

The Rock

July, August 2024



Psalm 146:3-6 Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—He remains faithful forever.

Jeremiah 17:5 Thus says the Lord, “Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind and makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from the Lord.

Psalm 118:9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in rulers. No one can deny that election season is in full swing. It’s difficult to read the news, turn on the TV, open the mailbox or read our electronic communications that we don’t encounter one candidate or the other letting us know that November is fast approaching. A second thing few can deny is that this country is deeply divided.

Opinion poll after opinion poll indicate that few are undecided about whom or which political party they will be voting for in the coming months. The problem is, the division we see across this country goes beyond the voting booth. This split is dividing households, families, friends, and communities. Add to this problem the fact that we no longer know how to talk about hot button issues. Gone, it seems, are the days when we could discuss, argue, and debate each other with respect. The world now teaches that if someone disagrees with you, they are haters, bigots or phobes of one sort or the other. We forward that we’re tolerant of others, but our words and actions tell a totally different story. Love of neighbor, it seems, is a lost concept. We can’t even agree to disagree and remain friends. The basis of this problem is one of self-centeredness where we place our trust.

King Solomon, the wisest person to have lived wrote in Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” To be certain, trusting people isn’t a bad idea, in fact, trusting people, certain people, is wise and essential. The Bible makes it clear in Genesis that God does not desire for any of us to be alone. God made Eve for Adam, and for each of us God desires companionship in some form. In the same way, God gave us leaders to guide us and protect us so that we can have an orderly society, provided they too listen to God and lean on Him for understanding.

When we put trust in people, we can reap the fruits of a healthy relationship. A trusting couple will experience peace and calm in their relationship as a result. When questionable things occur, and we communicate, issues get resolved. Friends who trust will talk, share se-

crets, and bear one another's burdens. Children who trust adults are more likely to share and seek support. But our trust in people cannot be blind or without limit.

People, unlike God, can damage trust, whether accidentally or intentionally. If we're accustomed to running to people every time we need help, and not to God, we will find ourselves disappointed. Sometimes people don't want to hear our problems, sometimes they are unavailable. The same isn't true with God, He is always available, always listens and always strengthens and answers. And like our relationships with people, we must also build our relationship with God. How else do we learn to trust in Him?

God, unlike our fellow humans, is a trustworthy refuge, a permanent structure, a person to run to and a place to reside. Humans cannot offer us the same promises of God, that's why we need to keep our focus on God. He is and will forever remain trustworthy. "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging" (Psalm 46:1-3). So in this time of tension, in this season of local and national elections, in this time of division, I urge you to cling to the One who is ruler over all, who is our sure hope for the future, and never forget, even though we may fear for what is to come, pray as St. Paul instructed Timothy, "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people" (1 Timothy 2:1-6)

Pastor Steve

July Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister

Bruce Kiser

Greeters/Ushers

Brenda Carpenter, Donna Setzer, Wade Carpenter

August Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister

Trendon Cable

Greeters/Ushers

Kathy & Tony Trudnak, Bruce Kiser

Note: The first two people listed are Greeters and the other is Usher. All three will act as Usher for Communion.

Substitutes for Greeters/Ushers: Nita & Dan Setzer, Hugh Carpenter and Brenda Carpenter.

Please let them know on Saturday if possible if you are unable to be in church on Sunday.

Trent and Trendon Cable will act as Ushers when needed.

Help Needed:

We all enjoy cookouts and potlucks. **Please** consider helping with cleanup afterwards. *Many Hands Make Light Work!*

Thank you,
Worship Committee

July 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed


Thu

Fri

Sat

<i>Worship Every Sunday</i>	1	2	3	4 <i>HAPPY JULY 4th</i>	5	6
7 <i>11 a Burgers/Hot Dogs 5:30p meet camp counselors</i>	8 <i>9-4 Solid Rock Day Camp</i>	9 <i>9-4 Solid Rock Day Camp</i>	10 <i>9-4 Solid Rock Day Camp</i>	11 <i>9-4 Solid Rock Day Camp</i>	12 <i>9-12 Solid Rock Day Camp</i>	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 <i>11 am Cemetery Comm. Mtg</i>	29	30	31			

July Birthdays

- 1 Lucille Mauney
- 6 Michael Carpenter
- 6 Scott Fowler
- 6 Jessica Kiser 
- 12 Lucas Carpenter
- 15 Jerry Brower
- 17 Frances (Boots) McAllister
- 19 Greg Huffstetler
- 20 Gail Cabiness
- 25 Candace Hester
- 29 Justin Engle
- 29 Richard Kiser

July Anniversaries

- 7 Marcus & Rebecca Carpenter
- 28 Robert & Sue Carpenter 

July 4th Cook Out at Bethel

July 7th after Worship Service. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Burgers, hot dogs and buns will be furnished. Please sign up to bring sides, drinks, desserts and list how many will attend.



Dallas High Shoals

Food Ministry

Food collections for July are: Crackers, Peanut Butter, Canned Green Peas



All food items may be left in the Narthex.

Of course, personal hygiene products and all canned and boxed food items are always welcome.

August 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

11am Worship Every Sunday				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 11 am Homecoming	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August Birthdays

- 1 Elaine Kiser
- 7 Norma Creed
- 7 Marcella Cox
- 8 Amber Carpenter
- 12 Robert Carpenter
- 15 Miranda Johnson
- 16 Hub Sellers
- 25 Becket Carpenter
- 29 Nita Setzer



August Anniversaries

- 2 Ricky & Becca Martin
- 16 Don & Elaine Kiser
- 26 Lindel & Norma Creed



Bethel Homecoming-August 11th

Everyone is encouraged to attend our Homecoming after Worship Service. Past members and families are welcome. Pot Luck Dinner will be served. Bring your favorite dishes, desserts and drinks to share.

Dallas High Shoals

Food Ministry

Food collections for August: Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Pork & Beans, Mac & Cheese



Of course, personal hygiene products and all canned and boxed food items are always welcome.

Bethel Mailbox List

- | | |
|--|--|
| <u>1 Blanton, Jeff & Karen</u>
<u> Tyler & Sara</u> | <u>27 Johnson, Jimmy & Miranda</u> |
| <u>2 Brower, Jerry & Sandy</u> | <u>28 King, Pr. Steven & Terry</u> |
| <u>3 Cabiness, Harold & Gail</u> | <u>29 Kiser, Bruce</u> |
| <u>4 Cable, Trent & Amy</u>
<u> Trendon</u> | <u>30 Kiser, Dennis</u> |
| <u>5 Carpenter, Brenda</u> | <u>31 Kiser, Don & Elaine</u> |
| <u>6 Carpenter, Frederick</u> | <u>32 Kiser, Richard & Jessica</u>
<u> Alaina, Emma & Anna</u> |
| <u>7 Carpenter, Hugh & Libby</u> | <u>33 Martin, Ricky & Becca</u>
<u> Jaxon & Raelyn</u> |
| <u>8 Carpenter, Marcus & Rebecca</u>
<u> Eleanor & Lucas</u> | <u>34 Mauney, Dalton & Lucille</u> |
| <u>9 Carpenter, Martin Paul</u> | <u>35 McAllister, Frances (Boots)</u>
<u> Woody & Franda Aud</u> |
| <u>10 Carpenter, Michael & Kimberly</u>
<u> Claudia</u> | <u>36 Nanke, Tim & Kerry</u>
<u> AJ Gould</u> |
| <u>11 Carpenter, Prue</u> | <u>37 Neal, Judy</u> |
| <u>12 Carpenter, Robert & Sue</u> | <u>38 Poole, Annette</u> |
| <u>13 Carpenter, Shirley</u> | <u>39 Porter, Jerry</u> |
| <u>14 Carpenter, Sid & Gail</u> | <u>40 Pruitt, (Michael) & Martha</u> |
| <u>15 Carpenter, Tyler & Amber</u>
<u> Tenley & Beckett</u> | <u>41 Rana, Kim</u> |
| <u>16 Carpenter, Wade & Diane</u> | <u>42 Rudisill, Joe & Helen</u> |
| <u>17 Chapman, Gerald & Pat</u> | <u>43 Sawyer, Samantha</u> |
| <u>18 Cody, (Tony) & Marla</u> | <u>44 Sellers, Hub</u> |
| <u>19 Creed, Lindel & Norma</u> | <u>45 Setzer, Dan & Nita</u> |
| <u>20 Fowler, Scott, Sherry</u> | <u>46 Setzer, Joe & Donna</u> |
| <u>21</u> | <u>47 Shook, Larry</u>
<u> Courtney</u> |
| <u>22</u> | <u>48 Trudnak, Tony & Kathy</u> |
| <u>23 Harmon, Mack & Jean</u> | <u>49</u> |
| <u>24 Harrelson, Jack & Cynthia</u> | <u>50 Gardner, Lyndy & Lois</u> |
| <u>25 Hester, Nathan & Candace</u>
<u> Carter & Beckett</u> | <u>51 Pasour, Leon & Nancy</u> |
| <u>26 Huffstetler, Greg & Wanda</u> | <u>52</u> |
| | <u>53</u> |
| | <u>54</u> |



Looking Ahead 2024



July 7, 11:30am	Burger Burn and Hotdogs
July 7-12, 9am-4pm	Solid Rock Day Camp @ Antioch Lutheran Church
July 7, 5:30 pm	Solid Rock Day Camp Brief Counselor Meeting
July 28, 11am	Cemetery Committee Mtg.
August 11, 11am	Homecoming @ Bethel
September 8	Rally Day (start of Sunday School w/ Sub Sandwiches)
September 29, 5:30pm	Youth & Family Night @ Bethel
October 13, 11am	Pastor Appreciation Dinner
October 27, 11am	Golden Agers Dinner
October 27	Trunk or Treat @ Antioch
October 31, 5:30-7:30pm	Trunk or Treat @ Bethel
November 2	Hayride @ Frederick Carpenter's
November 27, 7pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service followed by Soup & Sandwiches
December 1, 6:30pm	Advent Concert @ Antioch, w/Bethel's Children & Adults
December 7, 5pm	Congregation Dinner @ Small Town Kitchen



Solid Rock Day Camp

If you haven't already registered your elementary aged child(ren) for Solid Rock Day Camp, don't delay; register today! Solid Rock Day Camp runs daily July 8-12 at Antioch Lutheran Church. All rising kindergartners through rising 6th graders are welcome. Camp begins at 9:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm daily, except on Friday, when it ends at noon. Lunch is provided for campers Monday - Thursday. Campers and parents will have an opportunity to meet camp counselors and enjoy ice cream the evening of July 7 at 5:30 pm. Parents should plan to attend a short program Thursday evening where campers will showcase all they have learned during their week at camp. Cost is \$100 / child (with a 20% sibling discount) and checks should be made payable to "Carolinas Mission Region" and given to Cody Carpenter on the first morning of camp. Thank you to our volunteers who have graciously agreed to provide lunch 2 days during camp. Please see / contact Kimberly Carpenter at 704-460-7069 for the link to register.

Do you have a passion for music?

Please see Kimberly Carpenter if you feel passionate about helping instill scripture in our children's hearts and minds through music. We're looking for volunteer (s) to help lead our children's music ministry during Cornerstone Kids. No musical experience necessary! Many thanks to Pastor Steve for equipping the music room with all of the technology needed to lead our children in song via YouTube, and many, many thanks to Libby for her years of tireless service discipling our children through music!

2024 Widow/Widower's Lunch

@11:30am

- July 26, Jin's Buffet, Lincolnton
- Aug. 22, Sammy's, Dallas
- Sep. 26, Small Town Kitchen, Cherryville
- Oct. 24, Dino's Italian Pizzeria, Bessemer City
- Nov. 28, Cheddar's, Gastonia
- Dec. 26, Spur's Steakhouse, Cherryville

Join Us for Youth & Family Fun Nights! Youth & Family Nights in 2024

Bethel will host the following
Youth & Family Nights:
Sept. 29 @ 5:30

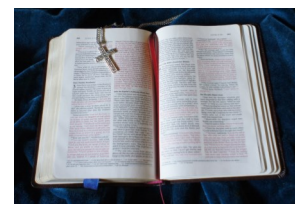
Antioch will host the following
Youth & Family Nights:
Oct 27
Dec. 1

Kids of all ages and their parents are invited to attend for dinner, a short study time / lesson and a craft / activity. New for 2024: an adult study time led by Pastor Steve!"

We will take another field trip in August, likely to sing at nursing home(s) . .



Our forefathers built this country with three tools" an ax, a plow and a book. That book was the **Bible!**



Tithes/Offerings

If you are not able to attend church, you may mail your tithes/offerings check to:
Wanda Huffstetler
3535 NC Hwy 27 West
Lincolnton, NC 28092

Bethel's Prayer Groups Wednesdays in 2024

Women's Prayer Group-Wednesday 9:30-10:30 AM

Men's Prayer Group-Wednesday 6:00-7:00 PM

Both groups will meet in the Educational Building

Please add the following changes to your address book:

West, Barbara Porter, Is no longer getting mail in the Bethel mailbox, please send her mail to her at:

Barbara West

Terrace Ridge Assisted Living Room #311

1251 Hudson Blvd.

Gastonia, NC 28054

Gardner, Lyndy & Lois

4003 Dallas Cherryville Hwy.

Bessemer City, NC 28016

lyndygardner@yahoo.com

980.241.1325

Bethel Mailbox #50



The Rock Newsletter

Please email any announcements, recipes you would like to share or articles of interests to Donna Setzer at:

donnalsetzer@gmail.com

Also please send all updated b'days/ anniversaries and changes in phone numbers, addresses, email address, etc.

I get the birthday and anniversary dates from the last Congregational Photo Directory, please check to be sure your info is correct, if it isn't correct let me know.

Thank you!

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

509 Long Shoals Road

Lincolnton, NC 28092

704.922.5487

Reverend Steven King, Pastor

pastorsteve@kfcloud.com

919.222.9071 cell



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