the Church Office June 22nd.



Summer Worship Schedule

June 18th—Sept. 3

One Service at 10 a.m.

Invite a friend and make it a habit to be with us this summer as we gather together to glorify and praise our God!